

North Dallas Gazette



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Dr. Juanita Simmons to speak on African American Women in Educational Leadership

Dallas, TX - The Spring Distinguished Lecture will be presented by Dr. Juanita Simmons, Saturday, April 26, 2008 at 2:00 pm in the AT&T Auditorium, at The African American Museum in Historic

Fair Park.

Dr. Simmons will speak on African American Women in Educational Leadership: Passion, Activism and Audacious Hope. Dr. Simmons, a former Dean of Instruction at The Lincoln Magnet High

School was one of seventeen public school administrators selected to participate in the nationally renowned Cooperative Superintendency Program of the University of Texas at Austin. She completed

this program with a Ph.D. in Educational Administration from the University of Texas at Austin, with an emphasis in urban superintendency and educational policy and analysis. Her secondary

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26-Year-Old Texan Crowned Miss USA

By Kathleen Hennessey LAS VEGAS (AP) — A 26-year-old entrepreneur from Texas was named Miss USA on Friday, besting 50 other beauty queens for the coveted crown.

Crystle Stewart, of Missouri City, Texas, runs a party-planning and motivational speaking company, as well as modeling professionally. She says she wants to dedicate her life to international philan-



thropy.

"I want to talk to people about how to set a goal and achieve it," she told The Associated Press after the show. "Because I just achieved my goal."

Stewart edged out first runner-up Leah Laviano of Mississippi and Tiffany Andrade of New Jersey.

Miss USA 2007 Rachel Smith relinquished the crown — and the posh New York apartment that

comes with it — in a show aired live by NBC with hosts Donny and Marie Osmond from the Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino on the Las Vegas Strip. The network co-owns the parent Miss Universe Organization with Donald Trump.

Smith, a former Miss Tennessee USA, said she was headed to Hollywood. Stewart was headed for

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Garland Goes Green: Free Stuff and Great Information!

Learn about greener living at the Garland Goes Green Environmental Expo and enjoy a few free gifts for your efforts! The event will take place at Firewheel Town Center on Saturday, April 19 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The first 500 attendees will receive a microfiber shopping bag which can



be re-used over and over again, reducing the need

for paper or plastic grocery bags. The shopping bag

will contain coupons for free and discounted services and merchandise from Garland area restaurants, entertainment venues and other businesses, as well as information about green living. To get your bag of goodies, find the Garland Chamber of Commerce booth in the Expo tents

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DART Rail Green Line on Schedule, on Budget



Photo: Billy Coleman

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Obama's New Pastor

Rev. Jeremiah Wright is Standing on the Right Side of History

By Rev. Otis Moss [NNPA] All my life I have been inspired by the work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and my father, a King adviser, Dr. Otis Moss Jr. The prophetic brilliance of Dr. King to speak about democracy and the divine in the same breath to this day sends a chill up my spine.

I have asked my parents often: "How did you handle the pressure?" "Did you realize you were in the middle of the delivery room as America, with deep labor pains, gave birth to democracy?"

My parents usually replied with smiles and southern humility before adding, "We were on the right side of history."

As the new pastor of Trinity United Church of

Christ in Chicago, I sense the labor pains of democracy are once again forcing America to give birth to a new sacred dialogue about race and class, because a doctor/preacher has pushed us as a country into a painful but long overdue labor and delivery.

I am convinced that much of the recent controversy stems from the deep racial and social divisions and misunderstanding of African-American sacred rhetoric.

The words of Dr. Jeremiah A. Wright have provided the American people an opportunity to give birth to a new conversation about race or about the dialogue and substitute it with truncated rhetoric about what should and should not be said from behind the sacred

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People In The News...



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Johnny C. Taylor

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Tracey Hughes

Tracey Hughes, founder and CEO of The Rum Cake Fairy Dessert Company LLC, is winning devotees across the country one rum cake at a time. Her rum cake is a "melt in your mouth" dessert made with the finest Caribbean rum, freshest butter, whole eggs and imported spices. Ms. Hughes uses only the freshest ingredients to create a cake with unparalleled moistness and character. Each cake is lovingly finished with a rum-laced gossamer



glaze giving every bite a delicate rum-infused flavor.

A native of Nashville, Tennessee, Ms. Hughes is a marketing expert with 14 years of brand and ethnic marketing expertise. She spent much of her career working with the Colgate Palmolive company in Chicago and New York. In 2005, Ms. Hughes took charge of her own destiny and launched the Rum Cake Fairy Dessert Company LLC. "I decided to heed my inner voice and take control of my life. I wanted to follow a dream I've had for

a long time and the timing was right."

Ms. Hughes received her undergraduate degree from Spelman College and her M.S. in Integrated Marketing Communications from Northwestern University Medill School of Journalism. She is the recipient of numerous awards including the Chicago Association of Black Journalist's Award of Excellence. She was elected to Colgate-Palmolive Company's Sales Hall of Fame in 1998 and was also a three-time recipient of the Chairman's "You Can

Make a Difference" award. Most recently, she was honored with a 2005 Spelman College Alumnae Achievement award for Business Excellence and Community Work.

Adding to her talents as a baker, Tracey Hughes is

a former model. She has appeared in layouts for Ebony and Essence Magazine. In 1997 she was selected from among 2,500 entrants as the Revlon and Essence Magazine Woman of Style. Ms. Hughes lives and works in New York.

Norman K. Jenkins

Marriott International's Norman K. Jenkins, senior vice president of lodging development and champion of Marriott's diversity hotel ownership initiative, was honored by the Washington Business Journal with a Minority Business Leader award. He was recognized for his accomplishments for bridging the gap between minorities and hotel ownership in the greater Washington, D.C., area.

"We're thrilled with Norm's success with Marriott's diversity ownership initiative. It's perfectly aligned with our company's growth goals," said J.W. Marriott, Jr., chairman and CEO, Marriott



International. The initiative was designed to build on Marriott's track record of attracting top tier minority owners and franchisees.

Prior to joining Marriott, Jenkins began his professional career at McDonald's Corporation, where he held management positions in finance and operations. In 1992, Jenkins joined Marriott's Internal Audit group, where he was a senior manager responsible for several company businesses, including Marriott Hotels, Resorts & Suites. In addition, he managed all corporate engagements and special investigations. Jenkins also previously served as vice president, global operations, and CFO of Marriott's Ramada International division.

Jenkins serves on a number of boards, including Marriott's Employee Federal Credit Union, the

Metropolitan Community Development Corporation, the Howard University School of Business Accounting Advisory Board, and the National Association of Black Accountants, where he serves as national president and CEO.

Jenkins holds a B.B.A. in accounting from Howard University, an M.B.A. from George Washington University and is a certified public accountant.

Johnny C. Taylor

Johnny C. Taylor, J.D., President and CEO of Black Web Enterprises,



Inc. (BWE) was a featured speaker this week at SMU's "Celebrating Diversity in the Communication Arts" Lecture Series. Mr. Taylor is the founding President and CEO of Black Web Enterprises Inc.,

InterActiveCorp's newly launched programming business unit serving the online needs of the country's Black community.

Mr. Taylor received his Bachelor of Science in Communication, with general honors, from the University of Miami; Master of Arts in Mass Communication, with honors, from Drake University; and Doctor of Jurisprudence, with honors, from the Drake University Law School, where he served as research editor of the Drake Law Review and argued on the National Moot Court Team. He is a member of the Florida, Illinois and Washington, D.C. bars, and holds a Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) certification.

"With a phenomenal

management team in place, we are on the cusp of unveiling the first initiative under the Black Web Enterprises umbrella ... a site that will revolutionize the internet for the Black Community," said Taylor, "Rather than compete with existing sites already geared toward the Black community, our goal with the initiative is to expand this market in order to bring the absolute best and most relevant web experience to Black people everywhere."

BWE will house a number of yet-to-be-announced online destinations catering to the distinct needs and interests of the estimated 50 million Black people living in the U.S., from African Americans to Blacks from Latin America and the Caribbean.

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MON-The Gazette assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material and reserves the right to edit and make appropriate revisions.	John Dudley, CHAIRPERSON
Is the sky clearest on the day it is most blue?	Program Policy Development
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!	Quality Assurance
The North Dallas Gazette formally Minority Opportunity News, was founded July, 1991, by Jim Bochum and Thurman R. Jones	Myrtle Hightower, CHAIRPERSON
	Coty Rodriguez

THE TRUTH CLINIC

The Importance Of Purpose

America's ship of state seems to be sailing out of control and moving in the wrong direction according to approximately 80 percent of Americans surveyed in recent polls. The head of state captain and the first mate congress are allowing this great ship to bob aimlessly and rudderless in a treacherous sea of debilitating war and economic anxiety.

Sixty three percent of Americans continue to say the Iraq war was not worth fighting while nearly two-thirds feel the economy is in a recession. More than half of the respondents said their personal financial situation has worsened as oil prices continue to hit record highs, food prices climb, home foreclosures skyrocket and healthcare is unaffordable.

Of greater concern are the surveys that reveal a growing unhappiness among Americans with their current political and corporate leaders. At a moment when the country is facing crucial tests both at home and abroad Americans are expressing an alarming lack of confidence in our key institutional leaders. Over three quarters of those interviewed use the term "crisis" to describe the country's leadership.

This week's congressional hearings on Iraq did not provide the lift to the country's psyche that many of the war's supporters might have expected after months of surge

expenditures.

While taking credit for the security gains that 30,000 additional American troops have helped to produce, Gen. David Petraeus, the commander of U.S. forces in Iraq, and Ambassador Ryan Crocker warned that "We haven't turned any corners and we haven't seen any lights at the end of the tunnel."

One can only conclude that America has been on a five plus year odyssey in Iraq that has no definitive purpose while our myopic leaders continue to promise honor and success just around the corner with a little more time and a great deal more money.

Execution of well articulated agendas that are deficient of honorable purpose can drive once-great nations into an abyss of destruction and once-great armies into chaos and confusion.

Even with a well defined purpose the ensuing result can become questionable if not used properly. If purpose is constructed as just a means to accomplish selfish ends without a foundation in God's morality then it will not work. The moral ideas that undergird meaningful purpose define what is right and what is worthwhile.

There are all kinds of purposes, some noble, some not so noble. Millions of Americans have been going about their daily business assuming that their

government is being motivated by high ideals and a God centered purpose.

Slowly but surely as recent surveys are proving they are facing the reality that their great nation is floundering without purpose, without honor and without integrity. As the burdens mount on the backs of the suffering people they are beginning to question how an honorable result can be created from a dishonorable action.

Everything that God created has a purpose — the sun, clouds, rain, trees, oceans, mountains, animals and man. Regardless of how large or small, we all exist to accomplish a certain task. It is the knowledge of that purpose that enables every soul and nation to fulfill itself.

Not only were we created by God; we were created for him. The ultimate goal of the universe is to show the glory of God. It is the reason for everything that exists, including man and his governments.

What is the glory of God? Creation reveals the Creator's glory. We can learn a lot about God's character just by looking around. Through nature we learn about God's power. The Bible says, "The heavens declare the glory of God."

Not giving God his due glory is called "sin." And the root of all sin is failing to give God the glory he deserves. Refusing to bring glory to God is arrogant rebellion, and it is the sin that

caused Satan's fall. In different ways we and our nation have lived for our own glory, not God's. The Bible says, "All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God." This is one of the worst sins and the biggest mistake we can commit.

On the other hand, living for God's glory is the greatest achievement we can accomplish with our personal lives and that of our nation. God tells us, "They are my own people, and I created them to bring me glory," so bringing glory to God ought to be the number one purpose personally and as a citizen of this nation.

When anything in creation fulfills its God purpose, it brings glory to God and to itself.

Each of us and our nation can bring God glory by: setting Him first in any agenda that we undertake; learning to love other people in God's universe instead of vilifying them; let the wealth, gifts and talents that God gave us flow through us to uplift the less fortunate; and to let others in the world see in us the love of God.

There is still time for America's leaders, as did King David, to rediscover the importance of God's purpose and reestablish this nation's greatness in His name.

James W. Breedlove

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

Environment and Genes May Unlock Clues to Breast Cancer

National "Sister Study" nearing recruitment goal — more women from certain groups still needed

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, N.C. — Women from every community can play an important role in discov-

ering the causes of breast cancer. The Sister Study, conducted by the National Institute of Environmental Health

Sciences (NIEHS), one of the National Institutes of Health, is committed to enrolling 50,000 diverse women, from all walks of

life, whose sisters had breast cancer. The prospective observational study will help researchers learn how

environment and genes affect the chances of getting the disease. Is breast cancer caused by something women come in contact with at home, at work, in their communities or in the personal products they use? Are some women at greater risk because of small variations in genes that interact with exposures? That's what the Sister Study is trying to answer.

Breast cancer risk may be influenced by our environment, but pinpointing specific environmental causes hasn't been easy. Previous studies have found some clues:

- ✓ Breast cancer rates vary over time and geographic region.
- ✓ Identical twins rarely both get breast cancer.
- ✓ Many chemicals cause mammary tumors in animals.
- ✓ Lifestyle environmental factors, such as alcohol consumption, diet, and exercise appear to be related to breast cancer risk.
- ✓ Exposures to radiation, solvents, or some pesticides appear to be related to breast cancer risk.

Fewer than 20% of women with breast cancer have any family history of the disease, and less than half of all women diagnosed with breast cancer have any of the known risk factors. Sister Study researchers believe there is much more to be learned about how environment and genes are related to breast cancer risk. Women ages 35 to 74 may be eligible to join the study if their sister (living or deceased) related to them by blood, had breast cancer; they have never had breast cancer themselves; and they live in the United States or Puerto Rico. The study is quickly approaching the goal of enrolling 50,000 diverse women, but to ensure the results benefit all women, researchers are asking African Americans, Latinas, Asians, Pacific Islanders and Native Americans to enroll immediately. Caucasian women with high school degree or less, or who are between the ages of 65-74 are also still needed.

During the remaining months of enrollment, the Sister Study is making

special outreach to women who have ever held blue collar or non-traditional jobs, because of the wide-range of environmental and chemical exposures that might be found at work.

"Our entire team is delighted to be close to reaching our goal of enrolling 50,000 sisters, so we can begin to focus on the real purpose of our research — finding causes of breast cancer," said Dale Sandler, Ph.D., Chief of the Epidemiology Branch at NIEHS and Principal Investigator of the Sister Study. She added, "Every year, thousands of women are diagnosed with breast cancer. One day we would like to be able to prevent breast cancer in our daughters and granddaughters."

The study team makes every effort to ensure that participants feel safe and comfortable with the study and that participation is as convenient as possible. At the beginning, women will answer some over-the-phone and written surveys, and provide blood, urine, household dust and toenail samples. After that for about 10 years, the Sister Study will touch base once a year to learn about changes to a participant's address, health or environment. The Sister Study does not require participants to take any medicine, undergo any medical treatments, or make any changes to their habits, diet or daily life.

Women who may have felt helpless as they watched their sisters battle breast cancer now have an opportunity to help researchers learn more about causes of the disease. Zola Boone, who is over age 65, is a participant and spokesperson for the Sister Study. "I enrolled in the Sister Study because my two younger sisters were diagnosed with breast cancer," says Boone of Maryland. "My youngest sister is a five-year survivor and my middle sister has just finished chemotherapy."

To volunteer or learn more about the Sister Study, visit www.sisterstudy.org, or call toll free 1-877-4SISTER (877-474-7837). Deaf/Hard of Hearing call 1-866-TTY-4SIS (866-889-4747).

Kenya Steers Toward The Road To Recovery

Kenya's Government and "Friends of Kenya" Take Action to Help Kenya's Tourism Get Back on its Feet after Recent Presidential Clashes

MINNEAPOLIS, MN — After Kenya's recent clashes over the contested presidential election in late December 2007, the country is beginning to take clear action to prevent additional tourism losses for 2008.

Since strife broke out for the first few weeks of 2008 over disputed election results and both candidates were at an impasse in agreement on how to move forward, tourism to Kenya has suffered a severe blow. Overall, tourism in the first two months was down just over 50 percent from the year prior. The drop is being blamed on the "wait and see" approach many tourists and tour operators were taking during the situation, as well as the reaction of many European charters choosing to halt or cancel flights because of travel

warnings to the country.

Tourism, Kenya's largest industry, was on a record breaking high in late December, surpassing the million arrivals mark for 2007. Difficulty finding space for Kenya's prized summer months was the biggest concern for Kenya last year. Now as the country is facing its biggest challenge ever, actions are being put in place to combat the effects of negative publicity caused by the presidential election reaction.

The Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife, in conjunction with The Kenya Tourist Board, the government body in charge of marketing Kenya's tourism, has started to take action to quell fears from incoming and potential tourists and to assure them that Kenya is back on track and ready to

receive visitors.

Stage one of the process is to get the message out, so Kenya invited a group of 200 journalists from around the world to see for themselves that Kenya is safe. "This is the only way we can really prove to people that Kenya is a wonderful holiday destination without filters. We want these hard-nosed journalists to see, feel and experience all areas in Kenya and make their own assumptions as to whether Kenya is ready to welcome its visitors again! We are confident they will see what we have seen for a while now; that Kenya is stable, safe and ready for tourists," said Dr. O'ngonga Achieng, Managing Director of the Kenya Tourism Board.

Phase two will engage the trade on a similar initiative with visits to source markets, press conferences,

travel agent familiarization trips and finally, engage the channel of distribution through partnerships in advertising and other promotional campaigns with the media.

With these initiatives between the Ministry, The KTB, distributors and travel agents, Kenya expects to help spread the good word and re-establish confidence in the destination.

"The strongest way to help get Kenya back on its feet is to come out on safari and experience our wonderful country. We believe the people who have already visited us will become our biggest ambassadors, as they have been for the past 50 years. By coming to Kenya, they helped us make tourism the leading sector. We expect they will help again, one safari at a time," stated Achieng.

Neurologists, Emergency Physicians and the American Stroke Association Team Together to Educate the Public About Stroke Symptoms

"Give Me 5" Campaign Kicks Off

The American Academy of Neurology (AAN), the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) and the American Stroke Association (ASA) are raising awareness about the warning signs of stroke and the importance of getting to the emergency department fast with a campaign called "Give Me 5: Walk, Talk, Reach, See, Feel."

A stroke occurs when a blood vessel that carries oxygen and nutrients to the brain is either blocked by a clot or bursts. When that happens, part of the brain cannot get the blood (and oxygen) it needs, so it starts to die. Stroke is the third leading cause of death in the United States and a leading cause of disability. However, research shows the public remains unaware of its warning signs and the need for immediate med-

ical attention, even if the symptoms subside. Those symptoms include sudden difficulty walking, talking, reaching and seeing, as well as sudden and severe headache.

"Saving someone's life — or even your own — may be as simple as remembering 'Give Me 5,'" said Ms. Fairchild. "Do not ignore symptoms, and do not delay getting to the emergency department. With stroke, every minute counts."

"Give Me 5" offers a quick stroke check using five short words:

- Walk — Is their balance off?
- Talk — Is their speech slurred or face droopy?
- Reach — Is one side weak or numb?
- See — Is their vision all or partly lost?
- Feel — Is their headache severe?

It goes on to say, "If you recognize the sudden

signs of a stroke, call 9-1-1!" The campaign also urges people to say "I think this is a stroke," about themselves or someone they are with, when speaking with a 911 operator, paramedic, triage nurse or emergency physician. The campaign includes a toll-free phone number, 1-888-4STROKE, and a tri-branded website www.giveme5forstroke.org where the public can obtain more information, brochures and a giveaway item.

"I was driving when the right side of my body suddenly felt weak," said Dr. Fite of Houston, Texas. "I realized it was a stroke when the car started to swerve. Because I am an emergency physician, I knew to call 9-1-1 to get help immediately, which is why I made such a great recovery. But I know from my experience

as a doctor that too many people ignore stroke symptoms or wait for them to go away, with tragic results. 'Give Me 5' is a great tool for people to identify a stroke quickly and get help fast."

The campaign coincides with new research released in February showing a tripling in the rate of strokes among middle-aged women, the campaign's targeted audience.

"This surge of strokes in middle-aged women in a short period is very alarming," said Dr. Ralph Sacco, Fellow member of the American Academy of Neurology. "The important message of the 'Give Me 5' campaign is early identification of stroke symptoms and early intervention by doctors in the emergency department. That can make the difference between life and death."

Candlelight Vigil is Highlight for Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Collin County Community College District and The Turning Point Rape Crisis Center will host the 5th Annual Candlelight Vigil at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 24 at the Collin College Spring Creek Campus Atrium, 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway, in Plano.

The theme of this year's event is "A Candle for Hope, a Call for Action." The Vigil is the keystone event for Sexual Assault Awareness Month. It is free and open to all who wish to commemorate victims, past or present, of sexual violence.

This year's speaker is

Vickie Lamb, a survivor of sexual violence who writes poetry and prose. One of Lamb's written works will appear later this year in a collection of survivor stories to be published by RAINN (Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network).

Macie Jepson, news anchor for local ABC affiliate WFAA Channel 8, will emcee the event. Music will be provided by popular Dallas-area singer/songwriter Colin Boyd, with poetry selection will be read by Jenny Warren. A candle-lighting ceremony to honor victims and inspire action against sexual violence

will conclude the event.

The Turning Point Rape Crisis Center provides free advocacy, crisis intervention and counseling to survivors of sexual assault and childhood sexual abuse as well as their families. Each year, tens of thousands of Collin County residents participate in sexual violence awareness and prevention presentations offered by The Turning Point through schools and community organizations.

For more information, contact The Turning Point at 972.985.0951 or Collin College Counseling Services at 972.881.5126.

Garland Goes Green: Shredding and Telephone Book Recycling

Garland's upcoming environmental expo, Garland Goes Green, is not only a chance to learn about green living, it's an opportunity to dispose of private papers and old telephone books.

Garland Goes Green will take place at Firewheel Town Center on Saturday, April 19 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The expo will feature demonstrations, exhibitors, and presentations intended to show citizens how even the simplest changes in daily routines can help the environment.

Vista Fibers, an event sponsor, will collect old telephone books on site and have a huge shredder truck to allow citizens to dispose of personal

records. Vista Fibers holds AAA National Association Information Destruction certification for properly handling and destroying private records.

The Vista Fibers shredding and telephone book drop off will be set up in parking lot D2 on the north side of the Town Center (off River Fern Avenue, behind San Francisco Oven). Anyone who wants to drop off these items should plan on driving through the drop-off line, before or after attending the expo. Only four boxes of documents per household or business, please. Volunteers will be available to help direct traffic through the drop-off line and assist with heavy

items.

The City of Garland Environmental Waste Services department will display several vehicles from its waste collection fleet in the same area, including a recycling truck and a residential truck. Representatives from Vista Fibers and Environmental Waste Services will be on hand to answer questions about recycling, proper document disposal, and other issues related to waste disposal.

To find out more about the Garland Goes Green Expo, as well as other eco-friendly tips and resources for residents and businesses, go to www.GarlandGoesGreen.org.

No Outdoor Watering Restrictions in Effect for Plano

As the growing season for 2008 begins the City of Plano issued a reminder to residents that there currently are no outdoor water use restrictions for water customers in the City of Plano.

Even without the restrictions, the city's Public

Works Department, responsible for water supply and pumping, fully expects the community will continue to use this precious resource in an efficient and responsible manner, as demonstrated over the past year.

The drought the region

experienced in 2005 and 2006 was considered officially over in July of 2007. During the height of the water crisis (mid-2006), water use restrictions and compliance by the community resulted in a triumphant victory at the end

of the year when Plano's water consumption was cut by 3 billion gallons in a period of less than 6 months.

2008 has seen regular rainfall return to North Texas and the reservoirs that service our area (Lakes

Lavon, Cooper and Texoma) are full and ready to service our area without interruption.

In addition, the residents and businesses of Plano continue to show good stewardship when it comes to water use. Total water

consumption for the year 2007 was at a level not seen since 1996 when Plano's population was nearly 80,000 people less than it is today, demonstrating the commitment to conservation by our Plano water consumers.



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Dallas ISD Trustees To Host Informational Town Hall Meetings on 2008 Dallas ISD Bond Program

DALLAS – Dallas ISD Trustees will host informational Town Hall meetings to discuss the 2008 Dallas ISD bond program beginning Mon., Apr. 14, and continuing through Tues., May 6 (see schedule below). The election is Saturday, May 10, and early voting runs Monday, April 28 through Tuesday, May 6. The Town Hall meetings are free and open to the public.

Voters will be asked to decide on a \$1.35 billion bond program to provide improvements to every school in the District, specifically to build 15

new schools (8 elementary schools, 4 middle schools and 3 high schools), construct new additions in 12 existing schools, renovate more than 200 schools, build science labs, purchase classroom and lab computers, update technology and infrastructure, refurbish sports complexes, and renovate and expand lunchrooms.

For more info on the “Vote Yes! Dallas ISD Bond Campaign,” go to www.ourstudentsourfuture.com or www.dallasisd.org/bond.

At right is a schedule of the Town Hall meetings.

Trustee Dr. Edwin Flores (District 1) and Trustee Jerome Garza (District 7) (will be bilingual)	Saturday, April 19	10:00 a.m.	Blessed Sacrament, 231 N. Marsalis
Trustee Lew Blackburn (District 5)	Monday, April 21	6:30 p.m.	Tommie Allen Recreation Center, 7071 Bonnie View
Trustee Leigh Ann Ellis (District 3) and Trustee Jack Lowe (District 2)	Wednesday, April 23	7:00 p.m.	Ridgewood Recreation Center, 6818 Fisher Rd.
Trustee Ron Price (District 9)	Wednesday, April 23	6:30 p.m.	MLK Jr. Recreation Center, 2922 ML King Dr.
Trustee Jack Lowe (District 2)	Monday, April 28	6:30 p.m.	Skillman Southwestern Branch Library, 5707 Skillman Street
Trustee Carla Ranger (District 6)	Monday, April 28	6:30 p.m.	Thurgood Marshall Recreation Center, 5150 Mark Trail Way
Trustee Nancy Bingham (District 4) and Trustee Ron Price (District 9)	Monday, April 28	6:30 p.m.	Pleasant Grove Library, 1125 S. Buckner Blvd.
Trustee Leigh Ann Ellis (District 3)	Tuesday, April 29	7:00 p.m.	Central Luther Church, 1000 Easton Rd.
Trustee Ron Price (District 9)	Tuesday, April 29	6:30 p.m.	Lakewood Branch Library, 6121 Worth Street
Trustee Dr. Edwin Flores (District 1)	Tuesday, April 29	6:30 p.m.	Marcus Rec Center, 3003 Northaven
Trustee Leigh Ann Ellis (District 3)	Tuesday, May 6	7:00 p.m.	Owenwood United Methodist Church, Lakeland R. (by SS Conner ES)

Scholarship Fundraiser Luncheon Planned April 19th

Professional Achievers for Community Excellence (PACE) hosts its 20th annual scholarship luncheon and fashion show, Saturday April 19, 2008 at Brookhaven Country Club. PACE was founded by two African American women, neighbors and new to Dallas at the time. They both had a desire to meet other women and form an organization which

focused community service. Scholarship awards, of up to \$1,000, are given annually at the scholarship luncheon and fashion show.

PACE has received applications from schools across the Metroplex, including Carrollton, Farmers Branch, Garland, Dallas and Plano. Door prizes and a decorated hat contest. Vendor booths featuring

apparel, jewelry and cosmetics. For ticket information call 972-394-6194 or 972-416-8148.

Chrysler Foundation Donation to Morehouse College in Honor of Spike Lee

Chrysler Senior VP-External Affairs and Public Policy, W. Frank Fountain, awards Honoree Spike Lee at the Chrysler presentation of the 6th Annual Behind the Lens Award on March 26, 2008 in Beverly Hills, California. The Chrysler Foundation will donate \$25,000 in Lee's name to his alma mater, Morehouse College in Atlanta.

The donation will benefit the Morehouse College School of Sports Journalism, a program created to expand the field of sports journalism for African-American students. The pro-

gram, which began with seed money donated by Lee, launched its first course offerings in January 2007. Lee, who received his bachelor's degree in 1979, is a third-generation Morehouse graduate and now serves on the school's board of trustees. To date, his efforts have raised more than \$1 million to benefit the program.



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Dallas County Commissioners Court Honors the District 3 Public Health Advisory Council for National Public Health Week 2008

In recognition of National Public Health Week, Dallas County Commissioners Court has honored the grassroots work of the District 3 Public Health Advisory Council with a resolution issued March 25, 2008. The 24 member Council, with representatives from 18 area public health organizations and community leaders, serves as a conduit for health information and resources to providers and residents. The District 3 Public Health Advisory Council was started January 2006 by Dallas County Commissioner John Wiley Price. Comprised of key stakeholders from the health community, the Council concentrates its efforts to support creative strategies to resolve health challenges faced by constituents within Dallas County with a special emphasis on Dallas County District 3.

"When I formed this

Council, I charged the membership to focus on innovative solutions to health-related issues and disparities impacting constituents within my district, and the County at large," said Commissioner John Wiley Price, the Council's Chair. The Council's goals are:

- ✓ to increase the level of support for health-related initiatives in the District 3 sector;
- ✓ to serve as a conduit for health information and resources to providers and the community; and
- ✓ to evaluate and improve overall health emphasis through community outreach activities.

"Among the Council's many accomplishments are several successful partnerships in support of events such as the KwanzaaFest The Beat Obesity 5K Walk/Run, AT&T Health and Wellness on the Plaza, and the implementation of several community forums and lectures, as well as

KwanzaaFest HealthFest, the largest health outreach effort targeting the African American community in the Metroplex," said Karin Petties, Council Co-Chair. In addition to Ms. Petties, Roslyn Fitch and Cheryl Mayo also serve as the Council's Co-Chairs. For more information about the Council, please call 214-653-6671.

"It is encouraging to see the number and caliber of organizations and individuals represented on the District 3 Public Health Advisory Council working together to implement new solutions that meet the needs of our citizens," said Zachary Thompson, Dallas County Health and Human Services Director. DCHHS is a part of the District 3 Public Health Advisory Council.

The American Public Health Association (APHA) designated April 7-11, 2008 as National Public Health Week (NPHW).



Members of the District 3 Public Health Advisory Council, shown from left to right: Roslyn Fitch (UT Southwestern Medical Center), Dr. Cheletta Watkins (Family Medical Center at White Rock), Suzanne Kubelka (Dallas Independent School District), John Wiley Price (Dallas County Commissioner), Karin Petties (Dallas County Health and Human Services), Lisa McGuinness-Jones (Methodist Health Center), Marcene Royster (Parkland Health and Hospital System), and Zachary Thompson (Dallas County Health and Human Services).

Spring Job Fair at Eastfield College

(Mesquite, TX) – Eastfield College's Career Services Office co-sponsored its Spring Job Fair from on Thursday, April 3, in the Gym. The event was free and open to students of Eastfield College and the general public. Sponsors include Eastfield College Career

Services, Eastfield College Student Programs & Resources, and the US Department of Education's Job Location and Development Program. Special employer sponsors include Allen Police Department, Bank of America, Braum's Ice Cream & Dairy, Employment



Sponsors.jpg (l-r, back row): Gerald Marshall and Nicole Shaw, Allen Police Department; Demetria Denman, unknown identified sponsor; Sandra Kaperonis, Volt Worksource Solution; Charsie Williams, UPS and Anthony Mason, Employment News. (front row): Kassie Anglin and Ingrid Herrera, Napa Auto Parts, and Karen Singletary, Employment News. Sponsors not pictured: Bank of America, Braum's Ice Cream & Dairy Stores and Head Start of Greater Dallas.

Community Leaders Help Fundraising Efforts for VNA

Joe Nathan Wright and Victor Elmore were among the more than 330 guests in attendance at the "Wheels For Meals and More" fundraising gala to benefit the Visiting Nurse Association held March 30, 2008 in Dallas. Both are members of the Visiting Nurse Association Board of Directors.

The event raised over \$344,000 to support the Visiting Nurse Association's

Meals on Wheels, home care, and hospice programs. In addition, the fundraiser will help the Visiting Nurse Association complete the

rebuilding of its headquarters in Dallas, which housed the Meals on Wheels kitchen before it was destroyed by a fire in 2005.

The evening included a reception, dinner, program, and live auction. NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Car No. 96 DLP®

HDTV Toyota was on display at the event.

The "Wheels For Meals and More" theme of the gala underscored that services provided by the Visiting Nurse Association are "driven" to patients' homes. In fiscal year 2007, the Visiting Nurse Association prepared 856,918 meals for home delivery and made over 100,000 home visits to provide home health and hospice care.

News, Head Start of Greater Dallas, Napa Auto Parts, UPS and Volt Services.

There were 53 companies represented and 400 job seekers attended.

The sponsors' registration fees were used to fund several Career Development Scholarships and to help offset the expense of the job fair. Winner of the scholarships, which must be used within one year at Eastfield College, are Kristina Ball of Terrell; Trang Neimetz of Mesquite; Homero Arriaga, Nelly Cuenca, Tariku Chikssa and Ernesto Avila, all from Dallas.



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Ongoing

African American Republican Club of Collin County meets 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm (Doors will open at 6:30 pm) Collin County Republican Party Headquarters 8416 Stacy Road, McKinney Call Fred Moses at 972 618 7027 or fred@tes.com for more information.

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce General Meeting is 2nd Thursday monthly, 6:30pm - 7:30pm. McKinney Housing Authority 1200 N Tennessee St McKinney 75069 The general public is welcome. For additional information call 469-424-0120.

Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce Monthly Lunch & Learn every 3rd Thursday \$15 for members; \$20 for non-members, 11:00am-1:00pm, Ralph and Kacoos - 401 S. Central Expwy, Allen. For general information and reservations call 469-424-0120.

DFW Financially Empowered Women meet monthly for lunch or dinner and a fun, informative seminar on various financial topics. For more information call 469-952-0809 or visit www.meetup.com/378.

Marriage Prep Class 1st Saturdays monthly 423 West Wheatland Road Suite 101, Duncanville 75116 \$10 fee for materials. For more info call Karen Duval at 972-709-1180.

No Limit Network Business Networking Lunch 1st and 3rd Thursday 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.

SHARE! PISD International Exchange Student Program is in the process of finding new host families to share their hearts and home with an exchange student for the 2008/2009 School Year. For more

information on or how to become a host family, call 1-800-941-3738, or www.share-southwest.org.

Watermarks Invitational Exhibit runs through April 12th 9:00 am - 8:00 pm Mondays through Thursdays, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Fridays, and 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Saturdays. FREE Collin College 800 E. Spring Creek Parkway. For more info call 972-881-5873, or visit www.ccccd.edu.

The National Business Women Enterprise Network (NBWEN) hosts monthly lunch and learn workshop and networking event giving members and guests the opportunity to network, build relationships, present information on their business and services, and most importantly, learn different ways to improve upon and grow their business. For more information www.nbwen.org or info@nbwen.org.

Wit Women Conference Call join this weekly conference call if you need encouragement, prayer, or inspiration. Dial in Tuesdays 7:00pm - 7:15pm to 218-486-1616, Code 10984 (may change each week).

April 18

The "Committed to a Vision" Gala and Concert will feature a live performance by Patti LaBelle and the first annual "World Impact Awards" paying tribute to International icon, Nelson Mandela. This epic event will take place at One Arts Plaza at 7:00 p.m. For ticket information, please contact the Dallas Black Dance Theatre at 214-871-2376 or www.dbdt/2008gala.com.

Comedy Night at the Muse featuring Pierre The Dallas Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex 9:00 pm, admission \$15. For more call TBAAL at 214-743-2442. Vendor Training Workshop at the Mesquite Arts Center Rehearsal Hall 1527 North Galloway Avenue, Mesquite, 75149 from 2:00 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. Don't forget to bring your business cards! Call 972-216-6201.

April 18 - 19

Relay For Life - South Dallas At the PC Cobb Stadium, 1702 Robert B. Cullum, Dallas, 75210; 7:00 p.m.

April 19

Kidney Early Evaluation Program (KEEP) Free Kidney Screening program targets at risk individuals, who are hypertensive, diabetic or have a 1st degree family member with kidney disease or a transplant. 2400 E. Seminary Drive Fort Worth 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Admission free, for more info email lhensley@nkft.org, or call 214-351-2393.

Keep Rowlett Beautiful hosts the City of Rowlett Waterways Spring Clean Up from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Volunteers will meet at Herfurth Park, 4601 Centennial Drive, east of City Hall. Call 972-463-3929 or email info@keeprowlettbeautiful.org by April 7th to sign up and receive your location assignment.

Keep Garland Beautiful by participating in the annual Trash Off (in conjunction with the Garland Going Green Expo). Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. at Audubon Park, 342 Oates Road and at the Garland Goes Green site at Firewheel Town Center, Beebalm Lane at River Fern. For more information about this year's Trash Off event, call 972-205-3896 or log onto the City of Garland website at www.ci.garland.tx.us.

Run for Cover at the Stonebridge Ranch Beach Club will include a 1K, 5K and 10K fun run to benefit Samaritan Inn. Visit www.mcfbc.org to register.

Garland Goes Green Environmental Expo offers useful information on biofuels and money saving tips on how to stay green from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The event will be held at Firewheel Town Center in and around the park area along Beebalm Lane and Town Center Boulevard.

"Spring Fiesta" Dance Series this robust energetic performance will take place at 7:30 p.m. at the Latino Cultural Center, 2900 Live Oak Street, Dallas, 75204. Tickets are \$15. For additional information, please contact Dallas Black Dance Theatre at 214-871-2376 or www.dbdt.com.

Junior League of Plano's 19th Annual Trinkets to Treasures Rummage Sale will be located the Plano Centre 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway, Plano, 75074 from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Admission is \$5 from 8:00am to 10:00am and \$3 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Seniors 65+ receive \$1 off admission all day. Children 11 years of age and under are admitted free. For more information contact the Junior League of Plano Hotline at 972-769-1142 or www.jlplano.org.

G3: Greater Games Gathering is a non-profit event designed to bring table top gamers together in a thrice-annual gaming convention located at the Plano Centre 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway, Plano, 75074. Admission to the event is \$8.00 for Internet Pre-registration; \$12 at the door. The convention will last from 8:00 a.m. until 11:30 p.m. For more information call 972-612-4133 or email info@greatergamesgathering.org or www.greatergamesgathering.org.

April 20

The Expressions 6th annual Express Café in the Collin College Spring Creek Campus cafeteria at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are available at the door for \$10 general admission or \$5 for students, free for children under 6. Proceeds benefit choral student scholarships. The café is set up as an upscale coffee shop with complimentary desserts and beverages available. For more information, contact Kathy Morgan at kmorgan@cccd.edu.

April 21 and 22

The NAACP Garland Branch 15th Annual "EXCEL" Awards Program honors African-American students in the Garland Independent School District (GISD) will be on Monday, April 21, (for elementary students) and will feature Keynote Speaker The Honorable Weldon Bradley former Garland City Councilman. The middle school students will be awarded on Tuesday the 22 with a keynote address from Mr. Edwin Hood, Assistant Principal at Armstrong Elementary School. Both ceremonies will be held at 7:00 p.m. at South Garland High School, 600 Colonel Drive, Garland, 75043. Contact the NAACP Garland Branch at 972-381-5044 for more info.

April 22 - 26

10th Annual African Economic Forum 20 countries to participate this year; for more information call 214-

421-6155

April 22

Heritage Manor Healthcare Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 1621 Coit Road at the Northwest corner of 15th and Coit Roads across from Medical Center of Plano; the fun begins at 10:30 a.m. 972-758-5204.

Distinguished Leadership Award & Candidate Information Night at Leadership Plano, starting at 5:30 at the Courtyard Theatre, 1517 Avenue H in downtown Plano. RSVP to 972-424-7547, ext. 230.

April 23

The Plano Chamber of Commerce Business Development Committee will host Success In Business. The speaker, Nancy Barry, author of When Reality Hits; What Employers Want Recent College Graduates to Know, will present, "Gen Y - Are They Ready for the Real World?"

April 23 - 26

The Marriage Boot Camp is an interactive relationship workshop located at the Plano Centre 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway, Plano, 75074 from 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Wednesdays - Fridays and 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m. on Saturday. Admission is \$400 per person for basic training; \$600 per person for advanced training. For more information contact: 214-641-3866 or visit www.marriagebootcamp.com.

April 24

Estate Planning Seminar focusing on Probate and Estate Taxes. This free 90-minute program explains how to use a Living Trust or a Properly Drafted Will to save on Estate Taxes and Control your Assets. Presented by Dallas Estate Planning Attorney, Richard P. Johnson who is Board Certified in Estate Planning and Probate Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. For reservations call Karen at 972-497-1010 or email Karen@RichardJohnsonLaw.com.

Business After Hours at the Prince Bistro, 1201 East Spring Creek Parkway, Suite 100 at 5:30 p.m. RSVP to 972-424-7547, ext. 230.

A Night Out with the Mayor will be held at the North

Garland Branch Library, 3845 North Garland Road (in the Spring Creek Shopping Center at Apollo Road). This will be an open format, come-and-go session from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. It is not necessary to schedule an appointment. The Mayor will visit with citizens in the order in which they sign in upon arrival. For more information, call 972-205-2471 or email EDattomo@ci.garland.tx.us.

Collin County Community College and The Turning Point Rape Crisis Center will host the 5th Annual Candlelight Vigil at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 24 at the Collin College Spring Creek Campus Atrium; 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway, in Plano.

April 26

Iota Phi Lambda Sorority Annual Business Month Awards Luncheon at the Cityplace Conference Center from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Tickets are \$40.00. For ticket information, please call Rita Powell at 972-492-5878 or Rosa Henderson at 214-376-8825.

Garland Youth Council Hosts Fashionable Food Drive at the Garland Civic Theatre 108 North Sixth Street on the east side of the downtown square from 1 - 3 pm. Admission for the event is a donation of non-perishable food items, which will go to Good Samaritans of Garland. Teen designers are invited to show their designs at the event. For more information, contact Dorothy White at 214-212-0803 or dwhite@ci.garland.tx.us or www.GarlandYouthCouncil.org.

Putting It On Paper: A Teen Writing Seminar will be held this Saturday, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. at Mount Hebron Missionary Baptist Church (1233 State Highway 66, Garland, TX). The low seminar cost of \$49.00 guarantees work manual, writing materials, continental breakfast, and lunch. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Teens Reaching Teens, Inc., a non-profit group. To register for this seminar, please visit www.writersed.com or www.teengraffiti.com. For additional information, please call Sharon Jones-Scaife, at 972-496-9457.

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DART Rail Green Line on Schedule, on Budget

Next Stop: Deep Ellum, Baylor, and Fair Park!

North Texans are just over 500 days away from taking the train to Deep Ellum, Baylor University Medical Center, and Fair Park when the first phase of the \$1.8 billion, 28-mile Green Line rail project opens as scheduled on September 14, 2009.

"There is a long tradition of passenger rail service in the communities served by the Green Line, and we're excited to help bring it back," DART President/Executive Director Gary Thomas said.

Until January 1956 streetcars carried passengers through Deep Ellum and the neighborhoods by Baylor Hospital to Fair Park where up to four sets of tracks were in service in front of the fairgrounds, Thomas explained. "Not coincidentally, the Green Line will follow much the same path, and Fair Park Station will be in the same location as it was when rail service stopped in 1956. We look forward to transporting new generations of North Texans through these communities."

DART Rail doubling

The first section of the Green Line will extend from Pearl Station on the east side of Downtown Dallas to Deep Ellum Station, Baylor Station, Fair Park Station (at the intersection of Parry and Exposition) and the MLK Station, adjacent to the J.



B. Jackson, Jr. Transit Center on the southwest side of Fair Park. Daily service to Victory Station also will begin September 2009. The remaining 25 miles of the Green Line, scheduled to open in December 2010,

will extend southeast to Pleasant Grove and northwest from Victory Station to the Dallas Market Center, the Southwestern Medical District, Love Field Airport and downtown Farmers Branch and

Carrollton.

Green Line construction began in Summer 2006 following the award of a \$700 million Full Funding Grant Agreement from the Federal Transit Administration.

DART's current expansion programs will lead to the doubling of the DART Rail System to 90 miles by 2013. Altogether, the rail extensions are expected to add 60,000 weekday passenger trips, essentially doubling ridership on the DART Rail System.

A new Orange Line will branch from the Green Line at Bachman Station to serve Irving and Las Colinas in 2011 and DFW International Airport by 2013. Service also will be extended from Garland to Rowlett in 2012. DART also is conducting the Downtown Dallas Transit Study, which includes a

second rail line through the Dallas Central Business District with revenue service scheduled for 2014. And a Blue Line extension from Ledbetter Station to UNT-Dallas is scheduled to open in 2018.

Green Line creating local jobs

More than 2,000 workers are involved daily in building the Green Line, and approximately 95% of the crews are local residents. The safety record also is strong. DART officials report the agency has experienced workers' compensation and liability insurance expenses significantly below the

national average within the construction industry.

DART officials credit intensive safety training. "We've conducted more than 250 safety-training classes on this project alone - including more than 120 in Spanish," Thomas explained. "What's more, we keep up with our workers after training. Working with our construction partners, we've developed an innovative mentor program where senior construction workers guide new hires through their first months on the job to make sure they understand how to work as safely and efficiently as possible."

Green Line (Southeast Corridor) Projected Opening Dates

10.1 miles, Pearl Station to Buckner Station; 8 stations

Pearl Station to MLK Station (2.7 miles)

Opens: September 2009

Stations*: Deep Ellum

Baylor

Fair Park

MLK

* Daily service to Victory Station also begins September 2009

MLK Station to Buckner Station (7.4 miles)

Opens: December 2010

Stations: Hatcher

Lawnview

Lake June

Buckner

Green Line (Northwest Corridor) Projected Opening Dates

17.6 miles, West End Station (Dallas) to Frankford Station (Carrollton); 12 stations

West End Station to Victory Station (1.2 miles)

Opened: November 12, 2004 (special event service only)

September 2009 (daily service)

Victory Station to Inwood Station (2.8 miles)

Opens: December 2010

Stations: Market Center

Southwestern Medical District/Parkland

Inwood

Inwood Station to Bachman Station (Northwest Highway) (3.2 miles)

Opens: December 2010

Stations: Love Field

Bachman

Bachman Station to Farmers Branch Station (4.9 miles)

Opens: December 2010

Stations: Walnut Hill/Denton

Royal Lane

Farmers Branch

Farmers Branch Station to North Carrollton/Frankford Station (5.5 miles)

Opens: December 2010

Stations: Downtown Carrollton

Trinity Mills

North Carrollton/Frankford



Arapaho Center Station - DART Red Line

Photo: Billy Coleman

Auteur Film Series Ends With 'Sense and Sensibility'

Collin College is ending its 2007-08 Auteur Film Series at the Angelika Film Center with a screening of "Sense and Sensibility."

The final screening is scheduled for 7 p.m., Thursday, April 24, under the theme of "Secrets, Deceptions and Epiphanies: Fruit from the Cinematic Tree of Knowledge."

The event is open to the public and free for

Collin College students, faculty and staff. For community members, it is \$5. The Angelika Film Center is located at The Shops at Legacy in Plano, 7205 Bishop Road.

The Auteur Film Series operates under the umbrella of "Education Through Film." The film will be followed by a panel discussion led by Collin College faculty and staff discussing the

themes of the film.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and seating is limited. Some material may not be suitable for all audiences.

The adaptation of the Jane Austen novel is directed by Ang Lee. "Sense and Sensibility" chronicles the widow of Mr. Dashwood and their three daughters who are placed in straitened circumstances and are forced to marry for social

and financial survival. Both daughters and their suitors negotiate the rigid system of British courtship, but must look beyond to rules to see each other. The film is rated PG and runs 136 minutes.

For more information about the Auteur Film Series, visit www.ccccd.edu/auteur-films or contact Dr. Carolyn Perry at cperry@cccd.edu.

Frisco Theatre Plans Plano Performances

By: Rick A. Elina



Word of Mouth Productions, a non-profit theatre company based in Frisco, Texas, is in the process of slating performances at Plano's own, Art Centre Theatre in Historic downtown Plano. Becky McCants, Artistic Director for Word of Mouth, says, "Our mission is to provide the highest quality, family safe entertainment. Our first production, Smoke on the Mountain, debuted at a church in Frisco, in July of 2004." In fact, it is the lack of a viable performance space that brought Word of Mouth to Plano. Since its debut, Word of Mouth has produced many musical crowd pleasers such as, All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten, You're a Good Man Charlie Brown, Sander's Family Christmas, Schoolhouse Rock, Live! and Sleepy Hollow. They have also had great success with melodramas, such as The Saga of the Golden Horseshoe and Males Order Brides. It's not uncommon, in fact, it's almost required that these family-fun productions have audiences participating by booing, cheering and throwing popcorn at the actors. Kids of all

ages love it!

Sarah VC Henderson, Artistic Director, of Teatro delle Muse, the resident company of the Art Centre Theatre, brokered and negotiated the deal that brought Word of Mouth to Plano. "It was my goal from the beginning, when we first took over this theatre, to offer something every weekend, for the area residents. Word of Mouth brings a professionalism and quality to live theatre that compliments our own mission. We are proud to have them in our space." Teatro delle Muse has just concluded its 2007-2008 season with Tennessee Williams' Glass Menagerie, an all African American production sponsored by The North Dallas Gazette.

Mrs. McCants recalls the steady growth of her theatre company over the last year. "Our third season has been a very exciting year of productions based on Literary Classics. From our main-stage productions of the musical adaptation of Sleepy Hollow to The Cricket on the Hearth, to our touring one act series including Rikki Tikki Tavi, The Magician's Nephew, The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe and Charlotte's Web, we have thoroughly enjoyed bringing to life the stories and characters from the books of Washington Irving, Charles Dickens, Rudyard Kipling, C.S. Lewis and E.B. White and hope that we have sparked incentives in children (and children at heart) to read, or re-read, these beloved tales."

The final production of

their 2007-2008 season is Treasure Island A Musical Adventure. Based on the story by Robert Louis Stevenson, excitement is abundant in this high-stepping musical adaptation of a favorite childhood adventure story. Stevenson's thrilling tale of pirates, treasure maps, mutiny on the high seas has been a favorite for generations. The hero of the story, Jim Hawkins, is an ordinary youth drawn into a dangerous race for buried treasure against the treacherous Long John Silver. As the author himself wrote, "If this don't fetch the kids, why, they have gone rotten since my day." Mrs. McCants says this rip-snorting, rollicking, romp through a literary classic is sure to please audiences of all ages.

The Plano production features a talented cast of actors and technical crew from all parts of the Metroplex. The show is directed by Teresa Andron of Frisco, with musical direction by Mike Terrill of Lewisville.

Treasure Island-The Musical runs April 25 through May 9; Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00pm, Sundays at 3:30pm.

At The Arts Centre Theatre, 1028 15th Place, Plano.

Tickets: \$15/Adults, \$12/Sr. Adults & Students, \$10/Children under 12.

Call (214) 734-7326 or visit www.womproductions.com.

Rick A. Elina is a playwright based in Plano, Texas and Theatre Critic for The North Dallas Gazette.

Local Theater News

Upcoming Productions

Placement auditions for Plano Children's Theatre productions of Wizard of Oz, Feiffer's People, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, Once On This Island, and Spot On Improv Troupe are Wednesdays, April 30 and May 7 from 5-8 p.m. and Saturdays, May 3 and 10 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Auditions are at Plano Children's Theatre, 1301 Custer Road, Suite 832. Casting youth, ages 7-18. Feiffer's People and Funny Thing . . . are casting youth, ages 12-18 only. Bring a song and a CD to accompany you. Cold readings will be available.

Plano Children's Theatre works with youth at all stages of training from the beginner to the professional. The purpose behind placement auditions is to access the best learning vehicle for the student. Every person who auditions will be placed in either a major production or perhaps a smaller production or acting class.

Coming to a placement audition does not obligate a family to participate in our program. Scholarships are available for qualified Plano residents. In addition, Plano Children's Theatre barbers for sewing, printing, and plumbers! For more

information, please call (972) 422-2575.

Once On This Island - The Musical

McKinney Youth Theatre presents ONCE ON THIS ISLAND, Jr. the musical. The performances are April 25-26, May 9-11. Fridays and Saturdays at 7:15 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays at 2:15 p.m. Auditions are at 7:15 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays at 2:15 p.m. Tickets are \$7 in advance and \$9 at the door. For tickets, please call (972) 422-2575.

This highly original and theatrical Caribbean adaptation of the popular fairy tale, "the Little Mermaid" sings and dances the story Ti Moune, the peasant girl who rescues, nurses and falls in love with Daniel, a boy from a wealthy family. When Daniel is returned to his people, the gods who rule the island guide Ti Moune on a quest to test the strength of her love against the powerful forces of prejudice, hatred, and death.

Books and lyrics by Lynn Ahrens, music by Stephen Flaherty. Based on the novel, My Love, My Love by Rosa Guy. The director and choreographer is Cassidy Crown - beloved director at McKinney Youth Theatre. The actors are youth.

Snow White and the Seven Dwarves - The Musical

Plano Children's Theatre presents SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARVES, the musical. The performances are April 25-May 3, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:15 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays at 2:15 p.m. Performances are at 1301 Custer Road, Suite 832 in Plano. Tickets are \$7 in advance and \$9 at the door. For tickets, please call (972) 422-2575.

Snow White is adapted by prolific playwright, Tim Kelly. Music is by Bill Francour. The actors are youth. Audience members are invited to come dressed as their favorite character. Bring your camera and take a photo of your child on stage after the performance with the cast.

Plano Children's Theatre Auditions for

The Business Assistance Center, Inc. and Regions Bank Proudly Present

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April 19, 2008 10am - 3pm

ABOUT THE EVENT

This Business Camp is created to allow executives and business owners to gain valuable insight to essential principles of entrepreneurship, access to capital, marketing for revenue growth and much more.

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- How to have the perfect banking relationship
- 10 key marketing and revenue building strategies
- Preview the debut of the CEO Sister DVD

Scheduled to attend. Access www.bac5.org for fees, registration and transportation

University of Dallas - Frisco Campus 7460 Warren Parkway 1st Floor Frisco, Texas 75034

Just past IKEA. For more information call 214.376-6530

Scheduled Panelists Include:

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Keynote Speaker

Jewel Diamond Taylor

Schell Blanton

Teresa Gilbert

Jake Heloff

Dr. Yolanda Brooks

Starlene Stinger

Jill Darden

Yvette Moyn

Cheryl Smith

Dr. Laverne Gladney

Nancy Flowers

Michele Hoskins

Speakers and topics are subject to change. Please access website for current information, fees and registration. www.bac5.org

Radio One, Inc. Announces the Acquisition of Social Media Network Community Connect Inc.

WASHINGTON, DC - Radio One, Inc. announced that it has acquired the social networking company, Community Connect Inc. for a transaction price of approximately 38 million dollars.

Community Connect Inc. (CCI), which owns and operates a number of social-networking brands under its umbrella including BlackPlanet.com, MiGente.com, and AsianAve.com, is the leading online niche social-networking company. With over 23 million members CCI is a ComScoreTM Top 50 Social Networking web publisher and category leader for building niche online communities/destinations for US ethnic groups. This success

drove BlackPlanet.com to a #4 ranking in Hitwise'sTM year-end 2007 Top US Social Networking Sites Report, behind MySpace, Facebook and Bebo.

"CCI is an innovator and pioneer in social networking," said Alfred Liggins, III, Radio One's CEO and president. "We believe that they are a great complement to our existing radio, TV, and online properties."

This acquisition is another example of Radio One Inc.'s continued strategy of diversification outside of the radio broadcasting space in order to deliver a more holistic approach to targeting African-Americans. Radio One purchased GIANT, a magazine targeting urban consumers in

December 2006 and has an interest in the African-American targeted cable network TV ONE. This acquisition gives Radio One a strong foothold in the ever growing social networking and multicultural online space.

"We will be the clear number one in the African-American online space," said Mr. Liggins.

Analyst eMarketer predicts that by 2011, \$4.1 billion will be spent worldwide for social network advertising, a dramatic increase from the \$480 million spent in 2006. In 2008 alone, global ad spend in the social networking arena is expected to increase 75% year over year, amounting to \$2.1 billion (eMarketer, Social Network Marketing: Ad Spending

and Usage, December 2007).

"This is a great opportunity to take CCI to the next level," said Ben Sun, president, CEO, and founder of CCI. "Radio One reaches over 20 million people every week in radio, TV, print and online, giving us the opportunity to capitalize on cross-platform opportunities for our brands that will truly benefit our members and advertisers."

"CCI's management team recognizes that the Internet is less about single destinations and more about connecting people around touchpoints of culture and lifestyles. They have built incredible loyalty among their members," said Tom Newman, president of Radio One's Interactive division.

Stephanie Ward Gallery to Host Final Exhibit

Plano TX - After 18 years in business, Stephanie Ward Gallery is closing its door with a farewell exhibit featuring photographer April Cotton and an exhibit of hand-painted neckties by local artists, Friday and Saturday April 18, and 19, at 920 18th St. Plano, TX 75074.

The neck tie exhibit "Tied To Greatness," will feature 20 hand painted neckties and art work by artist Frank Frazier, Patrick Lewis, Roy Vance, Pretty Rikki, Jeffrey Faynan, Sherry Hall and others. The opening reception is Friday April 18, 7-9:30 p.m. Artists will attend the event to answer questions about their artwork and neck ties. The event is open and free to the public.

Ms. Cotton will also display her collection of 30 uniquely framed photographic images of African's beautiful landscape and people. Ms. Cotton's work will be on exhibit both Friday and Saturday.

Saturday's exhibit will run from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

This will be the last exhibit of the 18-year-old gallery's history. The gallery doors will close on April 29, 2008. The gallery had has a long history in several locations in Dallas, before moving to its current home in historical downtown Plano. It has long been a hot spot for African-Americans and contemporary art lovers.

"This is an end of an era for me," said Ms. Ward. "I am not exactly sure how I feel." The closing is bittersweet, "I look forward to spending quality time with my family, I know I will miss the opportunity to mix creativity with helping others. I look forward to my next season in life. This one has been a dream come true."

Ms. Ward laughingly says this exhibit is her swan song.

"I've decided I want to leave business the way I started, I open in April 1990 with an exhibit that raised

money for a nonprofit organization, so I thought it would be great to leave business that same. I hope old customers and some new will stop by and say good bye."

The ties exhibit features both wearable ties and ties that can be hung on the wall. All of the proceeds from the sale of the ties will go to Big Brothers and Big Sisters of North Texas. Local artists will also, exhibit original artwork during the tie exhibit.

"We are hoping that this exhibit will bring attention to the overwhelming need for men and women to volunteer with the pro-

gram. Currently, there are about 1,500 children in this area waiting for a match," Ms. Ward said.

"In addition to raising awareness, I hope we can raise money for this organization, it cost money to facilitate these matches."

Art work by local artists and an Airline Ticket from Southwest Airlines will be given away to someone who signs up for the program.

All of the gallery's art and furniture is on sale. Call or e-mail the gallery for more information at stephaniegallary@yahoo.com or (469) 229-0024.

ATTORNEY



Hiram McBeth III

Attorney and Counselor at Law

(972) 498-8872

No Charge for Consultation

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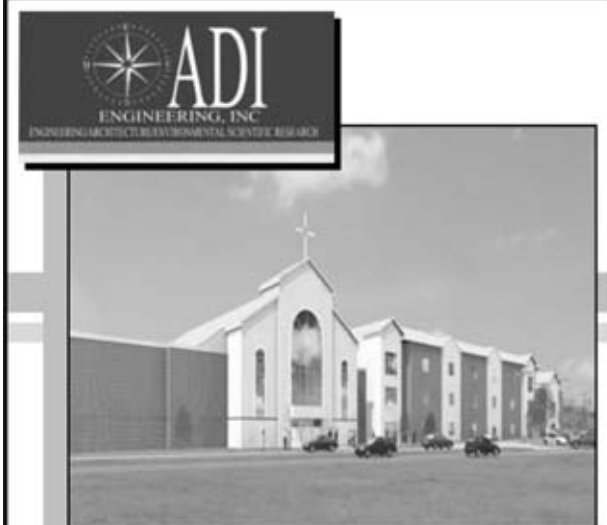
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Don Anyanwu, Ph.D., P.E., CEM - President

Simmons, pg 1

emphasis is social work and community affairs. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in education from Midwestern University, where she majored in English and Speech, and minored in Special Education. She attended the University of Texas at Dallas and the University of Dallas receiving advanced graduate studies in Humanities, and North Texas University for Educational Administration. She earned a Master of Education in Educational Leadership from the University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. Simmons served over 25 years in public school instruction and leadership, including the Dallas Independent School District, the Texas Education Agency, and the Austin

Independent School District. Her curriculum writing experiences include presentations for the U.S. Department of Justice Civitas project in Ireland, and cultural exchange projects with several countries in West Africa. She serves as a grants reviewer for the U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC. Her dissertation was titled, How African American Parents Select and Evaluate Charter School Services for their Fourth and Fifth-Grade Sons. She continues to do research on this topic and on implementation of multicultural curricula in schools and teacher education. Dr. Simmons teaches graduate courses in K-12 school leadership preparation and undergraduate courses at the College of Education University of Missouri-Columbia. She has a distinguished background

as a teacher and administrator in Austin and Dallas, TX schools.

The Spring Distinguished Lecture is a part of the African American Heritage Series which also includes The Thelma Daniels Distinguished Lecture, The Fall Distinguished Lecture, college level courses in African American history and African American art history, preservation workshops and several other academic initiatives.

The lecture is free and open to the public. For more information contact Dr. Emma Dawson at 214-565-9026 ext 307 or via edawson@aamdallas.com.

Admission to the African American Museum is free except for groups of 10 or more. Then the cost is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.

Garland, pg 1

that will be in and around the park area along Beebalm Lane and Town Center Blvd. Bags will be limited to two per family.

Be sure to check various booths to register for door prizes which will be given away throughout the day.

Garland Goes Green will feature demonstrations, exhibitors, and presentations intended to show citizens how even the simplest changes in daily routines can help the environment. Boy Scouts Venturing Crew 145 will give ongoing demonstrations at their booth of "Leave No Trace" techniques for campers and other outdoor enthusiasts.

Master composter David Vines will demonstrate composting techniques for beginners and those who've been composting for years. Mike Norten will have a worm farm on hand to demonstrate how these little wiggles play an important role in your gardening success. Both of these demonstrations will be available at the City of Garland Environmental Waste Services booth through out the day.

Visit the Garland Goes Green "Green Room" for presentations on a variety of topics including organic gardening, biofuels and more. The presentation schedule will be as follows:

✓ 11 a.m. - Dr. Sam Feagley, Texas A&M, Agri-Life Extension Service
Topic: Soil Nutrient Sources and Management for Healthy Plants

✓ Noon - Dr. Jeurg Blumenthal
Texas A&M Agri-Life Extension Service
Topic: Biofuels

✓ 1 p.m. - Jennifer Ellis, National Wildlife Federation
Topic: Save Water, Save Rivers, Save Money: The Potential of Municipal Water Conservation in Texas

✓ 2 p.m. - Gary Olp, AIA, LEED AP, GGO Architects, Corp.

Topic: Green Construction and Renovation Strategies
✓ 3 p.m. - Doty Woodson, Ed. D., Texas Cooperative Extension, Texas A&M University System

Topic: Plants that beat the heat and keep on blooming
✓ 4 p.m. - Susan Flanagan, Dallas County Master Gardeners EARTH-KIND™ Roses

The Garland Goes Green stage in the Town Center Park will feature a variety of performers. Important event announcements will originate from the stage, including the awards for the Garland Trash-Off, and door prize winners. Kids Who Care will present environmental messages through music, acting and dance. Kids Who Care is a Fort Worth-based musical theatre company with a mission of producing confident, creative kids who make a difference in their communities. Children's songwriter Laura Freeman from Austin will perform several of her most popular songs about the environment and life outdoors. Local perform-

ance groups from area dance, theatre and music schools will also be showcased.

Exhibitors will offer information about everything from recycling electronics to green housekeeping techniques to environmentally-friendly pet products.

Entertainment will also reflect the event's green theme.

To find out more about the Garland Goes Green Expo, as well as other eco-friendly tips and resources for residents and businesses, go to www.GarlandGoesGreen.org. The website also has volunteer information.

Miss USA, pg 1

the publicity circuit. She said she was eager to travel and spread her message of self-improvement to young women. She noted she was one of only a handful of black woman crowned Miss USA in the pageant's 57-year history.

"I think the United States is coming together," she said, citing the historic presidential candidacies of Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton. She declined to name her preference.

"I don't know, we'll see.

History, pg 1

desk. If we examine briefly the tradition Dr. Wright follows, we get a closer glimpse of the dialogue I believe our country is trying to birth.

Dr. Wright stands in the prophetic tradition of Biblical truth-tellers, such as Amos and Micah. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King preached from Amos 5:24 (KJV), "But let judgment run down as waters and righteousness as a mighty stream." Dr. King was assassinated 40 years ago because he preached the tenets of Christian love against the social injustices of the 20th century. Dr. King's prophetic, cutting, abrasive and loving words forced America to confront her birth defect and original sin—racism.

Drs. Wright, Joseph Lowery, Fred Shuttlesworth, Jim Wallis, Carolyn Knight, Gardner C. Taylor, James Forbes, my father and other preachers have been carrying the legacy of the Christian prophetic social justice tradition rooted in love and criticism made popular by Dr. King, the greatest prophetic voice of the 20th century.

I am convinced that much of the recent controversy stems from the deep racial and social divisions and misunderstanding of African-American sacred rhetoric. African-American ministers are masters at hyperbole, metaphor and the use of subtext to speak to a communi-

Fundamentally, I'm a Democrat," she said.

Stewart will compete in the Miss Universe pageant in Vietnam in July. She also becomes a spokeswoman for breast and ovarian cancer awareness and other causes, while traveling to promote the organization.

Miss USA contestants are scored in three categories: swimsuit, evening gown and interview. Miss Alaska USA, Courtney Erin Carroll, was chosen "Miss Photogenic USA" based on voting at the organization's

ty familiar with their rhetorical vocabulary.

African-American preaching uses what some call "the blue note" to place before the people tragedy and sorrow during the preaching event. It should be noted that this "blue note" is always paired with "good news;" the sound of sorrow must be played before the chord of the Gospel can be introduced into the composition.

The "blue note" of preaching raises questions about the report by the Centers for Disease Control regarding how "The Tuskegee Experiment" used more than 300 illiterate African-American farmers in Macon County, Ala., as guinea pigs from 1932 to 1972 to test the affects of the syphilis virus.

This is a tragic chord of American history. The "blue note" of preaching lifts up information in the March 23 issue of the New York Times, disclosing that America spends \$5,000 per second for the war in Iraq while Americans are losing health care. The "blue note" of preaching puts before the people of God human acts that cause God to weep and humanity to hang her head. If the only portion of a sermon heard in the African-American context is the "blue note," it leads the listener to wonder, "Where is God?" and "What kind of Word is this?" There is more to African-American preaching than the

Web site. The other contestants named Miss Ohio USA, Monica Day, "Miss Congeniality." Unlike the rival Miss America, Miss USA contestants are not asked to perform a talent.

The panel of judges for Friday's pageant included Heather Mills, model and former wife of Paul McCartney; comedian Rob Schneider; Olympic gold-medal swimmer Amanda Beard; and Christian Siriano, winner of Bravo's fashion reality series, "Project Runway."

tragic moment, but it's through confrontation with tragedy that we come to grips with the fullness of God's love. The bloody, tragic, horrific moment of the crucifixion of Christ's humanity puts us face to face with the deep abiding grace of God wrapped up in the "blue note" of Christ's humiliation.

The critical issue we are being challenged to come to grips with at this moment is our ability as Americans to be bicultural.

Are we willing to look through the lens of shrouded liberty lifted up by Dr. Wright? Or, will we choose to assume that our faith tradition, political perspective and cultural vantage point is the only perspective worth engaging? What an incredible gift to give our children, if we choose to be bicultural Americans instead of ethno-centrists locked in our own limited worldview of humanity. The pain of this "manufactured" controversy is that our democracy is birthing a new conversation into the civic arena on race, or the grief of our democracy is crying because our cynicism aborted her child. When the history of this moment is written, I pray we will all be standing on the right side of history.

Rev. Otis Moss III graduated from Morehouse College with honors and earned a Master of Divinity degree from Yale University.

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N2NE is expanding to Plano and Allen, TX. If you are interested in volunteering please send your information to: Rich_eta@n2ne-ym.com. We are also partnering with Plano Housing Authority Family Self Sufficiency Program to reach the parents of our future generation. These meetings will be held at Plano Housing Authority, 1740 Avenue G, Plano, TX.

For more information, please contact:
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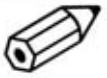
Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church is looking for an experienced musician with Christian leadership skills. This person must be able to lead the entire music ministry. Should be well versed in hymns, anthems, gospel and contemporary gospel. Must have at least 5-7 years of music leadership experience. References are required. Please submit salary requirements with your resume. Send resumes to Hopewell@hmbconline.org or fax to 214-824-3813.

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

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

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Dallas
Contract 0430-01-052 for MILL, PVMT REPAIR, ACP OVERLAY in DALLAS County will be opened on May 09, 2008 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
NPO: 26541

State Office

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

Dist/Div Office(s)

Dallas District
District Engineer
4777 E. Hwy 80
Mesquite, Texas 75150-6643
Phone: 214-320-6100

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

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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

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

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Fort Worth
Contract 6177-37-001 for FULL DEPTH CONCRETE REPAIR in TARRANT County will be received on May 13, 2008 until 10:30 am and opened on May 13, 2008 at 11:00 am at the District Office for an estimate of \$185,452.55. Contract 6177-38-001 for FULL-DEPTH CONCRETE PAVEMENT REPAIR in TARRANT County will be received on May 14, 2008 until 10:30 am and opened on May 14, 2008 at 11:00 am at the District Office for an estimate of \$169,243.95.

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

NPO: 26630

State Office

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

Dist/Div Office(s)

Fort Worth District
District Engineer
2501 Southwest LP820
Ft Worth, Texas 76133
Phone: 817-370-6500

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

Church Happenings

CALVARY PHILADELPHIA MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

April 20, 6 pm

You are invited to hear an Evangelist Preaching Bowl. Our theme: Lord Make Me Over, featuring Evangelists Sylvia Shackleford, Gena Bell, LaTonya Jones, Kina Smith and Jacqueline Payne.

April 25-27, 2008

Don't miss our Annual Women's Celebration, Extreme Makeover, Christian Edition. Friday night @ 7:30 pm will be our Women's Fellowship. Saturday morning @ 9 am will be our Conference featuring workshop leaders: Sis. Earnestine Jackson from Greater Sunrise Baptist; Evangelist Shirley Stevenson from Calvary Philadelphia Baptist; Sis. Joyce Davis from Safe Way Baptist; and Missionary Gloria Fobbs from Greenway Park COGIC. Call the church for registration fees and information.

Sunday morning @ 11 am is Worship Service. Women are asked to wear black and give a faith offering of \$100; and at 3:30 pm we will have Women in Worship with special guests: Rev. Shank Robinson and the New Unity MBC. Call 214-604-9427 for information.

Calvary Philadelphia MBC
Rev. J. H. Moore, Jr., Servant
4703 Sunnyvale Street
Dallas, TX 75216

www.cpmbc.org
214-371-3581

CONCORD BAPTIST CHURCH

May 3, 4 pm

Break the streets and make a difference in your community using God as a tool against violence, gangs and drugs. For information call James Donna at the church.

Concord Baptist Church
Rev. Bryan Carter,
Senior Pastor
6808 Pastor Bailey Drive
Dallas, TX 75237
www.concorddallas.org
214-331-8522

EIRENE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

April 23 & 30, 7 pm

Join us each Wednesday in April for "SHAPE" in our Lecture Hall. You have a unique purpose in life; now learn how God wants you to use it.

Eirene Christian Fellowship
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www.eireneccf.org
972-991-0200

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK (FIRST CHURCH)

April 19, 9 am

It's time for our 9th Annual Health, Wellness, & Fitness Clinic. There will be health screening, wellness presenta-

tions, fitness classes and more. Contact Lucinda Butler for details.

April 26, 2008

Registration for our 2008 Women's Conference has begun. It will be at the Marriott Dallas/Plano @ the Legacy Town Center this year. Sign up today.

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

GREENVILLE AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 3, 8 am to 1:30 pm

Come to our 23rd Annual Adolescent & Ladies Symposium to address community issues of today's society from a Biblical perspective. It's FREE and open to preteen girls, ages 9-12; adolescent misses, 13-18; and adult ladies, 19 and up. This will include a session for mothers and daughters, a continental breakfast, lunch, and door prizes.

Greenville Avenue Church of Christ
Brother S.T.W. Gibbs, III
Senior Minister
1013 S. Greenville Avenue
Richardson, TX 75081
www.greenvillechurchofchrist.org
972-644-2335

JOYCE MEYER MINISTRIES

April 17-19, 2008

Our Conference Tour 08 will stop in Dallas on April 17th @ 7 pm; on April 18th @ 10 am and @ 7 pm; on April 19th @ 10 am all @ the Reunion Arena. Volunteers are needed and appreciated, call 1-800-707-7877, Ext. 3516.

Joyce Meyer Ministries
Reunion Arena
777 Sports Street
Dallas, TX 75207
volunteer@joycemeyer.org
214-800-3000

LOVE CHAPEL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

April 20, 3:30 pm

Bro. Todd Walker and the Brotherhood Ministry will host a program and you are invited to worship the Lord with us.

Love Chapel C.O.G.I.C
Elder Philip White, Pastor
2003 Morris Street
Dallas, TX 75212
214-638-1857

MT. HEBRON MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

April 26, 9 am-3:45 pm

Putting it On Paper: A Teen Writing Seminar is being held for \$49, which includes work manual, writing materials, continental breakfast and lunch. Seating is limited to 50 students, ages 16-19, register today. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Teens

Reaching Teens, Inc. a non-profit organization. To register or for information, call Sharon Jones-Scaife @ 972-496-9457.

April 28-May 1, Nightly @ 7 pm

You are welcome to our National Christian Ministry each night.
Mt. Heron Missionary Baptist Church
Rev. Leonard O. Leach
Senior Pastor
1233 State Highway 66
Garland, TX 75040
www.onthemount.org
972-276-5218

MT. PISGAH BAPTIST CHURCH (THE ROCK)

April 17 & 18, 7 pm Nightly

You are invited to our Annual Spring Revival with the renowned and dynamic Dr. Sedic Veal, pastor of the Temple Baptist Church in Cleveland, OH

Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church
Rev. Robert Townsend,
Senior Pastor
11611 Webb Chapel Road
Dallas, TX 75229
www.dallasmtpisgah.org
972-241-6151

NEW MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH OF DALLAS

April 19, 12 Noon-4 pm

Our Day Care Center will sponsor a Spring Carnival with fun activities for the entire family to enjoy; and you are invited.

New Mount Zion Baptist Church of Dallas

Dr. Robert E. Price,
Senior Pastor
9550 Shepherd Road
Dallas, Texas 75243
www.nmzb.org
214-341-6459

SAINT MARK BAPTIST CHURCH

April 26, 8 am

A special Women's Prayer Breakfast will be hosted @ the church; and ladies you are invited to join us.
Saint Mark Baptist Church
Rev. Charles Wattlely,
Senior Pastor
1308 Wilcox Street
McKinney, TX 75069
www.saintmarkbc.com
972-542-6178

SWEET HOME MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

May 3, 5:20 pm

Our Reunion Choir hosts a "Back in the Day Gospel Musical" and you are invited.

May 4, 10:20 am
Come share with us the joy of celebrating 20 years as a community church. Our theme: "We are Family" Learning from the past, living in the present, preparing for the future. Acts 2:44-47. For information or directions call Monica Jones or Tosha Johnson @ 972-276-6602.

Sweet Home MBC
Rev. D. L. Wilson, Pastor
1019 S. First Street
Garland, TX 75040
972-276-6602

EBENEZER WORSHIP CENTER



Rev. Cecil T. Smith, II
Senior Pastor

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10:00 am: Sunday School
11:00 am: Morning Worship

MONDAY

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm: Men of Power and Women of Power

TUESDAY

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

14000 Preston Road • Dallas, TX 75254 • 972-980-0977 (Church Phone)

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www.fbcfallen.org

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Lady Tasha Stafford & Nathan

8:15 AM
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200 Belmont Dr.
Allen, TX 75013

11:00 AM
Story Elementary School
1550 Edelweiss
Allen, TX 75002

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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

With things and people as they are in our society today, this is a great time for me to repeat the first part of this column from 2003. But this is the first time for the Native American Commandments to appear in my column, yet they are so relevant in this day and at this time.

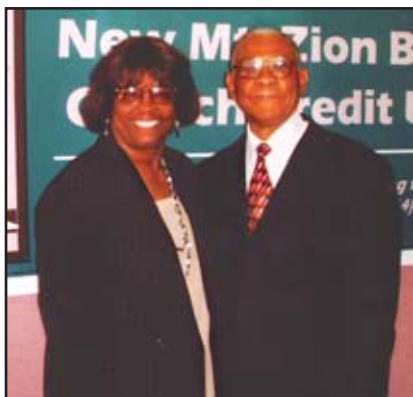
No one really knows how old he was since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He selflessly devoted his life to service in schools, hospitals, homes, factories and offices, helping folks get jobs done without fanfare and foolishness. For decades, petty rules, silly laws and frivolous lawsuits held no power over Common Sense. He was credited with cultivating such valued lessons as, "To know when to come in out of the rain, the early bird gets the worm, and life isn't always fair."

Common Sense lived by simple and sound financial policies: Don't spend more than you earn. Reliable parenting strategies: The adults are in charge, not the kids; and it's okay to come in second (or even last, as long as your best efforts were given.) A veteran of the Industrial Revolution, the Great Depression and the Technological Revolution, Common Sense survived cultural and educational trends including body piercing, whole language and "new math." But his health declined when he

Obituary of Common Sense

became infected with the "If-it-only-helps-one-person-it's-worth-it" virus.

In recent decades his waning strength proved no match for the ravages of overbearing regulations. He



Sister Tarpley and Dr. R. E. Price, Sr., Pastor of New Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Dallas @ their recent College Entrance - 101 Seminar

watched in pain as self-seeking lawyers ruled good people. His health rapidly deteriorated when schools endlessly implemented zero tolerance policies, reports of six-year-old boys charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate, a teen suspended for taking a swig of mouthwash after lunch and a teacher was fired for reprimanding an unruly student.

It declined even further when schools had to get parents consent to administer aspirin to a student but cannot inform the parent when the female student is pregnant or wants an abortion.

Finally, Common Sense lost his will to live as the Ten Commandments became contraband, churches became businesses, criminals received better treat-

ment than victims and federal judges stuck their noses in everything from Boy Scouts to professional sports. And when a woman who was stupid enough not to realize that coffee is hot, and was awarded a huge payout for her stupidity, this really caused Common Sense to finally throw in the towel!

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust, his wife, Discretion, his daughter, Responsibility; and his son, Reason. Two stepbrothers, My Rights and Ima Whiner, survive him. Not many attended his funeral because so few realized that he was gone. --

Author Unknown

Everyone can make a difference within their own surroundings. We would all benefit from following these fundamental, *Native American Commandments*: ☺ Treat the Earth and all that dwell thereon with respect. ☺ Remain close to the Great Spirit (God). ☺ Show great respect for your fellow beings (all humans, regardless of race color and creed.) ☺ Work together for the benefit of all mankind. ☺ Give assistant and kindness wherever needed. ☺ Do what you know to be right (in God's eyesight!) ☺ Look after the well-being of mind and body (especially your own.) ☺ Dedicate a share of your efforts to the greater good. ☺ Be truthful and honest at all times. ☺ Take full responsibility for your actions.

Munger Place UMC to Present Dr. Joseph E. Lowery

The Rev. Dr. Joseph Echols Lowery of Atlanta, "the dean of the civil rights movement," will be the guest preacher at Munger Place United Methodist Church, 5200 Bryan Street, Dallas, on Sunday, April 20, 2008, at the 10:50 a.m. morning worship service. Dr. Lowery will be in Dallas to accept the prestigious Robert O. Cooper Peace and Justice Fellowship from Southern Methodist University in M c C o r d Auditorium later that evening at 7 p.m.

An internationally acclaimed minister and civil/human rights activist, Dr. Lowery began his civil right ministry in Mobile, Ala. in an effort to desegregate buses and public places. In 1957, he and the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. formed the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). Dr. Lowery was named vice-president. In 1965, he was also named chairman of the delegation to take demands to then Alabama Governor George Wallace during the historical Selma to Montgomery March.

Dr. Lowery became

president of the SCLC in February, 1977. In addition to serving as a local church pastor, he negotiated covenants with major cor-

the election of Nelson Mandela.

After serving his community for more than 45 years, Dr. Lowery retired from the pulpit in 1997. He also retired in January of 1998 from the SCLC as president and CEO. Despite his retirement, Dr. Lowery will tell you he doesn't "feel no way tired," as he continues his calling to be "the voice of the voiceless."

Dr. Lowery has received numerous awards, including an NAACP Lifetime Achievement Award, the Martin Luther King Center Peace Award and the National Urban

League's Whitney M. Young, Jr. Lifetime Achievement Award. Ebony Magazine has twice named him as one of the 15 Greatest Black Preachers.

Come hear a power-packed message from Dr. Joseph E. Lowery, one of the greatest preachers in America. Munger Place United Methodist Church is located on the corner of Munger Boulevard and Bryan Street in Old East Dallas across from Garrett Park. For more in formation, contact Rev. L. Charles Stovall senior pastor of Munger Place UMC, at (214) 823-9929.

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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
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Office: 972-241-6151
Email: info@dallasmtpisgah.org
Website: www.dallasmtpisgah.org

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Pastor Terrence Autry

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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.

Tuesday
Early Bird Bible Study - 6:00 p.m.

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

"The Church with a Vision"

The Third Eye will present the 22nd Annual Spring Rising Lecture Series "Is This Really Our Time? Issues of Race, Sex and Class and the 2008 Presidential Election"

Keynote speaker is Dr. Conrad Worrill, President of the National Black United Front and Director of the Jacob H. Carruthers Center for Inner City Studies at Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago, Illinois.

The 22nd Annual Spring Rising will examine the energy created by the 2008 Presidential election. Sen. Barack Obama is being sup-

ported overwhelmingly by the masses of African people. Black people are getting involved and exercising their demand for "the ballot" in a way we did not see when Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, our first Black female candidate ran in 1972 for US President or when Rev. Jesse Jackson ran in 1984.

Can a power shift from the corporate elite favored by

the Bush regime lead to an agenda for significant policy "changes" in housing, health care, prison reform, jobs and wealth creation for the working class? Will the US's massive borrowing (9 trillion dollar debt and counting), policies of globalization, war, and hyper-capitalism have a negative impact on any coherent social/civil policies that would enrich the lives of African and

working class people? This conference will focus on a variety of issues including:

- ✓ Post-reconstruction and the disenfranchisement and lynching of newly freed slaves
- ✓ Voting rights, civil rights, women's rights and political party affiliation
- ✓ Black Power/ Self-determination Movements and how they were co-opted
- ✓ Prison industrial complex

as a tool for destabilizing our voting bloc

✓ The excessive cost of U.S. foreign war in Iraq and impact on domestic policies at home

✓ Community Organizing as a means of "making us masters of our own community"

The event is scheduled for Saturday, April 26, 2008, 1:00 PM, at South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S.

Fitzhugh Street, South Dallas Texas 75210. The lecture starts at 6:00 PM. Admission \$15.00. (Free for students and seniors with I.D) Purchase tickets @ Pan African Connection 612 E. Jefferson Street 214/943-826. Jokae's African American Books, 3223 W Camp Wisdom Road 214/331-8100. For group rates and other conference info call 214/426-1683.

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
Dr. Joseph R. Sheppard, Pastor
"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
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Avenue F Church of Christ
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"Striving Towards the Pearly Gates in 2008"
(Revelations 22:14)

Early Sunday Morning 8:00 am
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

Ramon Hodridge, Minister

Temple of Faith Christian Chapel C.M.E. Church
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Wednesday Bible Study - 12:00 Noon & 7:00 pm

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972-239-1120 (Office) • 972-239-5925 (Fax)
templeoffaith_cme@sbcglobal.net (Email)

Dr. Jerome E. McNeil, Jr., Pastor

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: 7pm
Men's Fellowship: Friday 7:00pm

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New Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Dallas

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

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

Dr. Robert E. Price, Senior Pastor

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920 E. 14th Street Plano, TX

Pastor Isiah Joshua, Jr.

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Sunday Worship Services 8AM & 11AM

Sunday	9:45AM Sunday School
Monday	7PM Youth, Brotherhood, Mission & Young Adult Ministries
Tuesday	7PM Bible Study & Men's Choir
Wednesday	7PM Mid-Week Service
Thursday	7PM Mass Choir

For more information call (972) 423-6695
www.shilohbaptistchurch.org

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Sunday School 9:30 am
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