

North Dallas Gazette



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40 years later -Dr. Martin Luther King Dallas, SCLC Remembers Its Founder

Looking over the intimate crowd of parade marchers and prayer vigil attendees as the Dallas Southern Christian Leadership Conference commemorated the 40th Anniversary of the Assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on Friday April 4, one could envision the famous words of King's



We are standing tall for the next generation.

"I have A Dream" speech. People of different races, nationalities, and demographic backgrounds came out to remember the leader who was catalyst of change in his time.

The celebration begin with a citywide moment of silence at the Fair Park entrance and then the crowd begin march-

ing toward the Martin Luther King Center with printed pictures of Dr. King in-hand singing "We Shall Overcome" and "Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round" in tribute to the time when those songs known as spirituals served as the strength to endure the uncer-

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Senator West Announces New State Law to Fight Metals Theft

DALLAS - State Senator Royce West (D-Dallas) will join forces with Dallas Police, state and city officials and scrap metal yard owners to announce the implementation of new state law to address the epidemic rise in thefts of regulated metals (copper, brass, bronze, aluminum).

"We began work on this legislation with Dallas Police in early 2006 due to the outcry of citizens and businesses owners, many continuously victimized by thieves. Their air conditioning units were being stolen, construction projects were raided for building supplies and there seemed to be no end in sight," said

Senator West. "While the problem was not well-defined at the start of session, this legislative remedy soon gained widespread and bipartisan support. But it will still take a team effort if we are to deter a form of crime that costs its victims in terms of money and frustration."

The new state law is modeled from a City of

Dallas ordinance passed in 2006. Since that time, Dallas police have assigned a squad to work with metal yard owners in patrolling metals thefts.

During the 2007 session of the Texas Legislature, Senator West authored SB642. The bill employed a

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Health Ministries Become a Mainstay of African-American Churches

By Sandra Jordan

(NNPA) Faith-based health ministries have become a staple in many African-American churches, connecting physical health to spiritual health and biblical principles.

Congregations are going beyond images of church ladies in white, who rush in with fans to

cool and revive those overcome by the Holy Ghost during service. In addition to tending to medical emergencies, today's health ministries involve exercise classes, health screenings, blood drives, mammography and education about healthy lifestyles and nutrition.

At Williams Temple Church of God in Christ

in St. Louis, health ministry initiatives were developed that answered the prayers of many.

"Maybe about seven or eight years ago, we noticed how many people were sick—Bishop [Lawrence M. Wooten] would spend hours praying for the sick. We decided we needed something to do in the

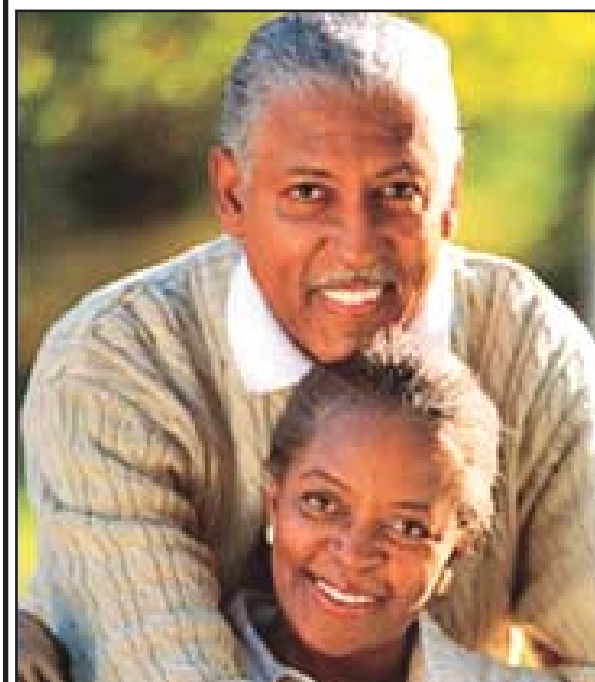
natural to make sure people were taking care of themselves," said Evangelist Shirley Wooten, first lady at Williams Temple COGIC.

In the Bible, the first chapter of Daniel describes how he, along with Shadrach (Hananiah), Meshach (Mishael) and

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The Changing Face of Medicaid

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Blackonomics

Two CDs You Must Have

By James Clingman

two CDs.

Hot off the presses (or is it the laser?) in March 2008, are two CDs that YOU should have.

One is titled, "Bring Black Back," and the other is titled, "Three Credits Shy." We are always looking for positive, educational, enlightening, inspiring, and entertaining music and spoken word. Well, here they are. These two CDs provide all of that and more.

If you have never done anything I have asked you to do in my 13 years of writing this column, please, I say again, "please" purchase these

The Bring Black Back CD was written and performed by the MAAT Youth Group at the SBA Academy in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. It was inspired by the Harlem Renaissance and the initial meeting in December 2006 of what is now called the Nationalist Black Leadership Coalition (NBLC), which convened under the mantra, "Bring Back Black."

Brother Kweku Akan attended the meeting and immediately thereafter he, his staff, and the young people went to work on the CD concept.

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People In The News...



Dr. Ian Smith



Katherine Smith



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Dr. Ian Smith

Not only is Dr. Ian Smith helping celebrities lose weight and get fit on VH1's Celebrity Fit Club, he's helping black America shed pounds.

Dr. Ian's 50 Million Pound Challenge was launched one year ago, April 7, 2007 in Washington, D.C. In November, the Challenge announced that over 250,000 people joined the cause, losing one million pounds. One year later, the challenge has



inspired almost a half a million people to team up to take control of their health, take off close to two million pounds and fight the epidemic of excess weight taking so many lives, especially among African Americans.

This week Dr. Ian will begin a month-long anniversary celebration. The Challenge is celebrating its first-year milestone by taking its message to grassroots America, and marking April as "50 Million Pound Challenge Month." The initiative

is partnering with churches, colleges and civic organizations across the nation to mobilize more members and sustain its drive to reach its ambitious 50 million pound goal.

"We've had a great first year, and The Challenge has just begun. It's imperative we inspire more people to join and reach their personal health goals, and collectively help us achieve our 50 million pound goal," Dr. Ian said. "Too many people are dying from preventable weight-related ill-

nesses. We're facing an epidemic that affects all Americans, especially the African-American community, where lives are being cut five years shorter than the US average."

Anyone can join the growing Challenge

online community at <http://www.50millionpounds.com/>, where participants can find free tips, tools, a personal weight tracker and start or join Challenge teams to support their quest to lead healthier, longer lives.

Katherine Smith

As a native of New Orleans, Louisiana, Katherine attended high school in Beaumont, Texas before residing in Dallas. At age 17, modeling and acting began a career in film, print, commercials, voice and print work which lead her to a four year syndicated morning radio show with ABC Radio Networks, Inc.

Initial employment in an administrative capacity in 1978, paved the way for positions with several Fortune 500 companies achieving an extensive back-ground in the areas of telecommunications



and wholesale consumer goods sales as well as developed strong business operations and marketing skills.

In 1996, Kat formed K.S. & Associates to which I provided copy writing and concept development. In 2001 publishing was added. With a very resourceful and entrepreneurial spirit, her energies also assisted her in launching a game company.

In Kat's career as a writer, her first article was published in the high school newspaper, and she went on to have work publish domestically and internationally for several magazine and newspapers. Katherine is the author of The Book Seller's List, Publishing Step by Step and Love the Vicious Cycle. Most recently, she has released

a nonfiction book - The Naked Author-Exposing the Myths of Publishing, and three screenplays; Domestic Goddess, Seeds from Mama's Garden, and Bushwhacked.

Kat is a member of The Writer's Block, Inc. writers group, the Writer's Guild of Texas, North Dallas Writes critique group and the Screen Actors Guild (SAG).

Kevin Johnson

Former NBA star Kevin Johnson has recently been in the



news as he is currently running for mayor of Sacramento, his hometown. After his retirement from the NBA, he returned to Sacramento to find drug use running rampant and teenagers who couldn't spell. He

stated, "Oh, we've got some work to do".

In 1989 he founded St. HOPE, a nonprofit community development corporation that aims to revitalize urban communities through public education, civic leadership, economic development and the arts. He began by creating an after school program at his alma mater, Sacramento High School, that has grown to benefit not only the youth, but the neighborhood.

"My grandfather taught me charity starts at home, so I said I need to do that back in my hometown," says Johnson, CEO of St.

HOPE - a nonprofit community development corporation whose mission is to revitalize inner-city communities through public education, civic leadership, economic development and the arts.

From the Chicago Sun-Times: "Johnson grew an after-school program he started at his former high school, Sacramento High, into a not-for-profit company that took over the school, created a pre-school and elementary school, and helped establish 14 businesses -- including a Starbucks -- within a two-mile radius of an impoverished section of Sacramento."

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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

Unfulfilled Promises of the Promised Land

Forty years ago on April 4, 1968, Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated while standing on the balcony of the Lorraine motel in Memphis, Tenn. On the eve of his death, King preached prophetically: "I've seen the promised land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land."

Most people are familiar with the biblical account of the Jewish people wandering in the desert for 40 years searching for the Promised Land after their escape from Egypt. This year, as has been alluded to each year since Dr. King's death, scholars are specifically placing the King Memphis speech and the plight of African Americans in the same context as Moses and the wandering of the children of Israel.

The similarities are obvious but the reality is that African Americans have been in the Promised Land for over 400 years. The difference is they have been denied the promises of social and economic justice in the Promised Land.

Dr. King's protestations and words were designed to shed light on America's fixation with materialism and the exploitation of the poor and powerless. Even though he was a staunch proponent of non violence King was neither meek nor were his words always soothing.

He spoke of the cultural homicide committed against blacks and how their worth and achievements were diminished

while white superiority was promoted. Some of his harshest criticism was directed at the United States government which he called "the greatest purveyor of violence" in the world.

In his fiery 1967 speech at Riverside Church in New York King explained his opposition to the Vietnam War and tied it to his steadfast advocacy on behalf of the poor in the face of criticism from both opponents and some supporters.

Today we are facing many of the same issues and for the same reasons that Dr. King protested. America is waging another unjust war for rationale so transparent to make the Vietnam War seem just. Yet those that claim to be Drum Majors for justice speak with forked tongues that vacillate depending on the mood of the prevailing poll. These charlatans pontificate loudly and endlessly about the need to do something about America's inequities yet they allow selfish exploitation to preempt moral leadership.

A new report, Forty Years Later: The Unrealized American Dream, by Dedrick Muhammad, a researcher at the Institute for Policy Studies, examines American's progress toward King's dream of racial equality. The report concludes that we're not much closer to realizing the promises of the Promised Land than we were 40 years ago at the time of King's assassination.

There has been some progress.

However, the advancements are not occurring fast enough to provide noticeable achievement of social and economic parity in the Promised Land. The disparities of income, wealth and net worth that have divided our nation are even more extreme when examined through the polarized lens of race.

Over the last 40 years African Americans have made great strides in educational advancement. The African American high school graduation rate has increased by over 214 percent and could possibly reach parity with white Americans by the year 2018.

The African American college graduation rate has increased by almost 400 percent since 1968. However, at this commendable rate of progress the inequality in college graduation between blacks and whites will prevail until 2087.

Despite notable educational advances, economic equality for African Americans is still in the dream stage. In 1967 African Americans earned 54 cents for every dollar white Americans made. In 2005, African Americans earned 57 cents on every dollar earned by white Americans. At this rate of progress it will take over 537 years before income parity is achieved.

African Americans are similarly situated in terms of wealth. The home ownership rate for African Americans is 47 percent compared to 75 percent for whites. Median household wealth exhibits a dra-

matic ten fold discrepancy between whites who average \$118,300 and blacks who average \$11,800. If this gap continues to close at the same average rate of the last 25 years it will take 600 more years to attain black-white equality.

Many working people in the promised land are still trying to live on poverty wages. Forty years since Dr. King called for the abolition of poverty about 30 percent of black children live in poverty. The poverty gap for black children is decreasing at an annual average of a fourth of a percent. If this continues it will take almost a hundred years to end poverty for black children.

Today, Congress and the Bush administration spend hundreds of billions of dollars to fight a tragic war abroad. Most recently, the government has decided to bail out investment banks that profited off of predatory subprime lending. It seems only the poor must suffer the economic consequences of America's perverted policies.

We need to be reminded that the biblical Promised Land was not a place to relax and feed off of manna. It was a place that promised equal opportunity to work, provide for your family and achieve economic independence according to your God given abilities.

James W. Breedlove

Comments or opinions may be sent to the writer at: www.truthclinic.com

French AID Workers Freed as Rebels Step Up Attacks

(NNPA) - The President of Chad, Idriss Deby Itno, has pardoned the six French aid workers convicted of abducting 103 youngsters for adoption by Europeans. The workers were immediately released from a French prison where they were to have served eight years.

President Deby's surprise about-face on the French

workers is believed by some to be tied to military aid he received from France to squash an insurgent uprising which has been demanding his removal.

But rebels have stepped up their anti-government clashes in the eastern Ade region. The National Alliance, the main rebel group, allegedly crossed

over from Sudan, violating a recent peace accord between the two countries.

Chad's Defence Ministry called on the Democratic Republic of Congo, Libya and Senegal, sponsors of last month's peace deal, to "assume their responsibilities to stop any aggression that could have unpredictable consequences".

Senegal Rocked by Food Protests

(NNPA) - Human rights groups are up in arms over a police crackdown on Senegalese consumer groups who rallied last week in the capital Dakar to protest skyrocketing prices of basic foods including rice and oil.

Police used tear gas and sticks to disperse the crowd organized by the Consumer Association of Senegal (Ascosen), and the National Union of Consumers of Senegal. Leaders of the two groups, Jean Pierre Dieng and Momar Ndao, were among those arrested. Members of the Socialist

opposition also took part in the protest.

Authorities said the demonstration had not been authorised. At least 24 people were arrested and many are still being detained, according to the Agence France Press.

T-shirts that read "we are hungry," were worn by young protesters. Others had red pieces of cloth as headscarves or around their arms as a sign of protest.

Leonard Vincent of the Paris-based Reporters Without Borders, condemned acts of police brutal-

ity towards members of the press, including the use of an electric prod.

Meanwhile, a partnership project with India has been signed to develop hundreds and thousands of acres the Senegal River valley for rice cultivation. The goal is to be self-sufficient in rice production.

"We have no other choice," said Agriculture Minister Hamath Sall. "If we fail to achieve food self-sufficiency, there will be a moment when it will be impossible to find rice in the market."

South Africa to Broker Zimbabwe 'Transition'

(NNPA) - After a close election in which the opposition appears to have edged out Pres. Robert Mugabe by a few points, South Africa is said to be brokering a deal for the exit of the 84 year old leader.

Meetings chaired by South African Pres. Thabo Mbeki would give representatives of Mr Mugabe, military chiefs and the opposition the space to plan an orderly transition.

The opposition, lead by Morgan Tsvangirai's Movement for Democratic Change, has already claimed victory in Saturday's general elections.

Three days after the voting, results had still not been released by the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission, although it has been widely report-

ed that Justice Minister Patrick Chinamasa, a senior member of Mugabe's government, was among those defeated in opposition strongholds.

In Harare, the opposition party was unofficially given a big lead, with 28 seats out of 29 and in Manicaland, another opposition stronghold, 20 from a possible 26.

While western observers were generally banned from monitoring the election, an African mission found the elections a "peaceful and credible expression of the will of the people".

Some monitors dissented from that view - members of South Africa's opposition Democratic Alliance, said: "It is impossible

for this deeply flawed electoral process to be viewed as a credible expression of the will of the people."

A quarter of the population of Zimbabwe has sought refuge in neighboring countries, as food shortages, inflation, unemployment and other survival issues left them with few options.

Meanwhile, an 11th hour entry into the race by former finance minister, Simba Makoni, flopped miserably but his participation managed to divide Mugabe's Zanu-PF party, and made the president look vulnerable.

Makoni's poor showing, according to one analyst, suggests that Zimbabweans wanted to sweep aside not only Mugabe but the entire ruling Zanu-PF.

Health, pg 1

Abednego (Azariah) of Judah were to be trained for service in the palace of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon. Daniel implored his overseer to allow him to forego the king's royal food and wine and eat vegetables and drink water instead. It was a 10-day risk that could have cost the overseer his head.

"15 At the end of the ten days they looked healthier and better nourished than any of the young men who ate the royal food. 16 So the guard took away their choice food and the wine they were to drink and gave them vegetables instead.

17 To these four young men God gave knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. And Daniel could understand visions and dreams of all kinds.

18 At the end of the time set by the king to bring them in, the chief official presented them to Nebuchadnezzar. 19 The king talked with them, and he found none equal to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's service. 20 In every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king questioned them, he

found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters in his whole kingdom," Daniel 1:15-20.

"The bishop put the whole church on a 21-day Daniel's Fast. He would do that twice a year. What it consists of is eating fruits, vegetables, nuts, grain products like the wheat products and brown rice and no meat. And of course, we would have to drink eight glasses of water a day," Wooten said. "Not only just the eating, but we would be praying—prayer services. The people who were diabetics, or had health problems would talk to the nurses to alter their diet.

As a result of the first Daniels spiritual fast—Williams Temple received outward health miracles.

"People would go back to their doctors and they were no longer diabetics and blood pressure had dropped. And a lady at our church who weighed close to 400 pounds—she continued the Daniels fast periodically and she's dropped nearly 100 pounds and she is still working on it," Wooten said.

One such believer is Williams Temple member Roberta Gurley, who prayed for a spiritual

breakthrough—and received it in abundance.

"By being on that fast for 30 days it changed all my eating habits. I stopped eating fast food—I rarely eat it now. Fried food—I stopped eating a lot of it. I don't eat as much bread as I did before. As a result, I continue to lose the weight. I lost maybe about 25-30 pounds the first time," Gurley said. "I eat more chicken and fish than I do beef right now. Altogether I have lost

maybe 60 pounds—three dress sizes! I was looking much better. My clothes were fitting different—I had to give clothes away. My back had been bothering me real bad. By carrying less weight, my back was better."

The church also offers exercise classes for the congregation and the community at its neighborhood outreach center and family life center.

The congregation is also fortunate to have more than a few doctors

and nurses who are members of the church.

"Every Sunday morning, we have a 'Medical Moment' before the message and one of the doctors will come down and talk for about 10 minutes about something about health. The members will have two to three minutes to ask questions," Wooten said.

And those super-long prayer lines full of sick folk at Williams Temple have been transformed.

"Prayer lines are short-

er---when he calls for the sick—we don't have the line like we used to," Wooten said.

Since Williams Temple began its health initiatives, Wooten is enjoying notable weight loss—dropping down from 215 pounds to 154—just 14 pounds shy of her personal goal.

Does your church have a health ministry? Please share your story. Send to editor@northdallasgazette.com.

Trying to Get Your Foot in the Door?

Community Newspaper seeking Freelance Writers to cover Community Events.

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n2ne
90-TUNE Youth Mentoring

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The program is held on Tuesday's and Thursday's, from 6:00 - 7:15 pm, in the clubhouse at Indigo On Forest Apartments, 9669 Forest Lane, Dallas TX 75243.

Topics Discussed: Family Values, Juvenile Homes & Prisons, Alcoholism & Drug Addiction, Teenage Pregnancy & Self Preservation, Date Rape, and Missions.



N2NE is expanding to Plano and Allen, TX. If you are interested in volunteering please send your information to: Rich_etta@n2ne-ym.com. We are also partnering with Plano Housing Authority Family Self Sufficiency Program to reach the parents of our future generation. These meetings will be held at Plano Housing Authority, 1740 Avenue G, Plano, TX.

For more information, please contact:
Founder/CEO - Rich Etta Weathersbee (469) 223-5618
or VP - Penny Francis (214) 793-7178.

African American Republican Club Meeting

The African American Republican Club's next meeting will be April 15, 2008 at the Collin County Republican Headquarters at 7:00pm. The address and directions to our meeting location can be found on our web site at www.aarccc.com and click on "Meeting Information". We will host a "Meet The Candidates' Night". We have invited the Plano City Council and the Plano School Board Candidates to participate in our event. We are looking forward to another informative and exciting meeting. Please plan to attend.

Garland Mayor Invites Citizens to 'Mayor's Evening Out'

Garland, Texas – Garland Mayor Ronald E. Jones will host his first "Mayor's Evening Out" event on Wednesday, April 24, 2008 from 5 to 7 p.m. The Mayor will host "Evening Out" events quarterly to broaden his accessibility to the citizens of Garland.

The April 24 event will be held at the North Garland Branch Library, 3845 North Garland Road (in the Spring Creek Shopping Center at Apollo Road). This format will be an open, come-and-go session from 5 to 7

p.m. It is not necessary to schedule an appointment. The Mayor will visit with citizens in the order in which they sign in upon arrival.

For more information, call 972-205-2471 or email EDattomo@ci.garland.tx.us.

Dallas Time-of-Day Watering Restrictions

City of Dallas Water Utilities (DWU) is reminding customers that time-of-day watering restrictions resumed April 1. Following the conservation ordinance guidelines will avoid possible fines of \$250 to \$2,000 per incident. These mandatory time-of-day restrictions prohibit watering landscaping between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. from April 1 through October 31, 2008.

Dallas' watering restrictions do not mean your landscaping has to suffer. Most homeowners water their landscaping too much and too often – unknowingly producing shallow root systems that struggle to survive freezing temperatures, heat and drought. By watering deeply (four to six inches) and infrequently (only when landscaping begins to show signs of stress, such as discol-

oration, wilting, or when footprints remain visible after being walked on), homeowners encourage their landscapes to develop deep, healthy roots that can endure Dallas summers, winter freezes, pests and disease.

"Given our climate and Dallas' growth, water conservation is a significant issue for our city," said Carole Davis, DWU conservation program manager. "The time-of-day watering restrictions demonstrate Dallas' commitment to conserving water and how seriously the City takes ensuring we have enough of this precious and vital natural resource for future generations."

To avoid warnings, fines and a possible visit from a code inspector, DWU customers are reminded to adhere to the following

guidelines:

DO NOT water your yard between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. between April 1 and October 31. However, hand watering or the use of soaker hoses is permitted at any time.

DO NOT water during any form of precipitation.

DO NOT allow your sprinkler system to water driveways, sidewalks or streets.

DO remember that automatic sprinkler system owners are required to have rain and freeze sensors installed.

DO maintain your sprinkler system. Repair any broken, missing or misdirected sprinkler heads.

For additional information on time-of-day watering restrictions, Water-Wise tips and links to reporting water waste, visit www.savedallaswater.com.

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson to Host Peace Conference

Participants to discuss "Conflict resolution, nuclear and conventional disarmament, creating a culture of peace, and human rights and humanitarian law"

Washington, DC - (April 7, 2008) Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson will hold a peace conference on Saturday, April 12, at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library in Dallas. The conference, titled "Conflict resolution, nuclear and conventional disarmament, creating a culture of peace, and human rights and humanitarian law," is a component of Congresswoman Johnson's peace initiative, "A World of Women for World Peace."

Ann Margolin will serve as the moderator for the conference, and the speakers will be Vivian Castleberry, founder of Peacemakers, Inc.; Carol Donovan, president of Peacemakers,

Inc.; Lucy Mashua, president and founder of Mashua's Voice for the Voiceless; playwright Dona Mitchell; and Dr. Mary Ellen Weber, Vice President for Government Affairs and Policy at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. Please see below for biographies of the moderator and the speakers.

The Conference: "Conflict resolution, nuclear and conventional disarmament, creating a culture of peace, and human rights and humanitarian law" is scheduled for Saturday April 12th, 10:00 AM - 12:00 NOON at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library Auditorium, located at 1515 Young St. in Downtown Dallas.

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Dallas County
Dallas County Community College District
Duncanville ISD
NCTRCA
North Texas Tollway Authority

Teacher Grade Reporting To Be Fully Automated By June

By April 30, 2008, all Dallas ISD teachers will be able to record student grades on a Web-based electronic grade book at any time and on any computer with Internet access.

The use of GradeSpeed, the electronic grade



book, will save teachers valuable time and afford them more time for teaching, said Julius White, interim director – Management Information Systems.

After the Board of Trustees approved the purchase of GradeSpeed.Net for

teachers districtwide in November, schools began signing up on the district's intranet site to request access to the grade book.

By January 23, teachers at 129 Dallas ISD schools were using the online grade book.

An online tutorial

also is available to teachers.

Currently, the district is completing the installation of high-speed Internet at all schools, which will greatly improve response time for teachers using the electronic grade book, White said.

UTD, National Black MBA Association Announces Its 2008 Leadership And Diversity College Conference

In partnership with the University of Texas at Dallas School of Management, the National Black MBA Association Dallas Fort Worth Chapter (NBM-BAA-DFW) announces its 2008 Leadership and Diversity College Conference. The one-day informational graduate program and career fair will be held on Saturday, April 12, 2008 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the

University of Texas at Dallas located at 701 Campbell Road in Richardson, Texas.

Be prepared and informed to make the ultimate graduation decision before you turn your tassel! Will it be graduate school or straight to the workforce? Let NBM-BAA help you decide with the panel discussions set to engage you and two program tracks on key topics such as Making the

Transition: Should I Go to B-School or Should I Enter the Workforce?, The Value of an MBA, Great Career Choices for Minorities, How to Attend B-School for Free, and Brand You - How to Market Yourself. The graduate and career-focused tracks will be followed by a comprehensive Graduate School College and Career Fair.

Take advantage of the opportunity to meet

admission officers from top Texas universities before you are seeking B-school admission. Some of the campuses scheduled to attend include: UTD – School of Management, Southern Methodist University, Baylor Executive MBA Program, the University of North Texas, University of Dallas, University of Texas at Arlington, Dallas Baptist University, Texas

Christian University, Texas Women's University, Texas A&M University – Commerce, Florida A&M University, and Prairie View A&M University.

Network with corporate representatives from local Fortune 500 companies prior to completing the job application. The invited list of companies include: First Bank of Texas, Prudential, Wal-Mart, Merrill Lynch,

Fannie Mae, Capital One, Frito Lay, JP Morgan Chase, AT&T, Texas Instruments, UT Southwestern and the United Parcel Service (UPS).

Be proactive and decide which steps will take after you walk across the stage! Register now to attend the 2008 Leadership and Diversity College Conference and Career Fair! Visit www.dfwmbas.org today!

Kaiser Permanente African American Professional Association Scholarship Announcement

The Kaiser Permanente African American Professional Association (KPAAPA) is proud to announce that applications are now being accepted for our 2008 student award scholarships.

Ebony Umoja Award (\$4,500) - This scholarship is awarded to an African American high school senior with a 3.5 GPA or high-

er. This student must be planning to attend a 4-year college, should be the offspring of a Kaiser Permanente employee with an interest in healthcare. One recipient will be chosen.

Ruby Ujima (\$4,000) - This scholarship is awarded to a student with a 3.0 GPA or higher, who is currently enrolled in a health care

program or related field of study. One recipient will be chosen.

Emerald Kuumba (\$3,500) This scholarship is awarded to a high school or college student with a 2.5 GPA or higher. One recipient will be chosen.

The Permanente Medical Group Medical Student Scholarship (\$3,500) - This scholarship is awarded

to an African American medical school student in his or her second term, with a 3.0 GPA or higher. This scholarship will be presented by a member of The Permanente Medical Group. One recipient will be chosen.

The Inspiration Award Scholarship: (\$2,500) - This award is provided by the generous support of the KP

School of Allied Health Sciences. It is awarded to a student who has faced unusual life challenges and has risen to become a role model for all while maintaining a 2.5 GPA or higher. One recipient will be chosen.

All Scholarship Application Packets must be postmarked by April 25, 2008. To request a copy of

the Scholarship Application Packet, please email requests to: gloria.j.wilson@kp.org.

Scholarship Information?

The North Dallas Gazette is planning an issue focused on scholarships available. We invite local school officials, churches and community organizations to provide information regarding any scholarship, internship and summer camp opportunities available. Please send details to editor@northdallasgazette.com.

NAACP Garland Branch Hosting the 15th Annual “EXCEL” Awards Program

The NAACP Garland Branch invites the community to attend our 15th Annual “EXCEL” Awards Program honoring elementary and middle school African-American students in the Garland Independent School District (GISD) for academic progress and excellence. This recognition covers the 2007-2008 school year.

On Monday, April 21, 2008 Elementary Students will be honored, the Keynote Speaker is The Honorable Weldon Bradley, Former Garland City Councilman.

On Tuesday, April 22, 2008 Middle School Students will be recognized, the scheduled Keynote Speaker is Mr. Edwin Hood, Assistant Principal, Armstrong

Elementary School (GISD)

Both programs will begin at 7:00 PM each evening and held at South Garland High School

600 Colonel Drive, Garland, Texas 75043. The events are free and open to the public.

Contact the NAACP Garland Branch via phone (972) 381-5044 or email for more information.

The Business Assistance Center, Inc. and Regions Bank Proudly Present

The Emerging Women CEOs Small Business Camp 2008

April 19, 2008 10am - 5pm

ABOUT THE EVENT

This Business Camp is created to allow executives and business owners to gain valuable insight to essential principles of entrepreneurship, access to capital, marketing for revenue growth and much more.

REGISTRATION INCLUDES

- Free Constant Contact marketing account
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- VIP book signing with Michele Hoskins, CEO of Michele Foods
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- National Advertising Discount
- Full Access to workshops and exhibitors

WORKSHOPS INCLUDE

- Membership to the Small Business Network's Mentoring Circle
- How to have the perfect banking relationship
- 10 key marketing and revenue building strategies
- Preview the debut of the CEO Sister DVD

Scheduled to attend. Access www.bac5.org for fees, registration and transportation

University of Dallas - Frisco Campus 7460 Warren Parkway 1st Floor Frisco, Texas 75034

Just past IKEA. For more information call 214.376-6530

Scheduled Panelists include:

Joy Wallace
Keynote Speaker

Jewel Diamond Taylor

Schell Blanton

Teresa Gilbert

Julie Niehoff

Dr. Yolanda Brooks

Starlene Stringer

Jill Darden

Yvette Moyo

Cheryl Smith

Dr. Lavana Gladney

Nancy Flowers

Michele Hoskins

Speakers and topics are subject to change. Please access website for current information, fees and registration: www.bac5.org

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Bestows Football Legend Emmitt Smith with His Own Scholarship

By Pietro Elina

The national chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. hosted the first annual Emmitt Smith Scholarship Gala recently at the Renaissance Hotel in Dallas.

Smith is a lifetime member of the Phi Beta Sigma, a historically black fraternity founded in 1914. The fraternity strives toward its founders' ideals of brotherhood, scholarship, and service to the community. From its inception, the original Founders, A. Langston Taylor, Leonard F. Morse, and Charles I. Brown, conceived Phi Beta Sigma as a mechanism to deliver services to the general community. Rather than gaining skills to be utilized exclusively for themselves or their families, the founders held a deep conviction they should return their newly acquired skills to the communities from which they had come. This is principal Smith has exhibited throughout his life. This deep conviction is mirrored in the Fraternity's motto, "Culture For Service and Service For Humanity".

The first annual gala kicked off the endowed scholarship in Smith's

name, designed to benefit college athletes, who are members of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity. The first ever Emmitt Smith Scholarship will be awarded at the 2009 International Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Several of Smith's former Dallas Cowboy teammates, along with elected officials, including Texas State Senator Royce West, were on-hand to share their support. The fundraising goal for the Scholarship Award's value is \$100,000. "Our fraternity is excited about endowing this scholarship in Emmitt Smith's name. His life has been a wonderful example to all people; especially to the young men this scholarship hopes to help," said Paul Griffin, International President of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity.

Although Smith was the only running back to ever have won a Super Bowl championship, the NFL Most Valuable Player award, the NFL rushing crown, and the Super Bowl Most Valuable Player award all in the same season, his talents go far beyond the gridiron; Smith is a ser-

vant to society at heart. Beside his athletic abilities, Smith is equally endowed with a passion for discipline and excellence he seeks to share with all aspiring student-athletes. As he promised, Smith returned to Florida State University in 1996 to earn a degree in Parks and Recreation.

As the founder of the Open Doors Foundation, Smith has successfully worked to rekindle youth's ambition through access, exposure and education. The Open Doors Foundation provides young people in our community with the tools, activities, and skills needed to be successful in this world.

As the United States Democratic Presidential hopeful, Senator Barack Obama recently suggested, "Emmitt has a phenomenal record in college and professional football, he has a phenomenal record in ballroom dancing, and he has a phenomenal record in public service – what can't he do?" Yes indeed, Emmitt Smith's dynamic culmination of energy, talent, and commitment, exemplify exactly what the Emmitt Smith Scholarship Award is all about.



Clockwise from top left: Emmitt Smith and Paul L. Griffin, Jr- 32nd International President -Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc; Mike Powell and Pat Smith; Emmitt signing autographs for guests and supporters.



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Guest Speaker
Dorothy McQuirter
Founder, College Entrance – 101™
Planning and Preparing for College

Ongoing

African American Republican Club of Collin County meets 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm (Doors will open at 6:30 pm) Collin County Republican Party Headquarters 8416 Stacy Road, McKinney Call Fred Moses at 972 618 7027 or fred@tes.com for more information.

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce General Meeting is 2nd Thursday monthly, 6:30pm - 7:30pm. McKinney Housing Authority 1200 N Tennessee St McKinney 75069 The general public is welcome. For additional information call 469-424-0120.

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce Monthly Lunch & Learn every 3rd Thursday \$15 for members; \$20 for non-members, 11:00am-1:00pm, Ralph and Kacoos - 401 S. Central Expwy, Allen. For general information and reservations call 469-424-0120.

DFW Financially Empowered Women meet monthly for lunch or dinner and a fun, informative seminar on various financial topics. For more information call 469-952-0809 or visit www.meetup.com/378.

Marriage Prep Class 1st Saturdays monthly 423 West Wheatland Road Suite 101, Duncanville 75116 \$10 fee for materials. For more info call Karen Duval at 972-709-1180.

No Limit Network Business Networking Lunch 1st and 3rd Thursday 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.

SHARE! PISD International Exchange Student Program is in the process of finding new host families to share their hearts and home with an exchange student for the 2008/2009 School Year. For more information on or how to

become a host family, call 1-800-941-3738, or www.share-southwest.org.

Watermarks Invitational Exhibit runs through April 12th 9:00 am - 8:00 pm Mondays through Thursdays, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Fridays, and 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Saturdays. FREE Collin College 800 E. Spring Creek Parkway. For more info call 972-881-5873, or visit www.ccccd.edu.

The National Business Women Enterprise Network (NBWEN) hosts monthly lunch and learn workshop and networking event giving members and guests the opportunity to network, build relationships, present information on their business and services, and most importantly, learn different ways to improve upon and grow their business. For more information www.nbwen.org or info@nbwen.org.

Wit Women Conference Call join this weekly conference call if you need encouragement, prayer, or inspiration. Dial in Tuesdays 7:00pm - 7:15pm to 218-486-1616, Code 10984 (may change each week).

April 10

Second Thursday Gallery Talk Learn what Deep Ellum was like in the 1920s and 30s - the heart and soul of the African American community. Out of this politically charged era came blues music that influenced scores of musicians in later decades. FREE 12:30 - 1:00 pm. For further information, call 214-745-1100 ext. 1 9 3 1, edprograms@oldred.org.

Second Annual Purse Auction hosted by The Irving International Women's Consortium at Las Colinas Country Club. Purses will be donated from celebrities and around the world. Admission \$40 for more info call the Irving International Women's Consortium 469-524-4509.

April 11

20th Anniversary Live From Collin County Roasted and Toasted benefiting the Assistance Center of Collin County, Child and Family Services, My Possibilities, and Crossroads Family Services. McKinney Performing Arts Center 111 North Tennessee Street Tickets \$35, may be purchased at www.mckinneyperformingartscenter.org. For

more info contact Glenna Blackstone at gblks@man.com, or 888-671-0994.

The Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce 11th Annual Excellence in Education Scholarship Luncheon at the Dallas Convention Center - Ballroom A (650 South Griffin Street) 12:00 noon; Admission is \$30, sponsorships are available. For more information, please contact the Dallas Black Chamber office at 214-421-5200 or www.dbcc.org.

April 12

T.C. Carson and Patrice Rushen at The Dallas Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex, 3:00 pm and 8:00 pm. Admission \$20. For more info call 214-743-2442.

Plano Stages presents A Bowl Full of Blues, a blues jam, from 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. in the Amphitheater at Oak Point Park in Plano. The concert will feature legendary blues performers Bugs Henderson and Anson Funderburgh. Joining them on the bill will be five North Texas blues acts - Jim Suhler, Mike Morgan, Hash Brown, Bulldogs and Blue Lisa.

Mary J. Blige & Jay-Z live in concert at the Superpages.com Center (formerly Smirnoff Music Center) 1818 First Avenue Dallas, 75210; 7:30 214-373-8000.

The Live Green Expo is a free program at the Plano Centre (2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway, Plano 75074) designed to teach people how to save energy and stay environmentally friendly. Visit www.livegreenplano.com or call 972-816-9489.

April 15

Volunteer of the Year Awards Breakfast will be located at the Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway, Plano 75074. For more information contact Maggie Cole, Event Chair, at 469-233-0161/972-612-8129 or MaggieC@air-mail.net.

April 13 - 19

National Library Week Celebration at Plano Public Library System joins libraries nationwide to celebrate the 50th anniversary of National Library. Several special FREE

activities are planned at Plano's five libraries.

April 14

UNT International Week 2008: Celebration of World Cultures International Education Awards Banquet will feature ethnic food, live entertainment, awards, scholarships, and special guest speaker Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, James C. Oberwetter 7:00 - 9:00 pm. Reservations required call 940-565-2197. For additional information, email sheenamaria@unt.edu, or call 940-369-8625.

April 16

Collin College will host an Earth Day Celebration on April 15 -16 at the Preston Ridge Campus, 9700 Wade Boulevard, in Frisco. Learn how easy it is to recycle and reuse to cut down on expenditures and waste. For more info, call Marsiela Cardena-Smith at 972-758-3896.

Aretha Franklin In Concert at Nokia Theatre At Grand Prairie 1001 Performance Place (Nextstage Drive) Grand Prairie, 75050; 8:00 PM 214-373-8000.

April 17

2008 Leadership Recognition RISD Tomorrow Foundation will honor RISD Teachers and Administrators 6:30 - 9:00 pm Renaissance Hotel, 900 East Lookout Drive, Richardson Individual Tickets \$125 and sponsorships available. For more information call RISD Tomorrow Foundation at 469-593-0241, or email elizabeth.hart@risdtomorrow.org.

City Council Candidate Forum 7:00 p.m. Council Chamber Garland City Hall 200 North Fifth Street Moderator Dr. Carol Brown, President Eastfield College.

Stars of Texas... Racing Against the Odds is a yearly American Diabetes Association fundraiser. Bet on thoroughbred horses at the Lone Star Park Downs at Grand Prairie. For more info call Roxann Pishnick at 972-392-1181 ext. 6095, call 1-888-DIABETES, or visit www.diabetes.org/dallas.

A Beka Book Sale a home school curriculum and textbook sale. Admission is free. The sale will be located at the

Plano Centre 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway, Plano, 75074 (SW corner of Spring Creek & Jupiter). For more information contact Mickey Pierce at 800-613-3222 Ext. 67.

April 18

The "Committed to a Vision" Gala and Concert will feature a live performance by Patti LaBelle and the first annual "World Impact Awards" paying tribute to International icon, Nelson Mandela. This epic event will take place at One Arts Plaza at 7:00 p.m. For ticket information, please contact the Dallas Black Dance Theatre at 214-871-2376 or www.dbdt/2008gala.com.

Comedy Night at the Muse featuring Pierre The Dallas Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex 9:00 pm, admission \$15. For more call TBAAL at 214-743-2442. Vendor Training Workshop at the Mesquite Arts Center Rehearsal Hall 1527 North Galloway Avenue, Mesquite, 75149 from 2:00 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. Don't forget to bring your business cards! Call 972-216-6201.

April 18 - 19

Relay For Life - South Dallas At the PC Cobb Stadium, 1702 Robert B. Cullum, Dallas, 75210; 7:00 p.m.

April 19

Kidney Early Evaluation Program (KEEP) Free Kidney Screening program targets at risk individuals, who are hypertensive, diabetic or have a 1st degree family member with kidney disease or a transplant. 2400 E. Seminary Drive Fort Worth 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Admission free, for more info email lhensley@nkft.org, or call 214-351-2393.

Keep Rowlett Beautiful hosts the City of Rowlett Waterways Spring Clean Up from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Volunteers will meet at Herfurth Park, 4601 Centennial Drive, east of City Hall. Call 972-463-3929 or email info@keeprowlettbeautiful.org by April 7th to sign up and receive your location assignment.

Keep Garland Beautiful by participating in the annual Trash Off (in conjunction with the Garland Going Green Expo). Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. at Audubon Park,

342 Oates Road and at the Garland Goes Green site at Firewheel Town Center, Beebalm Lane at River Fern. For more information about this year's Trash Off event, call 972-205-3896 or log onto the City of Garland website at www.ci.garland.tx.us.

Run for Cover at the Stonebridge Ranch Beach Club will include a 1K, 5K and 10K fun run to benefit Samaritan Inn. Visit www.mcfbc.org to register.

Garland Goes Green Environmental Expo offers useful information on biofuels and money saving tips on how to stay green from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The event will be held at Firewheel Town Center in and around the park area along Beebalm Lane and Town Center Boulevard.

"Spring Fiesta" Dance Series this robust energetic performance will take place at 7:30 p.m. at the Latino Cultural Center, 2900 Live Oak Street, Dallas, 75204. Tickets are \$15. For additional information, please contact Dallas Black Dance Theatre at 214-871-2376 or www.dbdt.com.

Junior League of Plano's 19th Annual Trinkets to Treasures Rummage Sale will be located the Plano Centre 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway, Plano, 75074 from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Admission is \$5 from 8:00am to 10:00am and \$3 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Seniors 65+ receive \$1 off admission all day. Children 11 years of age and under are admitted free. For more information contact the Junior League of Plano Hotline at 972-769-1142 or www.jlplano.org.

G3: Greater Games Gathering is a non-profit event designed to bring table top gamers together in a thrice-annual gaming convention located at the Plano Centre 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway, Plano, 75074. Admission to the event is \$8.00 for Internet Pre-registration; \$12 at the door. The convention will last from 8:00 a.m. until 11:30 p.m. For more information call 972-612-4133 or email or info@greatergamesgathering.org or www.greatergamesgathering.org.

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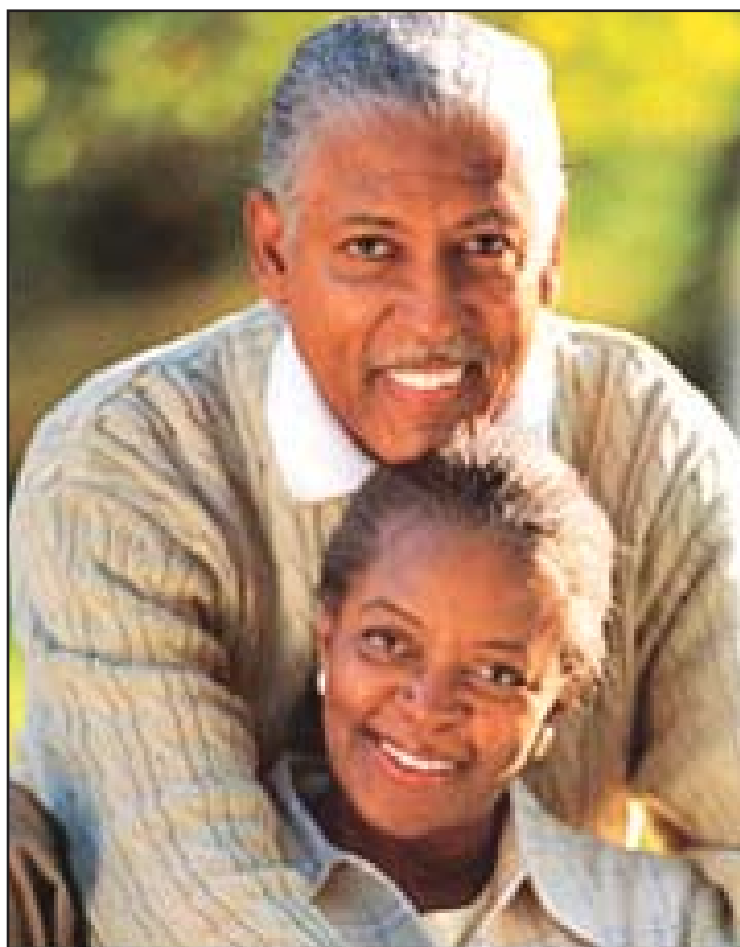
The Changing Face of Medicaid

by Jacquinette Murphy

North Texas residents and area hospitals could possibly soon feel the effects of the tightening belt of the national health care system later this spring if the moratorium on the new Medicaid regulations is allowed to expire in May 2008. The one-year moratorium was enacted to give the U.S. Congress more time to review some of the federal cost-cutting regulations proposed by the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 and the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006.

The expiration of the moratorium is said to shift payment from the federal government to state governments for the uninsured for the coverage of hospital and clinic services, case management services and long-term and rehabilitative care for people that are disabled.

However, on Wednesday the House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee passed H.R. 5613, legislation that would delay until April 1, 2009, implementation of seven Medicaid reg-



ulations expected to cut funding to safety-net providers by an estimated \$50 billion over five years. The American Hospital Association's statement indicated, the bill will likely be considered by the full committee next week. Committee chair John Dingell (D-MI) proposal requests a study of the impact of the regulations on the states. The amended bill also would provide

\$25 million a year for the Department of Health and Human Service to investigate fraud and abuse in the Medicaid program, and contains an offset of the cost of the moratoria to be funded by expanding Medicaid's asset verification program to all 50 states and by borrowing from the physician quality reporting fund.

John Hawkins, the vice-president of government relations for the

Texas Hospital Association recently discussed the effect of lifting the moratorium to the medical care facilities of the Lone Star state. "It would certainly impact the public hospitals because they receive funding from the program to provide the services to the indigent, and the working poor," Hawkins said.

In regards to the effect on the booming mature adult population in Texas, Hawkins said,

"It would impact the ability to fund the transition to continued care from an acute care facility." Hawkins further explained that this would force more people to stay in acute care facilities past the appropriate time and ultimately drive up the cost of uncompensated care.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

released a statement in February that advertised the benefits of this adjustment stating that it will implement the Administration's goals of aligning Medicaid more closely with private market insurance and the states will now have the opportunity to offer health plans more comparable to plans offered to other populations in the state.

Additionally, enactment of the new rules would shift the program controls from the national level and give control of the Medicaid plan design to the states since they deal more directly with the beneficiaries.

"The intent is to limit Medicaid payments for governmental health care providers to the cost of serving Medicaid individuals. Congress would be the one to lift or extend the ban not CMS," summarized Tony Salters, public affairs specialist for

the Dallas regional CMS office.

According to an Associated Press report, a coalition of hospitals around the country filed a lawsuit in March seeking to

vides medical services to the uninsured or those with limited income that are deemed eligible by set state and federal regulations. It is through this program that the indigent, poor,

"It would certainly impact the public hospitals because they receive funding from the program to provide the services to the indigent, and the working poor," John Hawkins, the vice-president of government relations for the Texas Hospital Association.

block the expiration of the congressional moratorium. Major organizations such as the American Hospital Association and the National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems are participants in the lawsuit.

The hospitals feel the regulations are in violation of federal law by adopting payment limits previously rejected by Congress. The government counters the new regulations would ensure Medicaid payments do not exceed the actual cost of providing patient care. The hospitals point out patients with a high population of private insurance can balance the cost of treating uninsured patients. County hospitals such as Parkland depend on Medicaid to cover the cost of uninsured patients.

According to the U.S. Health and Human services department, Medicaid is the largest source of funding for medical and health-related services for individuals with limited income. It was launched in 1965 as a joint state and federal government administered program that pro-

elderly and children are generally able to receive the preventive and critical medical care needed to become and remain healthy.

In 2006, 4.9 million Medicaid enrollees were at least 65 years old and an additional 8.3 million were blind and disabled. These groups accounted for more than 25 percent of total Medicaid enrollment in 2006 according to statistics from the DHHS presidential budget testimony in 2007.

A review of the congressional budget for this program has prompted the overhaul and revision of corresponding regulations. Since 2005, many regulations have been proposed and passed to help decrease the spending, including placing penalties on asset transfer and home equity, cost sharing programs. While intended to make the program run more efficiently, these changes will potentially leave many of the people that the program exists to serve without the extended medical care needed to maintain a healthy quality of life in their latter years.



The Dallas Black Dance Theatre Presents an Elegant Evening with Legendary Songstress, Patti LaBelle

Historical Dance Company Celebrates Relocation to Dallas Arts District with "Committed to a Vision" Gala and Concert

Dallas Black Dance Theatre is proud to present "Committed to a Vision," a world-class gala benefit featuring a vivacious concert performance by Grammy-award winner and legendary diva, Patti LaBelle. This symbolic event celebrates the

dance company's recent relocation to the newly renovated former Moorland YMCA building in the Dallas Arts District and will take place at One Arts Plaza on Friday, April 18, 2008 at 7 p.m.

"I am extremely excited about our move to the

Dallas Arts District into a building that has long been a strong pillar in the Dallas community," said Ann Williams, DBDT founder and artistic director.

The "Committed to a Vision" Gala and Concert is a monumental Black-tie affair celebrating the



weaving of the history of the former Moorland YMCA building with the powerful vision of impactful community

leader and dance company founder, Ann Williams. This stellar evening will begin with an exclusive pre-gala VIP

reception hosted by Texas State Representative Helen Giddings and will feature a private tour of the Dallas Black Dance Theatre's newly renovated home. Guests can then stroll the red carpet over to a lavishly decorated pavilion at One Arts Plaza to enjoy a full-course seated dinner featuring the delectable cuisines of Celebrity Chef and Iron Chef winner, Kent Rathbun. Dinner will be followed by an inspiring gala presentation honoring key individuals who have made significant impacts and contributions to the arts community. The evening will conclude with an electrifying concert performance by world-renowned music legend, Patti LaBelle and will showcase her signature platinum-selling hits like "Lady Marmalade" and "Come What May" that will have guests reminiscing and scurrying their way to the dance floor.

The Runner Stumbles... Off the Beaten Path

By Rick A. Elina



Scandal involving the clergy is unfortunately, not a new concept in story-telling, especially when the scandal involves deistic dalliances with the opposite sex. In fact, such scandals these days barely deserve an upraised eyebrow. Milan Stitt's 1976 play *The Runner Stumbles*, offers an added plot element that goes above and beyond the everyday theological tryst. When the body of a missing nun is found buried in the garden of a priest, the question of guilt or innocence becomes the central vehicle that drives this piece. Along the way, the timeless schism of commitment to God versus commitment to self is broached.

Based on the true events of 1906 rural Michigan, the play opens with Father Rivard, portrayed by Corey Whaley, sitting handcuffed in a jail cell proclaiming his innocence. He stands accused of the ultimate trespass against God, the murder of Sister Rita, a vibrant and sensitive nun, played by Julie Osborne. Ms. Osborne's effusive personality is in stark contrast to Mr. Whaley's shell of a man, and a priestly man at that. Sister Rita is the child constantly testing the

boundaries of the parental figure, Father Rivard. Is it just coincidence that he is referred to as Father and she as Sister? Perhaps that contrast is precisely Mr. Stitt's point. If so, then the actors do a remarkable job of personifying this very common church dynamic, which transcends denomination.

Eventually, Father Rivard becomes conflicted in his feelings as a man with his loyalty to the church. A subsequent cover-up with the chief overseer of the diocese, Monsignor Nicholson, played convincingly by Ron Eubanks, starts the downward trajectory of both main characters and their relationship, not only with each other but also with God and Church. The fires of dissension are stoked further by Father Rivard's housekeeper, Mrs. Shandig, oddly cast with Tina Kane. Though Ms. Kane does a fine job of portraying her characters fervent almost fanatical belief system, she seems a bit too refined and elegant to be believable as an illiterate housekeeper.

Aside from the theological aspects of the play, the central question remains, did Father Rivard murder Sister Rita? The resolution comes slowly paced the form of courtroom scenes that are hardly suspenseful, despite the efforts of Gary Anderson as the defense attorney and Jarod Warren as the prosecutor. Mr. Anderson however hands in one of the best performances of the play. The self-deprecating character of Toby Felker, underscores Mr. Anderson's restrained interpretation of that

character. However, the drama doesn't have an opportunity to build because of the constant scene changes as well as, wardrobe changes which, by the way, take place in full view of the audience. Such is the case with several other pivotal moments in the play which come and go in such a way, that there is no building of anticipation. Rather than thinking, "Well, here it comes," you find yourself saying, "Well, there it went."

From a technical standpoint, the stage was just a little too busy at times. The set is comprised of six "mini-sets" that the actors were constantly walking in and out of. The program credits Mark-Brian Sonna as Choreographer and since there was no dancing one can only assume that a choreographer was needed simply to get the actors to the different parts of the stage. Unfortunately, it was not the poetry in motion that I normally associate with good choreography. The changes were at times cumbersome and distracting. The set design presented major sight-line problems and during several scenes, one character would totally obscure from view the reactions of another character.

Overall it was the work of the actors that made the experience pleasant despite the many issues with other aspects of the production.

The *Runner Stumbles* is presented by RoverDramawerks and runs through April 26 at the Cox Building Playhouse. See RoverDramawerks.com for details.

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3rd Annual Emerging Women CEOs Business Camp

Featuring some of the nations most prolific and successful women CEOs, the Business Assistance Center, Inc. and North Dallas Gazette presents the Third Annual Emerging Women Business Camp (EWBC) on Saturday, April 19, 2008 from 10:00am to 3:00 P.M at the University of Dallas - Frisco Campus located at 7460 Warren Parkway in Frisco, Texas.

"This single day, information network and business camp is set to be a ground breaking event for business owners to boost their bottom line and for aspiring entrepreneurs to learn the inside track to a launching a successful business operation," says Terry Allen, founder of this camp and Director of the Business Assistance Center, "The real value of this event is the mentoring and networking that will occur between business owners obtain answers and training which was inspired by our keynote speaker,

Joy Wallace."

"Each participant will have a chance to interact with Super CEOs and they will also receive training in email marketing, networking and financial accounting," says Jackie Murphy, CEO of Presence Communications, a recent graduate of our small business program and co event manager.

EWBC keynote speaker is super CEO, Joy Wallace, the founder and CEO of Joy Foods (www.joy-foodsinc.com). Once a senior director of National Sales at Pizza Hut, Wallace is now known for her ability to take a corporate sales strategy and turn it into a multi million dollar company in Joy Foods' first year of operation. The mentoring intent of EWBC is inspired by her participation in the first EWBC in 2005.

Also, attendees with experience a wealth of inspiration with "The Self-esteem Dr", Jewel Diamond Taylor (www.donotgiveup.net),

the luncheon keynote speaker. She is the Founder of the Women on the Grow, Super Goal Saturday Motivational Seminars, The Don't Give Up Conference, the popular Lunch and Learn motivational sessions and the Paragon Leadership Training Series.

Registrants will also meet Michele Hoskins, the founder of Michele Foods (www.michele-foods.com) a multi-million dollar food company famous for its Honey Crème Syrup taken from her ancestor's recipe. She has been featured on Oprah, Essence Magazine, Ebony, Black Enterprise, etc. and is the author of the Bestseller book, Sweet Expectations.

Many more influential and empowered women CEOs will be knowledge sharing during the panel discussions planned during this camp. Scheduled to appear are:

• Dr. Yolanda Bruce Brooks is a national professional development

and clinical consultant and former Senior Director of Player Development for the National Basketball Association (NBA).

• Yvette Moyo is the President/Founder of Real Men Cook and MOBE - Marketing Opportunities in Business & Entertainment. (Moderator /Panelist), Her national event, Real Men Cook, has contributed over a million dollars to charitable causes and MOBE has been the launching ground of millions of contracts in business and entertainment collaborations.

• Teresa Taylor Gilbert is CEO of www.Ntheknow.com the hottest online networking and event company in the southwest will be on hand again to deliver her powerful networking skills builder (Panelist)

• Julie Neihoff, Regional Director of Constant Contact a leading email marketing company.

Comptroller Announces Dallas Tax Seminar

(AUSTIN) — The state Comptroller's office will host free seminar, in Dallas April 23 to inform franchise taxpayers about the Legislature's revisions to the tax.

"May 15 is the first statewide franchise tax due date since these changes took effect," Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said. "We are continuing our outreach efforts to ensure taxpayers are familiar with the new margin calculation and that the filing process works smoothly and easily for them."

The Dallas seminar on April 23 will take place on the Southern Methodist University campus, in the Hughes-Trigg Student Center Theater, located at 3140 Dyer St.

The seminar is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will be taught by the agency's franchise tax experts who will also be available to answer ques-

tions. The morning sessions will consist of an overview presentation about the new margin calculation, along with detailed explanations about entities subject to the tax; the revised tax base; tax rates; EZ computation; discounts; no tax due qualifications; determining total revenue and exclusions from revenue; cost of goods sold deductions; gross receipts and apportionment; combined reporting; business loss credit; and new administrative rules. The afternoon sessions of the seminars will concentrate on how to complete franchise tax reporting forms.

For complete information about the seminars, visit the Comptroller's Web site at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/franchise/ft_tour_0408.html. Advance reservations are required. To reserve a seat at the seminar, e-mail rsvp.dallas@cpa.state.tx.us.

us.

During the last year, agency experts have spoken at industry conferences and to taxpayers groups, hosted 10 taxpayer seminars throughout Texas and conducted a dozen Webinars to inform taxpayers about changes to the franchise tax. The Texas Legislature revised the tax by changing the tax base and the tax rate and extending coverage to most legal entities. About 200,000 new entities will

have to file franchise tax reports for the first time this year.

Forms to report the revised Texas franchise tax based on the new margin calculation are now available online at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/taxforms/05-forms.html.

Answers to franchise tax questions can be found by visiting www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/franchise/ or by calling (800) 252-1381.

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Don Anyanwu, Ph.D., P.E., CEM - President

West, pg 1

comprehensive approach to combating regulated metals thefts by creating a statewide electronic database, limiting public operation hours, restricting the sale of certain items by the general public and created statewide "hold" guidelines so that purchased regulated items can be inspected by police. SB642 did not pass, but was rolled into SB1154 by Senator John Carona, (R- Dallas) a bill that strengthened identification requirements for sellers and increased criminal penalties for buyers and sellers of stolen goods. SB1154 passed into law effective Sept. 1, 2007.

"The new statewide database established by

SB1154 will be maintained by the Department of Public Safety," said Dallas' Chief of Police David Kunkle. "This will provide yet another tool for law enforcement to use in dealing with those who buy and sell stolen metals."

One of SB1154's most crucial components, the statewide database will soon go into effect. It will help law enforcement to detect patterns of persons who frequently sell restricted items of questionable origin. The bill also requires all scrap metal vendors to register with the state. The legislation has the support of the scrap metal industry and has now been modeled in other parts of the country.

40, pg 1

tain but sure turmoil of days now past. Once at the King Center, a prayer vigil ceremony was held in honor of the vision and the shadow of the statue of the slain leader, Dr. Martin Luther King.

Michael Gonzales of the Hispanic Business Leadership Board was present with his family and offered these words about Dr. King. "He helped to open doors for all people. He was a brilliant leader that happened to be African-American," he said.

Casey Thomas, the president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was also on hand and spoke from the basis of one of King's famous speeches. Why we can't wait. "It is time for us to stand up and hold ourselves accountable. We look inside our communities and we are

no longer afraid of the atrocities. We can't wait another day, second or moment for someone else to rise up and make our community what we want it to be," he said.

Although the march was based on a nonviolent strategy and Christian faith that is threaded into the foundation of the SCLC, others organizations that are known for a more forward approach profoundly showed their support for King. Olinka Green a new member of the Black Panther Party stated memorable words. "He paid the ultimate price, his life. As Moses, he could only go so far, we are his children. It is time for America to pay up for everything that he has done. It is to the gray-haired down to the baby-haired," stated Green as she sported a gray tee-shirt that simply said, "Obama for Yo Momma." For her it was a symbol of a society that did

not exist only a generation ago.

KHVN News Director, Robert Ashley, was among the list of speakers and he encouraged the community to have a true purpose as Dr. King did. "If a man does not live for something; he will die for anything," he summed as he informed the audience about the rich African American history and the conditions of our failing government and society. A sentiment shown by Silk Littlejohn and his family who recently experienced racism attacks first-hand at their home in Arlington, Texas.

The evening closed with an arc-shaped group of people facing the bronze Martin Luther King statue with the commemorative wreath at its feet, hands shielding the candles from the wind and heads bowed in prayer, followed by a speech by Dr. King and the sounding of the closing cere-

monial bells.

"The march was a success along with the prayer vigil to honor Dr. King, what he stood for and what he sacrificed his life for. It brought people together of all races, ages, and social classes," said Reverend Derrick Bowman, the president of the SCLC. "The overall event helped to put SCLC Dallas back on track to being an organization that helps to provoke change in the mindset of the community as Dr. King planned in 1957. We needed to take that charge back to become a more visible voice in the community. Now, we hope that more people connect and return to the chapter to help us to continue to be the viable organization that we need to be." The Dallas SCLC meets at the Martin Luther King Center every second Thursday at 7:00pm. Call Rev. Derrick Bowman at (972)792-0240.

CDs, pg 1

Folks, we constantly talk about the negative things we hear and see in the music of some of today's young artists. We rail against their lyrics and their exploitation of women. We are embarrassed by the way some of them dress and their seemingly endless propagation of the thug life and the bling-bling mindset.

The Bring Black Back CD and the MAAT Youth Group are completely positive, educational, and inspiring to both the young and the older crowds. The young people rap about our historical icons like Zora Neale Hurston, Marcus Garvey, and Langston Hughes, all set to some of the "tightest" beats you will ever hear.

One of my favorite is their innovative piece on Reparations. During their release event on February 29th, they performed each song and added their own choreographed routines, lead by a young brother, Adrian Curry, who just happens to have a 4.3 GPA and will be attending Morehouse next year. Another young sister, Chloe Johnson, in her first year at Florida A&M, who also played a major role in the recording, came back home to Ft. Wayne to participate in the release.

In addition to these outstanding students, there are several others from age 13 to 19, who dedicated their time and their creative talents to produce the Bring Black Back CD.

You need to have this CD. The proceeds will go to help the SBA Academy in its efforts to educate more young people about their history and their culture. The funds also help with travel

expenses for the students to visit Africa and various Caribbean islands as they have done in the past.

These are the kinds of young people we say we want to have in our communities. Show them you appreciate their efforts. Support them. Buy their CD! Go to www.sba1satschool.com and make your purchase. Buy several and give them to friends and family.

The other CD, "Three Credits Shy," is a sobering disclosure of a case that haunts me and should touch the consciences of all people. It's the William Mayo story. Mayo has been incarcerated for 16 years for a crime he did not commit. Having received injustice after injustice from Georgia's judicial system, he languishes in a cell waiting for US to do something about his situation. You know; the way we acted in the Marcus Dixon case, the Genarlow Wilson case, the Shaquanda Cotton, the Jena Six case. William is still waiting for justice to prevail, and we can help him in his quest.

Go to www.freemayo.com and purchase "Three Credits Shy," which indicates how far Mayo was from receiving his degree from Morehouse College prior to being accused and convicted of a robbery in which he had no role.

William Jonathan Mayo was well on his way to being a commissioned officer in U.S. Army, well on his way to being one of the young role models we say we need more of in our communities; he was well on his way to being able to help other young men who aspired to the level he had struggled to

reach through hard work and dedication; William Mayo was on his way to success, but his journey was interrupted by a gross injustice that still has not been rectified.

William's destiny suffered a detour that has now taken 16 years to travel, but he is still determined to come out of that prison one day and get that degree he cherished so much. He is still determined to offer whatever time he has left to help someone else, especially young people.

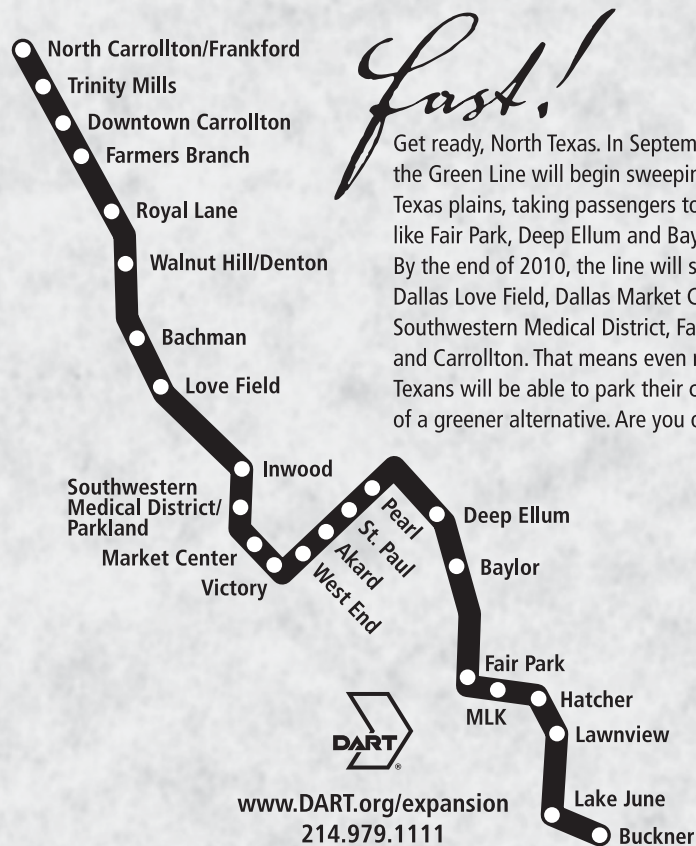
He is still prayerful and still hopeful while he waits for his day in court or for the day someone in Georgia's criminal justice system will finally have the compassion to look at his case and admit, as those who committed the crime have already done, that William didn't rob anyone and he should be set free.

Meanwhile, as he waits for US to act, he needs our financial support. The CD, if purchased by just half of those who read this column, would provide a tremendous boost not only to William's disposition and confidence but also to his defense fund. This man deserves our support; the least we can do is buy the CD, listen to his story, and then make up our minds to do something else to help this brother obtain his freedom.

Please. Get to a computer as soon as you can and purchase these two CDs. You will be glad you did, and you will be helping two very worthwhile causes. They are just \$10.00 each. Where else can you get so much for so little? Where else can you do so much with such a small effort? Please order these two CDs now!



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Job Hunting Tips

Write sales letters NOT covering letters - You need to know how to sell yourself to a potential employer and your application is the first opportunity you have to do just that. Employers will spend as little as 20 to 30 seconds reading an application, so you have to make a strong impression - fast. A sales letter needs to grab the reader's attention within the first paragraph and give an employer a reason to ask you for an interview.

Follow-up - Don't wait for an employer to respond to your application. Be proactive by telephoning or emailing their office and establish personal contact.

Make the web work for you - Post your resume online, create your own job seeker account with the job boards that advertise the type of vacancies you are interested in and, make your details available so that potential employers can seek you out, too.

Tap into the hidden job market - It is often said that personal recommendation. Networking within your industry can be an invaluable source of information and recommendations on jobs, a process greatly facilitated by social networking sites such as LinkedIn and Facebook.

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The City of Allen Planning and Development Department is seeking qualified General Contractors for their Home Repair Program relating to the Community Development Block Grant Program.

Contact Kellie Wilson at 214-509-4165 to receive additional information and to request a Contractor application packet.



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Church Happenings

DFW INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

April 13, 4 pm

Unit Church of Dallas, 6525 Forest Lane (between Preston Road and Hillcrest), in Dallas will present "Global Sacred Music Celebration" and you are invited.

April 19, 2008

Join us at "Fiesta Latinoamericana!" @ The Amphitheatre @ Oak Point, 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway in Plano (across from Spring Creek College Campus). At 5 pm there's a FREE Family Fiesta with Latin American storytelling and folkloric dance workshops. At 8 pm it's the 2nd Annual Fiesta Latinoamericana! With dance, live music, theater, and Im by 14 local arts groups.

Call 972-661-2764 for more information, ticket fees, and directions for the above events.

DFW International Community Alliance
Anne Marie Weiss,
President
12800 Hillcrest Road
Suite A211
Dallas, TX 75230
972-661-2764

EIRENE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

April 16, 23, 30, 7 pm

Join us each Wednesday in April for "SHAPE" in our

Lecture Hall. You have a unique purpose in life; now learn how God wants you to use it.

Eirene Christian Fellowship
Rev. Terrance Autry,
Pastor
701 E. Centennial Blvd.
Richardson, TX 75081
972-991-0200

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK (FIRST CHURCH)

April 13, 6 pm

Join us for our Annual Fine Arts Recital in the sanctuary.

April 19, 9 am

It's time for our 9th Annual Health, Wellness, & Fitness Clinic. There will be health screening, wellness presentations, fitness classes and more. Contact Lucinda Butler for details.

April 26, 2008

Registration for our 2008 Women's Conference has begun. It will be at the Marriott Dallas/Plano @ the Legacy Town Center this year.

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

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST

CHURCH OF THE COLONY

April 11 & 12, 2008

You are invited to our Annual Fellowship and Campout at Hidden Cove Park. Sign up in the foyer or contact Bro. Marlon Dawson, Bro. Ray Williams, Bro. Tim Williams, or Bro. Truman Green.

Friendship Baptist Church, The Colony
Dr. C. Paul McBride,
Senior Pastor
4396 Main Street
The Colony, TX 75056
972-625-8186

GREENVILLE AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 3, 8 am to 1:30 pm

Come to our 23rd Annual Adolescent & Ladies Symposium to address community issues of today's society from a Biblical perspective. It's FREE and open to preteen girls, ages 9-12; adolescent misses, 13-18; and adult ladies, 19 and up. This will include a session for mothers and daughters, a continental breakfast, lunch, and door prizes.

Greenville Avenue Church of Christ
Brother S.T.W. Gibbs, III
Senior Minister
1013 S. Greenville Avenue
Richardson, TX 75081
972-644-2335

LOVE CHAPEL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

April 20, 3:30 pm

Bro. Todd Walker and the Brotherhood Ministry will host a program and you are invited to worship the Lord with us.

Love Chapel C.O.G.I.C
Elder Philip White, Pastor
2003 Morris Street
Dallas, TX 75212
214-638-1857

MT. HEBRON MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

April 28-May 1, 2008

Nightly @ 7 pm

You are welcome to our National Christian Ministry each night.

Mt. Hebron Missionary Baptist Church
Rev. Leonard O. Leach
Senior Pastor
1233 State Highway 66
Garland, TX 75040
972-276-5218

MT. PISGAH BAPTIST CHURCH (THE ROCK)

April 16-18, 7 pm Nightly

You are invited to our Annual Spring Revival with the renowned and dynamic Dr. Sedic Veal, pastor of the Temple Baptist Church in Cleveland, Ohio.

Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church
Rev. Robert Townsend,
Senior Pastor
11611 Webb Chapel Road
Dallas, TX 75229
972-241-6151

NEW MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH OF DALLAS

Join us this Saturday,

April 12, 10 am - 2 pm

We present "College Entrance - 101." Enroll Today! www.ce101.com. Students in grades 7-11 and their parents are invited to attend. Please bring a friend to partake in this learning experience.

New Mount Zion Baptist Church of Dallas
Dr. Robert E. Price,
Senior Pastor
9550 Shepherd Road
Dallas, Texas 75243
214-341-6459

SAINT MARK BAPTIST CHURCH

April 12, 2008, Noon - 2 pm

Senior Saints (ages 55 and above) please join us for lunch, bingo and prizes during the "Double Nickel Luncheon" @ Newsome Homes Community Center, 230 Amscott Street, McKinney, TX 75069. FREE home delivery available to house-bound seniors within the city limits only. Please call 972-542-6178 no later than Friday, April 11th with your name, phone number, address, and the number of meals desired.

Saint Mark Baptist Church
Rev. Charles S. Wattle, Senior Pastor
1308 Wilcox Street
McKinney, TX 75069
972-542-6178

SWEET HOME MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

May 3, 5:20 pm

Our Reunion Choir hosts a "Back in the Day Gospel Musical" and you are invited.

May 4, 10:20 am

Come share with us the joy of celebrating 20 years as a community church. Our theme: "We are Family" Learning from the past, living in the present, preparing for the future. Acts 2:44-47. For information or directions call Monica Jones or Tosha Johnson @ 972-276-6602.
Sweet Home MBC
Rev. D. L. Wilson, Pastor
1019 S. First Street
Garland, TX 75040
972-276-6602

WOMAN OF STRENGTH MINISTRY

April 12, 11 am - 2 pm

Please join us for a Benefit Luncheon @ the DeSoto Civic Center, 211 E. Pleasant Run Road in DeSoto, TX. This luncheon will be hosted by Donna A. Gantt and will benefit the Deborah Proctor Educational Scholarship Fund. Keynote speaker is Cheryl Wesley and musical guest is Carolyn Traylor.

For ticket prices, information or directions call 972-296-4590.

Woman of Strength Ministry, Inc.
Ms. Donna A. Gantt
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Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 A.M.
Wednesday Night-Community Bible Class: 7:30 P.M.





Sister Tarpley

It is a great blessing to have a "true friend." Because it's National Friendship Week, this morning I received an email from a friend, it brighten my day and made me smile. During my high school years I would write in every year book, "True friends are like diamonds, precious, rich and rare; false friends are like autumn leaves, found every where."

I am thankful and feel extremely blessed for my friends. My wonderful sisters: Eloyd Avery, Billie Daye, Evangelist Ida Egghins, and Rose Mary Fielding (we have fun every time we are together as we recall our childhood years.) My daughters: Minister Sheila Tarpley Lott, and Cleo Spann Tarpley. These great ladies: Phemia Tinner, Esther Dugay, Vickie Terry Byrd, Rosemary Owens (the great tax lady), Gail Gray, Rosie Roberts, Delores Murray, Ruth Ferguson, Judy Williams (I love our hugs each Sunday after church), Cousin Sherry Gambrell, and Cousin Emma Palmer to name a precious few.

As I thought about my precious friends, I thought about things that I have received or picked up along the way.

Eleanor Roosevelt

National Friendship Week

wrote: Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only true friends will leave footprints in your heart. To handle yourself, use your head; to

hammer a nail into the back of the fence.

The first day the girl had driven 37 nails into the fence. Over the next few weeks, as she learned to control her anger, the number of nails hammered daily gradually dwindled. She discovered it was easier to hold her temper than to drive those nails into the fence. Finally the day came when the girl didn't loose her temper at all.

She told her mother about it and the mother suggested that the girl now pull out one nail for each day that she was able to hold her temper. The days passed and the young girl was finally able to tell her mother that all the nails were gone.

The mother led her daughter to the fence. She said, "You have done well, my daughter, but look at the holes in the fence. The fence will never be the same. When you say things in anger, they leave scars just like this." You can put a knife in a person and draw it out, but the scar remains. You can hurt a person and it won't matter how many times you say I'm sorry, the wound is still there. A verbal wound is as bad as a physical one.

Friends are very rare jewels. They lend an ear, they share words of praise and they always want to open their hearts to us. They make you smile and succeed. Author Unknown



Sister Tarpley & Mrs. Phemia Tinner celebrating a friendship for over 40 years.

handle others, use your heart.

My pastor, Elder Philip White says, "Anger is only one letter short of danger." Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events; small minds discuss people. He who loses money, loses much; he who loses a friend, loses much more, but he who loses faith, loses all. Learn to honor and respect the elderly; beautiful young people are accidents of nature, but beautiful old people are works of art. Yesterday is history; tomorrow is a mystery; today is a gift.

A Good Story for Great Friends: A little girl had a bad temper. Her mother gave her a bag of nails and told her that every time she lost her temper, she must

Peoples Baptist Church To Celebrate Pastor's 15th Anniversary

Guest Speakers Include Dr. Damian Epps and Elder Joseph Jackson Celebration Will Include Gospel Explosion Concert with Angela Spivey

Peoples Missionary Baptist Church excitingly announces the 15th anniversary celebration for their pastor, Rev. S. M. Wright II. Rev. Wright succeeded his father, Dr. S. M. Wright Sr. as the pastor of Peoples on November 3, 1993.

Special services for the celebration will feature some of the country's most profound ministers of the gospel. The week-end celebration will kick-off with a Gospel Explosion Concert on Saturday, April 12 at 7:00 p.m. with national recording artist Angela Spivey, dubbed The Princess of Gospel. On Sunday, April 13, Dr. Damian Epps, pastor of Evergreen Baptist Church of San Francisco, California will deliver the message for the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Elder Joseph Jackson, pastor of First Pentecostal

Church of God in Christ of Dallas will deliver the message for the Anniversary Hour at 3:00 p.m.

The community is invited to attend all anniversary services for Pastor Wright. Admission for the Gospel Explosion Concert with Angela Spivey is free and open to the public. Peoples Missionary Baptist Church is located at 3119 Pine Street in Dallas.

Rev. Wright was ordained, anointed and voted in as pastor of Peoples Missionary Baptist Church at the age of 19, under his father's pastorate, Dr. S. M. Wright Sr. This appointment made him the youngest pastor in church history. He continued his education, receiving his Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies with a minor in Business

Administration from Dallas Baptist University.

Since 1994, Rev. Wright has worked untiringly to keep the dream and legacy of his father alive. He serves as Chairman of the S. M. Wright Foundation, whose mission is to continue the legacy of his father in providing support to enrich, empower and enhance the quality of life through the areas of race relations, health, education, community economic development and social assistance programs for the Glory of God in the South Dallas Fair Park area.

Rev. Wright serves on numerous boards and commissions throughout the state of Texas. He lists his finest accomplishment to date as 10 years of profound pasturing of the great Peoples Missionary Baptist Church.

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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
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Office: 972-241-6151
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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.

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

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

"The Church with a Vision"

The Dance Council Presents 2008 Dance for the Planet Festival

The Dance Council presents the 12th Annual Dance for the Planet Festival, the only FREE, family, outdoor dance festival of its kind, celebrating the magic of dance from the greater North Texas community during National Dance Week. There's much to see and do at this two-day dance festival:

See performances by 140 dance groups from Ballet to Ballroom, Modern, Jazz,

Tap, Middle Eastern to African, Flamenco to Folklorico, classical Indian to Aztec, Salsa to Country Western, etc., etc.

Take classes in Salsa, Yoga, Ballroom, Pilates, African, Belly Dancing, and Disco, with local professionals.

Take Hip Hop Classes with Special Guest Kenny Wormald at 1:00 PM & 3:30 PM and Swing Classes at 2:00 and 2:30 PM with

returning Special Guest Norma Miller both days

Create & play at the Children's Art Zone.

Hip Hop Opening Showcase at Noon, Dance Council 2008 Scholarship Showcase at 2:00 PM, Tap Showcase at 4:00 PM and Swing Showcase at 4:30 PM on Saturday, April 26

South Dallas Dance Showcase at 2:00 PM, Praise Showcase at 3:00 PM on Sunday, April 27.

Returning is the celebrated Queen of Swing Ms. Norma Miller, known throughout the world as an author, choreographer, filmmaker, comedian, and actor whose career spans over seven decades. Discovered at the age of twelve by the Savoy Ballroom's legendary dancer Twist Mouth George, Norma will teach FREE Swing Classes from 2:00 to 3:00 PM on both days and emcee a Swing Showcase

featuring the Dallas Swing Society at 4:30 PM on Saturday afternoon.

Direct from Los Angeles, Hip Hop Artist Kenny Wormald has performed with Justin Timberlake, Janet Jackson, Madonna, and Jennifer Lopez and stars in the soon-to-be-released movie Centerstage 2. He has danced on Ellen, Saturday Night Live, MTV Awards, Teen Choice Awards and many others.

Kenny will emcee and perform during the Planet Opening Showcase at Noon and will teach FREE Hip Hop Classes from 1:00 to 2:00 pm and 3:30 to 4:30 PM on both days. To check times see www.thedance-council.org.

The tree-lined amphitheater of Samuell-Grand Park is located at 6200 East Grand Ave, Dallas, 75223. Parking is available in parking lots and along the street.

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"

Sunday Worship Services 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 6:00 p.m. Baptist Training Union	Wednesday 12:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Prayer Hour 7:30 p.m. Bible Study
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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

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www.avefchurchofchrist.org
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Monday	7PM Youth, Brotherhood, Mission & Young Adult Ministries
Tuesday	7PM Bible Study & Men's Choir
Wednesday	7PM Mid-Week Service
Thursday	7PM Mass Choir

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Singles Group 7:00 pm
Bible Study 7:45 pm

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