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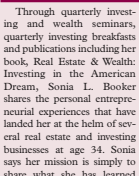
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People In The News



In 2006, Dr. Gloria B. Herndon was inducted into the Enterprising Women Hall of Fame in recognition of her leadership of G B Herndon and Associates and her having built the enterprise into one of the largest women-owned, minority-owned multiline insurance brokerage firms. G B Herndon and Associates focuses on structuring health and medical benefits insurance for its corporate clients. Its diverse clientele base includes the National Medical Association (NMA), embassies of several foreign governments, the National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees (NAPEF), the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) and many others.



Through quarterly investing and wealth seminars, quarterly investing briefings and publications including her book, Real Estate & Wealth: Investing in the American Dream, Sonia L. Booker shares the personal entrepreneurial experiences that have landed her at the helm of several real estate and investing businesses at age 34. Sonia says her mission is simply to share what she has learned with others so that they might strive to attain wealth. The key is understanding the difference "between having a business and being a business owner." Sonia's entrepreneurial spirit was first nourished on the fertile soil of her grandparents' 100 plus acre farm in Jackson, Mississippi. She accompanied her grandfather on his "business trips" to sell produce and conduct other farm business and gained an invaluable education along the way. Sonia's grandfather taught her the value of hard work, the basics of making and saving money, and how to create and manage multiple streams of income. Understanding that a college education was key to her success, Sonia began working at age 15 to help pay for college. She maintained a fulltime job throughout her undergraduate years at the University of Southern Mississippi, where she earned a degree in business with an emphasis on marketing.



A native of Houston, Texas, Cassandra White is renown locally, nationally and internationally for such vehicles as her performance as Lisa Hughes in Civil War, performed at the Alley Theatre in Houston, Texas, and at the St. James Theatre on Broadway. She has also performed in France, Germany and Switzerland with the Harlem Gospel Singers in The Best of Gospel - Rock My Soul.

Cassandra began her vocal career singing gospel and spirituals at the age of five. She was accepted into the rigorous training program of the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts in Houston, Texas. Upon graduation, Cassandra chose to attend Texas Southern University, so she could study under the acclaimed classical soprano teacher, Bernadine Oplifant. Cassandra quickly rose to the top of her class. She was featured in Così Fan Tutte (Fiodiligi), L'Elisir d'Amore (Adrina) and Le Nozze de Figaro (Susanna).

Cassandra was a finalist in the Houston Grand Opera Studio competition where she won the Eleanor Searle Whitney McCollum Auditions and Awards. During her tenure at Houston Grand Opera she sang in the HGO Studio, Students Through Arts Reaching Success Project (S.T.A.R.S.) and Opera to Go. She performed as Gretel (Hansel and Gretel), Moon, Falling Bird and The River's Sister (Mother of Three Sons) as well as performing as a choral soprano in The Borg, Peer Gynt and the Outcast.

Cassandra continued her education at Rice University's prestigious Shepherd School of Music under the tutelage of Dr. Joyce Farwell. She was a soloist in Handel's Messiah when she sang in the Shepherd School's Opera Workshop. Cassandra has also performed as Marion Anderson from First Lady's Suite for Theatre LaB, TI Menu from Once on This Island for Global Harmony Productions in Aruba, Caribbean, Crystal from Little Shop of Horrors for Theatre Louisville as well as other national and international venues. She has worked with Melba Moore, Celine Dion and Nikki Giovanni.

Eddie Griffin Thrown Off Stage For Using N-Word At Black Entertainment Event

Eddie Griffin thought he'd shock the swells at a big Black Enterprise event over the weekend by littering his act with N-words, but the comic was the one who got the real jolt when the mag's owner gonged his routine, and tossed him off the stage!

Rev. Al Sharpton tells TMZ that Griffin took the stage as the headliner and did his best Michael Richards impression, blistering the mostly African-American crowd with a barrage of N-bombs, and wailing, "Why are some black leaders telling us to stop using the N word?"

Griffin's mike was promptly cut, and Black Enterprise owner/publisher Earl Graves stomped on stage and proclaimed, "We ... will not allow our culture to go backwards ... We will pay Mr. Griffin all that we owe him but we will not allow him to finish the show if that's the way he's going to talk." Oh, snap!



The crowd gave Graves a standing ovation — and Rev. Al, speaking the next day at the event, gave Graves props for his axing of Griffin. A rep for Griffin had no comment.

HIV Test Before Nigerian Marriage

Couples are being advised to take an HIV test before they marry, the Anglican Church in Nigeria says.

The church says the move is to help parishioners make "informed choices" when choosing marriage partners.

The BBC News website learned that many Christian churches in Nigeria impose similar tests on their members as a condition for marriage.

The policy is being implemented in all Anglican dioceses across Nigeria, the church's spokesman said.

"Unacceptable" "The aim is to help intending couples to make informed decisions because we don't want anyone to be kept in the dark about their partner," spokesman for the church Rev. Akintunde Popoola told the BBC News website.

He said the church will not stop people from getting married if they test positive to HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

"The whole point is for couples to know their HIV status before getting married," he said.

"If they find out their status and still want to go ahead, we cannot object. Instead, we offer them care and support."

But the authorities are already challenging the new policy by the church, saying it is unacceptable.

"We cannot accept what the church is proposing. Every Nigerian must be allowed to decide on their own whether they want to be tested or not," Prof. Tunde Oshotimehin, who heads Nigeria's state HIV control agency, told the BBC.

"HIV testing and counseling must be voluntary. What

Test Before Marriage Page 3

Texas Publishers Association Hosts Local Meeting In Dallas

The Texas Publishers Association monthly meeting was held recently at the Dallas Sheraton Suites Inn. An executive session began at 9:00 a.m. followed by the regular session at 10:00 a.m. The Association launched an Organ Donor Campaign for the month of August. The campaign objective is to increase the number of African-American organ donors. According to statistics, African Americans make up about 27 percent of those awaiting a transplant, while only 12 percent of all donors are black.

A special luncheon for the publishers, their staff and special guest began at 11:30 a.m. Guest speaker was Mikal Watts, San Antonio Democratic candidate for U. S. Senate who is running against Republican Senator John Cornyn. Watts formed an exploratory committee on June 1, 2007, and has since raised \$1.1 million dollars in his bid to challenge Cornyn. Accompanying Watts was Tommy Calvert, Jr., also of San Antonio.

Daniel Clayton of Austin, president of the Texas Coalition of Black Democrats, was also a special guest.

Texas Publishers Association officers present were Hattie Kelly, president and publisher of Power Pages News of Farmersville; Mollie Finch Belt, vice president and publisher of The Dallas Examiner; Maxine Burley Session, treasurer and publisher of The Texas Informer of Rusk; and Tommy Wyatt, parliamentarian and publisher of The Villager of Austin.

Other publishers present were Ali Hussein, San Antonio Observer; Walter Session, The Texas Informer; Willie Hobdy, Kuumba Heritage of Greenville; Thurman Jones, MON-The Gazette of North Dallas/Plano and Richard Nwachukwu, The African Herald of Dallas. TPA will hold the next meeting in Tyler, Texas on September 8, 2007.

Other Texas African-American Newspapers participating in the Organ Donor Campaign are: Elite News - Dallas, Garland News Journal, Metroplex Southstar - Southern Dallas County, Corsicana Examiner, African News and Issues - Houston, Dallas Post Tribune, East Texas Review - Longview, Ebony News Journal - Tyler, Houston Forward Times, Houston Defender, Houston Style Magazine, Nokoa The Observer - Austin, San Antonio Register, Southwest Digest-Lubbock and The Dallas Weekly.

Garland NAACP Hosts Education & Community Forum

The Annual Education/Community Forum will be held Monday, September 10 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at the Garland High School Auditorium. The purpose of the back to school event is to provide information that will help students have a good, safe and successful school year. This year the forum will once again highlight the many extra curricular and co-curricular activities that are available in the Garland ISD. School representatives will be available to provide a brief summary of the clubs, organizations and special activities occurring at their schools. Parents are invited to submit their questions regarding these school opportunities.

The event will also constitute the Kick-Off for the NAACP Back to School/Stay in School (BTS/SIS) program and ACT-SO (Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological, Scientific Olympics). The EXCEL Awardees from former years will be recognized

and parents and students will have an opportunity to receive information and to register for the 2007-2008 ACT-SO program. The evening promises to offer parents, students, and community leaders a plethora of information, resources and student involvement opportunities that are positive and productive. Step Teams from area high schools and community groups have been invited to participate.

Parents and students will be asked to submit their written questions on a survey form; school and district personnel and student leaders from area schools will be available to provide responses. This annual event is co-sponsored by the Garland NAACP Youth Council, Garland NAACP Adult Branch, and the Garland ISD Student Community Services.

For more information, contact Dr. Joyce Miller at 972-345-5386.

Black Economics

The Dog Days Of Summer

By: James Clingman - NNPA Columnist

The recent hullahaloo surrounding dogs has given new meaning to the "dog days of summer."

This year's dog days, just like the unbearable heat in many parts of the country, especially in my neck of the woods, Cincinnati, Ohio, were thrust upon us like an albatross around our collective neck.

With no relief in sight, for weeks, we had to suffer the dog days while looking forward to the cool breezes of autumn. I don't know about you, but I grew quite weary of the dog days because the dogs themselves had risen to such a high level of prominence and priority, I was afraid the dog days would continue for months.

During August, the dog days were in full effect. Michael Vick's dog fighting case took over the airwaves. I got so sick

of seeing the films of his football practice sessions, his daunting walk into the courthouse, and his home in Virginia with all of the dog paraphernalia. I hated to watch the news shows that led with the Vick story, especially the ones with enraged commentators who called for Vick's head every day and night. They even brought their dogs on the set while they discussed the Vick case.

Protestors in Atlanta sought Vick's removal from the Falcons. P.E.T.A. demonstrations and the endless discussions about his future, how much money he makes and how much he will lose went on ad nauseam. If I hadn't known better, I would have thought we loved the dog days and wanted them to stay around longer than just a few weeks in

Black Economics Page 3

A Budding Eco Fashion Industry Wants Consumers To "Care About What They Wear"

Eco fashion is no longer about hippie skirts and Birkenstocks, says the September/October 2007 cover story of E - The Environmental Magazine. New designers are emerging from L.A. and New York with clothing inspired by architecture, skyscrapers - even folding bicycles.

Brooklyn designer Nina Valenti launched the sustainable line naturevstudies in 2002. "I design pieces that have a strong line, form and texture," she said. Her fabrics range from organic cotton,

wools, hemp and soy to new recycled fabrics like POP, made from recycled soda bottles.

A folding bicycle provided the inspiration for Los Angeles designer Carol Young's spring collection. Specifically, it was the Dahon folding bicycle, a company founded in the '70s to encourage environmentally sustainable forms of transport. Young's label is called undesigned, and the simple, stylish clothes let the wearer move comfortably between office,

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The Links, Inc. Celebrates Fifteen Years In "A Knock Out Affair"

The Mid-Cities Texas chapter of The Links, Incorporated celebrated 15 years of success during its annual fundraiser, Round XV "A Knockout Affair," a black tie boxing event, on Saturday, August 18 at the Fairmont Hotel in Dallas. The fundraiser event

delivered support and service to The Boys and Girls Club of Grand Prairie, The Brighter Tomorrows Women's Shelter, The North Texas Food Bank, Senior Citizens Prescription Assistance Program, and The Sallye Moor Scholarship Fund. Scholarship recipients included four-year continuing recipient

Oneisha Chapman, Alexandra Warren, Tasia Milton, and Shongervi Chekenyere. Round XV included cocktails, a silent auction, a beautiful dinner, live music provided by the John Rochelle Band, dancing, and, of course, boxing. Ms. Doris Johnson conceived of the idea in June of 1992. It

was with a call to the Miller Brewing Company in Fort Worth that she received a loyal 15-year sponsor for the event. Ms. Johnson helps distribute contributions from supporters to many young African-American women to ensure they would be able to receive a college education.



Roger B. Brown—Emcee (KKDA AM 730) and Doris Johnson (President Mid-Cities Texas Chapter of The Links, Inc.)



Robert "Snake" LeGrand (Ring Master) and Generous Raheem Cadillac Gordon (Boxer-Middle Weight Boxer).



(L to R): Round XV Gala Chairs of Black Tie Gala - Kristie Patton Foster (Executive Director of the Links Foundation), Faye Powell, and Marnese Elder



(L to R): Local TX Graduate Students - James Farris (SMU School of Law), Krystal Gaffney (Tennessee State Physical Therapy), David Ford III (UTD Arts and Technology), and Joseph Thompson (UT Southwestern Medical School)



(L to R): Honorary Chairs - Curtis E. Ransom (President Owner CERP Foods, Inc.), Paula Sullivan (VP Community Relations Citibank-TX), and Mr. Ron Spencer (UPS).



(L to R): Local TX Graduate Students - James Farris (SMU School of Law), Krystal Gaffney (Tennessee State Physical Therapy), David Ford III (UTD Arts and Technology), and Joseph Thompson (UT Southwestern Medical School)



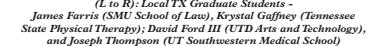
Honorary Chairs Curtis E. Ransom (President/Owner CERP Foods, Inc.) and Paula Sullivan (VP Community Relations Citibank-TX)



Dr. Don Johnson, M.D. and Doris Johnson (President Mid-Cities Texas Chapter of The Links, Inc.)



(L to R) Link Mid-Cities Members—Kristie Patton Foster (Executive Director of the Links Foundation), Faye Powell, Brenda H. Thompson P.C., Marnese Elder, and Charva Greene.



(L to R): Local TX Graduate Students - James Farris (SMU School of Law), Krystal Gaffney (Tennessee State Physical Therapy), David Ford III (UTD Arts and Technology), and Joseph Thompson (UT Southwestern Medical School)



(L to R): sitting—Sophia Stimpson (Links member), Dr. Angela Jones, Traylor Taylor. Standing—Byron Busby, Natalie Stimpson, and Willard Stimpson.



Brenda H. Thompson table.

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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@atres.com.
DFW Financially Empowered Women is a group for 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.meetup.com/378.
September 6
Irving Community Conversation with community members regarding how to improve the Irving community. 1800 N. Brittan Rd. in Irving at Parkland Health & Hospital System - Irving COPC. Forum is from 6 pm - 8 pm, no cost. Email bmmonra@parknet.pmh.org or call 214-266-1232 for more info.
September 7
Friday African Village Night is at the Sandaga Market on 1325 Levee St. at 8 p.m. Admission is FREE. Call 214-298-5858 for further information.

The North Central Texas Regional Certification Agency hosts its 3rd Annual Disabled, Minority, and Women's Business Enterprise Awards Banquet. The NCTRCA asks that you consider nominating yourself, or another NCTRCA Certified Business Enterprise, as the Top Three Firms from throughout the North Texas region of each Category will be honored and recognized. The celebration includes notable speaker Mr. Craig Watkins, the newly elected District Attorney for Dallas County and the first African American elected to that type of position in the state of Texas. Nominations must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, September 7, 2007. For more information contact Frank Cortez, NCTRCA Board Chairman, at fcortez@dart.org or 214-749-3841.
September 8
Keep up the Pace - Educate the Human Race is an annual 5k walk/pace held at River Legacy Park in Arlington. It will be hosted by the Sickle Cell Disease Association of Dallas and Omega Psi Phi in order to raise funds and educate the community about the sickle cell disease. For more information, contact Mary Griffin at 214-942-1262, or email her at mfg@sicklecelldallas.org.
September 8
North Texas Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society hosts the Red, White and Blue Ragtime Revue. The show will feature acclaimed performers Dave Wickerman, theatre organist, and Dick Kwochel, ragtime pianist. The show will be at Courtroom Theater at the McKinney Performing Arts Center, 111 N. Tennessee St., McKinney. Admission will be \$35.

Call 214-544-4630 for tickets and information, or visit www.mckinneyperformingartscenter.org.
September 8
International Fair in Irving: Family event featuring entertainment and vendors from around the world. The fair is located at Heritage Senior Center, 200 S. Jefferson, Irving 75060. This event will last from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Admission will be \$3. For more information, email agiles@ci.irving.tx.us or call 972-721-2496.
September 8
FREE Danzon dance class will be held from 1 - 4 p.m. at the Latin Cultural Center, 2600 Oak Lawn in Dallas. For more information, email drema.chavez@dallascityhall.com or call 214-671-0051.
September 9
KHVN - Heaven 97 Hosts a Musical Tribute to Honor 9/11: Local Gospel station Heaven 97 is hosting "We Remember," a concert in memory of the September 11th tragedy's victims. Through music and praise, the "We Remember" concert will help unite the community in a time of sorrow and mourning. The free concert will be located at the Newbreed Christian Center, 4500 S. Riverside, Fort Worth. The show begins at 6 p.m., and is open to the public. For any more information, call 214-787-1970.
September 14
12th Annual Sickle Cell Disease Association of Dallas: Golf tournament fundraiser event at Riverchase Golf Club in Coppell. Entrance fee is \$125 per individuals and \$400 per foursome. Price includes green fees, electric cart, breakfast, lunch, tee gifts, and souvenir photos. Registration and breakfast begin at 7

a.m. with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. Players can register by downloading an entry form from www.sicklecelldallas.org or calling 214-942-1262. Sponsorships and donations are welcome, and volunteers are needed to assist with the event. All proceeds go to funding sickle cell screening and testing for the community. For more information, email mfg@sicklecelldallas.org.
September 14
Freedom Reader's Club For Teens: "Empowering our communities through knowledge, imagination and action." This is a place where ideas, thoughts and imagination roam, and where young creative minds prepare to grow, organize and develop our world. This is a reader's club for 14-18 year olds and mature 13 year olds. The club shares its company with guest speakers who have literary open minds, and who can offer encouragement to the members. The club will meet at Halfprice Books, 5803 E. Northwest Highway at 6pm. Admission is free and refreshments will be provided. Email Nnanyamka@aol.com or call 972-874-2347 for more information.
September 15
The Potter's House International Bazaar: This exciting outdoor event will expose you to other cultures as you visit countries thousands of miles away without leaving Dallas. The expo includes International Cuisine, Cultural Exhibits, Cultural Entertainment, Hands-On Demonstrations, Language Learning Sessions, Live Performances, International Fashion Show, and Children's Activities including face painting, bounce houses, a book fair and more! Terra Cotta International is accepting vendors who own or operate a restaurant, and vendors that sell cultural artifacts, fashion or jewelry and more. If you would like to register as a vendor contact Joy Sparrow at 214-333-6360, ext. 7 or e-mail tcj@tdjakes.org. Space is limited so act fast! All proceeds support international humanitarian efforts to help children around the world. This event is located at 6777 W. Kiest Blvd, and it will last from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is FREE. Call 214-333-6360 or email tcj@tdjakes.org for more information.
September 15
17th Annual NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet: "One Band - One Sound (Unity) The Key To Victory." The NAACP Garland Branch will be hosting the 17th annual Freedom Fund Banquet at GISS Special Events Center, 4999 Naaman Forest Blvd. (off of George Bush turnpike at North Garland Road). The banquet will include a silent auction, beginning at 6 p.m. and will feature special guest speaker Craig Watkins - Dallas County District Attorney. Awards will be presented for Educator of the Year, Community Service Volunteer, Minority Business Owner, and Communications Award. Banquet Tables are available for \$450 and individual tickets for \$45. Call 972-381-5044, Box #5 with any questions.
September 15
FREE Jazz Onstage Concert at the Plaza Theatre in Garland, featuring saxophonist and pianist, Ray Baker. The show starts at 7:30 p.m. Call 972-461-0857 for more information.
September 15
FREE HUD-approved Homebuyer Education Classes! If you dream of owning a home but need help buying one, come and learn about how to get started. Hosted by the City of Lewisville's First Time Homebuyer Program, this class is HUD-approved, free, and open to the public. The class will walk you through the entire home buying process, including getting the loan that's right for your household budget, shopping for your dream home, dealing with credit issues, and how to insure and inspect your new home. Also learn how you could qualify for up to \$19,000 through the City of Lewisville Homebuyer Assistance Program. Professionals from all industries are present to answer questions. All students receive free HUD-approved certificates of completion and lunch. Full day attendance is required. The seminar lasts from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and is located at 400 High School Dr. Lewisville. Email arincon@cityoflewisville.com or call 972-219-5026 for further information.
September 16
Jesse McGowan Elementary School Dedication will be held in McKinney at 4:30 p.m. The school is located at 4300 Columbus Drive, between Hardin and Lake Forest Drive, in the Avalon neighborhood.
September 21
Dallas Jazz Saxophonist David Carr Jr. will perform while George Knock exhibits his nationally renowned sculptures. Presentation will be 7-9 p.m. at the Stephanie Ward Gallery, 920 18th St., Plano TX 75074. Call 469-229-0024 for more information.

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Proud To Be An Active Partner In The Community

Microlending Offers Hope To Aspiring Minority Entrepreneurs Who Lack Capital To Put Dreams To Test

By: Marc H. Morial
NPPA Columnist

One guiding principle of the National Urban League's recently released "Opportunity Compact" is the opportunity to prosper.

We contend that every individual in America who possesses entrepreneurial vision, ingenuity, drive and desire should have access to the resources needed to establish and grow a viable business enterprise. The importance of minority-owned businesses to urban economic development is well documented.

They're more likely to be located in urban communities, so they're more likely to hire local residents and use minority-owned suppliers, thereby lowering local unemployment rates and boosting business growth. Despite these benefits, minority entrepreneurs continue to face major obstacles to their start-up and growth, including lack of financial capital, among others.

A 2005 U.S. Small Business Administration's Office of Advocacy report found that minority business owners are less likely to get bank loans of any kind and that African-American and Hispanic owners face loan denial at a higher rate than that of White males. In 2002, minority-owned businesses represented 18 percent (4.1 million) of all firms, grossed 8 percent of all annual gross receipts (\$668 billion), and employed 9 percent (4.7 million), according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

In that same year, there were 1.2 million African-American-owned firms in the United States, employing

754,000 Americans and generating \$89 billion in revenue. A little more than 30 years ago, economics professor Muhammad Yunus launched an experimental project to reduce poverty by lending very small sums of money to landless peasants in remote rural villages of Bangladesh to help them start their own businesses. Within a decade, it grew into a formal bank known as Grameen Bank, which by 1996 had roughly 1,100 branches in Bangladesh and loans in excess of \$2 billion, which were repaid at a rate of 90 percent, serving more than two million clients, according to a 1998 Federal Reserve Bank report.

Wages rose, borrowers increased their savings and school enrollment went up. In 2006, Yunus received the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts. In 2004, the nation was home to nearly 23.5 million micro-enterprises -- firms with less than five employees -- employing nearly 30.2 million -- or 18.2 percent of total non-farm employment, according to the Association for Enterprise Opportunity. Of Black-owned businesses in 2002, roughly 70 percent could be considered micro-enterprises, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

In the 1990s, several federal government programs in the United States emerged to advance micro-entrepreneurship. Since the beginning of the decade, they've been under constant threat of budget cut-back or elimination. One of the most comprehensive is the U.S. SBA's Microloan Program, which provides a combination of technical assistance and loans for micro-

entrepreneurs. Since 1992, roughly \$22,000 loans -- totaling more than \$254 million -- have been made.

In 2006, the nation's largest microlender, ACCION USA, disbursed \$5.65 million in loans, serving 1,031 clients -- 61 percent Hispanic, 27 percent African-American and 40 percent female, with a repayment rate of nearly 96 percent. Since 2000, the group has made nearly 5,000 loans totaling \$18.6 million.

Microlending in the United States hasn't seen the success that it has in developing countries, but it still shows some promise in improving the lot of struggling entrepreneurs. Because the risk associated with microloans is much lower than that of traditional bank loans, the sting of failure isn't as lasting or as devastating.

As the Federal Reserve Bank noted in 1998: "Even when microlending is not used strictly as a poverty alleviation strategy, it can play an important role in making opportunities available to those who have the desire and determination to try their entrepreneurial hand."

It offers hope to scores of would-be minority entrepreneurs of breaking down some of the barriers faced by them in starting businesses. The Aspen Institute has suggested that microlending is a less expensive way of boosting business development than traditional public policy mechanisms such as tax breaks, public subsidies -- up to one-tenth as costly. For a minimal public investment, microlending would be a helpful way to put low-income entrepreneurs on the road out of poverty and toward fiscal independence.

Lesotho Faces Worst Famine In 40 Years

By: Mpho Molato

Lesotho is facing its worst famine in 40 years after poor weather led to a failed harvest. More than 400,000 of Lesotho's 1.8 million people will struggle to meet their basic food needs for the rest of the year as a result of extensive crop failures and exorbitant prices for maize, the staple food. The price of a 12.5kg bag of maize meal has doubled since last year, from 25 maloti (R22) in March 2006 to 38.50 maloti (about R52) in March 2007. (More than half the country's population lives on less than R14 a day, says World Food Programme (WFP) representative in Lesotho, Bhim Udas. He

expects a further increase in maize prices in the coming months as commercial importers begin to buy grain on the South African market at high prices. Poor and vulnerable people, including the HIV/AIDS affected and orphans, already face dire food insecurity.

The WFP report estimates that 550,000 people could be in need of food. The government will not be able to meet the shortfall and will have to rely heavily on imports, the WFP report says.

According to the Lesotho Meteorological Services, the drought has been prompted by climate change.

The mountain kingdom also

has a harsh climate that limits the growing season of many crops. Lesotho will require 30,000 tons of cereals and 6,700 tons of other foods to meet its minimum consumption requirements. The national cereal production forecast is estimated at about 72,000 tons, representing a shortfall of 42 percent compared to last year.

Lesotho's prime minister, Pakalitha Mosisili, has said Lesotho used to produce about 30 percent of its total food requirement. In 2001, it ranked 127 on the UN's Human Development Index. But five years later, it had sunk to 149.

Angelina Jolie Visits Iraq And Iraqi Refugees

UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador witnesses humanitarian crisis

Angelina Jolie, UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador, visited both Iraq and Syria to witness first-hand the plight of hundreds of thousands of families uprooted by the war.

The U.N. estimates that more than 4.2 million Iraqis have been forced to leave their homes -- 2 million fleeing to neighboring states and another 2.2 million fleeing their homes within Iraq.

In Damascus, Jolie visited a UNHCR registration centre where she spent hours talking to Iraqi refugees.

She crossed into Iraq where she visited some 1,200 refugees trapped in a makeshift camp at the border who were unable to flee the country. Later she watched as scores of Iraqis crossed into Syria at a checkpoint.

Jolie said she would leave politics to others but wanted to focus on the huge humanitarian needs.

"I have come to Syria and

Iraq to help draw attention to this humanitarian crisis and to urge governments to increase their support for UNHCR and its partners," she said. "My sole purpose in both countries is to highlight the plight of those uprooted by the war in Iraq."



Jolie talked with stranded refugees at Iraq's Al Waleed camp and said, "It is absolutely essential that the ongoing debate about Iraq's future includes plans for addressing the enormous humanitarian

consequences these people face."

While in Iraq, Jolie also separated from the UNHCR group for private visits with U.S. troops and other Multi-National Forces in the region.

In Damascus she met some of the thousands of Iraqi refugees who were registering with UNHCR, and learned that almost 25 percent of them were victims of violence and torture.

Jolie also learned that tens of thousands are without jobs, and the young are unable to receive an education.

She recognized Syria for its open borders and generosity to Iraqi refugees.

UNHCR and UNICEF recently launched a joint \$129 million education appeal to get 155,000 young Iraqi refugees throughout the Middle East back into school. The United States government announced Tuesday that it will contribute \$30 million to the appeal.

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 carrying a world of opportunity for those seeking to provide quality services. Should you dare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the southern region or just want to know what is going on up north...

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

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



Test Before Marriage Page 1

the church is trying to do will encourage denial."

Graduate tests
The Catholic Church in Nigeria says it is not imposing such a policy on its members because it wants HIV testing to be voluntary and personal.

"We know that some people do it, but we are not making it church policy," spokesman of

the Catholic Archdiocese of Abuja Rev Fr Ralph Madu told the BBC News website.

Recently, a church-owned college - Covenant University, Nigeria - announced that its graduates should take HIV and pregnancy tests as conditions for graduation.

But the university suspended the policy after widespread condemnation and criticisms from

government agencies and rights groups.

Nigeria is a deeply religious country with her 140 million people almost evenly divided between Christians and Muslims.

According to Nigeria's National Agency for the Control of AIDS (Naca), some 4.4% of Nigerians live with HIV.

Blackonomics Page 3

denied bail?

All of a sudden it seemed other dog stories cropped up from across the country. In Arizona, sheriff deputies raided the home of rapper DMX and found 12 pit bulls tied up on the property. They also found buried dogs in his back yard, one of which had apparently been burned. No charges were filed. This isn't the first time police had taken an interest in DMX's dogs, according to an MTV news website. Back in 2002, the rapper pleaded guilty in New Jersey to charges of animal cruelty, stemming from a 1998 raid of his home. Police claimed he had neglected 13 pit bulls. DMX eventually plea-bargained down to fines, probation and community service, and even starred in a public-service announcement against animal abuse.

Here in Cincinnati, a couple was arrested and charged with organizing and running a dog fighting ring, and in another case, a Black woman was arrested and charged with cruelty to a dog that was found dead in her backyard. Her nephew said the dog followed him home, so he tied the dog the fence without his aunt's knowledge. The dog choked to death, and the woman was hauled off to jail, tried and convicted, and is currently incarcerated without bail, awaiting her sentence, which will not be given until sometime in September. Did I say she was

We have child molesters running around the streets free on bail, and this sister is denied bail on a dead dog charge.

Then there is the White woman, an assistant principal of a school, who left her child in the back seat of her Mercedes for eight hours. The temperature was reported to have reached as high as 140 degrees. Of course, the poor, little two-year-old child was dead when discovered by someone other than her mother. Also, of course, this White woman is not in jail, but the Black woman with the dead dog is in jail. By the way, Cincinnati says it needs more jail cells; maybe we just need fewer dogs. The most bizarre case of the dog days of summer is that of the "Queen of Mean," Leona Helmsley, who died and left \$12 million to her dog, Trouble, who actually abuses people by biting them. Leona, ever the control freak, in life and now in death, left specific instructions in her will regarding the dog's care. Did I say \$12 million? She even left two of her grandchildren and her great-grandchildren out of her will. Her estimated worth was in the billions. How stupid is that? But as they say, "It's a dog's life."

We even saw the dog days of summer in the U. S. Senate Chamber when Senator Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia went on a rant about Michael Vick. Byrd waved some papers in the air,

and yelled at the top of his lungs, "Lord help him (Vick) if he is proven guilty; God created the dog to be man's companion; dog fighting is 'inhuman'; it is brutal, sadistic, cannibalistic, and cruelty of the worst kind; 'barbaric, barbaric'; let that word resound across the country; what a sin! I don't understand how human beings can so cruel to man's best friend."

Byrd's tirade reminded me of a few other barbaric acts, such as police showing a stick into Abner Louima's rectum and shooting Black men down in the streets with 50 bullets, 40 bullets, or a few less than that. It reminded me of Nathaniel Jones, here in Cincinnati, who was beaten and suffocated by police officers, and Roger Owensby, who was choked to death by police officers, and Kenneth Walker in Georgia, who was shot by a police officer, and Tyisha Miller, shot some 14 times while sitting in her car, and of all kinds of "barbaric" acts by humans against other humans. Sad to say, we never hear senators ranting about those "barbaric" acts.

I have said it before: Black life has never been valued in this country, but now it has really gone to the dogs. I don't know "who let the dogs out," but I sure am glad the "dog days of summer" are coming to an end.



Marcia Donaldson

To protect your family, you need more than the best intentions — you need the right “paperwork.” And you’re going to need it during two distinct phases of your life: your working years and your retirement.

Let’s take a look at these time periods, along with some of the key documents you may need.

Working Years
While you’re working, your most valuable asset is your income. Without it, your fam-

The Right “Papers” - At The Right Time - Can Protect Your Family

ily might not be able to pay off the mortgage or send the kids to college, and that’s why you need to put the appropriate insurance and protection policies to work.

You can typically purchase a surprising amount of term insurance, which, as the name suggests, covers you for a specified number of years for relatively modest premiums. In fact, due to longer life expectancies and other factors, term insurance premiums, in general, have actually gone down in recent years.

Most term insurance policies offer only a death benefit with no cash value. So, if you don’t die before your policy expires,

you will get nothing back from the premiums you paid. However, when you buy “permanent” insurance, such as whole life, universal life or variable universal life, your premiums pay for both a death benefit and an investment component, and any earnings have the potential to grow on a tax-deferred basis.

Apart from life insurance, you may need another important document — a disability insurance policy. An injury or illness that prevents you from working can seriously erode your savings and investments, so you’ll want to protect your income. Your employer may offer some type of

group disability plan. But if this plan doesn’t pay at least 60 percent of your income, doesn’t pay benefits to age 65 and has a waiting period longer than your savings can last, you may need to look at supplemental private disability insurance.

Retirement Years
When you retire, you’ll still need to protect your family, but at this stage of your life your focus may be on leaving a legacy. Toward that goal, you will have some estate planning considerations. And estate plans can be complex, so you will need to work with an attorney.

Of course, everyone’s situation is unique, but two of the

most common documents associated with estate planning are wills and living trusts.

If you don’t have a will, your wishes may never be fully honored because state law will dictate how your assets are divided. And if you have no living relative, and you die intestate (without a will), your estate will go to the state.

If you only have a will, your assets may have to pass through probate, which can be time consuming and expensive. But with a properly established living trust, your assets can pass directly to your beneficiaries, without court interference, legal fees, lengthy delays and public

disclosure. Also, a living trust can give you more precise control over how and when you want your assets dispersed. You could, for example, have money distributed to your children or grandchildren in installments, over a period of years.

As you can see, you need to have your “papers” in order to properly take care of your family — no matter where you are on life’s journey.

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

Texas Government Hosts Marketing, Sales Seminar

Government Procurement Services offers a one-day seminar jam-packed with all of the information you need to know about doing business with Texas government.

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- What’s new - Important purchasing changes were made during the last legislative session. Find out how these changes will effect you.
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lists, procurement methods, and bidding dollar thresholds.

- How to position your business to get a piece of the billions of dollars spent annually by Texas government.
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- How government encourages participation by Historically Underutilized Businesses.
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Have you tried to sell your products or services to the government in the past and were frustrated by?

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- Confusing bidding process
- Information difficult to find
- Rejected bids

If you have experienced any of these problems or just want to learn everything you need to know to sell to Texas government - then join us at a one-day seminar on “How to Sell to Government” coming to a convenient location near you:

Dates: September 11, 2007
Time: 8:30 am to 4:00 pm
Location: Homewood Suites 2214 Grapevine Mills Circle W. Grapevine, Texas 76051

Who should attend?

Marketing, sales, and public relations professionals, small and minority business owners and anyone interested in selling their products or services to the government.

Seminar Instructor: The seminar is conducted by Janet Hasty, CPPO, CTPM, a 30 year veteran of Texas state government purchasing. She has a wealth of experience and knowledge in Texas government procurement and as such was a major contributor to the Texas Statewide Contract Management Guide. She has served as a Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Coordinator at the state agency level and has in depth knowl-

edge regarding the HUB Program and its complex requirements. Janet is certified as a Certified Public Purchasing Officer by the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing and as a Certified Texas Purchasing Manager by the Texas Building and Procurement Commission. Janet is also a Certified Trainer through the Texas Building and Procurement Commission. She has a bachelor’s degree in Public Administration from St. Edwards University and a master’s degree in Public Policy from the University of Texas, LBJ School of Public Affairs.

Janet enjoys working with the vendor community and assisting them in successfully grow-

ing their businesses through government contracts. Her knowledge and experience in Texas government procurement is rivaled by few others. Janet is ready to share this information with you and knows that you will benefit from the information provided at the seminar — all you need to do is register now at our website!

Register today. Space is limited. The cost is a only \$299 for a full day seminar.

For more info contact the Government Procurement Services located at 1307 West Main Street, Suite B-163, Gun Barrel City, TX 75156, by phone at 888-254-7715 or by email at info@gpstraining.biz.

Five Things You Must Know Before Buying A Car

Car Dealer Reveals Insider’s Credit Secrets to Save You Money!

The offers sound enticing—0% interest, no money down, low monthly payments and huge discounts. With offers like these, you’re sure to get a good deal on a car, right? Not necessarily. Seems like there’s always a catch or fine print. And that’s why most people hate buying a car. They rank it right up there with getting a root canal—downright painful. The basic problem is that most people don’t understand how car dealerships operate. So they wind up paying too much. That’s where Mark Marine comes in. A long-time car

dealer and author of the book, “Kick the Dealer...Not the Tires!” (Motom Publishing), Marine believes consumers need to understand the role their credit plays when buying a car. And shocking as it may sound having good credit does not automatically mean you’ll get the best deal. “You may not want to hear this but the people getting the best price on a car are people with bad credit,” says Marine. “The car-buying experience is designed to allow dealers to make up profits lost on bad-credit sales by making bigger profits on good-credit sales.”

That’s why Marine stresses the importance of understanding credit. He offers five key

points that he thinks all consumers should know before they even consider buying a new vehicle:

1. Check your credit report. Most credit reports contain inaccurate information. It’s up to you to correct it—there’s no government agency that requires the credit report companies to amend mistakes to your report.
2. Good credit means you’re ripe for abuse. When you have good credit, banks place fewer restrictions on your loan and that allows dealers to charge you more. So it’s crucial to know your lender’s conditions on your loan up-front.
3. Bad credit means the bank

protects its money. When you have bad credit, the bank places more restrictions on the loan. That gives dealers less wiggle room to add on extras and options. But bad credit still means you have fewer options when borrowing money.

4. Get pre-approved before you visit any car dealer. That way you know the conditions placed on your loan up front. Then the dealer is forced to make a deal that fits the conditions outlined by the bank—again, eliminating that profit wiggle room.

5. Have an exit strategy. Don’t let the lust for leather seats and a premium sound system melt your brain. When buy-

ing a car, keep in mind at some point you’ll sell that car. So you have to be smart. You’ll pay much more for options than you’ll recoup when selling it down the road.

Marine says he also wants

people to know that when it comes to their credit, the best thing they can do is pay their bills on time. If they fall behind, he warns them to beware of ‘credit repair’ scams.

Buying A Car Page 6

CREW Sponsors Real Estate Mentoring Event



Left to Right: David Callers, Oklahoma State University; Arvica Nix, East Central University; Kyle Brand, Collin County Community College; Quiana Johnson, incoming Southern Methodist University MBA student; and Tucker Thomas, Southern Methodist University Law School Graduate.

People in the 40-something age group had a choice of approximately 1,000 careers to choose from upon graduation from college. Today’s graduating students have approximately 10 times or 10,000 careers to choose from, a rather daunting endeavor. As part of its University Outreach program, Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) Dallas facilitated half-day

mentoring for select students interested in commercial real estate. The objective of the mentoring was to give students from various universities and colleges the opportunity to ask informational interview questions and “shadow” a professional. The visiting students attended the CREW luncheon to learn more about CREW and to network with the membership.

Irving Citizens Encourage City Council To Add New Position

The Irving City Council will hold its next meeting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, September 6, at the Civic Center Complex, located at 825 West Irving Blvd., Irving, Tex.

During the Citizens’ Forum, Irving citizens are invited to speak for three minutes on matters relating to City government and on items not listed on the regular agenda. Concerned citizens are encouraged to attend and inform Council leaders that a full time Minority Women Business Enterprise coordinator position should be funded in the upcoming budget.

ATTENTION!!!

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce

● Meeting: **Thursday, September 13, 2007**

● Location: **McKinney Housing Authority
1200 N Tennessee St
McKinney, TX**

● Time: **6:30 pm**

● Persons Interested In Joining Contact:
**Jamal Murray 972-838-1316
Terri Thomas 972-548-8000**

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The New 2008 Scion XB By Toyota

By: Stu Livingston
Toyota has revamped its Scion XB for 2008 with a wider body and more power, albeit at the expense of its edgy, if not quirky, body style. The new XB has been Americanized with a less boxy, more traditional style.

It is over a foot longer than the 2006 model, four inches of that going to the wheel base. Toyota has added almost three inches to the width, but has

pretty tough for a vehicle in its class. And if you want even more oomph in this peppy vehicle, get the dealer to have a supercharger bolted on (as an option), giving you around 200 hp.

The list of standard equipment is impressive and includes cruise control, power windows, audio controls on the steering wheel, a six-speaker sound system with Pioneer audio system with AM/FM and CD player/MP3 reader, air-condi-

Good rating (the best for IIHS) in frontal impact crash test results. Side and rear impact crash test results aren't available. And with the modifications made to this years model, the XB has moved from minicar classification to small car.

Toyota's 2008 Scion XB is now up against contenders in

the small car classification, due to weight and length modifications. With a sticker price lower than most of its contenders, standard features numerous enough that you can't remember them all, plenty of safety features and a new powerful engine, the competition has room to worry.



taken just over an inch from the height of the 2008 model. Taller passengers may not like the fit as the front and back seating areas have lost some headroom, but with the extra inches in width, passengers won't feel as if they're sitting on top of each other. Rear leg room remains the same, but front leg room has a few inches less, even with the longer body.

The ride feels more stable and is smoother than the 2006 model, thanks to a torsion-beam rear suspension and the MacPherson strut front suspension. Powering the extra 636 pounds of weight is a base Camry engine. The 2008 engine is up from 1.5 liters to 2.4, with an added 53 horsepower bringing it to 158 hp, and 162 lbs-ft torque - that's

tioning, remote keyless entry, sports driver seat with height adjustment, sports passenger seat, front center armrest, a full dashboard console and partial floor console with covered storage box. Not bad for a sticker price around \$16,600.

The 2008 XB comes with four-wheel disc brakes, ABS, traction control and electronic stability control. It also has driver front airbag with multi-stage deployment, and passenger front airbag with occupant sensors and multi-stage deployment. Height adjustable 3-point reel front seat belts on driver seat and passenger seat with pretensioners are standard equipment, as are the front and rear side curtain airbags. The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety gave the 2008 Scion XB a

Buying A Car Page 4

"There is no such thing as credit repair," says Marine. "These companies claim they can hide or remove negative information from your credit report, even if that information is true. But they can't. What's even worse is that after they've 'repaired' your credit, your score drops even lower than before you went to them."

When it comes to your credit and buying a new car, Marine advises consumers to be informed. Check your credit score, get pre-approved first, and plan your exit strategy. "A car purchase will affect your economic life for roughly three to seven years," says Marine. "That's a long time to be stuck in a bad deal. Get pre-approved."

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CITY OF PLANO

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

The City of Plano Civil Service Entrance Examination will occur on Saturday, October 20, 2007 at 8:00 AM.

You must pre-register to take the exam. Additional information, eligibility requirements, and registration packets are available by phoning the hotline at 972-941-2436 or by visiting www.planopolice.org. Registration forms must be received prior to 5:00 P.M. on Thursday, September 27, 2007.



Sister Tarpley

In 1970, Marian McQuade initiated a campaign to set aside a special day just for grandparents. Through concerted efforts on the part of civic, business, church, and political leaders, this campaign expanded statewide. Senator Jennings Randolph (D-WV) was especially instrumental in the project.

The first Grandparents Day was proclaimed in 1973, in West Virginia by Governor Arch Moore. Also in 1973, Senator Randolph introduced a Grandparents Day resolution in the United States Senate. The resolution languished in committee. Mrs. McQuade and her team turned to the media to garner support. They contacted governors, senators, and congressmen in every state. They sent letters to churches, businesses, and numerous national organizations interested in senior citizens.

Five years after its West Virginia inception, the U. S. Congress passed legislation proclaiming the first Sunday after Labor Day as national Grandparents Day. The proclamation was signed by President Jimmy Carter. September was chosen for the holiday to signify the "autumn years" of life.

This day has a threefold purpose: to honor grandparents; to give grandparents an opportunity to show love for their children's children; and to help children become aware of the strength, information and guidance older people can offer. The official song is "A Song for Grandma and Grandpa" by Johnny Prill. The official flower is the Forget-Me-Not.

TBAAL Page 5

patrons we serve throughout the city of Dallas and beyond."

For TBAAL's 31st season, one can expect to see such notable artists as Vivica A. Fox, Richard Roundtree, Boris Kodjoe, Irma P. Hall, Erykah Badu, Zane, Traimaine Hawkins, Andrae Crouch, Malik Yoba, E. Lynn Harris, Oleta Adams and Chante Moore.

Added to this year's season line up are TBAAL's Youth

Happy Grandparent's Day (September 9, 2007)

Along with Grandparents Day, remember shut-ins and those in nursing homes who are unable to be with their families or have no families. Every effort must be made to include these people in the mainstream and visitation at times other than just holidays.

There are many elderly who are not fortunate enough to have family nearby. The need is increasing every day to fill the void of their loneliness. In every neighborhood, there are elderly who would love an opportunity to be a foster grandparent.



Picture of The Week
Miss Yvonna Donnis Lot dances with her grandfather, Mr. Edward Lot

neighborhood, there are elderly who would love an opportunity to be a foster grandparent.

Grandparents are special people. They offer love and kindness; they are there to guide. They often make you feel so confident and strong. Their arms are open no matter what you did wrong. They try to help out in every way that they can. They love all their grandchildren the same whether you're a child, woman or man. They are always there to listen and to lend a helping hand.

They show you respect and they try to understand. They give their love, devotion and so much more. -Stacy Smith.

I like to walk with any grandparent; their steps are short like mine. They never say, "Now hurry up!" They always take their time.

I like to walk with any grandparent, their eyes see things like mine do—We pebbles brights, a funny cloud, or half hidden drops of dew. Most people have to hurry; they don't stop and see; I'm glad that God made grandparents, unshrined and young like me. -Thena Smith.

Grandparents Day can signify a loving spirit that lives within us throughout the year—a spirit of love and respect for our elders.

Grandparents can bestow upon their grandchildren the strength and wisdom that time and experience have given them. Grandchildren will bless their grandparents with a youthful vitality and innocence that help them stay young at heart. Together they create a chain of love linking the past with the future. The chain may lengthen, but it will never part.

Yvonna Donnis Lot honored her only living grandfather, Ed Lot, by asking him to be her date at her "Father & Daughter Dance." Grandmother Pat Lot helped Yvonna's special date prepare for the grand event; as though it was his first date ever, it's a sure bet that no date was as important as this one.

Theme: Armed in the Word and Dangerous in the Spirit. Scripture: Psalm 89:17-36.

September 9, 3:30 pm
Bishop Veynell Warren, New Believers Missionary Baptist Church, Dallas, TX will be our speaker.

September 15, 9 am
Bishop Gregory D. Crawford, Founder & Pastor 526 Compton Avenue Irving, TX 75061 214-372-3624

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK
We are invited to our FREE Women in Red Prayer Breakfast in our Fellowship Hall. Each woman is asked to wear something red and invite two women.
September 16, 10:30 am & 6 pm
Please join us for our Crowns of

CHRISTIAN CHAPEL CME CHURCH TEMPLE OF FAITH

September 16, @ 12 Noon - 2 pm
Please join our 2nd Annual Business Expo in our main lobby. The seminar features professionals and entrepreneurs and will be facilitated by Fay Fleming, President of the Business Performance Company.

For Expo fee and information call Fay Fleming @ 817-428-2480.

Christian Chapel CME Church
Temple of Faith
14120 Noel Road
Dallas, TX 75254
972-239-1120

FELLOWSHIP OF BELIEVERS MINISTRIES, INC.

September 8, 6:30 pm
Bishop D.C. Thompson, Miracle Temple Church of Deliverance, Dallas, TX will be our speaker for the start of the 5th Appreciation Services for Bishop Gregory D. Crawford. We ask that all guest churches render an A-selection during the Saturday or Sunday services. Please confirm your attendance by calling Evangelist Evelyn Crawford @ 214-372-3624. Services will be held @ Community Outreach Church, 526 Compton Avenue, Irving, TX 75061 | Pastor Lisa Tarpley, Overseer.

Theme: Armed in the Word and Dangerous in the Spirit. Scripture: Psalm 89:17-36.

September 9, 3:30 pm
Bishop Veynell Warren, New Believers Missionary Baptist Church, Dallas, TX will be our speaker.

Fellowship of Believers Ministries, Inc.
Bishop Gregory D. Crawford, Founder & Pastor 526 Compton Avenue Irving, TX 75061 214-372-3624

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK

September 15, 9 am
We are invited to our FREE Women in Red Prayer Breakfast in our Fellowship Hall. Each woman is asked to wear something red and invite two women.
September 16, 10:30 am & 6 pm
Please join us for our Crowns of

ROYALTY HONORING SISTER ANNIE PEARL FOSTER

We are asking all women to wear hats on this day to honor our First Lady.

At 6 pm don't you dare miss our Women's Angelic Choir Musical in our main Sanctuary and we worship and praise God for His blessings.

September 22, 8:30 am - 12:00 pm
Our Women's Day Mini Conference will be in our Chapel. A Continental Breakfast will be served. This is a FREE conference and breakfast but you must call 972-235-4235 immediately to register for enough food and supplies to be ordered.

September 23, 7:30 am & 10:30 am
We are looking for you at the conclusion of our 2007 Women's Day Celebration. All ladies are asked to wear purple and to sit in the reserved seating in the middle aisle.

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

HAMILTON PARK UMC

September 2007
On-Going each Wednesday, 7 pm - 9 pm
It's not too late for a 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 @ 972-230-9906 or you may register at the church.

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

KHVN AM - HEAVEN 97.1 RADIO STATION

September 9 @ 6 pm
Heaven 97.1 presents a 9-11 Gospel Tribute, We Remember Concert, a FREE Gospel Celebration @ the New Breed Christian Center, 4500 S. Riverside Drive in Fort Worth, TX. Featured

ROYALTY HONORING SISTER ANNIE PEARL FOSTER

guest will be Shirley Murdock, Ernest Pugh, Zie!, Carolyn Traylor, Barbara Mitchell, Blair, Sean Reed and many others.

KHVN AM - Heaven 97.1 Radio Station
5787 S. Hampton Road, Suite 285
Dallas, TX 75232
214-331-5486

MOORE'S CHAPEL C.O.G.I.C. ALLEN

September 9 - 14, 2007
We will host the McKinney Metroplex 3rd Holy Convocation, starting with a musical @ 3:30 pm on September 9th. Officials include: Superintendent Willie Wilson; District Missionary Mable Smith; Bishop T.W. Johnson, State Mother Ophelia Evans. Come magnify the Lord with us. For more information call 972-302-5272.

Moore's Chapel C.O.G.I.C.
Eller Willie D. Wilson, Pastor
306 North Cedar Drive
Allen, TX 75002
972-727-9693

SAINTE MARK BAPTIST CHURCH

September 8, 12 Noon - 2 pm
All Senior Saints (Ages 55 and above) please join us for lunch, bingo and prizes at the season kickoff of our "Double Nickel Luncheon" @ Newsome Homes Community Center, 2300 Amcott Street, McKinney, 75069. Delivery available to homebound seniors within the city only. Please call 972-542-6178 no later than Friday, September 7th with your name, phone number, address, and the number of meals desired.

September 16, 11 am & 3:30 pm
Join us in "Celebrating 24 Years of Sharing the Living Word," honoring Senior Pastor Charles S. Wattle. Special guests will include Sweet Home Baptist, Pastor D.L. Wilson and Mt Pilgrim Baptist Church, Pastor Franklin Wilson

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

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)
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 KHVN 97.1 AM Sunday Mornings
www.avefchurchofchrist.org

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.

The Inspiring Body of Christ Church
7710 S. Westmoreland Rd. Dallas, Texas 75237
Phone: 972-535-4242 • 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

NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP
"A Spiritual Oasis for a Thriving 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

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

Mt. Olive Church of Plano
300 Chisholm Place Plano, TX 75075 972-633-5511
WWW.MOCOR.ORG
Serving the Plano Community for 13 Years
Sunday Worship 10:00 am
Wednesday Night 7:15 pm
Call Pastor Sam on: "Vision & Truth Live"
Radio Broadcast: KWRD 100.7 FM Sundays 9pm - 10pm
HEAR PASTOR SAM DAILY ON: "TRUTH MADE SIMPLE" KGGR 1040 AM MONDAY - FRIDAY @ 5:25pm - 5:30pm

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) • newmzbc@aol.com (Email)

Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church
1308 Wilcox Street, McKinney TX
Pastor Charles S. Wattle
Sunday Education Ministries - 9:30 am • 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

'Tour De Cure' Cyclists Raise Money For Diabetes Awareness

The American Diabetes Association of Fort Worth is challenging local cyclists to participate in the first Tour de Cure in North Texas.

Tour de Cure will take place Saturday, October 20, at the Doral Tesoro Resort just south

of Texas Motor Speedway. Routes range from 15 to 62 miles and are designed for everyone from the occasional rider to the experienced cyclist. Riders will join over 26,000 other cyclists and volunteers at more than 80 sites through the nation this year.

Money raised will benefit the American Diabetes Association.

"Many people will participate in Tour de Cure for the stimulating competition, camaraderie and physical cycling challenge," said Setsy Price, co-chair for the event. "But the real reward

comes in knowing that every mile ridden and every dollar raised brings us that much closer to a cure for diabetes, the fifth-leading cause of death by disease. With diabetes growing at near-epidemic proportions, the need for funds has never been so great."

Each year, more than 1 million people are diagnosed with diabetes and this number is expected to rise as our population becomes older, more sedentary and more obese.

Tour de Cure raises funds through registration fees and

pledges collected by the cyclists. To register for Tour de Cure, cyclists or volunteers can call the American Diabetes Association toll-free at 1-800-TOUR-888 (1-800-868-7888) or visit us on the Internet at www.diabetes.org/tour.

Eco Fashion Page 1

bicycle, subway and sidewalk. "Clothing design is in a sense architecture miniaturized," said Young.

This new eco fashion appeals to people who live in an urban environment - Paris, New York, London, San Francisco - who use mass transit and need clothing that's flexible enough to take them from day to night.

Meanwhile, the concept of "refashioning" has taken the idea of vintage to a new level. Refashioning is about extending the life of clothing. From amateur how-to sites like ohmystars.net, which teaches "T-shirt surgery," to one-of-a-kind silk-screened bamboo tank tops on craft site etsy.com, to boutiques like Hiary Mary's on New York's Lower East Side, which sells reconstructed vintage dresses, refashioning is pushing the idea that each item of clothing tells a story.

Ethics & Anti-Fashion

While many eco designers seem engaged in their own personal Project Runway competition, others have come to this new fashion frontier led by ethical concerns first. Irish label Edun, founded by U2 singer Bono and wife Ali Hewson, is up front about its mission. The designers want their customers to think about the cotton in their clothing and the conditions under which it was produced. Their

motto is "trade not aid," a focus on raising Africa's share of the global cotton market.

UK-designer Katharine Hamnett laid the groundwork for anti-fashion-fashion back in the '80s with her bold black-on-white message T-shirts. Hamnett's latest T-shirt reads: "Save the Future," a line she produced in partnership with the Environmental Justice Foundation for its campaign to end child labor in cotton farming, especially in Uzbekistan. Singer KT Tunstall wore the shirt when performing as part of Live Earth.

Beyond Burlap: The Search for Sustainable Fabrics

Major labels can order large quantities of organic cotton for a mainstream clothing line, but emerging eco designers face serious hurdles. Most mills aren't interested in producing specialty fabrics in small quantities, forcing designers to use an extremely limited color palette or find creative alternatives, such as working from recycled fabrics or making one-of-a-kind pieces.

"Without a doubt, the most difficult part of designing sustainably is the sourcing of fabrics and materials," Brooklyn designer Bahar Shahpar says. "Choice is extremely limited in terms of color and print."

Until wider fabric varieties become available to fledgling designers, some like Young use designer surplus to add color and texture to their collections.

The designers behind the rock 'n' roll-inspired T-shirts at New York's SDN collect used T-shirts as blank canvases and sell the silk-screened final products through eco-boutiques like Sodafine in Brooklyn. "It's tough to find T-shirts with nothing on them," says Kyle Goen, who started the line with life-long friend Marcus Hicks. "We put the word out to friends before they throw them out."

Designers want to distance themselves from the shapeless eco fashions of yesteryear, when words like "hemp" and "organic" inspired visions of hippies in a hacky sack circle. While the colors are limited, the cut, the fit and the high-end price tags suggest sophistication. In fact, designers often take pride in the fact that the sustainability of their clothing is not immediately recognizable.

"I'm encouraged by the attention I receive as an 'eco-designer,'" says Shahpar, "but my hope is that my customer will pick up my clothing because

they appreciate the design, the story and the process that went into each piece."

Mainstream Bound

While eco fashion has trickled into the mainstream via the organic Eco jeans line from Levis and men's organic T-shirts from the Gap, consumer demand has not been loud enough to merit much of a major market turnover. Deciding to buy organic clothing does not necessarily follow the decision to buy the organic food that has a direct effect on one's personal health.

What's needed, according to designers like Young, is a shifting of consumer consciousness. Shoppers have become used to the disposable clothing model. But they could, instead, see clothing as "something cherished." Young says, "I'd rather have fewer items of things that I love than a closet full of things that I'll never wear and have no connection to."

Economic choices can have a significant impact on how cloth-

ing is produced, but while demand for organic cotton clothing has doubled between 2005 and 2006, according to the Organic Consumers Association, and is growing faster than the demand for organic food, it still represents a very small percentage of the market. Cotton Incorporated Executive Vice President Mark Messura says his organization has been tracking consumer interest in organic cotton for the past decade and most shoppers have little interest. "Most consumers don't understand organic. With clothing in particular," says Messura.

Instead, the most noticeable environmental changes in the clothing industry are coming from businesses wanting to extol their own corporate virtues. Gap Inc., for example, has a representative on the Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) Steering Committee. BCI promotes environmentally, socially and economically sustainable cotton cultivation around the

globe and aims to put "Better Cotton" into the supply chain by 2012. Other representatives who've joined BCI come from H&M, Adidas and IKEA.

Back in 1996, outdoor- and adventure-clothing specialist Patagonia switched its entire sportswear line to organically grown cotton.

Trend setting, sustainably made designer fashions will certainly continue to attract a niche market, but these larger corporate initiatives are the kind that can create lasting change in the marketplace. The more consumers know about the content of their clothing, the more they may begin to see it in all of its "life cycle," from grower to garment. The eco fashion movement, on a small or large scale, is about drawing the connections between consumers and their clothing, moving away from a disposable mentality. It's a major shift for a generation accustomed to buying clothes with a shopping cart.

EBENEZER WORSHIP CENTER
 "We are Living Stones in God's Temple"
 SUNDAY
 10:00 am: Sunday School
 11:00 am: Morning Worship
 MONDAY
 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm: Men of Power and Women of Power
 TUESDAY
 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm: Bible Study & Worship Service
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 Contact Info:
 Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church
 11611 Webb Chapel Road • Dallas, TX 75229
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 Email: info@dallasmtpisgah.org
 Website: www.dallasmtpisgah.org

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The New Light Church
www.newlightchurchdallas.org
3rd Annual Women's Celebration
 September 20th - 23rd, 2007
 Theme: "Women... Fearfully and Wonderfully Made - By God, For God"
 "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well." Psalm 139:14
 Thursday, Sept. 20th - 7:00 P.M.
 Evening Worship - Guest Speaker: Dr. Sherman Patterson, Highland Hills, U.M.C.
 Friday, Sept. 21st - 7:00 P.M.
 Ladies Only - God Talks to Women's Place - WQ 2, Ballroom (Pisgah). Light refreshments and an open bar, with a live soprano.
 Saturday, Sept. 22nd - 3:00 P.M.
 Evening Worship - Guest Speaker: Pastor Rogers Ruffin, Prairie Temple Evangelistic Church
 Shaun Robbs, Senior Pastor
 9314 ELAM RD • DALLAS, TX 75217 • (214) 391-3430

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 RICHARDSON, TX 75081
 WWW.CORINTHIANSCHURCH.COM
 PH: 972.991.0293
 Morning Worship - 10:30am
 Wednesday Bible Study - 7pm

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 972-436-2011
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 John 13:34 & Ephesians 5:28-29
 www.macedoniaministries.com
 Saturday: Intercessory Prayer @ 7:00 am
 Sunday Services: Sunday School @ 9:30 am • Morning Worship @ 11:00 am
 Monday Services: Men's Group & Women's Group Bible Study @ 6:30 pm
 Wednesday Services: Family Bible Study @ 6:30 pm

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

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 200 Belmont • Allen, Texas • 75013
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 7:00 p.m. Prayer Hour
 7:30 p.m. Bible Study

Friendship Baptist Church
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 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.
"The Church with a Vision"