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Rickey Smiley Lends Support to American Red Cross Blood Services in Texas

While many know that Rickey Smiley loves to make people laugh and smile, he also feels equally compelled to help people in need.

Recently, Mr. Smiley was one of the leaders who led thousands to Jena. Louisiana to protest against the treatment of six black teens arrested initially for attempted second-degree murder.

Today, Mr. Smiley is taking up another mission that helps those in need. He is working with the American Red Cross Blood Services in Texas to help educate and increase volunteer blood donors.

To push the emphasis during the holidays, Mr. Smiley is hosting a Red Cross "Celebrate Life" blood drive with radio personalities Big

In New Orleans: Activists Ask Council to Halt **Demolition Slated to Begin 10 Days Before Christmas**

Special to the NNPA from the Louisiana Weekly

NEW ORLEANS (NNPA) After the Housing Authority of New Orleans' approval of almost \$31 million in contracts for demolishing vacant buildings in five of the city's public housing developments, demolition is expected to begin Dec. 15. According to HANO spokesman

Adonis Expose, more than 4,500 housing units are expected to be destroyed in the first phase of demolition, approved late last month.

The news comes nearly six months after the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, which has overseen HANO the past five years, announced its plans to obliterate the city's four largest housing projects - B.W. Cooper, C.J. Peete, St. Bernard and Lafitte - to create space for "mixed-income" communities.

All of the housing projects earmarked for demolition with the exception of B.W. Cooper - have remained boarded up and uninhabited since Hurricane Katrina sent floodwaters across the city more than two years ago.

HANO also approved plans to

complete the transformation of the Fischer housing development in Algiers, with demolition and construction plans slated to finish the work it began in 2004. Last week's plans were

approved by HANO board commissioner Donald Babers without any input from the nearly two dozen people who attended Thursday's HANO meeting.

See New Orleans, Page 12

Dallas Housing Authority Provides Continued Assistance to Katrina Victims

Dallas, TX – Dallas Housing Authority (DHA) has entered into an agreement with HUD to provide continued assistance to families affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The goal of the Disaster Housing Assistance Program (DHAP), a pilot program created by HUD and FEMA, is to transition all families still receiving

FEMA housing assistance to self sufficiency by February 28, 2009. DHAP addresses the needs for an extended housing program for hurricane-affected families but also indicates a specific end date and program conditions.

"The federal government has recognized that the magnitude of the Gulf Coast hurricanes calls for

an extended program, yet one that provides case management services and completion dates," said Ann Lott, DHA president and CEO

DHA is currently providing housing assistance to approximately 1,200 hurricane evacuee families. The current FEMA housing program will end on November 30, 2007. The

See Page 2

Disaster Housing Assistance Program (DHAP) will continue to assist families with a rent subsidy for a limited amount of time, but also allow additional funds for case management services to assist families in becom-

Aristocracy, and its "Let them eat cake" philosophy when I ponder our current economic situation. Wealth abounded in a few French families, but most other families suffered in abject poverty. Is this what the United States of America becoming? Robert Reich, former

I am reminded of the fate

of the infamous French

By. James Clingman

NNPA Columnist

U.S. Secretary of Labor, referred to this new fashion of CEO's making million dollar windfalls after laying off thousands of workers, as "the disappearance of the implicit social contract that used to bind companies with their workers and communities."

If he was correct, African-Americans, especially, are in for a rough ride. We will get attacked directions. from all Downsize government (most affluent Black people have government jobs); downsize companies (you know who goes first); privatize the public sector (who will get the lion's share of the contracts?): eliminate all forms of affirmative action (do you really know what a "colorblind" society will mean for Black people?); and, build more jails (who fills them now?).

See Aristocracy, Page 10

People In The News... INSIDE... Arts & Entertainment10 Business Service Directory11 William R. Patterson John J. Harris Church Happenings14 **Bruce Gordon** Sister Tarpley15

Bink and Veda Loca on Wednesday, Dec. 19. The drive will be held from 8AM to 3PM at the radio station located at the Valley View Mall, 13331 Preston Road, suite 1180. "I'm excited about the

See Smiley, Page 15

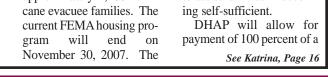
Shining Stars Light Up **The Stage For Charity**



Saundra Lohr-The Focus Group, Carolyn Smith-Mother of Will Smith, entertainer and Oscar nominee, and Mona Washington-Mother of Tisha Campbell, television actor See Scholarship, Page 9

and Pauperism

in the Black



People In The News

Bruce Gordon

Bruce Gordon, president of Retail Markets in Verizon's Domestic Telecom unit. has announced his retirement from the company, effective December 31, capping a 35-year career. As head of Retail Markets, Gordon, 57, is responsible for the company's consumer and small-business sales and



marketing units, Verizon Online and DSL sales and marketing, as well as corporate advertising and brand management.

For nineteen months in 2006-2007 Gordon served as the Presidnet of the National Association for the Advancement of People Colored [NAACP] before resigning unexpectedly in March.

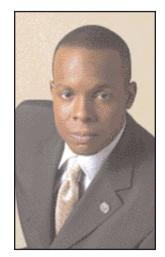
"Bruce's outstanding marketing and leadership skills have had an enormous impact on this business," said Larry Babbio, president of Domestic Telecom. "He has led the introduction of innovative bundles and packages to the mass market, while, at the same time, building the number one brand in communications. He's made lasting contributions to this company, and, more importantly, to the lives of countless people with whom he's worked over the years."

Gordon began his career in 1968 at Bell of Pennsylvania as a management trainee in the Consumer Sales organization. He advanced through assignments in Personnel, Operations and Sales and Marketing, and at the time of the

Bell Atlantic/GTE merger in July 2000, he was named president of the Retail Markets Group. Gordon also has been a leader in many community and non-profit organizations, including serving on the board of the Executive Leadership Council, the Alvin Ailey Dance Foundation, Lincoln Center and the Advertising Council Inc.

William R. Patterson

William R. Patterson is a two-time awardwinning lecturer and co-author of the national bestselling business and personal finance book, The Baron Son. He is Chairman and CEO of The Warcoffer Capital Group, LLC. His ethical guidebook to wealth, power, and success, The Baron Son, has been translat-



ed around the world and featured in the Forbes Book Club and Black Enterprise magazine.

William is an internationally recognized business authority who has been a featured guest on over 300 television and radio programs. William is the business and financial expert on XM Satellite

Radio 169 -The Power and also does a syndicated weekly financial radio segment called THE BARON SOLUTION Minute on The Louie Jones Show and All Things Literally. In addition, he writes a monthly financial column for SLIQUE magazine titled "Money Tips from The Baron." William is an expert on harnessing human potential and organi-

lion US dollars in sales with

operations in 35 countries. In

2004, Harris was promoted

to his current position where

he is responsible for over \$3

billion in sales and 3,000

Harris lives in Switzerland

with his wife Millicent, his

daughter Jaye Michelle and

people.

son Nelson.

zational development. Through his teachings of personal empowerment, he has captured the attention of a global audience.

In 2004, William co-founded THE BARON SOLUTION GROUP, a company which conducts business and personal finance workshops for adults across the U.S. and abroad based on the strategies outlined in The Baron Son. His

website, The Baron Series, is ranked as the #1 Business Motivational Speaker Website by Ranking.com and is also winner of three 2008 Black Web Awards: Best Weath-Building Site; Best Male Author Site; and Best Lecturer, Speaker and Workshop Site. For more information, tour dates, please visit: www.baronseries.com.

John J. Harris



John J. Harris is the Chief Executive Officer for Nestlé Purina PetCare Europe, Asia, Africa and Oceania. He was raised in the city of Los Angeles, California, received his B.A. degree from California State University at Northridge and his M.B.A. from the University of California, Los Angeles Anderson School of Management in 1974.

In 1974, Harris joined Carnation Company as a marketing management trainee. Over the next 33 years he served in numerous executive positions including: vice president / general manager of the Carnation

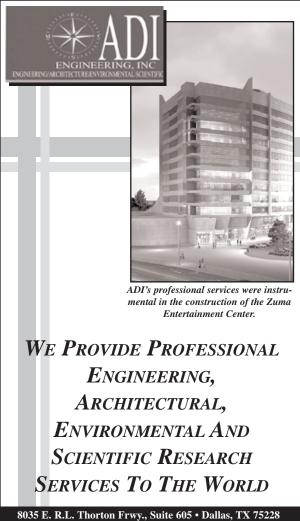
Products Division; Friskies PetCare Division as vice president / general manager; chairman of the Pet Food Institute's Board of Senior Vice Directors; President Nestlé S.A.: and President of the Friskies PetCare Company. Harris was largely involved with Friskies PetCare's acquisition of Alpo Pet Foods in January 1995.

Harris was responsible for over 1.5 billion dollars in sales and 2,500 employees. He also managed the marketing and production of such well-known products as Friskies Buffet?, Fancy Feast? cat foods, Come'N Get It?, and Grand Gourmet? dog foods, Chew-eez? Dog Treats, as well as ALPO pet foods.

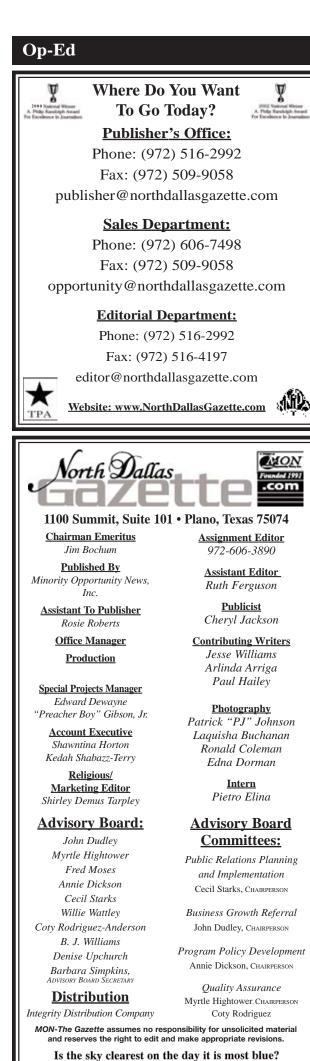
In early 2001 Nestlé acquired Ralston Purina Company, the largest acquisition in the history of Nestlé, and Harris was named the Chief Worldwide Integration Officer reporting to the Chief Executive Officer of Nestlé worldwide. The integration of the Purina Company with Nestlé was the most successful in the history of Nestlé. Nestlé exceeded its projection of both savings and market share improvement.

In 2002 Harris was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Nestlé Purina European operation. Nestlé Purina Europe has over 2 bil-





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www.adiassociatesinc.com • adiengineering@sbcglobal.net Don Anyanwu, Ph.D., P.E., CEM - President



the you ponder that thought we would like to announce that Minority Opportunity News, nerty a Dallas based renaissance community tabloid, founded in 1991, has relocated to Pla changed our name to MON-The Gazette. In addition to mov-our offices to Plano, our editorial coverage has also shifted to ompass 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

fowing sure aniport expansion in breaking, much be repeated and the second seco rn 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 **Are Historical Black Colleges And Universities Relevant?**

A recent op-ed piece in the Wall Street Journal on the dire plight of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) has prompted a flurry of blogs and commentary from concerned blacks.

Amidst the expressions of angst and hand wringing decrying systemic racism, discrimination, loss of jobs, disparate incarceration, and the trend toward black irrelevance there was a common denominator in commentary: the something must be done to preserve HBCUs and black folks need to get involved.

The black nation in America has thousands of civic, social, fraternal, professional, reliorganizations gious that collectively are spending millions of dollars each year on scholarships and other educational related assistance. So why are the HBCUs struggling?

One answer is that blacks have never fully accepted the responsibility of supporting the foundational institutions that are critical determining in whether black's control their own destiny or have it controlled by others.

In the case of HBCUs most of the funding comes from the federal government and its rhetoric of education priority has not been matched by the generosity of its pock-

The downward trend of federal funding was discussed in the latest report issued by the President's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. From 1993 through 2002 HBCU funding as a percentage of overall Institution of Higher Education (IHE) funding has gone down. In 2002, federal agencies spent \$41.6 billion for all institutions of higher education, while \$1.7 billion (or 4 percent) was spent for HBCUs.

etbook.

It is important for America black to understand the slipfinancial pery precipice that HBCUs are clinging to by being so dependent on federal funding. The Bush bait and switch on supporting HBCUs is an example of why blacks need to control the primary support of critical institutions such as education.

Shortly after entering the White House, George W. Bush issued Executive Order 13256 that created the President's Board of Advisers on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. In the political rhetoric creating the board it was supposed to provide "reports on the progress achieved in enhancing the capacity of historically black colleges and universities to serve their students, including funding and recommendations for individual departments and agencies."

The panel unanimously agreed in its first report that federal agencies and departments should establish "dedicated" programs strengthen the to nation's black colleges and universities; the president should support the bills in Congress that would the "capacityaid building" function within the HCBUs; and Bush should promote the long-term goal of raising the HBCU allocation to 10 percent of the federal funding provided to all institutions of higher education instead of from the meager 4% level.

If the resolve to take responsibility for the survival of our HBCUs is made then a reprioritization of the millions of dollars that pass through the thousands of black organizations could be the source of much needed funds. But the primary question is how does the mindset that has dictated the stagnant operations of these organizations get motivated to effect the necessary change?

For Black America today we must think beyond just getting our youth a degree. The challenge of the 21st century is the absence of sufficient skilled black thinkers and problem solvers to checkmate the intellectual charades designed to undermine black

interests. While more of our young people are going to college and obtaining the requisite skills, they are not returning to their home communities to apply those skills and Black America is the worse for it.

Establishment minions take full advantage of this black dilemma by being the first in line to offer the most gifted black thinkers and problem solvers internships and summer employment during the undergraduate years. At graduation they make offers for high paying job packages complete with bonuses and Our future perks. Black leaders are then gradually indoctrinated into a life culture that is immunized, physically and emotionally, from the needs of the Black community.

Black America stands at an historical precipice. We have in our hands a wonderful opportunity, a Kairos moment to not only challenge ourselves but to challenge the smallness of our own concepts of who Black people can be in America. We should not let this moment in history pass as if we are impotent.

For those that would be leaders in Black America-now is your time.

James W. Breedlove Comments or opinions may be sent to the writer at www.truthclinic.com

Out Of Africa / Health

Thousands Strike for Mine Safety

(GIN) – A one-day strike by the largest miners' union in South Africa has brought the world's biggest platinum and gold industry to a halt.

About 270,000 miners of the National Union of Mineworkers started their strike on Tuesday over what they say are profits being prioritized ahead of safety standards. Addressing a union rally on Dec. 2, a leader of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) said an average of 200 workers were dying in mine accidents every year.

"Almost daily, families hear the news that a husband, a father, a brother - a breadwinner - has been suddenly taken from them," Bheki Ntshalintshali of Cosatu said. Strikers in Johannesburg carried banners declaring that the owners of the country's 700 mines were "dripping in blood" by putting profit ahead of safety.

On average, a South African mine worker earns about \$500 a month, even after a 10 per cent increase in wages this year.

Israel Pressed to AID African Refugees

(GIN) – An Israeli medical rights group is urging the government to continue life-saving cancer treatments for a Sudanese refugee currently housed in the Ketziot Prison.

Mohammed Adham, 24, was undergoing treatment for leukemia at an Israeli hospital but was returned to jail two weeks ago. He is one of hundreds of refugees fleeing genocide in Darfur. Thousands of other African refugees are in jail including 2,000 from Sudan, and more from Congo and Eritrea.

Physicians for Human Rights-Israel, a nongovernmental organization, called on the government to continue funding treatments for Adham.

Except for a selected group of refugees from Darfur who arrived before July 1, all refugees and asylum-seekers are slated to be handed over to Egypt, where jailings, beatings and deportations to home countries have been reported.

"It is a scandal for this government to adopt a policy of refoulement [driving them back], which is exactly what the Swiss government did during World War II to mostly Jewish refugees" said Yahuda Bauer, adviser to the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority in Jerusalem.

Expert offers gift tips sure to 'move' children

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. - There are a number of gift ideas to get sedentary children of all age active, says a Purdue University childhood fitness expert.

"The key is to find gifts that also motivate the entire family to move," says Carole DeHaven, a continuing lecturer in the Department of Health and Kinesiology. "Parents are the gatekeepers for healthy living. By providing activities that children enjoy, along with healthy food choices, we can help reverse the number of children who are overweight or obese.

"If the trend is not reversed, then obese children grow up to be obese adolescents who grow in to obese adults."

Gift ideas that promote activity include:

• Bicycles, sleds, skates, in-line skates, scooters, snowboards. Be sure to provide the necessary safety gear.

• Consider community resources. For example, give

a coupon to meet a child every Tuesday for a walk in the park, or give passes to the zoo or an ice skating rink.

• Money to pay for their participation in organized sports, such as local youth programs for sports, gymnastics or ballet.

• Books that promote physical activity, such as "Angelina's Ballet Class."

• Pedometers for the whole family. Challenge family members to see who can log the most footsteps in a day.

• Jump ropes, tumbling mats, balls, pogo sticks or Hula-Hoops.

• Active board games like Twister, Toss Across, Hopper Bounce Balls or virtual reality games where children dance or participate in aerobic football.

• New workout gear, such as shoes and clothing, as well as skip-it, exercise balls, playing balls and weights.

• Books by Klutz teach children how to juggle, learn rhymes with tinkling sticks and Chinese jump ropes.

Books about favorite athletes.

"The best present parents can give is their time," says DeHaven, who works with physicians to teach children about physical activity. "When adults give themselves as part of the gift it also encourages that child to participate in the activity. If you give a child in-line skates or a sled, be sure to schedule a specific time you can skate, sled or walk with the child.

"Think about what you have at home, too. If you have a dog, make time to take your pet for a walk together."

"Encourage your child to go outside for a walk or just play outside. A simple game of catch or a family game of touch football or Ladder Golf will engage everyone in activity. A child is not interested in exercise but is thrilled to play on the playground, shoot a new basketball or ride their bicycle while parents are walking or running with them."

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	Date: Monday, December 17		
Morning Tour:	Christian Chapel CME Temple of Faith 14120 Noel Rd., Dallas, TX 75254	Evening Tour:	Highland Hills Library 3624 Simpson Stuart Rd. Dallas, TX 75241
Time:	9 AM to 1 PM	Time:	1 PM to 4 PM
	Flu shots and blood pressure screenings will be p Refreshments will be served. Community		

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Bollt, J. Blake, RD	Juri, Deansin A., DO	Kapiari, Aron S., DO	Field, Laura R., KD	Gross, Kilciael B., KID		

Model United Nations Delegation Nets Four Awards

Collin College's Model United Nations are making a name for themselves around the nation ... by acting in the interests of other countries.

During the American Model United Nations Conference in Chicago Nov. 17-20, the Collin

College delegation representing "Jordan" and "Saudi Arabia" won four awards in competition against about 140 other universities and colleges and about 1,400 students.

The "Jordan" and "Saudi Arabia" delegations won Outstanding Delegation Position Paper awards.

Additionally, student Andrew Parsell, of Frisco, placed first in the General Assembly First Committee: and students Kay Treacher, of Prosper, and Candice Barnard, of Plano, placed first in the

Economic and Social Council

"My students were an unstoppable machine at the conference, razing well-known and less known colleges and universities with

invariable finesse," Dr. Diedre Wendel, professor of political science and a Model UN sponsor, said. "No students have worked harder, no students deserve more accolades. No students

have made me prouder than these 16."

Other competing colleges include the University of Iowa, the University of Michigan Georgetown and University.

DCCCD Appoints New El Centro President

(Dallas) - Members of the Dallas County Community College District board of trustees approved the appointment of Dr. Paul McCarthy as the new president of El Centro College during their regular monthly meeting on Tues., Dec. 4. McCarthy, who currently serves as president of Prairie State College in Chicago Heights, Ill., is a former ECC vice president of academic affairs and student development. He left El Centro in 2000 to serve as CEO of the Illinois institution, which serves more than 5,000 students. McCarthy will begin his service as president of El Centro on Feb. 1, 2008.

"We are pleased to welcome Dr. Paul McCarthy back to our fold. He will be an important part of the El Centro and DCCCD family as the college looks ahead to increased growth and additional locations in our community," said Dr. Wright Lassiter, DCCCD's chancellor.

McCarthy earned bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in English from Aquinas College and Michigan State University. He has served as a faculty member at Lansing Community College, the University of Hawaii at Hilo (where he was elected president of the Faculty Senate), Shoreline

Community College and North Seattle Community College.

While he was dean at North Seattle Community College, McCarthy was named by the National Chair Academv as Outstanding Dean in the Western Region (1995) and also won the Seattle Community Colleges Lifelong Learning Award. He is a 1988 graduate of the League for Innovation in the Community College Executive Leadership Workshop. McCarthy is married and has three children. He and his wife enjoy traveling, and both are U.S. Tennis Association-rated players.



Stephanie Ward Gallery

Stephanie Ward Gallery in partnership with The North Dallas Gazette Is offering a special rates for E-blast and print advertising for local businesses for the Kwanzaa edition. This combination of print and e-mail advertising will reach about 30,000 consumers. If you want to move product or get exposure for your events this is an excellent opportunity!

Kwanzaa Packages (Horizontal)

Gold package \$1,300

1/2 page (10" X 6.125 = 36.75") newspaper ad and 3 e-blast to 12,000 addresses. The total package will reach about 20,000 middle income African-Americans. This package includes signage and sponsor recognition at the Celebration on December. 30, 2007; Ad posting to web sites and - and 15 web postings listing your company as an event spon

Silver Package \$725

1/4 page (4.905" X 6.125" = 18.375") ad newspaper ad 2 e-blast to about 12,000 addresses and newspaper circulation that reaches about 20,000 middle income African-Americans. The Package also includes signage and sponsor recognition at the Celebration on December 30, 2007. Ad posting to website.

Bronze Package \$300 This package has a 2C x 6 add and 2 e-blast 1/4 page ad newspaper ad 2 e-blast to about 12,000 addresses and newspaper circulation that reaches about 20,000 middle income African-Americans. The Package also includes sponsor recognition at the Kwanzaa celebration on December 30, 2007.

Econo Package \$150

1/4 page ad newspaper ad 2 e-blast to about 12,000 addresses and newspaper circulation that reaches about 20,000 middle income African-Americans. The Package also includes signage and sponsor recognition at the Celebration on December 30, 2007.

E-Blast \$100 If you want the internet experience, we can blast to 15,000 e-mails at once.

Promotion ends December 24, 2007. If you wish to take advantage of this opportunity, please call Stephanie at 469 229-0024



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www.viewpointbank.com

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 Request program guidelines for detailed borrower and property requirements.



Community Calendar

Ongoing Days 381 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

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 Join us metroplex. every third Thursday to gain valuable information presented by featured guest speakers to help your business grow. \$15 for members; \$20 non-members. for 11:00am-1:00pm, Ralph and Kacoos - 401 S. Central Expy, Allen. For general information and reservations call 469-424-0120.

DFW Financially Empowered Women a group for women interested in taking charge of their financial security. We meet monthly for lunch or dinner and a fun, informative seminar on various financial topics. For more information call 972 542 1530 or visit www.meetup.com/378

First Friday- Music Under the Dome Tired of crowded bars, night clubs just don't for it for you anymore, weary of networking happy hours, looking for a place to meet exciting people in a relaxed environment, the African American Museum has just the right mix for you. Every month a local band performs jazz, rhythm, and blues in the rotunda. Seating is cabaret style. Visitors are also able to tour the galleries. The Program is an innovative series that provides a fun and energized social environment for the community to enjoy local blues and jazz musicians in an intimate setting in the Museum's Rotunda. For more information contact the Museum 214.565.9026, ext. 315

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

Teen First Fridays 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 at St. Philip's Community Center, 1600

Pennsylvania, Dallas 75215. Includes motivational speakers, food, live entertainment, youth and spoken word performances. For more information contact Tiffany Kirby, Community Center Director at 214-421-5221 Kevin Mondy, or President, Project Still I Rise at 1-877-380-6413.

December 13

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce 2007 Membership Salute CCBCC members will be honored at Ralph & Kacoo's from 6:00 pm -8:30 pm. Dress code Business Attire RSVP required no later than December 10th to rgiddings@ccblackchamber.or g or 469-424-0120, ext 703. Please bring a new unwrapped toy, or 2 nonperishable food items.

It's a Wonderful Life You've seen the movie, now see the live radio production! Presented by the Frisco Association for the Arts at 6821 Main Street in Frisco. Come to the Frisco Community Theater at 8:00 p.m. this Thursday to catch a show! Admission \$10.00 - \$15.00. For additional information call 972-754-2672,or email tickets@friscocommunitytheatre.com

December 14

Fort Worth Community Drum Circle Bring your drum or percussion instrument to this recreational music-making experience. No experience needed and instruments will also be on hand. Location Mind Body Spirit Center, 5521 Bellaire Drive South, Fort Worth from 7 pm - 8 pm. FREE admission and open to everyone For more information, email sjanhughes@aol.com Live Music Sounds of Brazil band performing at the Brazil Brasileiro Cafe, 518 W. Arapaho in Richardson, 75080 at 8 pm.

God's Trombone A musical celebration that will lift your spirits and rock your soul. This classic holiday celebration based on the Negro Sermon Poems by James Weldon Johnson has come a staple at the JubileeTheatre. Run through December 30 506 Main Street Ft. Worth, TX 76102 For showtimes and tickets go to www.jubileetheatre.org or call 817-338-4411

December 15

Christmas/Kwanzaa Concert at The Dallas Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex, 8 pm admission \$10. For further information, call 214-943-2442.

The Civil Rights Series Symposium: The Church in the Civil Rights Movement In conjunction with the exhibition, "381 Days: The Montgomery Bus Boycott Story," presented by the AARP, the Smithsonian Institution, in collaboration with the Troy University Rosa Parks Library and Museum, and the African American Museum. The presentation is from 12noon - 2:00 p.m. at the African American Museum, 3536 Grand Avenue in Fair Park, Dallas 75210. For more information, call 214-565-9026, or visit www.aamdallas.org.

December 18

AfricanAmericanRepublicanClubofCollinCountyHolidayPotluckSocialcomeforsomeHolidayFood,FunandFellowshipCollinCountyRepublicanParty

Headquarters 8416 Stacy Road, McKinney near 121 and Custer Road. For more info, please call Fred Moses at 972 618 7027 or fred@tes.com

Michael Martin

Murphy's 'Cowboy Christmas' at the Bass Performance Hall, 330 E 4th Street in Fort Worth, Texas 76102. The show starts at 7:00 p.m. For more information, please call 817-212-4264.

December 19

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group will be meeting at the Audelia Road Branch Library, 10045 Audelia Road at 11:30 a.m. Admission to the meeting is FREE and open to the public. For further information please call 214-243-2049.

December 20

Black Nativity A play of music and dance depicting the birth of Jesus from an African American perspective. The dress rehearsal will be shown on December 19th, and since its only a dress rehearsal, donate what you can! Be sure and see the live show and experience a Black Christmas located at Robert B. Cullum in Fair Park, Sankofa Players 7:00 p.m. Admission \$10 for adults, \$5 for students, and \$8 for seniors. For further information please call 214-565-9026, or email dorishouserice@sbcglobal.net.

December 22

Blacks in Government Holiday Gala will feature a Toy Drive to benefit disadvantaged children – please donate an unwrapped toy for a child. This event is located at AAFES Skyline, 3911 Walton Walker Boulevard; from 8:00 p.m. – 12:00 p.m. Admission to this event is \$25 per person. For more information please call 214-767-8004.

December 25

Screening of "Trail of Tears" Limited seating each ticket purchased for this event includes h'oeuvres, wine, and one DVD of the film. Immediately following the viewing, Stephen R. Heape, producer of the film, will hold a question and answers session to provide in-depth information about the making of the film.. This Screening will be located at 732 Preston Forest Shopping Center, Native Arts Center & Gallery, from 5:50 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Admission is \$50 per person, \$75 per couple and 10% discount for AIAC members. For further information, please call 214-265-0071, or email, nativeartsgallery@sbcglobal.net.

December 26

Kwanzaa (Umoja/Unity) Gwaride (Parade), Umoja Celebration, and the Unity Celebration: Lincoln High School 2826 Hatcher Street, hosted by the Africa-Care Academy at 1 pm. Call 214-941-1511 for more info. The Umoja African Renaming Ceremony will take place at 7 pm. Call The Act of Change, Inc. 214-372-3500 for more information. The Kwanzaa celebration, which will feature drumming, dancing, and refreshments will be located at The Act of Change, Inc. 3333 Edgewood at 7 pm. For more information, call 214-823-2733 - ext. 3.

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Cover Story

NFL, NBA & Celebrity Moms' Shining Stars Light Up The Stage For A Local Charity

Sixteen NFL/NBA and celebrity moms were real crowd pleasers at the 1st annual Jubilee Celebrity Fashion Extravaganza benefiting the Innercity Community D e v e l o p m e n t Corporation (ICDC) last Saturday night at the Dallas Trade Mart.

Will Smith's mom, Carolyn Smith and MOS DEF's mother Sheron Smith were joined by JacQuetta Clayton, whose son Mark Clayton is a wide receiver for the Baltimore Ravens and fourteen other NFL/NBA moms to model designer fashions for a cheering crowd of spectators and special guests.

Arriving on Friday, December 30, the moms had a fun-filled weekend of fittings, a private shopping spree and fashion consultation at Nordstrom's' in North Park before arriving at ICDC headquarters for a catered lunch, courtesy of Star Concessions and a tour of South Dallas Fair Park neighborhoods where ICDC builds affordable housing for single moms and firsttime homebuyers.

While enjoying the fashion and make-up consultations at Nordstrom's', spoke with pride about the accomplishments of their sons.

Ms. Bonita Jackson, mother of Minnesota Viking rookie running back sensation Adrian Peterson, admitted it is overwhelming for the athlete and their family. She advised, "Get prepared for the next level, surround yourself with good people." Ms. Jackson has young children still at home, in Spring, Texas and shares that, "naturally they are

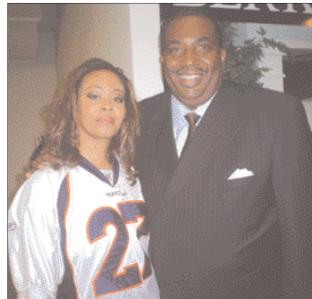


Pictured from L-R are: (Earline Jenkins-Duron Jenkins, former Baltimore Ravens defensive back, Janice Johnson-Rudi Johnson, Cincinnati Bengals running back, Pamela Long-Rick Hamilton, Detroit Pistons guard, Bonita Jackson-Adrian Peterson, Minnesota Vikings running back, Lela Reed-Donte Nicholson, Tampa Bay Bucs defensive back, Sherry Williams-Carnell Williams Tampa Bay Bucs running back, Sheron Smith-MOS DEF, entertainer and actor, JacQuetta Clayton-Mark Clayton, Baltimore Ravens wide receiver, Carolyn Smith-Will Smith, entertainer and Oscar nominee, Terry Bell-Tatum Bell, Detroit Lions running back, Rosalind Williams-Darrent Williams, former Denver Broncos safety, Sandy McCrary-Mike McCrary, former Baltimore Ravens defensive end, Sheila Norman-Josh Norman, former San Diego Chargers, wide receiver. Seated (l-r) Pat Odiachi-Patrick Chukwurah, Tampa Bay Bucs defensive lineman, Betsy Martin-Duane Martin, television actor and producer.

proud of their big brother." Ms. Jackson encourages her son to keep his feet firmly on the ground by remembering, "Keep God first in your life and stay focused, everything else will fall into place." As a token of his love and thanks to his mother, soon after entering the NFL, Peterson purchased his mother her dream car, a Chrysler 300.

Ms. Sandy McCrary, mother of Mike McCrary, formerly with the Baltimore Ravens, was so moved by the experience of seeing the positive change ICDC makes in re-building South Dallas, that she wrote a generous check to the organization on the spot. She added, "we can invest in changing our future and the opportunities available to our children, if we simply take the time to support worthy causes".

Ms. McCrary is not only proud of the athletic accomplishments of her son but his commitment cautioned that she can get carried away because, "I am talking about my son!" In fact during his NFL career



Rosalind Williams-Darrent Williams, former Denver Broncos safety and Senator Royce West

to the community and those less fortunate. She shared he provided the largest single donation -\$100,000 – to the Special Olympics. Ms. McCrary Senator Royce West she served as his spokesperson, in addition to her law civil rights and equal rights law practice. Not really a football fan, until her only child began to play, Ms. McCrary shared, "You are torn. You pray every game for your son and the other players." She also admits the family tries to keep the sharks away – male and female – which seek to take advantage of their sons.

Angela Curley, has a unique perspective on the NFL because she is not only the mother of Travis LaBoy #91 for Tennessee Titans, but she is a former NFL wife, when Travis father, David, played for the Green Bay Packers 1976-83. Also, her oldest son, C.J. LaBoy is a sports agent.

When her son reached his goal of making it to the NFL, Ms. Curley advised him, "you need to do something good with this opportunity." In honor of one of his coaches who would not accept a gift from LaBoy, but has a child that suffers from Autism, he established the Travis LaBoy Foundation, which Ms. Curley serves as Executive Director.

Spending time with the women, you realize they are members of a unique sorority. Though their sons may have fortune and fame, and admired by millions – to Mama they are still their little boy.

Over 250 people turned out Saturday night for this spectacular event, which featured a lavish buffet, live entertainment by saxophonist Chuck Anderson and was hosted by Gina Miller, sports anchor at KTXA Channel 21 and radio personality Skip Murphy. The live auction was especially fun since it featured a signed poster from Will Smith and a chance to attend his movie premier with mom Carolyn Smith who engaged the crowd with her warm smile and friendly rapport. Mos Def's mom, Sheron also auctioned tickets to his movie premier Be Kind Rewind in January.

The event was coordinated and organized by The Focus Group, a special event company located in downtown Dallas and whose managing principals, Saundra Lohr and Ken Carter are veterans in event planning and fundraising.

ICDC is a tax exempt, 501(c)(3) charitable organization. To make a donation and learn more about the Innercity Community D e v e l o p m e n t Corporation, visit their website www.icdc.biz or call (214) 915-9900.

The Perfect Holiday

The

one co-star

Chestnut was not familiar

with prior to the production was Katt Williams. He explained he had not seen

the *Friday* film and it was

only after the project com-

pleted that he saw Williams'

HBO stand up comedy spe-

cial. Chestnut laughs and

said Williams was "com-

pletely different and quiet."

Love chimes in that in the

wake of Williams's success,

he is going to layoff films

for a year and spend time on

the stand-up comedy cir-

cuit. All jokes aside, Love

has actually directed a film

Tales of the Golden Mask.

nothing but good things to

say about working for

Queen Latifah, as her pro-

duction company produced

the film. "She can relate to

actors. She gave us every-

thing we needed to feel

comfortable," according to

Chestnut. "I wanted ham-

burgers [White Castle]

delivered every night,"

joked Love.

Love and Chestnut had



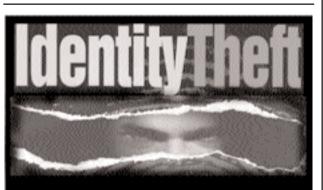
Perfect Holiday is the story of a divorced mom receiving a little help in the love department from Santa thanks to her children. It features a talented cast – Morris Chestnut, Gabrielle Union, Faizon Love, Terrence Howard, Queen Latifah and Charlie Murphy. Recently Chestnut and Love visited Dallas to promote the film.

Despite the early morning, Love was on from the beginning. He pointed out there is a key difference between people who are in movies like himself, and actors. "Actors are people who know their lines." He said he simply tries to put himself in the situation called for, and make it very funny. Love also joked that he has no problem with being half naked in the film trying to squeeze into his elf suit. He is comfortable with himself thank you very much. He shared he discovered the trailer was airing when friends begin blowing up his phone to tease him about the scene.

One of the challenges of the production was trying to drum Christmas Spirit in what was one of the hottest summers in New Jersey. Love and Chestnut talked of how they were wearing turtlenecks and sweaters, and pretending to be cold, meanwhile it was 110 degrees.

Chestnut felt confident this movie would be one that families would enjoy for years to come. "This was a movie that when I read the script, it was an opportunity to, if we executed it right, that families would watch it every year." He confesses it is not him singing or playing the piano in the film, "I have no musical background. He [assistant] showed me what keys to hit and when," according to Chestnut.

This is the third film Chestnut has co-starred in with the lovely Gabrielle Union and he has enjoyed each opportunity. "It is a joy to work with her. She is very talented and attractive, but more than that, she is a good person." This certainly helps when you are spending long hours with someone.



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Experience I Am Legend In IMAX At The Cinemark IMAX Theatre Beginning Friday, December 14, 2007

Plano, TX - Audiences will be "infected" with thrills and chills when I Am Legend opens at the Cinemark IMAX® Theatre in Dallas on December 14, 2007. The Cinemark IMAX® Theatre is located at 11819 Webb Chapel in Dallas, TX.

With crystal clear, larger than life images the Cinemark IMAX® Theatre will put audiences in the center of this actionfilled thriller, providing a totally

Aristocracy, Page 1

Change is here, right before our eyes. How are we reacting to that change? Are we sitting back and buying the rhetoric coming out of Washington regarding the economy, jobs, taxes, welfare, and education? Are we being lulled to sleep by the "do-gooders" who would have us believe that everything will be all right if we simply continue to let "them" take care of us?

I sincerely hope not. If we want jobs we have to make some jobs. If we want businesses we have to pool our resources and not only start them, but we must also grow our own businesses. Corporate America is not the answer for the majority of us, and we must not look to it or the government to solve our problems. They simply do not care about us; that's the bottom line. The important thing, however, is how much we care about us.

We are excluded from the socalled mainstream economy and



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

unique and immersive cinematic experience.

Robert Neville (Will Smith) is a brilliant scientist, but even he could not contain the terrible virus that was unstoppable, incurable, and man-made. Somehow immune, Neville is now the last human survivor in what is left of New York City and maybe the world. For three years, Neville has faithfully sent out daily radio messages, desperate to find any other survivors

yet we are reluctant to build our own economy. What are we supposed to do? I'll tell you what we can do. Forget about them and worry about us. Create and nurture genuine Unity in our communities. Pool our resources and create our own businesses. And while we are doing that, we must stop our feeding frenzy at everybody else's trough. Stop protesting someone else's stuff, and get our own stuff.

The United States is rapidly becoming a two-tiered society, let alone the latest "revelation" that there is more than one Black America. You either have something or you do not. That's a frightening scenario, especially when you add our children into the equation. What are we going to leave for them?

Jobs are very important, don't get me wrong. However, ownership and control of those jobs is even more important. How many jobs do we own? The latis not alone. Mutant victims of the plague-The Infected-lurk in the shadows...watching Neville's every move... waiting for him to make a fatal mistake. Perhaps mankind's last, best hope, Neville is driven by only one remaining mission: to find a way to reverse the effects of the virus using his own immune blood. But he knows he is outnumbered...and quickly running out of time.

who might be out there. But he

est census shows that 1,197,000 Black businesses employ just 773,000 employees.

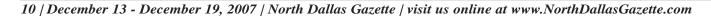
We cannot increase our economic empowerment if we fail to grow our businesses to the point where they can hire our people – the way other groups do in this country. We cannot grow our businesses if we, the consumers, do not support them, nor can we grow them if business owners do not reinvest a portion of their revenues back into their businesses.

I once heard a man say he'd rather control a million dollars than to have a million dollars. Power is the ultimate aphrodisiac in this country, and it is derived by accumulating and controlling economic resources. We had better be about getting and retaining some for ourselves, that is, unless we want to continue in the role of Pauper rather than the Aristocrat.

Stop the bickering. Stop the hatred. Stop the jealousy. Stop selling out. Start trusting. S Start respecting. Start helping. Start building.

Black people can ill-afford to succumb to reports that we have fragmented into at least two separate races, the rich and the poor, the urban and the suburban, the sophisticated and the crass, the refined and the coarse. That's a trap and a death sentence. No matter where we are in our individual lives, no matter what we have achieved, we have a commonality that should never be compromised. Whether we want to admit it or not, we do need one another.

Collective economic self-sufficiency is the only way Black people will move forward in this country -- this capitalistic society, in which it's not about Black people even eating cake, let alone bread. Crumbs will be the only items on our menu if we do not change our minds toward one another.



Business Service Directory

Study: Black consumers more likely to network professionally online.

(TargetMarketNews.co m) The most influential segment of African American consumers tends to use the Web for business while continuing to favor offline communications tools for social networking, according to a study released today by Burson-Marsteller, a leading public relations and communications consultancy. The study focused on the ways this influential consumer group, which is dubbed the African American-fluentials, communicates online and offline. The study is part of Burson-Marsteller's e-fluentials series of studies examining influential consumers.

African American-fluentials are much more likely to make business contacts online (52 percent) than were influential consumers taken from the U.S. population as a whole (28 percent). Yet African American-fluentials are less likely to "make friends online" (39 percent) than all other influential consumers percent). African (58 American-fluentials are also less likely to be active on a social networking site, such as Facebook, (49 percent) than the general population of online influencers (76 percent).

The African American efluentials are well-networked, as they speak to an average of 56 people daily. This represents 40 percent more people than African American non-fluentials and 20 percent more than U.S. e-fluentials.

African American-fluentials are community-oriented. Fifty-eight percent have discussed local community issues with others in the past few months as compared to 45 percent of U.S. E-fluentials. However, almost onefourth (22 percent) of those surveyed feel that companies are inattentive to the needs of their community or are sensitive to African American culture.

"Young people in the African American community are particularly valueoriented," says Mark Penn, CEO of Burson-Marsteller and author of Microtrends: The Small Forces Behind Tomorrow's Big Changes. "There is an emerging group of African American youth poised to enrich and

lead society in substantial ways. They are not only a serious target audience for the technology, apparel, sports and entertainment industries, but also are ready recruits for college, job, volunteer and leadership opportunities at every level.

Among the study's other findings were:

• Eighty-six percent of African American-fluentials report that they are more likely to listen to companies that develop products that reflect community and cultural needs and interests.

• In addition to offering community-relevant products, companies that support community philanthropies (85 percent) and charities (79 percent) will garner this audience's attention. These community-focused efforts are more compelling to African American-fluentials than coupons (75 percent) or promotional emails (66 percent).

• Eighty-two percent of African American-fluentials say brand drives their purchase decisions (only 68 percent of U.S. e-fluentials agree). Additionally, 85 of African percent American-fluentials say that once they find a brand they like, they stick with that brand.

• While brand and instore display are key drivers of African American-fluentials' purchases, coupons and promotions also drive sales. Sixty percent of African American-fluentials forward e-mails with coupons and discount offers and 49 percent forward e-mails with promotion and sale information (compared with only 49 percent and 29 percent of U.S. e-fluentials, respectively).

Burson-Marsteller partnered with MSI International to conduct a survey of online U.S. African Americans, age 18 and older. A total of 1,000 online interviews were completed.

For more information about the African American-fluentials study, contact: Mireille Managing Grangenois, Director, Ū.S. Multicultural, Bursonat 202-530-Marsteller 4615 mireille.grangenois @bm.com.

Kids Eat Free at DFW International Airport December 20-21

Airport delivers "DFW Bucks" to encourage families to arrive at off-peak times

(DFW INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT) – DFW International Airport will distribute more than \$10,000 in "DFW Bucks" on December 20 and 21 to encourage families to check in during off-peak times to avoid the Christmas checkpoint crunch, offering children 12 and under a coupon to eat free at any of the restaurants in the Airport's five terminals.

Airport Ambassadors will distribute 2,000 of the \$5 value coupons from noon to 2:00 PM on both of these busy 'getaway' days at all 18 checkpoints to encourage families to go through security during this time period and more easily navigate the holiday rush.

"All of us at DFW work very hard to make our security checkpoints among the fastest in the country, with average wait times of less than 10 minutes," said Jim Crites, executive vice president of operations at DFW. "We know it can be challenging traveling with children during the holidays so we want to let families know the best time for going through security while providing them with a little holiday treat." DFW's "Kids Eat Free" event is being held as part of a Transportation Security Administration (TSA) pilot program to encourage families traveling with children to arrive at the airport during off-peak hours. The TSA frequently uses DFW

as a model and testing site for innovative ways to speed security lines. When the Airport identified and implemented enhancements to the checkpoints that allow passengers to more easily get carry-on items ready for screening, checkpoint 'throughput' was increased by more than 30% and wait times were reduced by more than 40%.

DFW concessionaires are supporting the innovative "Kids Eat Free" promotion as another way to enhance the passenger experience during the

balloon artists will also be on hand to entertain during the two days of the promotion, and the Airport's volunteer "Holiday Helper" team will also be monitoring security lines and assisting

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Avandia (Type 2 Diabetes) Peanut Butter Contamination

West Dallas Asbestos Exposure

Corporations (Minority/DBE)

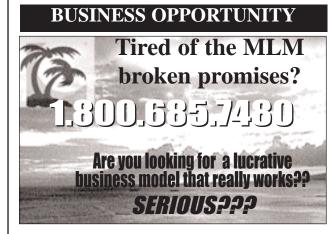


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HAIR SALON



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New Orleans, Page 1

HANO plans to preserve several buildings in each of the city's historic housing developments, as it did when it demolished the St. Thomas housing development to make room for "mixed-income" housing in the Lower Garden District.

Former St. Bernard housing development resident Stacey Johnson applauded plans to demolish the housing project she once called home. "I'm glad that there's going to be some new life, some new hope for people," she told WWL-TV.

Johnson, who now lives in a home across the street from the housing development, said the neighborhood has been plagued with crime and violence in recent years. "Tve had my property vandalized a coupe of times and shot a couple of times," she said.

A coalition of organizations supporting the housing rights of former public housing residents and the right of displaced New Orleanians to return to the city gathered Friday morning on the steps of City Hall to call on members of the City Council to denounce efforts to demolish the city's public housing developments and to support the right of displaced residents to return to the city.

Members of the coalition said they are seeking an amendment to the City Council's resolution in support of the Gulf Coast Recovery Act because they felt it wasn't strong enough in its support of the right of displaced residents to return to New Orleans and its opposition to demolition of public housing units in the city. In its current form, the resolution does not mention the right to return to New Orleans.

Housing advocates have said consistently

over the past two years that the city's plans for post-Katrina recovery, including efforts to demolish housing developments, have made it impossible for many of the city's displaced Black residents to return to New Orleans. Few of those fighting to re-open the city's housing developments believe it's a coincidence that the city is moving forward with speed to tear down the city's four largest housing developments.

Pam Nath of the Mennonite Central Committee said, "We're convinced that if the City Council went on record saying that they are opposed to demolition of units in this city, that could make a real difference with HUD and HANO's plans to demolish the units...Even though that's a federal agency, we believe the City Council's wishes about what happens in their city will be taken seriously by the federal government. We want them to take the responsibility of speaking to this issue. We're asking them to explicitly express their opposition to those demolition plans."

After the press conference, housing activists brought their efforts to block the demolition of the housing developments before the City Council. Several members of the council reportedly agree to discuss the proposed amendment to its resolution at the next Housing and Human Needs Committee.

The coalition of more than 20 organizations at the City Hall press conference included churches supporting churches, advocates for environmental human rights, the People's Institute for Survival and Beyond, Common Ground, People's Hurricane Relief Fund, Mennonite Central Committee, Louisiana Justice Institute, C3, Hope House, Ashé Cultural Arts Center and several others. Prepared By County News, Inc. ©2007 Âll Rights Reserved (800) 580-0485 • www.countynewsinc.com LALOBE PIERCING SALON Serving the Area Since 1969

Local Business Update

LA LOBE PIERCING SALON, located at 8306 Kate St., Ste 2 in Dallas, phone (214) 691-1359 is this area's #1 choice for over 40 years for infants ear piercing, general ear piercing, and limited custom body piercing. Their objective is to maintain a safe, sterile studio in order to provide you with the most attractive and safest body decorations possible. Every instrument that they use is either disposable or thoroughly sterilized after each and every piercing.

Another critical aspect of your piercing is to select the right jewelry. LA LOBE PIERCING SALON a large selection of earrings & body jewelry and will be glad to assist you in choosing yours to avoid preventable strain on your piercing, leading to irritation. These professional's can advise you as to what type and size of jewelry is right for your piercing. LA LOBE PIERCING SALON is licensed by the State of *Texas* and they strictly adhere to the Association of Professional Biercense hould be readed as for the second secon

Piercers health and safety guidelines. It's easy to see why this studio is so highly recognized in the area. You must be 18 years of age to be pierced. If you are under 18, you must have a custodial parent or legal guardian with you. The authors of this 2007 Holiday Edition Local Business Update suggest that for professional piercings in a sterile,

safe environment - visit LA LOBE PIERCING SALON. All the staff at LA LOBE PIERCING SALON want to wish all the readers a Happy Holiday Season!

AMORE Italian Restaurant & Catering

Are you in the mood for some hearty Italian food? You are invited to experience AMORE ITALIAN RESTAURANT where you can enjoy their tempting and delicious authentic Italian recipes for your favorite Italian foods.

At AMORE ITALIAN RESTAURANT, you can sit back and enjoy the traditional Italian décor and the fine dining experience. They will provide you with generous portions of their mouth-watering lasagna and other Italian specialties, including New York style pizza, Calzone, Pesto Ravioli, Fettuccine Alfredo and Chicken Parmigiano, just to name a few. The ambiance is charming and intimate, and every guest will be served by friendly, knowledgeable and enthusiastic people committed to ensuring that each and every visit to their restaurant is exceptional. Their goal is to provide their guests with consistently superior food, drink and service.

The authors of this 2007 Holiday Edition Local Business Update suggest that if you are looking for consistent quality, exceptional service and reasonable prices, come to AMORE ITALIAN RESTAURANT. This is the perfect place for families, special events or just a good old-fashioned Italian meal. They are located at 4709 State Hwy 121, Ste 118 in The Colony, phone (972) 624-1313. Catering is available for all of your special events!



2008 Hummer H3



The H3 is Hummer's midsize SUV and the third model in the vehicle lineup. The H3 is designed to deliver authentic HUM-MER style and off-road capability in a smaller, more fuel-efficient package. Ever since it debuted for the 2006 model year, Hummer's H3 has been one of the toughest-looking SUVs around with its bulging fenders, short side windows and massive tires. The exterior is all Hummer with the chrome seven-slot grille, flanked by round headlights within square openings. For 2008 Hummer added the H3 Alpha edition that comes with 16-inch chrome wheels, Alpha badging and chrome door handles and mirrors. On the inside of the Hummer H3, the driver faces a perforated leatherwrapped steering wheel and brightly accented instruments. Sporty bucket seats up front and a 60/40-split folding rear bench accommodate up to five occupants. Cloth upholstery is standard; heated leather seats are optional. There is 29.5cubic-foot cargo area behind the H3's rear seats and folding the backseat provides a maximum of 55.7 cubic feet of space. The base H3 is powered by a 242-horsepower, 3.7-liter inline-five-cylinder engine that makes 242 poundsfeet of torque, while the Alpha's 5.3-liter V-8 generates 300 hp and 320 pounds-feet of torque. Hummer says the Alpha can accelerate from zero to 60 mph in about 8 seconds, which isn't bad when you consider the SUV's near 5,000-pound curb weight. The V-8 gets an estimated 13/16 mpg (city/highway); in comparison, the inlinefive with the automatic transmission gets 14/18 mpg. Regular H3's are rated to tow up to 4,500

pounds, but the Alpha can pull a hefty 6,000 pounds when properly equipped. Hummer says the smaller, more fuel-efficient H3 is about the same length as a typical midsize sedan and therefore is able to maneuver through urban traffic. When necessary, however, the H3 can demonstrate Hummer's famous crawling and climbing abilities. The H3 can ford 16 inches of water at 20 mph or up to 2 feet if it slows to 5 mph. It can also climb 16-inch vertical steps and rocks. For 2008 a number of safety equipment is now standard, including side curtain and dual front airbags, fourwheel antilock brakes with traction control, electronic stability control system and a tire pressure monitoring system. The 2008 Hummer H3 can be a satisfying vehicle to own, especially for those drawn to its distinctive styling and macho image.





Graphic

Artist

Needed

Part-Time

Candidate Must

Know Quark,

Photoshop,

Illustrator &

Dreamweaver.

Newspaper Layout

A Plus.

Email Resume to

trj1909@tx.rr.com

or Leave Message

at 972-606-3891

Church Happenings

CATHEDRAL OF HOPE

December 21, 7 pm – 10 pm

Earth Rhythms will present and you are invited to our 15th Annual Winter SolstiCelebration. "Finding Our Voice." This is Dallas' largest and longest running seasonal tradition and it celebrates the interfaith community, emphasizing the qualities and concerns we share as humans. Featured is a diverse group of musicians, dancers, singers and poets. Special guest this year is The Women's Chorus of Dallas.

Doors open @ 6:30 pm, Service is 7 pm – 9 pm, and Yule Fest is 9 pm – 10 pm. A \$5 donation is requested, along with canned food and winter clothes for charity collection. Service will be signed for the deaf, and childcare will be available. **Cathedral of Hope Lisa Taylor, Contact Person**

Rev. Cecil T. Smith, II

5910 Cedar Springs @ Inwood, Dallas Dallas, TX 214-943-1099

FELLOWSHIP BAP-TIST CHURCH OF ALLEN

December 12 – 14, 2007 You're invited to our Holy Spirit-filled Winter Revival with speaker Prophet Charles Buchanan of Mobile, AL. Call 214-763-4520 for more information. Fellowship B. C. of Allen Rev. W. L. Stafford, Sr., M. Div. Senior Pastor 200 Belmont Drive Allen, TX 75013 972-359-9956

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK (FIRST CHURCH)

Month of December Our Agape Youth Ministries are now taking pre-orders for their Annual Poinsettia Fundraiser. See

EBENEZER WORSHIP CENTER

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The New Light Church

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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

any member for details or call 972-235-4235.

On-Going Our Family Assistance Center's operating hours are: Mondays, 10 am – 2 pm; Wednesdays, 2 pm – 6 m; and Saturdays, 10 am - 2 pm. For more information contact the Center 972-234-3115.

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

FULL GOSPEL HOLY TEMPLE

This Saturday, December 15, 9 am – 5 pm We are having our Annual Christmas Give-A-Way for anyone in need. The FREE event will be @ The Lobias Murray Christian Academy, 340 Ann Arbor Avenue (1/2 block East of I-35) in Oak Cliff. Individuals must register for the FREE givea-way; bring a form of identification (I.D.) for any adult and any child or children that will be registered. Each person will be given a certain amount of time to shop for themselves or for a family. If seeking help for a child or children, the child or children must be with the adult. For information call Ms. Sarah Quinn or Ms. Veda Smith @ 214-372-

December 26 – 29, 2007 You are invited to our Youth Congress. Full Gospel Holy Temple Apostle Lobias Murray, Founder/Senior Pastor 39727 West LBJ Freeway Dallas, TX 75237 972-572-3448

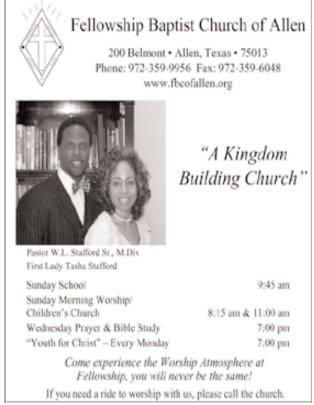
6466.

MT. HEBRON MIS-SIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH (THE MOUNT)

> December 16, 8 am & 11:15 am

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.



Come and help us celebrate our Birthday Party for Jesus at both worship services.

December 25, 10 am Please join us for our Christmas Day Service.

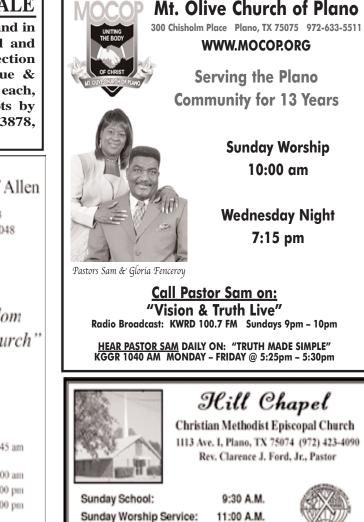
December 31, 10 pm You are invited to join us as we close-out 2007 and welcome-in 2008 as we worship and praise God for all of His blessings. Mt. Hebron Missionary **Baptist** Church (The Mount) -Garland Rev. Leonard O. Leach, Pastor 1233 State Highway 66 @ **Country Club** Garland, TX 75040 972-276-5218

<u>SHILOH MISSIONARY</u> <u>BAPTIST CHURCH,</u> <u>PLANO</u>

December 16, 6 pm Mark your calendar to join us and enjoy our Christmas Concert. Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, Plano Rev. Isiah Joshua, Jr., Senior Pastor 920 E. 14th Street Plano, TX 75074 972-423-6695

STARLIGHT DISTRICT CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

December 15, 9 am – 12 Noon Our Women Evangelist Department presents a Christmas Prayer Breakfast @ Strong Arms Church of God In Christ, 135 Pemberton Hill Road, Dallas, TX 75217. Speaker Evangelist is Inna McGilvery from Pleasant Grove Academy COGIC. Theme: Rejoicing In The Good News (Luke 2:9-14). Missionary Dianne Robinson, President. For information and ticket prices call 469-463-0192. Starlight District COGIC Elder Nathiel Wells, Superintendent **135 Pemberton Hill Road** Dallas, TX 75217 214-398-4166



7:30 P.M.

Wednesday Night-

Community Bible Class:

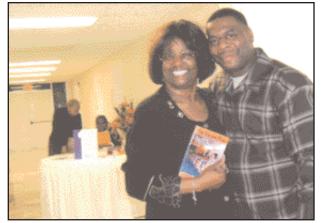
Sister Tarpley



When most people hear of "The 12 Days of Christmas" they think of the song. This song had its origins as a teaching tool to instruct young people in the meaning and content of the Christian faith



Knowledge, Faith, Healing, Working of Miracles, Prophecy & Discernment, Divers Kinds of Tongues, and Interpretation of Tongues.)" (1 Corinthians 12: 8-11; Romans 12; Ephesians 4; and 1 Peter 4:10-11.)



Picture of The Week: Sister Tarpley and James Branch, Author of The Vacant Pews.

Each of the items in the song represents something of a Christian significance. The hidden meaning of each Gift was designed to help Christians learn their faith

The song goes; "On the first day of Christmas my True Love gave to me." The "True Love" represents God and the "me" represents the one who receives these presents, the Christian.

The "Partridge in a Pear Tree" is Jesus Christ who died on a tree as a Gift from God. The "Two Turtle Doves" represents the Old and the New Testaments, two other Gifts from God. The "Three French Hens" represents Faith. Hope and

The "Four Calling Birds" represents the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), which sings the song of salvation through Jesus Christ. The "Five Golden Rings" represents the first five books of the Bible (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy) also called the "Books of Moses." The

The "Eight Maids a Milking" symbolizes the eight beatitudes (Blessed are: the poor in Spirit . . ., they that mourn . . ., the meek . . ., they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness . . ., the merciful ..., the pure in heart ..., the peacemakers . . ., they which are persecuted for righteousness sake . . ., Ye, when men shall revile you, and say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake Matthew 5:3 –12.) The "Nine Ladies Dancing" represents nine Fruits (Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, and Temperance) of the Holy Spirit. (Galatians 5:22-23.) The "Ten Lords aleaping" represents the Ten Commandments. The "Eleven Pipers Piping" represents the eleven faithful disciples (Simon, who is called Peter; Andrew; James; John; Philip; Bartholomew; Thomas; Matthew; James; Lebbaeus; and Simon, the

Canaanite. Matthew 10:2-4.) The



Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church 11611 Webb Chapel Road • Dallas, TX 75229 Office: 972-241-6151

Email: info@dallasmtpisgah.org Website: www.dallasmtpisgah.org

12 Days of Christmas "Twelve Drummers Drumming" repre-

the six days of creation. The "Seven Swans a Swimming" represents "Seven Gifts of The Holy Spirit: (Words of Wisdom &

sents the twelve points of the Apostles Creed. The next time you hear "The 12 Days of Christmas" consider how this otherwise non-religious sounding song had its origins in the Christian faith.

Something to Ponder: "To me, the most important thing that we can do as human beings is give. And we must give in proportion to what we are given. That being said, I don't like to close my eyes at night without having done something for someone, whether it's a random act of kindness or a strategically planned initiative that will ultimately help thousands, if not millions. I believe that even in a world fraught with war and blatant injustice still, individuals must find ways to lessen human suffering and impact humanity for the better." -- Dr. Donda C. West.

I Know Not Why: I know not why God's wondrous grace to me He hath made known. I'm truly unworthy, but Christ's love redeemed me for His own.

I know not how this saving faith to me He did import, nor how believing in His Word wrought peace within my heart.

I know not when my Lord may come, at night or noonday fair, not if I'll walk the vale with Him, or meet Him in the air. But: "I know whom I have believed.

and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I've committed unto Him against that day." --Greenville Avenue Church of Christ's Bulletin.

T.J. Denson,

Wednesdays: Life In The Word Prayer

Smiley, Page 1

blood drive because it can help someone who may need blood during the holidays. This time of the year, accidents will occur and I am willing to help the Dallas community in any way possible," Mr. Smiley said. "We need everyone's support in making sure we take care of the Dallas community.'

Blood donations decline during the winter holidays due to schools closing, vacations and everyone's busy lifestyle. With the "Celebrate Life" blood drive, the Red Cross is hoping to see 100 donors and collect at least 60 pints (units) of blood. One donation equals one pint of blood.

To help make the drive festive and fun, all presenting donors will be eligible to win a \$50 gift card every hour and the grand prize of 2 tickets to the Dallas Mavericks verses Atlanta Hawks evening game at the American Airlines Center on December 29. The winner and a guest will be escorted to the game and back home by a luxury car. The Beat will also be giving away free concert tickets and CDs.

According to Red Cross officials, there is no substitute for human blood and every

MORNING WORSHIP - 10AM IONESDAY BIBLE STUDY - 7P

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John 13:34 & Ephesians 5:28-29

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Bishop Miller E. Johnson, Senior Pastor

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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

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

Sunday Life Celebration Worship Service 10:45 a.m.

two seconds someone in our community needs blood. Approximately 37 percent of the population is eligible to donate; but of those eligible only a small percentage actually give blood.

"We thank Rickey Smiley, Big Bink, Veda Loca and 97.9 The Beat for partnering with the Red Cross," said John Anukem, Director of Donor Recruitment with the American Red Cross Southwest Region – Texas. "This blood drive will help make a positive difference for patients in need of blood over the holidays.

One blood donation can help save up to three lives when the blood is processed into three components - red blood cells transport oxygen, platelets which helps control bleeding and plasma which carries nutrients to all parts of the body.

Some African Americans are also susceptible to diseases such as sickle cell anemia. One in 652 African Americans has sickle cell disease, an inherited blood disorder that can cause strokes, terrible pain, and lung and organ damage. Patients with sickle cell disease need frequent blood transfusions to survive.

Big Bink agrees that there is a need for more volunteer blood donors.

"The best thing that you can give to someone during the holidays is the gift of life and I want to spread the word about people who need blood. I have been blessed to be a healthy cat. I want to give something to somebody that money can't buy," he said. "I want people to know that donating blood is safe, it doesn't take a long time and most important you are saving a life that just might be someone that you know."

Mr. Smiley agrees that you never know when you will need blood.

"It's not about what people can do for you but what you can do for other people," he said.

To donate at the blood drive and become a volunteer blood donor, you must be 17 years old or older, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good health. Bring a photo I.D. You do need a social security number or card to donate.

For more information or to make an appointment go to www.givelife.org and use sponsor code: 97.9thebeat OR call 1-800 GIVE LIFE (that's 1-800-448-3543).

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

website: www.fbc-online.net



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

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"

Church Directory

The Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce Announces 2007 Holiday Can Food Drive

Tis' the season for giving... the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce is continuing its annual 2007 Holiday Can Food Drive, which will be benefiting the Dallas Life Foundation (DLF). The Dallas Life Foundation is a charitable non-profit organization designed to meet the needs of the homeless in the Dallas metroplex. DLF is supported 100% by gifts from the private sector. As we receive no government funding and are not a United Way agency, we depend completely on generous individuals for our total support. For over 50 years, the Dallas Life Foundation has reached out to homeless men, women and children with food, clothing, shelter, education and long-term rehabilitation programs founded on spiritual principles. Donations will help to serve over 1,000 homeless individuals this holiday season. This is your chance to give back and make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate. Donations can be dropped off until Monday, December 17, 2007 at the Dallas Black Chamber office at 2838 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard. For additional information please contact the Dallas Black Chamber office at 214-421-5200 or via e-mail at dae@dbcc.org. Make a difference in someone's life this Christmas!

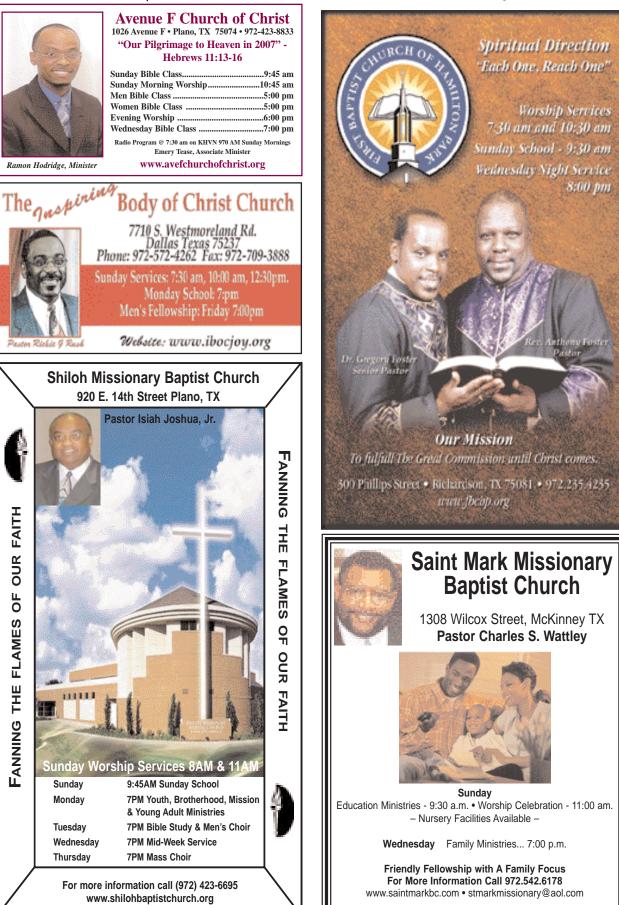
Katrina, Page 1

participant's rent from December 1, 2007, to February 28, 2008. On March 1, 2008, participants will be required to pay a portion of their rent. That amount will increase by an additional \$50 each month thereafter. The incremental increase will continue until the family is either paying rent without DHAP assistance or until the DHAP program end date of February 28, 2009, whichever comes first.

Families must also be actively involved in DHA's self-sufficiency programs and work with a case manager to determine their needs and agree, in writing, to specific selfsufficiency obligations. Self-sufficiency programs address employment, work skills and training, education, transportation and child care obstacles, among others. Failure to meet program guidelines will lead to removal from the program.

"The hurricane evacuee families that DHA has served during the past two years were struggling before they got here. They were eligible for public housing in their hometowns and were working hard toward self-sufficiency there," said Lott. "The new program will be vital in helping families rebuild their lives and get on a path to self-sufficiency." DHA plans to contract with a local community service organization to provide case management services to program participants.

"DHA staff continues to work hard with hurricane-affected families in reaching their goals of independence. This program will let us continue to help these families meet their goals," said Lott.





A Praying Church Family "Watchmen on the Walls"

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