

North Dallas Gazette



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Summer Intensive Dance Workshop Kicks Off



From staff reports

Texas Instruments Foundation is a proud sponsor of Dallas Black Dance Theatre's ongoing educational outreach programs.

Kicking off this week is the "2008 Summer Intensive Dance

Workshop," a premier program offering experienced dancers and university students from across the nation the unique opportunity to receive advanced instruction from award-winning and world-renowned dance instructors.

See DANCE, Page 3

Things You Can Do To Improve Your Community

From staff reports

Most of us like where we live, but our neighborhoods and communities can be even better.

While many people are concerned about the direction in which our country is heading, it sometimes seems like one person

can't make a difference. However, there are many ways - both big and small - that you and your family can improve your neighborhood and community.

Whether it's volunteering at local schools or churches, working with local organizations to improve streets and shop-

ping areas, or simply voting in local elections, there are many relatively easy ways to help make your community better.

"Don't look for other people to lead or fix problems. You can be a leader and a contributor in your community and our country," says Mary T.

Ficalora, author of the new book, "Choosing Honor: An American Woman's Search For God, Family and Country in an Age of Corruption."

"We each have the knowledge and power to help improve our communities and make our streets

See COMMUNITY, Page 12

Zimbabwe's Mugabe sworn in after discredited vote

Associated Press

HARARE, Zimbabwe — President Robert Mugabe has been sworn in for a sixth term, just hours after electoral officials said he won a discredited runoff.

As dignitaries watched

under a red-carpeted tent on Sunday, Mugabe swore to uphold his nation's laws and then sat amid cheering to sign documents.

African and other world leaders had condemned Friday's presidential runoff, in which Mugabe was the only candidate.

Human rights groups said opposition supporters were the targets of brutal state-sponsored violence during the campaign, leaving more than 80 dead and forcing some 200,000 to flee their homes.

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were the targets of brutal state-sponsored violence during the campaign, leaving more than 80 dead and forcing some 200,000 to flee their homes.

Opposition candidate Morgan Tsvangirai withdrew from the race because of the violence.

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COVER STORY

DART debuts new super rail vehicles



See DART, Page 9



Snipes ok'd to travel abroad

Get the full story on pg. 10

www.northdallasgazette.com

Blackonomics

The Work of Our Own Hands

By James Clingman
NNPA Columnist

Can you imagine someone becoming a judge, a journalist, a businessman, and a physician, all in one lifetime? Certainly in today's economic climate, all of us should be so blessed to have two or more career paths just to pay for gasoline and food. But seldom do we hear of a person with such varied credentials

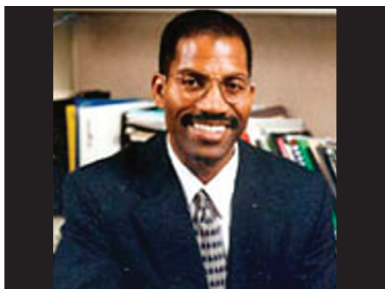
as those mentioned above, much less someone who is educated in more than one area. In light of the fact that we are, indeed, in a Knowledge-Based Economy, as Peter Drucker pointed out in his book, Post-Capitalist Society, it is important that we know how to do more than one thing; we must become generalists rather than specialists.

Martin Delany was such a man. Born in
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People In The News...



Dr. Stephen Jones



Elizabeth Felder



Na'Kisha Crawford

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Dr. Stephen Jones

Dr. Stephen Jones is an outstanding educator who has spent his career helping economically disadvantaged students to succeed in college. Dr. Jones received his Bachelors Degree in Community Psychology from Widener University, Masters in Education from Howard University, Masters in Business Administration from Philadelphia University, and a Doctorate in Education from Widener University. He has been

instrumental in helping thousands of students to realize their dream to earn a degree.

For twenty years, Dr. Jones has delivered presentations on numerous topics including how to study, leadership, effective communication, and innovative management practices. He is the author of a book titled "Seven Secrets of How to Study." The book provides an easy understanding of the seven pillars that are essential to

learning effective study techniques. After twenty years of working in higher education, he decided to create a tool to help students to achieve their goal to graduate. Working with students has enabled Dr. Jones to have a complete understanding of the challenges they are facing.

Dr. Jones is President of SAJ Publishing. He is also the Associate Dean for Students and Strategic Planning in the College of Engineering at Villanova University. For thirteen years he worked at Drexel

University as Director of the SUCCESS/ACT101 program. Dr. Jones has received numerous awards for his dedication to students. Some of his awards include Distinguished Toast Master, Toastmasters District Award Winner, National Society of Black Engineers Award and Black Engineer of the Year Award. The Drexel University chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers recently named an award after him to acknowledge his efforts. The award is titled the Dr.

Stephen Jones Award for Academic Excellence. It is presented to a student who has demonstrated academic excellence throughout their enrollment.

Dr. Stephen Jones has dedicated his life to diminishing the academic gap that prevents students from achieving their dreams. Within a span of twenty years he has used his understanding of students to help each of them to reach their full potential. He has reshaped the landscape for students whose families lack the financial



resources for their students to remain in college. He has broken the barriers that have limited the intellectual capacity of America's future workforce.

Elizabeth Felder

A native of Long Island, New York, Elizabeth Felder is regarded as one of the top 10 most powerful and engaging professional speakers on the speaking circuit today. Elizabeth Felder is a Certified Human Behavior Specialist, development consultant, motivational teacher, knowledge facilitator, youth and family strengthening expert, as well as a leadership development specialist.

She has appeared in the Business Journal, newspapers, local and national broadcasting around the nation. She is the SC State Secretary of Women-N-Power, and has affiliations with the Christian Women's Speakers Association, Women in Ministry Network and the Women's Evangelical Network, Inc.

In 2005, Elizabeth launched UnStoppable, LLC, a full-service empowerment firm dedi-

cated to empowering individuals and organizations to reach their highest potential and improve their performance. In addition, Elizabeth founded the UnStoppable Women & Teens, an organization that helps youth and women learn to rebuild their lives and empower them for greatness.

As a speaker, Elizabeth readily draws upon her extensive experience from over 20 years in corporate law, real estate and entrepreneurship. She is an



over-comer of the adversity of domestic abuse, abandonment, bankruptcy,

divorce and homelessness.

Elizabeth is also the highly acclaimed author of two books, including her best seller, UnStoppable Teen Power and UnStoppable Woman. Her books motivate and educate people to realize their own potential to achieve greatness.

Quite simply, Elizabeth Felder is recognized nationwide by meeting planners and coordinators to be their Speaker of the Year for 2008.

Elizabeth says' that

"Before the foundations of the earth, I was ordained that I would empower, encourage and exhort both Christians and non-Christians to live a full and abundant life". Her purpose is to teach people how to develop and enhance their life and their relationship with others. She is now committed to helping others move into their destiny and achieve there dreams. She wants you to know that your set-back is only getting you ready for a comeback.

Na'Kisha Crawford

Na'Kisha Crawford, M.Ed., Dip LC is widely recognized as a leading expert on personal growth and development and relationship building. As a best selling Author, Life Coach, Inspirational Speaker and Entrepreneur her goal is to inspire others to experience the journey and find happiness along the way. She has spoken to thousands of people from various backgrounds on topics that range from personal and professional growth to the development of healthy love and interpersonal relationships. With an interest in a more holistic approach to happiness, she strives to enable individuals to identify, clarify and define their own image of success so that they can create success in their relationships.

Her latest work, So Good It Hurts...The Pain. The

Fight. The Love. is an all inclusive journey of her love and relationship story over the past 10-15 years where she shares both her personal triumphs in relationships as well as her bad decisions in men and relationship circumstances. So Good It Hurts is ultimately about loving yourself, being true to who you are and what you deserve so that you are prepared to do the work necessary to be successful in any relationship.

Crawford's knowledge on her subject is thorough and her expression is opinionated and passionate. Her interview style is captivating to both interviewer and audience and she never fails to share inside tips and helpful ideas from which her audience can gain immediate benefit. She relates well to people from



several backgrounds and perspectives yet she remains true to herself.

Crawford holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology and a Master of Arts Degree in Education. Also a licensed Real Estate Broker and finance consultant, she is co-founder of a real estate investment and appraisal firm, serving as corporate officer and CEO.

In addition, she has taken on a variety of roles that

emphasize healthier and more positive lifestyles including being an expert life coach and national spokesperson for a Downy Simple Pleasures national campaign designed to improve the daily lives of working women. She has lectured collegiate level courses as well as written and implemented lesson plans for high school students. She has facilitated individual and group counseling sessions in addition to workshops on developing effective counseling techniques and she has conducted open forums for men and women on topics related to love and relationships. These experiences have provided her with critical knowledge about the possibility of overall success in relationships and in life.

Crawford's creative energy and passion drive her to keep pushing for-

ward to a healthy and balanced transition toward success. Her debut book, "I Want It Now!" made critical acclaim stamping her as a national bestselling

author and her sophomore project, So Good It Hurts, is sure to follow suit with her new dose of "Real Talk" on love.

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Where Do You Want To Go Today?

Publisher's Office:

Phone: (972) 516-2992

Fax: (972) 509-9058

publisher@northdallasgazette.com

Sales Department:

Phone: (972) 606-7498

Fax: (972) 509-9058

opportunity@northdallasgazette.com

Editorial Department:

Phone: (972) 516-2992

Fax: 1- (267) 569-4191

editor@northdallasgazette.com



Website: www.NorthDallasGazette.com



North Dallas Gazette

1100 Summit, Suite 101 • Plano, Texas 75074

Chairman Emeritus

Jim Bochum

Published By

Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Assistant To Publisher

Rosie Roberts

Office Manager

Production

Joshua C. Johnson
Randon Knighten

Special Projects Manager

Edward Dewayne
"Preacher Boy" Gibson, Jr.

Account Executive

Alinda Reyes
Faye Tsai

Religious/

Marketing Editor

Shirley Demus Tarpley

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Distribution

Integrity Distribution Company

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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, formerly Minority Opportunity News, was founded July, 1991, by Jim Bochum and Thurman R. Jones

You Own Undervalued Currency

By Farrah Gray
NNPA Columnist

It is interesting. I recently had an opportunity to meet a gentleman who served as 'Chaplain' for a cancer treatment ward of a major Los Angeles hospital.

He told me that he provided spiritual counsel to many people, from many different faith traditions, and from every economic strata...filthy rich to filthy poor. After further talking, we found each other interesting enough to sit down for a brief chat, which quickly turned into a most engaging conversation about 'Life Economics'.

As we talked, the chaplain looked out of the window toward the Hollywood hills and referred to the disease of cancer as 'the great common denominator'... bringing people who live at the top of hill, and those who lived at the bottom of it, together on one accord. I thought that was an interesting observation, and listened on.

The chaplain began unbosoming a sermon citing that he had made a profoundly great discovery about human beings.

Being a perpetual student of life, I of course had

to inquire. So, I did. The chaplain then slowly took a deep breath, relaxed his eyes, steadied his glare into mine and said... 'Farrah. We are all the same at death's doorway.'

Okay, admittedly, I didn't immediately think that this 'great discovery'. However there was something in the man's eye that made me listen deeper to what he was trying to say.

'I ask one question of every patient I see', he says. How do you feel you have spent your life's time? And how do you feel you might spend it differently if you are gifted with the opportunity?' What a question. The chaplain continued... 'Farrah. Not one of these people that I have counseled on their potential death beds have ever once expressed to me that they wished they had spent time making more money, or that they worked longer hours, or that they had spent more time in the office. Not one, Farrah. Not one. Yet in American life.

That is all that we do. We waste our life's time. And the richer they are, the more filled with regret their face is.' He said no more, and just left it at that. There was nothing but loud

silence.

I then peered out of the window onto the Hollywood hills, again seeing all of the expansive mansions in the distance; home too many of the rich and the famous that are celebrated daily. Then I thought of all patients up and down the hospital's hallways, and to let the curriculum of his lesson sink into my consciousness.

All of which made me focus with crystal clarity on the value and economics of Life-Time. It seems to me that at the beginning of life we are all (the poor and rich) given something similar to a trust-fund inheritance. Not an inheritance of money but something of greater value; an inheritance of time. And this life 'time' is like an account that we withdraw from until our time is done. But it is how we manage and invest this account of time that determines the quality of each segment of our lives.

And my questions to us...are we sure that we are managing this account wisely, or just simply spending this time haphazardly in pursuit of things that have no real value to us in the end?

I am a businessperson

like many. However, it is beneficial to us to remember that in our valiant quest for success and the acquisition of outer wealth, we supposedly do this only to increase the quality of our lives and the lives of our families.

We say often that we want financial freedom that we may spend more time with family members. But guess what? You are financially free to do that 'now'. Why? Because it costs you no money. It only costs us a little of the undervalued currency that we spend most of our lives improperly investing, until it totally runs out. Our 'time'. And today, as I reflect upon the many millionaires that the chaplain told me he watched die alone and self-alienated from their families, I wonder if they felt the 'means' justified 'the end' of their lives. I wonder if they felt rich as their money purported them to be.

I earnestly remind us...to spend the currency of your life's time wisely. The outer-wealth can not be taken with you. But the 'Inner Wealth' will be the net-worth of your soul itself.

DANCE, continued from page 1

"Texas Instruments Foundation is proud to be a sponsor of the summer educational outreach programs provided by Dallas Black Dance Theatre and we extend our best wishes for your continued success," states Jack Swindle, Chair Texas Instruments Foundation.

Two weeks of intensive training for Pre-Professional and Professional level teen and adult students are offered June 29- July 12, 2008 and will conclude with a showcase performance held at DBDT's Arts District Studios on July 12th at 1:00 p.m. The showcase is free and open to the public. Limited space and

reservations may be made by calling 214-871-2376.

Advanced level students will find themselves challenged by nationally recognized dance masters that include Mary Barnett, former associate artistic director for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre and modern dance instructor; Dr. Chuck (Baba) Davis, world-renown purveyor of African dance and customs; Dianne M. Grigsby, former dancer with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and dance instructor at Grambling State University and Louisiana State University who will instruct Liturgical dance

classes; Dr. Darwin Prioleau, chair and professor of dance at SUNY Brockport University and jazz instructor; and Chung-Lin Tseng, Taiwanese ballet master and artistic director of Ballet Center of Fort Worth.

In addition to area students that include Collin County Community College and Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing & Visual Arts, scholarships students are attending from Lincoln University, Norfolk State University and Columbia University as well as Florida, Arkansas and Tennessee to be a part of this exciting program.

Space is still available

for all classes. The "2008 Summer Intensive Professional Dance Workshop" begins this week and runs through July 12, 2008. Registration can be made by calling 214-871-2387.

In addition to the Summer Intensive Dance Workshop held at DBDT's Arts District Studios, Texas Instruments Foundation support includes DBDT's Summer Youth Enrichment Program for ages to 9-15 year held June 9-27, 2008 at its Arts District Studios, DBDT summer dance programs held for six DISD Schools Thomas Tolbert Elementary, Lagow Elementary, Lisbon Elementary, Harry Stone Montessori, R.L. Thornton Elementary, H. Grady.

Israel Debates Asylum for New Wave of Sudanese

NNPA

A new wave of refugees from the war in Sudan has landed in Israel where they are appealing to the Israeli government for asylum.

But proposed new legislation in Israel makes the African refugees subject to hefty prison sentences with especially tough sentences for those coming from enemy states, such as Sudan.

"We do not want our small country overrun by

an unending flood of desperate foreigners," the Jerusalem Post wrote in a recent editorial which also criticized the new immigration rules.

Majier Pap, representing the southern Sudanese refugees, argued: "We are South Sudanese, mostly Christians, persecuted by a regime of Muslim fundamentalists, who are bitter enemies of Israel - we are, to all intents and purposes, your allies."

African asylum seekers

have been crossing into Israel from the Egyptian Sinai since 2006 but their numbers have increased dramatically.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Ehud Olmert has floated the idea of a money offer to Ethiopia, Uganda, the Ivory Coast and Benin - all countries with diplomatic ties to Israel - to take the refugees. Little support has been expressed for the idea although none have rejected it outright.

MUGABE, continued from page 1

Moments after the results were announced on state TV, a marching band opened inauguration ceremonies for Mugabe at his official residence. Reporters already had been called to the ceremony.

The electoral commission said total results showed more than 2 million votes for Mugabe, and 233,000 for opposition candidate Morgan Tsvangirai. Turnout was put at about 42 percent, and 131,000 ballots had been defaced or otherwise spoiled, apparently as an act of protest.

Tsvangirai withdrew from the race because of the violence, though his name remained on the ballot and his supporters may have spoiled their ballots rather than vote for Mugabe.

Residents said they were forced to vote Friday by threats of violence or arson from Mugabe supporters who searched for anyone without an ink-stained finger - the telltale sign that they had cast a ballot.

In the opposition stronghold of Bulawayo, official results showed Mugabe got 21,127 votes and opposition candidate Morgan Tsvangirai had 13,291, while 9,166 ballots were spoiled.

A high number of

spoiled ballots had been noted earlier Sunday by Marwick Khumalo, a member of parliament from Swaziland who led a team of election observers from across the continent under the auspices of the AU-sponsored Pan-African Parliament.

Khumalo said some ballots were defaced with "unpalatable messages." He refused to elaborate, but left the impression the messages expressed hostility toward Mugabe, who has led the country since independence from Britain in 1980.

Tsvangirai won the most votes in the first round of presidential voting in March, but not enough for an outright victory. African mediators have in recent days been pushing for Mugabe and Tsvangirai to negotiate a power-sharing agreement.

Mugabe said on the eve of Friday's vote that he was open to talks but pressed ahead with the election, apparently hoping a victory would give him leverage at the negotiating table.

Khumalo, the observer, urged African and regional leaders to "engage the broader political leadership in Zimbabwe into a negotiated transitional settlement."

With the election dis-

credited and attention turning to the possibility of negotiations, the role of Mugabe in any future government could be a sticking point.

Tsvangirai said in an interview with The Sunday Telegraph of Britain that Mugabe might be allowed to stay on as ceremonial president of a transitional government, with himself as executive prime minister.

"It's being considered within our structures," the paper quoted Tsvangirai as saying.

Mugabe, 84, was once hailed as a post-independence leader committed to development and reconciliation. But in recent years, he has been accused of ruining Zimbabwe's economy and holding onto power through fraud and intimidation.

The official inflation rate was put at 165,000 percent by the government in February, but independent estimates put the real figure closer to 4 million percent.

Since the first round of elections, shortages of basic goods have worsened, public services have come to virtual standstill, and power and water outages have continued daily.

Church Hosts Health Screenings

Residents living in and around the Richardson, Texas, community can be screened to reduce their risk of having a stroke or heart attack.

Life Line Screening will be at the Richardson Church of the Nazarene on July 10th. The site is located at 2101 E Renner Rd in Richardson. Appointments will begin at 9:00 a.m.

Cardiovascular disease is the number one killer of both men and women in the United States.

Recommended baseline screenings include Stroke/Carotid Artery, Atrial Fibrillation,

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm and Peripheral Arterial Disease. The Carotid Artery screening uses ultrasound to identify blockages in the arteries in your neck, a leading cause of stroke. The Atrial Fibrillation screening checks for an irregular heart beat and the Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm screening looks for a ballooning of the largest artery in the body. Screening for Peripheral Arterial Disease checks for blockages in the arteries of the arms and legs, a condition that leaves the individual at 4-5 times higher risk

of heart disease.

Additional screenings can be added for a more comprehensive risk assessment and include C-Reactive Protein, a blood marker for vascular disease and diabetes; complete Lipid Panel including HDL/LDL and total cholesterol; Glucose, a measure of blood sugar level which can determine your risk for diabetes; and an ultrasound screening for Osteoporosis.

Pick any four screenings for \$140. All eight screenings for only \$199.

Shoestomakeadifference.com Launches Venture to Serve Children In Need

Shoestomakeadifference.com, a philanthropic venture dedicated to serving children who are sick or are at risk, has announced the launch of a program that will provide an exciting opportunity for their clients, and consumers who prefer top-of-the-line shoes, clothing, and handbags.

Shoestomakeadifference.com is an innovative consignment service designed to help individuals and distributors market and sell their high-end and hard-to-find shoes, clothing, handbags and accessories using the Internet.

Operating as consignor, Shoes to Make a Difference sells items such as Gucci, St. John Knits, Chanel, Jimmy Choo, Louis Vuitton, Manolo Blahnik, and other high-end designer items for a 50% consignment fee. A

portion of



organization's profits are donated to charities who deliver children social services. Clients who consign are also given the opportunity to donate as well.

"Shoes to Make a Difference benefits many charities of our choosing or charities designated by my clients. Clients will be able to go through their closet of designer fashions that they no longer wear and actually be able to make a difference in a child's life," stated LaTonya Wiggins, founder of 'Shoes to Make a Difference. "Part of the proceeds will benefit charities that are making a difference in children's lives. Anyone who consigns their designer wardrobe receives a commission and at the same time, makes a difference in a child's life. We would love the opportunity to earn your trust and show you

that we

will deliver the best service to you in the industry. On the website the first recipient Candace, born with Giant Congenital Nevus, a very rare skin disorder is highlighted.

One in more than 200,000 babies are born with a nevus of this considerable size located on the face. To date, Candace has had nine surgical procedures to remove the potentially cancerous skin from her face.

Through fundraising efforts, Candace is scheduled for her next surgery in Chicago at the end of July. However she will require two surgeries each year until she is 13. The approximate cost of expenses for each surgery is \$10,000. An organization like Shoes to Make a Difference is a great help to parents facing such daunting medical expenses.

Independence Day Events

A Classic Fourth with the Plano Symphony

Come casual, bring the whole family and enjoy your 4th in the cool comfort of the Eisemann Center. Hear all your patriotic favorites! Friday, July 4, 2008 at 3:00pm

Charles W. Eisemann Center.

Join Hector Guzman, Plano Men of Note and the Rich-Tone Chorus as we honor our country and the people dedicated to preserving our freedom. Come casual, bring the whole family and enjoy your holiday in the cool comfort of the Eisemann Center. Don't miss an afternoon of your patriotic favorites including "The Star Spangled Banner," "Stars and Stripes Forever," and much, much more, including the moving "Tribute to the Armed Forces!"

To order tickets call

(972) 473-7262

RED HOT DEAL at the Old Red Museum of Dallas County History & Culture

The Old Red Museum of Dallas County History & Culture is offering reduced admission to celebrate July 4th. On July 4th through

July 6th museum admission will be \$4.00 for everyone. That is a savings of \$4.00 for adults (1/2 price!); \$2.00 for seniors and \$1.00 for children. The \$4.00 admission covers both the general museum admission to the permanent galleries on the 2nd floor as well as the special temporary exhibit, The Civil War Through the Eyes of North Texans, on the 1st floor.

In between the outdoor barbeque and going to the fireworks show, spend

some time on this patriotic holiday at the Old Red Museum. The museum, which is located in what was formerly the Old Red Courthouse, sits on the very first block of Dallas platted by John Neely Bryan. The 6th Courthouse to stand on this block, Old Red has been restored to its 1892 splendor, complete with a 4-story grand staircase, marble hallways and graceful arches.

At the Old Red Museum of Dallas County History & Culture you can explore the past and experience all things uniquely Dallas. Relive the stories, people and events that created the Dallas of today. The Old Red Museum chronicles the vibrant story of Dallas County from pre-history to the present day. What better way to celebrate our proud nation by rediscovering the history of

our local area! Four galleries feature 41 touch screen kiosks, more than 1,000 artifacts and rare photographs, and specially commissioned films in each of the 4 theaters. The Crysta Charity Ball Children's Education Center is one of the few hands-on history centers in the country. Test your knowledge of Dallas history on the touch-screen computers.

Through August 17, a special exhibit, The Civil War Through the Eyes of North Texans, examines the Civil War from a mid-1800's North Texas perspective. What impact did the war have on North Texans? The exhibit explores the role North Texas played in the conflict: the men, women, technologies, innovations, records and aftermath of the Civil War and their long-lasting effects on Texas and this country's

history.

Highlights from the exhibit are 1) letters and personal correspondence between John Taylor Coit and his wife Catherine, 2) a Confederate uniform jacket with bullet holes and blood stains, 3) personal effects of soldiers such as dice and playing cards, 4) a Confederate fiddle, 5) children's dresses and clothing, 6) women's fashion accessories, 7) weapons such as handguns, cannon shot and more. Admission to this special exhibit is included in the \$4 per person July 4th weekend price.

The Old Red Museum of Dallas County History & Culture is located in the West End of downtown Dallas at 100 South Houston Street in the beautifully restored Old Red Courthouse built in 1892. Dedicated to inspire and educate vis-

itors about the rich and varied cultural, economic, political and social history of the Dallas County area, the 2nd floor of Old Red is filled with interactive exhibits, 41 touch-screen computers, an educational learning center and four mini-theatres. The special exhibit gallery is located on the first floor. Admission to The Civil War Through the Eyes of North Texans is included in general admission. General admission is \$8, children ages three to sixteen are \$5 and seniors are \$6. Admission to the Civil War exhibit without general admission is \$3 for adults and \$1 for children.

The museum's hours are Monday – Saturday, 9-5 p.m., Sunday Noon – 5 p.m.

For group reservations, corporate meetings/outings or weddings call



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Dallas Student To Study at Alvin Ailey, Camp Broadway in New York During Summer Break

The Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) and the Texas Cultural Trust announced Amber Barbee Pickens as a member of the 2008 Class of Young Masters. The Young Masters grant program provides exemplary art students in grades 8-12 with the financial help they need to pursue advanced study in the areas of visual arts, literature, music, theatre, dance and media arts. Ms. Pickens, one of 15 in the distinguished group, has demonstrated exceptional artistic talent in dance.

As one of the state's most talented artists, Ms. Pickens received the title of "Young Master" and was awarded a grant of \$2,500 to further her studies in dance. She has chosen to study dance at The Alvin Ailey School and in theater at Camp Broadway in New York during her summer break. She will be eligible to receive the grant for up to three

years. Ms. Pickens is part of the fourth class of Young Masters. The Trust and TCA have awarded 107 grants to 52 previous Young Masters, granting \$267,500 to aspiring artists prior to this year's class.

"These young artists were identified as Young Masters due to their phenomenal artistic ability as well as their dedication to developing their talents and knowledge in their chosen discipline," said TCA Chair Billye Proctor Show. "The Commission takes great pride in helping these young people like Amber become prominent artists of the next generation."

This year's class includes 15 students from across Texas. In order to be considered for the grant, students must be U. S. citizens living in Texas and participating in a school-based program, a summer institute, or a specialized course of study or receiving private

lessons from a qualified professional instructor. They must also maintain passing grades in all academic areas. Young masters were selected by a citizen panel of experts from across the state based on level of potential, level of commitment and quality of their proposed plan of action. Selection is sensitive to students who have potential yet may be underserved in their community due to financial need or geographic isolation.

The Young Masters program is made possible by generous contributions from AT&T Foundation, Applied Materials, Anheuser Busch Foundation, Burlington Northern Santa Fe, Emerson Electric, Debbie and John Montford of the Plum Foundation, Lt. Governor David Dewhurst, Mrs. W. D. Noel, Mr. George Mitchell, Ray C. Fish Foundation, Raytheon and Texas Women for the Arts.

Ms. Pickens is entering her sophomore year at Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. She currently take private lessons under the artistic direction of Ann Etgen and Bill Atkinson of Etgen-Atkinson School of Ballet in Dallas and has studied with Debbie Allen in Los Angeles. Her dream is to become an accomplished performer on Broadway and own an upscale boutique for girls. Ms. Pickens is the granddaughter of the late Mrs. Jessie M. Barbee and the daughter of Ms. Winsor Barbee and Mr. Zurek Pickens.

To contribute to the fundraising effort, please call The Marketing Collaborative at 469-222-6172.

COLLEGE CORNER

The Ron Brown Scholar Program

This program seeks to identify African-American high school seniors who will make significant contributions to society.

Applicants must excel academically, exhibit exceptional leadership potential, participate in community service activities and demonstrate financial need. The applicant must be a US citizen or hold a permanent resident visa card. Current college students are not eligible to apply.

Recipients may use the renewable scholarships to attend an accredited four-year college or university of

their choice within the United States.

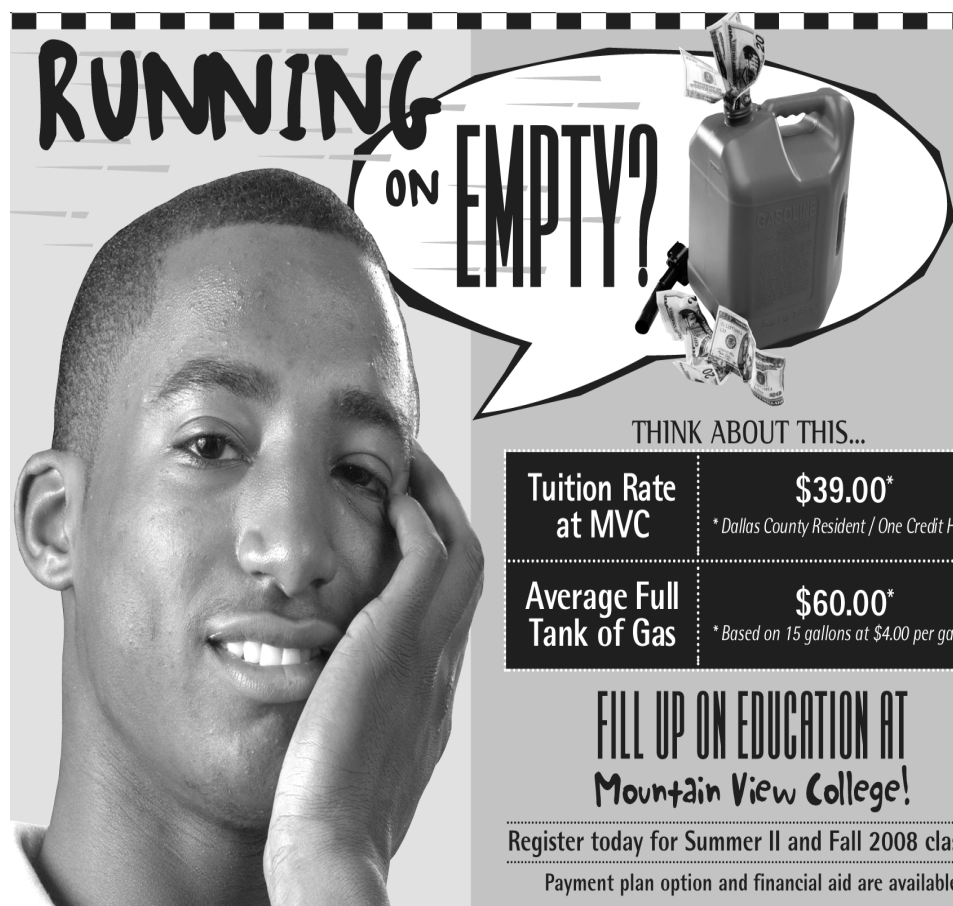
Ron Brown Scholarships are not limited to any specific field or career objective and may be used to pursue any academic discipline. More than 200 students have been designated as Ron Brown Scholars since the inception of the Program.

Award Amount :
\$10,000

Deadline:
November 1, 2008

Website/Contact Info:
www.ronbrown.org/ProspectiveScholars.aspx

Source:
Blackstudents.com



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Real Estate Council's Associate Leadership Council Renovates Oak Cliff Family YMCA

Late spring, thirty members of The Real Estate Council's Associate Leadership Council (TREC ALC) dedicated the Oak Cliff Family YMCA to an enthusiastic audience of 100. The ALC class donated approximately 1,000 volunteer hours—including the majority of physical labor—to refurbish the interior and exterior of this YMCA. The estimated cost of labor and supplies, if they were purchased, would be approximately \$120,000 in value.

ALC class member and crew leader Lisa Brinser of Courtland Development thanked her class for all working on the project, and she told everyone about the renovations. "This spring, the ALC class helped launch the series of major renovations planned at the Oak Cliff Family YMCA. Areas impacted included the lobby, childcare and afterschool spaces, kitchen, computer room/library, aerobics/fitness room, hallway and closets. Renovations included reconfiguring rooms, painting, demolition, space planning, replacing floors, updating the kitchen and appliances, adding new light fixtures, etc. Outside, the class replaced signage, added lighting and provided landscaping. Because the swimming program is such an integral part of the YMCA, in the pool area, our members also replaced the deck, installed shade structures, and landscaped."

Michael Brown, vice

president of operations for YMCA of Metropolitan Dallas, thanked TREC's ALC class. "We want to thank the entire TREC ALC class, and we have an attitude of gratitude for what you've done for us. We thank Terrance for

connecting us with the ALC class." He then presented Lisa Brinser with a staff shirt and hat as she was such an integral part of the renovations. "Lisa became part of the staff, and I want her to know that she can work for us anytime."



Photo credit: Steve Foxall. (Top) ALC Ribbon Cutting Michael Brown of the YMCA and Lisa Brinser, ALC member. (Right) ALC Carter High School Marching Band



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Cost: Free
Location: Richardson Civic Center
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- Health & Fitness
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Ongoing

African American Republican Club of Collin County meets 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7 pm (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 am-1 pm, 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 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 am - 12:30 pm 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.sharesouthwest.org.

Watermarks Invitational Exhibit runs through April 12th 9 am - 8 pm Mondays through Thursdays, 9 am - 5 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 pm - 7:15pm to 218-486-1616, Code 10984 (may change each week).

SUCCEEDING AT LIFE: "Developing the Winning Edge Community Success Series," free life-skills and personal-development workshops for ages 10 and older, 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesdays through Aug. 26, Gale Fields Recreation Center, 1701 Dairy Road. Register at www.davidlarricksmith.com or at the center.

PARENT SUPPORT: Group to help parents deal

with family problems meets 7:30 p.m. Mondays, First Presbyterian Church, 930 W. Ave. B., Garland, 214-356-3879 or www.standupp.org.

NEW LIFE NEW HOPE: Breast cancer survivors group meets 7 p.m. first Tuesdays, Room 103-105 of First United Methodist Church, 801 W. Ave. B. 972-272-3471.

STARGAZERS: Texas Astronomical Society sponsors free star parties with telescopes. First Saturdays on Jonandrea Lane, in Garland's SpringPark neighborhood. www.texasastro.org.

The Texas Renaissance Festival is located on FM 1774 between Magnolia and Plantersville, 45 minutes northwest of Houston. Group tours of the gardens and venues are held at 10 a.m. the first Saturday of each month, March through September. Private tours can also be pre-arranged by calling the festival office, 1-800-458-3435, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. For more information please call 1-800-458-3435, email Shelly Lee at weddings@texrenfest.com, or visit our newly renovated website at www.texrenfest.com.

July 4 Frisco Freedom Fest 2008 marks its seventh year as the city's premier, signature event! Just like the community, Frisco's July 4th celebration continues to grow! The family favorite 'Party in the Plaza', a soccer match between FC Dallas and the KC Wizards - plus the biggest fireworks extravaganza in North Texas and the MOTOWN sounds of five time, Grammy award winning "The Temptations" are the star attractions! Admission to Party in the Plaza activities is free. A Children's

Expo, complete with jump houses, face painting, strolling entertainers and games; plus the Hometown Heroes Exhibit, which showcases Frisco's finest - the men and women of our Police and Fire Departments, along with the equipment they use to help keep our community safe. The Taste of Frisco returns by popular demand! For more info visit, <http://www.friscofreedomfest.org/>.

July 5

July Jazz in Addison at Esplande Park, 5044 Addison Circle Drive in Addison. The Jazz will keep on playing from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. Admission is free, email webmaster@addisontx.gov for more info.

July 25

Barack Obama Turning Red to Blue Fundraiser event located at The Black Academy of Arts and Letters Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex 650 South Griffin Street, Dallas, 75202 from 6:00 - 11:00 p.m. For ticket or vendor information contact teresa@dfwobama.com now! For more details visit www.DFWObama.org.

August 9

4th Annual Women's No Limit Expo will feature vendors, health screenings, immunizations, and other useful information. The Women's No Limit Expo will last from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Richardson Civic Center, in Richardson, Texas 75080. Donations will be made to local charities. Also, the No Limit Network now meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Texas Land & Cattle Steak House, 3945 North Central Expressway, Plano 75023. Must RSVP at www.TheNoLimitNetwork.com or call Sylvia Williams at 972-898-5882. For exhibitor, sponsorship,

and advertising information, visit www.NoLimitExpo.com.

July 10

Black Women Lawyers Association of Tarrant County is hosting it's 2008 "Hotter Than July" Happy Hour benefiting the BWL Scholarship Fund. Thursday, July 10, 2008 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the YWCA of Fort Worth, 512 West 4th Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102. Tickets are \$10.00 each and may be pre-purchased. Call Maryellen Hicks at (817) 870-0182 or Kim Guy at (817) 536-5776.

August 13-16

National Sales Network's 12th Annual Conference and Career Fair will feature leadership workshops and live entertainment. The conference is located at the Fairmont Hotel in Dallas. Visit www.salesnetwork.org to register.

August 16

Keepin' It Real! Youth empowerment conferences this year will provide teens with an opportunity, during a one hour moderated panel discussion, to meet local leaders and to ask challenging questions of their own. Backpacking For Education is a program that supplies the attending teens with backpacks filled with school supplies and well wishes for a safe and productive school year. Additionally, some students will walk away with door prizes and all will receive giveaways from local and national corporations and small businesses. Keepin' It Real! 2008 will be held at Richland College, 12800 Abrams Road in Dallas, Texas. For more information on sponsorship opportunities, vendors, entertainment, or to register please visit <http://www.teengraffiti.com> or call Sharon Jones-Scaife at 972-496-

9457.

August 22-23

Sheryl Underwood will perform live at the Addison Improv at 4980 Belt Line Road #250, Addison, 75254. Admission to the event is \$22. Call 972-404-8501 for further details.

August 23

The Urban League of Greater Dallas presents the "B'Jeweled" Gala 2008 celebrating 41 years of service with the Urban League. The B'Jeweled Gala will feature live entertainment by WAR. The Gala will be located at the Hilton Anatole Hotel 2201 Stemmons Freeway, Dallas. For ticket information or further details call 214-915-4600.

August 27

12th Annual Government Procurement Conference offers all you need to know about doing business with Government Agencies (Federal, State & Local), along with their prime contractors and subcontractors! The Conference will take place on Wednesday, August 27, at the Arlington Convention Center 1501 Convention Center Drive, Arlington, 76010, from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

November 8

"When It Happens", a play about abuse, will be performed at The Plaza Theatre in Garland. Tickets will be \$10.00 pre-sale and \$15.00 at the door; for ticket info contact Lynda J. at 469-396-6881.

November 14

Murphy Enterprise Center Leadership Lunch the University of North Texas College of Administration Leadership Luncheon will be held at the Hilton Anatole Hotel, 2201 Stemmons Freeway, Dallas, 75207. Call 214-761-7500

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New super DART Rail vehicles make their debut as ridership reaches a new milestone

The June DART Board Report leads off with good news: "DART had its busiest month ever providing nearly 10.3 million trips in the month of May. Up more than 2.1% over May 2007, DART's fixed route ridership continued to benefit from higher gasoline prices." However, Randall Chrisman, DART Chairman of the Board points out that despite the high cost of gasoline, bus ridership is down 1.1% compared to the same time last year. The agency feels this is in due in part to neighborhoods with recent apartment teardowns, like Skillman and Walnut Hill Lane. Staff is reviewing the evolving demographic data in an effort to adjust routes appropriately.

To entice commuters concerned about the high cost of gasoline, DART has launched an aggressive advertising campaign to highlight the value of using public transportation.

The next generation of light rail vehicles is in service as DART begins

Key Facts

Super Light Rail Vehicles (SLRVs) seat approximately 25 more people than the standard DART Light Rail Vehicle (which seats approximately 75 and has capacity for up to 150 passengers seated and standing).

The SLRVs will allow passengers with disabilities – plus people with strollers, bicycles, etc. – to step or roll directly onto the trains without using mechanical lifts.

Each of DART's 115 light rail vehicles will be converted into super light rail vehicles (SLRVs) with the addition of the low-floor rail car insert.

It takes approximately five weeks to convert the LRV to an SLRV. From there it is turned over to DART staff for testing, modifications as needed, and final acceptance.

The SLRV and level boarding projects will be completed in support of the DART Rail Green

Line project, a 28-mile \$1.8 billion project which will open in stages starting in September 2009 and will be completed in December 2010.

The first phase of the Green Line is a four-station section connecting the current Pearl Station on the east end of Downtown Dallas with Fair Park and South Dallas. That section is scheduled to open in time for the State Fair of Texas in September 2009.

introducing the larger-capacity super light rail vehicle (SLRV). The first car began carrying customers on the Blue Line between Downtown Garland and Ledbetter stations during morning rush hour on June 23.

The modified cars are known as Super Light Rail Vehicles (SLRVs) because of the greater length and added passenger capacity. The SLRV will seat approximately 100 passengers compared with 75 on the current vehicles. Standing passengers on the

vehicle can nearly double the capacity.

The key is a new center section of the vehicles that adds seating capacity for about 25 more passengers and improves access through level boarding, which will allow passengers with disabilities – plus people with strollers, bicycles and the like – to step or roll directly onto the trains without using mechanical lifts. The newly modified cars will be placed in service as they are finished. The vehicle conversion is scheduled

for completion by the end of 2010.

Because the initial SLRVs are modifications of the current fleet of 115 LRVs, they also have another advantage: the inserts are less expensive than full-sized vehicles. However, DART will need to modify all current stations, except Victory Station, which was built to accommodate level-boarding at the time it was constructed. The platform work began in November 2007 and will continue for two years.

The SLRVs – designed in partnership with rail vehicle manufacturer Kinkisharyo of Osaka, Japan and are assembled at two DART facilities in Dallas. DART's first SLRV, Car #170, went into service on the Blue Line in 2002 as a prototype.

In the monthly public report provided by DART, it was noted sales tax receipts for April were up 8.36% over April 2007. Year-to-date the agency is 6.48% ahead of last year. April receipts were up 3.15% better than budget,

and year-to-date DART is 2.5% (\$5.8 million) ahead of budget. This great news is tempered by the rising fuel costs.

It is standard for travel entities such as Southwest Airlines, and DART to secure a fixed price for their fuel by purchasing contracts months in advance. DART's contract price for bus diesel has broken through the \$4 per gallon ceiling. DART and as a result they are now paying more than \$4.10 per gallon. This is the latest benchmark in the dramatic price increases experienced over just the last 12 months. According to the DART report, other transit agencies around the nation are dealing with the same issue and are responding with a mix of fare increases and service cuts. However, they feel that thanks to the natural gas excise tax rebate the agency currently benefits from, they currently do not have to resort to such measures at this time but they reserve the option to consider alternatives in the future.

Judge allows Snipes to travel to England, Thailand

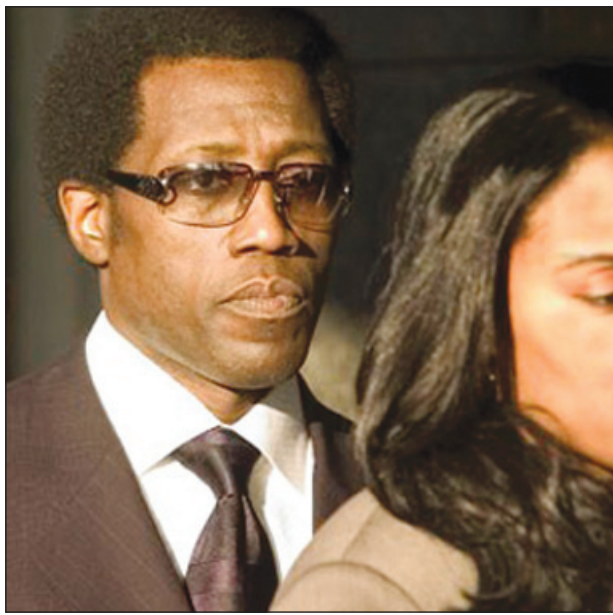
Associated Press

Hello London, good-bye IRS.

A federal judge today granted permission for movie star Wesley Snipes to travel to England this month and to Thailand in September while defense lawyers appeal his tax convictions and fight to keep the vampire-hunting hero of "Blade" out of prison.

Over objections from federal prosecutors, Senior U.S. District Judge William Terrell Hodges will allow Snipes to complete post-production work on the horror movie, "Gallowalker" in London and to star as an FBI agent in "Chasing the Dragon," an action film set in Bangkok.

Defense lawyer Daniel Meachum said Snipes, 45, who was allowed to travel



overseas while his case was pending, has proven that he is not a flight risk.

But prosecutors pointed out that Snipes' "motivation to return to the United States has changed drastically" with a 36-month prison sentence hanging

over his head for failing to file federal tax returns for 1999, 2000 and 2001 when he earned more than \$13 million.

They also noted his travel request for Thailand is less specific than for London, where he is to

work from July 13-17.

"It would be one thing to allow (Snipes) to travel across the Atlantic for a brief and defined period of time to finish a project that is nearly complete," prose-

cutors said in their written opposition filed in federal court. "It would be another to allow (him) to spend two months - likely more - beginning a new project half-way around the world

with an open-ended return date."

The actor estimates he would be in Thailand for about eight weeks beginning Sept. 8, according to court records.

JumpStart for Arts at the Art Centre of Plano



by
Rick Elina

Ask any kid what summertime means and the answer will invariably be the same. Summertime means fun time! The Art Centre of Plano is doing their part to see to it that a fun time is exactly what area youths will experience in their annual JumpStart for Art summer event.

Karis Jones, Exhibition and Event Coordinator, for The Art Centre of Plano, says, "JumpStart for Arts is a free summer program specifically designed for

children who might not have the opportunity to attend a summer camp or an after school arts lesson. These children most often are from families with the greatest need. Through JumpStart we offer Art, Dance, Music and Drama to children 8 - 15 years old. This unique program is sponsored by a grant from the City of Plano."

The majority of kids who attend this camp have not experienced a program like this. Many are only exposed to limited amounts of music and art through the public school system. This is the ArtCentre of Plano's sixth summer to receive the grant and provide this amazing program to the deserving children in Plano.

Each summer the ArtCentre also chooses an exhibition to hang in the gallery specifically with children in mind. This sum-

mer the exhibition is sampler: Julio Suarez - a bright, colorful look at Julio's world. His work is reminiscent of Matisse and Picasso and will be on display at the ArtCentre through August 16th.

The ArtCentre of Plano, Inc., formerly known as the Cultural Arts Council of Plano, Inc., was founded in 1981 as a private non-profit organization to promote growth and development of emerging community arts groups. The mission of The ArtCentre of Plano, Inc., is to encourage, support, and promote excellence, diversity, and vitality in the arts and arts education in the Greater Plano area.

To enroll in JumpStart or to find out more information please call 972-423-7809 or pick up an enrollment form at the ArtCentre of Plano located in the N.W. corner of Ave K and 15th in historic downtown.

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Come one hour early to meet our animals and performers at the **All Access Pre-show - FREE** with your ticket!

Business Basics for Entrepreneurs Seminars Planned in July

The PLAN Fund is pleased to announce the date of its upcoming business training class "Business Basics for Entrepreneurs." This class combines financial management and other key business concepts, such as Marketing, Forecasting, Cash Flow, Pricing, and Business Planning. Upon completion of the training class students will receive

a PLAN Fund certification and become eligible for program membership, access to business loans and networking events.

The PLAN Fund, a non-profit organization whose mission is to assist entrepreneurs in achieving success in starting and/or expanding their small business, Hamilton Park United Methodist Church and the Hispanic

Chamber of Dallas partnered together to offer entrepreneurs a way to increase their standard of living, create jobs for the community and achieve their dreams of supporting themselves in a small business.

The events are scheduled at Hamilton Park United Methodist Church, 1881 Schroeder Rd, Dallas 75243: July 12, 19,

26 from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. and at the Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, 2060 Singleton Blvd, Ste 102, Dallas 75212: July 12, 19, 26 from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The cost is \$35.00 early registration; \$40.00 late registration. You can register at www.planfund.org or call Marisol Montonya at 214-942-6698

Free Online Training and E-Book On Small Business

In a time of economic difficulties for American families and businesses, banks and financial institutions are doing less and less to help. Just recently MSNBC news reported that credit card companies are decreasing and canceling the spending limits of millions of their credit card holders.

In addition, banks have tightened up their criteria for applicants applying for mortgage, signature and business loans - so much, that denied applications are at a record high.

The Global Institute of Small and Minority Business Grants has created a web site, Business-Grants.com, to help education entrepreneurs about their options for business grants. Grants are monetary aids given to business owners and entrepreneurs by non-profit organizations, private corporations, and local and federal government agencies.

The web site, accompanied with a free e-book, offers free training about business grants, and targets small business owners of any ethnic background and minority business owners that are African American, Hispanic, Asian, and Native American. Essentially, the training was created for everyone that is not an owner of a large corporation.

The web site offers a

detailed discussion of what business grants are, why they exist, how to find them, how to apply for them, and what the potential disadvantages are. It also features a listing of valuable resources (organizations, books, etc.) for individuals that are interested in obtaining a business grant.

The site utilizes compelling video clips, pictures, diagrams, and flow charts, to help individuals who learn better visually.

Interested ones can access the free training and e-book by visiting: www.business-grants.com.

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

Critical Career Networking Tips:

These job-search career networking tips -- how to build and strengthen your network, the power of informational interviews and networking, and more -- have been gathered from numerous sources throughout Quintessential Careers and organized here for your convenience.

To understand the importance of networking, it's helpful to examine how people get their jobs. The U.S. Department of Labor says that only about 5 percent of people obtain jobs through the "open" job market --consisting primarily of help-wanted ads on the Internet and in print publications. Another 24 percent obtain jobs through contacting companies directly -- the cold-contact method of job-hunting.

Twenty-three percent obtain jobs through such means as employment agencies, college career-services offices and executive-search firms.

The remaining 48 percent -- nearly half of all jobhunters, obtain their jobs through referrals -- that is word of mouth.

How do they get referrals and find out about jobs through word of mouth? By networking.

Because communication is growing increasingly global, a person's career network can include persons from a much larger geographic area, observed career development therapist Janet Scarborough in the Q&A interview she did with Quintessential Careers. "This expansion can be really exciting and fun. I would not have met [QuintZine editor] Kathy Hansen, for instance, if I had not participated in ProfessionalJobTalk, a networking forum for career-development professionals. The Internet also offers a tremendous opportunity for free agents and entrepreneurs to sell their products and services directly to consumers. When I first began my career counseling practice, I built a simple Web site. Most of my first clients found me via the Web. It was a rewarding, inexpensive way for me to start my business," Scarborough notes.

One of the best sources of networking contacts for

college students is the guest speakers that come to talk to your classes. These professionals are a vast untapped resource. One of our students who was interested in a career in pharmaceutical sales went up to a guest speaker from that industry after the presentation and introduced herself. She asked the pharmaceutical rep if she could send him her resume. He agreed, and she kept in touch with him throughout the next semester before she graduated. By the time she claimed her diploma, she had lined up a \$40,000 a year job with the drug firm.


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COMMUNITY, continued from page 1

safe and cleaner, strengthen our schools and hospitals and even help lead our local governments," she added.

Here are some ways you and your family can work to improve your community:

* First of all, tune in, stresses Ficalora. Learn what's going on in your community, your world and your government. Think about what things you would like to improve and find out if others are working to improve these same areas. Either join their groups or start your own.

* Buy from local stores. Local stores and businesses pay taxes that help the

neighborhood and community. They advertise locally and help the economy where you live. Also, buying locally helps the environment by reducing energy consumption necessary to transport goods over long distances. So look to local stores and farms for groceries and other goods.

* Move your money into community banks that contribute to your neighborhood, state and region. Since we all need to have bank accounts, why not establish them in places that help your hometown?

** Vote in local and national elections. Pay attention and question the motivation of authorities. Consider giving your time

to a local campaign or cause, or even running for office. Remember, you can voice your opinion not just about things that are wrong, but about how to fix them. Find out where your local tax dollars are going and get involved to help ensure they are directed to needy causes - be they local schools, emergency rooms, law enforcement, roads, etc.

These are only a few ways to get started strengthening your community and the country. For more ideas, read Ficalora's new book "Choosing Honor," available at bookstores or online at www.availpress.com.

GENERALISTS, continued from page 1

ing, and understanding that to whom much is given much is required, are good places to start. We should also teach our youth that no matter their station in life, no matter their resources, no matter the barriers they face, they can make it. And last but not least, we should teach them about the legacy left by their ancestors, and instill in them the fact that they are standing on the shoulders of strong determined Black people; therefore, they have an obligation that rises far above self-aggrandizement and self-absorption.

As I have said many times, all the lessons we need, all the knowledge we need to succeed in this country and in this world as it exists today, lies in the accomplishments of our ancestors, especially in the area of economic empowerment. The "struggles" we face today pale in comparison to what our people went through during their early existence in

America. So let's stop the negative behavior and get busy with a lot more positive behavior, heeding the lessons along the way.

Marcus Garvey said, "The Negro must be up and doing if he will break down the prejudice of the rest of

the world. We must strike out for ourselves in the course of material achievement, and by our own effort and energy present to the world those forces by which the progress of man is judged." Garvey also admonished, "Whatsoever you want in life you must make up your mind to do it for yourself and accomplish it for yourself, and then God will bless the effort, because He will realize that you are using your intelligence for the best."

Now to whom are you going to listen? Marcus Garvey, Martin Delany, Ida B. Wells, Maria Stewart? Or, will you follow those who would keep you in one place, doing one thing, and never reaching your full potential? Who knows? Maybe you or your child could be the next Delany - multi-talented, multi-skilled, and determined to use your resources to help Black people. If our ancestors could do it in the 1800's surely we can do even more today.



IN-TUNE Youth Mentoring

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

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, Alcoholism & Drug Addiction, Teenage Pregnancy & Self Preservation, etc.

Lake Highlands Recreation Center 9940 White Rock Trail, Dallas, Texas "Presents" N2NE Basketball and Soccer League. Registration deadline is May 24th 2008. Registration fee: \$25.00 per youth. League starts June 7th -July 31st We are in need of referee's and coaches for our league if you are interested please send your resume to one of the following: Rich_etta@n2ne-ym.com, penny@n2ne-ym.com, or kdedmon@cokece.com



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



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LEGAL NOTICE

This Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off game will close on June 30, 2008. You have until December 27, 2008, to redeem any tickets for this game:

Game #1055 Loteria® Texas (\$3) Overall Odds are 1 in 3.87

These Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off games will close on July 14, 2008. You have until January 10, 2009, to redeem any tickets for these games:

Game #779 \$50,000 Maximum Payout (\$5) Overall Odds are 1 in 3.52

Game #811 \$100,000 Golden Ticket (\$10) Overall Odds are 1 in 3.34

Game #825 \$1 Million Extravaganza (\$20) Overall Odds are 1 in 2.87

Game #834 Money Mania (\$10) Overall Odds are 1 in 3.35

Game #1007 Big Riches (\$5) Overall Odds are 1 in 3.55

Game #1013 Wild Card Cash (\$2) Overall Odds are 1 in 4.33

Game #1016 \$1 Million Holiday Winnings (\$20) Overall Odds are 1 in 2.87

Game #1023 The Flintstones™ (\$2) Overall Odds are 1 in 4.10

Game #1038 I Love Lucy™ (\$2) Overall Odds are 1 in 4.24

Game #1045 Texas NBA (\$5) Overall Odds are 1 in 3.84

This Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off game will close on July 21, 2008. You have until January 17, 2009, to redeem any tickets for this game:

Game #1034 Winning in 3's (\$3) Overall Odds are 1 in 3.95



The odds listed here are the overall odds of winning any prize in a game, including break-even prizes. Lottery retailers are authorized to redeem prizes of up to and including \$599. Prizes of \$600 or more must be claimed in person at a Lottery Claim Center or by mail with a completed Texas Lottery claim form; however, annuity prizes or prizes over \$999,999 must be claimed in person at the Commission Headquarters in Austin. Call Customer Service at 1-800-377-LOTTO or visit the Lottery Web site at www.txlottery.org for more information and location of nearest Claim Center. The Texas Lottery is not responsible for lost or stolen tickets, or for tickets lost in the mail. Tickets, transactions, players, and winners are subject to, and players and winners agree to abide by, all applicable laws, Commission rules, regulations, policies, directives, instructions, conditions, procedures, and final decisions of the Executive Director. A Scratch-Off game may continue to be sold even when all the top prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 years of age or older to purchase a Texas Lottery ticket. PLAY RESPONSIBLY. The Texas Lottery Supports Texas Education. © 2008 Texas Lottery Commission. All Rights Reserved.

Church Happenings

DAYSTAR DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES

July 12, 1:30 – 3 pm

Come to Helen's House to receive, to give, and most of all to fellowship. This give-away of food and household items is open to all those who could use a little touch in the D/FW Metroplex.

That time is here again! Come receive, if you are in need; the Touch Ministry's Helen's House Pantry give-away @ the church.

DayStar Deliverance Ministries
WIT (Women in Transition)
Apostle Minnie Hawthorne-Ewing, Senior Pastor
635 W. Campbell Road, Suite 210
Richardson, TX 75080
972-480-0200

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN

July 12, 11 am-1 pm

Bring the children and join us for Summer fun @ the Garden Gate Apartments in Plano. There will be food, fun, bounce houses and much more.

July 19, 2008

You don't want to miss our 3rd Annual 2008 Joycie Turner Scholarship Celebrity Golf Tournament for a Best Ball Scramble with Teams of Four captioned by a former/current NFL or NBA player @ the Golf Course in Allen, TX. All proceeds are awarded to high school seniors in the form of college scholarships. Call Pastor Stafford for details and to register.

July 23-25, 6:30 pm

Join us for our exciting VBS @ the church.

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK (FIRST CHURCH)

July 11-12, 6 pm

Young Ladies of Purpose Retreat for ages 12-20 @ Lakeview Conference Center in Waxahachie, Texas, call the church for details.

July 11-September 12, 7 pm
On Friday Nights Our

Athletic Ministry Bowling nights @ the AMF Bowling Center in Richardson, Texas and you're invited.

July 13, 3 pm

Come to worship and praise God with First Independence Church, Rev. Donald Lacey is the pastor.

July 20, 4 pm

Come to worship and praise God with New Millennium Baptist Church and Pastor Jimmy Slater.

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

HOPEWELL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

July 12, 12 Noon-4 pm

You are invited to our FREE Annual Church and Community Picnic as we celebrate 80 years of service to the community. The wholesome fellowship, games, entertainment, food and fun will be at

the Juanita Craft Park & Recreation Center, 4500 Spring Avenue, Dallas, TX 75210. For details call LaTrisa Edwards @ 214-215-2654.

Hopewell MBC
Rev. Michael Hubbard,
Pastor
5144 Dolphin Road
Dallas, TX 75223
214-823-1018

MT. HEBRON BAPTIST CHURCH IN GARLAND

July 7-11, 2008

You don't want to miss our 13th Annual International Conference on Expository Preaching @ the Fairmont Hotel. Call 972-708-9979 for details

Mt. Hebron Baptist Church
(The Mount) in Garland
Rev. Leonard O. Leach,
Senior Pastor
1233 State Highway 66
Garland, TX 75040
972-276-5218

NEW BELIEVERS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

July 7-9, 7 pm

Join us for a glorious time in the Lord as we celebrate our

9th Church Anniversary. For information or directions call 469-254-5765.

New Believers Missionary Baptist Church
Bishop Veynell Warren
Pastor
3523 E. Overton Road
Dallas, TX 75216
214-486-9198

NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Wednesdays, 12 Noon-1 pm

You are invited to our "TEE TIME" a Bible Study during lunch. Bring your lunch and a friend to study God's Word @ our Sherman Campus Fellowship Hall. Pastor Roche Coleman, Th.M. is the dynamic teacher

North Dallas Community Bible Fellowship Church
Dr. Leslie W. Smith,
Senior Pastor
1010-1020 S. Sherman
Street
Richardson, TX 75081
972-437-3493

PILGRIM REST BAPTIST CHURCH

July 2-3, 7:30 pm Nightly

We invite you to our 2008 Summer Revival with our featured speaker, Dr. Ralph D. West, Church Without Walls, Houston, Texas. For information call 214-823-7308 or 214-823-1419.

Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church
Dr. Curtis W. Wallace
Senior Pastor
1819 Washington Avenue
Dallas, TX 75204
214-823-7308

PRAYER FAST INTERNATIONAL

July 11-12, 2008

Join us for our 2008 Conference, "Sweep Your House" & "Sweep Your Soul" hosted by Prophet Dominique Josué @ the Hilton Gardens - Dallas Center, 2325 N. Stemmons Freeway, Dallas, TX. To register, for directions, registration fees and admission to workshops, call 972-576-5387.

Prayer Fast International Ministries
Prophet Dominique Josué
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972-576-5387

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11:00 am: Morning Worship

MONDAY

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11:00 AM
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Allen, TX 75002

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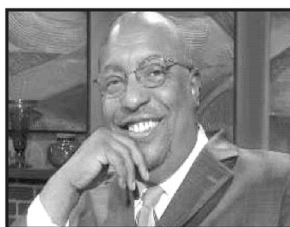
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Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.

Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 A.M.

Wednesday Night-
Community Bible Class 7:30 P.M.



Tarpley: Hearing from God



Sister Tarpley

Someone asked, "How do God speak to individuals when they pray for an answer?" When praying to God about a decision, how they can be sure when God answers them.

This reminded me of a conversation that I had with a teacher of my daughter, Minister Sheila Tarpley Lott, when she was in Junior High School in Carrollton. We were praying about a problem in her life at the time. She said, "I just wish that I could make an appointment with God; sit across from His desk and talk to Him." I smiled and told her that God was closer to her than sitting

across from a desk. God speaks to us in various ways; ways that we can understand Him and what He is saying to us. He said to be still and know that I am God.

It has been said that there is a pattern in the way God speaks to us when we are faced with any decision, especially major decisions in our life. First we must spend time seeking direction from God and ask Him to speak to us regarding our decision. Next we need to spend time in prayer and the Word of God (Bible study.) Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: **John 10:27 (KJV).**

God's Word also says, "For though we walk in the

flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled. **2 Corinthians 10:3-6 (KJV).**

With so many ungodly things going on in our society today. Trouble on every hand (short temples, loss of jobs, loss of homes, road rages, domestic violence, fights with neighbors, friends and children, killings, stealing, etc.) We

must not become impatient while waiting for God's answer; ask God to rebuke every evil thought that comes to our mind. To tear down every stronghold in our life, and to help us to bring captivity to the obedience of His Word. We need to ask for His help to overcome and to rise up above all that pulls us down. We want to soar like Eagles and have sweet fellowship with Him.

Something to Ponder:

In God's Holy Word we read that His grace is sufficient to meet every need. This becomes clear when trials come (as they will) and we pray continually. It's at these times that we need to call on Him, bowing in complete submission on bending knees. We can then become His softened



Picture of The Week Sis. Ora Roberts is dress up for an "Old Fashion 5th Sunday" @ Love Chapel COGIC, Elder Philip White is the pastor.

clay ready for molding, as we pray humbly. Remember that heartaches, tragedies, disappointments and pain are the Potter's

(God's) tools for our Spiritual gain.

Whatever hardships we encounter each day only conform us to His will and His way. God walks with us as we go through it all—Many times carrying us, lest we should fall. Have you read the poem, "Footsteps in the Sand?" It speaks of seeing only one set of steps when the trials and tribulations were of their greatest pain.

The truth that we simply believed before, now become a reality. Then we know more fully what it's all about—God's grace is sufficient, without a doubt. "My grace is sufficient for thee; for my strength is made perfect in weakness. **2 Corinthians 12:9.**

Potter's House Joins The Angel Food Ministries Network

With the cost of food escalating, The Potter's House offers a means to help stretch the household food dollar. Beginning in July, The Potter's House, along with The Way Ministries, will facilitate a food assistance program where for \$30 a family of four will receive a week's worth of groceries valued at \$75.

This program is available through the Angel Food Ministries, a non-

profit, non-denominational organization that provides food to all people regardless of background, income, race, etc. Interested persons pay the fee for a basic box of food which contains name brand, fresh and frozen food items. Orders are then picked up at the church at a designated day and time. According to Elder Roger Haley,

The Potter's House Volunteer Department

Director, "With this tight economy, requests for food assistance has increased. We had to devise a way to ensure children, seniors and others received help. Angel Food Ministries proved to be the way. Their program offers double the food for the cost and is open to everyone. We are happy to offer this service to the community."

This program is open to

our members and the community at large, and various forms of payment, including food stamps, are accepted. For more information please contact The Way Ministries at (972) 224-1367.

Food orders will be taken the first and second Sunday and Wednesday of every month.. Food will be distributed the last Saturday of every month.

Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church

The Rock

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



Rev. Robert Townsend, Pastor



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Worship Services

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

Office Hours

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

Contact Info

Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church
11611 Webb Chapel Road • Dallas, TX 75229
Office: 972-241-6151
Email: info@dallasmtpisgah.org
Website: www.dallasmtpisgah.org

Virtues of A Redeemed Life: A Study of the Fruits of the Spirit

"TEE TIME"

Bible Study During Lunch

Bring your lunch and fellowship with us around the word of God.



When: Each Wednesday beginning May 14, 2008
Where: Sherman Campus Fellowship Hall
Time: 12:00 ~ 1:00 p.m.
Teacher: Pastor Roche Coleman, Th.M.

North Dallas Community Bible Fellowship
1020 S. Sherman St. | Richardson, TX 75081 | 972.437.3493 ext.100 | www.ndcbf.org
Dr. Leslie Smith, Senior Pastor
For more information e-mail: Roche Coleman at rcoleman@ndcbf.org

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Pastor Terrence Autry

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Wednesday Bible Study - 7:30 pm

Friendship Baptist Church

4396 Main Street The Colony, Texas 75056
(972) 625-8186
website: www.fbc-online.net

Schedule of Services:

Sunday
Early Morning Worship-8:00 a.m.
Sunday School Classes-9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship-11:00 a.m.

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"

Ford Seeking Recent HBCU Graduates

Ford is offering up the road trip of a lifetime to two recent Historically Black College & University (HBCU) graduates as part of its 2008 Black College Road Trip. Dubbed "Roadies," the graduates will travel 13,000 miles across the U.S. for 92 days, in an

all-new 2009 Ford Flex customized by Funkmaster Flex. They will visit HBCU Football Classic games in cities like Atlanta, New Orleans and Memphis while showing off the Flex and their HBCU pride. This marks Ford's eighth year of kicking off the program and the Ford Flex's

debut on the "ultimate road trip."

While on the road, they will serve as Ford community ambassadors as they engage in activities within the local community and share stories about their own HBCU experience. They will also visit various African American histori-

cal landmarks and partner with key community organizations like the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

At the games, the Roadies will participate in on and off field activities like pre-game parades, step-shows and halftime updates.

Crystal Greene,

Sponsorships & Diverse Markets Manager for Ford says, "We are looking forward to having the chance to work with some of the most talented HBCU graduates who embody the Ford personality with their positive, can-do attitudes, commitment to servicing the community and keen interest in the HBCU com-

munity.

Interested applicants must be energetic, preferably possess a background in communications or a related field and be eager to get their careers rolling with the 2008 Ford Black College Road Trip. For more information or to apply, please visit www.fordurban.com



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



Avenue F Church of Christ

1026 Avenue F • Plano, TX 75074 • 972-423-8833

"Striving Towards the Pearly Gates in 2008"

(Revelation 22:14)

Early Sunday Morning 8:00 am

Sunday Bible Class 9:45 am

Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 am

Men Bible Class 5:00 pm

Women Bible Class 5:00 pm

Evening Worship 6:00 pm

Wednesday Bible Class 7:00 pm

Radio Program @ 7:30 am on KHVN 970 AM Sunday Mornings

Ramon Hodridge, Minister

www.avefchurchofchrist.org

Temple of Faith Christian Chapel C.M.E. Church



Dr. Jerome E.
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templeoffaith_cme@sbcglobal.net (Email)

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The Inspiring Body of Christ Church



Pastor Rickie Rush

7710 S. Westmoreland Rd.

Dallas, Texas 75237

Phone: 972-572-4262 Fax 972-709-3888

Sunday Services: 7:30 am, 10 am, 12:30 pm

Monday School: 7:00 pm

Men's Fellowship: Friday 7:00 pm

Website: www.ibocjoy.org



Dr. Leslie W. Smith,
Senior Pastor

NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

"A Spiritual Oasis for a Thirsty World" Isaiah 55:1

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES:

7:30 AM • 9:30 AM • 11:30 AM

972-437-3493

1010-1020 South Sherman Street • Richardson, TX 75081

www.ndcbf.org

New Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Dallas

Sunday Service

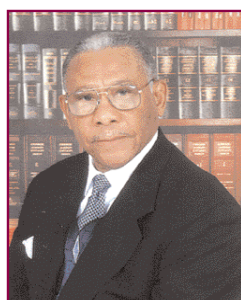
Morning Worship
7:30 am & 10:30 am
9:00 am Sunday School

Monday Service

Men's Ministry 7:00 pm
Women's Ministry 7:00 pm
Young Adult Ministry 7:00 pm

Wednesday Service

Intercessory Prayer 6:15 pm
Bible Study 7:00 pm



Dr. Robert E. Price, Sr.
Senior Pastor

A Praying Church Family
"Watchmen on the Walls"

214-341-6459 (Phone) • 214-342-8403 (Fax)

9550 Shepard Road
Dallas, TX 75243

www.nmzb.org (Website) • newmzbc@aol.com (Email)

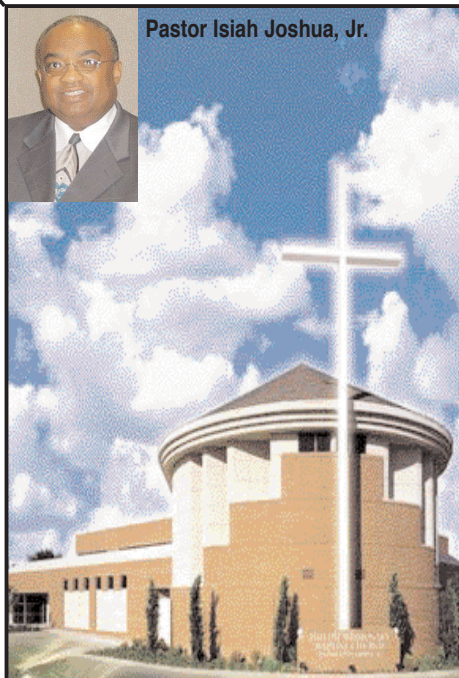
Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church

920 E. 14th Street Plano, TX



Pastor Isiah Joshua, Jr.

FANNING THE FLAMES OF OUR FAITH



FANNING THE FLAMES OF OUR FAITH

Sunday Worship Services 8AM & 11AM

Sunday

9:45AM Sunday School

Monday

7PM Youth, Brotherhood, Mission
& Young Adult Ministries

Tuesday

7PM Bible Study & Men's Choir


Wednesday

7PM Mid-Week Service

Thursday

7PM Mass Choir


For more information call (972) 423-6695
www.shilohbaptistchurch.org




Worship Services
7:30 am & 10:30 am

Sunday School
9:30 am

Wednesday
Night Service
8:00 pm



Dr. Gregory Foster Senior Pastor



Rev. Anthony Foster Pastor

Our Mission

To fulfill The Great Commission until Christ comes.


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK

300 Phillips Street • Richardson, TX 75081 • 972.235.4235 • www.fbchp.org

PromiseLand Television Network Broadcast - KTAQ-TV

"WALKING IN THE WORD"


Weekly 30 minute broadcasts, each Saturday at 5pm and Sunday at 4pm



Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church

1308 Wilcox Street, McKinney TX

Pastor Charles S. Wattley



Sunday

Education Ministries - 9:30 a.m. • Worship Celebration - 11:00 am.

- Nursery Facilities Available -

Wednesday Family Ministries... 7:00 p.m.

Friendly Fellowship with A Family Focus

For More Information Call 972.542.6178

www.saintmarkbc.com • stmarkmissionary@aol.com