

# North Dallas Gazette



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## Two Dynamic Senior Pastors Serve as Panelist from the Northern Sector

Mark your calendar and don't miss this Male Forum. Bishop Miller E. Johnson, Jr., Senior Pastor of New Life Fellowship Church of Rowlett and Rev. Wayne L. Stafford, Sr., M.Div, Senior Pastor of



Reverend Wayne L. Stafford



Bishop Miller E. Johnson, Jr.

Fellowship Baptist Church of Allen are two of seven panelists that will be on hand to discuss and answer questions from the audience of the Banks

See Male Forum page 4

## Rev. Jackson warns mortgage crisis will hit 2 million homeowners by 2008

CHICAGO - With 2 million homes nationwide at risk of foreclosure by 2008, Rev. Jesse Jackson, founder and president of Rainbow PUSH Coalition, recently used his weekly television program Upfront with Rev. Jackson to explore how government and financial institutions must restruc-

ture mortgage systems to avoid an economic crisis that could trigger a devastating recession.

"When people lose their homes, property values go down; tax revenues that pay for local schools and police officers all sink," Rev. Jackson said. "The water is rising and whole cities will

drown."

Joining Rev. Jackson on Upfront were Michael Van Zalingen, Director of Homeownership Services at Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago; Rev. Greg Livingston, national field secretary for the Rainbow PUSH Coalition; Tom Jones, senior assistant attorney general, consumers

counsel; and Bonita Parker, board member of Rainbow PUSH Coalition and chief of staff for Alderman Sandi Jackson (7th Ward).

As the teaser interest rates that attracted many homebuyers in recent years are expiring, sharply elevated

See Rev. Jackson page 11

## Teatro delle Muse's Inaugural Season a Success!

As Thanksgiving approaches one group in particular has much to be thankful for is the Teatro delle Muse, the resident company of the Art Centre Theatre in historic downtown Plano, reflects back on its debut season, with satisfaction.

Artistic Director

Sarah VC Henderson says, "Every organizational goal set by our advisory board nearly a year ago has been met."

There can be little doubt that Teatro delle Muse's season so far has been a resounding success.

"We opened our season with Disney's High School Musical,

which was risky given the amount of money that it took to do the production justice. There were several sold out performances, and at one in particular, people were paying us to sit on the floor. The productions garnered the attention of every major theatre critic in the area. But what

really made it a success was the involvement of our children's program."

The children's program referred to by Henderson was also a success from the standpoint that all camps were completely sold out and most had a waiting list. "I've never seen

Teatro Page 10

## First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park (First Church) Honors All Veterans



Rev. Anthony Foster, Pastor of First Church and Veteran Rhonda G. Steward as the church and congregation honored all veterans.

## Jena-Nati - Got Protest?

Blackonomics

By. James Clingman

I live in Cincinnati, Ohio, a place I sometimes call Cincinnati-aphy; I now call it "Jena-Nati."

Let me also say that you probably live in a Jena too, as most Black people in this country suffer from some kind of discriminatory practice in business, the courts, or in politics. My goal is not only to point out this particular city and the way Black folks are mistreated; it is also to stimulate us to take appropriate action against the many adverse issues we face in our daily lives.

Jena-Nati is basically a Black and White city; the Asian and Hispanic population hovers around 3

percent. Yet, Blacks, who comprise more than 45 percent of the population, are treated, and in some cases allow ourselves to be treated as if we are a just a handful, which still would be no excuse to be mistreated nor to accept mistreatment.

Over the past several months we have been witness to a myriad of blatantly discriminatory court cases against Black people. We had our own case of the "Dog Days" of summer where a Black woman was slammed in jail, without bail, for a dead dog that was found in

Jena-Nati Page 6

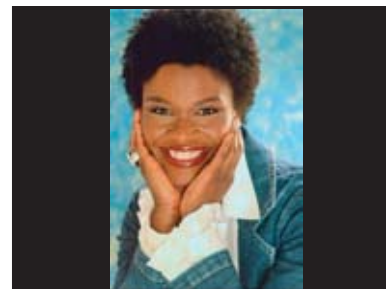
## INSIDE...

Local News .....	2
Op-Ed .....	3
Out Of Africa .....	4
Education .....	6
People In The News .....	2
Community Calender .....	8
Cover Story .....	9
Arts & Entertainment .....	10
Business Service Directory .....	11
Career Opportunity .....	13
Church Happenings .....	14
Sister Tarpley .....	15
Church Directory .....	14, 15 & 16

## People In The News ...



Vernice Armour



Angela Clay



Stacy-Deanne

See Page 2

## Angela Clay

A Christian woman fearfully and wonderfully made in the image of God, Angela Clay was born in Little Rock, Arkansas, but currently resides in Dallas, Texas. At a very early age her parents instilled in Angela and her siblings, good morals and values providing



her with a healthy profile of positive self-esteem, self-love, and self-respect. God is the author and foundation of Angela's life.

Due to overwhelming hype of fashion, beauty, and fame, Angela has chosen to challenge teenage girls and women to go behind the scene

and confront issues from within. She is constantly on the move, encouraging women to love, esteem, and respect the beauty of womanhood. With zest and zeal she stir women to live life vigorously.

Angela is a dynamic motivational speaker. Her mission in life is to empower the minds of young girls in knowing who they

are as persons and in understanding the importance of loving, respecting, and esteeming herself.

Angela's book, "Loving the Me I See" provides seven steps for building positive self-esteem for young pre-teen and adolescent girls. Mature women seeking to improve their self-esteem will find the quick and easy

read book of interest as well.

Saturday November 17th, Angela will be signing her book from 3:00 - 5:00 PM at Bolt Productions located at 2410 Farrington Street. For more information regarding Angela Clay please visit her elegant website at AngelaClay.com.

## Stacy-Deanne

Stacy-Deanne is the author of the best selling compilation music biography book, "Divas of the New Millennium" and the author of the new fiction release, "Everlasting", published by Simon and Schuster. She was born and raised in Houston, Texas. She currently lives in East Texas. Stacy is a novelist who prides herself on writing stories that feature characters



of different backgrounds and races. She has been writing professionally for ten years, since she was

nineteen years old. Stacy is a member of the Author's Guild. She is also featured in the 2006 book, "Literary Divas: The Top 100+ Most Admired African-American Women in Writing".

She has been interviewed and had book reviews featured in Billboard Magazine, BellaOnline, World Life News, Black Expressions, Thabiz Magazine, Lady

Ingenuity Magazine, SistaDivas Magazine, The Rock Magazine, The Sistah Circle Book Club, Black Refer, Black Men in America and more.

"Everlasting" is the chronicle of two equally fascinating Latino teenagers, seventeen year old Juan Alonso and sixteen year old Nina Sagastume, who fall in love despite unrelenting odds.

Juan is a political, outspoken romantic who believes educa-

tion and determination is the key to a better life. His brother Rico is the leader of the notorious Bronx street gang, The New York Assassins. Juan can't seem to escape the hold of his community until he meets Nina. She is a striking, straight-laced dreamer who's never even been kissed. She quickly becomes Juan's salvation. In return, Juan allures her with his charm

and inspiring intelligence. Nina finds herself doing something that she's never done...falling in love. It isn't until Juan rules her heart that Nina finds out he's affiliated with the New York Assassins, the rival gang of the Bronx Gangstas, an equally powerful street gang led by her cousin Tajo.

You can learn more here: <http://www.stacy-deanne.net>, <http://www.myspace.com/stacydeanne>.

## Vernice Armour



Vernice Armour was born in Chicago, IL in 1973 and grew up in Memphis, TN. Vernice marched in the military boot steps of both her dad, Clarence Jackson, a former Marine, who married Vernice's mother, Authurine, and her father, Gaston C. Armour Jr. of Chicago, a retired major in the U.S. Army Reserves.

In 1993, the future combat pilot enlisted in the Army Reserves and a few months later joined the Army ROTC program while enrolled at Middle Tennessee State

University (MTSU).

Vernice was the second woman and first African American woman on the Nashville Police Department's motorcycle squad.

Following college she was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps on December 12, 1998. The ambitious pilot ranked No. 1 out her class of 12 and of the last 200 to graduate from flight school. As the top graduate, she made the Naval Air Station's prestigious Commodore's List, received the Academic Achievement Award and subsequently made history as the Marine Corps first African-American female pilot.

One of the few and the proud, during the start of the war in March 2003, United States Marine Corps Captain Armour was one of 1,500 female Marines in the Persian Gulf fighting to dismantle the regime

of Saddam Hussein in Operation Iraqi Freedom. She completed two combat tours of duty in the Gulf.

With her departure out of the Marine Corps in June 2007, Vernice continues to pursue her

passions as an author, professional speaker, and trainer; addressing professional organizations, businesses, and schools, emphasizing leadership, pursuing your passion in life, education, and taking positive steps to reach goals.

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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 visible of many area opportunities. As always, and true to tradition, MON-The Gazette will be there carving a world of opportunity for those seeking to provide quality services. Should you dare 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!

**The North Dallas Gazette formally Minority Opportunity News, was founded July, 1991, by Jim Bochum and Thurman R. Jones**

## THE TRUTH CLINIC

### Religious Finances And Senate Watchdogs

**By James Breedlove**

Sen. Charles Grassley of Iowa, the ranking Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, raised quite a few eyebrows when news broke that he had launched an extensive investigation into the possible misuse of donations by six celebrity television evangelists.

The luxurious lifestyles of some of America's top preachers have been criticized at various times by disgruntled employees, disillusioned donors, media investigators, and religious watchdog organizations. Sen. Grassley said his investigation was triggered by news reports and growing complaints from the public.

Sen. Grassley sent notice letters demanding audited financial statements, details on executives' pay, minutes from board meetings, and a host of other fishing expedition inquiries to Benny Hinn of World Healing Center Church of Grapevine, Texas; Randy and Paula White of Tampa, Fla.; David and Joyce Meyer of Joyce Meyer Ministries of Fenton, Mo.; Kenneth and Gloria Copeland of Kenneth Copeland Ministries of Newark, Texas; Bishop Eddie Long of New Birth Missionary Baptist Church of Lithonia, Ga., and Creflo and Taffi Dollar of World Changers Church International of College Park, Ga.

The Senator stated, "I don't want to conclude that there's a problem, but I have an obligation to donors and the taxpayers to find out more. People who donated should have their money spent as intended and in

adherence with the tax code."

It's interesting how the Senator is willing to get involved in the financial oversight of these religious ministries concerning matters that would best be left to the nation's taxing agency, the IRS. Grassley's office told the Tampa Tribune that one of the reasons for his involvement is the IRS "has been unable to keep up with the exponential growth of all tax-exempt organizations, including churches and ministries."

This is another signal for the public to be alarmed regarding escalating government intrusion. Even though Grassley's finance committee has jurisdiction over non-profits and oversight of the IRS the question becomes is this the most cost effective use of the committee's time and resources?

Senator, if you truly desire to put your investigative skills to good use for the public good here are just a few of the blatant menagerie of questionable capers perpetrated by the federal government on the American people. The list is not comprehensive but illustrates the dire need for lifting the veil of secrecy and providing the transparency that your committee espouses.

You can start with Mr. Cheney and the energy task force he chaired. According to media reports energy industry representatives such as then Enron President and Chairman Kenneth Lay and lobbyists Haley Barbour and Marc Racicot participated in the Task Force meetings. All had intimate ties to both President Bush and

the Vice President

The administration has refused to turn over documents to the General Accounting Office listing the attendees at each of the meetings and their roles citing executive privilege to keep the records confidential.

Doesn't the American public have a right to know if self serving industry executives helped develop the nation's energy policy and to what extent they and their companies may have received financial benefit as a result of those policies?

When Paul Bremer left his provisional post in Iraq \$9 billion dollars in cash that supposedly had been passed on to the new Iraqi government got lost and none of the federal watchdogs have accepted the challenge to investigate. It is simply not believable that the Administration lost track of every dime of the funds.

Is there some reason the Congress refuses to investigate these financial boondoggles but are eager to convene multiple hearings into questionable UN Oil-for-food allegations?

Do we even need to mention the Iraq reconstruction fiasco as another egregious source of financial impropriety? Most of the American money allocated for reconstruction efforts has gone to American consultants or directly into contractors' bank accounts. The evidence of blatant fraud is disappearing as contractors and government agencies cover up spending by using unaccountable and untraceable financial procedures.

The financial mismanagement was so blatant the agencies and contractors did not even try to hide it. Contracts were paid in stacks of \$100 dollar bill known as bricks. Money was carried around and transported stuffed in military duffel bags. Why pay in cash bricks except to leave no paper or electronic trail?

Auditors of the US Special Inspector General for Iraqi Reconstruction (SIGIR) report that most of the projects planned to rebuild Iraq's sewerage, irrigation, drainage, hospitals, dams and training facilities have been subject to waste, fraud, and corruption at levels that stagger the imagination.

While the "prosperity gospel" of televangelists may be controversial, unorthodox, unpopular or highly questionable, congressional oversight committees have higher priority issues they should be addressing. Ministries should be open and transparent about their finances and Christians are charged in Scripture to be "above reproach." However, the donors to religious organizations have a choice to give or not to give whereas funds being misused by the federal government are taxpayer dollars taken under threat of law. To paraphrase Sen. Grassley, "the people who pay the taxes have a right to know how their money is being spent." If only the congressional oversight committees would make it so.

James W. Breedlove

Comments or opinions may be sent to the writer at: [www.truthclinic.com](http://www.truthclinic.com)

# U.S. destroyer pursuing hijacked ship in Somali waters, military says

WASHINGTON (CNN) — A U.S. destroyer has entered Somali territorial waters in pursuit of a Japanese-owned ship loaded with benzene that was hijacked by pirates over the weekend, military officials said Monday.

The guided-missile destroyer USS Arleigh Burke entered Somali waters with the permission of the troubled transitional government in Mogadishu, U.S. officials said. In recent years, warships have stayed outside the 12-mile limit when chasing pirates.

The ongoing operation

was confirmed to CNN by two military officials familiar with the details. Gunmen aboard two skiffs hijacked the Panamanian-flagged Golden Mori off the Socotra archipelago, near the Horn of Africa, said Andrew Mwangura, a spokesman for Kenya's Seafarers' Assistance Programme.

The Golden Mori radioed for help Sunday night. The Burke's sister ship, the USS Porter, opened fire and sank the pirate skiffs tied to its stern before the Burke took over shadowing the hijacked vessel.



When the shots were fired, it was not known the ship was filled with highly flammable benzene. U.S. military officials indicate there is a great deal of concern about the cargo because it is so sensitive.

Benzene, which U.S. authorities have declared a known human carcinogen,

is used as a solvent and to make plastics and synthetic

fabrics. U.S. and NATO warships have been patrolling off the Horn of Africa for several years in an effort to crack down on piracy off Somalia, where a U.N.-backed transitional government is struggling to restore order after 15 years of near-anarchy.

In June, the destroyer USS Carter Hall fired warning shots in an attempt to stop a hijacked Danish cargo ship off Somalia, but the American vessel had to turn away when the pirated ship entered Somali waters.

In May, a U.S. Navy advisory warned merchant ships to stay at least 200 miles off the Somali coast. But the U.S. Maritime Administration said pirates sometimes issue false distress calls to lure ships closer to shore.

The pirates are often armed with automatic

rifles and shoulder-fired rockets, according to a recent warning from the agency.

"To date, vessels that increase speed and take evasive maneuvers avoid boarding, while those that slow down are boarded, taken to the Somali coastline and released after successful ransom payment, often after protracted negotiations of as much as 11 weeks," it advised.

The agency issued a new warning to sailors in the Gulf of Aden, between Somalia and Yemen, after Sunday's hijacking was reported

## Doctors Needed ASAP in Liberia, Prez Wins Prize

Doctor to Patient Ratio is 1 to 50,000

President Sirleaf Johnson Received U.S. Presidential Medal of Freedom

GIN) — Health care is free for now in Liberia, but the odds of finding a doctor for a sick patient are one in fifty thousand. Health Minister Walter Gwenigale says Liberia needs at least 1,200 doctors but currently it has only 120.

And 70 of those are foreign doctors with international organizations and the U.N.

"We're talking about a doctor to patient ratio of one to 50,000," said former Health Minister Peter Coleman." That puts a lot of stress on the professionals.

"What we really need," said Minister Gwenigale, "but what donors will not fund is the money to pay doctors not to go overseas -- and hopefully to tempt back medical staff who fled during the war and are now earning better money in other countries.

Liberia has one medical college which turns out between six and 12 grad-



Sirleaf

uates each year and numerous nursing schools in the capital Monrovia.

Liberia's Ministry of Health has temporarily eliminated all fees at government-run hospitals and clinics in the country.

Meanwhile, President Ellen Sirleaf Johnson on Nov. 5, will receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the U.S. gov-

ernment's highest honorary award to civilians, it was announced this week.

President Bush said he was bestowing the honor in recognition of her efforts to help heal a country torn apart by conflict through perseverance, personal courage and an unwavering commitment to building a more hopeful future for her homeland. Other winners include Cuban anti-abortion activist Oscar Elias Biscet, civil rights leader Benjamin Hooks; former Republican congressman and pro-life activist Henry Hyde, Brian Lamb, co-founder the C-SPAN cable network; economist Gary Becker; Francis Collins, director of the National Human Genome Research Institute; Harper Lee, author of "To Kill a Mockingbird," which helped focus the country on the struggle for equality

### Male Forum from page 1

Banks of Dallas Ministries' Male Forum being held this Tuesday, November 20, 2007 @ the Johnson Chapel Community Church, 1400 N. Hampton Road (off of Hampton Road & Winter Green) in DeSoto, Texas where Dr. Karen Hollie is the Senior Pastor.

Bishop Johnson, Jr. and Pastor Stafford, both from the Northern Sector of the Dallas Metroplex area will be joined by Mr. B. J. Williams, President of Garland's NAACP; Rev. Ronald Wright, President SCLC; Mr. James Branch, Author of "The Vacant Pews" the book that will serve is a guideline for this Male Forum; Mr. Jordan Blair, Editor/Publisher of Elite News; and Mr. Aaron Micheals, Community Activist, former leader of the New Black Panthers, and KKDA Radio.

Bishop Johnson, Jr. is the Pastor, Teacher and Founder of New Life Fellowship Church. He received an education degree on an athletic scholarship from the University of California State at Fullerton.

In 1981 he accepted his call to the ministry and was licensed and ordained to preach the gospel in 1986 under the leadership of his father, the late Pastor Miller E. Johnson, Sr. of Greater Zion Baptist Church in Dallas, TX.

He is Founder and Director General of The Fellowship of Churches in Dallas, TX and currently serves at the Executive level as Second Administrative assistant for the From Bondage to Freedom Interdenominational Church, Inc. Fellowship, in Shreveport, LA.

Employed by the City of Dallas Fire Department, Bishop Johnson retired after 15 years as a firefighter to serve as full time pastor of his growing congregation and church community. In the year 2001, led by the Holy Spirit, he changed the church name to New Life Fellowship Church.

Rev. Stafford, Sr. was born in California. Since his early youth, Rev. Stafford has been actively involved in the work of the Church. He was licensed to

preach at the age of 15 and ordained at 22 at Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, Wichita, KS.

Rev. Stafford Sr. is a natural born leader. Enlisting in the U. S. Army at the age of 17, he quickly achieved the rank of Staff Sergeant/E-6. He was later awarded a full ROTC Scholarship to Virginia State University where he completed his undergraduate work majoring in Sociology. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the US Army in 1992. Rev. Stafford was promoted to Captain in 1996 and on August 1, 2004 after 20 years of faithful active duty service, he retired from the U.S. Army.

Rev. Stafford was called to Pastor Fellowship Baptist Church of Allen in August 2004. Under his tenure and the merciful grace of God, forty new ministries have been added and the membership of FBCA has grown to such proportions that it is now the "fastest growing church in North Texas.



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BEST IN TEXAS





# Education Grant Opportunities

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson recently announced the opening of two grant application periods for the Barbara Jordan Health Scholars Program and Gates Millennium Scholars.

"I would like to encourage all interested students and parties in the Thirtieth District to submit an application," Congresswoman Johnson said. "I commend the Kaiser Family Foundation and the Gates Millennium Scholars program and their invaluable contribution to helping our youth prepare for the future."

The Barbara Jordan Health Policy Scholars Program brings talented college seniors and recent graduates to Washington, D.C., where they are placed in congressional offices and

learn about health policy issues, with a focus on issues affecting racial and ethnic minorities and underserved communities. Through the nine-week program (May 19-July 26, 2008), scholars gain knowledge about federal legislative procedure and health policy issues, while further developing their critical thinking and leadership skills. Deadline to apply is December 14, 2007. Please visit their website for more details and for the application: <http://www.kff.org/minorityhealth/bjscholars/index.cfm>.

The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation established the Barbara Jordan Health Policy Scholars Program at Howard University to honor the legacy of former Foundation Trustee and Congresswoman

Barbara Jordan and to expand the pool of students in the field of health policy who are interested in issues affecting racial and ethnic minority and underserved communities.

This scholarship is funded by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and is open to anyone who meets Pell Grant criteria, has a 3.3-4.0 GPA, is a citizen, permanent or legal resident, is enrolling in an accredited college for the first time and has demonstrated leadership abilities through community service or other activities. Please visit their website for the application: [www.gmsp.org](http://www.gmsp.org). The deadline is December 31, 2007 for hard copy and January 11, 2008 for online submissions.

## Blackonomics from Page 1

her car, but she did not do one day in jail, even though her 2 year-old baby died in 100 degree heat.

Our latest case involves a Black man, Marc Frison, who inadvertently left a small knife in his backpack when he went through the metal detector in the courthouse. Instead of taking the knife and holding it until Mr. Frison left the building, the guard arrested him. That was approximately two months ago.

He still sits in jail, on a \$100,000 cash bond, having had no trial. The NAACP protested his incarceration and the unconstitutional and punitive bond he received; the judge complained and extended Frison's time in jail by refusing to hear his case in a timely manner. As of this writing, Frison is still in jail awaiting trial on November 13.

Now you would think, just as they do in airports, that a small knife in a backpack would simply be confiscated or the person carrying it would be refused entry to the building. He forgot it was inside his bag, just as the white lady "forgot" her baby was in her car for 8 hours.

Obviously, the "I forgot" excuse does not work for Black people in Jena-Nati.

The Frison case has sparked the interest of U.S. Judiciary Chairman, John Conyers, who wrote to the Assistant Attorney General in the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, asking for an investigation of this apparent violation of Mr. Frison's civil right against being "improperly detained" and, Conyers wrote, "broader discrimination concerns."

Here is a quote from a letter written by the Local President of the NAACP, Christopher Smitherman. "Marc Frison has been recently placed on 24 hour lock-down, been denied his ability to shower, and been denied access to phone calls to his family.

Marc Frison has not been convicted of any crime. In fact, he is awaiting trial on a

\$100,000 straight bond.

On November 8, in response to the continuous injustices perpetrated against Black people in Jena-Nati, Smitherman began a hunger strike, which he says he will not end until justice comes to Marc Frison. This is a serious response by Smitherman; he and his wife have four young boys and are expecting a daughter in a few months.

Now the worst part. Ever since Smitherman, who is only 40 years of age, won the Presidency of the NAACP, he has been subjected to "Black-lash" from older so-called "Black leaders." Yes, I said "Black-lash." I am almost ashamed to say that several "has beens who still wannabe" have tried to undermine everything he has done - and believe me, he has done quite a lot since taking office. Again, typical of Jena-Nati, whenever a strong committed

Black man stands up against the establishment, other Blacks are "sent," after receiving their 30 pieces of silver, of course, to destroy him. And they feel no shame in going against their own people.

The latest case of Black-on-Black crime against this strong brother and conscious Black people in Jena-Nati took place during the recent campaign to pass a sales tax to build a new jail. "Leading Blacks" and "chosen Blacks" in Jena-Nati, including some Black preachers who were paid off by white folks, came against the NAACP membership, which voted to oppose the tax. They lost; the tax failed. Chalk up one for Black consciousness in Jena-Nati.

Did I mention the NAACP, which has yet to speak out against this injustice, will hold its National Convention in Jena-Nati next year? That ought to be a real hoot!

## Health

### Methodist Health System Collaborates with Rev. Dr. Sharon Patterson to Help Women Focus on Health

Methodist Health System recently announced it is collaborating with Rev. Dr. Sharon Patterson to help women commit to a healthy lifestyle. Last spring, Dr. Patterson issued the challenge for 8,000 women to take the Patterson Pledge to take better care of themselves. Methodist will support that challenge by offering tools and resources that will help women be successful once they take the pledge.

The Patterson Pledge calls for women to get annual mammograms and do a monthly breast self-exam; eat healthy



meals; exercise regularly; and keep the mind filled with positive thoughts. Dr. Patterson recently underwent breast cancer surgery and has become an enthusiastic health and wellness advocate. Nationally, she is recognized for her expertise in the area of Christian

relationships and her numerous books. Locally, she is the senior pastor of Highland Hills United Methodist Church, and a member of the Methodist Health System Board of Directors. After being diagnosed with breast cancer, Dr. Patterson said her sincere response was, "What can I do to make this a positive journey?" From her experience, the Patterson Pledge was born.

"My breast cancer was detected early because I chose to get tested regularly

See Dr. Patterson pg. 16

## WISH you were HERE!!!

(Your ad would be seen by our affluent readers!)

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promotion ad 1

### N2NE (In Tune) Youth Mentoring and Intervention/Prevention Program

"Focus on your future and believe in your dreams."



**Upcoming sessions**  
11/05 - Registration  
11/07 - Peer Pressure  
11/12 - Life Skills  
\*\* Thanksgiving Break\*\*  
11/26 - Teen Pregnancy/Self Preservation  
11/28 - STD's and HIV Awareness

12/03 - Family Values  
12/05 - No meeting  
12/10 - Establishing Goals & Mission Statements  
12/12 - Open Forum (Group Activity)  
12/17 - Christmas Party  
\*\* Christmas & New Years Break\*\*

N2NE would like to thank the "Gazette" for choosing our program as a "Cover Story". We would also like to thank our church family "Fellowship Baptist Church of Allen, Pastor W. L. Stafford, Sr., & First Lady Tasha for their support." God Bless - Rich Etta Weathersbee, Cordell Weathersbee, and Penny Francis

The mentoring program is held on Monday's and Wednesday's, from 6:30 - 7:45 pm, in the clubhouse at Indigo on Forest Apartments, 9669 Forest Lane, Dallas TX 75243

For more information, please call: Rich Etta Weathersbee - 469-223-5618; or Penny Francis - 214-793-7178.



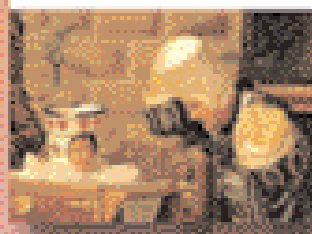
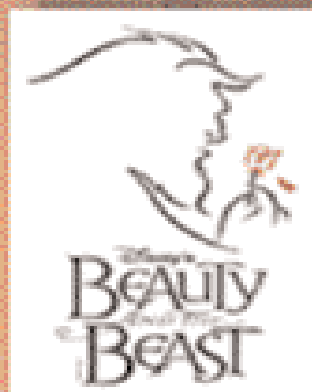


## Where Stars Are Made!

Teatro delle Muse offers classes and camps designed specifically for school age children that provide a creative learning environment and promote self esteem.

### Join Our Cast of Disney's Beauty and the Beast.

Step into the enchanted world of Broadway's modern classic, Disney's BEAUTY AND THE BEAST. Based on the Academy Award winning animated feature, the stage version of Disney's BEAUTY AND THE BEAST includes all of the wonderful songs from the film, written by Alan Menken and the late Howard Ashman, (the team responsible for LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS), plus new songs written especially for the Broadway version by Mr. Menken and Tim Rice (ALADDIN, AIDA). Allow yourself to be transported to a lovely French provincial town where the beautiful Belle lives with her father - a dotty inventor. When her father doesn't return from a trip to the local fair, Belle rushes off to find him. To her dismay, she discovers he is being held captive in an old castle by a horrible beast. She trades her freedom for his and the "tale as old as time" begins.



Public Performances  
December 7-22

Class times

November 26-30th / 6-7 pm

December 3rd-6th / 7-9 pm

Ages 5 and up / Tuition \$300

Children participating in our main stage production of Disney's Beauty and the Beast may choose to perform in one or all three weekends of performances

Please email

CLASSES@TEATRODELLEMUSE.US  
for more information or enrollment forms.

All classes and camps are taught at The Art Centre Theatre where we are the resident company.  
1028 15th Place, Plano, Texas 75074 972.424.MUSE (6873)

For more detailed information, enrollment forms and directions, please visit our website: [www.TeatrodelleMuse.us](http://www.TeatrodelleMuse.us)

# Thanksgiving Special with Choice Homes and KHVN

Brother Robert Ashley at Creekside at Preston  
Edythe Thomas at Stardust Ranch

November 17, 2007 • 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Consult with a CHI loan specialist during the event at either location for pre-qualification!**



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**Scoot on over to Creekside or Stardust – the first 15 guests receive a FREE scooter (\$40 value and wonderful Christmas gift!)**





## Community Calendar

### Ongoing

381 Days The Montgomery Bus Boycott ongoing through January 13, 2008 This exhibition commemorates the 1955 bus boycott that began when Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat to a white patron. The exhibition explores the many challenges faced by African Americans fighting a segregated system that was demeaning and humiliating, as they continued to endure harassment by local law enforcement. Further the exhibition captures the unfailing commitment and relentless determination of a Black community in its efforts to oppose and change laws that allowed them to be treated as second-class citizens. The African American Museum in Fair Park, 3536 Grand Avenue, Dallas For more information call: 214 565-9026

African American Republican Club of Collin County meets 4th Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm, Collin County Republican Party Headquarters. For more info, please call Fred Moses at 972 618 7027 or email him at fred@tes.com.

Arthello Beck Gallery Sights & Sounds Program ongoing through December 31st at the South Dallas Cultural Center 3400 S Fitzhugh Avenue. FREE admission. For more information, please contact Vicki Meek at 214-670-0315, or victoria.meek

@dallascityhall.com.

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce Monthly Lunch & Learn a great opportunity to meet other business owners, as well as key decision makers from various organizations around the metroplex. Join us every third Thursday to gain valuable information presented by featured guest speakers to help your business grow. \$15 for members; \$20 for non-members, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Ralph and Kacoos - 401 S. Central Expy, Allen. For general information and reservations call 469-424-0120.

No Limit Network Business Networking Lunch Have lunch, promote your business, and bring lots of business cards and a friend. Every Thursday at Texas Land & Cattle Steak House 3945 N. Central Expressway Plano, TX 75023 from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. All welcome to attend. Must RSVP at www.TheNoLimitNetwork.com or call Sylvia Williams at 972-898-5882.

Teen First Fridays an exciting new event designed to transition youth into a higher level of engagement with worship through music, movement, spoken word and spiritual food. Teen First Fridays is held in collaboration with St. Philip's School and Community Center, Project Still I Rise Inc. and the Dallas Leadership Foundation. 5:45pm - 8:45pm every first Friday of the month at St. Philip's Community Center, 1600 Pennsylvania, Dallas, TX 75215. Each Friday includes motiva-

tional speakers, food, live entertainment, youth and spoken word performances. For more information contact Tiffany Kirby, Community Center Director, St. Philip's School and Community Center at 214-421-5221 or Kevin Mondy, President, Project Still I Rise at 1-877-380-6413.

### November 9 - 20

"Give a Hand" to local North Texas kids by supporting World Children's Day. You can support World Children's Day by purchasing a "paper" hand at your neighborhood McDonald's restaurant. Proceeds from the local fundraiser will benefit Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater North Texas, which provides grants to local children's charities and scholarships to local youth. For more information, please contact Belettra Atwaters at 214-252-1747, or 817-919-7431.

### November 15

Estate Planning Seminar free 90-minute program 10:00am and 7:00pm, Discover how easy it is to use a Living Trust or a Properly Drafted Will to save on Estate Taxes and Control your Assets. This educational program will be presented by Dallas Estate Planning Attorney, Richard P. Johnson, 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

Songs of South Africa

performed at the Walnut Hill Branch Library, 9495 Marsh Lane. The performance begins at 4:00 pm; admission to this event is FREE. For further information, please call 214-670-6376.

Songs of South Africa performed at the Walnut Hill Branch Library, 9495 Marsh Lane. The performance begins at 4:00 pm; admission to this event is FREE. For further information, please call 214-670-6376.

### November 16

Jazz Friday Join us for this amazing evening of live Jazz from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Stephanie Ward Gallery 920 18th St. Plano, TX 75074 The best in local Jazz and excellent food catered by the Parlour Cafe and Bar in Richardson Tickets or additional information call 469 229-0024 \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

African Percussion Ensemble featuring director Gideon Alorwoyie, at the Concert Hall, UNT Music Building in Denton. The performance begins at 8:00 p.m. and is FREE. Please call 940-565-2791 for further information.

JAMMIN' AT THE CENTER continues to be the best jazz jam in North Texas featuring Shelly Carrol, Allan Green and Jonathon Fisher. Come hear the coolest jazz in our new cool space! All jazz musicians are welcome to sit-in; just bring your instrument of choice. It's always alcohol free, smoke free, and chatter-free! Come to the South Dallas Cultural Center 3400 S Fitzhugh Ave and enjoy Jammin' at

the center from 12 midnight-3 am. Admission to this event is FREE. For further information, please contact Vicki Meek at 214/670-0315, or by email at victoria.meek@dallascityhall.com.

### November 17

Urban League of Greater Dallas Young Professionals MICA Conference "Impacting the Bottom Line", features keynote speaker, Donna Deberry, Vice President of Diversity at NIKE will be held at Texas Instruments Forest Lane Facility 12500 TI Boulevard Dallas, TX from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The MICA Conference targets professionals between the ages of 21 and 40 and prepares to deliver focused education within the issues, trends, and concerns in the corporate arena. For more information, visit www.ulgdy.org.

Dallas West Indies Awards Dinner and Dance at 6 pm \$35 and Children's Chorus and Youth String Orchestra Debut Concert at 7:30 pm \$10 both at The Dallas Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex For tickets or additional information call 214-943-2442

### November 21

Songs of South Africa Pleasant Grove Branch Library, 1125 South Buckner Blvd Dallas Public Library 4 pm FREE 214-670-0965

### December 1

Christmas Bazaar and Art Exhibit with Mexico artist Eduardo Lazo Stephanie Ward Gallery 920 18th St. Plano, TX 75074. 12noon-6 p.m. If you would like to sell your unique items dur-

ing our bazaar, we still have booth space available. Call the gallery at 469 229-0024

FREE Texas Black Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony Banquet and Auction celebrating achievements in African American sports history. Texas Black Sports Hall of Fame Family Day Sports Clinic will include workshops such as book signing, memorabilia signing, face painting, radio give-a-ways, and lots more. This event begins from 12 noon to 2:00 p.m. at 3536 Grand Avenue in Fair Park. There is no charge for this family event. The Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony is located at 2201 Stemmons Freeway African American Museum. The presentation begins at 7:00 p.m. and admission \$60.00. For more information please call 214-565-9026 or email TBSHOF@aamdallas.org.

2007 Jubilee Celebrity Fashion Extravaganza Mothers of Oscar nominee and actor Will Smith, actors Mos Def and Duane Martin will join the mothers and wives of NBA and NFL players as models to benefit the Innerscity Community Development Corporation (ICDC) at 7:00pm, Dallas Trade Mart, 2100 Stemmons Freeway, Dallas 75207 Tickets \$50 in advance; \$65 at the door. For Ticket information call 214 915 9900 or visit www.icdc.biz

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# Proud To Be An Active Partner In The Community



# First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park (First Church) Honors All Veterans



**Senior Pastor, Dr. Gregory Foster of First Church proudly poses with two of his many veterans, and displaying the proclamation from Texas Governor, the Honorable Rick Perry. On Pastor Gregory left is Bro. Larry Hamilton, and on his right is Bro. Eugene H. Tinner.**

By: Sis. Shirley Tarpley  
Sunday, November 11, 2007, was the day to honor all veterans for their unselfish contributions in making the United States a safer and better place to live and work. It is an

opportunity to say thank you to the brave men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces. Dr. Gregory Foster, Senior Pastor; and Rev. Anthony Foster, Pastor of First Baptist Church

of Hamilton Park (First Church) and their members honored, in grand style and dignity all veterans in their Sunday Worship Service at 10:30 am.

The worship service started with the presen-

tation of the U. S. Flag by Boy Scout Troop #118, and Pack #118 with Veteran Frank Beverly coordinating the Troop. Approximately 23 years ago, the late Dr. J. Lee Foster, Founder and Senior

Pastor of First Church until his death, asked Bro. Beverly to reactive Troop #118 (ages 11 – 18) and Pack #118 (ages 6 – 10) to help these young boys and men to become productive citizens of our coun-

try. One could view the presentation by the young boys and men as future proud veterans. The late Dr. Foster would have been proud of the work of the troops. Pastor Gregg

*See First Church page 12*



## Columbus Short – A Star on the Rise

By Ruth Ferguson

When Columbus Short sits down to Thanksgiving dinner with his family, he will have more than enough to list among his blessings. 2007 is when his career really began to jump off. Short has enjoyed success on the stage, TV, and films. However, in *Stomp* earlier this year Short's career was pushed to the next level.

In Dallas earlier this month to promote his latest film, Short is confident *This Christmas* will also be a crowd pleaser. The ensemble cast was a good blend of seasoned veterans such as Delroy Lindo, Loretta Devine, and Regina King with newcomers such as Laz Alonso and Sharon Leal. *This Christmas* also re-teams singing sensation Chris Brown with Short.

He described the production as an exciting experience, "nobody had an ego, and they took me in, and mentored me." According to Short normally after a film wraps, cast members stay in touch occasionally, but this group became a family, "not a week goes by that I do

not talk with someone," from the film.

An ambitious young man, Short is carefully crafting a career that will result in longevity and quality. He took the money earned from *Stomp* and made a short film, *Strangefruit*, slated to appear at Sundance in January. Short is also writing, "I do not wait



for agents to indicate it has been green lighted." He has prepared a script for HBO to consider, described as *American Gigolo* meets *American Psycho*.

But his dream production is a remake of *The Wiz* to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the film. Short thinks with Chris Brown, Neo and *American Idol*, Jordan Sparks, the movie would skyrocket. Short not only wants to direct the

film, he plans to choreograph the dancing. In *This Christmas*, Short plays Claude Whitfield, the middle son, a Marine coming home for the holidays. Short did not have to look far for inspiration and insight into the character. "I have an aunt and two uncles in the military. I just played my uncle," Short joked.

In the movie, the father abandoned the family years ago to pursue his musical career, and Short said the script delves into the fact all of the family members have abandonment issues. "No one ever sits down and talks about these issues until it gets too bad," notwithstanding passive aggressive comments.

Short loves holiday movies and ranks *Christmas Story*, *Miracle on 34th Street* and the 1951 version of *Christmas Carol* among his favorites. The heartwarming, *This Christmas* is destined to become a Christmas classic with black families. And Columbus Short is proud to be a part of the heartwarming holiday treat. Opens Wednesday November 21st.

## Big City Events and National Comedian Rickey Smiley is Looking for the Next Big City Talent

DALLAS - Big City Events, Comedian Rickey Smiley and TXA 21 have joined forces in search of finding Dallas/Fort Worth is next BIG CITY TALENT. Rickey Smiley's Big City Talent Show airs every Saturday at 12 midnight on TXA 21.

The variety show features some of Dallas' most talented everyday people. Amateur singers, dancers, comedians and poets are given an opportunity to showcase their skills live on stage in front of thousands. Open auditions for the show are held on the first Tuesday of each month at FireWater – Dallas' newest

LIVE entertainment destination venue located at 10261 Technology Blvd E near Interstate 35 and Northwest Highway in Dallas. "FireWater is just a fantastic venue" says Tom Hoitsma President of Explosive Shorts. "The audience has been great and I have been really impressed with so much of the talent but I guess the real proof is in the ratings which have grown every week".

Notable celebrities and guest judges that have joined Rickey Smiley at FireWater include Grammy Award winner and musician Wyclef Jean, comedians Tommy Davidson and A.J. Jamal, Dallas Cowboys

Bradie James and Marcus Spears and nationally syndicated Radio Personalities Tom Joyner and Michael Baisden just to name a few.

The Rickey Smiley Big City Talent Show airs on Dallas local CBS affiliate TXA 21 every Saturday at 12 Midnight. To inquire about becoming a performer on Rickey Smiley's Big City Talent Show or for sponsorship opportunities contact Erykah James at 214-969-7209 or ejames@market- inghandson.com.



### Teatro Page 1

anything like it", says Henderson, "especially for a new theatre that's not yet established. She goes on to say, "But to me the measure of success is not in the number of kids we sign up nor the number of tickets sold, to me success comes if just one single child is enriched by theatre. Theatre is the one art form that will benefit children all the way through their adult life, no matter what profession they choose."

In talking to a number of parents, it seems that many children benefited from the exposure to the performing arts. Says one mother, "My daughter was so shy and so withdrawn, I actually never believed she would go through with it. TDM camps have helped her come out of her

shell."

"One thing that sets us apart from other local camps is the degree to which we screen our instructors. All of our instructors are not only degreed in some theatrical discipline, but also must pass a criminal background check", says Henderson.

The camp fee includes costumes, instruction by qualified theatre professionals, and if desired the opportunity to perform as an ensemble member in the current main-stage production; next up is Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* which opens December 7 and runs through December 22. "The camp is a learning experience", says Henderson. "We don't just dress the children up and parade them across the stage. Camp par-

ticipants study the art of acting, dance and music as well as team building. We cover everything from the fundamentals of acting, to blocking, parts of the stage to character development. Children leave our camps feeling confident and proud as well as tired from all the fun."

TDM is very involved in the community. "We offer scholarships to every class and camp we teach to under privileged children that might not otherwise have the opportunity to study the art of theatre. We also work with Collin County Children's Advocacy Center foster children and their families in providing them with a free closed performance.

"It's important to give back to the community", says Henderson.



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## FIRST ONLINE BLACK-ORIENTED SEARCH ENGINE

After successfully organizing and designing one of the largest online black business directories, Dwayne Ferguson, CEO of BlackXchange.net™ realized that there needs to be more. He made the decision to create the first online black search engine. "It will be the world's largest online black search engine", said Ferguson. "We have just started and I am amazed at how quickly this search engine has developed".

Generally search engines provide the users with active content on a worldwide level. BlackXchange.net™ provides content on a more direct level that allows users to access current information

from the black community. The search engine will find black owned websites or websites that contain predominately black-oriented content. This allows any and all businesses, organizations and/or individuals to find requested information pertaining to topics such as black doctors, lawyers, consultants, CPAs, entertainers, etc. Ferguson adds "Our search engine even has a tool bar you can download, that connects you to BlackXchange.net™. We expect to have over a half million downloads in the next few months."

For people that do not have a website or want an additional site, BlackXchange.net™ provides a user friendly

area which allows business owners to create and upload their own website for the online directory, Free. This free site can also be linked to other sites.

To add a business, the user simply goes to BlackXchange.net™, types in his or her information and the system will create the website for them. Even if the business owner is not "computer savvy", BlackXchange.net™ makes the process of adding and creating their free website simple and the business owner can update the data as often as he or she wishes by simply signing in and making the changes. "We are connecting everyone with the black communi-

ty through a one-stop shop. If you can envision Google or Yahoo in your mind, then you can grasp the scope and range of what we are all about", said Mr. Ferguson. "We are creating a large community that is housed under one roof and will make history." BlackXchange.net™ is supported by sponsors, advertisers, and donators that help promote the program online, through the media, and from the highly visible thirty-eight foot BlackXchange.net™ tour bus that travels across the nation.

To get connected with the world's first black search engine, please visit [www.BlackXchange.net](http://www.BlackXchange.net).

### Rev. Jackson from pg1

interest rates and higher housing costs are hitting homeowners who have adjustable rate mortgages (ARM) and sub-prime loans. With less easy credit available, many who expected to refinance at lower interest rates cannot do so. And millions are losing their homes.

These devastating events did not happen because of job loss, divorce or medical bills said Rev. Jackson. Rather, they happened because of the predatory nature of the loan product. Predatory lending will potentially add another 10 million to the foreclosure list. The exorbitant interest rates and inflexible terms have locked borrowers into loans they cannot refinance and have no ability to pay. Families facing foreclosure often cannot locate the company that holds their loan. Once granted, loans typically are sold to companies that then bundle large numbers of mortgages and sell them as speculative

investments to creditors who have no knowledge of or involvement in homeowner's well being.

Mortgages used to be stable investments but now everyone is losing money as a result of these sub-prime practices Parker said. In addition the community disruption of lost homes, financial structures nationwide and globally will suffer, Parker said. When people take out a loan from the bank, their loans end up being a part of the mortgage-backed securities on the stock market," she explained. Thus, while there is discussion of a government bailout, banks as well as homeowners are losing money at an alarming rate.

Unlike traditional loans, banks do not put these [sub-prime loans] on their books Jones said. So when people try to complain, they do not have a bank to go to; they have services Jones's solution is to rewrite the loans to accommodate what

homeowners can afford. Citing fraud as a factor, Van Zalingen said the problem is too widespread for simple solutions. One of 10 houses on every block in America is facing foreclosure," he said. Though help will be costly, he said, two months of wasted funding on [the war in] Iraq would allow for the type of restructuring needed. Rev. Livingston, who traveled with Rev. Jackson recently on a foreclosure tour visiting six Michigan cities, said that easy credit lured many homebuyers into unmanageable borrowing. "You have to look at the fact that a consumer who could not qualify

to buy a car could turn around and buy a house," he said. "No-document loans were designed to shield the wealthy and have sadly come to take advantage of the disadvantage."

Upfront with Rev. Jesse Jackson airs Saturdays at 10 p.m. on the WORD Network.

The Rainbow PUSH Coalition is a progressive organization devoted to protecting, defending and expanding civil rights to improve economic and educational opportunity. The organization is headquartered at 930 E. 50th St. in Chicago. To learn more, please visit [www.rainbowpush.org](http://www.rainbowpush.org) or call (773) 373-3366.

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and Pastor Anthony could be seen beaming with pride as they viewed the Troop and Pack groups.

The scouting ministries at First Church include Boys and Girls Scout units. Each scouting opportunity operates within the guidelines of the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts of America respectively. The scouting ministry provides instruction on how the scouts might serve as Christian Disciples and good citizens.

The Boy Scouts prepares young males to

communities. Each troop trains in outdoor and survivor skills, protection of the environment and express the importance of religion. First through fifth graders (or ages 7 – 10) participate in the Cub Scouts. Fifth through twelfth grade (or ages 11-17) participate in the Boy Scouts.

The Agape Ministry is the youth ministry for First Church. The Agape Ministry in the Church seeks to meet the needs of individuals ranging from early childhood through adolescence.

The Agape Ministry

“Salute to Our Veterans.” Men and women from all branches of the Armed Forces were recognized on their special day, which included all veterans and those currently serving in the Armed Forces.

After the presentation of the U.S. Flag, Miss Fort Worth 2007, Kristen Blair read a “Special Greeting” from Texas Governor, the Honorable Rick Perry. Ms. Blair was followed by Miss Dallas 2007, Corrin Harmon who presented the State of Texas House of Representatives, “Texas

current members in the Armed Forces, the morning worship celebration continued with the youth choir bring Messages in Songs. The Praise and Worship time was lead by the Deacons and Praise Team of First Church.

Finally Rev. Vince Field, an Associate Minister at First Church topped-off the celebration with “The Sacred Word.” His message was “Trading Places” found in St. Luke 16:19-31 (KJV), with special emphasis

on Verse 25.

The 7:30 a.m. Sermon, “Don’t Sweat the Small Stuff” was found in St. Matthew 6:25-33 (KJV) started the Veterans Celebration with great joy, by Rev. Roderick McIntyre, Associate Minister.

**Contact: 972-606-7498 for Career Opportunity Advertising**



## **NORTH TEXAS TOLLWAY AUTHORITY NORTH TEXAS TOLLWAY AUTHORITY PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT**

The North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA) will receive sealed bids at 5900 W. Plano Pkwy. Suite 100, Plano, TX 75093, (214) 461-2061, until Friday, November 16, 2007 at 10:00 am for the following projects:

Project 02320-SH121-00-CN-PM. Provide and deliver new fabricated steel for ramp plaza gantries for future NTTA projects on State Highway 121 (Collin and Denton Counties). Approximate quantities include 368,000 pounds of structural steel.

Project 02325-SH121-00-CN-PM. Provide and deliver new fabricated steel for mainlane plaza gantries for future NTTA projects on State Highway 121 (Denton County). Approximate quantities include 504,000 pounds of structural steel.

The bid packet is available at no cost to the prospective bidder. Contact Karen at 214-461-2061 for more information.

The bid packet includes the Proposal book and Plans. Paper based bids and supporting documents 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. All rights reserved.

The bid packet may be examined at the NTTA’s main office, 5900 West Plano Parkway, Suite 100, Plano TX 75093.



**Rev. Anthony Foster, Pastor of First Church and Veteran Rhonda G. Steward as the church and congregation honored all veterans.**



**Veteran and Scout Coordinator for Troop and Pack #11, Frank Beverly received the highest Volunteer Award (and the only African American) from the National Scouting Organization. He was also the 2004 Man of the year for First Church.**

become leaders in their families, churches and of First Church presented the 3rd Annual

Flag Presentation” from the Honorable men and women members of the House of Representatives.

World War II Veterans currently attending First Church accepted the flag on behalf of all Veterans. They were asked to stand, and they received a round of applause from the audience that lasted several minutes.

Miss Texas 2006, First Runner-Up to Miss America, Shilah Phillips, lead the congregation in singing the National Anthem.

After the special honors for the veteran men and women and the



**NAACP "Let Freedom Ring" Annual  
Holiday Gala**

Come celebrate this year's achievements at the 2007 "Let Freedom Ring" Annual Holiday Gala hosted by the Dallas Branch NAACP. At the gala, you will be captivated by the words of wisdom from Gala Honorees Michael J. Sorrell, J.D., the President at Paul Quinn College, and Dr. Samuel Equae, discoverer of new bacterial plasmid DNA strain. These outstanding individuals have contributed greatly to our community, to our society, and to our nation. Bronze Voices Hand Bell Choir of First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park will be making an appearance along with the Paul Quinn College Jazz Band to entertain your soul and set the rhythm of the evening. Mr. Robert Ashley News Director for KHVN

Heaven 97 Radio will be emceeing the gala.

Enjoy a night of recognition and appreciation with community leaders at the Annual Holiday Gala located at Paul Quinn College in the Grand Lounge 3837 Simpson Stuart Road Dallas, Saturday, December 15, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. For more please contact Mrs. Clara Brown-Trimble at 214-505-3412, or, Doris Hart at 214-337-0536, or, Dr. Juanita Wallace at 214-418-2752.

**CITY OF  
PLANO, TEXAS**



CAREER EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

**www.plano.gov**

**AA / EOE / ADA**



**DALLAS  
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**Dallas County is currently recruiting  
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*Qualifications vary for each position.*

*Visit [www.dallascounty.org](http://www.dallascounty.org) to apply.*

*Starting salary is based on education and  
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214-861-2354

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or Leave Message at 972-606-3891**



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*The City of Irving does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of services.  
[www.ci.irving.tx.us](http://www.ci.irving.tx.us)*

**CARROLLTON TEXAS**

**Firefighters' and Police Officers'  
Civil Service Commission Announces  
Police Department Entrance Examination**

**BEGINNING SALARY  
\$48,634.38-(\$23.38 per hour)  
First salary increase in 6 months**

**Minimum Requirements:**

- Age 21 by examination date
- Must be a U.S. Citizen
- Education: 90 hours of college credit.

Exceptions may be made, please  
visit website for details.  
Exam Registration October 29th thru  
December 1, 2007

**Entrance Exam Date: December 1, 2007 @ 1 pm**  
To obtain a Registration packet please visit our  
website

[www.cityofcarrollton.com](http://www.cityofcarrollton.com)  
Equal Opportunity Employer



## Church Happenings

### **ABUNDANT LIFE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH**

**November 18 4 pm**

Please join us for our Family and Friends Services @ the Southfork Hotel, 1600 N. Central Expressway, Plano, TX 75074. Call 972-781-8225 for more information.

Abundant Life Fellowship Church  
Elder Daniel Richard,  
Senior Pastor  
1600 N. Central Expy.  
Plano, TX 75074  
972-781-8225

### **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK (FIRST CHURCH)**

**November 18,  
10:30 am**

Come to our "Taste of First Church." This is a "Each One, Reach One Recruitment" and is an excellent opportunity to learn about the ministries and auxiliaries at First Church. After the 10:30 am worship service meet the ministry leaders and representatives in the

Fellowship Hall. Our theme is "Oh, taste and see, the Lord is good" Psalm 34:8.

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

### **GRACE OUTREACH CENTER**

**November 19,  
7 am - 7 pm**

Our church will host the Frozen Turkey Drop 2007. This annual event was started as a project for the Randy and Lael Melville family as a way to teach their children the meaning of giving. The Turkey Drop will benefit God's Food Pantry of Plano and the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center of Dallas. For information about the Frozen Turkey Drop, the \$20 Gift Card Drop Off, or to volunteer, call Kelvin Smith @ 972-881-0426 or Dr. Lael

Melville @ 972-365-6764  
Grace Outreach Center  
Rev. Gerald Brooks, Pastor  
3301 Preston Road  
Plano, TX 75093  
972-985-1112

### **JOHNSON CHAPEL COMMUNITY CHURCH**

**November 20,  
7 pm - 9 pm**

You don't want to miss this Male Forum hosted by Rev. F. Karl Banks of the Banks of Dallas Ministries; "The Renaissance is in Full Effect," Christian Networking, Empowerment, Community Service and Support. The panelist include: Bishop Miller Johnson, Jr., Senior Pastor of New Life Fellowship Church of Rowlett; Rev. Wayne Stafford, Sr., M.Div, Senior Pastor of Fellowship Baptist Church of Allen; Mr. James Branch, Author of "The Vacant Pews"; Mr. Jordan Blair, Elite News Editor/Publisher; Mr. Aaron Micheals, Community Activist, Former Leader of New

Black Panthers, KKDA Radio; Mr. B. J. Williams, President of the NAACP in Garland; and Rev. Ronald Wright, President SCLC.

**Johnson Chapel Community Church**  
Dr. Karen Hollie,  
Senior Pastor  
1400 N. Hampton Road  
DeSoto, TX 75115

### **NEW MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH OF DALLAS**

**November 17,  
4 pm - 6 pm**

Our Children's Church Thanksgiving Feast will be held and all children are welcome.

**November 18, 3 pm**

Join us for our special Pre-Thanksgiving Service; Greater New Zion will be our special guests. Rev. Joe Patterson is the pastor.

**November 22, 9 am**

We will pass out Thanksgiving dinners and anyone who wants to help, please be at the church at 9:00 a.m.

**New Mt. Zion Baptist Church Of Dallas**

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

### **RHEMA LIFE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH**

**November 17, 6:30 pm**

Please join us for our Pastor's 5th Year Anniversary Celebration @ The Radisson Hotel Dallas North, 1981 North Central Expressway in Richardson, Texas. Special guests include Recording Artist Rick Bernard James who will minister in songs and others. Come for fellowship and fun. Call Kathy @ 469-261-6543 for tickets, directions and other information.

### **Rhema Life Fellowship Church**

**Rev. James Thomas, Pastor**  
3801 Avenue K  
Plano, TX 75074  
469-467-7575

### **SANCTUARY OF PRAISE FELLOWSHIP OF ALLEN**

**November 16 - 18, 2007**  
We invite you to our 4th

Anniversary Celebration Services. Friday @ 7:30 pm @ the Allen Civic Center, 300 N. Allen Drive in Allen, TX will be our "Joy Night Musical," this FREE event will feature Minister Ron Hadley and Worship Squad of New Orleans; Psalmist Becky McCadden of Chesapeake, Virginia; JaRa and Lineage and other groups. Saturday @ 7 pm there is a Celebration Banquet @ the Southfork Hotel in Plano with guest speaker Rev. Josef Rasheed, Founder/Pastor of CrossRoad Covenant Church in DeSoto, TX. Sunday @ 4:40 pm will be the conclusion of our anniversary with Pastor Chuckie Brown of New Birth Church, Sherman, TX and his congregation. For more information contact Pastor John Wilson, III @ 469-853-2380.

**Sanctuary of Praise Fellowship of Allen**  
**Rev. John Wilson, III, Pastor**  
P.O. Box 633  
Allen, TX 75013  
469-853-2380

## EBENEZER WORSHIP CENTER



Rev. Cecil T. Smith, II  
Senior Pastor

*"We are Living Stones in God's Temple"*

### **SUNDAY**

10:00 am: Sunday School  
11:00 am: Morning Worship

### **MONDAY**

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm: Men of Power and Women of Power

### **TUESDAY**

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm: Bible Study & Worship Service

14000 Preston Road • Dallas, TX 75254 • 972-980-0977 (Church Phone)

## PRIME BURIAL LOTS FOR SALE

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



## Fellowship Baptist Church of Allen

200 Belmont • Allen, Texas • 75013  
Phone: 972-359-9956 Fax: 972-359-6048  
www.fbcfallen.org



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

*"A Kingdom Building Church"*

Sunday School 9:45 am  
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.



## Mt. Olive Church of Plano

300 Chisholm Place Plano, TX 75075 972-633-5511

**WWW.MOCOP.ORG**

**Serving the Plano  
Community for 13 Years**



Pastors Sam & Gloria Fenceroy

**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"**  
KGGH 1040 AM MONDAY - FRIDAY @ 5:25pm - 5:30pm



## Hill Chapel

**Christian Methodist Episcopal Church**

1113 Ave. I, Plano, TX 75074 (972) 423-4090  
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.







**Sister Tarpley**

This Thanksgiving Season let us: Be generous in prosperity, and thankful in adversity. Be worthy of the trust of thy neighbor, and look upon him/her with a bright and friendly face. Be a treasure to the poor, an admonisher to the rich,

for the stranger, a balm to the suffering, a tower of strength for the fugitive. Be eyes to the blind, and a guiding light unto the feet of the erring. Be an ornament to the countenance of truth, a crown to the brow of fidelity, a pillar of the temple of righteousness, a breath of life to the body of mankind, an ensign of the hosts of jus-



**Ms. Betty Rainwater Kelly enjoying the dinner at Christ Community Connection Annual Scholarship Banquet**

an answerer of the cry of the needy, a preserver of the sanctity of thy pledge. Be fair in thy judgment, and guarded in thy speech. Be unjust to no man, and show all meekness to all men. Be as a lamp unto them that walk in darkness, a joy to the sorrowful, a sea for the thirsty, a heaven for the distressed, an upholder and a defender of the victim of oppression.

Let integrity and uprightness distinguish all thine acts. Be a home

tice, a luminary above the horizon of virtue, a dew to the soil of the human heart, an ark on the ocean of knowledge, a sun in the heaven of bounty, a gem on the diadem of wisdom, a shining light in the firmament of thy generation, a fruit upon the tree of humility. –Bahá'u'lláh

Some things can hinder a Christian's growth in God, all Christians understand everything in this world is not sinful, but it is important to be

# Thanksgiving 2007

free from spiritual weights that hinder progress. There are things that can weigh down a Christian's spiritual growth. What do you think will bring the balloons down quicker to the ground, the 6 oz. plastic bottle filled with liquid, a medal trinket, or a large rock?

Compared to a race; Christians have to pace themselves because of the distance of a marathon race. A person must take a slow but steady pace to conserve energy for the distance. Runners wear light clothing and special shoes to make the run with as less resistant as possible. Also distant runners often focus on distant objects to help keep their heads up and their pace steady. For the Christian, Jesus must become the focus of their finish.

Christians can unconsciously take on things and lifestyles that can be

dead weights that can lead to sin because they cater to the flesh. Lack of prayer time, laziness, and inconsistently going to church are some hindrance to spiritual progress. When flesh becomes a priority for us, the Word of God warns Christians this practice can easily set us back. Ecclesiastes 9:11, says that he race is not given to the swift...but if we try to run a race with weights, we will fail. When my son was in football training, at times he wore weights on his ankles, when I asked him about it and he told me that we wears weights for a month or tow during practice and when he pulls them off, he will pick up speed while running because his ankles and legs would be free from the weights. Some weights in lives can cause a spiritual death. It is a good idea to get rid of the "dead weight."

## GIRLS INC. SEEKS NOMINATIONS

Dallas, Texas – Girls Incorporated of Metropolitan Dallas (Girls Inc.) is seeking nominations for the 20th annual She Knows Where She's Going Awards Luncheon, to be held on April 1, 2008, at the Hilton Anatole Hotel. All nominations must be received at the Girls Inc. offices at 2040 Empire Central, Dallas, TX 75235 by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 30, 2007.

Barbara Lord Watkins, community volunteer and President Emeritus, Parkland Foundation will chair the April 1st luncheon and celebration honoring three outstanding women with the She Knows Where She's Going Award. These women will be recognized for overcoming obstacles to reach their goals as well as having made significant contributions to the Dallas community and serve as role models for girls and women. The She Knows Where She's Going Award

was established in 1987 and has recognized 65 honorees since the program was launched. In addition, Girls Inc. will present the Girls Champion Award, in recognition of an individual or corporation that has made significant contributions to increasing the personal or professional growth of girls or women in the Dallas community. The Girls Champion recipient demonstrates an ongoing commitment to developing, supporting or expanding opportunities for girls and women to positively impact their futures. Girls Inc. has awarded seven Girls Champion Awards since its creation in 2001.

To obtain an application to nominate deserving candidates for awards, please call Stephanie Scott at 214.654.4536 or via email at [sscott@girlsinc-dallas.org](mailto:sscott@girlsinc-dallas.org) or download and application at [www.girlsincdallas.org](http://www.girlsincdallas.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 7:30 p.m.

Evening Bible Study

**"The Church with a Vision"**

## Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church

### The Rock

Still standing.... Est. June 1864

A Kingdom Building Church offering DELIVERANCE, RESTORATION, PURPOSE and PROSPERITY



**Rev. Robert Townsend, Pastor**



Come Experience A Church that Believes in Giving God Excellence Without Excuse

#### Worship Services

Sunday Worship ..... 7:45 am & 11:00 am  
Sunday School ..... 9:45 am - 10:45 am  
Wednesday Bible Study ..... 12:00 noon & 7:00 pm

#### Office Hours

Monday & Friday ..... 9:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday .. 9:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Saturday & Sunday ..... Closed

#### Contact Info

**Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church**  
11611 Webb Chapel Road • Dallas, TX 75229  
Office: 972-241-6151  
Email: [info@dallasmtpisgah.org](mailto:info@dallasmtpisgah.org)  
Website: [www.dallasmtpisgah.org](http://www.dallasmtpisgah.org)

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MORNING WORSHIP - 10AM  
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - 7PM

**PASTOR TERENCE AUTRY**

**Macedonia Ministries**

702 S. Mill Street • Lewisville, TX 75057  
972-436-2011

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

**www.macedoniaministries.com**

Saturday: Intercessory Prayer @ 7:00 am  
Sunday Services: Sunday School @ 9:30 am • Morning Worship @ 11:00 am  
Monday Service: Men's Group & Women's Group Bible Study @ 6:30 pm  
Wednesday Service: 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 p.m.  
Wednesdays: Life In The Word Prayer and Bible Study ..... 7:00 p.m.



## Church Directory

### Sister-to-Sister National Women's Healthy Heart Campaign

The Sister to Sister Foundation, a national non-profit organization, is dedicated to preventing heart disease among women through free cardiac screenings, and by increasing awareness about heart disease. On Tuesday, December 4, the Sister to Sister Foundation, along with

the Sister to Sister Dallas Community Council, and the Junior League of Dallas, will host its Women's Healthy Heart Breakfast from 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. at the Hotel Crescent Court at 400 Crescent Court, Dallas, Texas 75201. For more information, call 214-871-0783


**Ben Washington Baptist Church, Inc.**  
3901 Frisco Avenue  
Irving, TX 75061  
Church 972-790-8421 Fax 972-986-6590  
Email: church@bwbcirving.org  
Web: bwbcirving.org  
Dr. Joseph R. Sheppard, Pastor  
**"THE CHURCH WITH AN OPEN BIBLE"**

<b>Sunday Worship Services</b> 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 6:00 p.m. Baptist Training Union	<b>Wednesday</b> 12:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Prayer Hour 7:30 p.m. Bible Study
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**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\_cme@sbcglobal.net (Email)  
Healthy Beginnings Child Development Center - 972-404-1412  
Dr. Jerome E. McNeil, Jr., 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**  
1010-1020 South Sherman Street • Richardson, TX 75081  
www.ndcbf.org  
Dr. Leslie W Smith, Senior Pastor

**New Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Dallas**

<b>Sunday Service</b> Morning Worship 7:30 am & 10:30 am 9:00 am Sunday School	
<b>Wednesday Service</b> 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)

### Dr. Patterson, Page 6

—a decision that may very well have saved my life," says Dr. Patterson. "Even after coming to terms with my illness, I chose to think positively about it, asking myself how I could use this experience to benefit others."

Women who sign up for the Patterson Pledge

receive a free welcome kit that includes a health record booklet, a refrigerator magnet to serve as a daily reminder of the pledge, and a letter from Dr. Patterson. Web resources such as pod casts with messages of encouragement from Dr. Patterson; links to Methodist Health System health care

resources; and age-specific health recommendations will also be available. Dr. Patterson will also be a regular columnist in Health Talk, Methodist Health System's quarterly newsmagazine.

To sign up for the Patterson Pledge, visit www.methodisthealth-system.org/pledge, call 214-947-0020, or call

toll-free 866-448-5065. There is no fee to sign up. "Don't do it for me. Do it for yourself and for your family," says Dr. Patterson.

"In fact encourage them to follow in your footsteps and take the Patterson Pledge too. It doesn't cost anything, yet it will pay big dividends for the rest of your life."

**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 KHVN 970 AM Sunday Mornings  
Emery Tease, Associate Minister  
www.avefchurchofchrist.org  
Ramon Hodridge, Minister

**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, 12:30 pm.  
Monday School: 7:pm  
Men's Fellowship: Friday 7:00pm  
Website: www.ibocjoy.org  
Pastor Rickie G. Rush

**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

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK**  
**Spiritual Direction**  
"Each One, Reach One"

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

**Our Mission**  
To fulfill The Great Commission until Christ comes.  
300 Phillips Street • Richardson, TX 75081 • 972.235.4235  
www.fbcbp.org  
Dr. Gregory Foster Senior Pastor  
Rev. Anthony Foster Pastor

**Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church**  
1308 Wilcox Street, McKinney TX  
Pastor Charles S. Wattley

**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.saintmarkbcb.com • stmarkmissionary@aol.com