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First Black
Woman Aviator**

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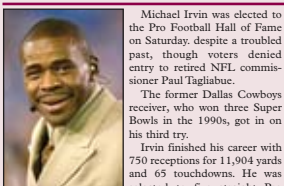


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**People In
The News**



Michael Irvin was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame on Saturday, despite a troubled past, though voters denied entry to retired NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue. The former Dallas Cowboys receiver, who won three Super Bowls in the 1990s, got in on his third try. Irvin finished his career with 750 receptions for 11,904 yards and 65 touchdowns. He was selected to five straight Pro Bowls and picked for the NFL's all-decade team of the 1990s. "It's such a great honor," he said. "It's an honor you cannot reach without playing on a bunch of great football teams and playing with some great guys. I started out playing here in Fort Lauderdale... I played college up the street at the University of Miami. I was blessed also to play with the Dallas Cowboys. "You can't play at three better stops than that," he said. Irvin thanked Cowboys owner Jerry Jones and referred to Aikman as "my very favorite, my quarterback. From Aikman... he's always in my corner and I thank him for being in my corner all the time."

Candace Watson's experience is a crash course in life's realities. After surviving two abusive relationships, Candace decided at age 23 to move from New Jersey to California with dreams of becoming a rap star. During a visit home, she lost her mother to illness. Later, while doing performances on television, Candace again experienced tragedy when her best friend was murdered. That was followed by an unplanned pregnancy and the birth of her son, all of which left Watson unhappy and depressed. With no family in California, she lived in a homeless shelter and was becoming hopeless until her niece introduced her to Christ and Candace became a Christian. Candace is now the author of one book, but two books, *ICE-Careful Don't Burn Yourself* is being released this month and is the story of a young girl trying to escape a violent relationship. She has also authored the self-help book *Something Special To Help You On Your Journey*. Featured in *Essence Magazine*, *Watts Times*, *Black Voice Newspaper*, and *Long Beach Times*, Candace is also an inspirational speaker. For more info visit her Website www.candacewatsonspeaksout.com

Dr. Ronald Hay was recently installed to the office of Chairman of the Board of the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Hay currently serves as Chairman of the Board and CEO of ALL Temps 1 Personnel, a full service Human Resource Management and temporary staffing organization. Prior to ALL Temps 1, he was Executive Vice President of Quest Transportation, Inc., Dallas; Vice President of Pro-Line International, Dallas; Purchasing Manager for Varo Inc., Garland and Senior Buyer with McDonnell Douglas Corporation in St. Louis, Missouri. Dr. Hay believes that giving back to one's community is a reciprocal part of living a God-approved life. He expresses this belief in his daily affirmation. "Let me, out of gratitude, use my experiences and talents to make a positive difference in the lives of people today and everyday," he said. Dr. Hay is a graduate of Jarvis Christian College and completed postgraduate studies in Economics and Business Management at Webster College in St. Louis, Missouri. He later returned to Jarvis where he served 17 years on the Board of Trustees, 10 years as Chairman.



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Blacks Active In Anti-War March



The protesters said that the war was wrong, the troops should come home and if the troops do not come home, Congress should cut off funding. The march was facilitated by the New York-based United for Peace and Justice. Its mission is to educate the American people about the war and to demonstrate how social change can take place within the context of democracy through protest, education and activism. "Bring home the troops," the Rev. Graydon Hagler told the crowd. "We aim to be heard by the Congress of the United States and by George Bush. "We are going to push to end this war." Hagler, a candidate for the Ward 4 position on the D.C. City Council and the pastor of Plymouth Congregational

Special from Washington Afro American News Blacks were active participants in the anti-war demonstration that took place on Jan. 27 at the National Mall in Washington, D.C. An estimated 100,000 people from across the country came to Washington to protest the Bush administration's escalation of the war in Iraq. *Anti-War March Page 8*

Senator West Discusses Governor's Higher Ed Proposal

State Senator Royce West (D-Dallas) applauded the recent announcement by Governor Rick Perry regarding his Higher Education Budget Proposal. Governor Perry has articulated that the proposal's goal is to provide funding to fuel the state's "Closing the Gap Initiative" as outlined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. "I applaud Governor Perry for his creativity in crafting a proposal to address the funding needs of Texas' higher education institutions and the financial aid needs of Texas students," said Senator West. "However, I'm troubled by several components of the proposal. The first being the reallocation of more than \$614 million requested by the institutions for "University Special Items." This funding has historically been used for numerous worthwhile programs and initiatives at the campus



level. "In addition, as we attempt to create a seamless pre-kindergarten through college pipeline, wherein our goal is to graduate more students and have them apply and be admitted to college, I'm concerned with how the proposal will impact the availability of financial aid," Senator West added. "While I have yet to see the actual language, plans include an increased GPA requirement to

Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Texas Promotes Amachi Program

Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Texas will celebrate the work and involvement of the faith community in the Amachi program. The Amachi program began in Philadelphia in January 2000. A West African word, Amachi means "who knows but what God has brought us through this child." Working with children of incarcerated parents, the Amachi program was developed to provide support to these at-risk children by providing them with caring adult mentors. Amachi has three types of mentoring programs: community-based one-on-one mentoring, school-based one-on-one mentoring, and church-based one-on-one mentoring. In Texas, approximately 400,000 children have a parent in jail. Statistics show that 70% of children with a parent in jail will end up in prison themselves. The goal is to change this statistic by involving the faith based community. On February 24, 2007 from 11:30-1:00 p.m., we are hosting a free luncheon entitled "A



Celebration of Faith, Hope, and Love" at the Ruth Jackson Center located at 3113 S. Carrier Parkway in Grand Prairie, Texas. The goal of this event is to recognize current partners and encourage new ones to participate. The Reverend Dr. Wilson Goode of Philadelphia is the

Urban League Luncheon Opens 40th Anniversary Celebrations



The Urban League of Greater Dallas and North Central Texas will kickoff its 40th Anniversary fundraising season at its Annual Meeting Luncheon on Friday, February 23, 2007 at 11:45 a.m. The event will be held at the Hilton Anatole Hotel, 2201 Stemmons Freeway. The theme of the Luncheon is The Legacy Continues: Passing the Torch. Three prominent individuals from the community will For ticket information call (214) 915-4600. Judge Cleophas Steele Jr., retired Justice of the Peace, Connie Davis, owner of Davis Apparel Shop and Alfred Huntsberry, owner of ALP Printing will be recognized for their outstanding achievements and contributions in the field of law and business. The honorees will pass their legacy torch to the next generation of individuals who made achievements in their profession and will continue their legacy. Those individuals are Demetrius Sampson, Terisha Handy and Alma Huntsberry. Judge Steele had always had a reputation as a trailblazer. He was one of the first African

Americans to graduate from Southern Methodist University School of Law. He also opened the first full service African American law firm in downtown Dallas. He says he always knew the best ways to fight racism and injustice was in the courts. He was one of the first attorneys to sign a petition supporting the desegregation of the Dallas Independent School District during the early 1970s. He later filed the desegregation suit against DISD and eventually won it. He served the Dallas County community as the Justice of the Peace in Precinct 1, Place 2 for 31 years and throughout his distinguished career he was known for his fairness, graciousness and expertise. In addition to his outstanding legal career, Judge Steele's service to his community is exemplary. He and his wife, Barbara established the C.A.W. Clark Legal Clinic which offers free legal services provided by lawyers from the J. L. Turner Legal Society to underserved members of the

Plano Citizens Academy Begins February 13, 2007

The informative and high-energy Plano Citizens Academy is accepting applications for the 2007 Session, with the first session beginning Tuesday, February 13, 2007. With a focus on the inner workings of Plano Municipal Government, the Plano Citizens Academy is offered free to residents of the City of Plano, 18 years of age and older. Sessions are held bi-weekly at various City/community facilities, primarily on Tuesday evenings, from 7:00pm - 10:00pm. Applications, which may be found online (see link at bottom of this article), are being accepted on a first-come, first-served basis through Friday, February 9, 2007. Nine informational/hands-on sessions are divided into the following topics: City Council, City Government Organization



& Operations, History of Plano; Employee Training, Budget & Finance; Economic & Community Development, Planning & Zoning, GIS; Engineering, Transportation, Property Standards, Building Inspections; Police, Fire & Public Safety Communications; Public Works, Customer/Utility Billing; Parks & Recreation, Environmental Health, Public Information; Human Resources, Libraries, *Plano Citizens Academy Page 8*

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity To Host Texas State Convention In Dallas

Convention to feature a free health and wellness fair open to the public The Texas Council of Alpha Chapters (TCAC) of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., will host its 43rd Annual Convention on February 15-18, 2007, at the Dallas/Addison Marriott Quorum by the Galleria. Local host chapters are Xi Tau Lambda Chapter located in North Dallas and Zeta Tau Chapter of Texas A&M University—Commerce. TCAC, comprised of 56 college and alumni chapters and over 1,000 members throughout the state of Texas, convenes annually to share

best practices about Alpha Phi Alpha's community service projects and strategic alliances. The convention also features workshops that provide leadership training and professional development for fraternity members. An important part of this year's convention will be a free Public Health & Wellness Fair on Saturday, February 17, at 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The focus of the health fair is to promote awareness and prevention of several diseases that disproportionately affect the African American community including obesity, diabetes, hypertension, *Alpha Phi Alpha Page 9*

Dallas County Community College African American Read-In Celebrates Literacy



Chandler Kennedy, Author, Christopher Paul Curtis, Kayla Samuels, Kyla Samuels, BACK ROW (from left to right) Dara Dawson, Jahki Tarleton, Trina Samuels, Taylor Kennedy and Lanna Tarleton.



Presenter/Author Christopher Paul Curtis and Camille Ashmon take a moment to pose for a photograph.



Wanda Carter and Author Linda Jones pose in front of the C-Span Book TV Bus.



Lennie the Lion and cast members keep the show alive with their performance.



Read-In attendees wait in line for the start of the event.



Senator Royce West and Wanda Carter pause for a photograph in front of the Book TV Bus.



African American Read-In Audience taking in the show.



Lennie the Lion entertains the audience with the ABC song.

Photos By: Ronald Coleman
The Dallas County Community College District's eighth annual citywide African American Read-In was held at the Majestic Theatre in downtown Dallas on Sat., Feb. 3, 2007. This year's theme was 'Light Up Your Life with Reading.' The featured guest reader was award-winning children's author Christopher Paul Curtis.



Triple A Book Club is dedicated to reading books by African American authors. Meeting every 3rd Saturday of the month at the Lewisville Library.

Place: 1197 West Main Street
Lewisville, TX 75067
Time: 2 pm - 3 pm
Phone: 972.219.3570

February 2007 Selection:
"The Known World" by Edward P. Jones"

Club Generation Success Holds 10th Annual Black History Program In Plano

Club Generation Success is celebrating 10 years of success working with children in the community. A 10th annual Black History Program will be held to commemorate the milestone. This year's celebration will include former students as well as favorite acts returning to perform. The event will be held Friday, February 17, 2007 at Plano Senior High School Theater (on Park Blvd between Independence and Westside) at 7:30 pm. Admission price is \$5.00 per person.

Founded in 1996, Club Generation Success is a youth leadership development and teen life strategies

organization.

Club Generation Success™ offers innovative educational, leadership development and life strategies programs for teens. CGS works with the WHOLE child by addressing every aspect of their lives where problems or challenges exist. CGS also works with parents to help them become better parents and more involved in the lives of their children. Students and parents who participate in academic programs and community service projects throughout the school year attend monthly meetings.

School administrators and teachers have noticed an immediate difference in the

attitude and academic performance of students who are CGS members. CGS is now curriculum-related in the Plano Independent School District with students attending from Plano and surrounding cities of Dallas, Richardson, Garland, Mesquite, Rowlett, Murphy, Wylie, Carrollton, Allen, Anna, McKinney, Sherman, DeSoto, Irving, Grand Prairie, Arlington and Fort Worth.

CGS's Mission Statement is To enrich the lives and minds of young people through academic achievement and personal development, empowering them to achieve success in an environment that is positive

and nurturing.

CGS is a non-profit 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization that is open to ALL students. CGS is fully funded by donations from corporate/foundation funding and private donations. All donations to CGS are appreciated and are tax deductible.

For information on CSG please contact Frances A. Griffin-Brown, Executive Director & Founder at 972-867-4574, fax 972-867-0170 or email clubgensuccess@aol.com. You may also visit the website at www.clubgens.org. CGS is located at 4120 Kirkwall Street in Plano, TX 75093.

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Around The Town

Ongoing
The Allen Public Library will feature films with all black casts or have African-American themes will be featured each Tuesday night during February. On February 6th and 20th, guests will be treated to extremely rare viewing of "Beulah" a television program from the 1950's. For more info call Tom Keener at 214-509-4911.

The Collin County Chapter of the American Business Women's Association meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at Eldorado Country Club, 2604 Country Club Drive in McKinney

Free Tenant Legal Workshops are at 6 p.m. Tuesdays at Douglass Community Center, 1111 Ave. H in Plano. Call 972-941-7174.

Alpha Beta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi a social service club sorority meets the second Monday of each month in members home in Frisco, McKinney, and the Plano area. Call 972-473-9089.

Assistance League of Greater Collin County meets the third Wednesday of each month. Visit www.assistance-league-gcc.org.

"EVOLVE," a social networking opportunity for women, meets from 7:30 to 9 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at the northwest corner of Park Boulevard and Coit Road, Suite 202. Call 972-267-4452.

A free legal clinic is offered for residents who meet low-income guidelines, 6:00 p.m., second Thursday of each

month, First United Methodist Church, 601 S. Greenville Ave. Applicants must be Collin County residents and income eligible. Call 1-800-906-3045.

Free HIV Testing offered by the LaSima Foundation from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. every Thursday at two different locations. For locations and more information, call 214-928-9303.

The Frisco Housing Authority is offering tenant-based rental assistance to 22 eligible families and individuals for rental housing in Frisco. Call 972-377-3031 for information.

Kumasi African Ensemble Dance Classes from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. West African dance classes held every Saturday at the South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh Ave. For more info call S-Anthi Kasa at 214-298-9588.

Late Night at the Dallas Museum of Art Join us on the third Friday of each month at 1717 N. Harwood. \$10 for adults, \$7 for seniors citizens and \$5 for students with current school ID. 214-922-1200, publicprograms@DallasMuseumofArt.org.

Dallas Baptist University-Lunch Series is from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month at Dallas Baptist University, North, 3211 Internet Blvd., Suite 100. For more info, call 214-333-5777 or e-mail dbunorth@dbu.edu.

The Yundrae Show the live television taping every Thursday. The doors open at 7pm and the show starts at 7:45pm. There are door prizes and giveaways each week. Tickets are \$15 at the door. Check it out at www.theyndraeshow.com

Former President Bill Clinton Speaks at NOKIA Theatre, 1001 Nextstage Drive in Grand Prairie at 7:30 p.m.

African-American scholar to speak at UNT Room 255 of the Eagle Student Services Center, (1147 Union Circle). Reception in the Diamond Eagle Suite of the University Union at 4 p.m. Free. For more info call 940-565-2288.

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce network, build business relationships and promote your business at the McKinney Housing Authority, 1200 N. Tennessee in McKinney at 6:30 p.m. For more info email: cbccsecretary@yahoo.com or call 972-838-1316

February 9, 2007
Daddy-Daughter Dance
Mesquite Convention Center, 1700 Rodeo Dr. For more info call, 972-216-6260.

Ticketstock 2007
Join Sportsradio 1310 from 12 noon to 10:00 p.m. and Saturday, February 10th from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway. Over 60 vendors, NBA Hall of Fame Great Dr. J and Raps own Flavor Flav. FREE. For more info call 214-526-7400 or visit www.theticket.com.

23rd Annual Quest for Success Awards Luncheon
Program that pays tribute to eight black business owners. Ballroom A of the Dallas Convention Center, 650 South Griffin St. Call 214-421-5200.

February 10, 2007
Dallas City Council District 7 Kevin Felder will be making formal election bid at Sunny Acres Community Action Center, 3742 Dixon Ave., Dallas at 12:00 noon. Meeting of the NAACP Youth Council, 12:00 noon - 2:00 p.m., Gale Fields Recreation Center, 1701 Dairy Road, Garland.

NAACP Garland Branch 7th Annual Winter Ball
"Honoring the First Ladies of Our Churches" 8:00 p.m. @ Cappelia

Court (Formerly The Castle at Canyon Creek), 2701 Custer Parkway, Richardson, Texas 75080. Attn: Black Tie, tickets: \$45.00. For more info, call 972-381-5044, Box #5.

The Jazz Age and Harlem as a Center of Jazz
Film and discussion sessions at Central Library's Fine Arts Division, 4th floor Dallas Public Library & Music Library and the Division of Jazz Studies 2:30 p.m. tina.murdock@dallaslibrary.org

Building Foundations, Building Lives 2007 Gala
Benefiting Habitat for Humanity will be held from 7 p.m. to midnight at the Marriott Legacy, 7120 Dallas Parkway, and Plano. For more info call 972-398-0634 or email scott@markkarpis.com or visit www.habitat-gcc.org.

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters
Is auditioning talented youth from ages 12 to 18 for the Youth String Orchestra from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Feb 9 and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Feb. 10 at 650 Griffin Street. For more info call 214-743-2440.

24-Hour Filmfest "A Close Up on Heath Richards" with Lisa Gay Hamilton
Black Academy of Arts and Letters, 650 S Griffin Street at 1 p.m. \$5. For more info email: stank@airmail.net or call 214-743-2442.

Africa Forum
Focus on the successes achieved in terms of work in helping Africa and our personal lives. Queen of Sheba Restaurant, 14875 Inwood Road in Addison at 3 p.m. For more info call 214-363-9383

Zen & the Pen Writing Workshop
A meditative, motivational and provocative workshop. ArtSpirit Center for Spirituality in the Bishop Arts District, 408 W. 8th Street, Ste.

102 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$55 with a \$5 discount. For more info email: manelock@yahoo.com or call 214-803-3920

February 11, 2007
African American Read-In
Sponsored by Professional Achievers for Community Excellence (PACE). At 4:00 p.m. Carrollton Library at Josey Ranch Lake, 1700 Keller Springs Road.

10th Annual Black History Celebration and Harriet Tubman Trailblazer Award
Saint Mark Baptist Church, 1308 Wilcox, and McKinney, TX at 3:30 p.m. For more info call, 972-542-6178.

Family Funday a community hands-on art activities and live entertainment at the Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd. For more info, call 972-252-2787

African American Read-in at 4:00 p.m. Josey Ranch Lake Library 1700 Keller Springs Road, Carrollton, Emma Rodgers of Black Images Bookstore is the special guest.

February 12, 2007
Zan W. Holmes, Jr. African Heritage Lecture Series
Includes a Marketplace and Film festival. St. Luke Community UMC, 5710 R.L. Thornton Fwy. (I-30 East) February 12th - 14th at 7:00 p.m. FREE. For more info call: 214-821-2970 or email: ybstar@yahoo.com.

Portrait In Black: The Changing Faces in Dallas, Urban League Headquarters, 4315 South Lancaster Road, Tours from February 12th to March 1st. For more info call 214-915-4600.

2nd Annual Conference on Crimes Against Women will be held throughout the day in the Lincoln Center of the Hilton Dallas Hotel, 5410 LBJ Freeway. For more info, call 214-389-7702 or visit www.genesisshelter.org.

February 14, 2007
Technology, Engineering, Security Clearance Career Fair from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. FREE. Plano Centre, 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway. For more info, call 800-695-1939 or visit www.targettedjobs.com.

February 15, 2007
Commemorative Art From Garland, Texas and Surrounding Youth
Brooks Peoples Academy & Arts is seeking youth artists (grade K-12) and artwork representing a variety of media, and any subject of interest. Academy & Arts 4222 Rosshill Rd. Suite 8, Garland, TX from 7-9:00 p.m. Free entry. For more info, call 214-497-0824 or email: brooks-peoples@yahoo.com.

Urban League Membership Drive from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Billy Gee's Club.

Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce will hold a board and membership meeting at 6:30 p.m. at 2838 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. For more info, call 214-421-5200 or visit www.dbcc.org.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will hold a public meeting to discuss and unveil digital flood hazard data and maps in Collin County. The meeting is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. at the University Drive Courts Facility, 1800 N. Graves Drive in McKinney.

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Paul Hailey

When A Compliment Isn't A Compliment

apologize, "I told him I take a bath every day."
Barack Obama graduated from Columbia University, was president of the Harvard Law Review, currently serves in the U.S. Senate, is the author of two best-selling books, and is a leading contender for the Democratic presidential nomination. Are we supposed to be surprised that he's articulate? Is he supposed to talk like a member of the Wu-Tang Clan?

Obama, to his credit, issued a modest, yet biting statement. "I didn't take Sen. Biden's comments personally, but obviously they were historically inaccurate," he said. "African-American presidential candidates like Jesse Jackson, Shirley Chisholm, Carol Moseley-Braun and Al Sharpton gave a voice to many important issues through their campaigns, and no one would call them inarticulate," Obama said.

No one but Joe Biden, who a few months ago inserted his other foot in his mouth when he referred to Indians as "convenience store and donut shop employees".

My personal annoyance at Biden's statements is probably rooted in my own personal experience as a Black man with the word "articulate." Webster's defines "articulate" as "able to speak" and "expressing oneself easily and clearly." When white people use that phrase to describe a Black person, it is anything but a compliment.

Black people, like everyone else in this country, should be able to express themselves using Standard English. When a white person calls a black person "articulate" it is a shorthand way of describing a Black person who isn't too black. It is code for saying that the person speaks well-for a Black person.

I participated in speech and debate all four years of high

school, and was blessed with teachers who emphasized speaking correctly. For most of my life I have heard white people comment on the way I speak. That was usually followed by some equally damaging comment about how I "was different", which meant I was not the way they expected a Black person to be. My fundamental problem is I have yet to hear a white person use articulate to describe the way another white person speaks.

The code even carries over to the sports world. Michael Jordan and Tiger Woods? Articulate. And even though both of them are considered among the greatest students of their respective games, they are referred to as "athletic" by sportscasters and sportswriters, while white athletes are referred to as "heady" or "cerebral".

Ebonics, MTV, BET, rap music-all have contributed to a lowering of expectation levels when it comes to the speech of Black people. We are as guilty as everyone else in perpetuating the stereotype. I can't tell you how many times black folks have ridiculed me for talking "proper" or "sounding white".

Being called "articulate" by white people is as ignorant and offensive as Black people accusing each other of trying to "act white" by speaking correctly.

One of my not-so-favorite people offered his two cents on the subject. "Now we can't even say you're articulate?" host Bill O'Reilly asked on his Fox News program. "We can't even give you guys compliments because they may be taken as condescending?"

What Mr. O'Reilly doesn't realize is what I figured out long ago. A compliment isn't always a compliment just like ridicule is not always an insult.

Paul Hailey can be reached at phailey@MonTheGazette.com

Stand Up Against The "Surge"

Editor's Note: Texas political columnist Molly Ivins died Jan. 31 after a long bout with breast cancer. Ms. Ivins, the Ft. Worth Star-Telegram's political columnist for nine years ending in 2001, had written for The New York Times, the Dallas Times-Herald and Time magazine and had been a sought-after pundit on television talk shows where she provided a Texas slant on issues ranging from President Bush's pedigree to the culture wars rooted in the 1960s. This is her final syndicated column.

By: Molly Ivins
The purpose of this old-fashioned newspaper crusade to stop the war is not to make George W. Bush look like the dumbest president ever. People have done dumber things. What were they thinking when they bought into the Bay of Pigs fiasco? How dumb was the Egypt-Suez war? How massively stupid was the entire war in Vietnam? Even at that, the challenge with this misbegotten adventure is that we simply cannot let it continue.

It is not a matter of whether we will lose or we are losing. We have lost. Gen. John P. Abizaid, until recently the senior commander in the Middle East, insists that the answer to our problems there is not military. "You have to internationalize the problem. You have to attack it diplomatically, geo-strategically," he said.

His assessment is supported by Gen. George W. Casey Jr., the senior American commander in Iraq, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who only recommend releasing forces with a clear def-

inition of the goals for the additional troops.

Bush's call for a "surge" or "escalation" also goes against the Iraq Study Group. Talk is that the White House has planned to do anything but what the group suggested after months of investigation and proposals based on much broader strategic implications.

About the only politician out there besides Bush actively calling for a surge is Sen. John McCain. In a recent opinion piece, he wrote: "The presence of additional coalition forces would allow the Iraqi government to do what it cannot accomplish today on its own—impose its rule throughout the country. ... By surging troops and bringing security to Baghdad and other areas, we will give the Iraqis the best possible chance to succeed." But with all due respect to the senator from Arizona, that ship has long since sailed.

A surge is not acceptable to the people in this country—we have voted overwhelmingly against this war in polls (about 80 percent of the public is against escalation, and a recent Military Times poll shows only 38 percent of active military want more troops sent) and at the polls. We know this is wrong. The people understand, the people have the right to make this decision, and the people have the obligation to make sure our will is implemented.

Congress must work for the people in the resolution of this fiasco. Ted Kennedy's proposal to control the money and tighten oversight is a welcome first

step. And if Republicans want to continue to rubber-stamp this administration's idiotic "plans" and go against the will of the people, they should be thrown out as soon as possible, to join their recent colleagues.

Anyone who wants to talk knowledgeably about our Iraq misadventure should pick up Rajiv Chandrasekaran's "Imperial Life in the Emerald City: Inside Iraq's Green Zone." It's like reading a horror novel. You just want to put your face down and moan: How could we have let this happen? How could we have been so stupid?

As The Washington Post's review notes, Chandrasekaran's book "methodically documents the baffling ineptitude that dominated U.S. attempts to influence Iraq's fiendish politics, rebuild the electrical grid, privatize the economy, run the oil industry, recruit expert staff or instill a modicum of normalcy to the lives of Iraqis."

We are the people who run this country. We are the deciders. And every single day, every single one of us needs to step outside and take some action to help stop this war. Raise hell. Think of something to make the ridiculous look ridiculous. Make our troops know we're for them and trying to get them out of there. Hit the streets to protest Bush's proposed surge. If you can, go to the peace march in Washington on Jan. 27. We need people in the streets, banging pots and pans and demanding, "Stop it, now!"

Where Do You Want To Go Today?

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MON-The Gazette assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material and reserves the right to edit and make appropriate revisions.

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

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

Think of MON-The Gazette as your paper of opportunity!

MON-The Gazette formally Minority Opportunity News, was founded July, 1991, by Jim Bochum and Thurman R. Jones

Boys To Men' Or Boys To Boys?

By: James Clingman - NNPA Columnist

We have all probably heard of the singing group, Boyz to Men, right? Sounds like a logical sequence of growth, don't you agree? Well, it seems we have another trend going for our Black males today, and that is growing from "men" back to "babies." While they physically grow in stature, instead of growing in mentality as well, many Black men are regressing into children even as they reach physical maturity.

Physically grown men, especially fathers, who dress, talk, and act like teenagers and even younger boys, are misguided at best. Check them out as they walk along with their sons; both have their caps turned to the side, both are wearing those short pants, which remind me of the little boy with the snotty nose that Martin Lawrence used to portray, and they wear the obligatory basketball or football jersey. If it were not for their physical size, you wouldn't be able to tell father from son.

Of course, we know that many of today's parents are really children themselves, not having shaken off the "street" mentality. They are still ensconced in partying and hangin' out. They have not yet "put away childish things." In addition, a trend that has, in my opinion, done more harm than good to our Black men is the power of words. Historically, Black men have been called "boys" by White folks, which in the 1960s was like signing their own beat-down warrant, at least in my neck of the woods.

I remember the first day I reported for duty in the Navy. I walked out on deck for morning muster and the Boatswain Mate said, "Where you been, boy?" I was already 21 years old; it was 1966; he was a southern racist; and I was an angry about being there anyway. Not a great way to have started my career in the U.S. Navy. I was immediately put on report because I responded by saying, "Who are you calling a 'boy'? I am a grown man." From that day forward, for the next two years I spent on that ship, all the White

guys knew the boundaries they could not cross when it came to the words they used to address me.

Out of 750 men on that ship, there were only about 50 Blacks. We knew we had to stand up for ourselves, especially in the mid-60s when many of the men in the Navy were really grown in stature, instead of growing in mentality as well, many Black men are regressing into children even as they reach physical maturity.

The main thing was our willingness to stand up for ourselves and be men rather than boys, even in the face of sure and swift punishment from the captain of the ship, who was just below God in status. We were willing to fight, against the odds when someone said the "magic word" we now call the "n-word." We were unwilling to be defined by someone else, especially a bunch of rednecks who found pleasure in ordering us around like we were still enslaved to their fathers.

Today, as I have stated many times, we allow others to define us, and as grown men, many of us have become nothing more than little boys, in our dress, our language, and in our demeanor. I assert that some of what we see is the long-term result of our parents, especially our mothers, referring to baby boys as "my little man." We dress them in adult clothing, and when they hurt we tell them to "take it like a man."

In the later years, when boys are supposed put away childish things and start acting like men, the mothers start calling them "my baby." The girlfriends and the wives refer to their mates as "baby." When grown men hurt, they are held and hugged by their ladies and mothers who comfort them by saying such things as, "It will be all right, baby," or "I know, baby," or "What's wrong with my baby?" Grown men being called "baby" may seem innocent enough, and you may be asking, "What's the big deal?" But I

think we are seeing the negative results of the misuse of a word, just like the other words we have been called and have called ourselves, to the degree that a whole generation of parents and children are really confused about who they are and what their proper roles are.

That confusion has turned us around, put us in reverse, and caused many of our Black males to end up as boys rather than men. Rather than going from "Boyz to Men," they have gone from "Little men" to "Big Baby Boyz."

So what, you say? Words create imagery followed by action. We must teach our male children who and what they are as early in life as possible, so that as they physically grow into "men" they will also grow mentally. They will no longer speak, act, and think "as a child." They will define themselves and speak up for themselves and their children.

Let's start calling our children, especially male children, "babies" rather than "men." And ladies, stop referring to your grown men as "babies." Maybe they will stop spending their money on all of the ridiculous things other folks are selling, turn their caps from sideways, stop wearing those droopy short pants that resemble knickers, make better choices, be real Black men, conscious Black men, proud of who they are and not intimidated by others, and stop committing acts of violence against one another.

James E. Clingman, an adjunct professor at the University of Cincinnati's African American Studies department, is former editor of the Cincinnati Herald newspaper and founder of the Greater Cincinnati African American Chamber of Commerce. He hosts the radio program, "Blackonomics," and has written several books, including

Black-o-Knowledge-Stuff. To book Clingman for a speech or purchase his books, go to his Web site, www.blackonomics.com or call him at 513/489-4132

Fort Worth Teacher Punished For Slavery Film Clip

An elementary school teacher was disciplined for showing her fifth-graders parts of the R-rated film "Amistad" during a lesson on slavery.

On Jan. 25, Larue Washington showed her Ridglea Hills Elementary class clips from the 1997 Steven Spielberg film depicting slaves on route to the Americas, including a scene in which a character was stabbed, district officials said.

Washington failed to follow school board policy requiring commercial movies to be reviewed and approved by the school principal, the district said.

The policy also prohibits showing any portions of an R-rated movie, and the principal would not have approved the film, district spokeswoman

Barbara Griffith said. Letters explaining what happened were sent to parents this week, Griffith said.

Washington, who has taught



for 27 years, declined to comment. The school district did not disclose what disciplinary action was taken.

"Amistad," released in 1997 and starring Morgan Freeman and Anthony Hopkins, is based on the true story of the 1839 revolt by Africans aboard the

slave ship Amistad and the ensuing court case against them.

Larry Shaw, executive director of the United Educators Association, said Washington was trying to give students a sense of what life was like on a slave ship. He said it's not uncommon for teachers to forget to submit movie clips for approval since they are not showing a whole movie for entertainment.

Last May, officials in the Alvarado school district apologized after teachers showed fifth-graders a clip from "Saving Private Ryan," another R-rated Spielberg movie, this one about D-Day. Also last year, a teacher in the Birdville district was suspended after showing the GulfWar movie "Jarhead" to a high school class.

Ayubu Kamau Sacred Afrikan Drum And Dance Society Coming To Eastfield

The Ayubu Kamau Sacred Afrikan Drum and Dance Society will perform at Eastfield College on February 17 at 7 p.m. in the Performance Hall.

Enjoy healing rhythms and African dance presentations that entertain, educate and inspire. Learn about the History, Language, Culture and the global impact of the Diaspora of African music and dance expressions. Ayubu Kamau will introduce a collection of African instruments including Congo Drums, Ashiko, Djimbe, Shekere, and many others. This group will captivate you through traditional African, Afro-American and Afro-Caribbean rhythms,



colorful dance, Griot (story-telling), and songs while creating a spirit of oneness and celebration!

For further information call 972-860-7185 or visit www.eastfieldcollege.com. Free, general

seating available (no tickets needed). Open to the public.

Eastfield College, one of the seven Dallas County Community Colleges, is located at 3737 Motley Drive in Mesquite, just north of I-30.

Amachi Page 1

keynote speaker. For more than forty years, Dr. W. Wilson Goode has been a leader. He has led in the military, the government (federal, state and local levels), the Church, and through civic, social action and neighborhood organizations. During this time he has helped to create more livable communities by building housing and organizing intervention programs in education, employment and economic development. He broke racial barriers in state and local government with his appointments as Chairman of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (1978) and Managing Director of the City of Philadelphia (1980). He was also the first African American to be elected Mayor of Philadelphia (1983).

Higher Ed Proposal Page 1

be eligible for financial aid, accompanied by a repayment clause as opposed to traditional grant assistance strategies.

"And lastly, I have extreme trepidation concerning the elimination of the funding of the Office of Civil Rights Priority Plan. The priority plan addresses matters that have been before the Department of Education since 1973 when the Office of Civil Rights was first ordered to investigate six states, including Texas, regarding the efforts to desegregate their educational systems and vestiges of de jure segregation that still exists at Prairie View A&M University and Texas Southern University," said Senator West. "Obviously, injecting new monies into higher education requires a shifting of budgetary priorities, but we must be careful that objectives are reached in ways that are equitable to the interests of all Texans.

"I look forward to future discussions with Governor Perry about the proposal this session and the lively debate that will no doubt ensue," Senator West said.

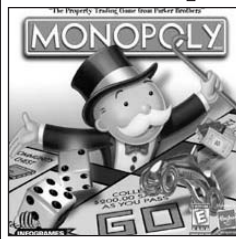
For more information, please contact LaJuana Barton or Kelvin Bass at 512-463-0123.

For almost fifty years he has been a member of the First Baptist Church of Paschall where he has served as Trustee, Chair of the Board of Deacons and Associate Minister. Dr. Goode is currently the Senior Advisor on Faith Based Initiatives for Public/ Private

Ventures, where he also directs the Amachi Program, a faith-based national mentoring model for children of incarcerated parents.

To register for this free event, please contact Sarah Campbell at scampbell@bbbsnt.org or call 817-277-1148 x366.

Community Supports CCCC Scholarship At Monopoly® Madness



sports announcer and former sports director and anchor for NBC Dallas/Ft. Worth, will serve as the evening's master of ceremonies.

The event promises to be the most unique fundraiser in Collin County.

Guests will join MR. Monopoly® at the upscale Mustang Café for cocktails, a light dinner buffet and live music. Then, they will vie for fabulous prizes in the mall's Grand Court at the highlight of the evening - the Monopoly® game itself. Delectable desserts and beverages will top off the evening of fun.

Corporate and community friends from throughout Collin County are gearing up to roll the dice as they wheel and deal in a fast-paced version of the popular Monopoly® board game to raise money for scholarships for local students.

Collin County Community College District (Collin), President Cary A. Israel and the Collin College Foundation will present Monopoly® Madness at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, at The Shops at Willow Bend in Plano. Proceeds from the event will provide scholarships for Collin students.

Scott Murray, award-winning

Lead sponsors are Emerson Process Management Regulator Division and Medical Center of Plano, who are in the Crown Jewels category with donations of \$10,000. Royal Robe sponsors (\$5,000) to date include AT&T; Centennial Medical Center/Tenet Healthcare Foundation; Chartwells; David and Genie Hammel; Dey, Inc.; Medical Center of McKinney; Mustang Café; North Central Medical

Center; Pat and Rebecca DePole; Plano Profile; The Shops at Willow Bend; Steve Maus/New York Life Insurance Company and Trinity Stairs, Inc. For a complete list of sponsors, visit the Monopoly® Madness website at www.ccccd.edu.

Monopoly® Madness sponsor categories include Emperor (\$20,000), Crown Jewels (\$10,000), Royal Robe (\$5,000), Silver Chalice (\$2,500) and Coat of Arms (\$1,250).

For more information on Monopoly® Madness, please contact the Collin College Foundation at 972.881.5611 or visit www.ccccd.edu/monopoly. Sponsorship forms can be downloaded from the website.

Collin County Community College District (Collin) serves more than 41,000 credit and continuing education students annually and offers more than 100 degree and certificate programs. The only public college in the county, Collin is a partner to business, government and industry, providing customized training and work force development.

Continental Societies, Incorporated Announces "Young Photographer's Showcase"

Dallas Chapter, Continental Societies, Inc. is sponsoring a Young Photographer's Showcase on February 17, 2007 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Dallas West Public Library, 2332 Singleton Boulevard.

This event culminates four photography classes provided by Continental Societies, to middle school aged students enrolled in the Mattie Nash Myrtle Davis Recreation Center's After School Program.

The students learned the art of photography, and then took photographs of their environment.

The photography classes were delivered by Jesse Hornbuckle, LLP, an internationally acclaimed photographer and Milton Hinnant, staff photographer, Dallas Morning News. One of Hornbuckle's most recent works November, 2006 cover of Ebony Magazine. Dallas Chapter, Continental

Societies, Incorporated is a 501 (c) (3) charitable, non-profit organization, dedicated to the educational, socio-economic and cultural welfare of children and youth. The national organization has 41 chapters in 17 states, the District of Columbia and Bermuda.

Please contact Judith Nix @ (972) 900-1564 for additional information of email to janix1974@yahoo.com.

Good Samaritan Society
DENTON VILLAGE

In Honor of
Black History Month Feb. 2007

Good Samaritan Society-Denton Village would like to congratulate our own Morrison Residence Assisted Living on a Deficiency-Free Survey!

For information, please call 940-383-6347



Marcia Donaldson

If you haven't yet filed your taxes, you may think it's too early to ponder your refund. After all, you don't even know if you'll get one. But the odds are in your favor; historically, about three-fourths of all taxpayers receive refund checks. So, you may want to start planning for this "bonus" today. In fact, if you get a refund, and you haven't thought about what to do with it, you may be more likely to spend it - and then it's gone. As an alternative, why not use your refund to help yourself make progress toward your key financial goals?

You might think that your

Financial Focus: Use Tax Refund To Help Meet Financial Goals

refund wouldn't really be big enough to make much of a difference in your life. But that's not necessarily true. In 2006, the average tax refund was about \$2,500. What could you do with this amount? Let's take a look:

- **Contribute to your IRA** - In 2007, you can put in up to \$4,000 (or \$5,000 if you're 50 or older) to a traditional or Roth IRA (income limits apply), so your \$2,500 would put you more than halfway to the limit. It's almost always a good idea to fully fund your IRA, which offers substantial tax advantages. Specifically, a traditional IRA's earnings grow tax-deferred, while a Roth IRA's earnings grow completely tax-free, provided you meet certain conditions.

- **Pay down your debts** - Over

the past few years, we've seen low interest rates in a number of areas - mortgages, certificates of deposit, short-term bonds, etc. But there's at least one conspicuous exception to the low-rate trend: credit cards. You could easily have one or more credit cards that charge 14 percent interest - or more. If you could get rid of that debt, you would, in effect, be earning a 14 percent (or greater) return. Consequently, you'd likely be making a pretty good "investment" by applying your \$2,500 toward your credit card debt.

- **Save for college** - College costs have risen sharply over the past several years. To send your children to college, you'll want to save early and save often. Fortunately, you can find several attractive college-sav-

ings vehicles, including the Coverdell Education Savings Account and the Section 529 savings plan. You can put up to \$2,000 per year to a Coverdell Account - so your \$2,500 is enough to completely fund your plan for 2007. Or you might also want to consider putting your tax refund into a Section 529 savings plan. (Section 529 plan contribution limits are quite high).

- **Build an "emergency fund"** - If you don't already have an emergency fund containing six to 12 months' worth of living expenses, you should consider creating one - and your \$2,500 will make a nice start. Once you've set up an emergency fund, you may be able to avoid dipping into your long-term investments to pay for short-

term needs, such as a major car repair or an expensive new appliance.

Use your refund wisely This year, when you get your tax refund, put it to work. By making the right moves, you

can reap benefits from your refund long after tax season is over.

Marcia Donaldson, a licensed Financial Advisor with Edward Jones Investments. You can contact her at (972) 542-1530.

Quest For Success Honors African American Entrepreneurs

The Dallas/Fort Worth business community will honor outstanding African American entrepreneurs at the 23rd Annual Quest for Success Awards. More than 1,100 business, civic and community leaders are expected to attend the event at noon on Friday, February 9, 2007 at the Dallas Convention Center. The Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce, The Dallas Morning News, CHASE and WFAA-TV Channel 8 are sponsors of the Quest for Success Awards.

The 2007 Quest for Success award recipients are: Cedric W. Anderson, Second Chance Opportunity Source; Yvonne A. Crouch, Yvonne's Bridal Shop; Gunnar A. Jones, New World Industries, Inc.; Allen G. Madison, Evergreen Funeral



Gail Warrior-Lawrence, The Warrior Group, Inc.; and Fritz G. Woods, PimeSource Foodservice Equipment.

They represent a variety of sizes and types of companies, but share characteristics of dedicated entrepreneurs who are also involved in volunteer serv-

ice. Celebrating the accomplishments of these distinguished individuals promotes new business avenues for the winners and motivates aspiring entrepreneurs.

The Quest for Success is one of the largest business awards events in Texas and a premier networking opportunity for corporate executives, Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce members, community leaders and Quest for Success alumni. It is also the largest Black History Month celebration of its kind in the Southwest.

"There have been 232 Quest for Success winners since its inception in 1985. Over 92% of these businesses are still viable, a percentage much higher than the national average. The Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce is

proud to assist entrepreneurs in achieving business success," said Ron Hay, Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce Chair.

Program sponsor WFAA-TV Channel 8 produced a video showcasing the Quest for Success recipients, which will debut at the luncheon. The station will also broadcast public service announcements featuring the recipients during the month of February.

There will be a reception at 11:00 a.m., followed by the awards luncheon at noon. Individual tickets are \$60; tables for ten start at \$600. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Please call the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce at (214) 421-5200 for ticket or sponsorship information.

Job Discrimination Filings Rise In 2006

Federal job discrimination complaints filed by workers against private employers rose in 2006 for the first time in four years.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission said Thursday that complaints increased to 75,768 during the 2006 budget year from 75,428 the previous year.

Charges of discrimination had spiked in 2002 at 84,442, a seven-year high. Complaints gradually drifted down after that until last year.

"These figures tell us that discrimination remains a persistent problem in the 21st century workplace," said the commission chairwoman, Naomi Earp.

As in past years, allegations

of discrimination based on race, sex or retaliation were the most frequent complaints, according to the commission, which



enforces federal anti-discrimination laws among private employers.

Allegations of race discrimination, with 27,238 charges, accounted for 35.9 percent

of all filings last year.

Sex discrimination accounted for 23,247 complaints, or 30.7 percent of all filings last year. Charges based on retaliation rose to 22,555, or 29.8 percent of all complaints.

Discrimination complaints based on disability rose to 15,625, or 20.6 percent of all filings. Age discrimination came to 13,569 or 17.9 percent of all complaints filed in 2006. National origin complaints came to 8,327, or 11 percent of the total.

Religious discrimination complaints totaled 2,541, or 3.4 percent of all filings. Equal pay complaints were 663, or 0.9 percent of all filings.

The total exceeds 100 percent because individuals may allege

more than one kind of discrimination in a complaint.

All categories saw complaints rise from 2005 with the exception of age and equal pay discrimination complaints.

In addition, there were 12,025 complaints of sexual harassment, with a record 15 percent filed by men. A record 4,901 pregnancy discrimination complaints were filed last year.

During 2006, 74,308 discrimination complaints were resolved; more than 22 percent with a favorable outcome for the individual who complained. A record of 8,201 cases were resolved through voluntary mediation. The commission obtained \$274 million in compensation for those who complained of discrimination.

State Agencies To Host Historically Underutilized Business Forum

The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) and the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS) will present the 7th Annual Purchasing and HUB Connection, a forum for Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB), on Thursday, February 15, 2007. The forum will be from 1 to 4

p.m. at the Texas Workforce Commission, 1117 Trinity St., Room 304 A&B, in Austin. There is no charge for this event.

The event will inform vendors about the purchasing needs of TWC and TRS, enhancing opportunities for vendors to obtain contract

awards. Representatives from both agencies will discuss contracting opportunities in the areas of commodities and special trades.

A HUB is defined as at least 51 percent owned by an African American, Hispanic American, Native American, Asian-Pacific American and/or American

woman residing in Texas. The owner must demonstrate active participation in the operations and management of the business.

For registration information, contact: Adra Alexander TWC HUB Program Manager at 512-463-2284, a.r.d.r.a.alexander@twc.state.tx.us

Urban League Luncheon Page 1

community. Judge Steele retired last year as Justice of the Peace but he continues to serve his constituency through his membership in numerous service and community organizations including J. L. Turner Legal Society, Dallas Dispute Mediation Service Board of Directors, National Bar Association, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and Cotillion Idlewild Club.

There is no doubt that Connie Davis has achieved "legend" status for her commitment to her community, to excellence in business practices and to her expansion of opportunities for

individuals and business owners. For 42 years, her business, Davis Apparel Shop is synonymous with excellent customer service and personal attention to detail. Her shop originally began as a dress boutique and was extremely suc-

cessful. After a short-lived retirement in 1981 she returned to her Apparel shop and unexpected challenges. In 1989, she took her shop into a new direction. She prepared a well researched and comprehensive marketing plan and created a complete uniform program which she stocked in her store. She negotiated contracts with large industrial customers including Texas Instruments and DART to meet all their uniform needs. Today, Davis Apparel Shop currently offers a variety of uniform programs for local, national and international needs. She also offers a helping hand through her highly successful internship program with Paul Quinn College. After graduation last year one intern is now employed full time at the shop and another is working part-time. Davis motto is "Let's become active partners and together we both will benefit."

Alfred Huntsberry worked for

a printing supplier for over 20 years and learned everything there was to know about printing and the repair of printing machinery. During that time he saw that African American customers were charged higher prices and generally treated with little respect. In 1974, he founded ALP Printing Company in the garage of his home because he wanted a printing company that served the African American community with dignity and honesty. Today, the company is housed in its own facility with state-of-the-art equipment including a wide image printer, the latest computerized full service digital color printing and an in-house graphic department. Huntsberry takes pride in his work and mentors anyone who wants to get in the printing business. His advice is "there can be a printing shop on every corner and everyone can prosper."

"We are truly honored to recognize our legendary honorees

for their contributions to the community," said Dr. Beverly Mitchell Brooks, President and CEO of the Urban League. "They demonstrate how the challenges that individuals face daily can be overcome."

Dr. Brooks will highlight the Urban League's activities and its impact on the community in her annual report to the community and the new Board Chairman and Board Members will also be installed.

The Urban League is the nation's oldest and largest community-based movement devoted to empowering African Americans and others to enter the economic and social mainstream. The mission of the Urban League of Greater Dallas is to enable African Americans and others to secure economic self-reliance, parity, power and civil rights and others to enter and enhance their position in the economic and social mainstream.

BURIAL PLOTS

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

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Bessie Coleman: First Black Woman Aviator

Bessie Coleman was born January 26, 1892, in Atlanta, Texas, one of thirteen children. Her mother was black and her father was of American Indian and of black descent. Her father left when she was seven and her mother did her best to raise the family alone. The children helped by picking cotton; and the girls, as soon as they were old enough, helped with the washing their mother took in to make ends meet.

Bessie had a drive to better herself and became an avid reader. By using the traveling library that came through two or three times a year, Bessie managed to finish high school. Although her mother let her keep her earnings from washing and ironing, Bessie could only afford to attend college for one semester. She was determined to get ahead, and show the way to others, handicapped by what she believed were the evils of racism, poverty, and ignorance. Shortly after World War I, she made a firm decision to learn to

fly. She read everything she could on the subject. She tried applying to one flying school after another, but was quickly turned down.

She did not stop there. With the help of an editor and publisher of the Chicago Weekly Defender, Bessie learned French



and contacted an aviation school in France. With her savings from her manicurist's job and working in a chili parlor, Bessie made two trips to Europe. There she learned about the hazards of flight and in 1921, earned her license (two years before Amelia

Earhart) from the Federation Aeronautique Internationale. She was the only licensed black pilot in the world.

After taking aerobatic training she returned to the U.S. where for five years she toured the country, barnstorming, organizing exhibition flights and speaking in churches and schools about the potential both of flight and of her race

Proclaimed "Queen Bess" by the Chicago Defender, her daring airborne feats thrilled thousands. While on the barnstorming circuit in 1926 at Paxon Field, Jacksonville, FL, Bessie's Jenny went into a nose dive and Bessie was thrown from the plane to her death during a test flight.

Shortly after her death, Bessie Coleman Aero Groups were organized by William J. Powell and on Labor Day, 1931, those flying clubs sponsored the first all-black air show in America. Bessie's dream of a school for black aviators finally became a reality in 1932.

Collin Schedules A Monthlong Celebration Of African American History Month

Every February, Collin County Community College District (Collin) joins the nation in honoring the contributions of African Americans like Woodson to the American tapestry.

The list of Collin African American History Month events include:

- Sociology professor Pam Gaiter will present "Living the Legacy," a lecture stemming from her sabbatical research on African American landowners. This will be presented from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 15, at the Central Park Campus Pike Hall and from

12:30-1:30 p.m., Friday, Feb. 16, at the Spring Creek Campus, Room C104.

- The 2006-07 Auteur Film Series will present Spike Lee's "Bamboozled" in honor of African American History Month. This film revolves around an Ivy League-educated African American man whose TV show idea is rejected by the network. Frustrated, he revives the minstrel shows with African American actors in black face. The screening is set for 7 p.m., Monday, Feb. 19, at the Spring Creek Campus, Room C104.

- Local Islamic scholar and spiritual leader Imam Yusuf

Kavacki will present a lecture titled "The Concept of Law in Islam and the West," from 7-9 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 21, at the Spring Creek Campus Conference Center.

The Spring Creek Campus is located at 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway in Plano, the Preston Ridge Campus is located at 9700 Wade Blvd. in Frisco and the Central Park Campus is located at 2200 W. University Drive in McKinney.

All events are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Donna Okaro at dokaro@cccdd.edu or Pam Gaiter at pgaiter@cccdd.edu.

George Parks: First African American To Have Photographs On Cover Of Life Magazine

The youngest of 15 children, Parks was born into a poor, black family in segregated Fort Scott, Kansas. His mother, a staunch Methodist, was the main influence on his life, refusing to allow her son to justify failure with the excuse that he had been born black, and instilling in him self-confidence, ambition and a capacity for hard work.

Parks later commented: "I had a mother who would not allow me to complain about not accomplishing something because I was black. Her attitude was, 'If a white boy can do it, then you can do it, too—and do it better, or don't come home.'"

In 1938, Parks was struck by photographs of migrant workers in a magazine and bought his first camera, a Voightlander Brilliant, for \$12.50 at a pawnshop. The photo clerks who developed Parks' first roll of film, applauded his work and prompted him to get a fashion assignment at Frank Murphy's women's clothing store in St. Paul. Parks double exposed every frame except one, but that shot caught the eye of Marva

Louis, boxer Joe Louis' elegant wife. She encouraged Parks to move to Chicago, where he began a portrait business for society women.

He began to chronicle the city's South Side black ghetto and in 1941 an exhibition of



those photographs won Parks a photography fellowship with the Farm Security Administration.

Working as a trainee under Roy Stryker, Parks created one of his best known photographs, American Gothic, Washington, D.C. (named after Grant Wood painting American Gothic). The photo shows a black woman, Ella Watson, who worked on the

clearing crew for the FSA building, standing stiffly in front of an American flag, a broom in one hand and a mop in the background. Parks had been inspired to create the picture after encountering repeated racism in restaurants and shops, following his arrival in Washington, D.C..

In 1969, Parks became Hollywood's first major black director with his film adaptation of his autobiographical novel, The Learning Tree. Parks also composed the film's musical score and wrote the screenplay.

Shaft, Parks' 1971 detective film starring Richard Roundtree, became a major hit that spawned a series of exploitation films. Parks also directed the 1972 sequel, Shaft's Big Score.

Parks was also a campaigner for civil rights; subject of film and print profiles, notably Half Past Autumn in 2000; and had a gallery exhibit of his photography in 1981. Parks was married and divorced three times and died of cancer at the age of 93.

Eastfield Library Presents Tribute To African Americans

Eastfield College Library (L200) presents Tribute to African Americans February 6 - 28.

In honor of African American History Month, Eastfield College Library is proud to offer a combination of several library-owned exhibits that encompass both historical and contemporary famous Black personalities as well as the major events during the Civil Rights movement.

Historic Black Personalities includes posters of such innovative people as Frederick Douglass, Harriett Tubman, and George Washington Carver.

Contemporary Black Personalities includes posters of well-known entertainers, athletes, politicians, and leaders such as Oprah Winfrey, Michael Jordan, Doug Wilder, and Colin L. Powell.

Astronauts, musicians, sports figures, politicians, and educators comprise the next exhibit entitled 20th Century Black Personalities. The last exhibit, Martin Luther King Jr. and the Civil Rights Movement, portrays the influence of Martin Luther King Jr. on the Civil Rights Movement from the famous Montgomery bus boycott of 1955 to King's death in 1968. These four exhibits pay homage to

the dedication and determination of these men and women who changed the face of America.

For more information, call 972-860-7168 or visit www.eastfieldcollege.com. This event is free to attend.

Spring Hours:
Monday - Thursday:
8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Friday: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Eastfield College, one of the seven Dallas County Community Colleges, is located at 3737 Motley Drive in Mesquite, just north of I-30.

~ National African American History Month, 2007 ~

By: The President Of The United States Of America
A Proclamation
African Americans have been an integral part of America for generations, and our Nation is stronger because of their contributions. During National African American History Month, we honor the achievements of African Americans and recognize our continued responsibility to strive for equality for all our citizens.

With grace and determina-

tion, African-American men and women have shaped our Nation and influenced American life.

The theme of this year's National African American History Month, "From Slavery to Freedom: Africans in the Americas," recalls African Americans' long journey to justice and commemorates the courage and persistence of the heroes who called on our Nation to live up to its founding promise. A century after African-American soldiers fought for their freedom on the

battlefields of the Civil War, African Americans struggled peacefully for their rights in the streets of Birmingham, Alabama, and on the Mall in Washington, D.C. Courageous civil rights leaders answered hate and discrimination with love and dignity, toppled segregation laws, and worked to make America a more just and hopeful Nation.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the

Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim February 2007 as National African American History Month. I call upon public officials, educators, and all the people of the United States to

observe this month with appropriate programs and activities that honor the significant contributions African Americans have made to our Nation.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twen-

ty-sixth day of January, in the year of our Lord two thousand seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-first.

George W. Bush

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Boney James Brings Cool Jazz To Majestic Theater On February 10

You'd never know it from the effortlessly soulful melodies and silky grooves of his records, but Boney James becomes a mad scientist in the studio while working to create sounds that feel as soothing as a tropical breeze.

"I was a nut making this record," the acclaimed saxophonist/songwriter/producer admits with a laugh while discussing Shine, his 10th solo album and first for Concord Records. "My wife calls me Mr. Einstein. I'll come in from the studio with crazy hair and this wild look in my eyes. I get obsessed - so much so that I actually have a song on this record called 'Let It Go.'"

"But when I pick up the sax,"

he adds, "I get out of that producer headspace and become the performer who just wants to take the audience on a journey."

Shine features guest appearances by hip-hop/soul diva Faith Evans, jazz-guitar icon George Benson, R&B vocalists Dwele and Phillip Bailey, keyboard wizard George Duke, alternative-pop singer Esthero and Sounds of Blackness powerhouse Ann Nesby. Boney produced the disc and played tenor, soprano and alto saxes, keyboards and flute. He wrote or co-wrote nine of Shine's 12 tracks. Faith Evans lends her supple pipes to the rambunctious, rock-tinged R&B song "Gonna Get It," which Boney co-



wrote with Rahsaan Patterson. "Faith is a huge star, and I was really flattered that she wanted to

work with me," Boney relates. "And I was floored not only by how hard she worked on the track, but by how incredibly gracious she was."

"In the Rain," a contemplative soul tune that was a #1 hit for Detroit group the Dramatics in 1972, is sung here by Dwele, another Motor City native. Boney traveled to Detroit to lay down the smoldering track, which showcases his sumptuous tone on tenor sax.

With George Benson Shine finds the veteran musician conjuring an array of moods - from the jaunty bounce of the title track and "Gonna Get It" to the velvety seductions of "Love Song" and "Hypnotic," from the delicate "In the Rain" and the

introspective "Dedication" to the ebullient stride of "Let It Go." What ties it all together, apart from Boney's endlessly lyrical, emotive playing on tenor, soprano and alto sax (among other instruments), is a glow of joy that's as evident in the record's languid passages as in its most effusive solos.

With Rev. Jesse Jackson and With Lily @ Montreux Over the course of more than a decade, he delivered a string of hugely successful albums on Warner that blended jazz and R&B - virtually spawning the subgenre known as Urban Jazz.

Energized by a new release on a new label, Boney reaffirms his excitement about returning to the road. "The communal experience of playing live - that's why I became a musician in the first place," he insists. "It's exciting and liberating. It never gets old for me."

It also allows him a temporary escape from the mad scientist, who will most certainly have fresh challenges for him next time.

Boney James performs at The Majestic Theater on Friday, February 10 at 7pm. Tickets available through Ticketmaster.

Black Cinematheque Celebrates Black History With Film

Black Cinematheque Dallas presents the film *Freedom Never Dies: The Legacy of Harry T. Moore* on Friday, Feb. 16, 2007 8:00 PM at the Black Forest Theater, 1920 MLK Blvd., Dallas. Admission is \$5.

The *Legacy of Harry T. Moore* explores the life and times of this enigmatic leader, a distinguished school teacher whose passionate crusade for justice could not be discouraged by either the white power structure or the more cautious factions of his own movement—the NAACP. Although Moore's assassination was an international cause celebre in 1951, it was overshadowed by following events and eventually almost

forgotten. We fail to recognize when Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee reporting the facts of the Civil



narrate. Sweet Honey In The Rock and Toshi Reagon perform original music.

"Often times we hear people say today that the civil rights movement started when Rosa Parks sat on the bus in the wrong place, or that it really started with Dr. King. What

Rights movement, of the modern Civil Rights movement is that there were people involved without names, who were not known, in challenging a system of inequality in the 40s and in the 50s, but you seldom see anything documented about those cases."

Myrlie Evers-Williams, Former Chairwoman, NAACP "This is a man who devoted his entire life, I mean his whole life, even our family life hinged around his organizing NAACP chapters and The Progressive Voter's League...they all talk about Dr. King, that's great, but Daddy did the same thing. In fact, he started organizing way before Dr. King. He had no lieutenants or bodyguards, or no one to fly him to this place or the other. He had absolutely nobody but us, and yet he accomplished all of those things—the voting, the teacher salaries, all of the lynchings that he investigated. That's very important, a very important part of history." Evangeline Moore, Daughter



Stephanie Ward Gallery Presents The Grand Opening Of Victorian Studio

Stephanie Ward Gallery, formerly located in Dallas's Deep Ellum Neighborhood, is reopening inside the Historic Victorian Studio 920 E. 18th St. First day of business will be Valentines Day. And the grand opening celebration is scheduled for Saturday, March 31, 2007. Where guest will be treated to live jazz, piping hot food and a show of original artwork and jewelry.

The 200-year-old house is the former home of Plano's first mayor, Fred Schimelpfenig and his wife Louise Ernestine Rammers. Schimelpfenig, who was mayor from 1902-1908, began the city's first music conservatory and Rammers began the first lending library. The couple was active in other civic and Methodist Church related activities.

Following in the couple's grand tradition of providing quality community programming and social activities, Stephanie Ward Gallery is offering the gallery for rent as a backdrop to small weddings, receptions, corporate events, meetings and musical and spoken word performances.

"This new venue is where the old meets the new," said Stephanie Ward, who opened her original gallery 1990 "We will sell both traditional and contemporary art that appeals to a variety of tastes. In addition, the gallery is an excellent setting for any event where charm, elegance and excitement provides a refreshing ambience."

The 3,500 square foot house in historic downtown Plano provides the perfect opportunity for Stephanie Ward Gallery to expand its offering beyond traditional art sells and gallery events.

Email victorianstudio@excite.com to join or mailing list or call 214-473-4234 for more information.

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National Black HIV/Aids Awareness Day

HIV Rate Continues To Climb In Black Community

More than 25 years into the AIDS epidemic, HIV continues to soar in the black community, accounting for more than half of the newly diagnosed infections in the U.S. in a recent yearly assessment by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

At the same time, health officials say, the black community has been slow to acknowledge the problem, prompting the CDC and grass-roots organizations to mark a yearly observance to bring attention to the epidemic.

Wednesday was National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, a national effort to get tested, to mobilize blacks to design,

educated and treated for the disease. Well-known blacks - including Tony Dungy, head coach of the Super Bowl champion Indianapolis Colts; entertainer Pat LaBelle; Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill.; and former Secretary of State Colin Powell joined the campaign by taping public-service announcements to run on radio and television.

Of the roughly 1 million people estimated to be living with HIV in the United States, 47 percent are black, according to CDC statistics for 2005, the most recent year for which numbers are available. Though blacks represent only about 13 percent of the U.S. population, 56 percent of the newly diagnosed

cases in 2005 were blacks.

"The ability to manage this terrible disease has improved and more people are living healthier and longer lives, but African-Americans have been diagnosed late and are not availing themselves to treatment," said Dr. Kevin Fenton, director of the CDC's National Center for HIV, STD and TB Prevention. "The stigma within the community has prevented people from getting tested and accessing services needed to help manage infections."

Black women are disproportionately affected, and black

men who have sex with men have a much higher rate of infection than men of other backgrounds who have sex with men, Fenton said.

"HIV is closely associated with socioeconomic disparity in our country. Poverty, poor access to services and lack of knowledge all factor into this," said Fenton. "Stigma, homophobia and lack of open conversation in the black community have further compounded the problem."

Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is an important part of a comprehensive awareness program to stop the spread of

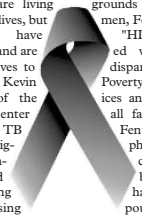
AIDS, according to supporters, and it helps to get the message out.

"Black people are going to have to take responsibility for themselves in this epidemic," said Debra Fraser-Howze, president of the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS. "We have to make some serious decisions, a decision to first talk about the epidemic and a decision to own it. It is ours, with 56 percent of all new infections."

While there has been progress in confronting the disease in the black community, Fraser-Howze said, much work remains in getting the subject to the forefront in churches, schools and com-

munity groups. And while much attention has been given to the epidemic in Africa, not enough has been placed on the problem in black communities in the United States, she said.

"We are in a quandary because we as African-Americans have to be concerned about what is going on in Africa. But at the same time we are concerned about Africa, we have to be concerned about South Central Los Angeles. Both have to be addressed," said Fraser-Howze. "Funds are dwindling and everybody is taking money to Africa when African-Americans are dying in this country."



~ Celebrate Black History Month A Million Times ~

There is a handsome, fashionably dressed African American couple waiting at



www.OurBlackAncestry.com. The image has been posted as

Plano Citizens Academy Page 1 Information Services; Legal, Municipal Court.

A Graduation Ceremony and Reception celebrates the 10th and final session.

The Academy's focus on the mechanics and services of Plano's municipal government operation meets with applause and high marks from graduates for its openness and wealth of information sharing. Meetings with Department Heads and on-site tours of various City

Anti-War March Page 1

United Church of Christ, said that people are outraged by the loss of life and the administration's casual attitude toward the death of Americans and the Iraqi people.

Felicia Eaves, president of Black Voices for Peace, said that Bush has shown little regard for life in the past. "When Bush gave his 'State of the Union,' he did not mention Katrina at all," Eaves said. "That should tell you that George Bush does not care for Black people."

"We have to stop this war. We have to."

Rep. Maxine Waters (D-Calif.) said that the Congress needs to be pressed to cut off funding for the war.

"We are going to push, push, and push to keep the debate going," Waters said. Speaking to the protestors, she said, "You have come here to save your country and you are the real patriots."

Waters made it clear that she is not afraid to speak out against the war. "My name is Maxine Waters and I am not afraid of George Bush," she said. "I am not intimidated by Dick Cheney. I worked to get rid of Donald Rumsfeld."

"Condi Rice (Black secretary of state) is a neo-con and she does not represent me. George Bush said that he was the decider."

"He is not the decider, he is a liar."

Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich.) said that a group of progressive Democrats in the Congress will attempt to stop the funding of the war in the Congress. Conyers said that

part of a marketing research exercise to find out how interested African American people are in family history/genealogy. The information will be used to create a website specifically designed to enable black people to do family history research easily and affordably. It is possible that the site will also offer related services, such as photo preservation and sharing, forums and family reunion planning.

Based on the incredible success of genealogical websites and television programs like "African American Lives" with Dr. Henry Louis Gates, the creators of the website believe "There is a huge market for a research and sharing facility specifically geared toward the average, everyday African American family." The site will grow over time to meet community needs. However, right now, they are asking that

Departments engage participants who are encouraged to become active partners in municipal government by considering service on the City's task forces, Boards and Commissions and volunteer programs.

For more information about the class, contact Ms. Kimberly Simmons, Plano Public Information Department, 972-941-7307.

An Academy application and brochure may be pulled up online for mail or fax delivery.

the president is off track.

"Bush fired his military leaders when they told him he was wrong," Conyers said. "Cheney said that we cannot do anything about the war. That's not true, we can fire Bush and we need to remember that."

The Rev. Jesse Jackson, president of the Rainbow-Push Coalition, said that "peace is possible" and "peace is imperative."

"Today we march for the soul of our nation, to preserve our nation's honor," he said. "The war in Iraq is causing a war on the poor at home."

"Money needed for the working poor, the aged and the young, are being sacrificed for this misadventure."

Jackson said that the war in Iraq is part of a larger problem in the country.

"We need more than new leaders; we need new direction, new priorities, and a new way for a new day," he said.

The speakers throughout the rally encouraged the protestors to support the bill, Bring Our Troops Home and Sovereignty of Iraq Restoration Act of 2007 sponsored by Waters, Rep. Lynn Woolsey (D-Calif.) and Rep. Barbara Lee (D-Calif.). The bill calls for an immediate withdrawal of troops from Iraq and mandates that the administration allow the Iraq government to function by itself.

On Jan. 29, the protestors took their case to the members of Congress on Capitol Hill. They lobbied the lawmakers to stop the war by cutting off funding by visiting their offices and talking to the members or high ranking staff members.

people log onto the site to participate in the survey - which is FREE and does not involve any commitment.

The goal is to generate one million hits over the 28 days of Black History Month 2007 - proving once and for all just how interested African Americans are in knowing about their history.

Go to www.OurBlackAncestry.com to cast your vote.

The survey is part of the Family Research Project of the Center for African American Archival Preservation based in Atlanta, GA.

"In all of us there is a hunger, marrow-deep, to know our her-

itage, to know who we are and where we have come from. Without this enriching knowl-

edge, there is a hollow yearning. No matter what our attainments in life, there is still a vacuum, and

emptiness, and the most disquieting loneliness." *-Alex Haley*

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Sister Tarpley

This is not just Black History that we are celebrating, not just America's history, but World History. Many great and useful inventions that are being used worldwide and that are taken for granted were invented by Black Americans. Henry T. Sampson in 1971 invented the cell phone and how many cell phones do you see in use today? Dr. Philip Emeagwali, considered a "father of the Internet" helped give birth to the "supercomputer" the technology that spawned the Internet, World Wide Web (WWW). Otis Boykin invented more than 25 electronic devices that are used in computers and guided missiles today. Frederick M. Jones on February 23, 1960 invented the Thermostat Control. P. Johnson on November 2, 1880 invented the Eye Protector.

How many industries that are vital to America's success have been profoundly influenced by the contributions of Black Inventors? There is an endless list of contributions by Black people in America. We would not have many agriculture and automobiles products; and communications as we know it. Thank God for **Black History Month**.

Some individuals think it's an accident that Black Americans have done anything worthwhile. Some people easily accept that we have a few famous entertainers, sports figures and a few entrepreneurs making millions of dollars; but they are slow to recognize that there are many Black Americans that have excelled, and are continuing to excel and invent useful and life-

Black History Month

changing devices, they use math and science to make a difference in how we live, work, play, and entertain today.

As a parent, grandparent, and a teacher, I also wish that all history of great magnitude is put in our textbooks.



Picture of The Week
Sister Tarpley, Ms. Billie Doye, and Ms. Rose Fielding celebrate Black History Month.

books, especially Black history, which is America's history; in spite of what we have been taught. But wishing it is not going to get the information in our textbooks on the grand scale that it needs to be. It's going to take some changed minds and hearts of our society to accomplish that. What needs to be done is for Texas and California, two states that purchase the largest amount of textbooks, request that our textbooks are updated with relevant, useful and accurate history. I guarantee you that when it's the bottom line (business profits) that counts and it's in the best interest of publishers; our history books will reflect history more accurately.

Read the story of Carter Godwin Woodson, Father of Black History (December 1875 - April 1950, it is a captivating and inspiration story in itself.

Dr. Woodson said, "Those who have no record of what their forebears have accomplished lose the inspiration which comes from the teaching of biography and history." Dr. Woodson, a distinguished Black author, editor, publisher, and historian who put his money, life, blood, sweat and tears in establishing Black History Week, (in the 1960s it was established as Black History MONTH) he believed that Blacks should know their past in order to participate intelligently in the affairs in our country. He strongly believed that Black history—which others (even some Black Americans) have tried so diligently to erase—is a firm foundation for young Black Americans to build on in order to become productive citizens of our society.

Dr. Woodson often said that he hoped the time would come when Negro History Week would be unnecessary; when all Americans would willingly recognize the contributions and integral part of the history of this country. His concept has given a profound sense of dignity to all Black Americans; and we must not forget it! Nor should we stop Black History Month.

Email: religion@monthgazette.com
Office: 972-516-4191
Voice Mail: 972-606-3878
Fax: 972-516-4197

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

Alpha Phi Alpha Page 1

and prostate cancer. The health fair is being sponsored in conjunction with the Baylor Health Care System Office of Health Equity and Central Dallas Ministries' Community Health Services.

Ticketed events open to the public include the following:

Friday, February 16, 2007
Step Show @ 9:00 pm
After Party @ 11:00 pm

Saturday, February 17, 2007
Black and Gold Banquet @ 7:00 pm
Miss Black and Gold Pageant @ 8:30 pm

After Party @ 11:00 pm
About Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
Alpha Phi Alpha, the first intercollegiate, Greek-letter fraternity established for African Americans, was founded December 4, 1906, at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York.

DENTON FULL GOSPEL HOLY TEMPLE CHURCH

March 4 - 9 @ 8 pm
Please join us for our Harvest Time Crusade; there will be a great move of God and you don't want to miss this event. For more information, please call 940-484-0963.
Denton Full Gospel Holy Temple Church
Elder F. H. Daniels, III Pastor
529 Bolivar Street
Denton, TX 76202
940-484-0963

FAITH & POWER MINISTRIES

February 10th @ 6 pm
You are invited to our Valentine Dinner; for detail information call 972-329-1358 or 214-664-9201.
Faith & Power Ministries
Apostle James Turkinet, Pastor
2120 N. St. Augustine Road @ Bruton, Suite 136
Dallas, TX 75227
972-329-1358

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN

February 2007
FBCA Education Department is providing GED preparation including pre-testing and tutoring, this FREE service is provided every Wednesday @ 6 pm. If you or someone you know needs assistance, please contact the church @ 972-356-9956 for further details.
February 17, 2007 @ 5 pm
You don't want to miss our First Annual Collin County Gospel Explosion @ the Allen Civic Center Auditorium, 300 N. Allen Drive, Allen, TX 75013. Tickets are only \$15 per person and will feature FBCA Sanctuary Choir with special guests: Charles Luster, Mashond Payne, Pastor Nya Adams, and Elder Daniel Davis.
For more info contact Sin. Gray @ 214-959-0544 or Sis. Bechurch @ 972-809-3533.

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

FELLOWSHIP OF BELIEVERS MINISTRIES, INC. (FOBCO)

February 16th @ 7:30 pm and February 17th @ 10:30 am
You are invited to our "Hail in My House, Heaven in My Heart" Marriage Conference 2007. Theme: A Match Made in Heaven @ Community Outreach Church, 526 Canton Road, Irving, TX 75061, Pastor L. Tarpley, Overseer. For more information contact Pastor Deborah Jackson @ 214-476-8188.
Fellowship of Believers Ministries
Bishop Gregory Crawford
Founder and Senior Pastor
501 Wynwood Village, #423
Dallas, TX 75224
214-473-2624

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVERS FOR COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE (PACE)

February 11th @ 4 pm
This Saturday, February 11th @ 4 pm We are sponsoring an African American Read-In. Bring the family to the Carrollton Library @ Josey Lane Ranch to hear selections being read by African American Authors; experience great stories and story tellers. Refreshments will be served.
For more information contact Roxanne Foster @ 972-416-8148.
PACE
Patricia Hempstead, President
P. O. Box 112721
Carrollton, TX 75011-2721
972-236-1337

SAINT MARK BAPTIST CHURCH

February 11th @ 8:30 pm
In honor of the achievements and contributions of the African Americans, please join us for our 10th Annual Black History Celebration and the Harriet Tubman Trailblazer Award Program. "Understanding Our Past, Living Today, Creating Our Future," featuring Dr. Harry Robinson, Jr., Founder, President & CEO of the African American Museum in Dallas and the Wandering Mimes Ministry, Inc. with special tribute to past recipients of the Harriet Tubman Trailblazer Award. This is FREE event that is open to the public.
For Questions or further information, call 972-542-6178.

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

ST. JAMES CME CHURCH, MCKINNEY

February 25th @ 8 pm
Please join us as we present a Fine Arts Extravaganza with the world renowned Dallas Black Dance Theatre and Saxophonist Tom Braxton. This will be "An Alluring and Enchanting Evening" through soul-stirring sounds, scenes, sophisticated moves @ the McKinney Performing Arts Center. Also featured will be the Holy Spirit inspired artwork of Artist Ted Ellis and the dramatic voice of Actress Naïma Imani Lett.
Tickets will be available through the McKinney Performing Arts Center or by calling 214-544-4630. In center contact Beth Bentley @ 214-498-3540 to learn more about sponsorship opportunities or additional information.
St. James CME Church
Rev. Thomas Jagours, Pastor
316 Watt Street @ Hwy 5
McKinney, TX 75069
972-529-2970

SANCTUARY OF PRAISE FELLOWSHIP OF ALLEN

February 24th @ 11 am to 3 pm
You are invited to our "A Taste of Soul" which will feature soul food cuisine from New Orleans, Virginia, North Carolina, Chicago, Kansas City, Mississippi and Texas. Tickets can be purchased at the event. Arts and Crafts will be available as well as African American Storytelling.
For more information contact Pastor John Wilson, III @ 469-853-2380
Sanctuary of Praise Fellowship of Allen
Rev. John Wilson, III, Pastor
1001 E. Mail Street
Allen, TX 75002

SIXTH AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

February 10th @ 6 pm
Join Bishop Davis as the keynote speaker for a Valentine Banquet for Family Tabernacle Ministries, 804 South Street, Palestine, TX. Carlos Daniels, Pastor. The banquet will be held at the AAA Restaurant, Loop 256 in Palestine.
February 11th @ 10:30 am
We will celebrate our "Annual Men's Day" with special guest Pastor David Wilson of Love Chapel Baptist Church in Corsicana, TX.
February 18th @ 3 pm
We will celebrate "Black History Month" with special guest Pastor Larry Polk, Sr. of Second Mission Baptist Church in Corsicana, TX.
For more information about the events call 903-874-4873
Sixth Avenue Baptist Church
Bishop K. D. Davis, Sr.
Overseer/Pastor
Rev. H. P. Williams, Associate Pastor
125 South 5th Street
Corsicana, TX 75110
903-874-4873

THE NAACP GARLAND BRANCH

February 9, 2007 @ 8 pm
We will host the 7th Annual Winter Ball, "Honoring the First Ladies of Our Churches" @ the Coppella Court (formerly the Castle at Canyon Creek), 2701 Custer Parkway, Richardson, TX 75080. Attire is Black Tie. The evening includes entertainment and buffet Dinner. Tickets are only \$45.
For more information, call 972-381-5044, Box 5.
NAACP Garland Branch
P. O. Box 460944
Garland, TX 75046-0944
972-381-5044, Box 5

Church Directory

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

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

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

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN
Pastor W.L. Stafford Sr., M.Div.
"A Ministry that is on the Move for Christ"
Early Sunday Morning Worship 8:15 am
Sunday School 9:45 am
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 am
Wednesday Prayer/Bible Study 7:00 pm
2nd & 4th Monday "Faith for Christ" 7:00 pm
Come experience the Worship Atmosphere at Fellowship; you will never be the same.
200 Belmont Drive • Allen, Texas • 75013
Phone 972-359-9956 • www.fbcoallen.org
*If you need a ride to worship with us, please call the church.

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

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

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

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

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

St. James CME In McKinney Presents Fine Arts Extravaganza At The McKinney Performing Arts Center

St. James C.M.E. Church in McKinney presents An Alluring & Enchanting Evening Through Soul-Stirring Sounds. Scenes. Sophisticated Moves. Come Experience The Arts!

What better way to culminate Black History Month than with a breath-taking evening of fine arts. The McKinney Performing Arts Center will never be the same! During this one-evening event featuring an intriguing per-

formance of the Dallas Black Dance Theatre Company, you'll understand the depth of their dance as they celebrate 30 years of existence. You'll also experience the smooth saxophone sounds of accomplished jazz musician Tom Braxton, the Holy Spirit-inspired artwork of Artist Ted Ellis and the dramatic voice of Actress Naima Imani Lett. Mr. Braxton and Mr. Ellis will make their music and artwork available for sale during the evening.



In her 113th year, St. James is going back to her roots – community. St. James is the small church located on the corner of Watt and Hwy 5 – a small church with a big heart! For over a century, many of McKinney's finest have served within those doors - Educators like Leonard Evans, Reuben Johnson and Jesse McGowen; Business owners like Allie C. and Alene Johnson; Civil servants like Sandy Smiley and Larry Jagours.

Continuing in the spirit of community, we continue to give back. As a Christian faith-based entity, St. James desires to create an atmosphere to share in the cultural experience of observing Black History Month, to raise funds for local nonprofits, and to reach out to the local community in obedience to her faith.

Sponsorship levels will include the opportunity to donate a pre-determined number of FREE tickets to local

youth in the community for this spectacular event.

This extravaganza will be held on Sunday, February 25, 2007 at 4pm. Tickets will be available through the McKinney Performing Arts Center at www.mckinneyperformingartscenter.org or 214-544-4630.

Please contact Beth Bentley at 214.498.3540 to learn more about sponsorship opportunities or to receive additional event information.

World Renowned Fisk Jubilee Singers To Perform In Dallas



The internationally acclaimed Fisk University Jubilee Singers will perform Saturday, February 17, 2007 at the Christian Chapel Temple of Faith, 14120 Noel

Rd. in Dallas. The performance will begin at 3 p.m. The concert, chaired by Barbara Lord Watkins, will benefit Fisk University's scholarship fund. Under the direction of Paul

Kwami, the Jubilee Singers perform acapella and specialize in Negro spirituals. The group's most notable alumna is Mandisa Hundley, American Idol finalist.

The Jubilee Singers were established in 1871 to raise funds for then-struggling Fisk University in Nashville, TN. The original nine-member troupe toured the United States as well as Europe raising more than \$150,000 for the school. The funds were used to buy the land where the school resides today. Proceeds were also used to build Jubilee Hall, the first permanent structure erected for African American higher education in the United States. Jubilee Hall currently serves as the senior women's dormitory. Contrary to popular belief,

Nashville was nicknamed "Music City" because of the Jubilee Singers' heritage, not country music fame.

Today, the ensemble is made up of students from throughout the United States studying a variety of disciplines at Fisk University. The group was featured in the PBS documentary series, The American Experience – Jubilee Singers: Sacrifice and Glory and was recently honored with a star on the Walk of Fame in Nashville.

Induction into the Gospel Hall of Fame in 2000, the Presidential Lifetime

Achievement Award presented by the National Arts Club of New York, and a Dove Award for the CD Poor Man Lazarus are just a few of the awards and accolades the Grammy-nominated group has received.

Sponsorship opportunities are available. For additional information regarding the concert, please contact Tobii F. Cox at 214-923-8380 or tobii.cox@verizon.net. Tickets will go on sale December 1 and can be purchased by visiting www.TicketWeb.com or by calling Vince Leal at 972-989-9410.

MON-The Gazette Publicist Attends Stellar Awards

Cheryl Jackson's radio show "Nothing But Good News" airs Saturdays from 8:00-8:30am on 1040AM KGGR or visit the website at www.kgram.com.



Recording artist Yolanda Adams interviews Vickie Winans



Actress Gabrielle Union with MON-The Gazette publicist Cheryl Jackson



Patti LaBelle with Erma Gray Davis, President of Central City Productions

Bishop Bernard Jordan Visits Dallas



It seems like everyday we hear more about business owners, entrepreneurs, politicians, movie makers, actors and actresses, etc., being in touch with their spirituality— Even claiming that the laws of attraction, meditation, higher powers, and soul searching is why they got to where they are.

Bishop Bernard Jordan has counseled numerous entrepreneurs, including Russell

Simmons of Phat Farm and Kimora Lee of Baby Phat.

Bishop Jordan was in Dallas on Wednesday as part of his 23 city lecture tour titled after his new book *The Laws of Thinking: 20 Secrets to Using the Divine Power of Your Mind to Manifest Prosperity*.

"Prosperity has gone from buzzword to cliché in the past decade. Pastors, parishioners, business owners, CEOs, athletes,

and even entertainers all believe they know what prosperity is. When they attain their brand of prosperity, they begin to pursue their style of prosperous living without implementing a workable plan. For the most part, they arrive at the end of an exhausting journey and discover that they are no closer to their goal—and they really didn't know what their goal was in the first place", Bishop Jordan states in his book.

Spiritual Direction
"Each One, Reach One"

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

Dr. Gregory Foster, Senior Pastor
Rev. Anthony Foster, Pastor

Our Mission
To fulfill The Great Commission until Christ comes.

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

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

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

www.macedoniaministries.com

T.J. Denson, Pastor

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

The Evening Experience
W.E. Experience Book
Richardson, TX 75081
www.theevening.org
Ph: 972.991.0300

Author: Terrence A. Avery
Pastor: Terrence A. Avery

Friendship Baptist Church
Dr. C. Paul McBride, Pastor

Schedule of Services:
Sunday
Early Morning Worship
8:00 a.m.
Sunday School Classes
9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship
11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship (1st Sunday) 6:00 p.m.

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

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

4396 Main Street
The Colony, Texas 75056
(972) 625-8186
[website: www.fbc-online.net](http://www.fbc-online.net)
"The Church with a Vision"

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

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

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

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

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

Website: www.ibccj.org

Hill Chapel
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
1113 Ave. L, Plano, TX 75074 (972) 423-4890
Rev. Clarence J. Ford, Jr., Pastor

Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.
Sunday Worship Service: 11:30 A.M.
Wednesday Night-Community Bible Class: 7:30 P.M.

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

Dr. Joseph A. Murrell, Pastor
Email: church@benwashington.org
Web: benwashington.org

"THE CHURCH WITH AN OPEN BIBLE"

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

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