

North Dallas Gazette



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Job Loss Represents a 'Personal Crisis'

By Hazel Trice Edney
NNPA Editor-in-Chief

As Christmas nears and families watch their purses to be sure they are spending wisely, President-Elect Barack Obama has called on Americans to view the economic crisis from a

human standpoint, rather than just another political issue.

"The 533,000 jobs lost last month, the worst job loss in 34 years, is more than a dramatic reflection of the growing economic crisis we face. Each of those lost jobs represents a

personal crisis for a family somewhere in America," Obama said in a statement released last week. "Our economy has already lost nearly 2 million jobs during this recession, which is why we need an eco-

See **JOBS**, Page 16



What's done in the dark could kill you

By Tuala Williams
The Dallas Examiner

When I'm alone in my room sometimes I stare at the wall and in the back of my mind I hear my conscience call.

Telling me I need a girl who's as sweet as a dove for the first time in my

life, I see I need love
— LL Cool J, *I Need Love*

The need to be loved is a strong desire. The longing to be wanted can be just as strong. It is the stuff that songs, books and movies are made of. In fact, the drive can become

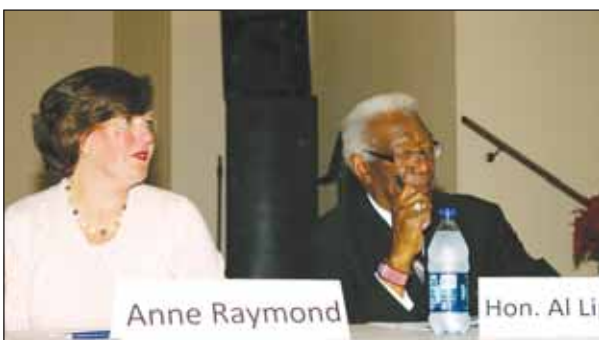
so strong and so dangerous it is considered an addiction. While controversy among sex therapists exists regarding the existence of sexual addiction, many sex therapists say it is a reality and is often born out of childhood trauma or emotional neglect related to love and

or sex. Many groups and therapeutic practices, such as Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, a twelve-step group, were founded for just that purpose.

"We in S.L.A.A. believe that sex and love addiction is a progressive illness

See **ADDICTION**, Page 4

Taxpayer-Owned Hotel?: Not for the people



By Jacquinette Murphys
North Dallas Gazette

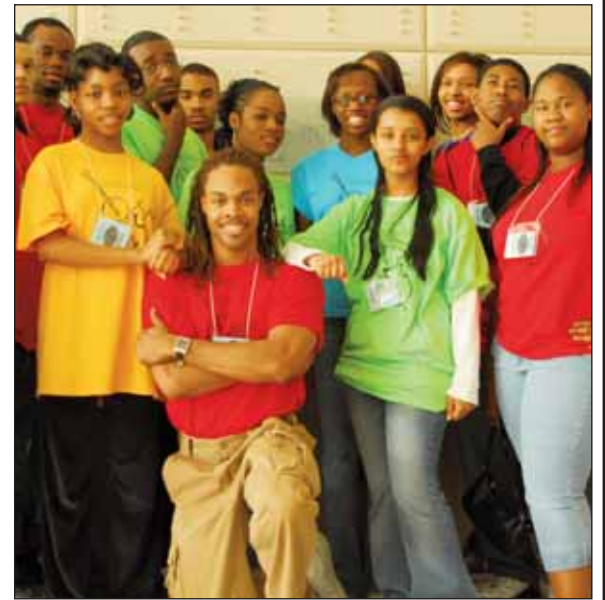
The citizens of Dallas in the Southern sector were left hanging by their elected officials at the Community Forum hosted by Dallas Quick Response on Monday, December 8,

2008. Mayor Tom Leppert, Deputy Mayor Pro-Tem Dwaine Carraway and District 8 City Councilman, Tennille Atkins were among those said to have confirmed their attendance of this

See **HOTEL**, Page 3

COVER STORY

Strings of Color



See **PERFORMANCE**, Page 9



TeCo reproduces Langston Hughes' holiday masterpiece

For more information see pg. 10
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COMMENTARY

Newsflash! "We are in a Recession"

By James Clingman
NNPA Columnist

Thanks, Henry Paulson and Ben Bernanke, for letting us know. Whew! If it weren't for you we probably never would have found out about this.

Thanks, guys! We almost missed this one; we never even saw it coming. It sure is a good thing to have the two of you in Washington

watching our backs.

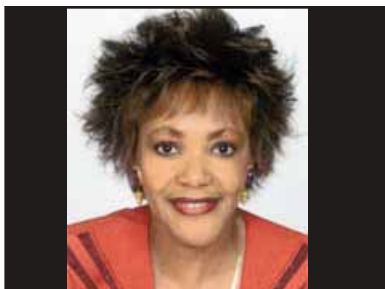
With your combined Wall Street experience, your financial acumen, your Ph.D.'s from MIT, and all of your knowledge of economics, you have guided us along this treacherous economic path, protecting us and calling out the pitfalls everyday, and we certainly thank you for your assistance. What

See **RECESSION**, Page 7

INSIDE...

People In The News	2
Op-Ed	3
Out of Africa/Health	4
Community News	5
Community Spotlight	7
Cover Story	9
Arts & Entertainment	10
Business Service Directory	11
Career Opportunity	13
Church Happenings	14
Sister Tarpley	15
Church Directory	14, 15 & 16

People In The News...



C. Joyce Farrar-Rosemon



Joseph S. Francisco



Tirrell Whitley

See Page 2

C. Joyce Farrar-Rosemon

C. Joyce Farrar-Rosemon, BA, SM, is a down to earth motivational speaker and the author of two life-changing and life-empowering books; *How to Get to The Palace From Your Prison*, Joseph's 14-Step Program to Overcome Loneliness, Depression, Discrimination, Barrenness & Abuse and *How to Be The Head and Not the Tail*, A Christian Manifesto For Making Six Figures.

Farrar-Rosemon speaks frequently to non-profit

groups, schools, colleges and churches. She has appeared in several newspapers, magazines, on radio and television. Farrar-Rosemon holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and elementary education and a master's in psychiatric social work from Simmons College. <<tirrell_whittley.jpg>> <<c_joyce_farrar-rosemon.jpg>>

Joyce shares with her audiences her analysis of the Biblical story of Joseph and walks them through a 14-Step

Recovery Program on how to overcome loneliness, depression, discrimination, barrenness and abuse. The author's spiritual and psychological analysis of Joseph's trials, tribulations, and triumphs reveal to the reader how to achieve the promises of God and arrive at that place of shalom, the Hebrew word for peace. Farrar-Rosemon draws on her background as a broker and psychiatric social worker and shares how her personal tragedies and those of other individuals

and groups were resolved using this 14-Step Program.

In Farrar-Rosemon's seminars for entrepreneurs, Joyce shares how she was able to rise from the steps of an inner city housing project, open her real estate company in her 7th month of pregnancy with only ten dollars in the operating account and earn six-figures. Farrar-Rosemon passes on to her audiences what she calls her "Seven-Step Success Plan" and shows how she was empowered through this plan to become a Multi-Million Dollar Producer.



Otis S. Johnson, Ph.D., Mayor of Savannah, Georgia says, "Farrar-Rosemon is a successful real estate broker who started out as a psychiatric

social worker. She found her real calling as a Christian-based writer and motivational speaker. *How To Get To The Palace From Your Prison* uses the Biblical story of Joseph to create a 14 Step plan to overcome situations that cause people to be stressed, depressed, and less successful in life. This book is a wonderful addition to the self-help Christian literature and to the field of Christian social work, and counseling. Whatever the religious position of the reader, the author's interpretation of the story of Joseph is well worth the read."

Joseph S. Francisco

Joseph S. Francisco, Ph.D., a chemist and William E. Moore Distinguished Professor at Purdue University, has been named president-elect of the American Chemical Society (ACS), the world's largest scientific society. He will serve in this position beginning Jan. 1, 2009, becoming ACS president on Jan. 1, 2010. Francisco will become only the second African-American named as president of the Society, which was founded in 1876.

Francisco received his baccalaureate degree from the University of Texas at Austin, Texas and his Ph.D. in chemical physics from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1983. He also did postgraduate studies at Cambridge University in England as a Research Fellow and at Massachusetts Institute of Technology as a Provost Postdoctoral Fellow. In addition, Francisco has been the recipient of a Presidential Young

Investigator award, an Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow award, a Camille and Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar award, a John Simon Guggenheim award and an Alexander von Humboldt Senior U.S. Scientist award.

A member of ACS since 1991, Francisco has been active with the Society at the national and local levels, working on numerous committees. He is a member of the editorial advisory board of ACS's *Journal of Physical Chemistry*. In addition, Francisco is former president of the



National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE) and has served on more than a

dozen national science councils.

Francisco has had published more than 400 journal articles, written nine book chapters, and co-authored the textbook, *Chemical Kinetics and Dynamics*.

"As ACS president, I will start a dialogue with community, educators and our members to address the question of what can be done to better prepare our students for a chemistry enterprise that requires global skills," Francisco said. "Now more than ever, we need to expose young

people to the transforming power of chemistry and open their eyes to the opportunities within our science to improve people's lives."

The American Chemical Society — the world's largest scientific society — is a nonprofit organization chartered by the U.S. Congress and a global leader in providing access to chemistry-related research through its multiple databases, peer-reviewed journals and scientific conferences. Its main offices are in Washington, D.C., and Columbus, Ohio.

Tirrell Whittley

Mr. Whittley sets the vision for Liquid Soul Media LLC (LSM). As Founder and Principal, he has lead LSM from a web design and development company to a full-service, award-winning Lifestyle Marketing Agency. Since 2001, LSM has been at the forefront of out-of-the-box marketing solutions, innovative campaigns and creative designs. LSM distinctive value-add approach to marketing to lifestyle marketing has led to substantial year-over-year growth for the company.

Mr. Whittley has over 12 years of corporate experience in Information Technology, Business Intelligence, Strategic

Enterprise Management, Sales Management and Account Management. Having served as a Consultant, Project Manager, Account Manager and Client Executive for the world's leading provider of business software solutions - SAP America, Inc, he has led multimillion dollar projects for The Coca-Cola Company, The Home Depot, NASA, Morrison Homes, Warner Bros, Kindred Healthcare, Propex Fabrics, Cox Newspapers, Morris Communications, Lyondell Chemicals and Eastman Chemicals. Mr. Whittley is a constant professional that has proven to deliver on client's expectations time-and-time again.



Liquid Soul Media (LSM) has been a leader in modern marketing strategy and tactics. LSM continues to break the mode of traditional marketing by providing its clients with engaging grassroots/guerrilla marketing, brand hijacking, pyro (customer evangelistic) marketing, viral marketing, word-of-mouth marketing and other mod-

ern techniques which are proven to reach consumers with a "call of action" that produces results. Companies like Sony Pictures, FoxFaith Pictures, XM Satellite Radio, and others have turned to LSM to effectively market and reach niche groups.

Graduating cum laude with a Bachelors of Science in Accounting from Florida A & M University, Mr. Whittley is married to his college sweetheart and the couples have two daughters. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and is active in the Deacon's Ministry and Couples' Ministry Council in his church. He also enjoys playing basketball, watching movies and listening to music.

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

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

Celebrating the true meaning of the holiday season

From staff reports

On Christmas Day when her two children were crunch wrapping paper and ripping open boxes, Stephanie Ward sat alone smiling and cooing over their Christmas gifts with nothing to open for herself. In the mist of what was supposed to be one of the most happiest times of the year, she felt the most empty and isolated.

"I was very sad, because I had nothing to open and then I felt guilty for thinking that way," Ward said. "It was a tough day."

So, this year, to offset the isolation and emptiness that some moms experience during the holiday, Ward has mounted an effort to put a smile on the faces of single Moms all over North Texas

by launching her Gifts For Mom project. On Saturday December 20, 2008 Ward and a group of volunteers will distribute gifts to single moms during a Christmas party at 1412 14th Street in Plano at the 14th Street Gallery.

"At first, I just wanted to give 25 gifts to women," she said. But after sending out an e-blast to her friends and coverage from a local television station, she received commitments for more than 200 gifts, that will be delivered to the homes of moms during the week of Christmas and at a party planned just for them in Plano.

Ward considers herself new to motherhood and had no idea of it many challenges. For the past 18

years, she owned a successful art gallery. Three years ago, she got custody of two small children after their mother who was unrelated to her lost custody.

"No one could have told me in 100 years the struggles that single mothers face, this is clearly the hardest thing I have ever had to do."

She said the Gifts For Moms project is her way to help herself and other mothers who have been given the daunting task of raising children alone.

"I am overwhelmed by the goodness I've seen in people. This experience has changed my outlook drastically. The people I've met and gotten e-mails from in the past few weeks, have given me a renew hope and strengthened my faith in

God."

Ward said that many of her donors had been raised by single mothers, were single mothers or just had a heart for them. "People are responding with unselfish generosity. A mother and daughter in Valley Mills Texas purchased 25 pair of high quality house shoes for the moms.

Ward thinks single mothers are often forgotten and their roles in society underestimated. "Agencies focus on helping children, which is good, but the missing piece is the mothers. If a mother is distressed then her children will feel the impact. The best way to help a family is to enhance the quality of life for the mother and the children will be the automatic beneficiary."

HOTEL, continued from Page 1

public discussion about the Dallas Convention Center hotel held at Concord Missionary Baptist Church in Dallas. However, the only indication of the City officials presence throughout the evening was an empty table with printed name cards and three empty chairs.

Instead of the planned knowledge exchange forum, the political action group, Citizens Against the Taxpayer-Owned Hotel and former Dallas city councilman, Al Lipscomb shared insight on the City's plan to commence the building of this \$550 million structure.

After presenting the stated benefits such as the booking of several larger conventions and the emergence of Dallas as a destination place, Anne Raymond, director of Citizens Against the Taxpayer-Owned Hotel shared some of the risks to Dallas citizens of delving

into the hotel business. Specifically, she stated the fact that the development and the mortgage cost is significant, it is 100 percent taxpayer-financed and the current lack of viable entertainment and retail business surrounding the site would result in a less than profitable venture.

"Hotels follow development and there is nothing to do in downtown Dallas after 9 p.m. There are a lot of things that need to be done before we build a hotel." The current city attractions, such as the American Airlines Center, are not centralized enough to create the convenience needed to accommodate convention delegates and Dallas city visitors.

The political action group wants the taxpayers to vote on the issue in the next city election. They succeeded in collecting 60,000 signatures in 15 days from taxpayers who want the right to vote on

the proposed citizen-financed hotel to have a referendum on the ballot in May.

Leppert implied in earlier coverage of this issue that the hotel is a key component in catapulting Dallas to the tourism level of destination cities like New York City, Chicago or Las Vegas. "It is not a question of 'if you build, will they come?'. If we build it, they will come."

Lipscomb does not see a need for another hotel in this area of the city. He was present to support the motion to abort the plan to build the hotel. "If we had one million hotel rooms vacant last year, we would be doing the public a disservice [to approve a citizen-financed hotel]."

Raymond agreed with Lipscomb. "Leppert's push to build a deluxe upscale destination hotel in downtown is the center of the initiative to make Dallas a destination city." However, Raymond stated, "We did not elect our city council to build a hotel."

Additionally, Raymond cited her decades of experience in the hotel industry as the backing for her position. "This is not economically viable for the taxpayers. The cost is exhaustive. [The City] does not have a profit mentality. When it gets into government, it is just get it done. The dollars do not matter," she stated.

According to Raymond, the hotel will lose \$20 million a year at its current state. Other proposed losses presented by Raymond were the absence of hotel tax on the property, occupancy or sales paid to the Convention Center Bureau as is paid by other area hotels. The high cost equaling higher rates for hotel customers than competitive chains are also noted.

Joyce Foreman, a business owner in the downtown area, confirmed her position during the forum: "I can tell you what Downtown is like 'after business hours'; it is a ghost town. We need to be

See CONVENTION, Page 11

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The North Dallas Gazette has recently conducted research on Wells Fargo Bank and their lending practices within the minority community. If you would like to offer any special comment regarding your interactions with Wells Fargo Bank – pro or con – please contact our Publisher, Mr. Thurman Jones at publisher@northdallasgazette.com. Please include "Wells Fargo" in the subject line of your email. You may also send any comments to P.O. Box 940226, Plano, Texas 75094-0226.

Congolese President Kabila Linked to 'Brutal Repression'

NNPA

The executions of some 500 people in the north-west and southern Democratic Republic of Congo, were linked to the government of President of

the Democratic Republic of Congo, Joseph Kabila, by a leading human rights group.

"At least 500" suspected political opponents have been killed in the last two years, Human Rights Watch (HRW) said in a report pub-

lished this week. "About 1,000 more" have been detained since July 2006 elections and possibly tortured, the group claimed.

Kabila himself set the tone and direction by giving orders to "crush" or "neu-

tralize" the so-called "enemies of democracy" during the elections, said HRW. There was no official response to the report as of Nov. 25.

"While everyone focuses on the violence in eastern

DRC, government abuses against political opponents attract little attention," Anneke van Woudenberg, senior researcher in HRW's Africa division, said in a statement.

Meanwhile, Congo's

government has ruled out direct talks with Tutsi rebel leader Laurent Nkunda, saying on Tuesday any meeting was "impossible" outside the framework of a January peace deal the rebels have already rejected.

← ADDICTION, continued from page 1

which cannot be cured; but which, like many illnesses, can be arrested. It may take several forms – including, but not limited to a compulsive need for sex, extreme dependency on one or many people, or a chronic preoccupation with romance, intrigue, or fantasy. An obsessive compulsive pattern, either sexual or emotional, or both, exists in which relationships or sexual activities have become increasingly destructive to career, family and sense of self-respect. Sex addiction

and love addiction, if left unchecked, always gets worse," reads a statement on their web site, www.slaafws.org.

A strong sex drive should not be confused with sexual addiction. Sex addiction is characterized by persons using sex to get a "high," and then finding themselves needing ever-greater or more powerful "doses." These addictions typically lead to greater risk-taking behavior over time and also have greater negative impact on the lives of those

suffering with the disease. According to sexhelp.com, 72 percent of sex addicts experience suicidal thoughts, 70 percent have relationship difficulties and 68 percent have suffered exposure to sexually transmitted diseases.

Last year, 26-year-old R&B singing sensation Ne-Yo, confessed to VIBE senior editor Laura Checkoway that he had a "slight addiction" to sex.

He stated that at one time, "I became a complete whore. I might possibly

have had sex with every girl in my 11th grade class...it went from like, nothing to like, three and four a day." He stated that he managed to get some control over his addiction by "helping himself" instead of engaging in sex with groupies.

But Ne-Yo is not alone and this addiction may well be a factor in the rise of HIV/AIDS among African American men in Dallas and throughout the United States. According to The Good Shepherd Restoration Ministries, "For some Black men, a very disturbing phenomenon, men who

have sex with men – MSM – Brothers on the 'down low', is increasingly becoming the primary means of transmitting HIV to heterosexual, Black women and men. Untreated sexual addiction and/or experimental homosexual activity in prisons have led some heterosexual or 'straight,' Black men to engage in even more riskier sexual behavior such as this. 'MSM' is having grave consequences to the health and families of these men."

Sources from the Texas Department of Health and

Human Services, indicate that approximately one out of every 47 Black men in Dallas is living with HIV.

Denial, experts say is the driving force behind the spread of HIV/AIDS. Denial also plays a big part in the failure to respond appropriately to any type of addiction. Apathy is touted as being another contributing factor to the spread.

If you suspect you or someone you know is suffering with a sexual addiction, help is available. For more information visit sladfw.org. Support group meetings are held daily.



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African Children's Choir Returning to DFW Area!

From staff reports

The African Children's Choir has been performing community concerts across North America and around the world for over 24 years, raising awareness of the plight of Africa's most vulnerable, but also showing the beauty, dignity and potential of each African

child.

Many of the children in the choir have lost one or both parents to poverty and disease, yet in spite of the tragedies that have marred these young lives the children radiate hope. They demonstrate the potential for a better life for themselves and the millions of other children on a conti-

nent in turmoil.

The children will charm concert-goers with their radiant smiles, beautiful voices and boundless energy. A mixture of traditional African songs and dances, well-loved children's favorites and familiar gospel songs will have the audience clapping, cheering and singing along.

Kwanzaafest has something for all

From staff reports

KwanzaaFest's 18th Annual event to be held at the Dallas Fair Park Grounds in the Automobile Building on Saturday December 13th and Sunday December 14th.

KwanzaaFest is the largest cultural festival in the Southwest. There is something here for every-

one to enjoy. The festival begins at 8:00 A.M. with a vigorous 5K Beat Obesity Walk and Run and 1 Mile Kid's Run, sponsored by Walmart and Sam's Club.

HealthFest will again offer health screenings. Kidfest also returns with fun activities for the children.

National acts that are scheduled to appear are Plies, Gorilla Zoe, Bobby

Valentino, Slim of 112, Pleasure P, Gemini, Baby Bash, Play N Skills, Deborah Cox, Urban Mystic, Case and Gospel singing artists Mary Mary.

For additional information or comments please call 214 653-6671 and contact Dapheny Fain or Vincent Hall at the office of County Commissioner John Wiley Price.



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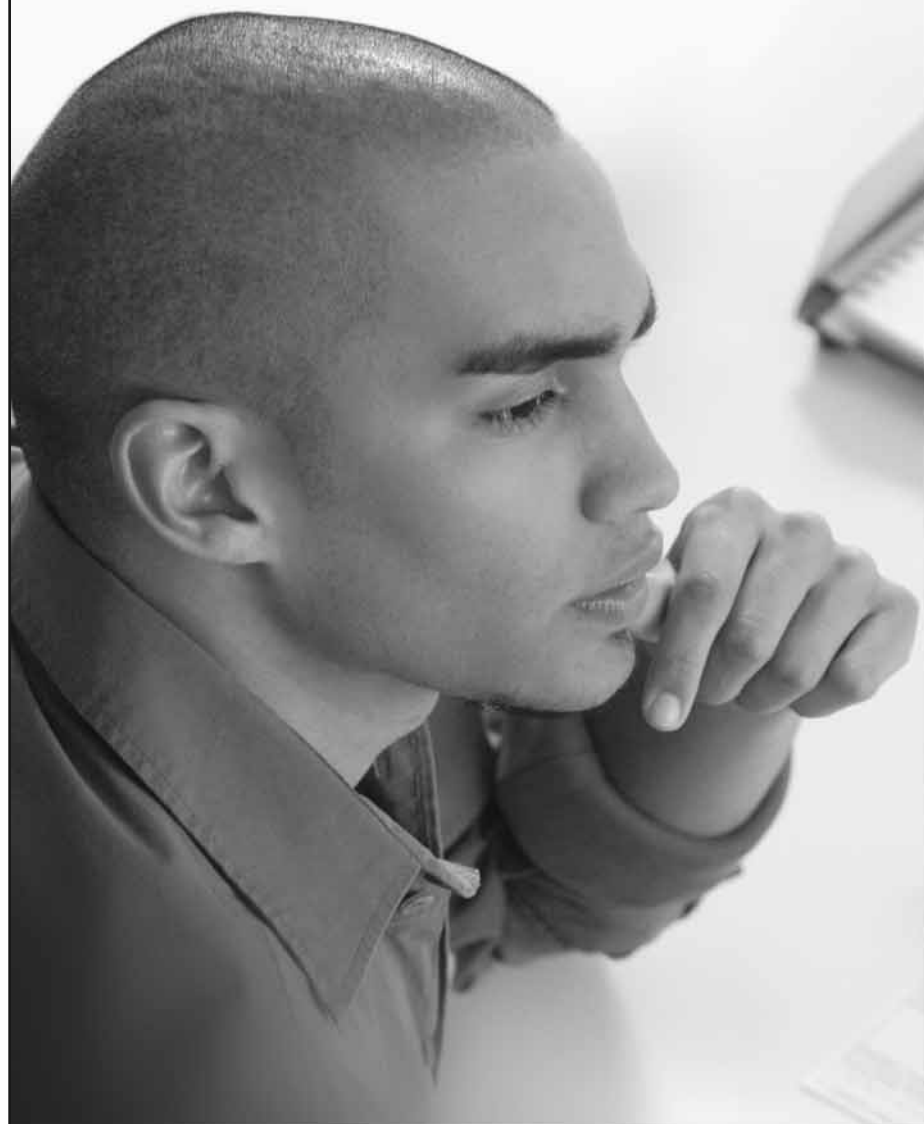
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Internship for African American Males

From staff reports

The Institute for Responsible Citizenship is currently accepting applications for its summer leadership program in Washington, DC. The Institute provides America's best and brightest African American male college students with unparalleled networking opportunities, leadership development, and life-long mentorship.

Through the focused and intimate structure of our program, the Institute equips these young men with the tools required for successful careers in business, education, journalism, law, government, the sciences, public policy, ministry, medicine, public service, and the arts.

Program Highlights

- Meet with influential leaders such as General Colin Powell,



- Congressman John Lewis, Justice Clarence Thomas, and Dr. Sheila C. Johnson;

- Take rigorous academic courses on constitutional and economic principles;

- Participate in roundtable discussions, including seminars on career development;

- Work at high-level internships around Washington, DC;

- Enjoy a host of social activities that help participants to build strong bonds

with each other.

For more information about our program, visit our website at www.i4rc.org

Program Details

The 2009 program will run from Saturday, June 6 to Saturday, August 1.

- Students must commit to two summers.

- Tuition and housing are paid for by the Institute.

- Students will be placed at paid internships based on their career interest (a stipend of \$3000 will be provided for those placed at unpaid internships).

You should be a sophomore to apply. Although the Institute does not have a GPA requirement, the average GPA for participants is a 3.65. An applicant's GPA is not the only criterion that is considered during the admissions process. Other achieve-

ments such as campus involvement, honors and awards earned, athletics, and volunteer work are looked upon favorably.

The application can be found on the web at <http://www.i4rc.org/application.htm>

The deadlines for admission into the 2009-2010 class is January 15, 2009

Inquiries should be directed to info@i4rc.org or (202) 659-2831. Those considering applying are highly encouraged to review the website in detail and contact our office with any questions before sub-

The Holiday Season Hit Stage Play "A Christmas Carol: A Soulful Tale"

Comes to Dallas for Two Nights Only.

Friday, December 19th and Saturday, December 20, 2008 - 8p.m. nightly at The Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Dallas Convention Center Theater Complex, Corner of Canton and Akard Streets, Dallas, TX Clarence Muse Cafe Theater. Tickets are only \$10

For tickets or more information, call the TBAAL Box Office at 214-743-2400, Ticketmaster at 214-373-8000 or 7th Stage Productions at 214-417-6095

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Women of Tocqueville and Girls Inc. Host Dreaming of the Future

From staff reports

In alignment with their mission to raise awareness and dialogue regarding graduation rates of high school students in our community, 40 members of United Way's Women of Tocqueville (WoT) Society and more than 100 Girls Inc. members, ages 12-18, came together at four Girls Inc. locations in Dallas to inspire the young women to follow their dreams to achieve success.

The women broke out

into groups with two to three Girls Inc. members to talk about how their dreams led them to where they are today. The girls then rotated between speakers to hear about the different life lessons and career paths taken by each woman at their location. Despite the age difference, the WoT members and Girls Inc. members found common ground, discussing everything from how they got their first job to how many dogs they have at home.



"It's a phenomenal opportunity to touch the lives of these young women," Debra von

Storch, a partner at Ernst & Young LLP said. "We want to allow them to dream big. It's fun to share our stories with them and it's also a great networking opportunity for Women of Tocqueville members."

The night marked the first-ever volunteer engagement project for Women of Tocqueville, which celebrated its inaugural year in 2007. The excitement of the night ended too soon as 18 year old Girls Inc. member Neimy said, "I wish I had

more time to meet more of the women. They didn't have to talk to us; but they did and it was great."

Women of Tocqueville members hold high level positions in a wide variety of industries including companies such as Frito Lay, ExxonMobil, Ernst & Young and Citi. For more information on United Way's Tocqueville visit www.unitedwaydallas.org/tocqueville.

For more information on Girls Inc. visit www.girlsincdallas.org.

RECESSION, continued from Page 1

would we do without leaders like you?

How are things going for you and your families? We trust everything is fine. We know you have tucked a little something away for the dark days ahead. We are sure your mortgages will be paid, you will have plenty of food to eat, and your children and grandchildren will be all right as they "struggle" through this economic crisis. Don't worry. Things will be tough, but keep your heads up; you'll get by.

And what about your friends and associates? How are they faring? We know they may miss out on their bonuses this year and will not be able to purchase all those cars, jewelry, condos, and summer homes they were planning to obtain. But, not to worry; with the two of you still at the helm, even though the ship is going down, they can be confident that you have at least a couple more tricks up your sleeves. How did Ben put it? "We have a few more cards to play," or "we have not used all the tools in our toolbox yet." Man, are we happy to hear that good news.

While we don't understand all those nouveau finance terms like "collateralized debt obligations,"

and "credit default swaps," we are confident that with all of your knowledge of banking, credit, and the stock market, you will continue to protect us from the horrors of a Wall Street collapse. After all, aren't a lot of your friends working there?

Even though we are struggling to pay our bills, rents, and mortgages, trying to avoid the increased credit card fees levied by the banks, and give our children a gift or two for Christmas; even though we are working hard to put food on our tables and hold on to our jobs; and even though many of us have already been laid off; we are comforted just knowing that you have our best interests at heart.

Not trying to take anything away from your expertise or knowledge of financial matters, but sometimes grassroots people just know certain things. Some call it intuition; we call it "mother wit." As we began to see gas exceed \$4.00 per gallon and our food costs rise to a point where we had to return to the good old days of pinto beans and cornbread for an entire week, we knew we were in for a rough ride.

But now, just when we thought we had reached

the bottom, the worst has happened; there can now be no doubt about our ter-

rible situation. With all due respect to your prognostications and recent announcement on the recession, Mickey D's has raised the price of a double

cheeseburger from \$1.00 to \$1.19!

They even took one slice of cheese, which cost them 6 cents, off our favorite sandwich, and now call it

the McDougle. That's it; ball game over. Time to start looking for a window to jump out of; now we really know how bad things are.



PRESENTS



Donkey In Horse Heaven

By Rick A. Elina

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Ongoing

African American Republican Club of Collin County meets 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7 pm (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: Monthly Lunch & Learn every 3rd Thursday \$15 for members; \$20 for non-members, 11:00am-1:00pm. 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 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 am - 12:30 pm 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.

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 pm - 7:15pm to 218-486-1616, Code 10984 (may change each week).

Nov 15 – Dec 21

Each Saturday and Sunday from 12 noon to 5pm, bring the kids to the **Santa's Wonderland** at Bass Pro Shops located at 5001 Bass Pro Drive, Garland, TX and enjoy a different craft activity - Free. www.basspro.com

November 15 – January 11

The Old Red Museum of Dallas County History & Culture will open the first annual Deck the Halls at Old Red exhibit, located in the West End of downtown Dallas at 100 South Houston Street. General admission is \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors, and \$5 for children ages three to sixteen. Admission to Deck the Halls without general admission is \$3 for adults and \$1 for children, visit www.oldred.org.

November 22, 2008 – January 4, 2009

The Trains at NorthPark is the most elaborate toy train exhibit in Texas, with vintage locomotives whizzing by on a journey across America. Located on Level Two next to Neiman Marcus, the exhibit is open during regular shopping center hours, Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Sunday from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. Early closing dates are Thanksgiving Eve (Nov. 26th), Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. The exhibit is closed on Thanksgiving Day and on

Christmas Day but is open on New Year's Day. Ticket prices are \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children aged 2-12 years and senior citizens (65 and older). Children under the age of 2 years are admitted free of charge. Discount tickets are available at Tom Thumb stores.

November 28 - December 24

Santa Claus at NorthPark Center Visits and Portraits with Santa in His New Location NorthPark Center offers free one-on-one visits with Santa Claus in his new location on Level One between Nordstrom and Neiman Marcus. Parents may take their own photographs of their children with Santa or purchase high-quality portraits by Marc Robins Photography available in several different sizes and formats. Tickets are available starting at 9:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday, and starting at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday.

November 28 – December 26, 2008

SPCA of Dallas Remote Pet Adoption Center at NorthPark Center with adorable dogs and cats available for adoption, featured on Level One between Macy's and Dillard's, near the NorthPark Boulevard entrance and Victoria's Secret. Regular adoption fees are \$185-\$285 for puppies 0-6 months, \$95 to \$195 for dogs 6 months and older, \$75 for senior dogs 7 years and older, and \$50 for VIP dogs (those which have been waiting for a home for over 30 days); \$125 for kittens, \$95 for cats, \$75 for senior cats 7 years and older and \$50 for VIP cats. The fee includes spay/neuter surgery, all age-appropriate vaccinations, de-worming treatment, a heartworm test for dogs six months and older, a feline Leukemia test for cats four months and older, a

microchip and a free leash or cardboard cat carrier. Volunteers are available at NorthPark Center to work with families to help choose each family's new best friend. The Adoption Center is open from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. on Sundays.

December 5, 7, 11, 17, 19 African Children's Choir and complete tour itinerary, more info at www.africanchildrenschoir.com or email info@africanchildrenschoir.com

December 5-21

Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol by Tom Mula directed by Adam Adolfo for the Frisco Community Theatre.

This production is to A Christmas Carol as Wicked is to The Wizard of Oz. Performances Thursdays through Saturdays at 8:00 p.m. and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. and tickets are \$18 for adults, \$15 for seniors and students. Tickets can be purchased at www.FriscoCommunityTheatre.com with a \$1 per ticket convenience fee or call 972-370-2266 for information and reservations. All performances will take place at the Cox Building Playhouse, 1517 H Avenue, Plano, TX 75074. Parking is behind the building accessed from G Avenue.

December 11th

"Cocktails for a Cause", a grassroots effort to help raise awareness, empower and protect children. Thursday, Dec. 11th, 6:00PM-8:00PM. Join us at Uncork Wine Bar, 2832 Eldorado Pkwy, Suite 212, Frisco, TX 75034 for fun, wine, raffle, silent auction and information.

December 13

Brookhaven College Vocal Jazz Ensemble on Dec. 13 at 8 p.m., in the Performance Hall at

Brookhaven College. Contact the School of the Arts at 972-860-4730.

December 13 - 14

Fair Park Holiday Lights Free admission and parking. The holiday celebration will feature music, lights, horse-drawn carriage rides, outdoor holiday moves at the Cotton Bowl and more. Info @ www.fairpark.org.

Teen Graffiti's Parent/Teen Holiday Banquet Gala includes a social dance program "Forging Stronger Friendships Between the Generations". Tickets are \$20 per couple in advance, and \$25 per couple at the door. Call Teen Graffiti at 972-496-9457.

December 14

Ascension Church 3rd Annual Christmas Banquet at Southfork Hotel 1600 N. Central Freeway, Plano TX 75089, 7:00pm to 10:00pm. Dinner and wonderful prizes, cost is \$30, <http://www.ascensionmbc.org>

December 15

A Day of Love and Logic with Dr. Charles Fay A fun and entertaining seminar for teachers and parents to learn strategies. Cost \$99, call 800-338-4065 or visit loveandlogic.com. Universal Health Care Senior Medicare Health Insurance via Universal Health Care, Nick Federspiel agent. Enrollment and information seminar. Admission is free, call 972-517-6217 or 469-789-9003, res18elt@verizon.net or www.nicksagency.com

December 16

Destination Graduation Parents Edge Program offered by the Urban League of Greater Dallas and Thomas Jefferson High School. The event is on Tuesday, December 16th from 5:30PM-7PM,

right before the holiday band concert, at Thomas Jefferson High School.

December 17

UNCF Holiday Open House, 4-7pm at 2800 Swiss Avenue, R.S.V.P. by December 15 to patricia.kirven@uncf.org or call (972) 234-1007

January 6-29

25th Annual KidFilm® Festival, sponsored by the USA Film Festival, will be held in Dallas, January 6-25, 2008 at the Angelika Film Center, 5321 E. Mockingbird Lane, Dallas

January 23

Plano Chamber of Commerce's 63rd Annual New Member EXPO at the Plano Centre Business Interchange at 7:30 a.m., Expo begins at 9:00 a.m. Call Gina Reno at (972) 424-7547.

February 21

UNCF's 10th annual Red, Hot & Snazzy Benefit Gala! Featuring national recording artist saxophonist Gerald Albright and singer Toni Redd! Sheraton Hotel Dallas, more info www.uncf.org/dallas or call the UNCF office (972) 234-1007.

February 24th

IHOP celebrates National Pancake Day 7 am to 10 pm and offer each guest a free short stack of buttermilk pancakes. In return, IHOP will ask guests to donate what they would have paid for the pancakes, or more, to Children's Miracle Network or other local charities. This year, IHOP restaurants around the country hope to raise \$1,000,000, which will benefit children's hospitals and other charities throughout the U.S. To donate online, visit www.ihoppancakeday.com.

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Strings of Color: A Noteworthy Performance

By Jacquinette D. Murphy
North Dallas Gazette

The words 'Saturday school' sound like music to the ears of Ron Planks and the members of the Strings of Color Orchestra. Each Saturday at 10 am, the school bells may not be ringing at Williams High School in Plano, but you will most likely hear the cutting edge sound of a 20 student community orchestra group. Xavier Hubbard, a tenth grade student, likes being a member of the Williams High School Campus Orchestra in addition to Strings of Color. "It is the freedom of it all. It is like you are here with friends and the cultural aspect of it is nice. You get to keep in touch with friends that no longer go to school here" Hubbard, in his fifth year as a violinist, added that he enjoys the extended relationship with the instrument.

"It is like a sense of camaraderie developed and the kids were able to relax. Maybe it is because there are no grades involved," said Planks. "It is amazing what comes out when you place a group of people together with common background.

Mickala Johnson-Gomez, a senior at Hebron High School plays cello in Strings of Color and she agrees with Planks and Hubbard. "It is more relaxed and everybody works together. It is an excellent opportunity to meet new people and to play a broad spectrum of music.

With their level of skill and unprecedented music repertoire, they are astounding their audiences while diversifying the sight and sounds of the modern-day orchestra. Strings of color was founded by Planks in 2007 as a not-for-profit community organization designed to provide an



orchestral experience for all young musicians. Specifically, the group brings together students from middle school to college level of experience and meld them into a team of exceptional talent.

While the group shows mastery of the orchestra classics, you may easily find your hand tapping to popular gospel, jazz, R&B and pop music selections like Georgia On My Mind or songs by Carlos Santana. Don't rule out hearing the group play theme songs from movies such as Schindler's List and James Bond. At the performances of Strings of Color, you are certain to hear something that you know in addition to the usual according to Planks.

"We want to give them something that a mass audience can relate to. We are not providing something just for the kids, but are exposing [the audience] to the arts, something that they have never seen."

Planks is a 13-year school orchestra instructor and the assistant department head of the Williams High School Fine Arts department in the Plano Independent School District. He holds Bachelor of Music Education and Master of

Music degrees from Sam Houston State University. He has also worked in the Bryan and Spring Branch Independent School Districts in Texas. His vision to begin a community orchestra sprouted from a personal desire and grew during a trip to Baltimore.

"I was visiting my sister and I heard of an all African American adult orchestra that the Baltimore symphony had pumped money into called the Soulful Symphony". Planks dream started to blossom and soon he was tuning up to launch Strings of Color.

Planks also recalled his early experience as a string instrumentalist. "I remember being one of maybe two African Americans in my orchestra program." He admits that there was a little taunting and it was a little different for him, but he had a good experience.

He also attributes the push toward success to the words of his mother who passed from cancer before the vision was realized. "When I told her about Strings of Color, she said 'it is going to happen'. It is a drive to not let her words fall to the ground."

Planks recalled his reaction to the first

rehearsal of the group when he saw about 20 faces arrive to be a part of this pioneering effort. "I was so excited. I was like a kid in the candy store. It was amazing to see so many African American kids in the room."

The group held its debut performance in February of this year during the The Sounds of Black History concert at the Eisemann Center in Richardson and has closed its first season there. Now, in its second season, the group has retained most of the original members and have attracted a few new seasoned musicians.

University of Texas at Arlington student, Kellie A. Brooks, a junior who played the viola for nine years, contacted Planks after the debut performance. "I was so impressed that I looked them up on-line and joined," explained Brooks. Her attendance at the performance was a part of a birthday gift from her uncle. "It was so unique to see an all minority string group playing," she summed. "It is like a rush".

"It is bold, beautiful and peaceful," described Okeche Akagha, a recent graduate of Austin College in Sherman, Texas



and a former orchestra student of Planks. He could not wait to see the orchestra once he heard of its beginning. "I think that it is amazing that he has put together a chamber group. When I heard, I asked where was he going to get the people." Akagha is an assistant conductor for the orchestra and is in his tenth year playing the viola. Being a part of Strings of Color provides him with dual benefits. "I am able to exercise my talent and still have fun. It is my way of serving the community."

Strings of Color is gearing up to excel to new heights. The organization recently merged with the Veta L. Morriel Leadership and Arts Academy. This will allow the offering of theater classes and also open the door for youth mentoring, financial man-

agement classes and an after school program. The current leadership staff includes Evette Williams, who serves as the foundation director and Travis Johnson who will head the youth mentoring sessions.

The next chance to experience the uniqueness of Strings of Color will be on Sunday, December 14, 2008 at the Mount Hebron Missionary Baptist Church at 1233 State Highway 66 in Garland, Texas at 11 am with Senior Pastor Reverend Leonard O. Leach. For more information, please visit www.stringsofcolor.com or www.vmla.org. If you are interested in supporting, sponsoring or participating in Strings of Color, please contact Ron Planks, 214-418-2399 or via email at ron@stringsofcolor.com.

Bishop Arts Presents: Black Nativity

By Donnie Wilson

Here's a quiz. Charles Dickens is to A Christmas Carol as Langston Hughes is to: a) A Dream Deferred, b) The Harlem Renaissance, c) Black Nativity or d) Not Without Laughter? If your answer is c, Black Nativity, congratulate yourself and add one point to your intelligence quotient. For some reason beyond my ability to explain, I find great pleasure in taking these types of standardized tests. I often look for them in the back of airline magazines whenever I've become bored while flying.

However, last night, I was not bored nor was I sitting in an airplane; instead, I was sitting front and center in the attractive Bishop Arts Theater for the TeCo Production of Langston Hughes' Black Nativity.

Although Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol is one of the most popular and beloved Christmas stories of all time, Langston Hughes' gospel song play could be one of the most endearing. At the risk of sounding cliché, the production is soul stirring, hand clapping and toe tapping, but what other way is there to

describe a good ol' fashioned gospel infused musical?

Like its literary counterpart, Black Nativity is a Christmas story told in narrative and song. Unlike its counterpart, it is a joyful retelling of the birth of Christ by way of gospel music and poetry. It was first produced on Broadway in December of 1961. Its original title was Wasn't It a Mighty Day? Alvin Ailey was an original cast member but quit when the name changed because he objected to the use of the word "black" in the title.

There are a couple of things about Teco's produc-

tion of Black Nativity that are very good. Namely, the classically trained singers of the performing arts ensemble, New Arts Six and particularly Linda Searight, the brightest star in this cast. Her moody contralto vocal range opens the first act with a Negro spiritual rendition of 'Have You Heard' and from that moment on you know that when she sings – your ears will sense heaven. Glenda Clay is an incredible coloratura soprano, who like Searight, understands her dramatic purpose.

The first act begins 2000 years ago in Bethlehem

around the time Jesus was born. Because the roles of Joseph, played by Andre Taylor and Mary, played by Sequoia Houston, are mute, as written by Hughes, their presence on stage seems at times clumsy. The three Shepherds delivery of 'No Good Shepherd Boy', a brilliant and timeless piece that looks at pathologies facing Black men, is budding with possibilities but disappointingly falls short of its potential. However, all is not lost as New Arts Six follows with the most incredible soulful jazzy gospel version of Go Tell It On The Mountain I've ever heard.

The brief second act takes place in the African

American Church of today and lacks the energy and passion of the first act. Yet consistent with the nature of this production, there is always a ram in the bush and she is Cynthia Navarette, the narrator of the first act. Navarette waits for this opportunity to shine in her interpretation of the preacher. Her performance here is both amusingly divine and divinely amusing.

Because Hughes wrote Black Nativity in a way that provides directors with liberty to use their creative juices in fashioning the production, I wish the director H. J. Steward had taken more risks and had a lot more fun with it. Nevertheless, his vision is still worth seeing.

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CONVENTION, continued from Page 3

careful about our position on this. It is not about jobs. It is about buddying up with someone thinking that you are going to get something. I think that the taxpayers have been hood-winked." Foreman also stated that she has served on the Greater Dallas Chamber of Commerce Hotel Committee during the push to expand the convention center to attract more conventions to the city "This did not happen. We have a city council that is driving the issues for us and not representing us."

Raymond agreed, "We feel that the proper role of the government is to subsidize hotels and not place the expense of them on the backs of the taxpayer. If the only place that you can get the money to do this is from taxpayers it tells you something is wrong".

While the opposition was strong against the building of the hotel and the budget required to complete the project, Kermit Mitchell,

venture capitalist with dual residence in Dallas and Boston, interjected a unique idea into the decision ring. "What would be wrong with a minority-ownership in the city hotel?" According to Mitchell, if the price is 500 million dollars, a minority stake holder could obtain a \$100 million worth of shares and re-issue it to other minorities to bring increase back to their communities."

In the spirit of transformative government, Levar L.D. Thomas, the chair of the Coalition of Concerned Democrats expressed his

stance on the hotel issue. "If the hotel is being paid for by the taxpayers, then it should be put up for a vote. If you build a hotel on a bad foundation, you will see what will happen."

The current location of the hotel is set for the southwest corner of Young St. and Lamar Blvd - adjacent to the existing Dallas Convention Center. It is to be a four-star hotel with approximately 1,000 rooms, 1,000-square-feet of meeting space, restaurants, lounges and coffee kiosks. The existence of this anchor of the City is said to

generate revenue and further the efforts to revitalize retail, and entertainment business.. It is claimed to also increase the number of visitors and create more jobs in the downtown area. If the plans continue as scheduled the hotel groundbreaking could begin as early as April 2009.

"We can not stop it, but we can educate you on it," summed Raymond. "The Mayor wants to move ahead to vote on the hotel before the taxpayers have the time to vote," began Raymond. "We want to expose the risks so that the people can make a decision. The Democratic process is not wrong."

CATERING



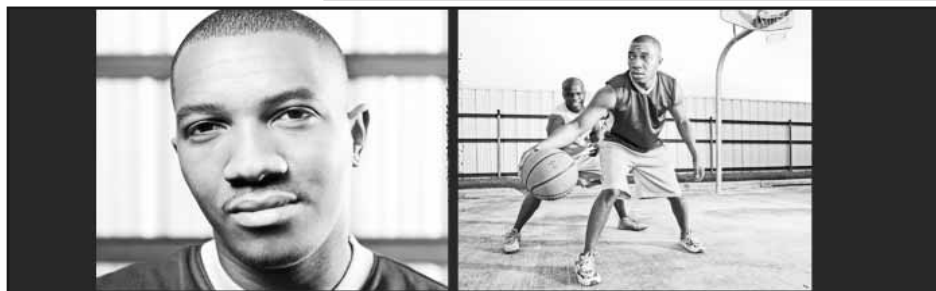
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Church Happenings

DFW INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

December 13, 7:30 pm

Come to North Texas' 3rd Navidad Latinoamericana Concert for the first of two concerts @ Holy Trinity Church, 3811 Oak Lawn Avenue, Dallas, TX 75219.

December 20, 7:30 pm

You're invited to Mary Immaculate Catholic Church, 2800 Valwood Parkway in Farmers Branch, TX 75234 for the second North Texas' 3rd Navidad Latinoamericana Concert in the area. Call Eric Hubbell @ 972-661-2764 for tickets, directions or details on the two events above.

Ms. Marie Weiss-Armush
Community Alliance
President
12800 Hillcrest, Ste A-211
Dallas, TX 75230

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN

ON GOING, 9 am-4 pm
Monday-Friday

Prayer Lines for those in need are 972-649-0566 and 972-649-0567.

Wednesdays, 7 pm

Get your praise on, Wednesday Night Live (WNL) @ our main campus, 200 Belmont Drive in Allen. Call the church for details.

Tonight and Tomorrow,
December 11 & 12, 2008

Church Winter Revival with Prophet Wales Williams of Atlanta, GA, ministering. December 20, 6 pm Theatre & Arts Ministry

presents: "The Only Thing Greater Than Thyself" a celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ @ Story Elementary in Allen.

December 31, 9 pm

Club FBCA presents "Unveiling the Spirit of Excellence" Annual New Year's Eve Celebration @ the Plano Centre Ballroom. Ring in the New Year with food, music, a talent show and the "Spirit" of God with us.

January 23-25, 2009

Mark your calendar, 1st Lady Tasha Stafford and Women Justified By Faith presents their 2009 Women Conference, "More Than Conquerors." Speakers include Pastor W.L. Stafford, Sr. and 1st Lady Tasha; Dr. Rita Twiggs from the Potter's House in Dallas; Pastor Cheryl Coleman from Dover, DE; and Minister Monica Johnson from Epitome Magazine. This is one event you do not want to miss!

Rev. W. L. Stafford, Sr.
M. Div., Senior Pastor
1550 Edelweiss
(Service Location)
200 Belmont Drive
(Church Address)
Allen, TX 75013
972-359-9956

MOUNT GILEAD BAPTIST CHURCH

December 21, 4 pm

Our "Annual Twilight Musical" it's FREE (but please bring a can good item for the needy) with the Adlee H. Trezevant Memorial Choir of the Historic I.M. Terrell High School performing the "George Frideric

Handel's MESSIAH."

Dr. Cedric Britt, Pastor
600 Grove Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102
817-336-2695

MT. OLIVE CHURCH OF PLANO (MOCOP)

December 14, 2008
(After Morning Worship)

Our 1st Annual Culinary Challenge for chiefs, cooks, great cooks and aspiring chiefs. Registration fee is only \$10 per each challenge; \$6 for adults to sample the "good eats" and \$4 for children under 5. This will be a day of creativeness, food and fun for the family. Food will be judged on presentation, taste and traffic flow. Call the church for details.

December 19, 2008
7 pm - 11 pm

Bring your family to our Christmas Extravaganza in the Multi-Purpose Room @ the church. The attire is Dressy or Holiday. Call 972-633-5511 for fees or directions.

Pastor Sam Fenceroy,
Senior Pastor

300 Chisholm Place
Plano, TX 76075
972-633-5511

THE ASCENSION CHURCH

December 2008

Come to our 3rd Christmas Banquet; theme: "The Reason for the Season." Call 972-658-8843 to RSVP, for deadline dates and fees. There will be an inspiring message, holiday songs, dinner and wonderful prizes. Attire: Semi-formal.

Rev. Harold Clark, Jr.
Senior Pastor
404 N. Allen Drive
Allen, TX 75013
972-658-8843

WOMEN PRAYING FOR CHRIST MINISTRIES

Last 3 days of this
Great Revival

December 11-13, 7 pm

We are having a CHRISTmas Prayer Revival & Concert; Tom Grossman, Sr. of Mission 24 and Pastor Carl Looney of GMDT Family Church will host the revival @ the GMDT Family Church, 316 South 9th Street,

Garland, TX 75040.

Speakers include Apostle Remi Adeyemi, Pastor Rocinda Barnor, Pastor Anthony Moses, Sister Annette Smith, Sister Sonya Walker, Prophetess Miranda Mitchell and Pastor Rusty Bowels.

Participants include Sister Shaneda Verdell, Sister Mary Humphrey, Pastor Marina

McLean, Pastor LaJauna Adeyemi, Sister Niakesha Douglas and Sister Barbara Ogaye. If you, your choir or anyone would like to help or be a part of this Revival, please call 214-450-7634.

Dr. Angela King,
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(972) 359-9956 - www.fbcfallen.org



Sunday Morning Services
8:15AM Story Elementary
10:45AM Story Elementary
1550 Edelweiss - Allen, Tx

Wednesday Night Live
Wed Prayer Service / Bible Study
7:00 PM
200 Belmont Dr - Allen, Tx



Pastor W.L. Stafford Sr.
Lady Tasha Stafford

MT. OLIVE CHURCH OF PLANO (MOCOP)
300 Chisholm Place Plano, TX 75075 972-633-5511



Pastors Sam & Gloria Fenceroy



His Night

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7:00 pm

Sunday Morning Worship

10:00 am

Wednesday Nights

7:15 pm

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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.



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Sunday Worship Service11:00AM
Sunday School9:30AM
Thursday Night Live At The Light7:00PM

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Shaun Rabb, Senior Pastor



Sister Tarpley

On a recent visit to Mt. Olive Church of Plano (MOCOP) I was blessed by a powerful message from Minister Lloyd Spence. This is a line of reasoning to think about and quickly act on.

Summary of Minister Lloyd's message: The most amazing memorial that Jesus spoke about came from the action of a sinner. Not from the disciples or the church leaders, but from a woman that the Bible calls a sinner. Jesus spoke on her example as if it were THE example that we should all follow. It is amazing that a sinner understood the principle of serving better than some Christians that are supposed to be followers of Christ?

The amazing thing about this sinner woman is that Jesus himself rewarded her with the honor of immortalizing her into the chronicles of our faith. "Verily I say unto you, Where-

The True Heart of a Servant

soever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, there shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a memorial of her."

Matthew 26:13. Her act of piety depicts the essence of our relationship and servitude to Him.

A sinner, a person devoted to sin and not forgiven, taught Christians how grateful we should be, knowing that we are forgiven!

The Bible, in **Luke 7:37-50**, tells the story of the sinner woman taking an Alabaster box (a box made of the best material that is used to keep ointment in) with Myrrh (an extremely valuable commodity during early Biblical times imported from India and Arabia.) The Myrrh is also an aromatic gum resin that is harden then powered for use or it is made into ointments or perfumes.

In addition, Myrrh was used in the embalming or anointing of the dead, it came to represent mortality, suffering, and sorrow.

The Alabaster box no doubt held the broken pieces of the sinner woman's life. Indications suggest that her trials, tribulations and sin were many.

The Bible states, "Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: are they not in thy book?" **Psalm 56:8.** If our tears are a direct result of some pain, emotional distress and mental anguish, then what better place to take them than to the feet of Jesus!

It's often stated that the hair symbolizes strength and truth. Look in the Bible at the story about Samson's hair; it was an extension of his strength. If this context is true, then washing Jesus' feet with her hair was an act of surrender. The greatest truth is to admit weakness.

It's also stated that the sinner woman kissed Jesus' feet as an act of total devotion and intimacy. It eliminated ALL barriers that were between the woman and Jesus. The kiss essentially told Jesus that her life was not her own; but

rather it belonged totally to Him. She surrendered her heart to Jesus in exchange for a servant's heart.

If we are going to truly become servants to the Most High God, our personal agendas must be exchanged for His devotion and His mission!

Seven things the sinner woman left for us to learn about being a servant of Jesus: 1) God wants us to wait (look for, hope, expect, look forward to eagerly) on Him! 2) God wants us to sacrifice all to serve. 3) He wants us to be put into uncomfortable surroundings to serve Him. 4) God wants us to be focused on the service, not the surroundings. 5) He wants us to be patient as we serve. 6) God wants us to take the risk and criticism to serve. 7) He wants us to be remembered for our service.

Consider: What is done for Christ from the love of Christ is the work of a True servant.

Call the church @ 972-633-5511 to get a copy of the entire message; it will cause



Minister Lloyd Spence & his maternal grandmother, Mrs. Anola Byers from Pine Bluff, Arkansas, she came to hear the inspiring message.



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Woman trades 15 year career for cake

From staff reports

Dana Jones, formerly a financial advisor and regional implementation director with a financial services company, stepped away from her corporate career to pursue CAKE.

Through it all, she primarily focused on coaching and managing leaders, advisors and clients to achieve peak performance. Today, she passionately brings that energy to CAKE.

C.A.K.E!, is an acronym for Crimes Against Kids

Eliminated! Inc., a non-profit organization based in Frisco, Texas, focused on the prevention of child sexual abuse. Its mission; To educate, motivate, and inspire children, families and communities to take proactive action to elimi-

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

Ben Washington Baptist Church, Inc.
3901 Frisco Avenue
Irving, TX 75061
Church 972-710-8421 Fax 972-986-6590
Email: church@bwbcriving.org
Web: bwbcriving.org

Dr. Joseph R. Shoppard, Pastor

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Sunday Worship Services	Wednesday
8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.	12:00 p.m. Bible Study
9:45 a.m. Sunday School	7:00 p.m. Prayer Hour
6:00 p.m. Baptist Training Union	7:30 p.m. Bible Study

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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"

JOBS, continued from page 1

conomic recovery plan that will save or create at least 2.5 million more jobs over two years while we act decisively to maintain the flows of credit on which so many American families and American businesses depend."

Obama was responding to new job loss reports from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, which also reveal gross racial disparities.

They showed African-American unemployment at 11.2 percent, remaining fairly consistent for the past three months; yet still nearly twice the White unemployment rate of 6.1 per-

cent. The 6.1 percent White unemployment rate remained below the national average, which is at 6.7 percent. The Hispanic rate, at 8.6 percent, hovered just above the national average and 2.6 percent lower than African-American's.

Obama has promised Black leaders that he would not forget that African-American communities are hit hardest.

"This community, our community, the African-American community, during these challenging times, suffers more than most in this country," he said in an election-eve phone confer-

ence. "Double digit inflation, double digit unemployment, stagnant wages, our kids are more likely to drop out, more likely to be in jail, more likely to die. We're going to have to do better. And if we continue the momentum we've seen across this country over the last several weeks, we can do better."

The Detroit-based auto industry, which - if fails -

could cause tens of thousands of more job losses, has appealed to Congress ad the White House for a loan or a part of the \$700 million economic bailout already approved by Congress.

Meanwhile, Obama says getting back to financial health for the nation will take much time and sacrifice.

"There are no quick or easy fixes to this crisis,

which has been many years in the making, and it's likely to get worse before it gets better," he said. However, he has outlined a plan.

"Now is the time to respond with urgent resolve to put people back to work and get our economy moving again," he said. "At the same time, this painful crisis also provides us with an opportunity to transform

our economy to improve the lives of ordinary people by rebuilding roads and modernizing schools for our children, investing in clean energy solutions to break our dependence on imported oil, and making an early down payment on the long-term reforms that will grow and strengthen our economy for all Americans for years to come."

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Pastor Dave Jenkins, Jr.



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Sunday School.....9:30am
Morning Worship.....10:45am

Prayer/Bible Study.....7:00pm (Wed)

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

Monday Service
Men's Ministry 7:00 pm
Women's Ministry 7:00 pm
Young Adult Ministry 7:00 pm

Wednesday Service
Intercessory Prayer 6:15 pm
Bible Study 7:00 pm



Dr. Robert E. Price, Sr.
Senior Pastor

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1026 Avenue F • Plano, TX 75074 • 972-423-8833
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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

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Ramon Hodridge, Minister

www.avefchurchofchrist.org

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Phone: 972-572-4262 Fax: 972-709-3888

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

Pastor Rickie G. Rash

Website: www.ibocjoy.org

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Pastor Isiah Joshua, Jr.

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Wednesday	7PM Mid-Week Service
Thursday	7PM Mass Choir

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

Worship Services
7:30am & 10:30am

Sunday School
9:30 am

Wednesday Night Service
8:00 pm

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