

North Dallas Gazette



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Holiday Bazaar at Plano Gallery

(Plano) Stephanie Ward Gallery is offering shoppers an alternative to cook cutter mall shopping.

Owner Stephanie Ward points out, "Not everyone enjoys the roar of the crowds at shopping

malls. We are offering shopping in a stress free environment."

"This year we have someone selling toe jewelry, spa products, art, ready made scrap books, and other interesting hand made items, that can't be

found in stores," she said.

Saturday December 1st, from 12-6PM, shoppers to the Christmas Bazaar can listen to live music and fine of hot food and Picasso Punch in a lively and festive atmosphere. The gallery is located

inside a 100-year-old Victorian House in the heart of Downtown Plano at 920 18th St. Shoppers are invited to browse around the gallery or sit and listen to the band that will be

See Holiday Bazaar, Page 4

Black Writers Take Places on Picket Lines

By Olu Alemoru

HOLLYWOOD (NNPA) - Black writers in this entertainment capital, who make up about three percent of 9,000-member Writers Guild of America, are voicing unequivocal support for a work stoppage against movie stu-

dios and television production companies.

Film and television scribes began picketing studios and production companies Monday morning, after last-ditch talks between the guild and the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers, brokered with a federal

mediator, failed to avert what could be a crippling dispute for the entertainment industry.

After months of contentious negotiations, writers and their employers were unable to reach agreement on a new contract to replace the one that expired midnight Oct. 31. The strike vote

was backed by 90 percent of guild members.

Talks broke down over payments to writers for DVD sales and content shown on computers and new-media devices such as cellphones and video iPods. The last writer's strike, in 1988, lasted 22

See Picket, Page 15

NAACP-National Urban League, A House Divided During War for Equal Justice

By. Hazel Trice Edney
NNPA Editor-in-chief

WASHINGTON (NNPA) - On the eve of yet another national march for racial justice this week, the NAACP and the National Urban League appear strange-

ly divided over an important case of alleged racial injustice.

The case involves more than 50 current and former Black workers at the Indianapolis-based Eli Lilly and Co. that employs some 13,000

people. Dozens of African-Americans from Dallas, Atlanta, Memphis and Charlotte have joined a race discrimination lawsuit against the drug maker and nearly 200 others are poised to testify in the case,

appearing to lend credibility to allegations first made in a lawsuit filed last year. The suit accuses the company of hostility toward Black employees, an accusation that Eli Lilly has vehemently

See NAACP, Page 7

Blackonomics

What? So What? Now What?

By James Clingman
NNPA Columnist

The "What?" was National Blackout Day on November 2. It was promoted as a "surefire way to send an anti-racism message." It was also put forth to "force the U.S. Justice Department and lawmakers to begin taking hate-crime laws more seriously." And finally, National Blackout Day was called to "show" how much money Black people spend each day.

The "So what?" aspect of that day was the response, or the lack thereof, from the folks

against whom this effort was directed. As usual, they sat back and said, "Here they come again with another effort to effect a change in the status quo." After yawning a few times, someone said, "It's only one day; so what's the big deal?"

Now it's time for the "Now what?" What now, folks? What are our marching orders? Where do we go from here, brothers and sisters?

There was an event on November 16 that took place in Washington; folks marched on the

See What? So What, Page 11

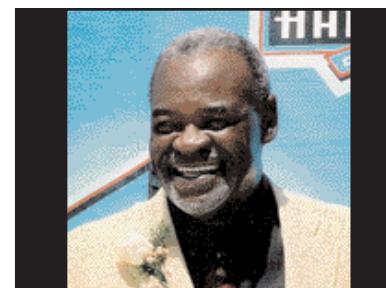
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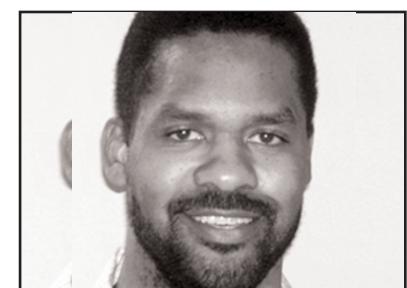
People In The News . . .



Billy Dexter



Rayfield Wright



Bill Keys

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On Line Furniture Company Launches in Plano



Jerome Rodgers, Owner

People In The News

Billy Dexter

Billy Dexter is Chief Diversity Officer at MTV Networks. For over 15 years, he has been a leader in diversity-related efforts. Prior to joining MTV Networks, Dexter was Chief Diversity Officer of Hudson Highland Group (HHG), a leading executive search and human resources consulting firm with more



than 4,000 employees in 20 countries. Dexter served concurrently as President of Hudson Inclusion Solutions, a global diversity consulting practice he founded within Hudson Highland to provide diversity consulting, training and recruitment solutions to leading corporations.

Dexter was Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion initiatives

for Monster Worldwide, former parent company of HHG. In this position, he was responsible for developing offerings to help Monster's global client base with diversity recruitment solutions. Prior to Monster, Dexter worked for Deloitte & Touche as National Director of International & Diversity Recruitment Solutions, where he provided strategic direction on

diversity and international recruitment issues to the Auditing, Risk Management, Tax and Consulting divisions.

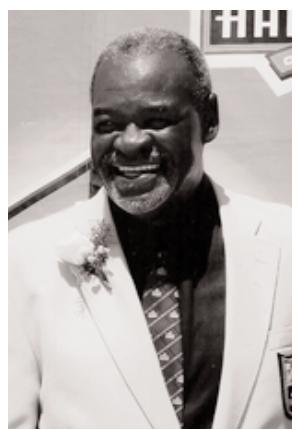
Prior to Deloitte & Touche, Dexter worked at Motorola as a Staffing Director, responsible for University Relations and Professional Employment for the company's largest business unit. He has also worked for United

Airlines as a Corporate Manager of University and Community Relations, as well as for Michigan State University as Assistant Director of Career Services. Dexter holds a B.A. in Education from Saginaw State University and a Master's Degree in Administration from Michigan State University.

Rayfield Wright

Dallas - Former Dallas Cowboy and NFL Hall of Fame Inductee Rayfield Wright was the recipient of the 2007 Lions Sight & Tissue Foundation's Humanitarian Award.

Rayfield Wright was a 13-year-veteran of the legendary



Dallas Cowboys, whose leadership helped lead the Cowboys to five Super Bowls and two AFC-NFC World Championships. Standing six feet seven inches tall, Rayfield was known as the "Big Cat" during his playing days.

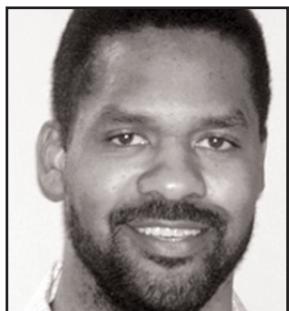
He served as President of the NFL Alumni Chapter, "Caring for Kids" Program and also co-founded, with former Cowboy Cliff Harris, the non-profit "Kids 4 Tomorrow" organization. Wright is a member of the NFL All-Time Super Bowl Team, received the NFL Legends Award

in 1990, is a member of the Texas Sports Hall of Fame, Dallas Cowboys "Ring of Honor" and was inducted into the NFL Hall of Fame in 2006.

Wright is also slated for induction into the Texas Black Sports Hall of Fame Banquet and Auction on Saturday,

December 1, 2007 at 7 p.m. at the Hilton Anatole Hotel, 2201 Stemmons Freeway in Dallas, Texas. From noon to 2 p.m. the day of the Banquet, the African American Museum presents A Family Day and Sports Clinic, featuring current and former inductees.

Bill Keys



William Keys, President, Nehst Out - Distribution Group, began his film career in production and worked his way up through the production ranks in New York while directing various short form projects and a cable television talk show.

He worked at Artisan Entertainment for John Hegeman, the former Head of Marketing who lead the marketing campaign for the "Blair Witch Project."

Stints at Miramax and USA Films (now Focus Features) deepened Keys's experience. In 2002, he co-founded a North American theatrical distribution company, Film Movement. Keys became the Head of Acquisitions for Film Movement and highlights his time there by the acquisition and distribution of award winning films such as "Alexandra's Project" from the Toronto Film Festival, "Manito," a Sundance winner and "Raja" from the Cannes Film Festival and Achero Manas' "El Bola" from Spain.

Keys has produced and consulted in the past few years as

well as been a judge for top festivals such as the Urbanworld Film Festival 2003 and the Tribeca Film Festival 2005. "Somebodies," a film Keys is an executive producer and sales

agent on, was recently an official selection of the 2006 Sundance Film Festival. Somebodies recently became the first scripted series to be greenlit by BET in its 28 year history.

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

While you ponder that thought we would like to announce that Minority Opportunity News, Inc., formerly a Dallas based renaissance community tabloid, founded in 1991, has relocated to Plano, Texas, and changed our name to MON-The Gazette. 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 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!

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

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THE TRUTH CLINIC

Thankful Thoughts At Thanksgiving

As we approach and prepare for thanksgiving an ominous and foreboding array of news detailing terrorism, health care crises, uncontrolled energy costs, water shortages, the housing meltdown, impending recession, and endless war is constantly attacking our collective consciousness. This coupled with the pain and suffering associated with our desperate struggle to confront life, while fearing worse things to come, make it hard to look up and be thankful.

But if we search back through time we become aware of the long and tortuous paths that lie between our ancient past and the civilization of today. Paths that took us from the cave to a mansion, from leaves to clothes, from a flickering branch to the electric light, from fear to reason, and from slavery to freedom.

I cannot speak for others, but I have plenty to be thankful for in spite of the misery bombarding my senses. Dealing with the daily challenges of mortgages, hectic schedules, bills, and personal conflicts can put a heavy burden on one's mind. But if we would just take a moment from these daily challenges and become focused on God's great purpose for our lives a ray of hope will be kindled that rejuvenates the soul that is now filled with

hopelessness.

Imagine how your ancestors just five generations removed would marvel at contemporary life. First and foremost, the vast majority of us are enjoying a measure of good health, and the love and affection of our families. Be thankful for whatever physical strength and ability you have to still reach for HIS guiding hand.

Give gratitude for the soundness of mind and the desire to look upon each day as an opportunity to accept fresh challenges and fulfill God's purpose for your life.

Be grateful for the difficult times that you have overcome, and in the process gained an additional measure of confidence and an expanded base of experience. Be grateful for overcoming life's mistakes. Through them you have been provided with valuable practical lessons that open the door to a closer harmony with your fellow man.

Tribulations have their purpose. They make us struggle -- often bringing us to our knees. But in overcoming the tribulations we are released from the prisons of personal doubt in which we find ourselves locked. It is then that faith in our God helps lift us above the doubt.

Faith and thanksgiving are partners. Faith in the Almighty encourages thankfulness

because we become aware that HIS loving grace embraces all, even though at any moment we may be mired in one of life's hellholes. That deep sense of peace, joy and serenity that comes from the knowledge that HE will be with us always deserves our gratitude.

We are reminded by conditions around the world that freedom cannot be taken for granted. Give thanks for America that still has free expression and religious choice, in spite of the Patriot Act, in spite of the misdeeds of false prophet leaders that speak peace but pursue illegal and unwarranted war and who have made the world a more dangerous less hospitable place in which to live.

Be grateful for the few God fearing leaders who do not aspire to persecute or imprison their fellow man. They do not pretend or claim to be prophets or saints. They do not require or use unlawful force or fear speaking love with their mouths while hating with their hearts.

They do not regard their constituents as pawns to be manipulated for personal gain, nor as children to be regaled with illusions while being lulled into submission with idiotic policies and soothed by a lullaby of lies.

Of course we don't need a holiday to be thankful for the beauty

in your life. Give thanks for that which you have today. The future cannot be experienced in the present. So never let future concerns ruin the awe-inspiring amazing beauty that surrounds us each day.

Give thanks to HIM for each astonishing sunrise, each breathtaking rainbow, and each spectacular sunset. Recognize that all blessings and good fortune are not of our own making. Set aside the cynicism and the bitterness, just for a moment, get quiet, look around, and look deep inside. In this time of introspection you will discover something to be thankful for. Then find the time to give thanks for it.

So on this Thanksgiving Day there is no need to try and enumerate the innumerable ways

that the Almighty has blessed us far beyond anyone's imagination. Be reminded of the greatest treasure that God has given in sending His Son to bring eternal life to each and every one of us.

There is no better time than to look up now in prayerful gratitude and give HIM thanks on this Thanksgiving Day.

James W. Breedlove

Comments or opinions may be sent to the writer at: www.truth-clinic.com

Besieged Somalians Want Ethiopians to Go Home

Special to NNPA from GIN

(GIN) - Ethiopian soldiers who claimed to be defending Somalia's "transitional" government in Mogadishu are facing stepped-up condemnation from Somalian elders and

civil society, as fighting escalates and hospitals are overwhelmed.

The clashes pit government forces backed by Ethiopian troops against insurgent remnants of the ousted Union of Islamic Courts and allied clan militias.

"We want a government. We are not refusing a government. But Ethiopians, they are killing our children. They are arresting our people. We cannot support that," said Abdullahi Sheik Hassan, of the Hawiye elders council.

"We are appealing to the international community, particularly to the U.N., to intervene to stop the atrocities being perpetrated in Mogadishu before it is too late," Mohamed Hassan Haad, the chairman of the Hawiye [the predomi-

nant clan] elders' coun-

cil, told the U.N. news agency IRIN on Nov. 12.

The interim govern-

ment took power nearly a year ago with the military help of neighboring Ethiopia.

In a related develop-

throwing Somalis, including women and children, staged a mass protest in north Mogadishu, where an angry mob dragged the dead body of an Ethiopian soldier through the streets on Thursday.

Temporary Protected Status: Liberians Pursue Permanent Life in America

By Wayetu Moore

Special to the NNPA from the Capstone News Network

WASHINGTON (NNPA) - Torli Krua of the Universal Human Rights International Group hummed down the street to the beat his penny loafers made as they hit the pavement.

Krua, who was visiting Washington from Boston, was headed to Bethel World Outreach. The church, a spiritual home to a population of Liberians around Washington, was holding a Bible study that Krua did not want to miss.

"I don't want to be late," Krua said, "but today I was at Congress for a meeting about TPS." When the acronym left his lips, he sighed. "I'm sure they won't mind. They're Liberians. TPS is their problem, too." He laughed.

The U.S. grants Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to people

from countries such as Liberia where there was armed conflict, and countries where natural disaster or some other circumstance makes going home unsafe. The special status is an opportunity for foreign nationals to live in the U.S., work, pay taxes, own homes and businesses, and have children.

"No one expected the war to go on for as long as it did," Krua said. "But it did and now you have thousands that are in between two places that they call home."

Last year the seven countries that were assigned the special status were Burundi, El Salvador, Honduras, Liberia, Somalia, and Sudan. Only the Liberians, who number about 4,000, were told that their special status would expire at midnight on September 30, 2007. On September 12, however, President Bush signed a bill that gave the Liberians permission to stay another

18 months and continue working.

Some of the Liberians who have re-assembled their lives in the U.S. are daunted by the possibility that they may be ordered to return to the homeland they fled which remains afflicted with poverty and post-war trauma.

"The new government seems progressive, but so did the old government. The country is still not stable. There's no telling when war will break out again," says 27-year-old Eugene Moore. Moore, who left Liberia in 1996, settled in Virginia after he was granted the special status. "I've made my home here, and I would like to stay."

The Liberians are hoping that the 18-month grace period that President Bush approved will be enough time for them to successfully lobby for permanent residency in the U.S.

"With an 85 percent

unemployment rate, if TPS Liberians were to return, there would be no jobs for them to take care of their children," said Samuel Abu, counselor for public affairs at the Liberian Embassy. "At least if they are continued the opportunity to live and work here, they can send money back home to their families, and slowly help the country to regain its balance."

Abu sighed over the phone, catching his breath from the case he was trying to make. "Liberians here are extremely hard workers. Most of them have denied the welfare wagon and end up making an honest and very good living despite

With 240,000 Liberians, the U.S. has the largest population of Liberians outside of their country.

U.S. Rep. Michael Capuano (D-Mass.) is a co-sponsor of the Liberian Refugee Immigration Protection Act, which has drawn bi-partisan support. The bill would remove the bar that prevents Liberians with the special status from applying for permanent residency.

Aside from winning the immigration lottery (where nationals of other countries receive an opportunity at a U.S. green-card), or marrying an American citizen, the Liberians with the temporary protected status have no other legal path to permanent residency. Employers can file for permanent status for an employee, but they would have to show why the job could not be performed by a permanent resident. The process can cost up to

\$15,000.

"We are literally in between a rock and a hard place," Moore said. "I cannot comfortably live here from stress of having to pack up at any time and return. But I barely know the country that I left 10 years ago."

Liberia, slightly larger than the state of Tennessee at 44,548 square miles, has a population of 2.8 million people. The West African country was settled by the American Colonization Society in 1821 for former slaves. The conflict between those settlers, later known as Americo-Liberians, and the indigenous people that they met in the land, are believed by many to have been at the root of the Civil War that devastated the country during the 1990s.

Evicted White Farmers Threaten Class Action Suit

Special to NNPA from GIN

(GIN)-White commercial farmers whose lands were confiscated by Zimbabwean Pres. Robert Mugabe for allocation to Blacks, are stepping up their fight to recover their properties.

An organization claiming to represent 4,300 White farmers says it will move the case to Tribunal of the Southern African Development Community

(SADC).

The SADC Tribunal was launched in 2005, and has a mandate to ensure that member countries adhere to the rule of law.

The move comes in the wake of a Zimbabwean Supreme Court ruling that gives the government rights to acquire all farming equipment and machinery belonging to the dispossessed Whites.

President Robert

Mugabe launched a fast-track land reform program in 2000, but was unable until now to take title to the farming equipment and machinery the whites left behind. The equipment will become part of a program billed as the "The Mother of All Farming Seasons", under the newly-created Agricultural, Engineering and Mechanisation Ministry.

Holiday Bazaar, Page 1

playing a mixture of Jazz and Christmas music.

In addition to the bazaar, shoppers can enjoy a live exhibit with Mexico Artist Eduardo Lazo who will be release his new series of artwork called Jazzing in Color. Mr. Lazo will be on hand to discuss his artwork and sign his images.

The slate of vendors include master decorative artist Cynthia Piper, offering her unique, original paintings of Angels; Magical Landscapes; Lush Still Life and Modern canvases for purchase.

The Lanyard Lady provides unique, custom lanyards and accessories in a variety of colors, prints,

patterns that can be coordinated with your attire. Themed, seasonal, and inspirational lanyards provide a fun and colorful way to display your name badge, id, or to carry your business card and/or keys. You can accessorize and coordinate your custom lanyard with an assortment of clips, slides, and earrings to match.

The Purple Paisley is an up and coming paper boutique. Creator Neha Patel-Cevante produces unique and original gift tags and cards to create the perfect finishing touches for your holiday and any occasion packages. Each handcrafted set is eccentric and noticeable different; from swarovski crystal embell-

ishments to cute tying ribbons.

April Cotton will unveil her new series of powerful images called "VALIDATION". A series of artfully framed images depicting very poignant yet creative photo's of Africa's most beautiful and amazing children living in some of the most remote areas of the Serengeti and Tanzania.

Susie, Trudy and Tammi, mother and daughters, have combined their varied talents to offer unique holiday gifts. At the Holiday Bazaar, they will be displaying fabulously unique crocheted scarves and accessories.

Escape to Pair-A-Dice Hits the Jackpot

The North Suburban Dallas Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, a non-profit organization, held its Escape to Pair-A-Dice fundraiser recently at the Glen Eagles Country Club in Plano. Jack and Jill of America was founded in 1938 to create a means of interaction among children in our community, which stimulates growth and development by providing our children educational, cultural, civic, recreational and social programs. Jack and Jill of America has over 224 chapters representing seven regions nationwide. The event's "casino night" themed Escape to Pair-A-Dice, helped raise money for the Boys and Girls Club of Collin County and the Douglas Community College,

staff from both groups were in attendance at the event. Exciting casino gaming events

Dallas Chapter's president, Gloria Reynolds, described the fun and dancing as what set

you walk in the door, you were greeted, and then you dove straight into the action with

attendees, who could argue that Jack and Jill really hit the jackpot with this one? Ms. Reynolds boasts with the joy in seeing so many people representing several groups, coming together for a common cause: providing the children of the community with the resources and opportunities they need to create a better future.

The national division of Jack and Jill of America will match the proceeds that the North Suburban Dallas chapter raised for Boys and Girls Club of Collin County and the Douglas Community College. When asked if we could expect an encore of Escape to Pair-A-Dice, Reynolds happily tells us it is a "repeat, for sure!"



Left to right: Tracey D. Pugh, Chairperson of Fundraising, Gloria Reynolds, President and Tracey LaRosiliere, Vice President

like Blackjack, Craps, Texas Hold 'Em, Roulette, a live auction, dancing, and live entertainment all added up to great odds for success.

The North Suburban

Escape to Pair-A-Dice apart. "It was definitely a success", says Reynolds, who credited the triumph to the event's "good flow".

"From the moment

gaming, networking, and waiters passing out food and drinks butler-style all around," recalls Reynolds; and with a turnout of approximately 600



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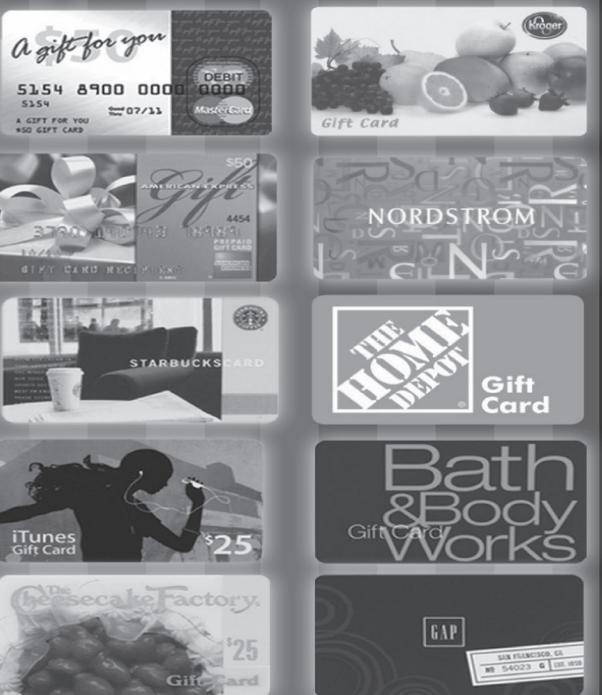
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New and Improved Texas College Savings Plan Now Available

(AUSTIN) — Texas Comptroller Susan Combs reminds Texas families that investors in Texas' 529 College Savings Plan will see exciting changes implemented by new plan manager OFI Private Investments Inc., a subsidiary of OppenheimerFunds Inc.

"The changes start with two new plan names — the direct sold Texas College Savings Plan for do-it-yourself investors, and the advisor sold LoneStar 529 Plan for investors who prefer working with a financial professional," Combs said. "Both plans offer broader investment options and more competitive fees than in the past."

The 20,000 account holders in the state's previous 529 plan, known as Tomorrow's College Investment Plan, will transfer automatically to one of the new plans today, depending on whether they originally enrolled directly or through an investment advisor. OFI has sent current account holders information about the new plans and the new investment

options now available to help families meet their college savings goals.

Starting today, college savers can also find information about Texas' new 529 College Savings Plans on two new Web sites. Both the Texas College Savings Plan Web site at www.texascollegesavings.com and the LoneStar 529 Plan Web site at www.lonestar529.com provide plan details and useful account management tools to help college savers plan their investment strategy;

assess their progress; and make contributions, withdrawals and other account transactions and updates online.

"I believe current account holders will be as excited about the changes as I am," Combs said. "And I hope families that have not yet chosen a college savings plan or have chosen to invest in other states' 529 plans will see what our own state's plans offer and will choose to invest in Texas. Through the Texas College Savings Plan and the LoneStar 529 Plan,

we want to make it easier for families to save for college and ensure that our children and our state have a bright and prosperous future."

The new plans are convenient, flexible and affordable. Investors can open an account for \$25, and future contributions can be as little as \$15. Assets in the plans may be used to pay tuition and fees, plus other college expenses such as room and board, books and supplies. Money invested in the plan earns tax-free returns, and

account withdrawals are also tax free if the money is spent on qualifying college expenses.

To open a Texas College Savings Plan account directly through the state, call (800) 445-GRAD (4723) or visit the Texas College Savings Plan Web site at www.texascollege savings.com. College savers may wish to contact an investment adviser to enroll in the LoneStar 529 Plan or visit the plan Web site at www.lonestar529.com for more information.

Texas Sen. Royce West Honors Paul Quinn College and Other HBCUs

Texas Sen. Royce West presented Paul Quinn College and four other Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) in Texas each with slightly more than \$631,000 in funds earmarked by the Texas Legislature to assist predominantly African-American schools. The funds go to the

five Texas Association of Developing Colleges (TADC) member institutions for the Centers for Teacher Education program.

The Centers for Teacher Education program prepares African American students for teaching positions for the State of Texas. Through the Centers, Paul Quinn

obtained the state-of-the-art ThunderTM system, which electronically connects five colleges and allows for cross-campus partnerships and long-distance learning. College presidents from the other four HBCUs: Huston-Tillotson University, Jarvis Christian College, Texas College and Wiley College 6

will utilize the system to take part in the ceremony without leaving their respective campuses.

Texas Senator Royce West joined Paul Quinn College President Michael Sorrell, and TADC President Larry Earvin, while other college presidents attended virtually.

DCHHS Now Offering Flu Shots to the Entire Family

Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) is now offering the protection of flu vaccinations to the entire family. "DCHHS has received our first shipment of flu vaccine for children through the Vaccines for Children Program (VFC) and are now able to offer the protection of the flu shot to the entire family," stated Zachary Thompson, DCHHS Director.

Recent studies have shown that children less than 2 years old, even healthy children are more likely than older children to end up in the hospital with serious complications if they get influenza. These complications can include pneumonia, dehydration, worsening of long-term

medical problems like heart disease or asthma, encephalopathy, and other bacterial infections, including sinus and ear infections. In some cases, these complications can lead to death. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends children 6 months of age to age 5 receive the flu vaccine. Those receiving it the first time need two doses four weeks apart.

"Anyone who wishes to protect themselves and loved ones from getting the flu should get the flu shot every year," said Dr. John Carlo, DCHHS Medical Director. "Getting a flu shot is particularly important for individuals at increased risk of having

complications from the flu such as individuals 50 years and older, persons with chronic health conditions, pregnant women, healthcare workers, and all school-age children." "The flu vaccine also would be particularly helpful for those who are traveling this upcoming winter or those who work in confined spaces with others such as the office setting." Dr. Carlo continued. "Further, vaccinating school-age children and children aged 6-35 months offers the best protection against flu not only for these children but also those who may live in their households and who cannot be vaccinated such as children less than 6 months of age."

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 ** Thanksgiving Break**
 11/26 - Teen Pregnancy / Self Preservation
 11/28 - STD's and HIV Awareness

12/03 - Family Values
 12/05 - No meeting
 12/10 - Establishing Goals & Mission Statements
 12/12 - Open Forum (Group Activity)
 12/17 - Christmas Party
 ** Christmas & New Years Break**

N2NE would like to thank the "Gazette" for choosing our program as a "Cover Story". We would also like to thank our church family "Fellowship Baptist Church of Allen, Pastor W.L. Stafford, Sr., & First Lady Tasha for their support." God Bless - Rich Etta Weathersbee, Cordell Weathersbee, and Penny Francis

The mentoring program is held on Monday's and Wednesday's, from 6:30 - 7:45 pm, in the clubhouse at Indigo on Forest Apartments, 9669 Forest Lane, Dallas TX 75243

For more information, please call: Rich Etta Weathersbee - 469-223-5618; or Penny Francis - 214-793-7178.

rejected as being without merit and has promised a prompt and thorough investigation, says Patty Martin, Lilly's vice president for global diversity.

On one hand, the NAACP has become a plaintiff in the discrimination lawsuit, also involving a noose threat, and has participated in protests with alleged victims. On the other hand, the National Urban League is scheduled to give Eli Lilly and several other companies top honors at its 51st Annual Equal Opportunity Day Awards Dinner this week.

Marc Morial, president and CEO of the NUL which prides itself as "the nation's oldest and largest community-based movement devoted to empowering African-Americans to enter the economic and social

mainstream", said in an emailed response to an interview request: "The National Urban League chose to honor Eli Lilly with its Corporate Leadership Award long before we recently learned through press reports that the NAACP had joined a lawsuit against the company."

He added, "We stand by our decision to honor Eli Lilly, which is based on their work with us on efforts to reduce health disparities in a number of our affiliate cities. We respect the NAACP, and share with them a century long commitment to equal employment opportunity. While we express no opinion on the merits of the lawsuit at this time, we also do not dismiss the merits inasmuch as we have not heard directly from the NAACP which we are open to." The divided house

between the two historic civil rights organizations reveals the need for unifying policies among civil rights organizations, says Dr. Ron Walters, director of the African-American Leadership Center at the University of Maryland.

Ely Lilly is listed among a list of corporate financial sponsors of the annual dinner on which awards are sometimes based, says Walters.

"Corporations work like that. You get in trouble over here. You cover your [rear] over here. And this gave them an opportunity to do it by probably big bucks to the National Urban League," Walters says. "And then, the results is that the Urban League gets put into a situation where they can't refuse to acknowledge this. And

so they do it. But, they shouldn't do it because there ought to be an etiquette and understanding in the civil rights community, which says when one organization goes out and launches a principled protest against a company or an entity, then the others should reframe from acknowledging those [companies] until the air clears. There ought to be at least an ethic among them that says that."

NAACP Interim President Dennis Hayes has issued a statement criticizing Eli Lilly, saying, "Discriminatory practices whether in policy or experience should not be tolerated, are against the law and do not make good business sense... Companies have much to lose by improperly addressing offensive behavior of staffers and fostering a

culture of unequal treatment."

Plaintiffs in the lawsuit say that the company has many racial "minority" friendly policies but that they were rarely applied.

At least one incident involves a noose threat. Lead plaintiff Cassandra Welch had worked for the company 12 years when she was fired in 2004 after complaining to Lilly's human resources department about alleged discrimination by several managers.

Welch said she found a Black doll with a noose around its neck after raising complaints, according to the NAACP statement, which also said Welch was fired after being accused of sending falsified e-mails to a co-worker about non-Eli Lilly business.

At NNPA press

time this week, the NUL had given no indication that it is considering withdrawal of the award to Lilly, slated to be made on Thursday, Nov. 15.

That's the night before a coalition of major Black organizations have planned a protest march on the United States Department of Justice against a rising level of racial violence, hate expressions and unequal justice toward African-Americans across the nation.

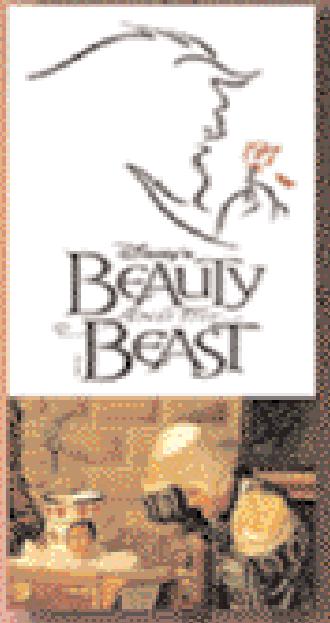
"You have a conflict here between the organizational interests and the coalition interests," says Walters, "all of whom are working together for the interest of the whole community."

Of Morial's silence on the issue, Walters says, "He's out there on this one. There isn't a good response."

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Teatro delle Muse offers classes and camps designed specifically for school age children that provide a creative learning environment and promote self esteem.

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Community Calendar

Ongoing
381 Days The Montgomery Bus Boycott Exhibition ongoing through January 13, 2008 commemorates the 1955 bus boycott that began when Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat to a white patron. The exhibition explores the many challenges faced by African Americans fighting a segregated system that was demeaning and humiliating, as they continued to endure harassment by local law enforcement. Further the exhibition captures the unfailing commitment and relentless determination of a Black community in its efforts to oppose and change laws that allowed them to be treated as second-class citizens. African American Museum in Fair Park, 3536 Grand Avenue, Dallas More information call 214 565-9026

African American Republican Club of Collin County meets 4th Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm, Collin County Republican Party Headquarters. For more info, please call Fred Moses at 972 618 7027 or email him at fred@tes.com.

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce General Meeting held monthly every second Thursday, from 6:30pm - 7:30pm. The general public is welcome. McKinney Housing Authority - 1200 N. Tennessee Street, McKinney 75069 for general information call 469-424-0120.

Collin County Black

Chamber of Commerce Monthly Lunch & Learn a great opportunity to meet other business owners, as well as key decision makers from various organizations around the metroplex. Join us every third Thursday to gain valuable information presented by featured guest speakers to help your business grow. \$15 for members; \$20 for non-members, 11:00am-1:00pm, Ralph and Kacoos - 401 S. Central Expy, Allen. For general information and reservations call 469-424-0120.

First Friday- Music Under the Dome Tired of crowded bars, night clubs just don't fit for you anymore, weary of networking happy hours, looking for a place to meet exciting people in a relaxed environment, the African American Museum has just the right mix for you. Every month a local band performs jazz, rhythm, and blues in the rotunda. Seating is cabaret style. Visitors are also able to tour the galleries. For more information contact the Museum 214.565.9026, ext. 315

Jazz Friday The best in local Jazz and excellent food every Third Friday from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Stephanie Ward Gallery 920 18th St. Plano 75074 For tickets or additional information call 469 229-0024 \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door.

No Limit Network Business Networking Lunch Have lunch, promote your business, bring lots of business cards and a friend 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. every Thursday at Texas Land & Cattle Steak House 3945 N. Central Expressway Plano 75023 Must RSVP at

www.TheNoLimitNetwork.com or call Sylvia Williams at 972-898-5882.

Teen First Fridays held in collaboration with St. Philip's School and Community Center, Project Still I Rise Inc. and the Dallas Leadership Foundation. 5:45pm - 8:45pm at St. Philip's Community Center, 1600 Pennsylvania, Dallas 75215. Includes motivational speakers, food, live entertainment, youth and spoken word performances. For more information contact Tiffany Kirby, Community Center Director at 214-421-5221 or Kevin Mondy, President, Project Still I Rise at 1-877-380-6413.

November 22

The S. M. Wright Foundation Hosts Thanksgiving Day Feeding for residents and homeless individuals in the South Dallas/Fair Park community from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. People's Baptist Church, 3119 Pine Street, Dallas, Texas 75215 For more information contact the Rev. S. M. Wright II at (214) 629-5980 or People's Baptist Church at (214) 421-1098.

November 24

God's Trombones A musical celebration that will lift your spirits and rock your soul. This classic holiday celebration based on the Negro Sermon Poems by James Weldon Johnson has become a staple at Jubilee Theatre Runs November 24 through December 20. 506 Main St., Ft. Worth, TX 76102 See website www.jubileetheatre.org for details and tickets or call 817-338-4411 for additional information.

November 25

Reading the Writers (R.T.W.) coming to the South Dallas Cultural Center Theater with the uproariously funny satire "PAPER DOLLS" by Elaine Jackson. FREE admission 2:30 p.m. 3400 S Fitzhugh Ave For further details contact Vicki Meek at 214-670-0315 or by email victoria.meek@dallascityhall.com.

November 26

Texas Democratic Women of Collin County meeting will be held at Legacy Bank, 3512 Preston Road (just north of Parker) 2nd Floor Conference Room, 6:45pm. Join us and our very special guest, long-time KERA journalist Marla Crockett* for, "The FCC: Why We Care About It and Other Issues in Public Life."

November 27

Garland NAACP Adult Branch General Membership meeting 7:30p.m.special presentation "LENDING AND DISCRIMINATION: YOUR RIGHTS, YOUR MONEY, YOUR FUTURE by Mr. Bob Lydia, 1st Vice-President, Texas State Conference of NAACP Branches Location: Saint Luke AME Church, 521 West Avenue E Garland

African Stories: Laughter and Wonder with Audrey McClure presented at the Dallas West Branch Library, 2332 Singleton Blvd. This presentation begins at 4:30 p.m. Admission to this event is FREE. For more information, please call 214-670-6445.

November 28

Speaker Karen DeYoung, Associate editor of The Washington Post, will be visiting Dallas to discuss her book Soldier: The Life of Colin Powell. The presentation will be held at the Hotel Crescent Court, 400 Crescent Court, Dallas, Texas 75201 from 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. The program includes complimentary valet parking and luncheon. Admission to this event is FREE.

November 30

Tonye Scott and Djore'nance at The Dallas Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex. 9:00 p.m. Admission \$15. For more information call 214-943-2442.

December 1

Christmas Bazaar and Art Exhibit with Mexico artist Eduardo Lazo Stephanie Ward Gallery 920 18th St. Plano, TX 75074. 12noon-6 p.m. If you would like to sell your unique items during our bazaar, we still have booth space available. Call the gallery at 469 229-0024

Texas Black Sports Hall of Fame Family Day Sports Clinic will include workshops such as book signing, memorabilia signing, face painting, radio give-a-ways, and lots more. This free event is from 12noon to 2:00 p.m. at the African American Museum 3536 Grand Avenue in Fair Park. The Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony Banquet and Auction celebrating achievements in African American Sports in History begins at 7:00 p.m. Anatole Hotel 2201 Stemmons Freeway, Dallas Admission \$60.00.

For more information please call 214-565-9026 or email TBSHOF@aam-dallas.org.

2007 Jubilee Celebrity Fashion Extravaganza Mothers of Oscar nominee and actor Will Smith, actors Mos Def and Duane Martin will join the mothers and wives of NBA and NFL players as models to benefit the Innercity Development Corporation (ICDC) at 7:00pm, Dallas Trade Mart, 2100 Stemmons Freeway, Dallas 75207 Tickets \$50 in advance; \$65 at the door. For Ticket information call 214 915 9900 or visit www.icdc.biz

December 5

Stevie Wonder Live in Concert Nokia Theater 1001 Next Stage Drive Grand Prairie, TX 75050 8:00 PM Ticket information Phone 214-373-8000 or www.ticketmaster.com

December 6

VNA Bereavement Luncheon Norma Carter, author of "Without Warning," will speak on "Coping With the Holidays" at the Visiting Nurse Association's bereavement luncheon from noon to 1 p.m. at the Saturn Road Church of Christ 3030 Saturn Road in Garland. VNA's bereavement luncheons offer supportive company from friendly and understanding people to individuals who have suffered the loss of a loved one. There is no cost to attend the luncheon, but reservations are requested and can be made through December 4 by calling Sue Rafferty at (214) 689-2922.

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On Line Furniture Company Launches in Plano

Awakeningfurniture.com moved from virtual space to reality during its launch at Stephanie Ward Gallery. The gallery played host to more than the usual pictures and gifts during the opening celebration. Each room in the 3,500 square foot Victorian house in downtown Plano was staged with unique furniture, accessories, and rugs from Awakenings new furniture collection.

About 100, guests, join Jerome Rodgers in kicking off his new business venture. Well-wishers, listened to live jazz from Karen J and StageFright as they viewed samples from Rodger's more than 1,000 pieces of furniture.

Selling Furniture online is not a new idea. During the dot.com boom, the Internet was crowded with online furniture retailers. Many, have since closed.

"Where others see failure, I see opportunity," said the 32-year-old entrepreneur.

"I am a second generation Internet Company, I saw the mistakes of my predecessors and I have learned from them."

Rodgers who also owns an accounting and bookkeeping firm in Downtown Dallas said, to run a success-



ful furniture company, you must be in tuned to the numbers and to know your customers. After years of crunching the numbers and listening to consumers, he said he is now ready to launch his furniture company in the Metroplex.

When you log on to the Awakeningfurniture.com you are greeted by pleasant music and a designed that rivals other high end stores sites. The website is easy to navigate and has more than 1,000 items for sale with daily additions.

The store has furniture to meet most

taste with contemporary, traditional and transitional items. Because he is not saddled with huge overhead cost, Rodgers said he is able to offer rock bottom prices on all of his furniture. He thinks this will give him an advantage over traditional furniture retailers.

In addition to cost, Rodgers said people are looking for convenience. Most furniture stores have fixed hours, he said customers can shop on his site 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Rodger said he wants to make the virtual shopping experience

as pleasant as possible. Allowing consumers to shop from home gives them ultimate control over their shopping experience, he said.

"We make shopping fun," he said. "Shopping for furniture can be intimidating enough without the added stress of a high pressure sales person on your heels. At Awakeningfurniture.com you shop in the privacy of your own home at your own pace," he said.

Rodgers is an account, came up with the idea for creating the furniture store while looking for fur-

niture for his home. "I said there has got to be a better way," he said. He got tired of driving from one end of town to other and not finding what he was looking for. "I had to figure out a way to stream line the process."

So Rodgers put a pen to his idea and select a wide range of furniture and created his web based furniture store. He said, if his prayers and projections are correct, he is easily looking at a million dollar venture.

"I have a winning combination. We deliver free within 30

miles of downtown, we can deliver anything on the site within 5-10 business day if it is in stock. Rodgers knows that for some buying on line is risky so, he has crafted a liberal return policy.

"I am not happy until my customer is happy."

Awakeningfurniture.com has a number of other immensities that include on line and onsite interior decorating service, and special weekly discounts.

Rogers said, the naysayers who think that an online furniture store will not work do not discourage him.

"I like challenging the odds," he said. Rodgers a former basketball Player for Paul Quinn College. Says a part of his marketing strategy includes penetrating the local market first and then expand his business to other cities. By approaching furniture sales locally, Rodgers reasons that he can control, quality and distribution of his product and stay in touch with his customer.

"Furniture buying is an intimate decision. We have put a lot of energy and care into developing a business model that is conducive to a sensitive purchase," he said.

This Christmas is a Treat

By Ruth Ferguson

After the turkey and dressing are put away, the Cowboys game is over, round up the family and head over to the multiplex to see *This Christmas*. It is not often filmmakers actually deliver on their promise of holiday cheer for the entire family. With *This Christmas* they deliver.

The flick features several familiar faces: Loretta Devine as Ma' Dere the family matriarch, her male friend is played Delroy Lindo (Joe), and Regina King as one of the siblings, Lisa. But there are plenty of new faces, Sharon Leal as the older sister Kelli, and baby sister Mel is played by Lauren London. R&B crooner Chris Brown (Michael "Baby") reteams with Columbus Short (Claude) following their appearance in this year's hit, *Stomp the Yard*. Finally

rounding out the cast and the family is the British import Idris Elba (Quentin).

The entire Whitfield family is home for the holidays - so naturally there is going to be drama as they navigate through the minefield created with their secrets. Ma' Dere is trying to keep it on the down low that Joe now lives with her. Lisa, the good daughter that stayed home to help with the family business, is married to a cheating and controlling husband. Kelli is distracted as she focuses on getting her present a little early from Santa (Mekhi Phifer) while little sis Mel is sharing holiday cheer with her boyfriend.

Rest assured the women of this family are not the only ones with drama, the boys have their problems. Quentin's surprise visit home is not simply because he was missing Ma' Dere's cooking. He owes the



wrong people too much money and never imagines they will follow him home. Wrong - they are welcomed into the fold with open arms by Quentin's unsuspecting family. Claude has a special gift for the family

this holiday, but they won't find it under the Christmas tree. Even Baby has secrets - the boy can sing - and that is the last thing Ma' Dere wants to know.

With Kool and the Gang, Aaron Neville and of course Chris

Brown performing on the soundtrack, you should drop the CD in your player *This Christmas*. Director and writer Preston A. Whitmore, along with Alexander Gruszynski's cinematography, has produced a high quality

production. The movie is a delightful mixture of humor, family drama, problems of the heart, food and music. It is a film your family will enjoy this Thanksgiving weekend and for many Christmas' to come.

15th Annual Diversity Awards - "Celebrating Diversity – The Best and The Brightest Make It Happen!"

Universal City, CA -- Jarvee E. Hutcherson, Executive Producer of The 15th Annual Diversity Awards - "Celebrating Diversity - The Best And The Brightest Make It Happen!," and National President of the Multicultural Motion Picture Association (MMPA), given at the at the Globe Theatre in Universal City, CA. The event is a benefit for the MMPA's Educational and



Development Scholarship Fund, which helps talented and dedicated students seeking entry into the film and television professions.

The 2007 recipients of the Diversity Awards include:

- **M'o Nique** (Renaissance Artist Award)
- **Idris Elba** (Best Actor in a Drama - *Daddy's Little Girls*)
- **Hugh Laurie** - 20th Century

Fox (2007 Most Compelling Television Drama);

• **CBS Entertainment** (2007 Diverse Programming Network).

Hutcherson stated: "We are very pleased to honor a very select talented group of artists during our 15th Anniversary Year with The Diversity Awards, each of whom our organization feels have broadened the creative landscape in the film and television indus-

try through their visionary work. With this year's Gala theme, "Celebrating Diversity - The Best And The Brightest Make It Happen!," we look at the foundation laid by both artistic leaders and the emerging depth of dedicated young artists, behind and in front of the camera, who are bringing to this industry, a vision and talent indicative of only greater things to come in the future."

Seven Possible Do's When Foreclosure Looms

By Monte Brown

1. Sell the property: If you can find a buyer before the house is auctioned, you can sell it and keep whatever equity still exists.

2. Work out a deal: Your lender may be willing to work with you, rather than lose money at a foreclosure sale.

3. Refinance with a sub-prime lender: Your credit is poor right now because of the mortgage delinquencies. This means most or all of the traditional banks will not work with you. However, if there is equity in the property, you may be able to find a lender who will refinance you -- at a higher-than-normal rate. These are called subprime loans. These are risky so read everything carefully.

4. File Chapter 7 bankruptcy: If you can't get caught up in time, you will not be able to keep the house -- but you'll general-

ly be able to delay the foreclosure sale a month or even several months. Any remaining debt to the lender will be wiped out.

5. File Chapter 13 bankruptcy: If you can afford to make the future mortgage payments and the delinquent payments, too, file for a Chapter 13 bankruptcy. This is different than Chapter 7, in which assets are liquidated but debts are wiped clean. With Chapter 13, you keep your assets and, under court supervision, you repay your debts under a three-to-five-year plan.

6. Short sale/deed in lieu of foreclosure: A short sale takes place when the bank allows you to sell your property even though their mortgage won't be paid. Be careful -- the bank may allow the sale to go through, but only on the condition that you repay the deficiency. In a deed in lieu of foreclosure, the

property is signed over to the bank in exchange for the bank giving up its rights against you. Lenders spend close to or more than \$30,000 to foreclose on a property. Most lenders will consider these options to avoid foreclosure costs.

7. Walk away from the house: Pack your things and leave. The only issue remaining is whether your lender can sue you for any deficiency still owed after the sale, and that depends on the type of mortgage you have. Talk to a lawyer first.

Any sale or transfer of property has tax consequences, including a foreclosure sale or a deed in lieu of foreclosure. Seeing an accountant is a good idea.

Here are two options NOT to consider. In other words, they're scams.

1. Signing over your property title to another company: Some companies say that after the mortgage

is current they will re-sign the property back over to you. This rarely happens. Instead, the company is likely to pull out equity, not make any mortgage payments and allow the property to be foreclosed. You will not be able to save the property from future foreclosures because the property is no longer in your name.

2. High-interest second mortgage: When a property has equity, there are companies that will give you a second mortgage, in an amount as high as 70 percent of the equity available. The interest rate could be as high as 18 percent and the fees can be exorbitant. They are hoping that you'll blow the money and default -- which allows them to take the property from you.

Monte L. Brown, is a real estate consultant, 214-335-1105, monte@ultimare.com

What? So What, Page 1

Justice Department, led by Al Sharpton and others, to further illustrate the injustice against Blacks vis-à-vis hate crimes and nooses. The Megan Williams (Logan, West Virginia) kidnapping and torture will be highlighted as well.

A "Back to Jena" effort may soon take legs because of what took place after the 40,000 folks who went there for one day returned home. Oh yes, what happened as a result of the "Day of Presence" by Susan Taylor and Michael Eric Dyson in New Orleans on August 29, the 2nd anniversary of Katrina. Anybody heard what the "Now what?" move is?

You see, we have a lot of "What's" on our collective plate, and the establishment is busy doing their "So what?" routine in response to our "Whats?"

So the real question for Black people is "Now what?" Isn't it time we realize that white folks are not going to "make it all better" for us? Don't you think it's time we implemented some new strate-

gies, some substantive strategies rather than mere symbolic actions?

Our dearly departed brother, Ken Bridges, pointed out a few years ago that a march is an event, not a movement.

Will we keep doing the same things every time something happens that we don't like, all the while expecting something different from those against whom we demonstrate? Will we stay with our one-dimensional strategy or move to a multi-dimensional strategy? Will we ever move from events to the institutionalization of economic freedom for Black people in America?

Believe me, this is not a diatribe against marching or against Blackout Days or Gas-out Days. The brothers and sisters that organize these events, and especially those who participate in them, make the sacrifices necessary for their success. But if the "success" of marching is not followed by the success of some kind of collective action, we will have simply

allowed the answer to the "What?" question to be "So what?" If it all ends at that point, we have accomplished little beyond a symbolic gesture to demonstrate how angry we are about our treatment in this country. Are you willing to settle for that? Or, are you willing to take the next step, after the march, to demonstrate not just how angry you are but how serious you are?

The only things taken seriously in this country by those in charge are money and power. If Black people are not willing to use the power of our dollars to attain true freedom in this country, all the marches and protests in the world, from now until eternity will not, in and of themselves, change the status quo.

I reiterate the two things we can do: Work collectively on withdrawing your local dollars from entities that do not support you (Blackout), and then re-channel those dollars, or a portion thereof, to Black businesses (Black-in).

When we show folks that

we are willing and able to put them out of business by not buying their products, their behavior toward us will change. More importantly, when we spend more with our own businesses they will grow and create more jobs for our people.

The other thing we must do, in cases like Jena and Megan Williams and all the rest, is target some national company or companies and refuse to buy their products until they step into the fray and take a public stand against injustice on our behalf. Stop trying to extort money from them; that's not going to solve our problem. But, believe me, if a major company is hurting just a little bit, because we have withdrawn our dollars, it will speak out and demand an end to our mistreatment.

One thing the rulers of this country believe, although they misunderstand Solomon's point is, "...money is the answer to everything." Ecclesiastes 10:19

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At the 2007 Truck Rodeo, we did just that. The Texas Auto Writers Association presented Super Duty with "Truck of Texas" for the fifth year in a row. It also rounded up "Heavy Duty Truck" and the "Outstanding Features Award." While Edge won with "Compact Crossover Utility Vehicle." Ford. Built stronger. Tougher. Better. No wonder they drove out the competition in so many categories. Learn more at TexasFord.com, then visit your Best In Texas Ford Dealer, today.

Learn more at TexasFord.com, then visit your Best in Texas Ford Dealer, today.



Contact: 972-606-7498 for Career Opportunity Advertising

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACT

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by Tx DOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Fort Worth

Contract 6170-51-001 for RAISED PAVEMENT MARKERS in TARRANT County will be received on December 11, 2007 until 10:30 am and opened on December 11, 2007 at 11:00 am at the District Office for an estimate of \$211,703.55.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the Tx DOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to Tx DOT 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 Tx DOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

NPO: 25510

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. Tx DOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.



Dallas County

Dallas County is currently recruiting for the following positions:

Accounting Supervisor
Budget/Policy Analyst I
Building Inspector
Commissioners Executive Assistant I
Deputy Constable I
Internal Auditor III
Manager, Research & Statistics
Senior Information Systems Auditor

Qualifications vary for each position. Visit www.dallascounty.org to apply. Starting salary is based on education and experience. EOE

AVON

Would you like to:

- Have financial security and personal fulfillment?
- Create your own hours and be your own boss?
- Develop a profitable home-based business with unlimited earnings?

If your answer is yes, contact Wilma at (972) 222-1699 and become an Avon Representative.

Age requirement 18, enrollment fee \$10.00.

"Ask Me About The \$250.00 Bonus Incentive"

CITY OF PLANO, TEXAS



CAREER EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION
www.plano.gov

AA / EOE / ADA

Graphic Artist Needed Part-Time

Candidate Must Know
Quark, Photoshop,
Illustrator & Dreamweaver.
Newspaper Layout A Plus.
Email Resume to trj1909@tx.rr.com
or Leave Message at 972-606-3891

Texas Department of Public Safety

Now Accepting applications for the Trooper Trainee Position



Paid internships also available

Range: 34,965 yr to 57,480 yr

DPS is an equal Opportunity Employer.

Women and Minorities are encouraged to apply.
Veterans preference is granted by state law.

www.txdps.state.tx.us

214-861-2354



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PURSUE A CAREER AS A POLICE OFFICER OR FIREFIGHTER!

- Competitive wages
- Array of benefits
- Education incentive pay
- . . . and more

SIGN UP TO TAKE
THE CITY OF IRVING'S NEXT
CIVIL SERVICE ENTRANCE EXAM.
CALL (972) 721-2532 TO REGISTER.

The City of Irving does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of services.

www.ci.irving.tx.us

CARROLLTON TEXAS

Firefighters' and Police Officers'
Civil Service Commission
Announces:

Police Department Entrance Examination

BEGINNING SALARY \$48,634.38-
(\$23.38 per hour)

First salary increase in 6 months

Minimum Requirements:

- * Age 21 by examination date
- * Must be a U.S. Citizen
- * Education: 90 hours of college credit.

Exam Registration
October 29th thru November 30,
2007

Entrance Exam Date:
December 1, 2007 @ 12:30pm

To obtain a Registration packet
please visit our website
www.cityofcarrollton.com

Equal Opportunity Employer

TISEO PAVING COMPANY

419 E. Hwy. 80, Mesquite, TX 75150

Tel: (972) 289-0723 Fax: (972) 216-5637

www.tiseopaving.com

Performing Concrete Street
Paving in the Metroplex Area

We Accept Subcontracting Bids For All
Public Works Project in the Dallas Area

We Are Accepting Applications for
Concrete Mixer Drivers and Heavy
Equipment Mechanics

Equal Opportunity Employer

Church Happenings

AVENUE F CHURCH OF CHRIST	tonight @ 7 pm. Month of November and On-Going	972-235-4235	Micheals, Community Activist, Former Leader of New Black Panthers, KKDA Radio; Mr. B. J. Williams, President of the NAACP in Garland; and Rev. Ronald Wright, President SCLC.	Senior Pastor 9550 Shepard Road Dallas, TX 75243 214-341-6459	President P. O. Box 112721 Carrollton, TX 75011-2721 972-236-1337
November 25, 2007	Our Agape Youth Ministries are now taking pre-orders for their Annual Poinsettia Fundraiser. See any member for details or call the office @ 972-235-4235.				
Avenue F Church of Christ Bro. Ramon Hodridge, Minister 1026 Avenue F Plano, TX 75074 972-423-8833	On-Going Our Family Assistance Center's operating hours are: Mondays, 10 am – 2 pm; Wednesdays, 2 pm – 6 m; and Saturdays, 10 am - 2 pm. For more information contact the Center 972-234-3115.				
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK (FIRST CHURCH)	Hamilton Park (First Church) Dr. Gregory Foster, Senior Pastor and Rev. Anthony Foster, Pastor 300 Phillips Street Richardson, TX 75081			PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVERS FOR COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE (PACE) November 30, 2007	SHILOH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, PLANO December 2, 2 pm Please join us for our New Members Luncheon @ 2 pm @ the church.
Tonight Only, November 21, @ 7 pm Because of Thanksgiving tomorrow, November 22nd our regular Wednesday Worship Service will be				December 9, 3 pm Please join us for our Annual Christmas Banquet	
				December 16, 6 pm Mark your calendar to join us and enjoy our Christmas Concert.	
					Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, Plano Rev. Isiah Joshua, Jr., Senior Pastor 920 E. 14th Street Plano, TX 75074 972-423-6695

EBENEZER WORSHIP CENTER



"We are Living Stones in God's Temple"

SUNDAY

10:00 am: Sunday School

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

1400 Preston Road • Dallas, TX 75254 • 972-980-0977 (Church Phone)

The New Light Church

www.newlightchurchdallas.org

*"Encouraging Empowering Evangelizing"
"Taste and see that the LORD is Good."*

Sunday Worship Service 11:00AM
Sunday School 9:30AM
Thursday Night Live At The Light.....7:00PM

Experience the Light!

9314 ELAM RD
DALLAS, TX 75217
(214) 391-3430



Shaun Rabb, Senior Pastor

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.



Fellowship Baptist Church of Allen

200 Belmont • Allen, Texas • 75013

Phone: 972-359-9956 Fax: 972-359-6048

www.fbcfallen.org



Pastor W.L. Stafford Sr., M.Div
First Lady Tasha Stafford

Sunday School	9:45 am
Sunday Morning Worship/ Children's Church	8:15 am & 11:00 am
Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study	7:00 pm
"Youth for Christ" – Every Monday	7:00 pm

"A Kingdom Building Church"



Pastor W.L. Stafford Sr., M.Div
First Lady Tasha Stafford

Sunday School	9:45 am
Sunday Morning Worship/ Children's Church	8:15 am & 11:00 am
Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study	7:00 pm
"Youth for Christ" – Every Monday	7:00 pm

Come experience the Worship Atmosphere at Fellowship, you will never be the same!

If you need a ride to worship with us, please call the church.

MOCOP



Mt. Olive Church of Plano

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

WWW.MOCOP.ORG

Serving the Plano Community for 13 Years



Pastors Sam & Gloria Fenceroy

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



Hill Chapel

Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
1113 Ave. I, Plano, TX 75074 (972) 423-4090
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.



Sister Tarpley



**Sister
Tarpley**

A Worry or Two, or Three

etc., finances, school . . . you name it, we worry about it.

One of the problems with worry is that it keeps you from enjoying what you have. When you worry about what you don't have, you won't be able to enjoy what you do have. That's what Jesus was talking about in Matthew 6:25, "I say unto you, do not be anxious for your life . . ." Worry is assuming responsibilities that you cannot handle. They are responsibilities that God never

We tend to worry about



Sister Tarpley and Mrs. Phemia Tinner after a Sunday Morning Church Service.

death, our own or that of a loved one. We worry about disobedience and sin, about feeling guilt. We worry about daily problems – people problems, decision problems, problems related to work, home, relationships with children, spouses,

intended for you to handle; they are His, and He delights in working out every problem that you give to Him. "And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life's span?" St. Luke 12:25.

Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church **The Rock**

Still standing.... Est. June 1864

A Kingdom Building Church offering **DELIVERANCE, RESTORATION, PURPOSE and PROSPERITY**



Come Experience A Church that Believes in Giving God Excellence Without Excuse

Worship Services

Sunday Worship 7:45 am & 11:00 am
Sunday School 9:45 am - 10:45 am
Wednesday Bible Study 12:00 noon & 7:00 pm

Office Hours

Monday & Friday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday & Sunday Closed

Contact Info

Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church
11611 Webb Chapel Road • Dallas, TX 75229
Office: 972-241-6151
Email: info@dallasmtpisgah.org
Website: www.dallasmtpisgah.org

Why Don't You Just Bless the Lord? – "By Him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to His Name." **Hebrews 13:15.**

Great things happen when you continually confess the mercy of God. Faith rises up on the inside of you. The reality that God loves you begins to sing through your spirit; it shows on your face and in your attitude.

What's more, confessing the mercy of God brings honor to your Father when you believe His Word and magnify His love as well as His mercy. You honor God when you speak of His goodness and loving-kindness, when you talk about Him as your Father of love who does only good. It blesses God when you praise Him as the great God of the universe who is eager to bless and who even gave His own Son because He so loved the world.

David was a man after God's own heart. He knew how to praise his God. Until you have the Word dwelling in you richly so that you can speak

psalms and praises out of your own spirit, use the praises of David to magnify God. Speak them or sing them out loud to the Father.

Put His Words persistently on your lips. You will soon begin to experience the thrill and the joy of realizing that God is indeed "rich in mercy" because of His great love with which He loves us. Your faith will rise to new heights and your Father will be blessed. And you will be blessed!

Something to Ponder: A certain woman asked her coworker, "What is it like to be a Christian?"

The coworker replied, "It's like being a pumpkin. God picks you from the patch, brings you in and washes all of the dirt off of you. Then He scoops out all of the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, and finally, He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside of you to shine for the entire world to see."

Have A Very Happy Thanksgiving. Remember to Thank God for All of His Blessings.

Picket, Page 1

weeks and was estimated to have cost the industry more than \$500 million.

Veteran TV comedy writer and playwright Michael Ajakwe, whose credits include "Martin," "The Parkers," "Soul Food" and "Eve," said he backed the strike "one-hundred percent."

"I think the Guild leadership has shown a lot of courage because the producers just don't seem to value what we do," he said.

"Writers have made financial concessions in the past, but this time we have to fight. It is going to be hard - and as black writers we have our own issues with diversity - however, this is one time when we're all on the same page."

A guild member for twenty years, Ajakwe was on the picket lines Tuesday afternoon outside Paramount Studios on Melrose Avenue He

revealed that a couple of potential feature movie script sales might now be in jeopardy because of the strike.

"Those projects are now on hold," he said. "The companies are trying to paint us as greedy, but we're not. We need each other and everybody can get their fair share."

Another guild member, screenwriter Takashi Bufford, who penned the 1996 movie "Set It Off" starring Queen Latifah and Jada Pinkett-Smith, was more forthright.

"The Guild made significant concessions in '88 and now they want to offer us crumbs off the table," he said. "We're trying to get a simple, legal principle established that if a writer's work is to be exploited in the new mediums, then they should get a piece of the action."

Friendship Baptist Church

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

website: www.fbc-online.net

Schedule of Services:

Sunday

Early Morning Worship

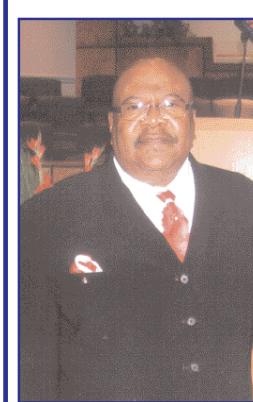
8:00 a.m.

Sunday School Classes

9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship

11:00 a.m.



Dr. C. Paul McBride, Pastor

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

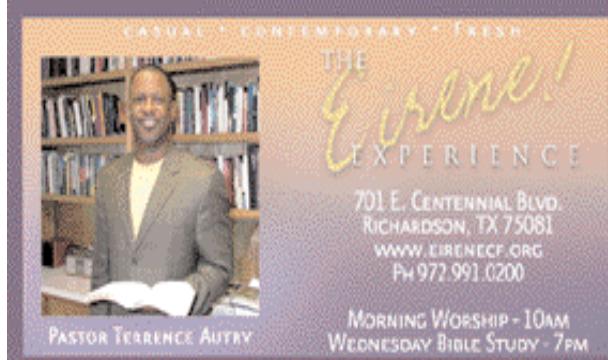
Tuesday

Early Bird Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday

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

"The Church with a Vision"



Macedonia Ministries

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

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

T.J. Denson, Pastor

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



New Life Fellowship Church of Rowlett

Bishop Miller E. Johnson, Senior Pastor

New Worship Home

7401 Miller Road • Rowlett, TX 75088

972-463-4964

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

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

Church Directory

Mt. Pisgah Welcomes the Pastor Of Detroit's Galilee Baptist Church Rev. Tellis Jerome Chapman Guest Fall Revival Minister — November 28-30 7 PM

The Reverend Tellis Jerome Chapman, pastor of the Galilee Baptist Church of Detroit, will serve as the guest minister for the Fall Revival at Dallas' Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church beginning November 28 thru November 30, 7 PM nightly. Mt. Pisgah is located at 11611 Webb's Chapel Road in northwest Dallas.

A very dynamic individual and one of the more charismatic leaders and devoted Baptist ministers in the Greater Metropolitan Detroit area, Chapman was born in Newton, Mississippi and is a graduate of Jackson State University.

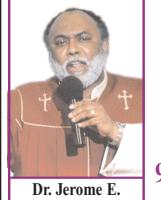
He has also received honorary doctoral degrees from Natchez College (Natchez, Mississippi) and Dallas Baptist College (Dallas, Texas). A former pastor of several churches prior to his tenure at Galilee, he has also been called upon to take on leadership roles among his ministerial peers and Christian associations, including the Michigan District Baptist Association and Congress. Respected for his knowledge, he is well-versed in parliamentary procedure and serves as Parliamentarian for the Baptist Missionary and Education Convention of

Michigan. Rev. Chapman has been involved in Detroit's growth in mass transit, having served as a board member of the City of Detroit Transportation Commission. He is married to the former Eunice Newsome and has four children: Cecil, Brandie, Candace and Brannon.

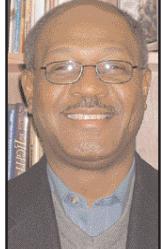
Mt. Pisgah's Fall Revival is a culmination of its FRANGELISM outreach efforts, a monthly-long list of activities of inclusion and invitation extended to the FRIENDS, RELATIVES, ACQUANTINANCES, and NEIGHBORS of the church membership.

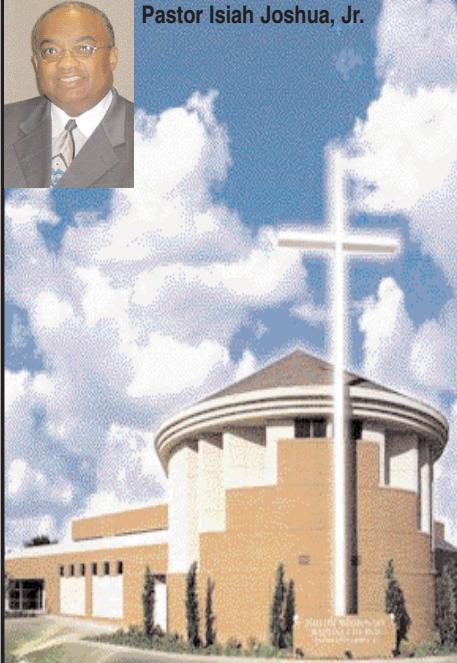
**Ben Washington Baptist Church, Inc.**
3901 Frisco Avenue
Irving, TX 75061
Church 972-790-8421 Fax 972-986-6590
Email: church@bwbcirving.org
Web: bwbcirving.org
"THE CHURCH WITH AN OPEN BIBLE"
Sunday Worship Services
8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
6:00 p.m. Baptist Training Union
Wednesday
12:00 p.m. Bible Study
7:00 p.m. Prayer Hour
7:30 p.m. Bible Study

**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 970 AM Sunday Mornings
Emery Tease, Associate Minister
www.avefchurchofchrist.org

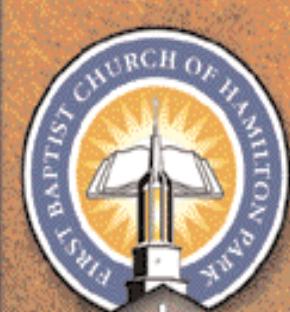
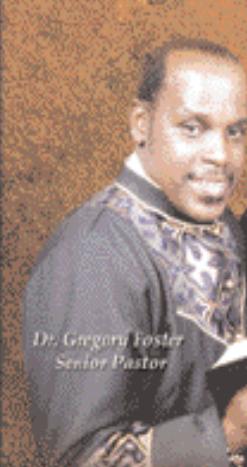
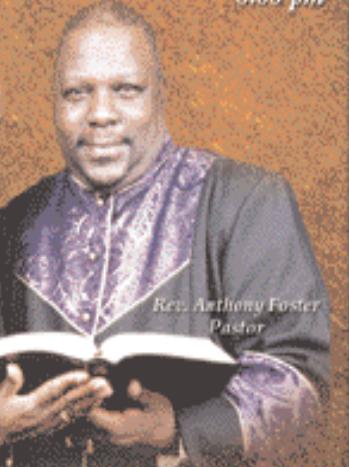
Temple of Faith Christian Chapel C.M.E. Church
**"Where Jesus is the Main Attraction"**
Sunday Worship Experience - 8:00 am & 10:45 am
Wednesday Bible Study - 12:00 Noon & 7:00 pm
14120 Noel Road • Dallas, TX 75254
972-239-1120 (Office) • 972-239-5925 (Fax)
templeoffaith_cme@sbcglobal.net (Email)
Healthy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

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

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

**FANNING THE FLAMES OF OUR FAITH**
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
FANNING THE FLAMES OF OUR FAITH
For more information call (972) 423-6695
www.shilohbaptistchurch.org

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
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)

**Spiritual Direction**
"Each One, Reach One"
Worship Services
7:30 am and 10:30 am
Sunday School - 9:30 am
Wednesday Night Service
8:00 pm

Dr. Gregory Foster
Senior Pastor

Rev. Anthony Foster
Pastor
Our Mission
To fulfill The Great Commission until Christ comes.
300 Phillips Street • Richardson, TX 75081 • 972-255-4235
www.fbcfp.org

**Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church**
1308 Wilcox Street, McKinney TX
Pastor Charles S. Wattley

Sunday
Education Ministries - 9:30 a.m. • Worship Celebration - 11:00 am.
- Nursery Facilities Available -
Wednesday Family Ministries... 7:00 p.m.
Friendly Fellowship with A Family Focus
For More Information Call 972.542.6178
www.saintmarkbc.com • stmarkmissionary@aol.com