

# North Dallas Gazette



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## Jewels of the Heart

*Sharing and Caring; Senior Citizens Outreach; 2007 Holiday Campaign*

Banks of Dallas Ministries is proud to announce the creation and organization of Jewels of the Heart, a senior citizens outreach ministry dedicated to assist and provide to the needs of our most valued citizens. In recent

years, there has been an overwhelming need for volunteers to assist and support the communities throughout the DFW metroplex that cater and provide independent living for senior citizens.

According to most

recent indexes, seniors have experienced a growth in population that has left most governmental and service agencies baffled as to how to provide adequate services to accommodate their basic needs.

In most cases, senior cit-

izens have found it extremely difficult to manage on limited fixed incomes. The extremely high cost of medication, energy, and the continuous surge in utilities leave most senior citizens with-

See Jewels, Page 15

## Price of Democracy: U. S. House Passes 'Better Than Nothing' Mortgage Reform Bill

By Marc H. Morial  
NNPA Columnist

Just recently, the U.S. House of Representatives seemed to be riding to the rescue of U.S. homeowners with its Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act of 2007, which passed by a commanding margin.

Back in March, the National

Urban League addressed the unfolding subprime lending debacle through our Homebuyer's Bill of Rights well before the issue started to trigger shockwaves in international credit markets and to send hedge fund analysts to the unemployment line. At that time, policy makers and government officials were reluctant to support greater regulation to give the market a

chance to correct itself. Guess what? It didn't happen.

But the chamber didn't quite send struggling homeowners their knight in shining armor. But some kind of help is better than nothing at all, I guess. Such is life on Capitol Hill, where slim party margins, especially in the U.S. Senate, make for glacial progress in the legislative process.

But what about the hundreds

of thousands of households who have and will be foreclosed upon? According to Realty Trac, foreclosure filings in the third quarter were up 100 percent in 2007 over 2006, and up 33 percent over the second quarter. By the end of September, nearly half a million properties had entered some stage of foreclosure nationwide – or one per 196 households.

See Mortgage, Page 16

## An Apologetic Imus Is Back on the Air

By DEEPTI HAJELA

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Getting fired wasn't the first time Don Imus had hit rock bottom.

"I analogize it to being an alcoholic and a drug addict, which I also am," the talk-show host said during an apologetic return to the airwaves Monday. "If you get into recovery, as I

am for 20-some years now, you have the opportunity to be a better person, to have a better life than you ordinarily would have had. And that's true in this situation."

Like his stumble into addiction in the 1980s, Imus fell into a personal purgatory after calling the Rutgers women's basketball team "nappy-headed hos."

His debut on WABC — along with a new cast featuring two black comedians — completed a comeback that seemed improbable at the height of the uproar last spring. CBS Radio fired him on April 12, pulling the plug on his "Imus In the Morning" program that had aired on more than 70 stations and the MSNBC cable network.

Speaking to a boisterous live audience that had paid \$100 a ticket, wearing his trademark cowboy hat, Imus said his road to recovery began in an emotional, four-hour meeting with the Rutgers team on the day he was fired..

"I don't know if it's melodramatic to describe it as a life-changing experience,

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Cover Story Page 9

## Scholarship Named In Honor of Dr. Njoki McElroy



See Scholarship, Page 9

Blackonomics

## William Mayo is Still in a Prison

By James Clingman  
NNPA Columnist

Not that he is the only person in prison for something he did not do, but for crying out loud, y'all, can a brother get the same attention and support that Genarlow Wilson got? William Mayo has been locked up for 15 years; he received two life sentences plus 40 years in prison for a robbery he did not commit. He sits in a Georgia prison, rotting away, having been sent there in his 20's; he is now in his 40's. He prays for the day he will be free, but he admits that his hope is fading. What will we do for this brother?

We put a great deal of energy into the Shaquanda Cotton, Genarlow Wilson, and the Jena Six cases, which was commendable and indeed worthwhile. But their cases came to the forefront long after Mayo was sent to prison. There has been a campaign for justice for Mayo ever since he was "convicted," but without the fanfare and celebrity of those we have seen in the recent past. Why is that? When are we going to see the kind of outrage and indignation about William that we saw in the other cases?

Even if you are a skeptic, you have to admit that even

See Mayo, Page 6

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## People In The News...



Frances Murphy II



Robin Fahmi



Karith Foster

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## Frances Murphy II

**The Dynamic Frankie Lou: Murphy's Life is Joyously Celebrated**

By James Wright

*Special to the NNPA from the Afro-American Newspapers*

When Frances Murphy II was planning her funeral, she let her family members know that she wanted it to be a joyous occasion, filled with memories of her life and how well she lived it.

And that was exactly what



happened as hundreds gathered Thursday at St. James Episcopal Church in Baltimore for in an upbeat, cheerful celebration of the life of the woman whose existence reflected the legacy of the Afro-American Newspapers and the Black Press over the past 50 years.

The Rev. Allen F. Robinson, Murphy's pastor and the head of St. James Episcopal Church, set the tone for the services in his homily.

"We are here to celebrate

the eternal life that has been given Frances L. Murphy II," he said of the former head of the board of directors of The Afro-American Newspapers. "If you think Frankie's gone, think again."

As family members and the minister spoke about Murphy, laughter often rippled across the church as they recalled talks with her and the way she lived her life.

Murphy designated family members and friends to say a one minute tribute in her

honor. Jake Oliver, CEO and chairman of the AFRO-American Newspaper board of directors, asked AFRO employees past and present to stand as he read his message, calling "Murphy a mentor and mother."

"Frances Murphy's life has touched many," Oliver said, also recalling how Murphy participated in or oversaw the coverage of some of the most important events in African-American history over the past century.

Her youngest daughter,

Susan Barnes, talked emotionally about how her mother took her around the world and what a help she was during Hurricane Katrina.

Another said, "We remember with joy the good she leaves behind. She added to the sum of human joy."

"She was connected to the paper that was read by the Black community," former congressman and NAACP President Kweisi Mfume said. "When she spoke, it was like hearing from the president of the United States.

## Robin Fahmi

Robin Fahmi is a positive, motivating force. She is an Inspirational Speaker and Wellness Coach. She runs Conversations With Robin, a Dallas-area seminar company; where she works with women who want to experience personal freedom through conscious living.

Robin provides women with women with the



secrets of what they must know to get the most out of their personal and professional life. As a result of working one-on-one with Robin, individuals experience deep relaxation coupled with revitalizing life force; as they discover their PASSION! They also become better problem solvers by taking their ideas and turning them into action.

In her search for truth Robin has studied with Les Brown, walked on hot coals with Anthony Robbins and experienced the cleansing power of a Native American Sweat Lodge with Chief Crow Dog of the Lakota Nation.

She has a degree in communications and a background in cosmetology. She spent 16 years in the Health and Beauty Aides industry with an emphasis on sales and

marketing and cosmetology education with industry giants such as: Johnson Products, Clairol, Luster Products, Soft Sheen and Mizani. As a hair color specialist and independent consultant her written works have appeared in various industry publications. She is a 1996 Los Angeles Marathon finisher, Quantum Reflex Analysis Practitioner, Reiki Master and Wellness Coach. She is a

wife and mother.

Her lectures and workshops are developmental and speak directly to self-knowledge. Robin is also known for her ability to invoke enthusiasm.

Conversations With Robin: Personal Coaching Sessions, Phone Consultations and Introductory Lecture Series are available. For more information or to invite Robin to speak at your next function; please call 214-497-7440 today.

## Karith Foster



By the age of 4, Karith Foster knew exactly what she wanted to do with her life. "I distinctly remember watching Sesame Street and thinking, 'I should be doing that!'" Though she never got to fulfill her dream of sitting on a fake brick wall with the multi-colored Muppets, today she is fulfilling her dream of entertaining audiences around the world in the hopes of leaving them with a universal message or two—like we really are all the same underneath but sometimes one of these things is not like the other; and not only is it okay to acknowledge, but a must, to make fun of. Because ALL is fair in love and comedy.

Raised in Plano, Texas (the affluent suburb north of Dallas with the ethnic diversity of a Klan rally) Karith indulged her performing bug by starring in her high school's ALL WHITE production of "A Raisin in the Sun." She currently resides in New York City where everyday she learns something new like... just because she blends into her Harlem neighborhood it is not cool to walk into a bodega (a little Spanish grocery store) and say "Que pasa y'all?!" Since her stint in NYC, she's been nicknamed 'Princess' by several friends and acquaintances who are convinced she's actually a Jewish girl from Long Island trapped in that body—which would technically make her a JA-AP (Jewish African-American Princess). So in her case it's not "talk to the hand", but "talk to the manicure." And although she may never have cooked a full meal in her life, she knows how to use a Zagats Restaurant Guide like nobody's business.

With her Bachelor of Science in Broadcast Journalism from Stephens College (Columbia, MO) and

Oxford University's St. Peter's College, this former ABC affiliate reporter took a position on the production team for ABC and Barbara Walter's, "The View" when she was first introduced to the world of comedy. After her first set at Gotham Comedy Club she was hooked. Her other recent television appear-

ances include NBC's "Last Comic Standing", The Original "Showtime at the Apollo"- Comedy TKO, The Ricki Lake Show, and "She's So Funny", on Canada's Nat' Women's Television Network.

Karith performs weekly at a variety of NYC comedy clubs and has now joined Don Imus new radio show on WABC.

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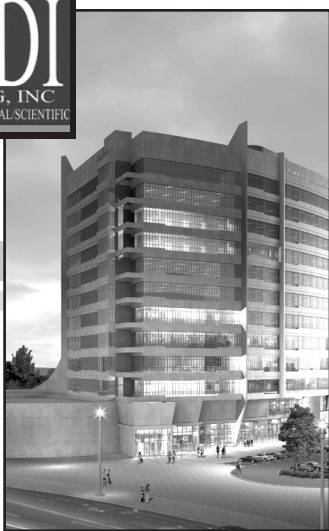
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**Is the sky clearest on the day it is most blue?**

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**

# THE TRUTH CLINIC

## Sean Taylor's Death Spotlights Black Men In Crisis

Sean Taylor, the 24-year-old superstar Pro Bowl safety for the Washington Redskins football team, has had a week of phenomenal media coverage. His death, one day after being the victim of a fatal gunshot wound, stunned his family, friends, and sports fans across the country.

His death, like that of other notable blacks that achieved premier gold level status atop the pinnacle of professional sports, prompted the media to speculate on a correlation between his questionable brushes with the law and his violent death. The press couldn't allocate enough column inches analyzing the rough edges of his early life and radio/TV programs scheduled entire segments commenting on Sean's questionable life decisions.

Even CNN felt obliged to produce a one hour special, *Violence In America-Black Men In Crisis*, using Sean's murder as the platform from which to regurgitate the much publicized heart wrenching and frightening black murder statistics accumulating across America.

The terrifying visuals crawled across the screen as the solemn voice over emphasized the message. New York 596 murders; Los Angeles 480; Chicago 468; Detroit 418; Philadelphia 406; and Miami 250. Of the 14,990 murder victims last year 6,294 or 42 percent were black. Nine out of ten black murders were perpetrated by another black.

Of course the usual suspects were rounded up and paraded before the TV viewers while being identified as the shameless contributors to this black violence. Systemic racism, poverty, unemployment, education, social injustice, peer pressure, disparate incarceration, and the lack of viable mentors.

Numerous references were made during the CNN program to the need to "get to" the young black males before they can get mired in destructive criminal related lifestyles. The implied solution given the most prominence was community after school playgrounds (complete with night lighting) where young blacks could spend time playing basketball and other sports.

Americans seem to be a nation addicted to sports and sports players. Some of those who participate in amateur sports dream of becoming high paid professional athletes but very few beat the long and daunting odds of making a full-time living from professional sports.

Only a few will become household superstars like Sean Taylor, Michael Jordan or Tiger Woods. The total rosters of the 32 football teams, 30 basketball teams and 30 baseball teams at the major league professional level are respectively 2,240, 1,200, and 450. Considering that the average career of a pro athlete is 5 years, 20 percent of the roster will turnover each year making a total of 778 slots available for newcomers in the three

major sports. The real odds of a high school athlete playing in any pro sport are 10,000 to 1. Playing in the NBA is a 50,000 to 1 shot.

But the enthusiasm with which impoverished black families cling to the unrealistic hope of athletic success to the exclusion of almost all other alternative avenues available continues.

The dream is nourished because blacks see more success stories publicized about sports stars than in any other field of endeavor. Even with the odds highly stacked against them the talented young men and women who dream of becoming sports superstars greatly outnumber the available openings.

For those few blacks that are fortunate enough to make it into the professional system and receive a substantial contract their successful career has a longevity that averages only 5-10 years. So at age 35 even the Sean Taylors either retire or lose their starring roles to the newest phenoms. Then, with no practical education, what do they do?

So we continue to bury both our Sean Taylors who have achieved their 15 minutes of fame and those who are still holding onto their dreams and aspirations. We shake our heads in disbelief, offer our condolences, and hold endless conferences and symposiums on what should be done. This usually consists of shifting attention away from what we can do to what the establishment

(the man) should be doing.

Granted there is systemic racism that impacts and undermines the social, economic, and civil status of blacks. Activists need to continue to challenge the injustices.

But in the meantime reality dictates that it is the black community's responsibility to take action to alleviate those inequities that are uniquely impacting blacks. Its not that we don't know what needs to be done or that we don't have the means to do it. These are our young people and we need to take charge of them. As we continue to abrogate our responsibility "the man" will continue to build more prisons as his contribution to a solution. We cannot afford to continue standing by, crying the blues, while generation after generation of our youth go astray and destroy themselves.

The blame game is nice for talk shows and op-ed pieces but it does nothing to break the vicious cycle of Black Men In Crisis.

Four young blacks, ages 17, 18, 19, and 20, have been arrested in connection with Sean Taylor's murder providing an affirmative postscript to the CNN conclusion: If you are a young black male in America less than 25 years of age you are 15 times more likely to be murdered than a white male of similar age.

James W. Breedlove  
Comments or opinions may be sent to the writer at: www.truthclinic.com



## Street Peddlers Win Temporary Reprieve

Special to the NNPA from GIN

(GIN) – A government bid to clear the streets of Dakar, Senegal's capital city, of street vendors, is in hasty retreat after two days of violent riots in this normally peaceful city.

President Abdoulaye Wade had banned the vendors reportedly in anticipation of a visit by wealthy Arab businessmen. When

police lobbed tear gas to clear the streets, vendors responded with rock-throwing, burning tires and trash. Over 200 vendors were detained in one of the worst street disturbances in years.

They have been allowed to return to the streets until after the holiday season, which includes the Muslim festival of Eid-el-Adha – Dec. 20 - as well as

Christmas and the New Year.

Thousands of people earn a living peddling goods on Dakar's streets. "If I had another job, I would not sell shirts and socks in the streets, said Alioune Ngom, to the BBC. "This is the best I can do in this country. If they create jobs for us, we will stop selling in the streets."

## Global Campaign to End Gender Violence Sweeps Africa

Special to the NNPA from GIN

For the eighth consecutive year, South Africa is taking part in the global 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women campaign, which runs from Nov. 25 (International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) to International Human Rights Day on Dec. 10.

Although the global cam-

paign focuses on violence against women only, South Africa added children to its campaign because of the high incidence of child abuse in the country.

South Africa is still home to high levels of violence against its women and children, despite a world-renowned Constitution and a legislative overhaul that safeguard women's rights.

Supporters of the anti-vio-

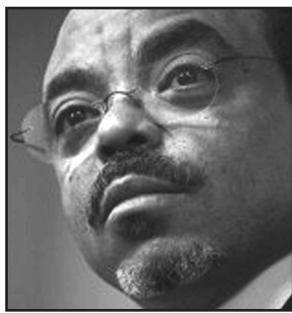
lence campaign will be wearing a symbolic white ribbon. Events have been planned in Sierra Leone, Liberia, Zambia and Kenya, among others.

In Limpopo, South Africa, a "million man march" was scheduled to kick off the 16 Days of Activism with an address by Premier Sello Moloto on the challenges faced by government regarding gender violence and what needed to be done.

## Zenawi Admits Stalemate in Somalia

Special to the NNPA from GIN

(GIN) – In an echo of the U.S. intervention Iraq, Ethiopia now finds itself wondering how to withdraw from the worsening conflict in neighboring Somalia.



Zenawi

Ethiopia's Prime Minister Meles Zenawi has acknowledged that his troops are pinned down in Somalia as peacekeepers pledged by the African Union appear not to be coming anytime soon.

Prime Minister Meles had expected to withdraw his soldiers earlier in the year, after driving the Islamists out of the Somali capital, Mogadishu.

The Ethiopians, who intervened a year

ago to oust the Union of Islamic Courts, are highly unpopular in Mogadishu and earlier this month, insurgents dragged the bodies of Ethiopian troops through the city.

"Having done the main work, we had

the belief and expectations that a situation would be created for us to be able to withdraw," Mr Meles told MPs. "However, this belief and expectations could not be met according to our plan."

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- Application period: December 1, 2007 - January 15, 2008
- Electronic applications available during application period on this web site. Only electronic application submissions will be accepted.
- Applications received will be acknowledged by e-mail only

### Award Approval, Notification and Distribution

- Approval
  - Notification (Summer)
- Note: only award recipients will be notified by e-mail or mail
- Scholarship Distribution (August-September)
- \*Award Renewal Criteria
- Awards are renewable for three subsequent years or until an undergraduate degree is earned, whichever occurs first, on the basis of maintaining a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale and continued full-time enrollment.
  - Renewal applications/instructions are sent to recipients with their January payment.

### Mayo, Page 1

if William committed those crimes, he should be out of jail by now. You have to admit that two life sentences are a bit much for a robbery where no one was hurt, nothing of substance was taken and those who did the crime were captured right away.

This is a man who was three credits short of graduating from Morehouse College; he was an honor student; he was a scholarship recipient; and he was a mentor for other young Black men. William was an active member of his church and well on his way to being the kind of Black man we say we need in our neighborhoods. Why are we not doing everything to at least see that he gets a proper hearing, an opportunity to prove his innocence?

Aside from the fact that Georgia citizens should be outraged at paying tens of thousands of dollars per year to keep William in jail, there should be a national wave of interest and activism centered on this case. At this point, having lost nearly 16 prime years of his life, he should at least be on probation, parole, or totally free. This man should not be sitting in prison wasting away, when he could be doing so much good out

here where we need him.

If you want to read more about William and his case, go to [www.freemayo.com](http://www.freemayo.com) and look at the evidence; listen to the interview of Tyrone Wilson, who committed the crime, as he reveals how he and the other young man were coerced to say that William was guilty. Listen as he admits that William had nothing to do with the crime for which he was convicted. Listen, browse, and then tell me you cannot get involved in this case.

Hundreds of thousands of dollars were raised in the other cases, and the publicity was overwhelming. Celebrities were leading the charge and calling for justice. Where are they in William's case? The folks who have been working to get Mayo freed are raising money by selling dinners and holding raffles to pay for attorneys and investigators. No national campaigns, except for the Blackonomics Million Dollar Club (BMDC), no huge donations by celebrities, and no NAACP Defense Fund involvement.

Mayo was a close friend of Ennis Cosby, Bill and Camille Cosby's son, who was tragically murdered in 1997. There is a photo of the

two of them on the website.

If you read this column regularly or have read any of my four books on Economic Empowerment, you knew I would not end this article without giving you something to do. Here's the deal: I don't know Bill Cosby, but some of you do. As Cosby travels around the country espousing personal responsibility and appropriate behavior by our young people, it would be great if he would put in good word about William Mayo, a model of personal responsibility, prior to his unjust lockdown.

Anyone out there know Tom Joyner? I heard him celebrating Genarlow Wilson's freedom, and I am pretty sure I also heard him say a scholarship would be provided for Wilson to attend college. A campaign by Joyner on his TJMS would be "oh, oh, oh" so beneficial to Mayo.

Finally, the brothers and alumni of Morehouse could each donate a few bucks to the Mayo Fund and get involved in raising the consciousness of this society about William's plight. Imagine the collective impact all of you could have. There it is; let's get busy, y'all, cause William Mayo is still in prison.

## 13th Annual Christmas Caravan Across Plano Saturday, December 8, 2007 7AM – 2PM Douglass Center, 1111 Avenue H, Plano, TX 75074

Breakfast will be served to the caravan will depart the agencies across the City of Douglas area Senior Citizens Douglass Center at 9:15 AM Plano. The caravan will also be escorted by the Black College Football tour bus. homes and not-for-profit and will stop at nursing homes and not-for-profit

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**WE MUST STAY STRONG.** It's a fact – African American women are at greater risk for HIV. Get tested, and if you're HIV-positive, follow your doctor's advice and get the treatment you need to stay healthy.

If we take care of ourselves and each other, HIV doesn't stand a chance.

**CALL 2-1-1 OR GO TO HIVTEST.ORG  
FOR HIV TESTING AND SERVICES NEAR YOU.**

TEXAS Department of State Health Services 2-1-1 TEXAS



# Photographer Captures Beauty of African-American Women

By Kam Williams  
Special to the NNPA from the  
Minnesota Spokesman

"African-American females have had a very difficult history: from slavery to racism to poverty. Although slavery has been abolished in this country, and we are working on eradicating racism and poverty, in the 21st Century,

beauty, we will come to see what makes a woman truly beautiful... Just maybe we will come to understand that real beauty is more than that which can be seen. Real beauty is that which lifts us, real beauty touches our hearts."

Jerry Taliaferro is a West Point graduate who turned to photography full time after

preparing a single portrait of an African-American female originally intended to simply serve as a sample in his portfolio. Jerry was struck by the fact that "Very little attention had been paid to the beauty of the Black woman was almost invisible." So, he came up with the novel idea of portraying sisters in a glamorous style from the 1940s reminiscent of the classic, black-and-white fashion shoots of such classic Hollywood actresses as Greta Garbo and Katherine Hepburn.

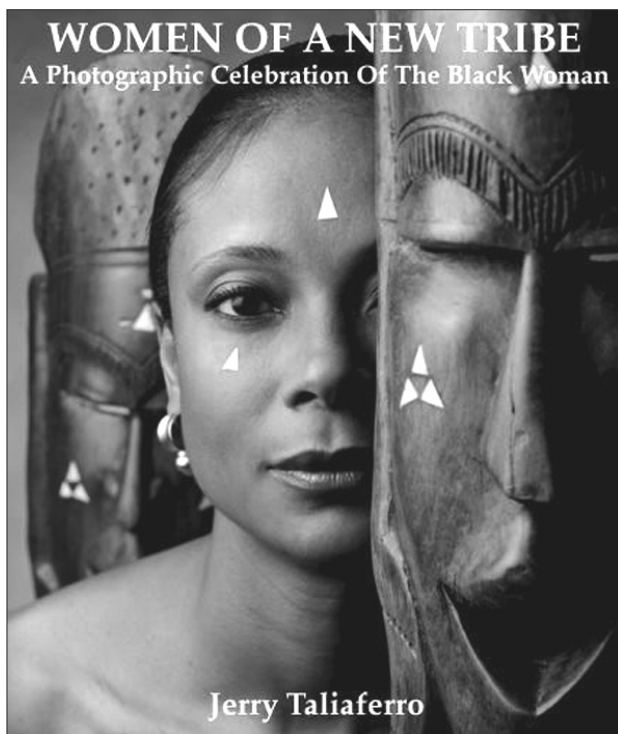
The upshot of his efforts is an enchanting, emotionally engaging and spiritually stimulating masterpiece entitled *Women of a New Tribe: A Photographic Celebration of the Black Woman*. Taliaferro proves himself to be quite a gifted artist behind the camera with this eclectic collection of over 100 photos. For the images contained on the pages of this oversized coffee table book achieve far more than merely capturing each model's physical beauty. The pictures also magically reveal an intimate aspect of the subjects' souls as well.

It is noteworthy that this groundbreaking tome features a rainbow of African-American females in terms of color, shape, size and age, and not just ones who meet a shallow Eurocentric standard of beauty. "What about the jet black goddess with skin like

glass, the caramel toned Amazon or the Great-Grandmother whose beauty defies time?" the author asks in the introduction. "This book

is an attempt to see them too." Indeed, this book is viewed as a timely and overdue homage, which wonderfully elevates and illustrates

both the inner and outer beauty of all sisters, a segment of society generally taken for granted, if not disparaged by the mainstream culture.



African-American females face one of the most difficult hurdles we have ever had to face: a severe lack of self-respect.

"We have allowed the media to make us believe that we must have straight hair, light skin, thin bodies and European features to be considered beautiful. This book is not only an opportunity to reaffirm to all black women that we are 'fearfully and wonderfully made by God,' but also an opportunity for everyone to see the emotions and beauty Jerry Taliaferro wrought through his camera lens."

— Cheryl A.M. Waymer, mother and model, as excerpted from the foreword of "Women of a New Tribe: A Photographic Celebration of the Black Woman."

Jerry Taliaferro, the author, says in the preface, "These beautiful women have always been around us. They are our wives, mothers, sisters, daughters and friends. We can see the beauty in them if [we] just try. Perhaps in seeing their

leaving the military in 1988 following a decorated career in the service as a special forces officer. Over the intervening years, he has met with considerable success at his true calling, though devoting most of his attention to commercial assignments.

Recently, however, after

## N2NE (In Tune) Youth Mentoring and Intervention/Prevention Program

"Focus on your future and believe in your dreams."



### Upcoming sessions

- 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.



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## Community Calendar

### Ongoing

**381 Days The Montgomery Bus Boycott** ongoing through January 13, 2008 This exhibition 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. The African American Museum in Fair Park, 3536 Grand Avenue, Dallas For 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 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.

**DFW Financially Empowered Women** 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.meet-up.com/378](http://www.meet-up.com/378)

**First Friday- Music Under the Dome** Tired of crowded bars, night clubs just don't for it 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. The Program is an innovative series that provides a fun and energized social environment for the community to enjoy local blues and jazz musicians in an intimate setting in the Museum's Rotunda. For more information contact the Museum 214.565.9026, ext. 315

**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](http://www.TheNoLimitNetwork.com)

k.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.

### December 6

**Stevie Wonder Live in Concert Nokia Theater** 1001 Next Stage Drive Grand Prairie 75050 8:00 PM Ticket information Phone 214-373-8000 or [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)

**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 luncheons offer supportive company from friendly and understanding people to individuals who have suffered the loss of a loved one. No cost to attend the luncheon, reservations requested and can be made through December 4 by calling Sue Rafferty at (214) 689-2922.

### December 7 and 8

**Comedy Night at The Muse** with Jeff B. at The Dallas Black Academy of

Arts and Letters 9:00 p.m. admission \$15. For more information call 214-943-2442.

### December 8

**You MUST Have Peace In Your Home** Learn how to begin positive dialogue to communicate effectively. Begin to understand your mate and get the answers you need to repair the broken pieces. Spice up your marriage and fall back in love with the person you first met. Start out the New Year by getting your house in order. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Embassy Suites Dallas - Near the Galleria 14021 Noel Road Dallas 75240

**FREE HUD-approved Homebuyer Education Classes** Class is HUD-approved, free, and open to the public. Hosted by the City of Lewisville's First Time Homebuyer Program. Learn how you could qualify for up to \$19,000 through the City of Lewisville Homebuyer Assistance Program. 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. All students receive free HUD-approved certificates of completion and lunch. 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, full day attendance required. Location 400 High School Dr. in Lewisville. For more information call 972-219-5026, or email [arincon@cityoflewisville.com](mailto:arincon@cityoflewisville.com)

### December 8 and 9

**Kwanzaa Fest** features National Recording Artists, exhibitors from

across the country, cultural entertainment, computer technology, health screenings, children's activities, car shows, educational forums and a Poster/Poetry Contest. Saturday and Sunday, December 8 - 9, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Automobile Building, Fair Park. Admission is FREE and open to the general public.

### December 9

**An Evening of Holiday Jazz & "Reaping The Harvest God Promised Conference"** featuring Jazz Artist David Carr, Jr. and special appearance by talk show host, Ester Davis of The Ester Davis Show & The Dream Team Location Clarion Hotel Park Central, 8102 LBJ Freeway Dallas Admission \$25 and a canned good item. Seats are limited; To RSVP or for additional information call 972 223-0882. Proceeds will be used to provide Christmas for a needy family and to promote future community outreach projects

### December 10

**The National Association of Women Business Owners All Council Luncheon** Registration and networking for the All Council Luncheon begin at 11 - 11:45 a.m.; lunch and program from 11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. The Tower Club, 1601 Elm Street, Dallas Texas. RSVP to [rsvp@nawbotx.org](mailto:rsvp@nawbotx.org) or call 214-428-7475. Luncheon cost with RSVP is \$35, and \$48 without. Reduced prices apply for members.

### December 12

**Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group** will meet at the

Audelia Road Branch Library, 10045 Audelia Road at 11:30 a.m. FREE admission and open to the public. For further information call 214-243-2049.

### December 13

**Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce 2007 Membership Salute CCBCC members** will be honored at Ralph & Kacoos from 6:00 pm -8:30 pm. Dress code Business Attire RSVP required no later than December 10th to [rgiddings@ccblackchamber.org](mailto:rgiddings@ccblackchamber.org) or 469-424-0120, ext 703. Please bring a new unwrapped toy, or 2 non-perishable food items.

### December 14

**Fort Worth Community Drum Circle** Bring your drum or percussion instrument to this recreational music-making experience. No experience needed and instruments will also be on hand. Location Mind Body Spirit Center, 5521 Bellaire Drive South, Fort Worth from 7 pm - 8 pm. FREE admission and open to everyone For more information, email [sjanhughes@aol.com](mailto:sjanhughes@aol.com)

### December 14

**Live Music Sounds of Brazil** band performing at the Brazil Brasileiro Cafe, 518 W. Arapaho in Richardson, 75080 at 8 pm.

### December 15

**Christmas/Kwanzaa Concert** at The Dallas Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex, 8 pm admission \$10. For further information, call 214-943-2442.

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# Scholarship Named In Honor of Dr. Njoki McElroy

By Sis. Shirley Tarpley

The Great Shepherd's House, Rev. Willie E. Range, Senior Pastor, and church members gave a

"several thousands of other children in this world," stated her son, Larry McElroy, a twin, and the last born; she managed a family business, Black Fox

tions festivals. Dr. McElroy performed at the notable Galveston Grand Opera House in Galveston, TX. She has received the Living Legend Awards from the

years." As an adult I realized that my Mom and the others were artists of a high order and their art form was storytelling."

"Her philosophy is that you don't have to give people great material things for legacies," said Shirley Smith, an associate director of evening and summer studies at SMU. "You can share experiences with them, and that's what she does through her storytelling."

Jackie Eldridge Smith, a former student and now teacher at El Centro Community College, stated one major lesson she learned from Dr. McElroy, and teaches to all of her students is, "It's not about you; it's about who you impact to make them a better person."

When Dr. McElroy was sharing her life tales to a group of students at Austin College in Sherman, Texas, she recalled her grandparents telling her about the 1930 burning of the Grayson County Courthouse. A mob wanted to get at a Black man accused of raping a white woman; as well as how a group of parents in Virginia banned several books, including "I know Why the Caged Bird Sings" by Maya Angelou because they were deemed "anti-white." Dr. McElroy stated we many who cannot deal with political and historical reality.

The courthouse burning mob, included men, women, and children prevented firefighter's efforts to put out the blaze.

The defendant hid in a fireproof vault, which the mob blew open and burned him on the corner of Mulberry and Branch Streets. At the time, Mulberry boasted a thriving Black business community, including a hotel, a theater, two cafes, two doctors, two undertakers and a tailor, among others.

The mob used furniture as kindling for a fire to burn the man. The police busied themselves "direct-



Sherry Richardson presenting Dr. McElroy with a gift from students (past and present) from her classes @ SMU

ing traffic" for the curiosity-seekers. And the National Guard told Blacks they could not be guaranteed safety.

Pastor Range's sermon for the program was, "I know Why The Caged Bird Sings." (Psalm 150:6.)

He said, "There are three major reasons why the caged bird sings: 1) He sings because he can. 2) He can't stop singing praises to his creator. 3) He never gives up; he knows that one day he is coming out of the cage.

Pastor Range said, "The bird sings of freedom. The caged bird sings just as: Thomas Edison; Albert Einstein; Thurgood Marshall, the first Black

Walt Disney; and Jesus, Joseph, and Noah, from the Bible. These folks came out of their cage and made an impact on the lives of many people.

Dr. McElroy, dubbed "Queen Professor" and a national treasury, by many students, stated that three things we need to do as a society is, slow down, simplify our lives, and be kind to people. She also said that we need to learn to build more bridges and not walls. We need to learn that gratitude is an attitude that we need to have forever. That you don't have to do the same thing forever, and that education is so important that it is something that we need to continue emphasize-



Rev. Willie E. Range, Senior Pastor of The Great Shepherd's House, and messenger of the Sermon, "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings," present Dr. McElroy with gifts from the church.

tribute to Dr. Njoki McElroy, A Living Legend, and named an Annual Scholarship in her honor. In conjunction with the tribute to Dr. McElroy, Sister Sharon Cole was honored with, "A Graduation Moment" for her Southern Methodist University (SMU) graduation. Sister Cole was the first recipient of "Dr. Njoki McElroy Scholarship."

Dr. McElroy is an educator, entrepreneur, ethnologist, folklorist, playwright, author and master storyteller. She teaches Performance of Black Literature and Folklore at SMU in Dallas, TX; and Northwestern University (NU) in Evanston, IL. Born and reared in Texas, Dr. McElroy matriculated to Xavier University in New Orleans. She spent most of her adult life in the Chicago area where she received her Ph.D from the School of Speech at NU. Teaching at NU for the last 35 years, she developed a course, "Interpretation of Black Literature."

After numerous sojourns to Africa, the Caribbean, South America and Europe, Dr. McElroy describes herself as a "Woman of the World." After years of responsibilities as a wife; mother of six natural born children and

Enterprises, a hair care and cosmetics company; Dr. McElroy was finally able to pursue her passion for writing. Dr. McElroy has published poetry, fiction, non-fiction in several anthologies, journals and other publications. Her plays, which explore the historical and sociological experiences of African Americans,

Black Academy of Arts and Letters, the NAACP, and now from The Great Shepherd's House.

Dr. McElroy said, "Storytelling was always an integral part of my life. I grew up surrounded with rich verbal experiences at my home in Dallas, Texas; my maternal grandparents in Sherman, Texas; and my



Some students (past and present) with Dr. McElroy (L to R): Sharon Matlock; Sherry Richardson; Dr. McElroy; "A Living Legend" recipient; Barbara Covington Parker; Jackie Smith Eldridge, El Centro Jr. College Instructor; and Candice Hawley.

entertain as well as educate. Dr. McElroy is working on her memoir, Fruit of the Spirit, based on her life growing up in Texas during the Jim Crow years and her migration to Chicago in the 1940's; she includes segments of the memoir in her staged one woman performances.

Dr. McElroy conducts workshops, performances, and seminars for schools, corporations, and organiza-

paternal grandparents and relatives in East Texas. Storytelling was not just a ritual for special occasions. My father had a fabulous memory. He remembered poems, songs, riddles, rhymes, and stories that he had read or heard. He used these as teaching tools or to entertain my mother and me. My mom had a formidable gift for storytelling. Her wit and humor were sustained into her "twilight



Larry McElroy shares a hug with his mom, Dr. McElroy

Supreme Justice; Oprah Winfrey; Michael Jordan; Abraham Lincoln; Wilma Rudolph, the fastest runner in the world in her time; Mayo Angelou (born Marguerite Annie Johnson);

ing to our young people. Pastor Range and church members served a delicious meal for Dr. McElroy tribute, Sister Cole's Graduation Moment and to the audience.



# Susan G. Komen For The Cure's Circle Of Promise Joins The 17th Annual Kwanzaafest, Gathers Black Women For A Call To Action About Breast Cancer

DALLAS – Each year, KwanzaaFest features national recording artists, exhibitors from across the country, vendors, health screenings and other activities free of charge. Susan G. Komen for the Cure will showcase its Circle of Promise campaign, which is dedicated to ending breast cancer in the black community.

Despite great strides made in the breast cancer movement for all women, the disease continues to have a disproportionate impact on the African-American community. From 2000-2003 African-American women had a 36 percent higher breast cancer death rate than white women, giving them the highest death rate and poorest sur-

vival rate of any other racial or ethnic group.

Susan G. Komen for the Cure wants to rally African-American women to the forefront of the breast cancer fight by joining its Circle of Promise campaign. Registering through the interactive site, [www.komen.org/circle](http://www.komen.org/circle), is the first step to become a Circle of Promise ambassador and to encourage other women to do the same. Information about breast cancer and breast health in general is also available at [www.komen.org](http://www.komen.org).

“The Circle of Promise campaign goes hand-in-hand with Kwanzaa,” said Circle of Promise Ambassador Dr. Sheron Patterson, a health and wellness consultant and breast

cancer survivor. “One of the principles of Kwanzaa is Ujima which means collective work and responsibility. As black women, we have the responsibility to educate one another and to work together to find a cure.”

Dr. Patterson details her journey as a breast cancer survivor at [www.drsheron.com](http://www.drsheron.com)

At booth No. 175 at KwanzaaFest, women will be able to sign up to join the Circle of Promise and to learn more about the campaign. Participants will have the chance to receive prizes and give a ways. Participants will also learn about ways to get involved with Komen in the Dallas, Fort Worth and North Texas areas.

# The Perfect Holiday



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## What's Your Money Factor? So you want to lease!

By Frank Simmons

Ask a friend, what's your money factor? They will probably think you are trying

to borrow \$20. Money factors are never discussed in common terminology related to the automobile business, yet eighteen percent of all vehicle purchases are leases where money factors are applied. In the high-end luxury segment leasing comprises over fifty percent of all sales, so it's a big deal.

Money factors include several things in leasing but for the sake of this discussion, it's your "implied" interest rate. Your lack of understanding with leasing terminology may result in you paying too much for your next lease.

An easy equation is to take your "money factor", which is a fractional number like, .0033, times 2400 and you get your "implied" interest rate. In this example your rate would be 7.92 APR. We use "implied" rate because there are no federal or state disclosure requirements for money factors as there are for disclosing interest rates in regular auto financing.

Many professionals, such as our subscribers, lease their vehicles through their businesses and are more prone to these mistakes. Their primary focus is mileage and payment and they generally don't care how the dealer gets there.

Finance departments generate income from money factors so they are not likely to volunteer this information.

Regardless, it does effect your payment and the amount you actually pay for the vehicle over the term of the contract. If you pay \$80.00 more per month because of money factor reserve for the dealer over 36 months that's \$2880, which is significant. It's likely money you could use.

Remember, money factors can be negotiated like interest rates unless the money factor is subsidized from the manufacturer. What is a subsidized money factor? The subsidized money factor is a "buy down" rate factor that's comparable to a zero percent financing that's commonly seen in advertised car specials.

In future columns we will explore this subject in more detail so stay tuned.

You can reach Mr. Simmons at 214-335-2963 or 972-230-0616.

## DFW International Airport Sub-contracting Easier For Small Business With Innovative 'Expedited Payments' Program

*Small businesses to be paid 58 percent faster; prime contractors reap added benefit through program*

(DFW INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT) – Small businesses will be paid faster than ever with a new innovative 'Expedited Payment' program pioneered by DFW International Airport. The groundbreaking program offers the promise to pay subcontracts as much as 53 days faster than the current standard.

"The new program improves the cash position for small businesses, helping them to pay employees, suppliers and even complete the job more effectively," said Don O'Bannon, vice president of the small and emerging business department at DFW. "We are trying to strengthen businesses that work with DFW by alleviating some of the firms' cash flow issues."

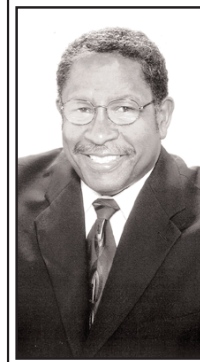
Contractors who sign up for the program will be paid an incentive for their advance payments to sub-contractors working on their behalf – between when they are billed and when they bill DFW. The Airport's Small and

Emerging Business Department developed the first-of-its-kind program to encourage improved business environments for small business and superior services delivered to the Airport.

Contractors who are awarded new multi-year deals will be asked to participate in the voluntary expedited payment program. Contracts totaling more than \$10 million for facilities maintenance or construction will be eligible for the innovative service, which ultimately benefits the small business' ability to grow while working on large contracts.

The Airport expects to pay as much as \$58,000 to its prime contractors during the first year of implementation for the payments made to sub-contractors. Payments to sub-contractors could now occur as fast as 7 days after invoicing. The new program reduces payment times by as much as 58 percent.

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## ATTENTION!!!

## Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce

JOIN THE COLLIN COUNTY BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN ITS 2007 Member Salute

- ⊕ Meeting: DECEMBER 13, 2007
- ⊕ Location: RALPH & KACOO'S  
401 Central Expy S - Allen
- ⊕ Time: 6:00PM—8:30PM
- ⊕ Dress: BUSINESS ATTIRE

CCBCC would like to HONOR its members with an invitation to enjoy a fun filled evening featuring:

- Deliciously prepared, all inclusive, CAJUN CUISINE served in a LAVISH BUFFET style.
- JAZZ Music with a New Orleans twist
- Networking
- CASH BAR AVAILABLE
- Please bring a friend to share the moment.

### DONATIONS

CCBCC is also dedicated to its community; we are asking everyone to bring a new, unwrapped toy, or 2 non-perishable food items. These items will be donated to the Saint Mark Baptist Church, a CCBCC member.

RSVP IS REQUIRED NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 10, 2007  
[rgiddings@ccblackchamber.org](mailto:rgiddings@ccblackchamber.org) or 469.424.0120 x703



# Partnering up for Big Movements

*“The North Dallas Gazette and The Giving Movement are building positive relationships”*

**Plano, Texas** – Philanthropist Cheryl Jackson of Plano, TX founder of The Giving Movement partners with The North Dallas Gazette as they are committed to giving back and bringing awareness into the community about giving altogether. Jackson has also recently connected with the Big Brothers and Big Sisters of North Dallas, and select Wal-marts, to grant wishes to over 60 children and their families this Holiday Season. Jackson has diligently been involved not only her own community, but has now taken the step towards a new movement – The Giving Movement. Coincidentally, The North Dallas Gazette has been serving the community with information, resources, and updates in the North Dallas area over six years and count-

ing. The Giving Movement has been actively changing lives and challenging individuals and companies to join this cause and is now teaming up with several partners to cause an epidemic of giving that will ultimately allow empowerment as they are dedicated to educating people about the power of charity. The Giving Movement is steadily growing and with combined deeds with BBBS of North Dallas by adopting children this Holiday Season from within their program that includes overall 3,000 plus children in the entire region of North Texas, TGM will be able to affect more lives than they actually adopted in the first place. The only way to get movements such as these to be successful is

“Making It Happen” as Jackson is consistently broadcasting, approved by other leaders who are known to introduce the founder as Cheryl “Action” Jackson. Actions can be defined in several ways and Jackson would rather show support through time, education, financial assistance, and love, not only within the African American community and not only when something wounding occurs, but by other means, in other ways, every single day. Coming from a more positive outlook, especially in these negative economic challenging times, this advocate of giving will educate with a foundation of purpose in addition to the cause. With her background as a life-coach and expert in empowerment, helping women save with her alternative-

to-welfare program, Sisters of Savings - [www.sistersofsavings.com](http://www.sistersofsavings.com), she supports movements no doubt.

Invitations to partner up with this powerful organization is always welcomed therefore, please feel free to donate charitable items at The Giving Movement’s home store, It’s Original – The Giving Store located at 3100 Independence Pkwy., Suite 217 Plano, TX. The Giving

Movement Organization is 501 (c) (3) that is a conduit for all philanthropic actions and is dedicated to providing education, opportunities, and resources for people who want to give.

To support TGM feel free to visit online: [www.thegivingmovement.org](http://www.thegivingmovement.org). To communicate via email: [info@creationmovement.com](mailto:info@creationmovement.com) and/or [cjackson@thegivingmovement.org](mailto:cjackson@thegivingmovement.org).

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## NetNia Publishing, Inc. announces launch of BlackSantaMagicLetters.com

*Website offers culturally designed African-American Santa letters parents personalize for children*

**Dallas, Texas** - Every year parents go above the call of duty to make the Christmas holidays the most anticipated, precious, and memorable time of the year. Now, with the help of an Internet website, parents can start a new tradition sending children personalized letters from an African-American Santa Claus.

Launched last year, BlackSantaMagicLetters.com is fast becoming a holiday favorite of African-Americans who celebrate Christmas. Visitors to the site have a choice of three culturally designed letters to personalize with children’s names, best friends’ names, toy wish lists, hob-

bies, accomplishments, and other information. There are also plenty of interesting articles and fun facts about Black Santa Claus.

The personalized letters arrive at children’s home in a large envelope with a North Pole Alaska postmark from the United States Postal Service. The postmark proves the letter’s authenticity and delivery from the North Pole. It also contains colorful Christmas stickers with positive motivational messages. Parents should expect delivery a week before Christmas.

"Getting the right wording, images, and Afrocentric style for the letters took much thought,"

says Jeffery Bradley, webmaster and creator. "It is important to design Black Santa letters where children of all ages will enjoy reading and keeping for memories. We also made the website a fun experience for all visitors. Adults and children will enjoy seeing the animated Black Santa sings Merry Christmas in his own special way."

Black Santa Magic Letters makes it easy to send cultural personalized letters to your children and loved ones. To download a free letter sample and read interesting facts about Black Santa, visit [www.BlackSantaMagicLetters.com](http://www.BlackSantaMagicLetters.com).

**NTheknow.com & The Silent Partner**

**"Give A Toy"**

**Red Carpet Affair**

**Friday, December 14th, 2007**

**6:00 pm - 11:00 pm**

**Featuring**

**Grammy Award Winning**

**Recording Artist**

**Dave Hollister**



Hosted by B.E.T. Comedian Hope Flood

**The Black Academy of Arts & Letters**  
650 Griffin St. Dallas, Texas 75202  
RSVP required [vip@ntheknow.com](mailto:vip@ntheknow.com)

Live Music & Comedy Show  
Casino Party  
Vendors & Silent Auction  
Cocktails & Cuisine

**Bring one unwrapped Toy**  
or \$20.00 donation

All proceeds benefiting  
Dallas International Street Church  
Grandparents Raising Grandkids



**Please Give A Toy**



Imus, Page 1

but it was pretty close. I was there to try to save my life."

He pledged to "never say anything in my lifetime that will make any of these young women at Rutgers regret or feel foolish that they accepted my apology and forgave me."

But "the program is not going to change," Imus added to applause from the live audience.

The Rev. Al Sharpton, one of the strongest voices calling for his firing, said Imus had a right to make a living. "Imus was fired. The move to hold people accountable was won," Sharpton said. "Whether he can, in the course of time, redeem himself, time will tell."

Kathy Times, vice president of broadcast for the National Association of Black Journalists, asked, "Will he emerge as someone who has learned his lesson, or choose to continue the actions of his past? I certainly hope it's the former, and

the airwaves will be a respectful representation of the owners — the American public."

Shortly after the program began, Imus introduced his new cast, including black comedians Karith Foster, a native of Plano, Texas and Tony Powell, as well as Bernard McGuirk, the producer who instigated the Rutgers comment and was fired as well.

While Imus pledged to use his new show to talk about race relations, he added: "Other than that, not much has changed. Dick Cheney is still a war criminal, Hillary Clinton is still Satan and I'm back on the radio."

Foster said she would play a crucial role in giving the show the proper perspective. "I can speak from the viewpoint of an African-American, and especially one who can see and understand both sides ... which I think makes for a great mediator."

## Graphic Artist Needed Part-Time

Candidate Must Know Quark, Photoshop, Illustrator & Dreamweaver. Newspaper Layout A Plus.

Email Resume to [trj1909@tx.rr.com](mailto:trj1909@tx.rr.com) or Leave Message at 972-606-3891



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## CITY OF PLANO, TEXAS



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## Church Happenings

### CATHEDRAL OF HOPE

972-359-9956

December 21, 7 pm – 10 pm

Earth Rhythms will present and you are invited to our 15th Annual Winter SolstiCelebration, "Finding Our Voice." This is Dallas' largest and longest running seasonal tradition and it celebrates the interfaith community, emphasizing the qualities and concerns we share as humans. Featured is a diverse group of musicians, dancers, singers and poets. Special guest this year is The Women's Chorus of Dallas.

Doors open @ 6:30 pm, Service is 7 pm – 9 pm, and Yule Fest is 9 pm – 10 pm. A \$5 donation is requested, along with canned food and winter clothes for charity collection. Service will be signed for the deaf, and child-care will be available.

Cathedral of Hope

Lisa Taylor, Contact Person

5910 Cedar Springs @ Inwood, Dallas, TX 214-943-1099

### FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN

December 12 – 14, 2007

You're invited to our Holy Spirit-filled Winter Revival with speaker Prophet Charles Buchanan of Mobile, AL Call 214-763-4520 for more information.

Fellowship B. C. of Allen

Rev. W. L. Stafford, Sr., M. Div.

Senior Pastor

200 Belmont Drive

Allen, TX 75013

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

Month of December

Our Agape Youth Ministries are now taking pre-orders for their Annual Poinsettia Fundraiser. See any member for details or call 972-235-4235.

On-Going

Our Family Assistance Center's operating hours are: Mondays, 10 am – 2 pm; Wednesdays, 2 pm – 6 pm; and Saturdays, 10 am – 2 pm. For more information contact the Center 972-234-3115.

First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park (First Church)

Dr. Gregory Foster,

Senior Pastor and

Rev. Anthony Foster, Pastor

300 Phillips Street

Richardson, TX 75081

972-235-4235

### FULL GOSPEL HOLY TEMPLE

December

All of those in need, individuals with jobs, the sick, the homeless, mothers, grandmothers, fathers and grandfathers, are invited to com to our FREE Christmas give-a-way.

December 26 – 29, 2007

You are invited to our Youth Congress.

Full Gospel Holy Temple

Apostle Lobias Murray, Founder/Senior Pastor  
39727 West LBJ Freeway  
Dallas, TX 75237  
972-572-3448

### MT. HEBRON MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH (THE MOUNT)

December 7 – 8, 2007

You are invited to our "Family Life Conference 2007 for married and single people. We are taking the 'Dys' out of Dysfunctional with speakers: Leonard Leach from The Mount in Garland, TX; Barbara Curtis from Lakewood Church in Houston, TX; Rick Cooper from North Dallas Bible Fellowship Church in Dallas, TX; and Leroy & Cynthia Armstrong from the House of Hope in Cedar Hill, TX. Friday's Conference, 7 pm – 9 pm and Saturday's Conference, 8 am – 5 pm. For information and ticket prices call 972-276-5218.

December 9, 6:30 pm

Don't miss our elegant Winter Ball. Call 972-276-5218 for details.

December 16, 8 am & 11:15 am

Come and help us celebrate our Birthday Party for Jesus at both worship services.

December 25, 10 am

Please join us for our Christmas Day Service.

December 31, 10 pm

You are invited to join us as we

close-out 2007 and welcome-in 2008 as we worship and praise God for all of His blessings.

Mt. Hebron Missionary Baptist Church (The Mount) – Garland  
Rev. Leonard O. Leach, Pastor  
1233 State Highway 66 @ Country Club  
Garland, TX 75040  
972-276-5218

### MT. PISGAH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH (THE ROCK)

December 7, 6:30 – 11:30 pm

Please join our Christians Surrendering Individuality Ministry (CSI) for their Christmas 2007 Singles Soiree. This will be an evening of casual elegance with food, fun, networking, games and door prizes @ The Austin Ranch – The Lodge, 6101 Saintsbury in The Colony, Texas. Admission: One unwrapped toy. Please RSVP @ 469-223-1565.

Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church (The Rock)

Rev. Robert Townsend,

Senior Pastor

11611 Webb Chapel Road

Dallas, TX 75229

972-241-6151

### SAINT MARK BAPTIST CHURCH

December 8, 12 Noon – 2 pm

Senior Saints (ages 55 and above) please join us for lunch, bingo and prizes during the "Double Nickel

Luncheon" @ Newsome Homes Community Center, 230 Amcott Street, McKinney, TX 75069. FREE home delivery available to house-bound seniors within the city only. Please call 972-542-6178 no later than Friday, December 7th with your name, phone number, address, and the number of meals desired.

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

### SHILOH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, PLANO

December 9, 3 pm

Come to 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

### WOMEN PRAYING FOR CHRIST MINISTRIES, INC.

December 8, 10 am – 1 pm

All residents of the D-FW are asked to join us for our "Christmas Love Through Giving" event. There will be FREE clothes, toys, and food @ the John C. Phelps Recreation Center, 3030

Tips Blvd., Dallas, TX 75216. Call 214-450-7634 for more information.

Women Praying for Christ Ministries, Inc.

Dr. Angela S. King, Founder/CEO

P. O. Box 863766

Plano, TX 75086

214-450-7634

### FULL GOSPEL HOLY TEMPLE

December 15, 9 am – 5 pm

We are having our Annual Christmas Give-A-Way for anyone in need. The FREE event will be @ The Lobias Murray Christian Academy, 340 Ann Arbor Avenue (1/2 block East of I-35) in Oak Cliff. Individuals must register for the FREE give-a-way; bring a form of identification (I.D.) for any adult and any child or children that will be registered. Each person will be given a certain amount of time to shop for themselves or for a family. If seeking help for a child or children, the child or children must be with the adult. For information call Ms. Sarah Quinn or Ms. Veda Smith @ 214-372-6466.

December 26 – 29, 2007

You are invited to our Youth Congress.

Full Gospel Holy Temple

Apostle Lobias Murray,

Founder/Senior Pastor

39727 West LBJ Freeway

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TUESDAY

7:00 pm- 8:00 pm: Bible Study & Worship Service

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Shaun Rabb, Senior Pastor

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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

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

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Wednesday Night  
7:15 pm

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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**

# Story of The Candy Cane

with red stripes.

He used three small stripes to show the stripes of the scourging Jesus received by which we are healed. The large red stripe was for the blood shed by Christ on the cross so that we could have the promise of eternal life.

Unfortunately, the candy became known as a Candy Cane; a meaningless decoration seen at Christmas time.

**Things to Ponder this Holiday Season:** A Candy Maker in Indiana wanted to make a candy that would be a witness for Christ, so he made a Christmas Candy Cane. He incorpo-



**Picture of The Week:** Dr. Karen Hollie, Senior Pastor, Johnson Chapel Community Church and Ms. Sherry Thompson Gambrell.

rated several symbols for the birth, ministry, and death of Jesus Christ.

He began with a stick of pure white, hard candy. The White to symbolize the Virgin Birth and the sinless nature of Jesus and the hard part of the candy to symbolize the Solid Rock, the foundation of the Church and firmness of the promises of God.

The Candy Maker made the candy in the form of a "J" to represent the precious name of Jesus, who came to earth as our Savior. It could also represent the staff of the "Good Shepherd" with which He reaches down into the ditches of the World to lift out the fallen lambs whom, like all Sheep have gone astray.

Thinking that the candy was somewhat plain, the Candy Maker stained it

But the meaning is still there for those who "have eyes to see and ears to hear." I pray that this symbol will again be used to witness to the Wonder of Jesus and His ultimate and dominant force in the universe today.

Why Jesus is Better Than Santa: Santa lives at the North Pole; Jesus is everywhere. Santa rides in a sleigh; Jesus rides on the wind and walks on the water. Santa comes but once a year; Jesus is an ever present help. Santa fills your stockings with goodies; Jesus supplies all your needs. Santa comes down your chimney uninvited; Jesus stands at your door and knocks, and then enters your heart when invited.

You have to wait in line to see Santa; Jesus is as close as the mention

of HIS name. Santa lets you sit on his lap; Jesus lets you rest in His arms. Santa doesn't know your name; all he can say is "Hi little boy (girl), what's your name?" Jesus knew your name before you were born. Not only does He know your name; He knows our address too. He knows our history and future and He even knows how many hairs are on our heads.

Santa has a belly like a bowl full of jelly; Jesus has a heart full of love. All Santa can offer is "Ho! Ho! Ho!..." Jesus offers health, help and hope. Santa says, "You better not cry..." Jesus says, "Cast all your cares on me for I care for you." Santa's little helpers make toys; Jesus makes new life, mends wounded hearts, repairs broken homes and builds mansions. Santa may make you chuckle, but...; Jesus gives you joy that is your strength.

While Santa puts gifts under your tree... Jesus became our gift and died on a tree. It's obvious there is really no comparison. We need to remember What Christmas is all about. We need to put Christ back in Christmas. Jesus is still the reason for the season!

**This Holiday Season:** Feast on God's Word: "...Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." **Matthew 4:4.**

**-His Love Never Ends!**

*Jewels, Page 1*

out their basic monthly expenses being met.

Many of our senior citizens have been forced to take active roles again as parents to the children of their children and most of which decide to sacrifice their needs to ensure the basic needs of their grandchildren are met. Although their kindness should be applauded, these roles have added to feelings of desperation and helplessness.

Banks of Dallas Ministries [www.bodm.org](http://www.bodm.org) is committed to networking with city and county governmental agencies, non-profits, social and community programs, churches, schools and corporate establishments to provide empowerment and support to our valued senior citizens.

The Banks of Dallas Ministries' Jewel Keepers is a volunteer program that is designed to meet and support the senior citizen communities in and around the greater Dallas area. Jewel Keepers can derive from schools, churches, businesses, individuals or

organizations that choose to support a single community or an individual may partner with a senior citizen in their area. The minimum request is that two hours per month be allotted to contacting a Jewel that you have been paired with. The sole intent of a Jewel Keeper is simply show that "you care."

The Holiday Season is upon us and many of our senior citizens will not have much to share with others due to limitations of finance. Some senior citizens will not even have the basic food or comfort that is taken for granted by the majority of citizens in our community. Banks of Dallas Ministries, along with several members of the greater Dallas communities would like to offer you an invitation to join Jewel Keepers this 2007 Holiday Season in making the lives of some of our senior citizens a little more enjoyable. By donating a gift card from any retailer, food store, drug store or by making monetary donations to Banks Of Dallas

Ministries, gift cards will be purchased and delivered to the senior citizens. Please support those who help shape our country, our communities and our homes.

To join in the volunteer program, visit [www.bodm.org](http://www.bodm.org) or call Rev. F. Karl Banks at 214-727-3564. Mailing Address: Banks Of Dallas Ministries; P.O. BOX 1896 DeSoto, TX 75123

2007 Adopted Senior Communities:

Potter's House at Primrose/Dallas  
2515 Perryton Road

Primrose Oaks/Dallas  
2999 S. Hampton Rd

Primrose at Highland Meadows/East Dallas  
2100 Highland Ave

Primrose at Park Place/Garland, TX  
2200 N. Beltline Rd

Primrose Park at Rolling Hills/DeSoto, TX  
2400 Bolton Boone

**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

Rev. Robert Townsend, Pastor

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

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

**Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church**  
11611 Webb Chapel Road • Dallas, TX 75229  
Office: 972-241-6151  
Email: [info@dallasmtpisgah.org](mailto:info@dallasmtpisgah.org)  
Website: [www.dallasmtpisgah.org](http://www.dallasmtpisgah.org)

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MORNING WORSHIP - 10AM  
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - 7PM

PASTOR TERRENCE AUTRY

**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  
[www.macedoniaministries.com](http://www.macedoniaministries.com)

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.

**Friendship Baptist Church**  
4396 Main Street  
The Colony, Texas 75056  
**(972) 625-8186**  
website: [www.fbc-online.net](http://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 7:30 p.m.  
Evening Bible Study

**"The Church with a Vision"**



## Church Directory

### Mortgage, Page 1

Just a few years ago, black homeownership hit historic levels—nearly 50 percent—and has fallen steadily since. The decrease obviously has something to do with the surge in subprime foreclosures over the past few years.

The Center for Responsible Lending estimates that one out of five subprime loans taken out in the past few years will go into foreclosure. In 2006, the center estimated that blacks were 31 percent more likely to hold subprime loans than whites with similar credit histories and that they were four times more likely to get higher

interest rates. A recent study by New York University's Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy found that African-Americans were four times as likely as whites to hold subprime mortgage loans in the New York City metropolitan area.

In our Homebuyer's Bill of Rights under The Right to Be Free from Predatory Lending, we threw our support behind H.R. 1182, the "Prohibit Predatory Lending Act," sponsored by House Financial Services Committee Chairman Barney Frank of Massachusetts. It served as a basis for the legislation that passed the House

earlier this month until last-minute lobbying by the mortgage industry knocked some of its teeth out.

One provision added to quell industry concerns would prevent borrowers from suing Wall Street firms in state courts where protections are often stronger for abusive lending practices. It represented a concession by Frank to win the support of the panel's ranking Republican Spencer Bachus of Alabama. The legislation still fails to please many, including us, but managed to garner enough votes to pass the House by a strong margin and currently eludes a White House veto threat.

"The lack of Wall Street accountability is particularly troublesome," said John Taylor, president and CEO of National Community Reinvestment Coalition, a group of more than 600 community-based organizations in favor of creating and sustain affordable housing, job development and vibrant communities for working families. "While Wall Street has piled up billions of dollars in earnings and bonuses on defective or negligent mortgage products, the taxpayers are increasingly paying for their mistakes. Homeowners across the country have lost billions of dollars in home equity due to falling

house prices."

At the other end of the spectrum, the Mortgage Bankers Association predicted that the legislation would result in fewer home loans being issued nationwide. "Have no doubt, this bill will limit credit availability and options for thousands of Americans who want to grab their share of the American dream of homeownership. It will eliminate tools that millions of Americans have used to become successful long-term homeowners," said Kieran P. Quinn, the MBA's chairman.

Far too many Americans of color have watched their dreams of home-

ownership turn into their worst nightmares. However, at this stage in the game, a watered-down effort is better than nothing at all. Still, it shows that to some extent our nation's leaders aren't terribly concerned about hard-working Americans' desire to capture their own sliver of the American Pie. It also underscores the need for current and prospective U.S. homebuyers to exercise their own brand of consumer protection. They cannot rely completely on the government and should remember to go to great lengths to educate themselves about mortgage loan products before they sign the dotted line.

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