



**Garland Mayor  
Ronald Jones'  
Inaugural Gala**

Page 2



**Black College  
Students Face  
Crisis Of Moral  
Purpose**

Page 3



**Universoul Circus  
Opens In Dallas  
At Southwest  
Center Mall**

Page 7

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Fifty Cents

# The Gazette

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## People In The News



Honore E. Jordan, Senior Vice President, Tax, Marriott International, is making his first order of business the complete integration of the all-important tax department into the corporate fabric of the company.

Jordan is confident that incorporating better communication between tax and its internal clients and the transition to more automation will help the hotel manage almost 2,900 properties within its vast portfolio that stretches across 67 countries and properties. He's also excited about what he views as Marriott's unwavering support of its employee base.

"The first day I joined the company — and even before I got here — I got a consistent message from senior leadership, and it was indeed different from any company that I've ever worked for before. Our focus is on the associates, the employees," he said. "They make the associates more effective, so that we can better serve the customer of the hotel. And that's a big key."

Collin College student and Rockwall resident Susan Bick has been chosen as a Leader of Promise by the international honor society Phi Theta Kappa. Only 30 students in the international organization were selected for the honor.

Phi Theta Kappa selects Leaders of Promise based on outstanding academic and leadership accomplishments. Each winner receives a \$1,000 scholarship to complete an associate degree.

Bick is completing her core courses at Collin, working towards her associate degree before transferring to complete her bachelor's and master's degrees. Following her education, she will seek an adjunct position at a community college or apply her education in a research field.

Bick's studies are augmented by her work in the community. She has designed and published websites for several non-profits and currently serves as a staff reader for Carve Magazine. Prior to moving to Rockwall, Bick served on several city, county and non-profit boards in Tarrant County. In addition, two of her poems were recently selected for publication in Collin's literary journal Forces. She works as a merchandising representative for Procter and Gamble.



Plano, Texas-born comedienne Karith Foster (right) is greeted by award-winning actress and radio host Whoopi Goldberg following her appearance on the Premiere Radio Network's "Wake Up With Whoopi" syndicated morning radio program. Foster, who now lives in New York, was among the performers at the recent New York Women In Communications Inc. Foundation's "Ladies Who Laugh" Comedy Scholarship Fundraiser in Manhattan.

Noted for her quick wit, abstract thoughts and Southern charm, Foster arrived in the Big Apple eight years ago to work as a production assistant on ABC-TV fledgling program "The View." Foster decided to try her hand at stand-up comedy and has performed internationally, at clubs and colleges throughout the United States, and appeared on such programs as "VH1's Best Week Ever," "Comedy Central's Premium Blend," "Showtime At The Apollo," and BET's "25 Most Outrageous Moments In Black History." A member of the New York Friars Club, Foster was also recently interviewed by "The View" host Barbara Walters for an upcoming television special.

## INSIDE

People In The News	1
Community Spotlight	2
Community Calendar	2
Op-Ed	3
Business Service Directory	5
Education	6
Arts & Entertainment	7
Career Opportunities	8
Sister Tarpley	9
Church Happenings	9
Church Directory	9 & 10

## Salad Creations Makes Its "Fresh Is Fabulous" Texas Debut In Dallas' Village On The Green



**The Franchise Adds Healthy and Tasty  
Twist to Fast Food**

Salad Creations, a national franchise offering a fresh alternative to fast food, is proud to announce the grand opening of its new restaurant at the Village on the Green, an urban and

mixed-style development located at the northeast corner of Alpha and Noel Road in North Dallas. This is the franchise's first Texas location.

"We're extremely proud to be the very first Salad Creations franchise in the entire state of Texas," said Charrell Joseph, co-franchise owner of Salad Creations at Village on the Green.

It is truly an honor to provide Dallas with an affordable, convenient and nutritional lunch and dinner option that can eas-

Salad Creations Page 5

## Darfur Force 'To Be All-African'

*Africa will provide all of the 26,000 peacekeepers to be sent to Sudan's Darfur region, the head of the African Union (AU) has said.*

AU chairman Alpha Oumar Konare said enough African troops had been promised for no outside help to be needed but he did not give details.

The UN had expected to call on Asian troops. Critics say Africa lacks enough trained troops for an effective force.

Sudan's government has long opposed the involvement of non-African soldiers.

It only agreed to a joint United Nations-AU force after months of negotiations.

The UN Security Council resolution setting up the force said the troops would be mostly African but they would be under UN command.

UN spokesman Farhan Haq said that while there may be enough AU troops for the force, it was important to get the right mix of abilities on the ground.

"It's not simply a question of raw numbers of troops. We're trying to find a good mix of

skills," he told the BBC News website.

"We're looking to make sure this force is robust, it's mobile, it's well-armed and equipped, so that it can carry out the full mandate that it needs to perform."

Speaking after talks in Khartoum with the Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir, Mr. Konare said, "I can confirm today that we have received sufficient commitments from African countries that we will not have to resort to non-African forces."

He added that the "ball is now in the court of the UN" to provide funding for the force.

**Promised Peacekeepers**  
• 7,000 - existing AU force  
• 1,000 - pledged by Senegal

Darfur Page 3

## Successfully Promoting Black Owned Businesses During National Black Business Month

Giving freely to others as a business growth strategy is too often overlooked by Black Business Owners everywhere. Here's a plan that outlines gaining more success by giving freely to others during National Black Business Month.

Giving freely to others as a business growth strategy is too often overlooked by Black Business Owners everywhere, says Andre Bell, the owner of Andre Bell Consulting Group a business strategy firm based in Santa Barbara county, California. In most cases, opportunities are completely lost.

Why does this happen?  
"Our environment and the constant barrage of advertising we are exposed to conditions us to focus on getting. When business owners are forced to focus on cash flow problems, employee hassles, and other challenges that come with running a Black Owned Business, they tend to overlook opportunities to give back to others."

Bell claims a business can see greater success from focusing on giving, than by focusing on getting. "There's the old saying that there's more happiness in giving than receiving. This is especially true of running a business," he says.

Bell says the first step in building a business through giving involves recognizing opportunities to give. He says an ideal time to give something back is during National Black Business Month.

"A business should ask themselves, what can they give to others that will bring genuine appreciation from prospects and clients? Can the business offer any of the following:

Black Owned Businesses Page 3

## District Attorney Craig Watkins' Response To Dallas Morning News Editorial About Budget Request

In response to the editorial, "One, Two, 68, 483: County's wishful budgeting doesn't add up," published in the Dallas Morning News on August 3, 2007, I would like to take this opportunity to inform the citizens of Dallas County of the critical staffing needs at the District Attorney's Office and why the 68 requested positions are important.

First of all, the budget process is a long and tedious process. In fact, in January of 2007, we began evaluating this office and formulating a

plan that would adequately provide protection for the citizens of Dallas County. During the evaluation process, we went section by section and reviewed the number of pending cases and the number of prosecutors responsible for handling those cases. We learned that Dallas County prosecutors have a responsibility of more than 300 cases per prosecutor in the felony division and more than 600 cases per prosecutor in the misdemeanor division. That's

Craig Watkins' Response Page 8

## REACH, Inc. 30 Years and Counting!

By: James Clingman -  
NNPA Columnist

Back in 1972, at the Black Political Convention in Gary, Ind., one of the delegates talked to anyone who would listen not only about solidifying the Black political base but also building an economic foundation, which, in his opinion, was even more important than the political aspirations of the time in attendance. While the meetings continued in Gary, and as he continued to express an economic point of view, the brother grew weary of trying to convince his fellow conventioners to spend some time developing an economic plan of action.

He decided to return to his home in Ypsilanti, Mich. and make preparations to move back to Alabama and take on the very task he advocated in Gary. That man, Luke Edwards, set out to practice what he preached.

Remembering his childhood in Florence, Alabama and having witnessed his father sharecrop for a White farmer, Edwards decided he should

have his own farm instead of working on a farm that belonged to someone else. He determined the way to economic freedom, especially for those of limited means, was to pool those limited resources and create businesses that would lead to self-sufficiency. Five years after that historic meeting in Gary, in 1977, Luke Edwards started an initiative that has blossomed into one of the greatest examples of independent economic empowerment in this nation. It began one Sunday at church when he asked the congregation to consider a different lesson that morning — an economic lesson, a stewardship lesson.

He asked each of the members to write down the amount of food stamps they received each month, from which he compiled the aggregate amount and showed the members how much "money" they had collectively. They pooled their food stamps, bought their groceries cooper-

Blackonomics Page 3

## Sharpton Calls For An End To Jena's Double Standards

By: Karina Donica

Former presidential candidate the Rev. Al Sharpton denounced Sunday the criminal charges against six teenagers dubbed the "Jena Six," in a case that has stirred indignation across the board, but in particular among civil rights advocates.

"We cannot have two levels of justice," Sharpton told a mostly black crowd during a morning service at Trout Creek Baptist Church, where some 300 people packed the tiny church to hear his message.

"You cannot have some boys assault and charged with nothing, some boys hanging

nooses and finish the school year and other boys charged with attempted murder and conspiracy. That's two levels of justice, and two levels of justice is an injustice," Sharpton said as the crowd cheered and clapped.

Sharpton is the first national civil rights leader to visit Jena to support the families of those involved in the case that has sparked racial tensions in the small LaSalle Parish town.

Sharpton said Martin Luther King III, son of the slain civil rights leader, the Rev. Jesse Jackson and members of the Black

Jena's Double Standards Page 10

## Garland Mayor Ronald Jones' Inaugural Gala

Mayor Ronald Jones was sworn into office last Thursday, July 26, at the Granville Arts Center in Garland. The program included a video presentation, Mayor Jones' statement of appreciation, a buffet dinner, entertainment, dancing, and music by the EZY Band.



Mayor Ronald Jones



Former Councilwoman  
Annie Dickson



Councilman Randall Dunning



Vera Moore, Dallas Association of  
Jack and Jill of America, Inc.



Attorney Ronald E. Jones II



Larry Daniels and  
BJ Miller, NAACP



Peggy Jones



Pastor Robert Canady III and Church Family



Ramona and Mayor Ronald Jones

# Don't Let Your Teen's Future Go Up In Smoke

It's simple, marijuana and teens are not a good mix—especially when it comes to learning and academic success. We know that all young people face challenges as they grow and mature and that the dangers and temptations of drugs are all around. We also know that as a parent or someone who cares about young people, you want the very best for them; you want them to do even better than you did and lead productive lives.

While overall drug use among teens is down in recent years, there are still too many brilliant young people whose potential is ruined. Don't let drugs destroy their chance of going to college or landing a good job.

## MARIJUANA CAN LIMIT YOUR TEEN'S ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

- A teenage marijuana user's odds of dropping out are more than twice that of a non-user.<sup>1</sup>
- The short-term effects of marijuana can include impaired memory and ability to learn.<sup>2</sup>

Parents and family are still the most important influence in young peoples' lives so keep the lines of communication open, set a clear, "no marijuana" rule, stay involved, and continue to discuss the dangers and consequences of drug use. You make the difference. Knowing that education is the key to a better tomorrow, you have the power to protect their potential and help lead them on the road to success.

For more information,  
visit [www.TheAntiDrug.com](http://www.TheAntiDrug.com) or call 1.800.788.2800

Signed,

- 100 Black Men of America, Inc.
- American Council on Education
- American School Counselor Association
- Boys and Girls Clubs of America
- National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO)
- National Association of Black Social Workers, Inc.
- National Association of School Nurses
- National Council of Negro Women
- National Medical Association
- National Urban League
- Partnership for a Drug-Free America
- PTA
- United Negro College Fund (UNCF)

**PARENTS.**  
THE ANTI-DRUG.

1. Story, J.R., Gordon, H., Bergman, C., et al. The relationship between marijuana initiation and dropping out of high school. *Health Affs.* 2005; 24: 1017-19.

2. NIDA Data Points: Marijuana. Rockville, MD: NIDA; September 2004.





## Black College Students Face Crisis Of Moral Purpose

By: Robert M. Franklin -  
Black College Wire

During my freshman year at Morehouse College, I was shocked to discover more than a few brothers who were not serious about learning and community service.

Weren't we all here, after all, to take up and continue Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s unfinished mission? It did not take long to identify the smaller percentage of the student body that seemed to appreciate the privilege of this experience. At a time when many young men our age were being drafted into the military and shipped to Vietnam, and with the echo of the tumultuous decade of the '60s still ringing in our ears, here were Morehouse men behaving like the stereotypical frat boys of the leisure class.

They partied all night, smuggled women into the dormitories, consumed drugs and engaged in fights against rival schools as well as young men in the surrounding neighborhood. After uproarious weekends, these same young men would sleep late into Sunday afternoons.

At a time when the "culture of narcissism" was and is corrupting and destroying a culture of civic virtue and public service, students may be up against much larger cultural forces than they can oppose without support.

This is where the entire culture of black colleges must be mobilized to instill virtues like personal sacrifice for the greater good. This is precisely what Bishop Daniel Alexander Payne, W.E.B. Du Bois, Mary McLeod Bethune, Mordecai Wyatt Johnson and Benjamin Mays sought to promote.

And it seems naive and unrealistic to suggest that college students should not enjoy their time in school. Party culture and frivolity are and always will be a part of the college experience of testing the limits of increased freedom

and autonomy from parents. But in recent years, I have become more profoundly disturbed by what appears to be a deeper crisis of moral purpose among contemporary black college students.

With the possible exception of explicit religious colleges, campus cultures of indulgence are a fact of life, but I think that we are witnessing a lowering of the threshold of appropriate behavior that is contrary to the liberating purposes of education.

Consider these examples. First, during the 1990s and for several years thereafter, black college and high school students gathered in Atlanta each spring break for a rolling street festival known as "Freaknik."



Robert M. Franklin

As the practice grew, it began to alienate Atlanta's white and black middle classes, who demanded that the mayor halt the practice. I recall discussing the issue with other Atlanta University Center presidents at our monthly Presidents Council. In our wisdom, we thought that if our wisdom sponsored official concerts, we could get the students off the streets, out of the cars and onto our campuses. Wrong!

We failed to understand that part of the power of the Freaknik phenomenon and hip-hop culture in general was that it was student-generated, semi-spontaneous, and resistant to being packaged for adult control and satisfaction. We have seen a similar phenomenon in the growing popularity of blogging, instant message word-of-

mouth advertising, and virus marketing. This may be an important lesson for the village as it seeks to mobilize these same young people to serve village renewal purposes.

The second event was the tragic and much-publicized violent attack by a Morehouse College student toward another student whom he accused of staring at him in the shower. This case received national attention as the issue of black homophobia, the extent of Morehouse's black gay culture, and the school's commitment to protecting the rights of all students came under intense scrutiny.

Despite the school's many constructive steps to prevent future student and sexual violence, the fact that one student could beat a fellow student with a baseball bat suggests that a new culture of violence has seeped into the hallowed halls of learning.

Subsequently, additional incidents of violence, murder and rape surfaced in the Atlanta University Center that underscored the presence of a new "thug" and "gangsta" subculture on many campuses. This subculture must be challenged and rooted out lest the public lose good will and confidence in black schools. These negative behaviors must not be excused or tolerated. They threaten the very future of the institutions that the village needs for its health.

The challenge both to the colleges and to the village is how we can transform the culture of purposelessness and redirect those energies into village renewal. The key to repairing the problems inside HBCUs lies in reaching and nurturing children long before they graduate from high school. Purposeless college students probably didn't acquire the bad habits when they arrived on campus, they brought them along.

Therefore, schools must become centers for both intellectual and character development. Every school.

## Zimbabwe Sees Slight Decline In HIV Infections

By: Shashank Bengali  
McClatchy Newspapers

In southern Africa for the past two decades, casual sex fueled the worst epidemics of HIV and AIDS in the world.

In Zimbabwe, however, fewer people are taking chances anymore, making this otherwise beleaguered nation an unlikely bright spot in Africa's battle against AIDS.

"Search every guy's wallet and you'll find a condom," said Tinashe, 28. "No one is having sex without a condom. People are scared of HIV."

Tinashe, an administrative assistant, agreed to discuss his personal life on condition that his last name be withheld to shield his privacy.

The generational shift toward less casual sex and widespread condom use among young Zimbabweans has helped reduce HIV infections here even as they keep rising in neighboring countries.

According to the most recent estimates by the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS, 1.5 million Zimbabwean adults

were living with HIV in 2005, down from 1.6 million in 2003. In every other country in southern Africa — home to 2 percent of the world's people but one-third of all HIV cases — the number of infected people rose slightly or held steady.

"It really is a success story in a bleak situation," said Michael Chomwie, the country director for Population Services International, an American nonprofit group that promotes condom use.

Much of the decline, however, is due to people infected with the virus dying — at a rate of more than 3,000 a week — because anti-retroviral drugs are unavailable or unaffordable.

Nearly 600,000 Zimbabweans died of AIDS-related illnesses from 2004 to 2006, the third-highest toll after India's and South Africa's, according to U.N. figures. Also, many HIV carriers have fled the country, part of a nationwide exodus of more than 3 million people since Zimbabwe's economic free fall began.

Moreover, even with fewer new cases, one in five Zimbabweans

has HIV — among the highest rates in the world.

Still, experts say, fewer Zimbabweans are contracting the virus now.

Last year, epidemiologists from Imperial College in London documented a significant reduction in the number of sexual partners among men in the eastern countryside of Manicaland. They also found that far fewer teenagers — boys and girls — had become sexually active.

Experts suggest that sex has become another casualty of the country's eight-year economic depression, which has shrunk the economy by nearly half. Few men have the money to support extramarital affairs or, for bachelors, the late nights on the town often required to woo a woman.

Young people say they have also been scared straight by losing so many loved ones to AIDS, a phenomenon that researchers call "the funeral effect."

"You can point to anyone here, and they have a very close relative who died of AIDS," Tinashe said.

### Black Owned Businesses Page 1

A free product or service  
A special discount or gift

A valuable product or other information product related to the services or products the business offers.

By focusing on giving instead of focusing on receiving, a business

will attract new clients and new opportunities that just aren't there when we are focused on ourselves," Bell says.

Attracting new clients through giving is just one way to grow a business.

To help other business owners profit from this special month of

activity while at the same time giving something of himself too, Bell has published a report titled: 12-Step Plan for Promoting Black-Owned Businesses During National Black Business Month.

The report is available free through his official site at [www.AndreBell.com/12steps](http://www.AndreBell.com/12steps)

### Blackonomics Page 1

actively, and received discounts, the money from which they saved for the next month. Their monthly savings eventually allowed them to be able to buy their own grocery store, and the rest is history, as they say. Collective and cooperative economics — Ujamaa at work — are now manifested in an economic movement unsurpassed in this country. It's called R.E.A.C.H., the acronym for "Research, Education, and Community Hope."

Celebrating its 30th year during the weekend of September 28-30, 2007, R.E.A.C.H. proudly continues to build its legacy of self-help through collective and cooperative economics. There's more good news: You are invited to celebrate with them in Eutaw, Alabama. R.E.A.C.H. is inviting everyone to come to Eutaw, Emelle, Livingston, and Demopolis, Alabama to share the fun and fellowship, and tour their vast array of properties, farms, communities and businesses. They want you to share in a huge cookout, attend a "down home" gospel concert, and meet the folks who have accomplished so much with so little.

I had the pleasure of meeting Bishop Luke Edwards and many of the brothers and sisters of R.E.A.C.H. in 2000 and again in 2001. I stayed in one of their motels, ate at one of their restaurants, bought gasoline from one of their gas stations, and got "food for the road" at one of their convenient stores.

To me, just seeing all of the businesses and especially having the opportunity to support those businesses, was not only a real lesson in the power of economic empowerment, it was also confirmation of my work in spreading the "economic gospel."

The conversations I had with Bishop Edwards were enlightening, stimulating, and inspiring. He would often reflect on what could have been if only some of the Gary, Indiana Convention delegates had followed economic empowering principles in addition to the political paths they chose. "I want what we have done down here in Alabama to be emulated all over this country," he said. "This is just a small portion of what we can do as a people for ourselves. All it takes is love, trust, determination, and a willingness to share. We have the dollars, but do our dollars have any sense?" That is the question," he smiled.

Bishop Luke Edwards, although in his 80's now, is still busy and plans to stay busy until he leaves this earth. "I have a lot of work left to do for my people," he says, as he got up from one of our meetings to continue his busy schedule. He ended that particular meeting by saying, "I pray for you, Brother Clingman. I pray for your strength and I pray that you really see this thing I am trying to do." I assured him that I did understand and that I would continue to spread the word concerning economic empower-

ment and continue to work on projects and programs that lead to true freedom for our people — just like he has done for most of his life.

The successes abound at R.E.A.C.H., but not without setbacks, obstacles, and external and internal problems. The good news is that it has survived and thrived for 30 years, and we should be proud of its accomplishments.

We should also be eager to travel to Eutaw and celebrate their 30th Anniversary. Among all of the celebrities, politicians, and other high-profile folks across this country, along with grassroots folks like me, there should be a large contingent represented at this event. We shall see.

A short list of the assets accumulated by R.E.A.C.H. includes 5000 acres of prime property in five counties, thousands of grain-fed cattle and hogs, a meat processing and packing plant, an elementary and high school complex with separate dormitories for boys and girls, motels and restaurants, an interstate highway truck stop, Greyhound bus stops that create a captive market for his restaurants, Western Union outlets, Citgo convenient stores and gas stations, an Ostrich farm, a tire store, a shoe manufacturing company, tractor-trailer trucks, and all of the heavy equipment necessary for clearing land and building homes.

What Black people in this country is not proud of that?

### Darfur Page 1

800 - pledged by Malawi  
Other pledges:

Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia and Egypt  
Indonesia, Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh

26,000 - total planned  
Mr. Bashir, who has long argued that a UN-backed force would be a violation of Sudan's sovereignty and could worsen the situation there, backed Mr. Konare's plan.

"[We] support the AU force, which consolidates the efforts of the Sudanese government to ensure security, peace and stability in Darfur," he said after their meeting.

Mr. Konare did not give a breakdown of the countries offering to supply more personnel, leading correspondents to question the viability of an all-African force.

BBC Africa analyst David Bamford said it was unclear

where so many African troops would come from.

Senegal and Malawi have promised to send peacekeepers to Darfur while the AU has said that Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia and Nigeria have also promised to contribute.

Hafiz Mohamed from lobby group Justice Africa said Sudan would be able to manipulate AU troops, as he said they had been doing with the 7,000 AU troops already in Darfur.

"This will affect the whole credibility of the new resolution," he told the BBC's Network Africa programme.

Deadline looming  
Mr. Konare's announcement came just days after the UN published a list of Asian countries it said had already committed troops and police officers to a Darfur force.

UN officials said the joint AU-Bamford said it was unclear

nantly African", but confirmed that countries including Indonesia, Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh had pledged personnel.

According to a UN resolution, the composition of the force must be decided by 30 August.

At least 200,000 people are believed to have died and more than two million have been left homeless in Darfur since fighting broke out in 2003.

Sudan's Arab dominated government, and the pro-government Janjaweed militias, are accused of war crimes against the region's black African population - although the UN has stopped short of calling it genocide.

Sudan has always denied backing the Janjaweed militias and argued that the problems in Darfur were being exaggerated for political reasons.

## Where Do You Want To Go Today?

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

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

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

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

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

# African-American, Hispanic, And Urban Students Score Lower Than Their Peers In First-Ever "Nation's Report Card" In Economics

**Fewer than half of high school seniors overall are "proficient" in economics; Junior Achievement programs help fill the gap.**

In a newly-released report summarizing the results of an economics assessment completed by 11,500 high school seniors, fewer than half (42 percent) of students scored at the "proficient" level when queried about market economics (including personal finance), national economics, and international economics. In addition, African-American, Hispanic, and students in large urban settings scored lower than other student populations. The economics assessment, entitled "The Nation's Report Card," is one of a series of National Assessments of

Educational Progress (NAEP) conducted by the U.S. Department of Education. JA Worldwide (Junior Achievement), one of the organizations, which helped create the assessment questions, is a leading provider of personal finance, entrepreneurship, and work readiness programs for K-12 students.

Black and Hispanic students scored an average of 127 and 133, respectively, on a zero-300 scale. White students scored an average of 158, and Asian and Pacific Islander students scored an average of 153. Students in large cities with populations of 250,000 or greater scored an average of 142, compared with an average score of 154 achieved by students in mid-sized cities. In addition, boys tended to score

slightly better than girls.

One Junior Achievement program that teaches high school students key economic concepts is the newly revised and updated JA Economics™ textbook. It reflects current economic trends, teaches students key microeconomic, macroeconomic, and international economic concepts, and includes seven volunteer-driven lessons that can be taught in conjunction with the textbook or as stand-alone activities. The program was updated with a \$635,000 grant from MetLife Foundation.

The NAEP report also discusses how students involved in Advanced Placement Economics classes and those whose parents are well-educated scored higher on the NAEP

Economics exam than their peers. Junior Achievement's programs can help fill the gap for students who do not have access to these resources, by teaching them important personal financial management skills, such as how to devise and adhere to a budget, the cost of credit, and the importance of saving and investing for the future.

Jack E. Kosakowski, executive vice president and chief operating officer JA Worldwide, and president of Junior Achievement USA, noted, "The release of the Nation's Report Card in Economics reinforces the message that Junior Achievement has been conveying for nearly 90 years. We need to do a better job of preparing our youth to succeed economically and

financially. Our bankruptcy rate, the skyrocketing number of home foreclosures, and the rise of predatory lenders in the U.S. are among the many indicators that demonstrate the need for a more financially literate population, and Junior Achievement programs help to fill this critical gap."

## Blacks Saying No To Enlisting: Iraq War Causing Major Drop In African American Military Service.

Figures released by the nation's military services and data compiled by the Associated Press point to a dramatic drop in the number of African Americans enlisting in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines.

The principal reason appears to be Black opposition to the Bush administration's war in Iraq.

Even in 2003, when there was overwhelming support for the war among the rest of the nation, African American sup-

port never rose above 44 percent in any major poll. Now, according to a Pew survey released in June, Black support has fallen to just 15 percent. That opposition is reflected in the dwindling number of Blacks enlisting for military service.

In the Army, the branch of the military traditionally favored by Blacks, the percentage of Black enlistees has dropped from 23 percent before the war to just 12.4 percent today. The Pentagon last week announced \$20,000 bonuses in a bid to lure more

youth into the military.

Maya Rockey Moore, the former vice president for research for the Congressional Black Caucus

Foundation, was quoted last week as saying, "Blacks have always been suspicious of the motives and justification for the war."

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## Congresswoman Johnson To Host Refugee Day Workshop In Dallas

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson announced last week in Washington, D.C. that she will host a Refugee Day Workshop, the first of its kind in North Texas, in Dallas on August 18, from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

"In the last few years,

Dallas has taken in an increasing number of refugees from around the world. Families and individuals fleeing persecution in their native lands have relocated to our area seeking a sense of normalcy," Congresswoman Johnson said.

Congresswoman Johnson Page 5

## Around The Town

### Ongoing

**African American Republican Club of Collin County:** Collin County's newest Republican Club meets on the 4th Tuesday of every month at Collin County Republican Party Headquarters beginning at 7 p.m. The purpose of this club is for men and women to discuss issues important to African-American Republicans. For more info, please call Fred Moses at 972-618-7027 or email him at fred@ites.com.

**DFW Financially Empowered Women** is a group of women interested in taking charge of their financial security. We meet monthly for lunch or dinner and a fun, informative seminar on various financial topics. For more information call 972-542-1530 or visit www.meet-up.com/378.

**Reggae Saturdays:** Every Saturday at the Daiquiri Dump, located at 2612 Commerce St. Dallas, Texas. The fun begins at 9 p.m. Admission is free before 11 p.m. with RSVP. You can RSVP at www.minglemoney.com. For more info call 214-629-0077.

**AIDS Awareness Campaign** during the month of August through the 31. The Baby AIDS Pamper and Baby Wipe Drive will be in motion, so contact Dona Mitchell for drop off locations

at 972-748-4648 or email her at aidsawarenessexpo@yahoo.com.

**Hamilton Park United Methodist Church** offers a FREE, 28-week African American History course every Wednesday from 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. starting Wednesday, August 22. For more information, contact instructor John Ross at 972-230-9096.

**August 18, 20-21, 25 and 27-29 School Physicals:** All are welcome. No eligibility requirement. First come, first served. Parent or Guardian must be present. Bring completed UIL form to Los Barrios Unidos Community Clinic, 809 Singleton Blvd. (at Sylvan) in Dallas, Texas 75212. Physicals are from 5 - 7 p.m. and are \$10. Email jalvarez@lbucc.org or call 214-651-8739 for more information.

**August 17-19 Take a break from state and local sales tax in Dallas during Texas' annual Tax-Free holiday.** From 12:01 a.m. on Friday, August 17, to midnight on Sunday, August 19, Texas consumers will be exempt from both state and local sales taxes on nearly all clothing and footwear as well as backpacks for students priced under \$100, potentially saving Texas consumers \$8.25 on every \$100 spent.

**August 18 LULAC National Housing Commission:** Home Buyer Seminar. This is an educational homebuyer's seminar open to the public. The presentation, presented by LULAC National Housing Commission, is from 9 a.m. - 3

p.m. at 6500 Greenville Avenue, Suite 515. Please email email@lulachousing.com or call 214-750-8194 for more information.

**August 18 AIDS Awareness Campaign:** There will be a Free Man2Man talk show from 2 - 4 p.m. at the Tommie Allen Recreation Center, 7071 Bonnie View Rd. Dallas, Texas 75216. The presentation will include AIDS drama, special guest speaker former Mayor Pro Tem Don Hill, I Want to Compliment Ministry Testimony, and free men's haircut giveaways by DeZine Entertainment. Contact Dona Mitchell for more info at 972-748-4648 or email her at aidsawarenessexpo@yahoo.com.

**August 18 and 19 Minority Business Certification Seminar & Expo:** Two hours of general information on certification, 3 hours hands-on to complete applications, business to business expo by members of Collin County Black Chamber and Collin County Hispanic Chamber. This presentation is located at 111 N. Tennessee Street in McKinney, TX 75069 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and is \$10 (includes lunch). For more information, email info@cchchamber.org or call 972-922-0806.

**August 19 Hawaiian Summer Concert** features live hula dance and music from Polynesia. The fun begins at 1 p.m. at 521 W. State St. in Garland. Admission is \$13.00 per adult and \$8.00 per child. For

additional information, call 972-351-4463 or email keola1051@hotmail.com.

**August 19 New African Struggle for Land and Independence must triumph!** Forum discussion on various topics, including Katrina P.O.W.'s Political Prisoners located at the Sankofa Cultural Resource Center, 5400 E. Ramey Ave #114 in Fort Worth. The Malcolm X Grassroots Movement of Fort Worth hosts the presentation. The discussion begins at 3 p.m. Donations will be accepted. Email jawanza3000@sbcglobal.net or call 817-443-2947 for more information.

**August 19 Gospel Concert** presented by Arise & Shine International Ministries at the Carpenter Performance Hall, 3333 North MacArthur Blvd in Irving. The concert begins at 7 p.m., and admission is \$20. Call 972-252-2787 for more information.

**August 19-22 NAACP 1st Annual Black-Brown Summit** will be held at the Adams Mark Hotel, 400 N. Olive Street, Dallas. Join Black and Brown federal, state, and community leaders as they address disproportionality in the criminal justice system, re-entry, and recidivism. Registration, which includes breakfast and lunch, is \$195. Keynote speakers include Congressman Danny Davis, U.S. Representative Silvestre Reyes, LULAC President Rosa Rosales, and Dallas County District Attorney Craig Davis,

among others. Call 214-655-8181 for any additional information.

**August 21 Power Prospecting Seminar** is designed to be beneficial to anyone in sales. The course will develop a prospecting mindset and strategy. Admission is \$199 per person, with a 10% discount for groups of ten or more. The Course will be at the Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway and Jupiter Rd. For more information, contact dallasmarketing@dalecarnegie.com or call 972-702-9600 or visit www.dallas.dalecarnegie.com.

**August 21 AIDS Awareness Campaign:** The Free AIDS Drama Explosion will include a series of plays, monologues, poetry, entertainment, and MOSAIC services from 6 - 9 p.m. at the African American Museum at Historic Fair Park, 3536 Grand Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75315. Contact Dona Mitchell for more info at 972-748-4648 or email her at aidsawarenessexpo@yahoo.com.

**August 22 FREE Advance parenting class:** A parenting class for new mothers and their families. Childcare will be provided for the participating mothers. Class will be from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the North Oak Cliff Branch Library, 302 West Tenth Street. Call 214-670-7555 for more information.

**August 23 World Affairs Council World Quest:** WFAA's Gary Cogill will host a competition of wits as teams vie for titles and prizes in the World

Quest international trivia contest. Join us for an evening of margaritas, hors d'oeuvres and friendly rivalry...or is that rivalry? Sign up in teams of four, or let us match you up with other questers. Contest is being held at the Hotel Crescent Court, 400 Crescent Court at 6:30 pm. Admission is \$15, call 214-965-8400 for additional information.

**August 23 FREE 90-minute Estate Planning Seminar** will include helpful information on probate and estate taxes, how to use a living trust, and how to properly draft a will. You will learn how to save on estate taxes and control your assets. The course is presented by Dallas Estate Planning Attorney Richard P. Johnson who is Board certified in Estate Planning and Probate Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Located at the Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway and Jupiter Rd. at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

**August 24 Jazz Friday** at the Stephanie Ward Gallery, located at 920 18th St. Plano. Performer and visual artist to be announced. Patrick Lewis will exhibit his new series of original artwork. Jazz Friday is from 7-9 p.m. Call 469-229 0024 or email stephaniegalery@aol.com for more information.

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# Lil' Romeo Purchases Rap Snacks Brand Of Chips

By: Danyel Jones and Roman Wolfe, AllHipHop.com  
Romeo Miller is following in the entrepreneurial footsteps of his father Percy "Master P." Miller, as the 18-year-old rapper/actor recently purchased Rap Snacks Inc., a popular potato chip brand.

The younger Miller purchased the corporation for an undisclosed amount, acquiring the rights to the Rap Snacks line of potato chips, which are dubbed "The Official Snack of Hip

Hop."

Rap Snacks was first founded by James "Fly" Lindsey in 1994. Each Rap Snack bag features a cartoon image and biography of a rapper who is endorsing the product.

Rap Snacks Inc., based in Greensboro, North Carolina, had a breakout year in 2006, selling over 3 million bags of chips featuring images of rappers like Murphy Lee, Mack 10, Star Quo and Romeo's father, Master P.

"I think it's incredible," Master



P. told AllHipHop.com. "All my life I was looking to build a generation of wealth and to have your

family understand that is great."

Romeo also hopes to duplicate the legendary success of his father's No Limit Records imprint by launching his own record company, Take A Stand Records and a clothing company, Gumbo Station.

Romeo's own personalized flavor of Rap Snacks is "Bar-B-Quin With My Honey," a honey barbecue flavor potato chip, while Atlanta rapper Yung Joc has a personalized line of flavored cheese curls.

Congresswoman Johnson Page 4

The Department of Health and Human Services will aid Congresswoman Johnson in organizing the free workshop, which will include information regarding low-cost legal services, vocational training, language classes, job placement, and low-cost health services. Translators for Amharic, Arabic, Somali, Swahili, Italian, Kikuyu, and Spanish will be available. The event will be held at

Reverchon Park Recreation Center, 3505 Maple Avenue, Dallas, and will be free of cost.

"It is my hope that through education and increased dialogue, we can create better conditions for refugees to lead productive and dignified lives," said Congresswoman Johnson.

For further information, contact Julie Newman at Congresswoman Johnson's Dallas office at 214-922-8885.

Salad Creations Page 1

ily fit into a healthy lifestyle."

Salad Creations' welcoming and relaxing atmosphere is a place where the entire family can enjoy fast, fresh and healthy meals. With over 40 fresh ingredients that include farm-fresh vegetables, sliced meats, fruits and cheeses, Salad Creations' guests are able to guiltlessly indulge in the wide array of Texas-sized menu offerings. Among these are delectable salads, tantalizing wraps and soul-stirring soups that have been created to satisfy all appetites. Tasty salad options include Santa Fe Chicken, Chinese Chopstick, Chic to be Greek and the Hail to Caesar. Among the restaurant's many mouth-watering wraps are Spicy Buffalo Chicken Caesar, Wasabi Chicken Salad, Boca Veggie and Turkey Club BLT. Additionally, Salad Creations' savory soup selections include New England Clam Chowder, Portobello Mushroom, Baja Chicken and Italian Wedding. Flavorful, sugar free and calorie free VitaZest bottled water is also available.

The new restaurant also offers a unique five-step, create-your-own salad option. This enlightening experience entails specially trained salad chefs engagingly preparing customized tossed or chopped salads based on guests' preferences of lettuce, toppings and specially prepared dressings. The healthy meal creations can then be enjoyed inside the cool and refreshing restaurant or outdoors in the comfortable patio-style seating area.

Salad Creations at The Village on the Green will officially celebrate its grand opening on Saturday, August 18, 2007, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with a "Fresh Is Fabulous" Ribbon Cutting celebration. Among the speakers and attendees to be featured at the event are restaurant owners Bryant and Charrell Joseph, Ambassadors from the Greater Dallas Chamber of Commerce, representatives of Dallas Independent School District's (DISD) Dallas Achieves committee, graduates of the Greater Dallas Chamber's 2007 Leadership Dallas class and various business and political leaders in the community. The celebration will also feature jazz pianist and vocalist, Miriam Hernandez of Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts.

In support of the "Fresh Is Fabulous" celebration, attendees are asked to wear a fabulous shade of green and to purchase a fresh crisp lettuce salad or wrap of which a percentage of the proceeds will be donated to DISD's Dallas Achieves initiative. This educational initiative is an effort by the school district and the broader Dallas community to transform DISD into one of the best urban school districts in the country over the next few years. Additionally, as a community welcome, Salad Creations' Village on the Green retail neighbors, including La Bella Belly Maternity and Fat Straws Bubble Tea, will be offering "Fresh Is Fabulous" deals during this celebratory event.

Salad Creations at The Village on the Green is located near the Galleria Mall at 5301 Alpha Road, Dallas, Texas

75240, www.saladcreations.net.

The restaurant is open seven days a week, Monday to Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Sunday 12:00 p.m. to

4:00 p.m. To contact the restaurant directly, call 972-991-7252. Catering services and To-Go orders are available.

Salad Creations is a national

franchise offering a fresh alternative of quality made-to-order salads for today's healthy lifestyle. Salad Creations offers more than 10 featured salads

and a variety of daily soup specials and fresh wraps. Headquartered in Margate, FL, Salad Creations has 25 locations open in 14 states, Puerto Rico,

Mexico and Trinidad, with plans to open 30 additional locations through 2007. For more information, visit www.saladcreations.net.

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## Fall Registration At El Centro College Features New, Exclusive 50% Tuition Offer

*Fall enrollment is underway at El Centro College with a new wrinkle.*

For the first time, the college is introducing an exclusive, innovative scholarship plan that offers 50 percent tuition coverage for up to two fall classes selected from a total of 28 afternoon and weekend academic core classes eligible under the plan. Scholarship funds through the ECC financial aid department will cover 50 percent of the student's tuition costs for those classes at in-county or out-

of-district rates. El Centro advises early application for this plan since funds are limited.

To take advantage of this new feature, students can enroll in up to two of these academic core classes, which start between 1:30 p.m. and 4:50 p.m., Monday through Friday, or any Saturday or Sunday. Community college core classes are those which students must take in order to transfer to four-year univer-

sities. These courses are found in the fields of communications, mathematics, lab sciences, social and behavioral sciences, humanities, information technology and physical education.

Fall registration at El Centro continues through August 25 for students interested in this new 50 percent tuition offer as well as those students seeking an education in more than 50 technical programs designed to prepare students for the

workplace. For information, students can call 214-860-2000 or 214-860-2083.

Online registration is growing more popular with El Centro students. For online registration, qualified students can log onto the eConnect system at [www.elcentrocollege.edu](http://www.elcentrocollege.edu). To be eligible to register online, a student must have Texas Success Initiative (TSI) status of exempt, waived or complete, be in

good standing and have no blocks against his or her record. Also, transfer students may use eConnect if the college reviews their transcripts to verify completion of required prerequisite courses. Qualified El Centro students taking six or more fall credit hours can ride DART trains or buses free, anywhere, anytime. This convenient and cost-saving feature is also available to continuing education stu-

dents enrolled in at least 96 contact hours in a single quarter.

El Centro College is located at 801 Main Street in downtown Dallas at the corner of Main and Lamar streets. The first of seven colleges in the Dallas County Community College District, El Centro has been celebrating its 40th anniversary throughout the current school year ending August 31.

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# Arts & Entertainment

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## Band And Local Artist Team Up For Plano Performance

All Of That The Band and visual artist Patrick Lewis will team up to provide live jazz and visual art for the art and jazz lovers at Stephanie Ward Gallery on Friday, August 24 from 7:30 - 9:45 p.m. at 920 18th St., Plano.

Jazz Friday at Stephanie's has quickly become a featured attraction to the northern suburban community of Plano. On the third Friday of each month, regional jazz bands and local artists team up to entertain people from all over the metroplex with live music and original artwork.

"I am not surprised at the good reception we have gotten," said Stephanie Ward, the owner. "There is a great need for entertainment of this caliber in the area."

This month, R&B group All That The Band will perform. C a n d a n c e Mahogany Miller, who does a laid-back, jazzy swing, has a range of songs in her performance including bebop and gospel. Ward says the band has performed at the gallery before and has become one of her patron favorites.

A percentage of the proceeds from ticket sales go toward The Promise Ring, a leadership enrichment group for teen girls. The organization promotes, leadership, sexual purity and personal development for girls 12-16 years old.

"We are trying to make an impact on the lives of these



young ladies, thus making an impact on the world," Ward said. "We have a lot we need to do, and it takes money to do these things."

Tickets for Jazz Friday at Stephanie's include food, wine and entertainment. Advance tickets are \$20; tickets at the door are \$25. To purchase tickets, call the gallery at 469-229-0024 or email the gallery at stephaniegallary@verizon.net.

## Universoul Circus Opens In Dallas At Southwest Center Mall



The UniverSoul Circus will open its six-day engagement

tonight and, for the fourth consecutive year, bring its colorful big top to the heart of the community at Southwest Center Mall.

Cedric Walker, Founder/CEO of UniverSoul Circus, began the highly acclaimed circus in 1994, with a vision to explore various talents among African-American performers, other than singing and dancing. After much research and determination, Walker was able to take hip hop

full-blown circus.

Today, the Atlanta-based UniverSoul Circus performs more than 500 shows annually with more than 75 performers from 11 countries. Children of all ages are able to see performances by clowns, trapeze artists, motorcycle daredevils, acrobats, magical illusionists, stilt walkers, elephants, tigers, lions, dogs and much more.

UniverSoul Circus offers excellent family entertainment at an affordable ticket prices. The circus opens tonight and runs through Sunday, August 19. Tickets are available at all Ticketmaster outlets or at www.ticketmaster.com.

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roughly one-third more cases than a prosecutor would typically handle in other counties comparable in size to Dallas County. Thus, it was obvious to me that we had too few prosecutors handling too many cases, and for too many years this office had not been updated to keep up with the pace and the new ways that criminals prey on victims.

During a former Dallas County District Attorney's 12-year era, there were no new positions requested for the office. That decision has had a lingering effect on the office's ability to keep up with the times. To my immediate predecessor's credit, he did make requests for new positions and equipment upgrades, as well as a pay increase for the hard-working assistants. Fortunately, he was able to secure the much-deserved raises. And if you looked at his budget request over the last eight years, you would see similarities in our recent request for new positions. To this end, we prioritized what we needed to get up to speed and live up to our responsibility to improve the criminal justice system in Dallas County. My decision to request only 68 positions was very conservative. In other words, I prioritized before making the request. I could have asked for many more positions that would have greatly assisted this office in prosecuting offenders, but chose to ask for only the number that we had to have.

Every year each county department is afforded the opportunity to present its budget request to our elected County Commissioners. It is the responsibility of the Commissioners Court to evaluate these requests and vote on what they deem appropriate. These requests come in the form of written briefs that are presented well before the opportunity to verbally defend the requests. During oral argument I gave five-minutes of impassioned opening remarks, while the remaining 55 minutes were devoted to very specific statistics and supporting evidence as to why we need the 68 positions.

During our presentation, it was requested on several occasions by Commissioners to prioritize. Well, we did. Essentially, we prioritized twice. First, before making our request, and again, during the presentation. What critics of our request fail to realize, is that with this new administration, it is not business as usual. Our current budget request reflects the bare necessities. Our office actually needs much more than we asked for, but in light of where we are fiscally, we asked for what we absolutely must have to operate efficiently.

If the two positions the county's budget director believes we need are the only positions approved for the next fiscal year, what am I to say to our elderly citizens who are being preyed upon by criminals, when we don't have the resources to focus on cases involving financial exploitation of the elderly? What does the budget director suggest I say to those hard-working, law-abiding tax payers who've had their identity stolen or whose property values have fallen due to mortgage fraud, yet our office still does not have a mortgage fraud prosecutor? Do I tell the family and loved ones of Officer Nix, who was killed in the line of duty by a probation absconder that we don't need the resources to track down absconders to prevent this from happening again? Am I to tell the 13

exonerated individuals who were wrongfully convicted by Dallas County's criminal justice system and collectively spent 185 years behind bars for crimes they did not commit, that the county's budget director is the authority on what resources are or are not needed at the District Attorney's Office? How does the budget director suggest I tell the citizens of Dallas County that according to him, we failed to prioritize and that we only need two new positions to adequately protect the 2.3 million citizens in Dallas County?

So it basically comes down to this — either the Commissioners will recognize the urgency in approving the 68 new positions we've requested so the District Attorney's Office can operate at its full potential without

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burning out the current staff or they will only approve two positions, leaving us with a criminal justice system that is sorely lacking in resources as it has been for the past 20 years. The Commissioners have a difficult job before

them in balancing the budget with the growing needs of our criminal justice system. I wish them the best as they painstakingly prioritize the needs of Dallas County.

Craig Watkins - Dallas County District Attorney

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**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS  
Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Fort Worth  
Contract 0013-10-073 for MILL, SHOULDER REPAIR, & HMA OVERLAY in TARRANT County will be opened on September 07, 2007 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.  
Contract 0080-07-084 for INSTALL WIRE ROPE MEDIAN BARRIER in TARRANT County will be opened on September 06, 2007 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.  
Contract 0902-48-628 for REHABILITATION OF FREEWAY GLIDE SIGNS in TARRANT County will be opened on September 06, 2007 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.  
Contract 0902-48-660 for DYNAMIC MESSAGE SIGNS & STRUCTURES in TARRANT County will be opened on September 07, 2007 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at [www.dot.state.tx.us](http://www.dot.state.tx.us) and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

NPO: 24333

State Office  
Constr./Maint. Division  
200 E. Riverside Dr.  
Austin, Texas 78704  
Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office(s)  
Fort Worth District  
District Engineer  
2501 Southwest LP820  
Ft Worth, Texas 76133  
Phone: 817-370-6500

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

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**Sister Tarpley**

Tomorrow, August 17, is the birthday of my first and only daughter, Minister Sheila Tarpley Lott. She has brought plenty of joy and happiness to me. I thank God for her and what she is doing in her life, not only for her immediate family but especially for God. She is a "stay-at-home" mom (Hal Ha!), but she has been taught that, "Only what you do for Christ will last." She delights in doing God's work! Sheila, I love you, and I'm proud of you. You are a Godly woman; a woman of integrity; a woman of destiny; a woman of promise; a woman of compassion; and a woman who loves God and is willing to follow His guidance, which I am most proud of. You have given me many fond and blessed memories.

**Some Thoughts on Memory**  
Memory is the mother of all wisdom. -Aeschylus. God gave us memories so that we might have roses in December. -Barrie. Memory is the cabinet of imagination, the treasury of reason, the registry of conscience, and the council of thought. -Basil.

## Happy Birthday Sheila!

Age is something that doesn't matter, unless you are cheese. -Burke. Antiques are history defaced or some remnants of history, which have casually escaped the shipwreck of time. -Bacon. To live in hearts what we leave



**Picture of the Week**  
Minister Sheila Tarpley Lott (wife of Bill, & mother of Tyanna, David and Phillip; and Sister Tarpley at David's birthday party.

behind is not to die. -Campbell. Some memories are realities and are better than anything that can even happen to one again. -Cather.

It is as healthy to enjoy sentiment as to enjoy jam. -Chesterton. The days may come, the days may go, / But still the hands of memory weave. / The blissful dreams of long ago. -Cooper. A memory is what is left when something happens and does not completely un-happen. -de Bono. We do not know the

true value of our moments until they have undergone the test of memory. -Duhamel. Memories are everyone's second chance at happiness. -Queen Elizabeth. We must always have old memories and young hopes. -Houssey. Every man's memory is his private literature. -Huxley.

Philosophy is perfectly right in saying that life must be understood backward. But then one forgets the other clause—that it must be lived forward. -Kierkegaard.

Sentiment is the poetry of the imagination. -de Lamartine. To be able to enjoy one's past life is to live twice. -Martial. The richness of life lies in the memories we have forgotten. -Pavese. Memory is a present that never stops passing. -Paz. Old age is the most unexpected of all the things that happen to a man. -Trostky.

Memory performs the impossible for man—holds together past and present, gives continuity and dignity to human life. -Van Doren. The best antiques are old friends. -Source unknown.

Email: religion@monthegazette.com  
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Let **MON-TH** Gazette help your church accomplish the Prayer of Jabez, "Enlarge our territory to expand opportunities that may impact in such a way that we touch more lives for God's glory. Let us do more for Him."

## Church Happenings

### DAYSPRING FAMILY CHURCH, IRVING

August 15-18, 2007  
You are invited to our "P3 Metroplex Youth" Conference for ages 10-18, with God's Purpose, Passions and Promise! For information call Minister Monica Sowell at the church.

Dayspring Family Church  
Elder Kevin Dickerson, Pastor  
618 N. Beltline Road  
Irving, TX 75061  
972-399-7729

### FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN

August, 2007 & On Going  
Our Education Department is providing a FREE English as a Second Language Class for everyone, and a FREE GED preparation, including pre-testing and tutoring every Wednesday @ 6 pm. If you or someone you know needs assistance, contact Marcia Jones at the church.

August 25, 6 pm  
Please join us for this FREE Album Release Concert featuring gospel artist Mashondhi Payne

with her new album "Long Journey." Special guest include Fellowship Baptist Church of Allen's Voices of Inspiration, Tommy Colter, WillReal, and Monique Modica @ the Allen Civic Center, 300 North Allen Drive, Allen, TX 75013. For information call 214-783-4834

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

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK (FIRST CHURCH)

August 15-19, 2007  
First Church Single Ministry presents their 2007 Annual Celebration; join us. Scripture: "We are More Than Conquerors." Romans 8:37. A Christian Comedy Show on August 17th @ 7 pm with performances by Marcus Wiley and Heaven Sense." The Hotel Retreat is August 18th with dynamic speakers, musical performances and a buffet. The celebration ends with a Praise and Worship on August 19th with special guest Rev. Kennedy Young, Jr.

August 18, 7:30 am - 1:00 pm  
First Church in conjunction with Richardson ISD (RISD) will host a Back-to-School Rally in the church parking lot. We will distribute school supplies to our members' children and the community. We need 300 plus volunteers. All church ministries are requested to volunteer a letter with specific instructions will be provided.

The activities will include food, fun with bounce houses, basketball, clowns with balloons and haircuts. There will be speakers from First Church and RISD will share information with parents and students that will help the students during the school year.

For information about the Back-to-School rally and to volunteer call Wynn Watkins @ 214-543-6181 or Bertarrian Thomas @ 214-607-3737

August 26, 2007  
Join us for our Homecoming Celebration Service and expect a wonderful time in Lord. For information call the church @ 972-235-4235.

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

### HAMILTON PARK UMC

Starting August 22, 2007  
Wednesdays, 7 pm - 9 pm  
FREE 28-Week African American History Class with instructors John Ross and Kerry Shelton. The instructors are well-versed in African History and will give an in-depth view of our glorious past and present.

For information contact John Ross @ 972-230-9096 or you may register at the church.

Hamilton Park UMC  
Rev. Harold Dangerfield, Pastor  
11881 Schroeder Road  
Dallas, TX 75234  
972-235-4633

### MT. PISGAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

August 21, 7:30 pm  
Everyone is invited to our Educational Building to hear Sis. Grace Arrington from Lake Out Reach Ministries. Our theme: "Putting God's Word to Work." Ph 2:3; Ma. 25:35-40, Pr. 14:31, II Ch. 7:14 & Ps. 131. Our Focus: "God's People Doing God's Work Using God's Word."

Mt. Pisgah MBC  
Rev Robert W. Townsend, Pastor  
11611 Webb Chapel Road  
Dallas, TX 75229  
972-241-6151

### NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH OF ROWLETT

August 22-24, 7:30 pm Nightly  
We present "Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire Phase II Revival." Join us for three powerful nights of preaching, healing & deliverance! Our National Prelate, Apostle Cornell Hamilton, Founder/Pastor/Overseer from Bondage to Freedom Interdenominational Church in Shreveport, LA will be featured.

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

### ST. LUKE COMMUNITY UMC

August 26, 11 am  
Richard Smallwood will be ministering songs from his latest CD, "Journey! Live in New York." For information call Monya @ 214-563-0824 or Howard Hyde @ 214-986-5756.

St. Luke Community UMC  
Rev. Tyrone Gosselin, Pastor  
5710 East R.L. Thornton  
Dallas, TX 75223  
214-821-2970

### SIMS CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

August 19, 4 pm  
The Grand Finale—The Anniversary Hour, our guest church is New St. Phillip Baptist Church, Arcola, TX and others.

For information, call Helen Shaw @ 972-226-4127  
Sims Chapel MBC  
Rev. Ronald Session, Pastor  
317 Parker Drive  
Garland, TX 75040  
972-276-0014

### WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH, LEWISVILLE

August 24 - 2007  
Our Women's Ministry will conduct their annual retreat. The theme: "Sisters of Faith Believing in God." This year's retreat will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, Lewisville, TX. You can register on Wednesdays from 6 pm - 7 pm @ the 802 Bellaire Blvd. Campus; @ the 900 Bellaire Blvd. Campus on Wednesdays after Bible Study, or on Sundays after Worship Services. All fees include meals, workshops and a retreat T-shirt.

August 26, 4 pm  
Our Women's Ministry culminates a spirit-filled weekend with Worship Services @ the 900 Bellaire Blvd. Campus. Keynote speaker will be Jacqui Hood Martin - Christian Life Skills Coach, Author, and Speaker Trainer. Scripture is Isaiah 43:10. For information contact the church's Administrative Department at 972-221-5668.

Westside Baptist Church  
Rev. Kenneth Blake, Senior Pastor  
900 Bellaire Blvd.  
Lewisville, TX 75067  
972-221-5668

### Sims Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

317 Parker Drive • Garland, TX 75040 • 972-276-0014  
Rev. Ronald C. Session, Senior Pastor

### August is Our Celebratory Month

Sims Chapel will be 92 years!!  
You are invited to celebrate with us in FOUR different events.

• **Saturday, August 4, 2007 @ 6:00-8:00 pm**  
Our Fellowship Banquet - Come out to fellowship and eat with our church family in our fellowship hall. You're in for a treat.

• **Sunday, August 5, 2007, @ 6:00 pm**  
The Sims Chapel Voices of Victory will be celebrating in a musical with several guest choirs. Sylvester "Sly" Jones (our inspirational saxophonist) will be featured. You can't miss this!

• **Friday, August 10, 2007 @ 7:30 pm**  
Sims Chapel's Victory Youth and Children will be jammin' along with other guests (a drill team, a mime ministry and a puppet ministry) - Come out and witness our youth in action.

• **Sunday, August 19, 2007 @ 4:00 pm**  
Our Grand Finale - The Anniversary Hour - Come and celebrate with us; help us greet our guest church, New St. Phillips Baptist Church from Arcola, TX and other guest churches. We are planning a joyous worship celebration.

**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 KRVB 97.9 AM Sunday Mornings

www.avefchurchofchrist.org

Ramon Hodridge, Minister

**Hill Chapel**

Christian Methodist Episcopal Church  
1113 Ave. I, Plano, TX 75074 (972) 423-4990  
Rev. Clarence J. Ford, Jr., Pastor

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

**The Inspiring Body of Christ Church**

7710 S. Westmoreland Rd.  
Plano, TX 75075  
Phone: 972-577-4262 Fax: 972-709-3888

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

Website: www.ibccjoy.org

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Dr. Leslie W Smith, Senior Pastor  
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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  
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For more information call (972) 423-6695  
www.shilohbaptistchurch.org

**Mt. Olive Church of Plano**

300 Chisholm Place Plano, TX 75075 972-633-5511

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10:00 am

Wednesday Night  
7:15 pm

Pastors Sam & Gloria Fenceroy

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HEAR PASTOR SAM DAILY ON: "TRUTH MADE SIMPLE"  
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**New Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Dallas**

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

Wednesday Service  
Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm  
Brotherhood 7:00 pm  
Missions 7:00 pm  
Singles Group 7:00 pm  
Bible Study 7:45 pm

Dr. Robert E. Price, Senior Pastor

A Praying Church Family  
"Watchmen on the Walls"

214-341-6459 (Phone) • 214-342-8403 (Fax)  
9550 Shepard Road  
Dallas, TX 75243

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

**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 -

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## African American More Likely To Require Transplant

By: Tuala Williams

According to the National Kidney Foundation, African Americans suffer from End Stage Renal Failure at higher percentages than any other race. Statistics suggest that kidney failure is twice as common among African Americans and they are more likely to develop the disease than other groups and they develop it at earlier ages than Whites.

The foundation reports that the leading cause of kidney disease is diabetes. The number of cases of diabetes among African Americans has doubled over the past 35 years. And African Americans are more likely to develop the disease than Whites and developing the disease at younger ages. Approximately, 13.3 percent of all African Americans over the age of 20, 3.2 million people, have the disease.

Also, Blacks who develop complications with the disease tend to suffer greater disability than Whites, the foundation reports. In fact, Kidney failure among Blacks with diabetes is about four to six times greater than with Whites and the rate is increasing steadily.

Most people associate high blood pressure with heart failure. But, a little known fact is that high blood pressure, a condition common among Blacks, is the second leading cause of kidney failure among African Americans.

In most cases, prevention of kidney failure is possible with early detection and management of diseases that lead to it. However, according to statistics, at least 43 percent of African Americans currently receiving dialysis didn't know they had kidney failure until about a week before starting dialysis. One possible reason is that early kidney disease has no symptoms.

Currently, African Americans make up approximately 27 percent of people awaiting transplant. Yet, despite the increased likelihood that African Americans may one day have a loved one in need of a transplant, only 12 percent of all donors are Black.

Time on the waiting list for transplant recipients has decreased dramatically over the years, but shortages still exist. According to Emory Health Sciences Center in Georgia, "Nationally, about 55,000 persons are on transplant waiting lists and about 4,000 of these persons die each year while awaiting a transplant. That means every day about 55 Americans will receive a needed transplant but 10 will die because of organ unavailability."

According to the center, a major barrier to donation today is low rates of family consent.

Tuala Williams is the general manager of The Dallas Examiner.

## Jena's Double Standards Page 1

Congressional Caucus have expressed their intent to come to Jena as well.

The case, which caught the attention of hundreds of communities and national media outlets, reportedly began in September when Kenneth Purvis, a black student at Jena High School, received permission from the school's principal to sit underneath a tree that had been previously used only by white students.

The following day someone hung three hangman's nooses from the tree. A series of confrontations reportedly began in the days following. Nov. 30 destroying the school's main building, although the cause of the fire is still unresolved.

The events are all too familiar to someone who has experienced Jim Crow laws, said Levi Stevenson, a Jena native who now lives in Houston and who came to support the youngsters. Stevenson is referring to laws that were enforced between 1876 and 1965 that kept a "separate but equal" status for black Americans.

"It doesn't seem like we have come too far. This is 2007 and you see that kids can't sit under a tree because it's someone else's tree? That's unfair. This is unfair anytime," Stevenson said as he

held a sign outside the church that read, "drop the charges! Sixth Amendment!"

Stevenson, 58, said the case brings sad memories for him, in particular because next to the church where he stood with his sign is the former Goodpine High School, where he graduated in 1967 during a time of segregation.

Prior to the church service, Sharpton visited the LaSalle Parish Courthouse jail where 17-year-old Mychal Bell sits awaiting sentencing. Bell is the only one of the Jena Six to go to trial, and he's awaiting a Sept. 20 sentencing hearing after being found guilty of aggravated second-degree battery and conspiracy to commit the same crime.

At the courthouse, Sharpton, Bell and Bell's parents, Melissa Bell and Marcus Jones, held a private meeting and prayed, Sharpton said.

"I told (Mychal), first he should thank God that his parents were standing up fighting," Sharpton said, adding that he learned about the case about four months ago.

Bell, who is also the only one of the Jena Six to have his charges reduced from attempted second-degree murder, was tried and convicted by an all-white jury.

Trial dates for the other five

students — Robert Bailey Jr., Carvin Jones, Bryant Purvis, Theo Shaw and an unidentified minor — are still pending. They face charges following a December fight at Jena High School that landed a white student, Justin Barker, in the hospital. Barker, who suffered a concussion, was released from the hospital the same day and reportedly later attended a school event.

Following the church service, Sharpton sharply criticized LaSalle Parish District Attorney Reed Walters' prosecution of the case and encouraged government leaders and members of the community to take a stand against injustice by writing the U.S. Department of Justice and Gov. Kathleen Blanco. Walters did not return a phone call seeking comment Sunday.

"Gov. Blanco ought to be prepared to do whatever is necessary, if for some reason," Mychal is not released," by a court hearing, said Sharpton, who added that the governor can then be petitioned for a special prosecutor to take over the remaining five cases. "The governor needs to know that the whole nation is watching her."

## Dr. Frederick D. Haynes, III Provides Fitness, Encouragement And Inspiration For The Spirit And Soul With New Book Soul Fitness

Each morning on K104FM, one of the top-rated radio shows in Dallas-Fort Worth, Dr. Frederick D. Haynes III shares his "Inspirational Vitamin" with thousands of listeners. Still more followers outside the listening area tap into the radio station's website to listen to Haynes' inspirational message. Now, fans nationwide can take the encouragement home with them in Soul Fitness with Frederick D. Haynes III.

The newest release from Judson Press, Soul Fitness offers the same upbeat, high energy, advice found in Haynes' "Inspirational Vitamin." Subjects and themes range from George Washington Carver to Hurricane Katrina to Kanye West and every message is designed to lift the soul and

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As one reads the meditations in Soul Fitness, he or she will find the fiber of faith strengthened. The book also features a minister of the gospel being faithful in offering all his gifts and talents to God to be a blessing in the lives of those among whom God has placed in this "present age" — from the Foreword by Reverend Jeremiah A. Wright Jr.

Dr. Haynes, a nationally known preacher, teacher and motivator, is the pastor of the 9,000-member Friendship-West Baptist Church.

The book, \$10 each, can be purchased at Friendship-West's III Pyramids Bookstore, 2020 W. Wheatland Road, Dallas and online at www.friendshipwest.org.

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Evening Worship (1st Sunday) 6:00 p.m.

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**Wednesday**  
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