

Inaugural Community Service Award

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Collin County Black Chamber Pioneers Luncheon Page 5



Legendary Isley **Brothers** Perform At Nokia Page 7



Volume XVI. Number IX

Fifty Cents

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People In The News



obbic Edmonds will hold a ooksigning and discussion at ballas' Jokae's African American ookstore located at 3223 W. amp Wisdom Road on aturday, March 17th from noon

Camp Wisdom Road on Saturday, March 17th from noon until 2 pm.

Attorney Edmonds has served as legal counsel on a number of high profile cases over the years.

One of which resulted in the writing of her book The Legal Navigator: Essential Tips for the writing of her book The Legal Navigator: Essential Tips for the book at Joles's Boolstore.

Edmonds serves as a member of the Tarrant County Civil Service Commission panel, and is also an alternate judge for the City of Forest Hill. She is a board member of the Tarrant County Black Bar Association. Edmonds also practices before the United States Supreme Court, United States District Court of Appeals and many others.

Attorney Edmonds was transfer Lawyer of the Year in 1996 by the Tarrant County Black Bar Association, and has been recognized as a KFDA African-American Hero.

For more info call 214-331-8100.

Dr. Motsoko Pheko, Preside of the Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC), Member of South African Parliament and author of several books on history, law and author of s on history, law, nce and theology the Pan-African Bookstor Bookstore on urday, March 10, 2007 at 7

of the PAC since 1960. He is a former Representative of the African Liberation Struggle at the United Nations in New York and at the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva. During the struggle against apartheid and colonialism, Dr. Pheko was imprisoned for his anti-apartheid activities. His organizing forced him into cell for 30 years. He holds a B.A. degree from the University of South Africa; a Backelor of Llaws from the University of Zambia, a Master of Laws from the University of London, and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Kensington. The Pan-African Connection Boolstore and Resource Center is located at 612 E. Jefferson Blvd, Dallas. For more info, call 214-943-8262.



Dr. Sharon Blackman, president of Brookhaven College, has been appointed to serve as a member of the Commission on

seven individually accredited institutions in the Dallas County Community College District.
Blackman, who previously at Richland College, has 32 years of experience in the College, and the College, has the College, has 30 years of experience in a district of the College, has 30 years of experience in the College, has 30 years of experience in the College, and the College, has 30 years of experience in the College, and the College, has 30 years of experience in the College, and counseling and teaching. She taught at Richland a Earlham colleges, and she earned her bachelor's and m

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NAACP President Resigns After 19 Months

AP NAACP President Bruce S. Gordon is quit ting the civil rights organization, leaving after just 19 months at the helm, he told The Associated Press on Sunday.

Gordon cited growing strain with board members over the group's management style and future operations.

"I believe that any organization that's going

to be effective will only be effective if the board and the CEO are aligned and I don't think we are aligned," Gordon said. "This compromises the ability of the board to be as effective as it

Gordon said he will give up his duties before onth's end. He spoke by phone from Los Angeles, where he attended the NAACP Image

Dennis C. Hayes, general counsel of the Baltimore-based National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, is expected to serve as interim president, Gordon said. Hayes filled the same role after Kweisi Mfume resigned the presidency in 2004 after nine



Gordon said that while the NAACP is an advocacy organization, it needs to be more focused on service and finding

"I'm used to a CEO running an organization, with the board approving strategy and policy, Gordon said. "But the NAACE board is very much involved." Gordon said he made the decision in recent weeks and

Dallas Chapter of the Continental Societies, Inc., - Hosts Annual Mardi Gras "Naw'lins Jam"

On Saturday, March 10 at Parklane, Dallas, Texas, the Dallas Chapter of the Continental Societies, Inc., will host the organization's annual fund-raiser Mardi Gras Event "Naw'lins Jam".

"Naw'ins Jam".

The Honorary Chair is Dr.
Wright L. Lassiter, Jr.,
Chancellor of the Dallas
County Community College
District and the Celebrity King
and Queen for the event is
Dallas County District Attorney and Mrs. Craig Watkins.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Dallas Chapter of the Continental Societies, Inc., scholarships and children's projects. Previous beneficiaries have included Bryan's House, the AIDS Babies Project at Parkland Hospital, Apartme



Craig Wa

Philips Episcopal School and Center, Brother's Keeper, Ionath Place, Shaun's Place, Girls, Inc., A Lift for Life and a number of schools in Dallas

County.

The cocktail affair, optional

---in begin at 7:30 costume, will begin at 7:30 pm and feature musical enter

1,200 Seniors Rally At Capitol



An estimated 1,200 AARP-Texas members from every corner of the state – some boarding their buses as early as 4 a.m. – rallied at the south steps of the Texas Capitol Tuesday, February 27 to demand an end to high electric

cles, descended upon Austir shortly before noon to kick off 3 hours of frenzy, led off by a rally attended by several members of the Legislature and a large press contin gency.

Senator Juan Hinojosa o McAllen and Representative Sylvester Turner of Houston lead a group of legislators from both parties in publicly

For Lower Electric Rates



signing an AARP petition call-ing for the restoration of an electricity fund that protects

low-income Texans, the prohibi AARP Rallies For Electric Page 9

Plano's Eyes In Sky -



The City of Plano Technology Service Department has teamed up with the Plano Police Department to take securing Plano to a whole new level – sky level. The project began in June 2006, when City Council approved the purchase of a highly-integrated mobile broadband system from Motorola called MotoMesh to aid with public safety and City services

The total project will cost approximately \$21 million. That includes the design costs, hardware purchase, installation, management software and make ready costs for various sites.

The planned deployment will take approxilv two years.

Public Safety (primarily Police) was the ini-tial target audience. As planning progressed, other departments were incorporated into the phased deployment. According to Director of

Technology Services David Stephens, "The primary users at this point will be Police, Fire Facilities Management Facilities Management Transportation Engineering and Customer and Utility Services. Other departments will be added as the network is built out and services available citywide."

In the long term, there are plans to offer Internet service for residents, but it will not be through the MotoMesh net-work as it is for city services only. It utilizes radio spectrums of 4.9 GHz, key to supporting Police and Fire operations, and 2.4 GHZ for other city services with redundant data routes for reliability. The MotoMesh technology was originally developed for battlefield communications. Stephens added, "As more municipalities build out 4.9 systems, the options for interoperability will increase. At this time, our network will be a closed system in that only Plano employees will have

Plano's Eyes In The Sky Page

Chambers Boost Collin County Day Efforts



In a new attempt to grow the ctivities around Collin County Legislative Day in Austin, the Allen, Frisco, McKinney and Plano Chambers agreed to take on the organizational responsibilities for the 2007 Collin County Day events.

Back in the late summer, a series of meetings took place before the actual handoff included representatives from occurred. Historically, the County Judge's office leads the

charge for Collin County Day, but this year, with the transition to a new county judge, it was agreed the chambers would take the reins for organizing the event. The first step was to build the committee tapping most (if not all) of those who had served in the past. Members of this year's committee

Almost 100,000 Children Displaced By Cyclone And Floods



Children's Fund (UNICEF) said today, adding that the next week will be critical in avoid-ing outbreaks of

that destroyed the

homes of at least

160,000 people, the United Nations

Around 80,000 children in southern African country of Mozambique have now been displaced by flooding after Friday's cyclone added to the misery of almost a

Persistent heavy rains across southern Africa have wreaked havoc for hundreds of thousands of people in the region over the past month but Cyclone Favio last

Iarvis Christian College - Ninth Annual Heritage Scholarship Banquet











Dallas ISD Students Star In

Michelle Coleman & Rev. Claude O'Dell Maple

Dallas ISD students take a break during the commercial shoot with DWU Conservation Manager Carole Davis; students from left to right include Marton Johnson, Jacob DeLeon, Josefina Ruiz, Robyn Lam, Helanna Padgitt, Kristin Barnes, Lauren Adams and Nicole Pinon.

Utilities (DWU), students of Sidney Lanier Elementary Vanguard for the Expressiv Arts in Dallas ISD, and DWU Cartoon Contest Drawing Winner Helanna Padgitt teamed up yesterday to shoot a

The City of Dallas Water new commercial that delivers the importance of water conservation through the eyes of Dallas youth.

The new commercial is expect-ed to air on network affiliates and cable stations throughout the Dallas/Fort Worth market begin-



James Gilyard of Sammons Center for the ArtslSammons Jazz, and Connie Carreker, TACA board member.

On February 1, TACA-The tinued its 40th anniversary celebration and grant awards presdistributing



Dain Rauscher and TACA s

\$760,000 to 37 local arts organizations. The event was held at the Dallas Museum of Art with Tony Award-winning actress Betty Buckley giving emotional remarks about being an artist. Chapter recently held it's Ninth in downtown Dallas.

Jarvis Christian College in con-nction with the Dallas Alumni Banquet at the Fairmont Hotel

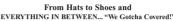
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Ongoing
The Allen Public Library
will feature films with all black
casts or have African-American
themes will be featured each
Tuesday night during February.
On February bith and 20th,
guests will be treated to extremely rare viewing of "Beulah" at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

1950's. For more into call Tom Keener at 214-500-4911.

The Collin County Chapter of the American Business Women's Association meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at Eldorado Country Club. 2646 Country Club Drive in McKimney Free Tenant Legal Workshops are at 6 p.m. Tuesdays at Douglass Community Center, 1111 Ave. Hin Plano. Call 972-491-7174. Alpha Beta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi a social service cultural sonority meets the second Monday of each month in members home in Frisco, McKimney, and the Plano area. Call 972-473-9089.

Call 972-473-9089

Assistance League of Greater Collin County meets the third Wednesday of each month. Visit www.assistancegue-gcc.org. "EVOLVE," a social net-

opportunity for opportunity fo

02. Call 972-267-4452.

A free legal clinic is offered or residents who meet low-accome guidelines, 6:00 p.m., econd Thursday of each nonth, 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 assis-tance to 22 eligible families and individuals for rental housing in Frisco.

Call 972-377-3031 for information.

Kumaasi African Ensemble Dance
Classes from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Classes from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. West African dance classes held every Saturday at the South Dallas Cultural Center, 3:400 S. Firzbugh Ave. For more info call S-Ankh Rasa at 214-298-5858.

Late Night at the Dallas Museum of Art. Join us on the third Friday of each month at 17:17 N. Harwood. Slo for adults, 57 for sensior citizens and \$5 for students with current school I.D. 2:14-922-12:00, publicprograms@DallasMuseumof Art.org.

Dallas Baptist University-North Leadership Empowerment

North Leadership Empowerment Luncheon Series is from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. the first Wednesday of the 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.

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.theyundraeshow.com

www.theyundraeshow.com

March 9, 2007 "Long As You Live In My "Long As You Live In My House" at 7:30 p.m. Friendship-West Baptist Church, 2020 W. Wheatland, Dallas. For more info, call Mushell Sullivan at 972-228-5200. Plano Business Interchange at 7:30 .m. Chamber Office, 1200 East 15th

7547.
Ambassadors Meeting at 11:45
a.m. Plano Chamber Office, 1200
East 15th Street, Plano. For more
info, call 972-424-7547.
Women's Division Deadline at
12:00 neon. Plano Chamber Office,
1200 East 15th Street, Plano. For
more info, call 972-424-7549.

1200 East 15th Street, Plano. For more info, call 972-424-7547.

Fashion at the Park a public fashion and media event from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. North Park Center, 1030 North Park Center, 1030 North Park Center, 1030 North Park Center, 1030 Day Fair Form 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Lone Star Park, 1000 Lone Star Parkway, Grand Prairie will host a customer service and hospitality Job Fair. For more info, call 972-237-1177 or visit www.lonestarpark.com/jobs.

Mother Goose Storytime from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for four to 18-month-olds. The event will be held at the Central Library, 801 West Irving Blod, Irving, For more info, call 972-721-2458 or visit www.irvingibbrary.org. inglibrary.org.

March 10, 2007

Savor Dallas - An International
Experience of Wine, Food, Spirits and
the Arts experience dedicated to fabulous wine and food from 50 of DFW's top chefs. For more info, call 866-277-7920 or email savordallas.com

The Jazz Swing Era film and dis-Cussion sessions at Central Library 8 Fine Arts Division, 4th floor Dallas Public Library & Music Library and the Division of Jazz Studies at 2:30 p.m. For more info, email tina.mur-dock@dall.pilbrary.or.

dock@dallaslibrary.org.

Kick 4 College from 8:00 a.m. to
5:00 p.m. at Plano Centre, 2000 East
Spring Creek Parkway, Plano.

National Karate League tournament series. For more info, call Kasey at 972-838-5425 or 214-352-5425 or

972-838-5425 or 214-352-5425 or visit www.kick-college.com.
Personality Plus/Boundaries
Seminar from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
at Plano Centre, 2000 East Spring
Creck Parkway. For more info, call
Garry Mensch at 214-293-7215 or
email garry@glseminars.com or visit

Iamie Foxx with Special Gues Jamie Foxx with Special Guest Speedy at 7:30 p.m. at the Nokia. To purchase tickets, contact Ticketmaster online at Ticketmaster.com or by phone at 214-373-8000, metro 972.647.5700. Tickets are also avail-able at all Ticketmaster outlets.

March 11, 2007
Plano Bridal Show at Plano
Centre, 2000 East Spring Creek
Parkway, Plano from
12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more
info call, 972-713-9920, or visit

www.bridal

March 12, 2007

Eric Roberson "LIVE" at 9:00 p.m. Petrus Lounge (4th floor of Luqa), 1217 Main Street, Dallas. For more info, call 214-264-2904.

March 13, 2007

more into, cail 214-269-2909.

Mew Visions, New Voices a spring playwriting festival from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Southern Methodist University, 6101 Bishop Bled. For more info, call 214-768-2787.

Business Development Meeting at the Plano Chamber Office, 1200 E 15th Street at 8:00 a.m. For more info call, 972-424-7547.

Chamber Prospective Member Open House 4:30 p.m. at the Plano Chamber Office, 1200 E 15th Street. For more info, call 972-424-7547 or SNYP to rsyp@planochamber.org.

Power Networking at 5:30 p.m. at the Plano Chamber Office, 1200 E 15th Street. Please RSVP to rsyp@planochamber.org or for more

info, call 972-424-7547.

March 16, 2007

4th Annual Weckend Festival of Black Dance "Rhythm And Soul Of A People" at Purse Auction Maonii Butuon main stage at 800 pm. For more info. 2440 or contact Monica Ellinost an inonica@cmwfinancial.com or call 972-851-8860.

972-831-8866.

March 17, 2007

Roundtable Writer's Breakfast with award winning playwright P.J.

Gibson from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Event will be held t the Black

Academy of Arts & Letters in room

T203.

Dallas Wellness Lifestyle Expo a
two day event at Plano Centre, 2000
E. Spring Creek Pkwy, Plano. 10:00
a.m. to 6:00 p.m. For more info, call
Adjuvant Expos at 972-504-6358 or
visit www.dallaswellnessexpo.com.

March 20, 2007

"My Sweet Potato Pie" runs
brough Sunday, 25th. Naomi Bruton through Sunday, 25th. Naomi Bruton Main Stage. For more info, call 214-743-2400.

March 21 2007 March 21, 2007
Disney on Ice Princess Wishes
thru Sunday, March 25th, at
American Airlines Center, 2500
Victory Avenue, Dallas. For more
info, call 214-373-8000.

March 23, 2007

The Isley Brothers at 8:00 p.m. at
The Nokia. To purchase tickets, contact Ticketmaster online at
Ticketmaster.com or by phone at

214.373.8000, metro 972.647.5700. Tickets are also available at all Ticketmaster outlets. Heart of Texas Arts and Crafts

Show at Plano Centre 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway, Plano from 3:00 p.m to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, March 24th, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, March 25th, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more info, call

Earline Walters at 903-217-8081 or visit www.heartof texasshow.com.

March 24, 2007

2007 Meathout Festival, a free educational and health screening event featuring speakers, food sampling, and exhibits related to the vegetarian lifestyle, at the Center for Community Cooperation, 2000 Live Oak Street, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00

p.m. For more info, call 2:00

Street, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For more infoc, call 2:14331-2812 or 972-578-0370 or visit www.bvstx.org. 5 Men On A Stool Concert at 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. A blend of contemporary R & B, Jazz and Spoken Word held at the Clarence Muse Cafe Theatre. March 27, 2007 Retaining Your Workforce.

March 27, 2007
Retaining Your Workforce
for Future Growth from 8:30
a.m. to 11:00 a.m. For more info,
call the Plano Economic
Development Board at 972-208-

"Meet Your Candidates" Town Hall Meeting and Political Forum 6:50 p.m. at the Women's Activity Center, 713 Austin Street, Garland. For more info, call 972-381-5044. March 29, 2007

info, call 972-381-5044.

March 29, 2007

Citizen of the Year Awards

Dinner at 6:00 p.m. at the

Marriott Dallas/Plano Legacy

Town Center. Speaker: Gary

Kelly, Vice Chairman and CEO,

Southwart Airlings Exp. 1992.

setily vice Chairman and CEO, Southwest Airlines. For more info, call 972-424-7547. April 28, 2007 Senior Achievement Award Ceremony at Dallas City Hall Plaza hosted by deputy Mayor Don Hill And Cleo-Glenn bkm104@vahoo.com

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Paul Hailey

I knew it was going to be trouble as soon as I read the title of the article: "The Manifesto of Ascendancy for the Modern American Nigger". I thought it sounded like an extremely bad propaganda booklet for the Ku Klux Klan. I mean, what would you think if somebody gave you a magazine article to read with that title?

itier it's exactly the same thing I thought when I read it

Writer, director, produces John Ridley recently penned an essay with the above title in Esquire magazine. Forget that have read Esquire every nonth for the past 15 years, or that I too occasionally pen essays, Ridley's article pushed me to a point where all I could do is sit quietly and shake my head for about five minutes. I wish I could write something clever or witty about the...words John Ridley used in his essay I wish I had some biting and sarcastic response to the points he made in his article after he sucked me in with his vicious title. But I don't. I'll the opening words of John Ridley's piece speak for them-

selves-you be the judge.

"Let me tell you something niggers, the oppressed minority within our minority. Always down. Always out. Always complaining that they can't catch a break. Notoriously poor about doing for them-selves. Constantly in need of a leader but unable to follow in any direction that's navigated by hard work, self-reliance. And though they spliff and drink and procreate their way onto welfare doles and WIC lines, niggers will tell you their state of being is no fault of their own. They are not respon-sible for their nearly 5 percent incarceration rate and their 9.2 percent unemployment rate

Some People Just Don't Get It

percent rate at which they drop out of high school. For the 69.3 percent of births they create out of wedlock."

This from a black man in nerica. But wait, there's more

"In the forty years since the New Deal was brokered since there have been successes for blacks But there are still too many blacks in prison, too m aggrandizing the thug life and way too many African-Americans doing far too little with the opportunities others earned for them. That which retards us in the worst of 'us." those who disdain actual ascen dancy gained by way of intellectual expansion and physical toil-who instead value the posture of an 'urban,' a 'street, a 'real' exis tences, no matter that such a culture threatens to render them extinct. 'Them' being niggers."

Wow. Do you see how Ridley's words might be inflammatory to

8000 words about how the highwater mark in "ascendancy" for African Americans came in eleven days in March 2001, when Dr. Condoleeza Rice and General Colin Powell assumed 'real power" during an interna tional plane incident with China. Condi and Colin were given full control over the incident by President Bush; they alone were in charge of negotiat ing with the Chinese on the release of twenty-four detained crewmen from a U.S. plane that

vas shot down. Ridley's piece went on about how this watershed moment for black ascendancy into real power got overshadowed by rioting "niggers" in the Overthe-Rhine section of Cincinnati on April 9, 2001.

By that time, I didn't care what argument or point Ridley was trying to make. John Ridley's piece was wrong on so many levels it is hard for me to rationally discuss them

For starters, black people, (as I

Not responsible for the 11.8 have written in this space on several occasions), are not niggers. I don't like it when white p refer to us niggers and I'm almost equally offended when use the term toward each other I get antsy when anyone starts throwing around stereotypes and generalizations while they usually contain a nugget of truth, it is only a nugget. Ridley's words have a dangerous undertone of self-loathing attached to them, or at the very least, outright hatred for a segment of his

And that's where I have the biggest problem with John Ridley. I agree there are large numbers of people, both black and white, who possess an unrealistic sense of entitlement and refuse to take responsibility for their own actions. Those people are a drain on all of society, not just black members. But blatant of those problems.

Ridley confuses a cause with a onsequence. U.S. ghettos pro duce human misery, not "niggers". "Niggers" didn't create slavery or Jim Crow or racism or mandatory minimum sentences. I agree that black people need to find a solution the current state of drugs, alco-hol, abuse, despair, murder and suicide. But the historical reasons for the current situation are not unclear; the unclear part is the solution. Which is something the Ridley piece never provides, and that makes him suspect.

It's also suspect that the Republican Ridley wrote his piece in December, the month following major Democratic gains in the November elections

I like quoting a brother of mine from time to time. His favorite line is "some get it. me don't", which refers to the lunacy of people in understand ing the obvious. For all his blustering and nastiness, I don't think John Ridley gets it.

Paul Hailey can be reached at phailey@MonTheGazette.com

Hair Weaves Tangle Self-**Image For Black Women**

By: Malena Amusa, This past winter, I noticed omething very unsettling while was visiting my family in St

Almost all the black women I encountered were sporting layishly long hair weaves, fake locks that can add length and volum after being sewed or glued to the scalp. Weaves come in straight curly and kinky textures. But most black women with weaver wear them to extend and straighten the appearance of their naturally coiled and nappy hair.

Everywhere I turned, from the church to the mall, black women suited up in this straight-hair uni-form. Was I missing something? I thought. Would my close-cut Afro set me too far apart from other black women?

Natural, kinky hair — which is

most associated with blackness has also been tied to inferiority in the United States. We can thank entrepreneur Madam C.J. Walker, the late 19th century inventor of the hot pressing comb literally a comb-shaped iron for the subsequent years of black women burning their disobedient hair into submission. Still today among African Americans, there exists a strata between those with "bad hair" and "good hair," the latter being hair that is most in

sync with the dominant culture
Walk into any pharmacy an you'll see a deluge of harsh chemical products that promise black women unnappy hair. Many believe this is a demonstration of

self-loathing.
This perplexed me because around St. Louis, so many everyday women who have no celebrity stakes to claim were subscribng to this myopic image of beauty wrapped around these hair weaves that, by the way, can take hours to glue onto the scalp and

I wanted to walk in their shoes and understand them, so I decided to get a long, straight wig. Without the labor-intensive process, I achieved the luscious locks of a weave so I could learn what the non-celebrity woman had to gain from emulating the straight hair of non-African

oman. After several days of wearing the wig and interviewing black omen, I found that the straight-air phenomenon has little to do with a need to fit into mainstream social settings. Rather, these long weaves may reflect our desire to try on a different feminine persona that has historically been appropriated for white

I knew my hair was being mistaken for my femininity upon entering the Asian-owned beauty-supply store in my predominantly black neighborhood where I went to buy my wig. Perhaps because the elderly Asian sales lady kept saying: "Oh you pretty . . . with the wig." ou pretty . . . Malena

It became even clearer once I returned home with the long, black, straight wig in hand and saw the label name Nikita. Even the manufacturers figured that by ring this wig, I was to trans form myself into another woman.

A few weeks later, I moved to New York and met an actress and professor of aesthetic studie the University of Texas-Dallas Venus Opal Reese has inter-viewed hundreds of black women in researching this hair transformation.

During the opening night of her one-woman play "Split Ends," which takes an in-depth look at black women and their historical tangle with hair, Reese bombarded a small stage wearing a skimpy dress and a Tina Turner wig just as wild as her flailing arms. Seconds later, the wig flew off and fell to the floor As the crowd yelped with laugh-ter, Reese hurried to pick it up and kept waving the hair in her hand as if still attached to her

"Being a woman is a performance," she said in the skit. "It's a

full-time, thankless job."

Her point was to show that by wearing weaves and wigs, black women are dressing up in their own drag, whereby they can become the type of woman they aren't otherwise expected to be Black women weaving up has so much to do with our need to feel points in our lives, Reese argued later in a phone inter-

said. "It's a negotiator, it's a deal-breaker "

I'd say. In a world whe black women are constantly blunted by racial and sexual discrimination, it makes sense that we'd begin adopting count er-representations of ourselves.

That's what the wig did for me. It gave me the freedom to be aloof, to flirt and to smile without fear of not receiving smiles in return.

I made several outings with

the wig. During one trip, I went to a mall. The weave made my confidence soar. Heading there, I drove faster than usual. And every time I reached to pick up my cell phone, I dramatically my cell phone, I drama tossed my hair back and said "Haloh!" roaring and perky like a valley girl. I was ready to explode onto the mall scene and attract all kinds of men.

As I entered the sliding doors, my hair swooshed about my face and I loved it. And after some time. I noticed that I was moving around like a butterfly flighty and irregular, I couldn't ston giggling like a school girl and tossing my hair lightly back as I rolled my eyes sensuously around while talking.

The wig had changed me; with it, I felt excited to become Nikita, who I assumed was a fun-loving white woman.

I believed I could seduce with my hair without thinking men wouldn't return my vibes because I was too black. Whatever that feeling -- call it femininity if you like -- I had more of it. And while I hated the persistent itch of the wig and those fluffy bangs scratching my eyes, for the first time, saw clearly the power of

Malena Amusa is the communications associate at the Oakland-based racial justice Applied Research Center/ Colorlines Magazine in New York. More of her work appears at ARC's blog at Racewire.org.

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Misfiring On 'Why I Hate Blacks'

By: Earl Ofari Hutchinson, BlackNews.com Columnist Kenneth Eng has been cruci-

fied for writing in Asian Week that blacks are weak-willed, Asian hating, and were complacent in subjection to slavery. But was he totally wrong? Did he have the right to say his hurtful words? Did Asian Week have the right to publish them? And was the pas-sion and anger that Eng whipped up warranted when measured against the big-ticket problems

hat hammer blacks daily?

A few days after Eng's inflammatory column sent Asian Week publishers back-peddling fast to utter mea culpas, drew denunciations from politicians and media activists, got his sci-fi book pulled from Amazon.com, and got him banned to writer's Siberia, a cross-section of black activists politicians, and writers at a roundtable in Los Angeles weighed in on Eng, Asian Week and relations with Asian-Americans. They answered the above questions far differently and surprisingly than those out raged at Eng's column and him have. The views ranged from, it was much ado about nothing, to ear defense of him. The reaeven benign response, aren't hard to find. The week before the Eng furor broke the Los Angeles City Council debated a resolution that would have put the city on record backing a Congressional bill to establish a reparations study committee. It passed, and a big argument that swayed the council was the current plight of blacks.

They continue to have the highest rates of poverty, infant rates, and health care disparities than any other group in America. They are still more likely to live in segregated neighborhoods, be refused business and home loans, their children attend failed public schools than any other group, and are more likely to be racially profiled on America's urban streets These were the issues that the roundtable participants repeated ly said were the things blacks should get enraged about, and take action on. Those problems would exist and demand outrage and action even if Eng had never written a word. The racial lethar gy on major social problems engenders deep frustration ong many blacks. And those at

Blacks also have watched and listened with mounting fury as a legion of foul mouthed rappers, comedians, and entertainers con tinue to use and defend the N word, as well as propagate and glory in the most vile and repulstereotypes about black men women in films and in TV sitcoms. They are and rightly should be appalled that there is relatively little outcry from other blacks about them. Even worse, judging from the success of the y, and degrading Eddie rphy film Norbrit, they still will pack the theaters to see them. But when a white politician, celebrity, or known public figure slips, deliberately uses the N word, makes a racial gaffe, or when a white gay comedian Shirley Q, Liquor slurs black women in his act, or Eng bashes them in his column, blacks stam the barricades to denounce them.

Then there's the issue of a writers right to say what they please, even it's idiotic and insulting. More than one participant flatly

said that Eng had that right to write his column, and that blacks should defend it. This was not just a rote ACLU protect hate speech no matter what line, though a compelling argument can always be made for that. It's a practical concern

The worst thing that could happen is to censor even the most odious racial slanders that would make it impossible for them to be publicly challenged, and blow a chance to educate the public on the colossal harm that they do. Eng's column is the best example of that. If the editors at Asian Week had pulled it, the public would not have known how widespread the myths, misconceptions, and negative stereotypes about African-Americans are among some Asian Americans and Asian immigrants. That forced, blacks, Asians, and many others to make the painful admission that the prejudices exist and then confront them. Eng and Asian Week in effect did a valuable service by printing his

the roundtable participants said that they hated about the prob-lems that blacks face, and what blacks often fail do about them Eng's column was not one of the problems that bothered them. They were right.

BlackNews.com columnist Farl Ofari Hutchinson is a political analyst and issues commentator, and the author of The Emerging Black GOP Majority (Middle Passage Press, September 2006), a hard-hitting look at Bush and The GOP's court of black vot-ers. For order information, see www.blackgopbook.com.



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US Renews Effort To Solve Civil Rights Era Murder Cases

forming a partnership with some prominent civil rights groups to identify and investigate unsolved murders committed during the U.S. civil rights era of the 1950's and 1960's, VOA National correspondent Jim Malone has more from Washington.

The partnership involves the Justice Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and civil rights groups like the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the National Urban League and the Southern

The announcement came at a Washington news conference where Attorney General Alberto Gonzales issued a warning to those who have so far escaped prosecution and punishment for murder and civil rights violations perpetrated decades ago. "And to those individuals who committed these crimes and who have lived with their guilty consciences for these many years our message should be clear. You have not gotten away with anything. We are still on your trail," he said.

FRI Director Robert Mueller says federal investigators are considering about 100 cases at



the outset, and have reopened 10 to 12 cases that involve sus-

cuted or will result in convic-tions. But he says the government, with help from the civil rights groups, is determined to reopen cases that have been ignored for years. "In too many etances the truth has been hidden for too long. Many indi viduals have, quite literally, gotten away with murder. We cannot turn back the clock. We can-not right these wrongs. But we can bring a measure of justice to those who remain. Justice has been delayed, but we are determined that justice will not be denied. We will do everything we can to close these cases and to close this dark chapter in our

The civil rights groups involved in the effort will share information and leads about unsolved murder cases with the government. Organization lead-

ers are urging witnesses who decades to come forward if they have information regarding a murder or other crime from the civil rights era. Stephanie Jones of the

Stephanie Jones of the National Urban League says the cooperative effort is an important step in the continuing process of racial healing in the United States. "The history of lynchings and racial violence in this country has left a stain on American men in 1964.

the fabric of our country. And it is up to all of us to eradicate that stain and one of the ways to do it is to work together to bring justice, both for those who have been harmed by this and those who have perpetrated the harm," she said

tors have had success in recent years in obtaining convictions for murder and civil rights violations in cases that had

remained unsolved for years.
In January, a 71-year-old former member of the racist Ku Klux Klan was charged in connection with the kidnapping

Asianweek Dismisses Author Of Racist Column

San Franciso Chronicle
The author of the "Why I
Hate Blacks" column pub-lished Friday in AsianWeek has been dismissed, and edi-tors say publication of the piece was "a serious lapse in editorial judgment."

"The failing of our editorial process in allowing this piece to go forward was an insensitive and callous mistake that should never have been made our publication,

sianWeek editor-at-large Ted Fang said today at a news conference organized by the local branch of the NAACP.

New York-based Kenneth Eng will no longer be writing for the paper, Fang said.

The news conference brought together leaders from various faith-based organiza-tions who condemned the col-umn and also discussed how to improve race relations in the

Eng stated in his column that "blacks are easy to coerce," and that "blacks are weak-willed." He said that those of African descent were "the only race that has been enslaved for 300 vears. It is unbelievable that it took them that long to fight

These statements and others have created a huge backlash of criticism against Eng for writing the article and Asian Week for publishing it.

and well," said Doris Ward, formerly a San Francisco supervi-sor and city assessor. "All of us here are responsible for doing something.

Amos Brown, president of the San Francisco branch of the NAACP, said the incident should be used as an opportunity for the city to do a better job at racial relations.

Eng. an AsianWeek contribuwho wrote roughly every

two weeks, listed in his column several "reasons" to discriminate against African Americans.

Past columns include "Proof That Whites Inherently Hate

Us" and "Why I Hate Asians." Prominent Asian Americans immediately condemned the Feb. 23 column and were later joined by San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom, the Board of Supervisors and Speaker Nancy Pelosi.



NAACP President Resigns Page 1 told the board at its annual meeting in New York City in

mid-February.

NAACP leaders were surprised by his decision and engaged in hours of discussion, he said.

"They expressed disappoint ment," Gordon said. "W attempted to see whether there was a way to continue but that didn't happen.'

Gordon sounded weary as he boarded a flight home to New York City on Sunday.

"I don't view this as I'm right and they're wrong. I view this as I see things one way and they see things a different way," he said. "That misalignment between the CEO and the board is unhealthy."

Asked about his plans after

leaving the NAACP, Gordon said: "I'm going to catch my

"What I've clearly learned in my tenure here is that all is not well in black America, that's for sure," he said. "I believe I have a lot to offer. I've got to find a way to be engaged that optimizes what it is I bring to the table. My intention is not to disengage,

but to find a different way."

NAACP spokesman Richard McIntire declined to comment

Gordon, 61, was a surprise pick for the NAACP's top post. When he took over on August 1, 2005, he had no track record in traditional civil rights circles. He had spent 35 years in the telecommunications industry and retired in 2003 from his post as president of the Retail Markets Group for Verizon

Corp.
Critics said he wouldn't be a old organization.

However, he smoothed

strained relations between the NAACP and the White House, meeting with President Bush three times in less than a year.

He used his corporate ties to lend quick assistance to black New Orleans residents after Hurricane Katrina. And he hired a number of key national employees whose reputations

inspired staff members.

Gordon "brought a level of competence that we hadn't had," Julian Bond, chairman of the board, said last year. Bond also has acknowledged

that, with 64 members, the NAACP's board of directors is large and sometimes unwieldy. But he has defended it, saving it allows a wide range of members voices to be heard.

Ronald Walters, a University

of Maryland political science professor who has followed the NAACP closely for years, was surprised at the news, but added that he had suspected that Gordon may not fit in at the NAACP.

"I thought very early on that there might be a cultural conflict," Walters said. "Somebody who came out of a corporate culture and was used to a set of agenda items and management style in one field might not have been able to make the adjustment totally to another field."

Willis Edwards, a board mem-ber from Los Angeles, said, "We tried a certain type of guy, a could have been.'

business guy we didn't h civil rights guy. Maybe he had a different philosophy of what a civil rights organization is

Rupert Richardson, a board member from Louisiana, said it was clear Gordon wanted the NAACP to do more social service work, but that was not the decades-old mission of the group.

"I think he saw his job as remaking us to make us more effective, but his job was to do what the board and management wanted," she said. "He was not a good fit for us, but he



Financial Focus To Build Wealth, Look At Both Sides Of Balance Sheet



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To achieve your financial goals, you need to be a diligent saver and investor. But you need to do more than just build your assets — you also must do a good job of managing your debts. If you let your debts get out of control, they will eventu-ally erode your savings and investments - and when that happens, the road to financial

success can get pretty bumpy.
Unfortunately, your fellow Americans are doing a poor job of saving money and staying out of debt. Here are some telling statistics:

Debt is rising. By September 2006, household

of disposable income, according to the Center for American Progress. In plain English, that ns we owe about a third more than we have available to spend after we've paid our taxes

and met our expenses.

• Savings have fallen. For most of 2005 and all of 2006, the personal savings rate was negative, according to the U.S.
Commerce Department. Commerce Department. Previously, we haven't had a negative savings rate since the Great Depression. In short, we've gotten into the habit of spending more than we save

These grim figures foretell a discouraging financial future for many of us. Every dollar you pay for debt is a dollar you can't use to invest. Furthermore, if you have too little in savings, you may well be forced to din into

debt had reached 130.9 percent for short-term needs, such as a to your investments. How? For car repair or an expensive new appliance. And the more you take from your investments today, the less you will have available tomorrow — when you might need the money to help pay for retirement or your chil-dren's college tuition.

So what can you do to protect your savings and investments against the demands of debt? You probably already are familiar with some steps you can take to cut costs: Extend the life of your old car, eat out less often, look for cheaper phone and cable service, etc. In short, review your entire lifestyle, and try to separate the "nice to have" items from the "must have" ones. If you can reduce your expenses, you can start

whittling away at your debt While you're taking steps to cut your costs, you can still add

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce

Inaugural Pioneers Luncheon Photos By: E. Dewayne Gibson Ir.

starters, increase your contribu-tions to your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan every time you get a raise Until you retire, you generally won't be able to access this money without taking a big tax hit, so you won't be tempted to "raid" your 401(k) to pay off debts. [You can, however, typically take loans from a 401(k) or similar account.] You also may want to "pay yourself first." Each month,

before you pay the mortgage, the utility companies and your other obligations, set aside an amount for your investment It's easier if you set up a ba authorization to move the money directly into the investment you choose. By having the money taken out this way, you are less likely to "miss" it and, hopefully, you'll be less funding for your daily life.

By cutting your debts, boost-

ing your 401(k) contributions and paving your and paying yourself first, you can help yourself get a firmer grip on your financial situation

[Article contributed Marcia Donaldson, a licens Financial Advisor with Edward Jones Investments You can contact her at (972) 542-1530.]

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MEDIATION SERVICES

Comerica To Move Headquarters To Dallas

services company with \$58 billion of assets, on Tuesday said it will move its corporate head-quarters to Dallas from Detroit to be closer to most of its mar-

Detroit, which is reeling from a difficult environment for automakers and a flight that has seen the city lose more than half its population since 1950.

Comerica's Detroit roots stretch back to 1849, when the

Detroit Savings Fund Institute

offices and Collin College

Through the efforts of this strong committee, 318 resi-

dents registered for the event

and Collin County Day came off without a hitch. We were

joined by Governor Rick Perry for the opening luncheon and heard from a panel of experts

addressing issues specific to

Collin County. Included on that panel was Mary Katherine Stout from the

Center for Healthcare Policy

at the Texas Public Policy Foundation; Steven Polunsky,

the Director of the Texas Committee

Transportation and Homeland Security and Coby

Director

Chase



in \$41 of deposits on its took in \$41 or uc, first day of business.

The company, however, generates much of its business in the large, fast-growing southern states, and has offices in Arizona, California, Florida and Texas. It has 71 banking offices in Texas, where it has been doing business

these markets will lead to accelerated growth," Chief Executive Ralph Babb said in a statement.

"The vibrant and diversified their picture taken on the capieconomies of Dallas, Houston and Austin will be particularly

Future Entrepreneurs: Keeley Lynn & Kylar London Dailey

Comerica expects to complete the move by the end of September, and plans soon to pick a site for its headquarters. It would become by far the largest Texas-based banking company, and said it will look for "fill-in" acquisitions in Texas.

acquisitions in Texas.

The company said it has 11,270 employees, including 7,539 in Michigan, 2,082 in Arizona and California, 1,351 in Texas, 162 in Florida and 136.

returning to Austin in 2009

helpful," he added.

for nearly 20 years. "Moving our corporate head-quarters will give us greater proximity to all of our markets, and the additional resources in

In the coming months, look

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154, (a) Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Cod MORTGAGE





TxDOT. After the issues panel, Collin County Day Page 1 tioned above, but many of the he attendees were off to other chambers in Collin Capitol to visit with all of the elected officials offices to share County as well as representa-tives from the Junior League the Collin County issues papers and make them aware of local issues for Collin County. of Plano, Collin County, our state representative's and sen-ator's local staff, the various cities, economic development

The first day's activities ended with a reception at the Austin Club honoring the local Collin County Senate and House deleg tion along with their colleagues We received updates from Senator Shapiro and Representatives McCall, Madden, Laubenberg and Paxton. We even had a sur-prise visit from House Speaker Tom Craddick

The next morning began with breakfast featuring Ross Ramsey, Editor of Texas Weekly, Mr. Ramsey enlightened the audience with facts and humor of the current session and the significant bills that have been filed. Following breakfast, the delegation was off to the capital again to receive recognition in the House and Senate Chamber honoring Collin County Day. Before going to the respective Chambers, the delegation had

tol steps with another surpris guest, Lt. Governor David Dewhurst. All in all, the entire trip was a great success and the participants look forward to

for a new Collin County Day Web site featuring the 2007 visit as well as plans for 2009 includ-ing online registration.

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DCCCD Students Meet U.S. Rep. Jeb Hensarling



(Left to Right): Joseph Balancier of Mesquite, who attends
Eastfield College; U.S. Rep. Jeb Hensarling, District S.Jeffrey Evans of
Cadar Hill, who attends El Centro College; Jacquelyn Gonzaler of Gran
Prairie, who attends Mountain View College; Rostynn Almas of Dallas
who attends Brookhaven College; DCCCD Truster Mande. ** nttends Brookhaven College; DCCCD Trustee Martha S Metzger; and Dr. Wright Lassiter, DCCCD's chancellor

Four students from the participate in the Dallas County Community

Community College Legislative College District recently traveled to Washington, D.C., to

Association of Community

College Trustees and the American Association of Community Colleges. They attended program sessions and also scheduled visits with legis-lators from the Dallas area to share their experiences about being a student at one of DCCCD's seven colleges in Dallas County. The students were accompanied to the conference by Dr. Wright Lassiter, the district's chancellor, plus several members of the DCCCD board of trustees, including Kitty Boyle, who also is currently ACCT's national chair, plus Martha Sanchez Metzger and Charletta

U.S. Rep. Jeb Hensarling, District 5, welcomed the group to his office and spent time talking with the DCCCD stu-

UT Dallas Chamber Singers, Jazz Band to Perform A Tribute to Manhattan Transfer Concert March 16 & 17

The University of Texas at The University of Texas at Dallas' premier performing ensembles, the UT Dallas Chamber Singers, directed by Kathryn Evans, and the UT Dallas Jazz Band, directed by Kelly Durbin, will appear together in their eight annual concert collaboration on Friday and Saturday, March 16 and 17 in the University Theatre at 8 pm. The concerts are free and open to the public.

The ensembles will present

works made famous by The Manhattan Transfer. The pro-gram will include Snowfall, Choo Choo Ch'boogie, Operator, A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square, Java Jive, Route 66, Twilight Tone, Tuxedo Junction and Ray's Rockhouse.

More information about this



http://ah.utdallas.edu/

For information about the many musical, arts, theatre, dance and other performances and exhibitions held throughout

the year at UT Dallas, please call 972-UTD-ARTS (972-883-2787), e-mail utdarts@utdallas.edu, or visit the School of Arts and Humanities' web site at http://ah.utdallas.edu/.

Richardson/Plano Alumni Chapter Guide Right Foundation Scholarship

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., a college fraternity is comprised of functioning Undergraduate and Alumni Chapters on major college Campuses and in cities throughout the country. Founded on the campus of Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana on Bloomington, Indiana on January 5, 1911, it is the crystallization of a dream

In 1922, the Fraternity adopted Guide Right as the national service program. Brother Leon Steward of the St. Louis Alumni Chapter

introduced Guide Right. He proposed a program of guidance to be designated as Guide Right with the purpose of assisting high school seniors to choose and pursue useful careers, consistent with fraterni-ty purpose. The focus of Guide Right from its inception was to provide scholarships to needy and talented students, to train for leadership and to inform young people of professions and career options. The career options. The Richardson/Plano Guide Right Foundation was incorporated in April of 1999 to serve the phil-

anthropic arm of the Richardson/Plano Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.
Richardson/Plano Guide

Right Foundation, Scholarship Requirements
Scholarships are granted each
year to four high school stu-

dents. Each student is awarded an individual scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. The scholarship is payable to the student in one lump sum, upon verification of enrollment as a full-time stu-dent at an accredited college or university. All material is to be postmarked and sent to this

address P.O. Box 831834, Richardson, TX 75080 by April 21, 2007. If you have questions please contact Gary Freeman at 469-360-0016.

Selection Criteria:

 Scholarships are limited to students attending public high schools in the Northern Dallas

2. Preference is given to students who require financial assistance to achieve their educational goals and who have demonstrated exceptional involvement and service to the

3. To be eligible for the scholarship, the student must have a 2.50 grade point average or bet-

ter.
4. An eligible candidate must

be enrolling as a full-time stu-dent in a two or four-year accredited college or university in the fall semester.

6. Students must complete a scholarship application and send in five (5) copies of all requested materials, including official high school tran

script, standardized test scores typed essay of 250 words or less, a detailed listing of all extracurricular activities and volunteer work, and at least two letters of recommenda-

tion.
7. All applications are weighed as follows:

Transcript/Test Scores 10%
Letters of
Recommendation 10%

Extracurricular Activities/ Volunteer Work 15%
 Essay 20%

• Interview 20%

• Need 25%

Collin College Faculty Named Co-Presidents For State Organization

Collin College prides itself the association, visit their web-for the award-winning and site at www.tccta.org. _Collin involved faculty and staff it

Elaine emplovs Boski-Wilkinson department of edu cation chair, or Allen, and Sharor Hirschy, early childhood development professor, of Coppell, were installed as co-presidents of the Child Development Educator's for Association Texas Associate Degree Programs during the annua Texas Community College Teachers ence held in Austin in February. __The
Texas Community

Texas Community
College Teachers
Association is comprised of educators

Sharon Hirschy (Left), early childhea

ment professor, and Elaine Bostia

ment profe from every discipline in addition to

**Educator's Association for lexas Associate
Programs during the annual Texas Comm
College Teachers Association conferen

counselors, librarians and County Community College administrators from public District (Collin) serves more and independent community, iunior and technical colleges in Texas. It is the largest organization of postsecondary educators in the state. The organization's annual conven-tion is the largest gathering of community college faculty in the country

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Naw'lins Jam Page 1

tainment, dancing, dinner, a masked judging contest, fortune telling, casino and silent and live auctions.

We are proud that the Dallas

Chapter of the Continental Societies, Inc., has been recognized locally and nationally for its outstanding service to children. Since 1980, our no profit organization has prov ed scholarships; NASA Space Camp grants; housing assis-tance for homeless women and children; teen mentoring programs; funding for learning and computer centers; arts and humanities programs; and career exploration oppor-tunities. Additionally, Dallas

Chapter of the Continental Societies, Inc., has devoted thousands of volunteer hours at local schools, hospitals, at-risk programs and other philanthropic agencies and organizations that share a similar mis-

the Child Development on for Texas Associate Degree

than 41,000 credit and contin-

uing education students annu

ally and offers more than 100

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tomized training and work force

development

sion and purpose.

This year we are involved in serving the children and youth at the Myrtle Davis/Mattie Nash Recreation Center, The Vogel Alcove Day Care for Homeless children and several schools, including Stults Elementary School., Dallas Montessori Academy, Obanino Middle School and Thomas Edison Middle School. Tickets are \$75.00 per person. Please call for ticket information call.

Fmail Entertainment News And Events to

Legendary Isley Brothers Perform At Nokia Grand Prairie

'50s, the Isley Brothers enjoyed one of the longest, most influential, and most diverse careers in the pantheon of popular music,

The first generation of Isley siblings was born and raised in Cincinnati, OH, where they were encouraged to begin a singing career by their father, himself a professional vocalist and their mother, a church pianist who provided musical accompaniment at their early performances. Initially a gospel quartet, the group was com-prised of Ronald, Rudolph, O'Kelly, and Vernon Isley; after Vernon's 1955 death in a bicycling accident, tenor Ronald was tapped as the remaining trio's lead vocalist. I

In 1957, the brothers went to New York City to record a string of failed doo wop singles; while performing a spirit-ed reading of the song "Lonely Teardrops" in Washington, D.C. The call-and-response D.C. The call-and-response classic "Shout" failed to reach the pop Top 40 on its initial release, it eventually became a frequently covered classic.

Still, success eluded the Isleys, and only after they left RCA in 1962 did they again have another hit, this time Top Notes' "Twist and Shout. Like so many of the brothers'

First formed in the early early R&B records, "Twist and group again altered its sound to Shout" earned greater commercial success when later rendered by a white group -- in this case,



the Beatles, During a 1964 tour, they recruited a young guitarist named Jimmy James to play in their backing band; James -- who later shot to fame James -- who later shot to tame under his given name, Jimi Hendrix -- made his first recordings with the Isleys, including the single "Testify," issued on the brothers' own T-Neck label.

In 1973, the Isleys scored a massive hit with their rock-funk fusion cover of their own earlier single "Who's That Lady," retitled "That Lady, Pt. 1"; the album 3 + 3 also proved highly successful, as did 1975's The Heat Is On, which spawned the smash "Fight the Power, Pt. 1." at 214.373 As the decade wore on, the 972.647.5700. smash "Fight the Power, Pt. 1.

fit into the booming disco mar-ket; while their success on pop radio ran dry, they frequently topped the R&B charts with singles like 1977's "The Pride," 1978's "Take Me to the Next

Phase, Pt. 1. On March 31, 1986, O'Kelly died of a heart attack: Rudolph soon left to join the ministry, but the group reunited in 1990. Although the individual members continued with solo work and side projects, the Isley Brothers forged on in one form or another throughout the decade; in 1996, now consisting of Ronald, Marvin, and Ernie, they released the album Mission to Please. Ronald and Ernie hooked up several years later for Eternal (2001), a brand-new selection of R&B cuts featuring collaborative efforts with Jill Scott, Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis, and Raphael Saadio, On that particular release, Ronald also introduced the alter ego Mr. Biggs. Body Kiss (2003) and Baby Makin' Music (2006) followed. ~ Jason Ankeny, All Music Guide

The Silent Partner Presents The Isley Brothers, March 23rd , 8:00 PM at The Nokia. To purchase tic Ticketmaster tickets, contact ter online at 214.373.8000,

Indulge Yourself In Dance, Spoken Word, Literature And Comedy This March At The Black Academy Of Arts And Letters

March explodes with dance music, literature and comedy at The Black Academy of Arts and Letters (TBAAL). With vibrant programs including TBAAL hosting the 71st National Association of Dramatic and Speech Arts Conference, the 3rd Annual Weekend Festival of Black Dance, Roundtable Writers Breakfast with P.J. Gibson, Five Men on a Stool, and Comedy Night at the Muse featuring BET's ComicView Star, Muhammad, March will jump with excitement at TBAAL.

If industry professionals in theatre, film, television and arts administration are looking for youth with promise, take a journey to Dallas, March 14-17, 2007 as TBAAL hosts the 71st National Association of Dramatic and Speech Arts (NADSA) Conference. NADSA is one of the country's only predominantly African American educational theatre conferences that showcase some of the brightest students from more than thirty African-American institutions. Students compete in various theatrical competitions critiqued by industry professionals. Noted celebrities who are slated to serve as guest judges and lectur-ers include Erykah Badu, ers include Erykah Badu, Meshach Taylor and Tonea Stewart.

The 3rd Weekend Festival of Black Dance kicks the month of March into overdrive under the theme "Rhythm and Soul of a People", Friday, March 16 and



West Africa's Amazones Women Master rummers And Dance Company of Guinea

Saturday, March 17, 2007, 8 R&B/Jazz ensemble accompa p.m. nightly on The Black Academy of Arts and Letter's Naomi Bruton Main Stage.

Noted playwright, author, poet and laureate, P.J. Gibson, joins TBAAL in its extremely popular Literary Voices Series -Roundtable Writes Breakfast, March 17, 2007 from 10 a.m. – Noon in TBAAL's Room T-203. A powerful voice in black and American theatre, she will talk about her works and lead a provocative discussion on the state of black playwrights and their presence in American and World theatre.

If you enjoyed the musical genius of 3-Mo Tenors, then wait until you see 5 Men on a Stool, Saturday, March 24, 2007 at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. in TBAAL's Clarence Muse Café Theatre. This Atlanta based phenomenon is a contemporary

nied by a touch of the spoken word. The group consists of four tremendously talented individuals with an All-Star rhythm section representing the "fifth" man.

Closing out March with riotous laughter is P. Diddy's Bad Boys of Comedy and BET's ComicView star, Muhammad. Comedy Night at the Muse is a night of side-splitting laughter, Friday, March 30, 2007 and Saturday, March 31, 2007 at 9 p.m. nightly on The Black Academy of Arts and Letters Clarence Muse Café Theatre stage.

For ticket information to any of these breathtaking programs, please call TBAAL's Box Office (214) 743-2400. Ticketmaster (214) 373-8000 website www.TBAAL.org.

Jay-Z, Aretha Tapped For Rock Hall Ceremony

Rap mogul Jay-Z has been chosen to induct hip hop pioneers Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame during its ceremony in New York on

Also, the legendary Aretha Franklin has agreed to per-form in honor of the late Ahmet Ertegun, who served as the Chairman of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Foundation and spoke during the opening of each induction ceremony.

For the first time ever, VH1 will air the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame ceremony live. Pearl Jam's Eddie Vedder will induct R.E.M. and the Rolling Stones' Keith Richards will usher in the Ronettes. Patti Smith will be inducted by reclusive Rage
Against The Machine vocalist
Zach de la Rocha.

Also, Velvet Revolver will

introduce Van Halen, who made headlines last week after



their summer tour with original vocalist David Lee Roth was scrapped. The group's camp has yet to make any statement about which members, if any, will attend the event.

Dallas Theater Center Announces **Opening Night Of Fences**

Dallas Theater Center Dallas Theater Center announces the opening night of August Wilson's Fences on Tuesday, March 13, 2007 at 7:30pm, Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. at Blackburn.

A modern masterpiece by one of America's finest contemporary playwrights, Fences is the best of August Wilson's epic cycle of plays chronicling the African-American experi ence in the 20th century. Wilson zeroes in on Troy Maxson, a former star of the Negro Baseball Leagues who is coming to terms with his own



hold onto his pride and keep his Fences is produced in collaborate family together. Fences is a stun-ning portrayal of a family at the

mercy of the American dream.

tion with Hartford S Portland Center Stage Hartford Stage and

Call 214-522-8499 for more lost dreams while struggling to Directed by Jonathan Wilson, info CALL TODAY TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT! The Road Home program is designed to help residents of Louisiana affected by Hurricane Katrina or Rita get back into their homes as quickly and fairly as possible. If you owned a home in Louisiana and were affected by one of the hurricanes, you may be eligible to receive up to \$150,000 for your losses. The Road Home Mobile Center is coming to Dallas/Fort Worth from March 12th to 21st. hit www.road2tA.org or call 1.888.ROAD.2.LA (1.888.762.3252). TTY callers use 711 relay or 1.800.846.5277.



Plano's Eyes In The Sky Page 1

along, we will investigate processes for allowing others to gain access to critical informa-

Through the MotoMesh network police officers will be able to take laptops into the field to access important crime data. and to generate and submit reports from the field. The system also enables them to use onboard cameras to send instant video footage back to the dispatch center during traffic stops. The system is expandable, secure and flexi-ble. It also includes cameras to perform surveillance on areas with increased incidents of criminal mischief. These cameras can be monitored remotely from the field via lapton equipped with a special PC network card. The in-vehicle camera can maintain connectivity at speeds up to 150 mph. The system also allows for positioning and resource tracking without the use of GPS

Satellites in much quicker time. The Fire department will be using the network to transmit



data for patients in route to the hospital. The ability to transmit video to the hospital from the ambulances will enable better diagnosis of a patient's condition and provide an additional level of service. Future plans include the ability to download blueprints for a facility prior to arrival at the scene, so the responders know whether there

are mitigating circumstances, such as hazardous material (HazMat) issues.

The first of the mobility corri-lors will be put in place in the spring along 15th Street and Coit Road for field reporting. The City will continue implementing mobility corridors.

As applications become avail-able, other departments will be able to mobilize their workforce, and the use of the MotoMesh network will expand. The instal-lation of the system has occurred Nineteen "hot spots" were installed and became opera-tional in mid December. Stephens said, "Currently we are working on what we call 'Phase 2.' This encompasses the design and deployment of access points to cover all major arterial streets in Plano. The final phase will be to locate access points to 'fill-in' the neighborhoods we can have seamless coverage throughout Plano."

The system consists of four

radios inside a box with two of the radios set up for proprietary data, one radio is used for the backhaul transport and the remaining radio could be available for public usage, mounted in various locations throughout the City. Public Wi-Fi access will be offered through an independent vendor in the near

Plano joins a handful of U.S. cities deploying mesh systems, including Philadelphia, PA and Anaheim, CA. In November wares to Plano Centre for a gov cities are watching to see how Plano utilizes the new technolo forward into this new frontier Plano continues to live and thrive by the promise it made its community to be "A city of excellence" through Technology.

2006, Motorola brought its ernment exposition, allowing Plano city personnel as well as other communities and agencies in north Texas to view up close this emerging technology. Many gy to decide whether they step

Foot in the Door?

munity Newspaper seeking Freelance Writers to cover munity Events. Familiarty with AP style a plus. Please send your resume along with a writing sample.

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week, which killed at least two children in Mozambique, also severely damaged the central hospital at Vilanculos, as well as an estimated 220 class-

"It is rare for a country to "It is rare for a country to be hit by two massive and simultaneous emergencies within such a short period of time," said the Head of UNICEF in Mozambique, Leila Pakkala. "Mozambique responded quickly to the

flooding, but there is no quick fix, and all our problems around water and sanitation, shelter, health, and education are now exacerbated by this severe cyclone."

The next week is "absolutely

critical" for children who have lost homes, schools and are in danger of contracting diseases.
"The response has been express and effective, but it must be stressed that this can only con-tinue while resources and actions on the ground are

Current priorities for the Government, UN agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are to ensure water facilities are clean and serviceable, temporary health structures are functioning, children are back in school, and drugs and health equip-ment are delivered to all affect-

UNICEF has already spent \$3 million on helping the flood and cyclone victims, in particuneeds of populations now shel-tered in camps, with such assis-tance as 500 tarpaulin sheets to build shelters, 10,000 cans and buckets for fresh water and other emergency supplies. UNICEF is the lead partner

lar by responding to the growing

for nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene and is co-leader with Save the Children in education and protection. It also works in health, which is led by the UN World Health Organization (WHO).

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CITY OF PLANO

invites applications for POLICE OFFICER. The Plano Police Department is a nationally accredited law enforcement agency with strong community values. Historically, Plano achieve one of the lowest crime rates for Texas cities with a population over 100,000. Training and equipment are provided. After 36 months, a Plano officer's base salary is more than \$66,000.

> The City of Plano Civil Service Entrance Examination will occur on Saturday, May 5, 2007 at 8:00 AM.

You must pre-register to take the exam. Additional information, eligibility requirements, and registration packets are available by phoning the hotline at 972-941-7299 or by visiting www.planop olice.org. Registration forms must be received prior to 5:00 PM on Monday, April 16, 2007.



Temporary Warehouse Positions

Harcourt, Inc., a major international publisher, has immediate openings for temporary warehouse persons at its Lewisville, TX Distribution Center. Salary \$8.50-\$9.00 per hour.

Responsibilities: Responsible for the physical & parts of the clerical receipt, storage, picking & shipping of product, done in an accurate (quality), safe & timely manner. Must be willing to work in various departments; cross-train; assist where needed.

Experience: Must be able to communicate, do a wide variety of physical tasks such as stand & walk for long periods, handle & move boxes up-to 45 lbs., operate a variety of powered industrial vehicles, work with moving machinery, exercise caution in working with such vehicles & machinery. Must also be able to read and interpret replenishment labels, picking labels, safety signs, do basic math (match numbers, count, etc.) & other related paperwork.

Applications accepted M-F between 8-3 at:

Harcourt, Inc. 1175 N. Stemmons Freeway Lewisville, TX 75067 972-459-6000

EOE/M/F/D/V/AA

Closing Date: 3/16/07

CITY OF PLANO, TEXAS

POLICE HOTLINE (972) 941-7299 FIRE HOTLINE (972) 941-7402

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me Page: www.plano.gov FAX (972) 941-7239 AA / EOE /ADA

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Teacher Job Fair Saturday, April 28th 8:00 a.m. to Noon Pre-Registration is Required Secondary and Athletic

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mey North High School 2550 Wilmeth Rd. McKinney, TX 75071

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Church News



Sister **Tarpley**

Again, I thank God for wonder-ful Black women that have been a great part in who I am and what I have done with my life. Each lady is very precious and dearly loved by

me.

Mrs. Cedella Baker
Demus, my mother for
being a great mother and
the glorious memories that
she left behind. Mrs. Jessie she lett behind. Mrs. Jessie Baker Green, my aunt in Clovis, NM. Minister Sheila Tarpley Lott, my daughter; Mrs. Jewel Price McKenzie, my teacher and mentor; Mrs. Phemia Tinner, my precious friend; First Lady Elizabeth White of Love Chapel COGIC; my sisters: Nurse Eloyd Demus Avery; Beautician & Hair Stylist Billie Iveree

Demus Daye; Evangelist Ida Demus Eggins; and Teacher Rose Demus Fielding; they

Ieacher Rose Demus Fielding; they are the greatest. Some friends over the years (in alphabetic order): Doris Bonner, Veola Bryant, Vivian Evans, Stella Johnson, Eloise Joiner, Doris King, Barbara Lewis, Frankie McFadden, Shirley Moore, Theresa Simpson, Ora Watson, Pat Wesley, Annie Pearl Williams, and Judy Williams. Black Women Postage Stamp

Honorees: Abolitionist Harriet Tubman in 1978; the first wom to be honored on a U. S. stamp, and the first honoree in the Black Heritage series; she organized the Underground Railroad. Mary McLeod Bethune in 1985, a noted educator and social activist, she was an advisor to President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Sojourner

AARP Rallies For Electric Page 1

tion of electric disconnections during the intense summer heat, and a provision to guaran-tee a rate based on the cost of providing electricity. Some of the participants were also recognized in the Senate and a large number of them got to visit with their legislators and

Truth, considered one of the greatorators of her time, she traveled and lectured on women's rights and the evil of slavery in1986. Ida B. Wells in 1990, she devoted her life to educating people about the horrors of discrimination and lynching. Bessie Coleman in 1995, the first woman to earn an international avia-



Picture of The Week ational Speaker Angle Clay (right); sl d a copy of her CD, "Experiencing Go in The Midst of . . ." for Sister Tarpley

in 1998, she was one of the nation's st female millionaires and an adve cate of women's economic independence and empowerment. Patricia Roberts Harris in 2000, she was a committed public servant and chan committed public servant and cham-pion of civil rights, the first Black woman to holds a U. S. Ambassadorship and serve as a member of a Presidential Cabinet. Singer Marian Anderson in 2005, as invited to sing the "open" at ln Memorial Park in Lincoln Memorial Park Washington which drew 75.000 pe ple; this was the largest crowd at the time to assemble at the Memorial.

Hattie McDaniel in 2006, she was Hadte McDailer in 2000, sie was the first Black to win an Academy Award (the Oscar); and for 2007, Jazz Singer Ella Fitzgerald. Log on www.usps.com for more informa-

staff. This was generally regarded as AARP's most successful

rally ever in Texas and the first

one of its kind in nearly a decade

AARP is a nonprofit, nonparti-

san membership organization

that helps people 50+ have inde-pendence, choice and control in

ways that are beneficial and

affordable to them and society as

a whole. They produce AARP The Magazine, published Magazi The Magazine, published bimonthly; AARP Bulletin, our monthly newspaper; AARP Segunda Juventud, our bimonthmagazine in Spanish and English: NRTA Live & Learn our quarterly newsletter for 50+ educators; and our website, AARP.org

March Is Women's History Month

inguished Black Woman Phillis Wheatley, an internationally known poet during the Revolutionary Period (1753-1784); Maria Stewart, outspoken Abolitionist, the first Black woman to speak in public and leave texts of her addresses, her farewell speech "What If I Am A Woman,"

> first Black woman naut. Constance Motley, first Black female federal judge in 1966; Elizabeth Duncan Koontz, an educational leader who devoted her life's work to building a etter quality of life for children through schooling and the support of women. Hallie Quinn Brown pecame well-known as a seacher and elocutionist (the art of public speaking)

she taught at Allen University and Tuskegee Institute, is probably well-known as a speaker and dramatic reader; she recited the

works of Paul Laurence Dunbar in Germany, France, Switzerland and Great Britain, where she appeared before Oueen Victoria. Iean Blackwell Hutson a curator of the prestigious Schomburg Collection of Negro Life and History, a special -circulating library earch division within the NY Public Library system

Office: 972-516-4191 Voice Mail: 972-606-3878

Fov: 072-516-4107

Let MON-The Gazette help y church accomplish the Prayer of Jabez, "Enlarge our territory to expand opportuni-ties that may impact in such a way that we touch more lives for God's glory. Let us do more for Him."

Church Happenings

AVENUE F CHURCH OF CHRIST March 18-21, 2007

9:45 am & 2:30 pm

You are cordially invited to our Spring Revival; this meeting has been tailored to rejuvenate, revitalbeen tailored to rejuvenate, revital-ize and recharge each of us; mind, body and soul. Brother Rodney Dulin of the Central Pointe Church of Christ and Brother Thomas Fitzgerald, Jr. of the East Side Church of Christ in Forney will proclaim God's plan and purpose for our lives

Sunday Morning Bible Class will Sunday Morning Bible Class will begin at 9:45 am; Morning Worship at 10:45; and Sunday afternoon program begins at 2:30 pm; we will honor Brother Oscar Bailey for his dedication and love toward this congregation for over 45 years. All services through the week will begin at 7 pm. Please come and get refu

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

COALITION OF CHURCHES IN PRISON MINISTRY

On-Going Mentor Program
True Lee Baptist Church, 390 Bertrand Avenue, Dallas, TX 75210, 214-421-9435, Rev. Donald 75210, 214-421-9435, Rev. Donald Parish, Pastor, is working with a mentor program for children of par-ents that are incarcerated. Come or call to find out how to get involved. For more information, donations, and volunteering, please call Carolyn Johnson @ 972-235-6432.

Coalition of Churches In Prison Ministry Rev. Isaac John P. O. Box 225863 Dallas, TX 75222-5863 972-235-6432 or 214-632-6519

DIVINE GRACE FAMILY INSTITUTE

Avenue F Church of Christ

grimage to Heaven in 2007" -Hebrews 11:13-16

FAMILY INSTITUTE

Every Saturday in 2007
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Last Timo Nights

March 8 & 9 @ 8 pm

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Crusade 2007 @ the UNT

GateWay Center, 801 North Texas Gateway Center, 801 North Iexas Blvd, with guest speakers Supt. Corby Bush, Dr. Dorinda Clark-Cole, and Dr. Marvin Sapp. There will be a great move of God; 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

940-484-0963 FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST

CHURCH OF ALLEN

March, 2007

FBCA Education Department is providing GED preparation including pre-testing and tutoring, this FREE service is provided every Wednesday @ 6 pm. If you every Wednesday @ 6 pm. If you or someone you know needs assistance, please contact the church @ 972-356-9956 for further details March 23 @ 7 pm

Please join us as our Men Empowered by Christ presents "2007".

"2007 Transformation Conference" with Pastor Eric Brown, The Living Revelation

March 24 @ 8:30 an Our Saturday's Seminar will fea-ture Pastor A. A. Todd from Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church who will speak on "Men of God-Men of Purpose, Peace,

Promise and Prosperity." Rev. Dwight Harris from FBCA will speak on "Transformation into the Likeness of Christ." Pastor Charles Malone from The Little Bethel Bantist Church will speak on "Transformation into a Better Husband and a Better Father." Pastor Perry from True Im Ministry will provide "Ministry of Music." March 25 @ 11 am

You don't want to miss Pastor
Darrell Ferguson from Shiloh Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC as he speaks on "Ministry of the Word."

For more information and registration fees about the above 2007 Transformation Conference please call Deacon Michael Polk @ 469-667-3068

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

NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH OF ROWLETT

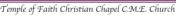
March 18th @ 4 pm
Please join us for our Church
Celebration in 2007. This year's
theme is, "Getting Ready for the
Abundant Harvest," Amos 9:15. The dynamic and anointed The dynamic and anointed speaker of the hour will be Pastor W. L. Stafford, Sr., M. Div., Senior Pastor of Fellowship Baptist Church of Allen, TX and his congregation. Also, special guest, Bishop Eric Henderson, Pastor of New Life Ministry in Dellos and Also convension W. Dallas and his congregation are expecting a Spirit-Filled Worship Service with you as we Worship Service with you as we give praises to God for 17 years of ministry!

For more information, please call New Life Fellowship Church @ 972-463-4964.

New Life Fellowship Church of Rowlett Bishop M. E. Johnson, Jr., Senior Pastor Pastor Bobby J. Hill, Jr., Co-Pastor 7401 Miler Road Rowlett, TX 75088 972-463-4964

Church Directory

"Our Pilgri





"Where Jesus is the Main Attraction" Sunday Worship Experience - 8:00 am & 10:45 am esday Bible Study - 12:00 Noon & 7:00 pm

14120 Noel Road • Dallas, TX 75254 972-239-1120 (Office) • 972-239-5925 (Fax)

Dr. Jerome E.
McNeil, Jr., Pastor templeoffaith_cme@sbcglobal.net (Email) Healthy Beginnings Child Development Center - 972-404-1412



Hill Chapel

Christian Methodist Episcopal Church 1113 Avr. I, Plann, TX 75074 (972) 423-409 Rev. Clarence J. Ford, Jr., Paster

nday Worship Service:

11:00 A.M. 7:30 P.M.







St. Luke A.M.E. Church (aka - SLAME)

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Thursday





Mt. Olive Church of Plano WWW.MOCOPORG

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> > **Sunday Worship** 10:00 am

Wednesday Night 7:15 pm

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:ast: KWRD 100.7 FM Sundays 9pm - 10pm HEAR PASTOR SAM DAILY ON: "TRUTH MADE SIMPLE"
KGGR 1040 AM MONDAY - FRIDAY @ 5:25pm - 5:30pm

Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church

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SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES: 8:00 AM • 9:30 AM • 11:30 AM

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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

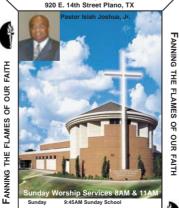


Dr. Robert E. Price, Senior Past

A Praying Church Family "Watchmen on the Walls'

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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

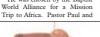
Mocha Sisters Inaugural Community Service Award

Dr. C. Paul McBride. Senior Pastor of Friendship Baptist Church of The Colony; was the recipient of the Inaugural Community Service Award of The Mocha Sisters Organization, Inc. (MSO) at their first Annual Scholarship Banquet for the support and contributions his church has made over the years to The Colony and other surrounding communities.

Pastor Paul, as his members and friends call him, has been senior pastor of Friendship Baptist Church for 23 years. He has been married to Sister Ida for 43 years. They have

three children: Paul, Vickie, and Chris. They have nine grand-children, and two great grand children.

Pastor Paul's awards and degrees are many: Associate Degree in Computer Science Child Development, and Money Management. He is a Certified Marriage Counselor and Deacon Trainer. He has served on various committees with the Dallas Baptist Association (DBA) and the Baptist (BGCT), including President and First Vice President of BCGT.





Sister Ida also attended Oxford Round Table Religious Discussions held in Oxford,

He was chosen by the Baptist England. As Pastor of FBC, World Alliance for a Mission they completed three building Trip to Africa. Pastor Paul and programs. Out of all of his

Mocha Sisters
Organization, Inc.
Inaugural Community Service Award is among his proudest. He is quick to say, "My church believes in service to peo-ple and communities; this is a great part in what God commands us to do. We don't do community

pat on the back; we are honored and grateful that God has blessed us to be noticed by oth-

ers and to be an example for others to see. We pray that they emulate God's love and His concerns.

MSO, a 501© (3) non-profit organization stated, "We proudly elected you as the recipient of one of our 2006 Service Awards." "Since the majority of our members' time is spent in community service; we believe the community service works of Friendship Baptist Church mirror those of our organization, which is why we have chosen you as a recipient."

MSO's mission is, "To articulate and promote community awareness (community service);

teach networking skills with other influential and innovative women of color; provide scholarships and a mentoring program for African-American females." View them online: www.mochasisters.org or www.mochasisters.com. Mr. Tim Brown, Heisman

Trophy winner and a 17-year NFL veteran was the Master of Ceremony. The event was held at Paul Ouinn College in Dallas. There was excellent food, wonderful music, great entertainment, raffles, a silent auction and a salute to Black History Month

Collin County Gospel Explosion



If the first is an example of what's to come, citizens in Collin County and surrounding counties can look forward to bigger and better things in

Pastor Wayne L. Stafford, Sr. M Div of Fellowship Baptist Church of Allen (FBCA) was energized and very enthusiastic when he came on the stage; and with the line-up of entertainment yet to come, it became clear why he was excited about what was in store for the

audience.
The 1st Annual Collin County Gospel Explosion was a rousing success. If any-one left un-inspired and unmotivated they were there in physical presence only

Pastor Stafford stated that God had given him this vision to uplift and encourage adults and young people alike. This great event had to be God-Inspired

As the Master of Ceremony, Pastor Stafford was on fire for God the entire concert and when time was up, members in the audience were not ready to leave, in ing and honoring God was just getting started. Pastor Stafford predicted that God will take future events to the

next level; and with the recepnext level; and with the recep-tion that the gospel explosion received, the 2nd Collin County Gospel Explosion in 2008 will be highly anticipat-ed. Start making your plans for a great time in the Lord in The Gospel Explosion began

with an opening prayer by Reverend Dwight Harris, fol-Reverend Dwight Harris, fol-lowed with Holy praises to God by the Voices of Inspiration, the FBCA Praise Team. The True Praize Music Group brought the audience to their feet as they added their voices. Soloist, Pastor Charles Lasiter, II, didn't leave a stone unturned when

he was on the stage.

The FBCA Choir under the direction of Sister Evelyn Beachum kept the Gospel Explosion moving in praises to God. They returned to the stage featuring the dynamic and on-fire-for-God, Elder Daniel Davis. The au was in for a special treat when

Pastor Davis joined the choir; everyone was on their feet clapping and praising God to the highest.

If you ever have an opportu-

nity to hear Pastor Niyi Adams play his saxophone or get one of his CD's don't miss the opportunity. He was absolutely wonderful. He took the audience to Heaven and back.

Pastor Stafford personally thanked Pastor Nosa of Arise and Shine Ministries introducing FBCA to his Sons in the Gospel, Pastor Daniel Davis and Pastor Niyi Adams.



Pastor Nosa of Arise and Shine Ministries with Pastor W.L. Stafford, Sr. of FBCA @ the 1st Annual Collin County Gospel Explosion.

Hype And Humble Empowerment Breakfast

Ms. Candace Watson, TV host/ producer, author, founder and CEO of Hype and Humble, hosted the organization's first Texas
"Empowerment Breakfast
Conference at the Melrose Hotel in Dallas. Hype and Humble is a non-profit organization that assists adults and youths in crisis situations, they are also dedicated empowering individuals back to stability. Ms.Watson, Angela Clay, and

MON-The Gazette's Religious Editor, Sister Shirley Tarpley gave motivational speeches.

Ms. Clay empowered the attendees to improve their lives by learning and using five good words: Dream, Believe, Pursue, Focus and Expect.
Sister Tarpley spoke on the

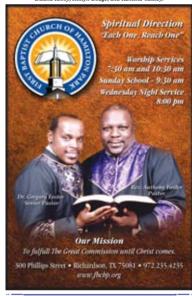
topic "12 Things the Negro Must Do For Him/Herself" by Nannie Helen Burroughs, written in the early 1900's. Although the essay was written over 100 years ago Sister Tarpley expressed how the points were still relevant today.

Hype and Humble has future plans for a day of pampering for women in homeless and domestic violence shelters; celebrity auctions, makeovers and job training. They offer resource and referral programs for individuals in need.

Candace Watson can be contacted at icefor2006@aol.com, Angela Clay can be reached at www.angelaclav.com.



R) Back: Angela Clay, Motivational Speaker; Jen Dwana Kibby, Roslyn Dodge, and Kanisha Cau





Fellowship Baptist Church of Allen

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Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study Youth for Christ" - Every Monday 7:00 per Come experience the Worship Atmospher Fellowship, you will never be the same If you need a ride to worship with us, please call the church





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 7:30 p.m. Evening Bible Study

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

website: www.fbc-online.net

"The Church with a Vision"

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