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People In The News



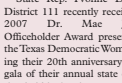
To help fulfill two large contracts it has landed, The Warrior Group, a DeSoto modular construction firm, has received \$2 million in financing from a group led by Dallas' Texas Women Ventures Fund. The cash will help fund the company's bid to more than triple its revenue this year.

The other investor in the subordinate debt infusion is the Dallas-based Pinnacle Minority Supplier Development Fund LP. The Warrior Group is headed by V. Gail Warrior-Lawrence, who founded the company in 1997. Regarded as a leader and innovator in the modular building industry, Gail is personally committed to the satisfaction of each and every client.

Gail serves on the board of directors for Dallas Forth Worth Minority Business Council, Women's Business Council Southwest, which she also serves as co-chair of the architecture, construction and engineering committee, and the African-American Museum.

Gail earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from Clark Atlanta University. She also was awarded a master's degree in business administration with a concentration in marketing from the University of Dallas. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and The Links.

For more info on the Warrior Group visit www.warrior-group.net.



State Rep. Yvonne Davis of District 111 recently received the 2007 Dr. Mae Jackson Officeholder Award presented by the Texas Democratic Women during their 20th anniversary awards gala of their annual state convention held in Austin.

Texas Democratic Women was organized in 1987 as a response to the growing political interest expressed by minority women from across the state. The organization's mission is to work to promote increased political activity and influence of Democratic women in Texas politics.

Each year the Mae Jackson Officeholder Award is given to a female Democratic elected official that embodies the organization's spirit of working to help other women and standing up for the principles of the party. Past awards have been presented to Gov. Ann Richards, U.S. Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, U.S. Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, and the award's namesake Dr. Mae Jackson, a former mayor for the city of Waco, Texas.

Representative Davis is a Dallas native and a graduate of the University of Houston. She has represented District 111 in the state House of Representatives since 1992, the district covers southern Dallas County, including Duncanville and Desoto.



Edward F. Boyd, a former Pepsi ad man who broke color barriers with one of the first corporate marketing campaigns to portray blacks in a positive light, has died. He was 92.

Boyd was working at the National Urban League in New York City in 1947 when Pepsi hired him and a team of educated black salesmen to help the company drive sales among blacks. As an assistant sales manager who led the group, Boyd created a marketing campaign that showed blacks as respectable, middle-class consumers.

One store display, for example, pictured a smiling mother holding a six-pack of Pepsi-Cola as her handsome, young son reached for a bottle. There also were series that profiled 20 black achievers and featured top students at black universities drinking Pepsi. The promotions differed sharply from the insulting images of mamies and pickaninnies in many ads at the time.

"We'd been caricatured and stereotyped," Boyd said. "The advertisement represented us as normal Americans."

Boyd and his team visited black colleges, churches and markets throughout the country to promote Pepsi, enduring the daily injustices of racism along the way.

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Congresswoman Waters Wants AIDS Test For Prisoners

From Staff Reports
Congresswoman Maxine Waters (D-Calif.) has introduced bills in the House of Representatives, calling for insurance companies to cover the cost of HIV testing and testing for federal prisoners upon their incarceration and release. The bill also requires HIV/AIDS awareness education for all inmates and comprehensive treatment for those inmates who test positive.

"The Stop AIDS in Prison Act will help stop the spread of HIV/AIDS among prison inmates, encourage them to take personal responsibility for their health, and reduce the risk that they will transmit HIV/AIDS to other persons in the community following their release from prison," said Congresswoman Waters.

The insurance bill, H.R. 822, would require insurance companies to pay for HIV testing in the same way they cover the cost of diabetes testing. H.R. 1943, the Stop AIDS in Prison Act of 2007, calls for mandatory HIV/AIDS testing for all inmates arriving and exiting a federal correctional facility.



Congresswoman Maxine Waters (D-Calif.)

Waters efforts are in response to the growing impact HIV/AIDS is having on minority communities. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, African-Americans account for half of all new HIV/AIDS

AIDS Test For Prisoners Page 10

Texas House Passes Weak Smoking Ban Bill



By Jim Vertuno, AP
A severely weakened statewide ban on smoking in bars and restaurant won final House approval Tuesday, but gaping loopholes that still allow patrons to light up leave its future in doubt. Supporters say the bill is needed to protect workers and customers from potentially deadly secondhand smoke. But opponents argued it violated private property rights, was bad for business and meant to smok-

Smoking Ban Page 8

Mother's Day: Another View

By Lisa Lin Burke
Mother's Day: my day of dread. The card aisle was to be avoided, like poison ivy. Envy, not blood, flowed through my veins when I watched daughters and mothers. They talked, walked, laughed and loved together. Did they know how lucky they were? I did. My mother died when I was thirteen. Mother's Day became just another Sunday without football.

Twenty years after her death, I began to ask myself questions. Did I honestly blame her passing for my every stumble? Why not try to embrace her death? Could I learn from her life to live my own? The Word helped me find solace with Psalms 121 (NIV): I lift up my eyes to the hills-where does my help come from? I knew Who I had to trust.

The road had its bumps and curves. I almost gave up, but He stayed with me. I bloomed into a woman I prayed my mother would be proud of. Mother's Day was no longer my day of dread. How can I not celebrate the woman

who introduced me to A & W onion rings? She also taught me the changes a young girl goes through are a celebration. Each night ended with her words, "Mama love." The card aisle isn't poison ivy anymore. Now I pick the perfect one. It's signed with love and then tucked away with the others.

Life on Earth with my mother was too short. Our time together was more valuable than rubies. Remember to treat your mother like the queen she is. You are the jewel in her crown. Not only on Mother's Day—but always.

My mother's spirit dances within me every second, every minute, every day. I am truly blessed. Praise God.

Plano Convention And Visitors Bureau Receives National Recognition



Former Dallas Cowboy Drew Pearson

The National Association of Sports Commissions (NASC) held its 2007 NASC Sports Event Symposium on April 17 - 20 in Dallas. The event included the 2007 NASC Awards Program where the Plano Convention and Visitors Bureau (PCVB) received top honors for producing the "Outstanding Locally Created Event/Program". Drew Pearson, the Dallas Cowboys All-Pro wide receiver and Plano resident, was the keynote speaker for the awards ceremony and accepted the award on behalf of the Plano CVB.

This honor was received for the creation and implementation of the Youth Explore Sports (YES!) Expo held on February 24, 2007. The Expo provided parents and their children with an opportunity to learn more

about the various programs, techniques, equipment, safety concerns and social/teamwork skills garnered through sport participation. Thirty-six exhibitors took part in this event and over 50 prizes were awarded throughout the day. Additionally, six hours of main stage demonstrations, including one from Hall of Famer and ESPN analyst Nancy Lieberman, kept the crowd entertained. Lieberman was the first two-time winner of the prestigious Wade Trophy at Old Dominion, a national "play of the year" award in college women's basketball and was selected as the Broderick Award winner for basketball as the top women's player in America.

"We are pleased and honored to receive this recognition," said Mark Thompson, Director of the Plano Convention and Visitors Bureau. "Our staff and volunteers worked long and hard in getting this first time event off

PCVB Receives Recognition Page 9

Hillary Clinton Criticizes Bush At Black Mayors Conference

AP
Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton criticized the Bush administration's response to Hurricane Katrina and pledged Saturday to funnel more federal aid to the still-recovering Gulf Coast if elected.

Speaking to the National Conference of Black Mayors, Clinton and Sen. Barack Obama both took President Bush to task, although Obama focused mostly on the Iraq war and Clinton on domestic issues.

Clinton and Obama are leading the pack in early polls measuring the race for the Democratic presidential nomination.

Clinton said she was angered when she saw images of New Orleans residents on their rooftops, begging to be rescued from the floodwaters that followed the August 2005 hurricane. She said Bush's



Democratic presidential hopeful Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton D-N.Y., speaks at the National Conference of Black Mayors in Baton Rouge, La., Saturday, May 5, 2007.

response was a display of "incompetence". "It is a great injustice that you would deny the resources to your own people, but that

Clinton Criticizes Bush Page 8

"Hair and Now" At Trisha's Hair Studio Salon & Spa

By: Sean C. Wright
The way a woman wears her hair shows off her style as well as her clothing. Crowning glory art can be sculptures of braids, weaves, colored, relaxed and simply left natural.

Trisha Taylor of Trisha's Hair Studio Salon & Spa has made it her mission to maintain the relationship women, especially women of color, have with their hair. With a Journalism degree from Baker University in Kansas, a Cosmetology license from Wilfred Beauty Academy in Houston and 15 years in the business under her belt, Trisha prides herself in providing an atmosphere that is professional, spacious and contemporary for her clients.

One of Ms. Taylor's objec-



Trisha Taylor, owner operator of Trisha's Hair Studio Salon & Spa, strives to provide clients with hair styles that reflect their personalities and lifestyles, she also gives equal attention to clients with hair issues, such as breakage and hair loss. "We value the loyalty and trust our clients have shown

Trisha's Hair Salon Page 5

Millinium Motor Cars 8th Anniversary Customer Celebration



Millinium Motors Owner David Stephens with daughter Kameha Stephens and Service Advisor Bob Lynn.



Harry and Denise Ellis enjoy the festivities.



Former Dallas Cowboy Drew Pearson signs autographs.



Maureen Reyes and Edward G. Barrientos.



Richard and Kelly Wright.



Former Cowboys Everson Walls and Ron Springs.



ReTrio entertains the crowd with music.



Net Jordan takes in the festivities.



(Left to Right) David Peterson, Loretta Davis, Joi Broddnax, Shawn Jones and Cynthia Carger.



**"Respect for People
Integrity to Lead"**

Students 'Share The Dream' At DFW International Airport's Scholarship Awards Ceremony

Airport recognizes 'its future' honoring students outstanding efforts to grow.

Twenty local high school scholarship recipients were honored recently at the DFW International Airport's "Share the Dream" award ceremony at the DFW Hyatt Regency.

A total of 42 essays were submitted to DFW for review and, while all were deemed winners, 20 students received the \$250 scholarship. Every student received personalized "Share the Dream" award medallions, caps, ink pens, picture frames, backpacks, a Don't Sweat the Small Stuff for Teens book, a school thesaurus, and a Dream book of

inspirations. Since the program's inception in 2004, the Airport has awarded scholarships to 90 high school students who are striving to be the best they can be.

The "Share the Dream" scholarship recipients:

Success High School - Jesus Rincon • Blanca Rodriguez, Carter Riverside High School - Magdalena Sierra • Liliana Flores, Academy of Irving High School - Amy Villarreal • Sneha Kuruvila, International Newcomer High School - Ana Motino • Shilah Mohammad Naem, W. H. Adamson High School - Juliana Maldonado • Alma Acosta, L. G. Pinkston High School - Stormy Mitchell • Velondria Bursey, New

Lives High School - Porsha McMaryion • Lea Oliver, Venture High School - Chelsea Parsons • Jeremy Thompson, Nimitz High

School - Brittany Anderson • Victoria Kelly and KEYS High School - Sheikho Siharath • Michael Light.



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Around The Town

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

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

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

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

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

A free legal clinic is offered for residents who meet low-income guidelines, 6:00 p.m., second Thursday of each month, First United Methodist Church, 601 S. Greenville Ave. Applicants must be Collin County residents and income eligible. Call 1-800-906-3045.

Free HIV Testing offered by the LaSima Foundation from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. every Thursday at two different locations. For loca-

tions and more information, call 214-928-9303.

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

Kumasi African Ensemble Dance Classes from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. West African dance classes held every Saturday at the South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh Ave. For more info call S-Anki Rassa at 214-298-5858.

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

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

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

May 11
Charlie Murphy; known mainly for his role as Eddie Murphy's off-screen brother. Murphy is quickly emerging as a breakout star on his own. May 11-13, 8pm, Improv Comedy Club, 4980 Beltline Road #250, Dallas, (972) 404-8501.

Dallas Children's Theater's production of 'A Midnight Cry': James

Devita's searing story about a slave's run for freedom runs through May 20. Rosewood Center for Family Arts, 5938 Skillman St. Performances Fridays at 7:30pm, Saturdays at 1:30pm, Sundays at 1:30 and 4:30pm 214-740-0051 www.wdct.org; \$16; \$14 youth, seniors and students; \$10 for Target Time Family Series performance May 19.

Angle Faces, Inc. and 97.9 The Beat Host Summer Camp Fundraiser for Disadvantaged Youth; May 11 & 12, 7:00 am-9 pm; Angel Faces Playhouse and Performing Arts Center 1111 W. Ledbetter Rd, Suite 750, Dallas. A mega-fundraiser to afford 50 youth the opportunity to attend their Oak Cliff ENCRE! Summer Camp Program May 29-August 10, 8am-5pm, Monday-Friday. Call Von Jones, 214 372-5080 or www.angelfacesinc.org

May 12
Plant a Shoe for Your Mother: Kidshop - Create a lasting Mother's Day Gift that's sure to bring a smile to her face. Bring in an old shoe (tennis shoe, high heels, cowboy boots - anything you aren't wearing!) and Texas Discovery Gardens provides the soil, plant and instructions; \$10 per shoe, 10am-9pm; stay for a stroll in the Gardens afterwards. Reservations recommended visit www.texasdiscoverygardens.org to register.

May 14
Dallas ISD Hosts Reception and Dinner to Honor Retirees; Board Trustee Ron Price and Superintendent Michael Hinojosa will address retiring employees and their families; The David W. Carter High School Jazz band, Thomas Jefferson High School orchestra and James Madison High School trio will perform. 6pm at Hilton Anatole Hotel,

2001 Stemmons Freeway. Call 972-925-3700, www.dallasisd.org

May 15
Old Red Courthouse Rededication and Museum of Dallas County & Culture Opening Ceremony and Events; Festivities began 10:45am with music and entertainment provided by local school groups and cultural organizations follow by rededication ceremonies beginning at 11:45am. Free admission to the Museum until 6:00 pm. For more info call Sam Childers 214-745-1100 or sam@oldred.org

Leadership Excellence through Sales and Marketing Innovation: Presented by a gathering of Dallas' business elite & four internationally renowned thought leaders of our time The Fairmont Hotel - Dallas, More info contact the Plano Chamber, Phone: 972-424-7547

May 18
Jazz Fridays At Stephanie Ward Gallery, Houston acoustic guitarist Joe Lee McCoy performs his mellow jazz sounds. Come join us for something smooth and different. View art and enjoy conversation with new friends. 7-9 p.m. \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door; tickets include food and wine. 920 18th St, Plano, RSVP at 4 6 9 - 2 2 9 - 0 0 2 4 ; stephaniewardgallery.com; stephanie@gal.com

Dallas Black Dance Theater 30th Anniversary Gala Series, May 18 & 19, Majestic Theater, 1925 Elm Street, Buy tickets at Majestic Theater Box Office or Ticketmaster www.ticketmaster.com, group rates (10 or more) call DBDT 2148712390

May 19
Kids Day America Featuring Free Child ID Cards & Photos Fingerprinting by Plano Police

Department; sponsored by Mountain Health Chiropractic, 11 AM-3PM, 1108 W. Parker Rd. in Plano (parking lot SouthWest Corner of Parker & Alma) More information call 972-398-0440 or go to www.childrenswellness.com FREE EVERY-ONEWELCOME!!!

May 20
Second Annual AMS Golf Tournament FUNdraiser! The Armstrong Middle School Dad's Club and PTA are working together to organize a fun and memorable event. All proceeds will go toward the purchase of sound system upgrades for the school. Low Ries Country Club 12:15 check-in begins, 1:15pm shotgun start. COST: \$55 per player; Price includes green fee, cart, range balls, & box lunch. To register, or become a sponsor, go to: www.supportarmstrong.com or contact Alan Bertucci 214-315-5583, a.berucci@tx.rr.com

May 22
Nanette Lee, hosts her own show "Phat Tuesday" at the Improv Comedy Club. It's more than just a stand-up comedy show. It's an event full of fun and entertainment. 8:00pm, Karaoke starts at 7:30pm, 4980 Beltline Road #250, Dallas, (972) 404-8501.

May 29
PISD Graduation, Reunion Arena, 777 Sports Street Dallas, 10:00 a.m. - Plano Senior High School, 2:00 p.m. - Plano East Senior High School, 7:00 p.m. - Plano West Senior High School

June 2
Dallas Branch of the NAACP sponsors The Dallas Juvenile Justice System: Understanding its Process & Addressing its Problems; a free two-part symposium for parents, youth

and the community at-large, 11:00am-4pm, Paul Laurence Dunbar Lancaster Kiest Public Library, 2008 E. Kiest Blvd; more info call 800 734 3406, www.naacpdallas.org

African American Museum presents Music Under the Dome featuring Janice Shepherd; 7-10pm, Museum Men's Free; \$10 VIP seating (includes drinks & food) for reservations call 214-565-9026, ext 315

June 17
Shereese of Shereese Magazine Hosts Real Men Cook 2007, Real Men Cook returns to Dallas, with Dallas' largest celebration of Men in the community. Eddie Dean's Ranch Downtown Dallas, Sunday 3-6 pm. Sign-up now to register, sponsor or host; www.realmencook.com/dallas, 214-376-6530

June 23
Habitat Home Run 5K, 8:00 am Bob Woodruff Park, Plano; Visit www.habitat-texas.org/home5k07.htm for full details and register at www.getregistered.com

August 24-26
5th Annual Tulsaoma South Dallas Book Fair & Arts Festival Tulsaoma, Swahili for "we read", is a community-based literary festival promoting literacy and the arts in the South Dallas/Fair Park area. Founded in 2003, by District 7 - Dallas City Councilman Leo V. Chaney, Jr., the goal of Tulsaoma is to create a dynamic event tailored to engage local families, avid readers, aspiring writers and visitors to the city.

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Paul Hailey

Mother's Day Musings: Mothers and Rap Music

I admire mothers. I know this word, that's the ultimate no-brainer statement, but I want the record to reflect that I admire mothers and I love mamas.

As a single man, I have had the pleasure of meeting, dating and cultivating friendships with women who have amazed me in their ability to raise their children through all kinds of circumstances. Women are remarkable enough, but have you closely observed a mama in action lately?

A couple of weeks ago, I watched as a dear friend of mine held a conversation with me while simultaneously cleaning out emails on her laptop, helping her daughter with a project, answering the phone and putting her son in check about cleaning the kitchen. And she didn't miss a beat. Multitasking is a way of life for a "real mama".

Real mamas possess uncanny ability to make fifteen dollars worth of groceries last an entire week for their kids, while mom eats crackers and drinks Pepsi for the week. Real mamas have no trouble being a mother to their daughters, a father to their sons, and a provider for the household all at the same time.

Mothers, particularly black mothers, have carried families since the beginning of time. Black mothers are adept at handling challenges, while at same time, functioning as pillars of support in the family unit.

Nobody-from scholars to regular folk could ever disagree with that fact.

"Mothers are the backbone of Black communities," said Lyn Lewis, a sociology professor at the University of Detroit-Mercy. "Communities could not survive without Big Mama and M'dear. They are the anatomy of the Black communities. And they are tired, though they may

not even show it. Here's the part of Ms. Lewis' comments that saddened me.

"They are very much sick and tired of being sick and tired; they are screaming and crying to Black men to help them to save Black families, and the Black race."

Ahhh...the black men, there's the rub. Which brings me to my central question of the week: With all that black mothers have done to raise their children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews, why do young black men feel compelled to refer to black women as "bitches" and "ho's" in rap lyrics?

The recent flap over Don Imus calling Rutgers University women's basketball players "nappy headed ho's", has turned the national spotlight on rap lyrics and all things hip hop. The mirror suddenly turned inward and people started wondering why, if we wanted Imus' head for his comments, do we tolerate the same type of comments in rap songs made and produced by black men?

So we went crazy. The NAACP announced it was burying the N-word, Al Sharpton started marching and even rap pioneer Russell Simmons came out against the woman hating lyrics in hip hop today.

Someone, (I can't remember who), once told me that you can tell a great deal about a man by how he treats women; it is usually a reflection of how he subconsciously feels about his mother. I don't understand how young black men who have been raised

by mamas who made sacrifices just to keep them alive. What is this convoluted self-hated happening between these rappers that makes them tear down the very women that are their mothers, sisters, and baby's mamas?

The sad truth is I don't know. I don't know what is the motivation for these lyrics, and I don't know how to stop it. I only know that it is a function of respect for yourself that causes you to disrespect others, and it is a function of respect for yourself that causes you to disrespect others.

When it's all said and done, I had to pull out some rap lyrics to explain some rap lyrics.

And since we all came from a woman

Got our name from a woman

I wonder why we take from our women

Why we rape our women, do we hate our women?

I think it's time to kill for our women

Time to heal our women, be real to our women

And if we don't we'll have a race of babies

That will hate the ladies, that make the babies

And since a man can't make one

He has no right to tell a woman when and where to create one

So will the real men get up

I know you're fed up ladies, but keep your head up

That Tupac was something else. Happy Mother's Day.

Paul Hailey can be reached at phailey@MonTheGazette.com



Propaganda, Pimping Or Sloppy Journalism: "60 Minutes" Story On Snitching Reinforces The Need To Support The Black Press

For the past few months mainstream media has hyped the "stop snitching" slogan, giving it a life - and definition - of its own. A recent story on CBS News' 60 Minutes presented a one-dimensional view of snitching that appears to be part of an ongoing propaganda campaign designed to hold hip-hop culture accountable for the dysfunctional criminal justice system, and divert the public's attention from the real problems in America.

Whether it's propaganda, pimping, or simply sloppy journalism, the story "Stop Snitching" was biased and inaccurate. A cursory review of the facts reinforces the urgent need to reassert the black press as an authentic voice and trustworthy news source capable of dispelling the latest stereotypes.

In the black community it is commonly understood that a snitch is a crafty criminal who negotiates a deal for himself by telling on others. Since the days of slavery, providing information to authorities to gain favor has been viewed negatively. Judas would be considered a snitch primarily because he was one of the disciples, one of the crew.

But, according to the 60 Minutes story, witnesses and concerned citizens are now considered snitches. The report indicated that people of all ages in the black community, even children, are abiding by this so-called code-of-silence out of fear of retaliation. A related story, "A Conspiracy Of Silence, CBS News Investigates: Epidemic Of Witness Intimidation Plagues Justice System" aired a week after the "Stop Snitching" show.

Instead of displaying outrage at the suggestion that hip-hop culture has convinced law-abiding "inner-city residents" to participate in a conspiracy against the justice system, many uninformed black people believe and perpetuate this propaganda before checking the source and motives of the messenger.

Since I'm from the "P-Funk" era, I went to allhiphop.com, thuglife4earth.com and eurweb.com to see what the hip-hop generation had to say. Amazingly, about 85% of the posts I read supported the classic definition of snitching. I listened to Chamillionaire's song "No Snitchin'." The rapper rhymes about a criminal who "was looking at 30 but only did 10." The song goes on, "streets know the deals you made with the pen."

I suffered through the foul language of Obie Trice f/Akon, "Snitch." When the first word in the song was "convict," I knew it was more talk about criminals. The song says, "started out as a crew...who woulda known he would fold and cover."

A few clicks later I was on sohh.com watching an interview with rapper, actor and one of the pioneers of hip-hop, Ice-T. He said, "Snitching is not telling on somebody doing something wrong in the 'hood. It's when you and your partner are involved in a crime and get caught and you tell on your partner. That's snitching."

If I was able to find the meaning of snitching in less than ten clicks of my mouse, I think it's safe to assume that 60 Minutes, a national news program with a budget and research staff, is aware of the nature and definition of snitching and had no interest in being fair and accurate.

A quick look at pertinent information absent from the story is further evidence that it was propaganda. For instance, 60 Minutes neglected to mention that there was honor among thieves long before hip-hop. Dishonest elected officials, corporate executives, and even the "Boys in Blue" have adhered to a don't snitch mantra over the years.

Although 60 Minutes could not cover all of these issues, they could have presented a more balanced story. With minimal research the producers could have found an articulate expert on hip-hop culture like rapper Mos Def or Davey D, a journalist who has written on the issue. An intelligent spokesperson would have taken that shining moment to expose the corrupt snitch system, and, most importantly, change the direction and perception of hip-hop overall. Instead, 60 Minutes empowered an irresponsible rapper to make inflammatory, harmful comments.

Black people complain about mainstream media defining our values and creating legends by giving voice to a chosen few. Our ancestors didn't get mad or complain; they got even. They created black publications as good, or better, than their mainstream counterparts. Black newspapers were packed with thoughtful information aimed to educate, inspire, and empower the black community. These political Bibles were passed through the neighborhood and looked upon

as the sacred key to overcoming oppressive conditions. People eagerly awaited their weekly messages from respected writers like Fredrick Douglas, W.E.B. DuBois, and Ida B. Wells.

Similar to the impact integration had on black schools, once mainstream newspapers included stories related to the black experience, African-Americans abandoned the black press. Unlike other minorities, as soon as blacks are accepted into mainstream they tend to dump their traditional institutions. Don't get me wrong, we should embrace diversity in mainstream media and applaud the outstanding work of black journalists and broadcasters fighting for fair coverage on the inside. However, the beloved community desperately needs the black press to separate news from propaganda and fact from fiction.

The Black community is plagued by serious social and economic problems. In the midst of a presidential election cycle we must let America know that we refuse to accept propaganda spoon fed to us by mainstream media. Let advertisers know that if they want to send us a message about our issues, do so through OUR media. Let's put them on notice that we will depend on black publishers and broadcasters who have sacrificed and struggled to exist, to be the gatekeepers of our information.

Knowledge is a commodity. Support the creators of that product. Lift up TV One, BlackAmericaweb, and BlackPressUSA. Pick up the phone today and buy a subscription to your local black newspaper. If you advertise, include black media in your advertising plan. For those surfing the net and enjoying thought-provoking writers like Faye Anderson, Lucius Gandt, Dogonvillage.com or Bruce Dixon at BlackAgendaReport.com, purchase something at their site, donate, or just click on a google ad and give them a penny.

The press is considered the Fourth Estate. They are the eyes and ears of the people, appointed to keep watch on the government. How can people, oppressed for over 400 years, depend on our oppressors to be our eyes and ears?

through selling poison to his fans and helping to destroy the communities of some of his followers. Hip-hop mogul Russell Simmons was, I'm sure, appalled after all that he has done over the past few weeks, tirelessly trying to present these men as "poets." Spooked, Simmons even tried a diversion last week by calling for voluntary censorship of three little words from recordings and videos. Sorry, mogul. As the hip-hop chat rooms and the e-mail responses to Cooper and Winfrey made clear: The public has seen and heard what is actually being sold and what its actual effects are.

The Dragons Among Us Are Feeling The Heat

After convincing so many that it was invincible to criticism and no more than a fresh voice of the street that was holding up a mirror and expressing unpleasant truths through its music and its poetry, the hip-hop dragon has begun to bleed. Profusely. It is easy to see how the Don Imus affair brought into question issues long avoided by the media and the civil rights leadership as well as the women's movement.

While the contrast between actual black women and those presented as no more than slutty sex toys in rap videos had seemingly bothered no one, we found that was not true at all. The dramatic contrast between the women's basketball team at Rutgers and the kind of language Imus borrowed from the misogynist world of rap burst a boil.

Not only did filth flow out of this swollen sore; so did all of the suppressed or intimidated goodwill one would have hoped to see rise into view much sooner. But with black women in the lead this time and far from willing to shut up, the deceitful civil rights leadership and the media chimed in and would not back up.

"The Oprah Winfrey Show" devoted two solid hours to the subject last week, followed by Paula Zahn, who had already been on the case. Then Katie Couric, "60 Minutes" and the dragon slayer himself, Anderson Cooper.

On "60 Minutes" and CNN, Cooper did the most damage by getting the rapper Cam'ron to admit the actual truth while sitting there handsome and self-satisfied with his diamond earrings sparkling for the camera. Arrogant and charmless, he made it quite clear that he was much more interested in maintaining his thug image and making money than whether or not he encouraged self-destructive attitudes and homicidal actions among young people through his lyrics and videos.

The rapper couldn't care less and, he said, neither did any of the big corporations promoting such products and ideas through their hip-hop lines. Material, I might add, that would be elevated if it were called slime.

Bad decision, homie: You let the world see what the real deal is and what those behind you believe in above all else.

Just as he admits to having sold drugs, Cam'ron appeared smug and happy about the millionaire status he has achieved

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Is the sky clearest on the day it is most blue?
While you ponder that thought we would like to announce that Minority Opportunity News, Inc., formerly a Dallas based renaissance community tabloid, founded in 1991, has relocated to Plano, Texas and changed our name to MON-The Gazette.
Think of MON-The Gazette as your paper of opportunity!
MON-The Gazette formally Minority Opportunity News, was founded July, 1991, by Jim Bocham and Thurman R. Jones

Paul Quinn College Of Dallas Brings Home Second Track And Field Championship In A Row

Paul Quinn College's men's track and field team ran off with its second Red River Championship in a row, remaining the first and only PQC athletic team to win a conference title since the institution moved from Waco to Dallas in 1990.

Known as the Tigers, the 12-person track and field team beat out students from Texas and Oklahoma to place first overall — finishing more than 75 points ahead of the second-place competitor, Langston University of Oklahoma. This impressive victory is all the more remarkable when considering the funding and equipment limitation found at the historically black college, coach

and students said.

PQC students practice track and field events on a dirt track. With no campus jump pits, the first time students physically attempt some events, like the high jump or the long jump, occurs at meets. Still, the students continually rise above, said Head Track Coach Joe Murphy, named Red River Conference Coach of the Year. "You have to recruit," said



Murphy, who has coached track and field at PQC for four years. "That's the secret to our success."

It doesn't take much to figure out why this team is winning. Just look at the coaches: Roy Martin, a former track and field Olympic gold winner, and Mike Carter, a former Southern Methodist University All-American, an Olympian and former San Francisco 49ers player. Murphy and students credited Saturday's victory to 22-year-old Sophomore Adolphus Jones from St. Kitts-Nevis in the Caribbean. He was named Red River Championship's Most Valuable

Player after competing and placing in nine events, including four first-place finishes.

"Track and field "has always been a love of mine since I was little," said Jones, a business major who started running when he was five years old. "The meet was really exciting. I had a lot of friends there who were supporting me."

At one point during the April 21 event, teammate Freshman Michael Henry marveled as Jones competed in four back-to-back events without a break.

"I knew what it was to be a winner but after seeing him, I realize what it takes to be a true champion," said 23-year-old Michael Henry, a religion major

who decided to compete despite a hyper-extended left knee after witnessing Jones' dedication. "He did whatever he could for the team. Even if I was hurt, I knew I wanted to take part."

Henry placed fourth in discus and javelin.

The Red River Athletic Conference includes schools in Texas and Oklahoma, such as Texas Wesleyan University, Bacone College and Houston Baptist University. The conference crowns a champion in 12 events, including baseball, golf and soccer. For more results from the Red River Championship, go to www.redriverconference.com.

University Announces Program Providing Free Tuition For Students With High Financial Needs

Academically talented high school graduates in Texas who live in households where the breadwinners earn \$40,000 a year or less may find large financial assistance when they enroll at the University of North Texas this fall.

The university's new Emerald Eagle Scholars program will cover all tuition and mandatory fees for new freshman who qualify by submitting a completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form and all required admissions documents by May 1. Students who are named Emerald Eagle Scholars will be committed to active engagement on campus, be Texas residents and enroll in 15 hours per semester. They also must stay on track to graduate in four years, or eight semesters, and maintain an overall grade point average of 2.5.

New UNT President Gretchen M. Bataille introduced the Emerald Eagle Scholars pro-

gram, which is funded by donations and a combination of federal, state and institution funds, at her inauguration as UNT's 14th president earlier this month, emphasizing her commitment to



further strengthening the university's already considerable undergraduate need-based aid programs.

The university raised a substantial portion of its contribution to Emerald Eagle Scholars with ticket sales and sponsorships for

Bataille's inaugural ball, the Emerald Ball.

"Funds raised by the Emerald Ball account for more than a quarter of a million dollars of the initial endowment to support the Emerald Eagles Scholars program," Bataille says.

She says an important measure to help ensure success between the Emerald Eagle Scholars and UNT is the requirement that participants "must engage in the richness of university life — including campus activities, mentoring and other student support programs."

"In addition, because we believe a commitment to active engagement on campus is directly related to success, our Emerald Eagles will benefit by working on campus in university departments committed to supporting participants in the program," she says.

For additional information, contact Student Financial Aid and Scholarships at UNT (877-881-1014 Toll Free) or log onto <http://essc.unt.edu/finaid>.

Texas To Host National High School Mock Trial Competition

The 24th Annual National High School Mock Trial Competition will bring 40 high school teams to Dallas from across the U.S. (plus South Korea and the Northern Mariana Islands) on May 10-12, as they argue a hypothetical court case. These teams, which have emerged as the best within their states, will be matched against one another in actual courtrooms, culminating in a championship round on Saturday evening at the newly restored Hatton Sumners Courtroom in the historic Old Red Courthouse.

Approximately 1,000 students, parents, teachers and attorneys are expected to participate. Richardson High School prevailed in the statewide competition in March, and will represent Texas in the national competi-

tion. More than 400 judges and attorneys will serve as "jurors," and select the teams that are best prepared and who demonstrate exceptional presentation skills.

Outfitted in business suits and briefcases, students will portray plaintiff and defense attorneys as they argue a negligence case brought in "federal" court. They will cross-examine "witnesses," they will object to their opponent's strategy, and they'll deliver powerful opening and closing statements in front of real judges.

The mock trial program was developed in the 1970s to teach high school students how the justice system works and how the law is applied in everyday life, while

exposing them to critical thinking exercises and quick analysis through preparation



and presentation. The first national championship was held in 1984.

Web site: <http://www.dallas.bar.org/nationalmocktrial>.

City Of Dallas Sponsors Summer Jobs For Teens

The City of Dallas is still accepting application and hiring for the Mobil Green Team. To qualify, a students must be 16-18 years old, live in the city of Dallas and attend a Dallas ISD school. The youth must be income eligible and pass the interview. The job is from June (end of) to July (8 weeks). The youth work two days a week and go to class two days a week and get paid for 30 hours per week at \$6 an hour. Please let me know if you need applications. Contact

John Willis at 214) 670-7325.

The Dallas Conservation Crew Program is hiring 15-18 years old high school students or recently graduated students. There is not income or residential requirement for this program. The program is a six-week conservation service-learning experience. Participants are compensated for their work with a stipend of \$1,000 or can choose to acquire community service hours for high school graduation. The crews will perform trail

maintenance and site restoration projects in a local park. Each week participants will spend one day on an educational field trip where they will learn about the local environment. On the sixth week the crews will go on a 4-day, 3-night recreational camping trip at a park somewhere within a 2-3 hour drive from Dallas. The job is from June 11 - July 20, 2007.

Call 214-442-1633, or go online at www.thesca.org for more information.

Applications Available For SMU Pre-Admissions Program

Current and future Collin College students have until Wednesday, August 1 to apply for the Southern Methodist University (SMU) pre-admissions program.

The program allows students to attend Collin College and earn core credit. All the while, they can work with

SMU advisors to ensure a seamless transfer of those credit to the university. Also, students can take advantage of lecture and sporting event tickets, a DART pass, access to SMU's library and more.

Interested students must have a grade point average of at least 2.95 with fewer than 30 trans-

ferable hours or a grade point average of 2.70 with more than 30 transferable hours. Students also must complete an application and two essay questions and possibly a recommendation from a faculty member.

For more information or for an application, visit <http://transferu.ccccd.edu/smu.html>.

Former TSU Official Gets 10 Years For Misusing School Funds

From Wire Reports

Texas Southern University's former chief financial officer was sentenced to 10 years in prison Tuesday for funneling nearly \$300,000 of public funds into secret accounts used by the troubled school's ex-president to lavishly furnish and landscape her home.

A jury deliberated for about four hours over two days before sentencing Quintin Wiggins, who was convicted last week on one count of misapplication of fiduciary property with a value over \$200,000.

Prosecutors said Wiggins diverted \$286,000 of TSU funds into accounts that then-President Priscilla Slade used to buy furniture, landscaping and a high-tech security system for her home.

The allegations against Wiggins, Slade and others coincided with a series of reports that revealed a pattern of financial mismanagement at the school and prompted Gov. Rick Perry to call for a state takeover of the historically black university.

"I hope it sends a message to the students (at TSU) that they are important and the administrators need to do right by them," said prosecutor Julian Ramirez.

Wiggins looked down and showed no emotion as his sentence was read in court.

L. Mickle Daniels, one of Wiggins' attorneys, said his client still believes he did nothing wrong.

"He's very distraught. He feels like he's been a victim. He's a scapegoat. He's still contending he did his job," Daniels said.

Wiggins has been in custody since he was convicted last week. The judge presiding over the case turned down a request by Wiggins' attorneys to have him released on bond while the case is appealed.

Wiggins' attorneys and family had asked the jury, which did not include any black people, to sentence him to probation.

"We thought that probation would be a long shot," Daniels said. "That's why we were praying and hoping he would get 10 years or less."

Prosecutors had asked for a prison sentence of at least 30 years.

Wiggins, whose trial began April 10, had faced a sentence of anywhere from five years probation to life in prison and a fine of up to \$10,000.

Prosecutors argued Wiggins did not merit probation in part because of his criminal record, which includes two arrests for driving while intoxicated and one for impersonating a peace officer.

"What in the world was the (chief financial officer) at TSU doing with that kind of criminal history? How in the world did he get hired? That is a question that needs to be asked over there," Ramirez said.

Prosecutors said Wiggins' con-

viction will not help Slade when she goes to trial in August on two charges of criminally misusing university money for private benefit.



TSU former CFO Quintin Wiggins

Slade was the school's president for more than six years before she was fired in June after her spending was made public.

In all, Slade spent \$87,000 on furniture, \$138,000 on landscaping and \$61,000 on a security system, prosecutors said.

The financial problems at TSU, including those caused by Wiggins and Slade, prompted one donor to pull back a \$250,000 gift to the university, prosecutors said.

Perry's push for a takeover of TSU was put on hold after complaints by members of the Legislative Black Caucus that such action could jeopardize TSU's accreditation. Perry agreed to work with them on a compromise plan. All nine of TSU's regents resigned at Perry's request.

The campus in Houston has an enrollment of about 11,000 and is the alma mater of the late U.S. Rep. Barbara Jordan and other notables.

Stephen F. Austin State University To Host 11th Vendor Fair And Exhibit

Stephen F. Austin State University will host the 11th annual Vendor Fair and Exhibit Tuesday, May 15, at the Grand Ballroom, located inside the Student Center.

The theme for the one-day forum is "Forget E-mail; Let's Talk!" The summit will be a full day of face-to-face networking with representatives from SFA, Texas Forest Service, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Texas Cooperative

Extension, and the Texas A&M University System, who will also co-sponsor the event. The SFA campus community, other state agencies, school districts and government agencies are invited as well.

"This is a great event for representatives of historically underutilized businesses to attend," said Diana Boubel, SFA director of purchasing and inventory and HUB coordinator. Admission to the event is free,

but participants may reserve a place for an Italian buffet before the Exhibit Hall opens by sending \$12 with their registration, or they may choose to dine on their own.

Sponsorships are available at \$50, \$100 and \$200 and will include one, two, or three lunch reservations and recognition in printed materials.

For more info call 936-468-2206 or register online at www.sfasu.edu.

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4 Gas-Saving Myths: Think You're Stretching Your Gas Dollars By Killing The Air Conditioning Or Buying Your Gas On Wednesday? Think Again

Using a special additive or cutting off your A/C won't really cut your gasoline consumption. But myths like these run rampant in the minds of American drivers.

Right now, the price of gasoline is (once again) approaching nose-bleed levels. Last week the nationwide average for a gallon of regular unleaded self-serve gasoline climbed to \$3.07 a gallon.

So before you attempt a half-baked scheme to stretch your gas dollars, here's a look at what's fact and what's fiction when it comes to fuel economy:

There have been additives, special magnets and even a pill that has promised to improve a car's fuel efficiency by as much as 30 percent in some cases.

While the promise of stretching your gas dollars seems awfully lucrative, especially when they cost under \$20, most of these products provide a negligible, if any, improvement in fuel efficiency, said Rik Paul, the automotive editor for the publication Consumer Reports.

Consumer Reports and the government's Environment Protection Agency, have tested dozens of these products finding that none of them offer any significant improvement in

fuel economy.

"With all the pressure car companies are under, if one of these inexpensive devices dramatically did improve fuel economy, they (automakers) would be all over it," said Paul.

There's the old saw that leaving your windows rolled down creates an aerodynamic drag on your car, cutting down on fuel efficiency. And there's the notion that the fastest way to drain your gas tank is by running your air conditioning.

Don't believe either one.

In two separate studies conducted in 2005, the automotive Web site Edmunds.com and Consumer Reports compared the fuel economy of both a sedan and an SUV at highway speeds with and without air conditioning and how open windows affected gas usage.

What they found was no significant difference in fuel economy in either sedan or SUV under either condition.

Some drivers insist the best time to buy gasoline is on a Wednesday, when pump prices have cooled from the weekend

run-up when oil companies typically raise prices.

That's true to a point, says



Tom Kloza, chief oil analyst at the Oil Price Information Service. Gas prices tend to be higher on the weekend, but there's no ideal day of the week to purchase your gas.

Geoff Sundstrom of the motorist organization AAA notes that gas prices fluctuate from day to day and are determined by gas station owners who look at a variety of factors including wholesale gasoline

prices, competitors' prices and food and drink sales if they have an attached convenience store.

Drivers who want to bargain-hunt for inexpensive gas should instead check out Web sites like Gasbuddy.com, which allows consumers to find the cheapest gas in their area simply by entering their zip code.

It's probably a myth that goes back to the days when cars were equipped with carburetors, but many drivers believe that starting up and turning off your car repeatedly is a fast way to drain your gas tank.

But because of modern fuel-injection technology, drivers actually save gas by turning off their engine than letting their car needlessly idle, says Consumer Reports' Paul.

Granted it's probably not sensible shutting down the engine every time you get stuck in traffic, but if it looks like you might be at the drive-thru for more than 30 seconds to a minute, it's worth turning off your car, says Paul.

So what are some fuel-savings tips you can trust?

• Make sure your tires are properly inflated for starters.

Besides posing a safety hazard, underinflated tires can reduce your fuel economy slightly, based on Edmunds.com's 2005 study.

Removing excess weight from your car can also help save you gas. The Department of Energy estimates that drivers can save anywhere between 3 and 6 cents a gallon (assuming gas prices of \$2.97 a gallon) just by removing those golf clubs and other unnecessary weight from your trunk.

• If your car comes equipped with cruise control, make sure you use it, especially on long

trips. Edmunds.com's study revealed that using cruise control at highway speeds offered an average fuel economy savings of 7 percent.

But the biggest fuel saver is driving the speed limit and driving sensibly. Rapid starts and stops and exceeding the speed limit will dent your pocketbook. Just by adhering to one of those, the Department of Energy estimates that drivers can save anywhere between 15 and 98 cents a gallon, again assuming pump prices are at \$2.97 a gallon.

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Trisha's Hair Salon Page 1

and credit them for our continued success. North Texans can trust us to help them look and feel their best," Trisha has said, "We'll show you the right products, tools and techniques to keep your hair looking vibrant and strong all the time."

The Plano salon also employs full-time massage therapists and permanent make-up artists. Trisha's Hair Studio Salon & Spa works with all hair types - ethnic, Caucasian, curly, straight or kinky and offers services and products which include professional makeup artists, hair fusions for thinning hair, hair

braiding, hair weaving, facials, relaxers, hair coloring, and spa services.

Trisha's Hair Studio Salon & Spa is located at 4909 W. Park Blvd #50, Plano, TX 75093, which is at the northeast intersection of Preston Road and Park Boulevard. The phone number is 469-326-1850 and the web site is www.trishashairstudio.com. The hours of operation are from Monday through Saturday, 9 AM through 7 PM. Trisha Taylor may be contacted by e-mail at trishwoods@lycos.com.

Sean C. Wright is a freelance writer, she can be reached at msseane@aol.com.

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Auto Loan Rates Higher For Blacks

Recent legal settlements could narrow the gap, however.

Blacks have been charged higher auto loan rates than other auto buyers, federal research says. But the gap in loan rates could narrow, and possibly disappear, as the result of recently concluded lawsuits.

Blacks paid a typical auto loan rate of 7 percent for new cars, compared with a rate of 5 percent for whites in 2004, according to a consumer organization's analysis of the Federal Reserve Survey of Consumer Finances. That was the most recent survey available.

And blacks were more likely than auto buyers in general to have auto loans higher than 15 percent. For used car loans, 27 percent of blacks who buy

were charged interest rates of 15 percent or more. Blacks were three times as likely as whites - 27 percent to 9 percent - to have auto loan rates at least that high.



Hispanics were paying a typical rate of 5.5 percent for new car loans, while 19 percent of Hispanics had loans for used cars over 15 percent, the analysis found.

Lenders' suggested quote rates are based largely on the buyer's

credit history, but auto dealers often raise the rate higher than that risk-related rate without discussing the rate with the customer, consumer advocates said. And they question the rates of these differences.

"It's hard to believe that any differences in creditworthiness explain all of these rate gaps," said Stephen Brobeck, executive director of the Consumer Federation of America. "They size you up, the car salesmen and finance and interest guys. They must think African-Americans are more vulnerable to a markup."

But a series of legal actions against auto finance firms seeking fair treatment for minorities

could help solve that problem.

"We had 11 lawsuits, the last of the cases settled last month," said Stuart Rossman of the National Consumer Law Center. "We reached a settlement with each of the finance firms. Our cases involved discrimination. We believe the terms of the settlements will eliminate discrimination."

The first of the lawsuits was filed in 1998 in Nashville, Tenn., against General Motors Acceptance Corporation and was settled in 2004. The last settlement became final in April.

The effects of those legal actions may not be known for some time, however.

The National Auto Dealers Association questioned what accounts for the rate differences, but encouraged auto buyers to do their homework before going to

buy a car.

"The question that still is unanswered is why," said David Hyatt, a spokesman for the dealer's association. "People should do their homework and shop around. It speeds up the transaction and is more likely to result in a satisfied buyer."

Hyatt said an organization supported by the auto dealers, Americans Well Informed on Automobile Retailing Economics (AWARE), offers tips to potential car buyers.

Chris Stinebert, president and chief executive of the American Financial Services Association, said his group is interested in educating consumers.

"AFSA and its members believe there is no place for discrimination in the vehicle financing system," he said.

The lawsuit settlements against auto finance companies call for caps on dealer markups, opportu-

nities for blacks and Hispanics to get loans with no markups within the next few years, more information about interest rate terms and consumer education for minorities.

"The lower markup caps have leveled the playing field," Rossman said.

Consumer advocates say prospective auto buyers should call their bank or credit union for a rate quote to expect on an auto loan. That could protect them from unfair markups.

Other ways to hold down costs. Make all loan payments on time. Buy a used car, or a less expensive new car. Take out a loan over a shorter time.

The survey of 4,519, including 605 blacks, was analyzed by Catherine Montalto, a consumer specialist at Ohio State University for the Consumer Federation of America. The survey was conducted between May and December of 2004.

Six Charged In Plot To Attack Fort Dix

Jihadists' Said to Have No Ties to Al-Qaeda

A group of would-be terrorists, allegedly undone after attempting to have jihad training videos copied onto a DVD, has been charged with conspiring to attack Fort Dix and kill soldiers there with assault rifles and grenades, authorities said Tuesday.

Five men - all foreign-born and described as "radical Islamists" by federal authorities - allegedly trained at a shooting range in Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains to kill "as many soldiers as possible" at the historic Army base 25 miles east of Philadelphia. A sixth man was charged with helping them obtain illegal weapons.

FBI and Justice Department officials said the arrests were the result of a 16-month operation to infiltrate and monitor the group. It was portrayed as a leadership, homegrown cell of immigrants from Jordan, Turkey and the former Yugoslavia who came together because of a shared infatuation

with Internet images of jihad, or holy war.

Authorities said the group has no apparent connection to al-Qaeda or other international terrorist organizations aside from ideology, but appears to be an example of the kind of self-directed sympathizers widely predicted - and feared - by counterterrorism specialists. The defendants allegedly passed around and copied images of al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden and the martyrdom videos of two of the Sept. 11, 2001, hijackers.

Authorities said the group settled on Fort Dix in part because one defendant, Serdar Tatar, 23, had delivered pizzas to the base from his family's nearby restaurant, Super Mario Pizza, and knew the area "like the palm of his hand," according to a defendant. Tatar, who was born in Turkey and is a legal U.S. resident, also obtained a map of the base, according to the charges.

In one recording cited in court documents, Tatar raised the possi-

bility that the informant worked for the FBI and acknowledged the risk of sharing the map. But he said that "it doesn't matter to me whether I get locked up, arrested or taken away. Or I die, it doesn't matter. I'm doing it in the name of Allah."

Another defendant, Mohamad Ibrahim Shnewer, 22, a Jordanian native employed as a taxi driver in Philadelphia, was quoted in the indictment as saying that "you can hit an American base very easily."

Shnewer also allegedly said: "When you got a military base, you need mortars and RPGs."

Three defendants are ethnic Albanian brothers from the former Yugoslavia who operated a roofing business in Cherry Hill and lived in the United States illegally: Eljvir Duka, 23, Dritan Duka, 28, and Shain Duka, 26. A sixth defendant, Agron Abdullahu, 24, also an ethnic Albanian born

in the former Yugoslavia, is charged with helping the Dukas illegally obtain firearms.

The Duka brothers lived with



U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Christie speaks to reporters at a news conference at the federal courthouse in Camden, N.J. "They wanted to be jihadists," Christie said of the men arrested.

their parents in a beige two-story house on Mimosa Drive, a winding suburban street. The brothers also did car repairs from the house, neighbors said.

"They did everything together," said neighbor Mike Levine. "It was like they were attached at the hip."

The Duka home was empty Tuesday, and the brothers' red pickup with a ladder and roofing

materials in the back was parked in front of it. A blue BMW and a white minivan sat in the driveway. The front yard was manicured,

with two palm trees, sculpted flowerpots bearing lilies and impatiens, and a flower bed with colorful spring blooms.

Neighbors said the family had lived on the block for about seven years and had always seemed different from other suburbanites. There were 10 to 20 people living there - two parents, five children, five grandchildren, daughters-in-law and others. The family raised sheep, goats and roosters in the back yard.

Some neighbors, however, said they had become suspicious in recent months when the women and children of the large clan moved away, leaving only the men and the mother.

"We all wondered - where did the ladies go? Where are the children?" said Susan DeFrancesco,

who lives across the street and who said her children used to ride the bus to school with the Duka grandchildren.

The Duka brothers are charged with conspiracy to murder members of the armed forces and face possible life sentences. Abdullahu is charged with aiding and abetting illegal weapons possession and faces 10 years in prison. All six were held without bond after a court appearance Tuesday.

Fort Dix, which has about 14,000 soldiers, sheltered more than 4,000 ethnic Albanian refugees during the NATO bombing campaign in Kosovo in 1999.

But Christie said the Dukas are believed to have entered the United States before that conflict and were not among the refugees held at Fort Dix. One U.S. law enforcement official said the brothers may have entered the country legally but overstayed visas or violated other immigration requirements.



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Mayweather Retires After Beating De La Hoya

Floyd Mayweather Jr. said he was retiring from boxing after beating Oscar De La Hoya on a split decision on Saturday.

"I still plan on retiring," he told reporters after winning the World Boxing Council super welterweight title. "I have nothing left to prove. I want to spend more time with my children."

"As of right now, Floyd Mayweather Jr. is officially retired from the sport of boxing."

After a slow start, Mayweather (38-0, 24 KOs) appeared to pull away during the middle portion of the fight at the MGM Grand Hotel and Casino, catching De La Hoya with overhand right hands and parrying De La Hoya's flurries with his shoulders and arms.

"I was having fun in there," said Mayweather. "It was a hell of a fight. It was easy work for me. I could see his shots coming. I stayed on the outside and made



him miss." Mayweather claimed a world title belt in his fifth weight division. He began his professional career at super featherweight,

winning the WBC crown in 1998. "I came in on top, and I'm going out on top," Mayweather told a news conference. "He's a hell of a champion, I'm a hell of a champion, and we gave you guys a great fight tonight."

Even if Mayweather does retire, it may not last. Boxing history is full of examples of fighters who have retired only to return to the ring shortly afterwards.

Longtime middleweight champion Bernard Hopkins announced his retirement after winning the light heavyweight title from Antonio Tarver last June. At a press conference on

Saturday morning, he announced he would be fighting long-time junior middleweight champion Winky Wright in Las Vegas on July 21.

Tamyra Gray Joins The Cast Of 'Rent'



Those American Idol finalists keep coming to Broadway. Tamyra Gray, from the TV

show's first season, is getting ready for her second gig there.

She made her Broadway debut in Bombay Dreams, the big Bollywood musical, several years back.

Now Gray will join the cast of Rent, portraying Mimi in the long-running Jonathan Larson musical about struggling artists on the Lower East Side (before it became gentri-

fied). She begins performances May 29 at the Nederlander Theatre.

And several original cast members will be re-upping for another go with the show in midsummer. Adam Pascal, who portrayed Roger, and Anthony Rapp, who was Mark, return to the musical July 30 for a six-week run ending Sept. 9.

Usher Fires Mom As Manager: Entertainer Says They're Both On 'Great Terms' And 'Support Each Other.'

After a week of rumors that had Usher on the verge of firing his own mother as his manager, the singer made it official on Monday, confirming that Jonnetta Patton is no longer calling the shots - at least not with his career.

"She and I are on great terms and support each other in our life's endeavors. We are both very happy but are now working in different areas of the business," he said in a statement announcing his mom's official pink slip. "This is great for me because it means I now get to

have my mother strictly as my mother with no added pressure.



"At this time in my life, I am simply more interested in building the strength of my family. And in order to do that, I feel it's

best to separate my business life from my personal life."

Early last week, Internet chatter suggested that Usher's fiancée, stylist Tameka Foster was pulling the strings of Patton's dismissal, and would take over as her boyfriend's manager once Mama was officially out. But Ursh's statement to the Associated Press put those rumors to rest as well.

"She has no aspirations of becoming my manager or any other artist's manager," he said of Foster, who became engaged to Usher last March.

Nick Cannon Proposes To Victoria's Secret Model Selita Ebanks

Another Hollywood bachelor is off the market. Nick Cannon, 26, and Ebanks, 24, had attended that night's Metropolitan Museum of Art Costume Gala and were both dressed to the nines. From there, the couple were taken via chauffeured Rolls Royce to Times Square. Nick then got down on one knee for a surprised Selita and presented her with a 12-carat, \$400,000 diamond ring, says his rep. On MTV's jumbotron were the words, "Selita, will you marry me?"



Cannon proposed to Selita Ebanks on Monday and the Victoria's Secret model accepted.

The couple, who have been dating for three months, celebrated their new engagement at Butter. At the NYC hotspot, Nick surprised Selita again: he had flown in her parents and best friends - along with his own mother - for the occasion. There were a few celebrities in attendance as well, including Zach Braff, Marc Ecko, Tommy Hilfiger, Jacob the Jeweler and Young Jeezy.

"I have been smiling so much my cheeks hurt. The ring is so beautiful. I was so surprised," Selita told Us Weekly. Nick said, "I feel great! It all went off as good as planned. I am so happy!"

JCPenney Presents Historic 30th Anniversary Gala Series Featuring New York's Ailey II Dance Company

An historic celebration Like None Other in Dallas will take place May 18-19, 2007, when Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT) presents its 30th Anniversary Gala Series at 7:30 p.m. at Dallas' Majestic Theatre. JCPenney continues its long-standing support of DBDT, contributing \$30,000 as the Presenting Sponsor.

Joining in the celebration will be New York's Ailey II, the second company of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. Under the direction of Sylvia Waters, a former Ailey company member and great friend to Alvin Ailey until his passing, Ailey II has become one of the most popular dance companies in the country. Ms. Waters' deep Ailey heritage instills his legacy in each new generation of dancers, and she shares his passion and commitment to nurturing the artistry of young performers.

Ailey II will perform two works on the series' program, including an excerpt of Ailey's incessantly popular and beloved masterpiece Revelations. The New York Times writes, "Ailey

II can be counted on to deliver high-energy dancing made even more electric by the push of youthful ambition."



Tickets are on sale now at The Majestic Theatre Box Office, any Ticketmaster location, online at www.ticketmaster.com, or call DBDT at 214-871-2390. Ticket prices are \$18 and \$30.

"For over 20 years we have been a proud sponsor of the Dallas Black Dance Theatre, and helping to bring the highest level

of artistic performances to audiences across the country, including this year as presenting sponsor of the 30th Anniversary Gala Series," said Darcie Brossart, vice president of corporate communications and community relations.

"This milestone 30th Anniversary season would not be possible without the vital partnership role that JCPenney has played in helping to propel DBDT forward locally and nationally," Williams noted.

Co-Sponsor for the 30th Anniversary Gala Series is TACA.

Dallas Black Dance Theatre 30th season sponsors are The Dallas Morning News, WFAA TV-Channel 8, American Airlines, The Dallas Weekly, KRNB 105.7 FM, Downtown Business News, Elite News and El Heraldito News.

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Verizon Pulls Out Of Stefani Tour Over Akon Flap



Akon

and Verizon in the \$1.5-\$2 million range in cash, which artists typically use to finance production, startup costs and other tour expenses.

As for Akon, Guerinot says, "Akon has been a perfect gentleman on this tour. His show has at best been a PG show. Children of all ages have been attending. We have had no complaints - nothing but satisfied people. And I would say that we're shocked that

Verizon would drop Gwen Stefani as part of this whole debate."

Industry observers say it will be difficult for Stefani and her team to pull another sponsor into the Sweet Escape tour, which has North American dates on the books through June 30 in Las Vegas. To this point, no dates have been cancelled and Akon remains on the tour.

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Clinton Criticizes Bush Page 1

shouldn't surprise us, because many people are invisible to this president," she said in a morning speech punctuated with applause.

Obama's appearance later in the day was moved to a much larger venue than the conference room in which Clinton spoke.

Organizers said the move to an arena was necessitated by a high level of interest in hearing him among reporters and conference attendees.

The size of the crowd, which gave Obama several standing ovations, wasn't lost on him. "I wish I could say it was me, but it's more that people are yearning for change," he said.

While Clinton spoke of challenges facing mayors nationwide, she did not mention New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin. Obama mentioned him at the outset, saying Nagin has "been going through so much for so long."

Obama said the Senate would have needed just 16 votes to override Bush's veto of an Iraq war spending bill that set a timetable for U.S. troop withdrawal from Iraq.

"I don't want to name names, but there's a Republican senator from

Smoking Ban Page 1

The bill's chances of survival appear slim, however, as Senate leadership has suggested it will be dead on arrival in that chamber.

Seventeen states, including California and New York, have comprehensive smoking bans. Thirteen others are considering them. Houston, Austin, El Paso and other Texas cities already have comprehensive smoking bans.

Smoke-Free Texas, a coalition of the American Cancer Society, American Lung Association, American Heart Association and Texas PTA, is pushing the measure. The groups released a poll showing that a majority of Texans favor a statewide smoking ban in public places.

Secondhand smoke causes lung cancer, heart disease, low birth rate and other chronic lung problems and kills 53,000 Americans a year, according to Smoke-Free Texas.

The smoking ban bill is HB9. A statewide smoking ban bill passed the Texas House on Monday after a debate that raged all day.

The justification behind this bill: protecting workers at bars and restaurants.

This bill bans smoking in bars, restaurants, amphitheatres and outdoor sporting arenas. Also, like in Austin, smokers would have to be at least 15 feet away from any doorway, window or vent.

Smoking would still be allowed in tobacco shops, cigar bars and private clubs. That is what opponents to this bill are capitalizing on. They're arguing if smoking is going to be banned, it should be banned everywhere. That, they say, is the way to protect workers.

That argument didn't fly with opponents of the bill.

"Would you be surprised to know that when I ordered a hamburger for my wife to go on Saturday night -- and I went to the Icehouse bar where we need to protect these workers -- the waitress came up and blew the cigarette smoke from her cigarette in my face and asked me what I needed, 'darling,'" said Rep. Dennis Bonnen, R-Angleton. "Sounds like we need to protect her, doesn't it?"

That argument obviously didn't work. The bill passed, but it needs to pass again on a third reading Tuesday, then go to the Senate.

And its certainly not the only bill up for consideration. There is a list of 200 bills the House was supposed to vote on Monday, including overhauling the Texas Youth Commission and border security.

Louisiana who needs to change their vote," Obama said in an obvious reference to Sen. David Vitter (news, bio, voting record). The other senator from Louisiana is a Democrat.

But Obama was speaking hypothetically since the House failed to override Bush's veto on Wednesday, making a Senate vote moot.

The Bush administration has said that more than \$110 billion has been committed to the Gulf Coast for rebuilding since the 2005 hurricanes. Yet, there continues to be fingerprinting among local, state and federal officials over the pace of recovery -- sluggish in areas, including New Orleans -- and disbursement of aid dollars.

A spokeswoman for the Republican National Committee, Amber Wilkerson, said the Bush administration was "focused on offering real solutions to rebuild the Gulf Coast," while Clinton was "pandering and politicizing this critical issue."

There did not appear to be any additional security at the

event, which came a day after a judge ordered a Louisiana State University student, accused of planning an attack against Clinton, held on \$1 million bond.

She and Obama are the only two candidates at this stage who receive Secret Service protection.

Obama visited students at Pierre A. Capdau Charter School in New Orleans later Saturday. He called on the federal government to invest \$20 million in the city's schools, saying they were neglected even before Hurricane Katrina.

"When it comes to education in New Orleans, it's not enough to just clean up damage from the storm. We have to clean up the damage from before the levees broke," Obama said.

Asked what he would do for the city if elected, Obama said he would hope that the Bush administration would have addressed many of the city's larger concerns by January 2009. "But I'm not optimistic," he said.

Collin County Connection Announces Launch In Frisco

Collin County Connection (CCC), a professional organization committed to providing distinct forums to enhance business and personal development via unique forums just launched in Frisco. Events developed for networking, social entertainment, personal enrichment, and entrepreneurship opportunities are currently being planned for individuals to connect with community residents and businesses. CCC is dedicated to supporting various agencies in Collin County by providing assistance to various projects throughout the year.

The organization kicks off its first event, A Stone Soul Family Picnic, at Frisco Commons on Sunday, June 3, 2007. (Rain date June 10th) For ticket purchase and additional information, please contact collinconnection@yahoo.com or call 214-387-6902.

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The North Texas Tollway Authority invites written proposals from highly qualified firms to perform a software upgrade, implementation and training for our Cisco Unified Communication System. The firms or their subcontractors must be Certified Cisco Partners.

Proposals must be received at the North Texas Tollway Authority, Glenelg offices located at 5900 W. Plano Parkway, Plano, Texas 75093; not later than May 29, 2007 at 2:00pm.

Specifications are available at the North Texas Tollway Authority office at the address listed on this notice and may also be obtained by contacting Reggie Sanderfer at 214-224-2152.

There will be one mandatory pre-proposal meeting on May 22, 2007 at 10:00 am at the NTTA offices located at 5900 W. Plano Parkway, Plano, Texas 75093. All prospective proposers must attend, firms not attending the pre-proposal meeting will not be permitted to submit a proposal for this solicitation.



Sister Tarpley

My mother, Mrs. Cecelia Baker Demus, was born on May 13th; often her birthday falls on Mother's Day, as this year. Since her death, it is a doubly painful day for me. But, I am grateful to God that she lived; she was a great wife, mother, friend, sister (according to Aunt Jessie Baker Green); and a God fearing woman. If your mom is living, may I suggest some things to do that will last, and give her joy for years to come.

Treat her to dinner or buy her a flower now and then. Call her, just to say, "I love you." Hug her; you don't have to say a word. Surprise her with a small gift when it's not Mother's Day (she will treasure it like it was very valuable). Compliment her; and smile every time you see her. Listen to her with loving care. Laugh with her and encourage her. Believe in her and pray for her, sick or well. Hold her hand; as she once held yours. Write short love notes to her, if her eyesight is still good.

Something to make you laugh: Answers given by 2nd grade school students.

Why did God make mothers? 1. She's the only one who knows where the scotch tape is. 2. Mostly to clean the house.

What ingredients are mothers made of? 1. Clouds, angel hair and everything nice in the world; and one dab of mean. 2.

Happy Mother's Day

Magic plus super powers and a lot of stirring. **Why did God give you your mother & not some other mom?** 1. We're related. 2. God knew she likes me a lot more than other people's moms like me.

What kind of little girl was your mom? 1. She's my mom



Picture of The Week
Standing: The elegant and distinguished Mrs. Jewel Price McKenzie (Sister Tarpley's life-long mentor) and her wonderful sister, Mrs. Iris Price Carr.

and none of that other stuff. 2. I don't know because I wasn't there, but my guess would be pretty bossy. 3. They say she used to be nice.

What did mom need to know about dad before she married him?

1. His last name. 2. She had to know his background. Like is he a crook? Does he make at least \$800 a year? 3. Did he say NO to drugs and YES to chores?

Why did your mom marry your dad? 1. My dad makes the

best spaghetti in the world and my Mom eats a lot. 2. My grandma says that Mom didn't have her thinking cap on.

Who's the boss at your house? 1. Mom doesn't want to be boss, but she has to because dad's such a goof ball. 2. Mom. You can tell by room inspection. 3. I guess Mom is, but only because she has a lot more to do than dad.

What's the difference between moms & dads? 1. Moms work at work and work at home; dads just go to work at work. 2. Moms know how to talk to teachers without scaring them. 3. Dads are taller and stronger, but moms have all the real power 'cause that's who you got to ask if you want to sleep over at your friend's. 4. Moms have magic; they make you feel better without medicine.

If you could change one thing about your Mom, what would it be?

1. She has this weird thing about me keeping my room clean. I'd get rid of that. 2. I'd make my Mom smarter; then she would know it was my sister who did it and not me. 3. I would like for her to get rid of those invisible eyes on the back of her head.

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May 18, 7 pm

You are invited to our "Present A Praise Festival." For more information, please call 972-329-1358 or 214-664-9201.

Faith & Power Ministries
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Pastor
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972-329-1358

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH, THE COLONY
May 13, 2 pm to 5 pm

You are invited to our 2nd Annual Mother - Daughter Tea with speaker Jerri Smith in our Family Life Center Palm; for information, please call the church.

Friendship Baptist Church
Dr. C. Paul McBride,
Senior Pastor
4396 Main Street
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May 19, 10 am to 3 pm

The Association of Black Cardiologists (ABC) will sponsor

a FREE community Health and Wellness Fair; receive a Heart and other Health screenings, including a Blood Pressure check and Glucose & Cholesterol screenings. There will be FREE Physicians Consultations, also Fitness and Cooking demonstrations. Get important information about local health resources @ The 2007 Super Weekend Health & Wellness Fair. The ABC invites you to a call of action. Find out your risk of heart disease and stroke.

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GOD'S LOVE COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
Month of May 2007

Our Pastor, Elder T. Hackworth, M.Div. a Black man, organized the first Afro American congregation in Anna, Texas in March 2007; it has now grown to approximately 60 members which include 15 Caucasians. Anna's religious

community can truly benefit from this mighty story of diversity brought to a known anti-diverse city. You are invited to our services any Sunday.

For more information and how you can become actively involved, call 214-592-6444

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SIMS CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH
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Our "Anointed Ones Dance Ministry" is having a "Praise In The Park" event. Theme: Declaring Victory Through Our Praise, Psalm 149 @ Embree Park, behind Gale Fields Recreation Center, 1701 Dairy Road, Garland, TX. You are invited and we look forward to worshipping with you!

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Delta Sigma Theta Presents Homeownership Initiative

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. with its national partners Chase & Genworth Financial are aggressively striving to help African Americans increase and sustain homeownership. The Greater Dallas / Fort Worth Metroplex collegiate and graduate chapters are excited about this national initiative and have combined their efforts locally to host "Your Passport to Homeownership & Investments" to help more people achieve the

"American Dream." This half-day seminar will provide individuals and families with vital information on successfully navigating this process to obtain the goal of homeownership and investments. Denton / Wichita Falls area chapters will start the homeownership seminar at 9 am and concludes at 1 pm on Saturday, May 19, 2007, at the University of North Texas, Wooten Hall, 1123 Union Circle, Denton, TX 76203. The Dallas area chapters are

scheduled to host their seminar on Saturday, May 19, 2007, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the DeSoto High School - Freshman Campus, 620 S. Westmoreland Road, DeSoto, TX 75115.

Exhibitor space is available at each locale. Please visit www.dstnada.org for more information about these events or call Samara Trent at 214.454.3193 or email, SamaraTrent@kw.com to purchase exhibitor space.

PCVB Receives Recognition Page 1

the ground and we are looking forward to making next years event even bigger and better."

The NASC first established a member awards program in 2002. Since that time, the awards committee has worked to develop categories and judging criteria that best

reflect the quality work that NASC members perform in each of their communities.

NASC Awards were given in four categories: Member of the Year, Outstanding Communication - Advertising, Outstanding Web Site and Outstanding Locally Created Event/Program. There were a

record number of submissions received for all four categories.

Next year's conference will take place April 22-24, 2008 in Omaha, Neb. The 2009 conference will take place April 21-23 in Denver.

For more information on the Plano CVB visit www.planocvb.com.

Church Directory

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

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

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

Hill Chapel
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
1113 Ave. I, Plano, TX 75074 (972) 423-4999
Rev. Clarence J. Ford, Jr., Pastor
Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.
Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 A.M.
Wednesday Night-Community Bible Class: 7:30 P.M.

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

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

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

Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church
1308 Wilcox Street, McKinney TX
Pastor Charles S. Wattlely
Sunday Education Ministries - 9:30 a.m. • Worship Celebration - 11:00 am. - Nursery Facilities Available -
Wednesday Family Ministries... 7:00 p.m.
Friendly Fellowship with A Family Focus
For More Information Call 972-542-6178
www.saintmarkbc.com • stmarkmissionary@aol.com

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

Faithway Fellowship Baptist Church
Of Hamilton Park
8219 Bunche Dr. Dallas, TX 75243
Church Office: (972) 792-0239
Pastor's Office: (972) 792-0240
Service Times
Sunday School:9:45AM
Morning Worship11:00AM
Wednesday Bible Study7:00PM
PEOPLE OF FAITH WITH A MIND TO WORK

First Lady Conference Seeks To Encourage Senior Pastors' Wives

An upcoming conference in Texas will focus on encouraging and educating pastors' wives. Conference organizer Lois Evans, who for years traveled the nation with her husband, Dr. Tony Evans of Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship in Dallas, says at that time there were numerous conferences for pastors - but none for pastors' wives. That is what prompted her to start the First Lady Conference eight years ago.

This year's First Lady Conference takes place June 7-9 and will feature workshops, networking, prayer resources and other events. Through the conference, Lois Evans is encourag-

ing congregations to support their pastors' wives. "Church members can look at their pastor's wife as a real person and share with her love and meet their needs and make sure it's unconditional," she says.

"You know, I think that's where pastors' wives over the years have built up walls," Evans continues, because they feel like people have come around them because they are the pastor's wife." She says she started the First Lady Conference to meet a need among pastors' wives - a need she herself experienced.

Ms. Evans said some startling facts drove her to establish the conference, among them: Pastors'

wives have as high a level of stress and burnout as their husbands do.

"Pastors have been exposed for training for years," the First Lady of Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship points out, "and I traveled around the country with Tony for years looking for something, because there was always a conference for him, and what I got is a tea party or a luncheon. And I wanted training." In recent years, however, she feels a shift in thinking has taken place.

"I think there's been a major surge," Evans says, "over maybe eight or ten years, where now

we're saying, hello ... the pastor's wife is also a key partner in this



Conference organizer Lois Evans endeavor, and she needs training as well."

Keynote speakers for the this year's conference include Lois

Evans, Mary Varner, Diana Hagee, Babbie Mason, Chrystal Hurst, Priscilla Shirer, Wanda Bolton-Davis and Kay Warren.

Research shows that 84 percent of pastors' spouses feel discouraged and unqualified in their roles, and 80 percent of pastors' wives feel their husband is overworked. Evans hopes the Dallas conference will give pastors' wives training and resources to address these feelings and to help equip them for their important role.

This year the First Lady Conference will offer a special time of relaxation, rejuvenation

and fellowship before the actual conference begins. The spa day will consist of a "just us girls" outing to the Koffee Day Spa (www.koffeedayspa.com) in Dallas, TX, where participants will have opportunity to indulge in massages, foot & hand rubs, facials and other spa activities. The spa experience will culminate with an intimate Q&A session with Dr. Lois Evans. Call 1-800-800-3222, ext. 202 for special spa package prices and details.

The eighth annual First Lady Conference takes place June 7-9, 2007, at the Fairmont Hotel in Dallas, Texas. For registration info visit www.loisevans.org.

North Texas United Methodist Churches Hold 2007 Annual Conference In Plano, Richardson



Bishop Robert E. Hayes, Jr.

Alfred L. Norris will preside over the 141st session of the North Texas Annual Conference June 3-6.

Bishop Norris will also preach for the opening celebration of worship and Holy Communion at 7:00 p.m. June 3 at First UMC, Richardson. A reception honoring Bishop Alfred L. and Dr. Mackie Norris will follow the worship service.

Bishop Norris' sermon title is

"Many Languages...One People." He will draw on the Tower of Babel story in Genesis 11 as the scriptural foundation for his sermon, an emphasis that reinforces the 2007 Annual Conference Theme, "That All May Catch the Flame."

In addition to Bishop Norris, preachers for the conference will include Bishop Robert E. Hayes, Jr., Oklahoma Area and Oklahoma Indian Missionary

Conference, who will preach for the Service of Ordination at 7:00 p.m. June 5 at Custer Road UMC, Plano. Also featured will be Rev. Thomas Q. Robbins, pastor, University Park UMC, Dallas, who will preach for the Memorial Service at 11:00 a.m., June 5 at the Plano Centre.

The Service of Commissioning will be at 8:30 a.m. June 4 at Plano Centre. Organization of

the conference will follow the commissioning service.

Rev. R. Randy Day, General Secretary of the General Board of Global Ministries, will address the first session, emphasizing "Faith and Health: A Global Challenge." Dr. Day will also address Sunday evening's Laity Dinner at First UMC, Richardson and the Monday Sending Servants Luncheon.

Becca Walters, president of the Conference Council on Youth Ministries, will present the Young Person's Address June 4 at 1:30 p.m.

Another highlight of the Annual Conference will be the Commissioning of the new Ministry Center, located at 500 Maplelawn Drive, Plano, at 7:30 a.m. June 4. There will be open house at the Ministry Center from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

AIDS Test For Prisoners Page 1

cases. Racial and ethnic minorities comprise 69 percent of new cases, according to the 2005 data released by the CDC. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, African-Americans made up 41 percent of all inmates in the prison system at the end of 2004.

"Congresswoman Waters always has been an unapologetic advocate for fighting AIDS in black communities," says Phill Wilson, executive director of the Black AIDS Institute. "AIDS in America today is a Black disease. Current funding levels and HIV policies are not keeping up with the reality of AIDS in Black America."

Original cosponsors of the Stop AIDS in Prison Act include Rep. John Conyers, Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee; Rep. Lamar S. Smith, Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Committee; Rep. Robert C. Scott, Chairman of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, which has jurisdiction over federal prisons; and Rep. Randy Forbes, Ranking Member of that subcommittee.

"I am pleased to be a

cosponsor of this important legislation. It is an important part of the effort to prevent the spread AIDS in prison and in the greater society by offenders once they leave prison. I look forward to working with Congresswoman Waters, the Chairman and Ranking Member of the full committee and the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee, in moving this legislation through the Congress," said Congressman Scott.

The Stop AIDS in Prison Act is one of several legislative initiatives Congresswoman Waters is pursuing to address the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the 110th Congress. In February, she introduced H.R.822, the Routine HIV/AIDS Screening Coverage Act, a bill to require health insurance plans to cover routine HIV tests under the same terms and conditions as other routine health screenings. H.R. 822 now has 38 cosponsors.

Congresswoman Waters also is continuing her efforts to expand the Minority AIDS Initiative, which was established under her leadership in 1998 to improve HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment in minority communities. On March 16, she sent a letter to Appropriations Committee leaders requesting

an appropriation of \$610 million for the Minority AIDS

Initiative in fiscal year 2008. A bipartisan group of 45 Members

of Congress signed her letter. Additional Members have

agreed to sign a follow-up letter.

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Office Hours
 Monday & Friday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
 Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday . . . 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
 Saturday & Sunday Closed
Contact Info Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church
 11611 Webb Chapel Road • Dallas, TX 75229
 Office: 972-241-6151
 Email: info@dallasmtpisgah.org
 Website: www.dallasmtpisgah.org

Fellowship Baptist Church of Allen
 200 Belmont • Allen, Texas • 75013
 Phone: 972-359-9956 Fax: 972-359-4048
 www.fbcfallen.org
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 First Lady Tasha Stafford
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 Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 7:00 pm
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 Come experience the Worship Atmosphere at Fellowship, you will never be the same!
 If you need a ride to worship with us, please call the church.

The Inspiring Body of Christ Church
 7710 S. Westmoreland Rd.
 Dallas Texas 75237
 Phone: 972-572-4262 Fax: 972-709-3888
 Sunday Services: 7:30 am, 10:00 am, 12:30pm
 Monday School: 7pm
 Men's Fellowships: Friday 7:00pm
 Website: www.ibccjoh.org

Ben Washington Baptist Church, Inc.
 3901 Prisco Avenue
 Irving, TX 75061
 Church 972-790-8421 Fax 972-986-6390
 Email: church@benwashington.org
 Web: benwashington.org
"THE CHURCH WITH AN OPEN BIBLE"
Sunday Worship Services:
 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
 6:00 p.m. Baptist Training Union
Wednesday:
 12:00 p.m. Bible Study
 7:00 p.m. Prayer Hour
 7:30 p.m. Bible Study

Spiritual Direction
 "Each One, Reach One"
 Worship Services
 7:30 am and 10:30 am
 Sunday School - 9:30 am
 Wednesday Night Service
 8:00 pm
 Dr. Gregory Foster
 Senior Pastor
 Mr. Anthony Butler
 Pastor
Our Mission
 To fulfill The Great Commission until Christ comes.
 300 Phillips Street • Richardson, TX 75081 • 972.235.4235
 www.fbcip.org

Friendship Baptist Church
 4396 Main Street
 The Colony, Texas 75056
 (972) 625-8186
 website: www.fbc-online.net
Schedule of Services:
Sunday
 Early Morning Worship
 8:00 a.m.
 Sunday School Classes
 9:30 a.m.
 Morning Worship
 11:00 a.m.
 Evening Worship (1st Sunday) 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday
 Early Bird Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday
 Morning Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
 Prayer Meeting and Evening Bible Study 7:30 p.m.
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Macedonia Ministries
 702 S. Mill Street • Lewisville, TX 75057
 972-436-2011
 "We Choose Love to Nurish and Cherish One Another"
 John 13:34 & Ephesians 5:28-29
 www.macedoniaministries.com
 T.J. Denson, Pastor
 Saturday: Incessary Prayer @ 7:00 am
 Sunday Services: Sunday School @ 9:30 am • Morning Worship @ 11:00 am
 Monday Services: Men's Group & Women's Group Bible Study @ 6:30 pm
 Wednesday Service: Family Bible Study @ 6:30 pm

New Life Fellowship Church of Rowlett
 Bishop Miller E. Johnson, Senior Pastor
New Worship Home
 7401 Miller Road • Rowlett, TX 75088
 972-463-4964
A Place of New Beginnings... II Corinthians 5:17
 Sunday Life Bible School 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday Life Celebration Worship Service 10:45 a.m.
 First Sunday: Ingredients for Life 4:00 pm
 Wednesdays: Life In The Word Prayer and Bible Study 7:00 p.m.