

North Dallas Gazette



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Obama Won't Be First Black President

By **AYSHA HUSSAIN**
Diversity Inc. Magazine

Were there other "black" presidents? Some historians have reason to believe people don't really understand the genealogy of past U.S. Presidents.

Research shows at least five U.S. presidents had black ancestors and Thomas Jefferson, the nation's third president, was considered the first black president, according to historian Leroy Vaughn, author of *Black People*

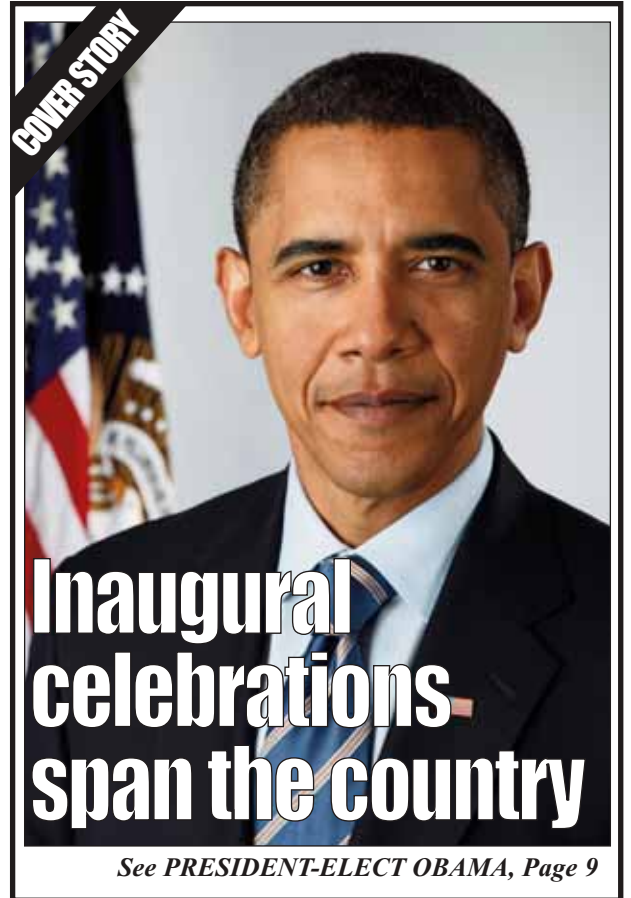
and Their Place in World History.

Vaughn's research shows Jefferson was not the only former black U.S. president. Who were the others? Andrew Jackson, Abraham Lincoln, Warren Harding and Calvin

Coolidge. But why was this unknown? How were they elected president? All five of these presidents never acknowledged their black ancestry.

Jefferson, who served

See **PRESIDENT**, Page 11



'We've Got to Roll Up Our Sleeves'

By **HAZEL TRICE EDNEY**
NNPA Editor-in-Chief

On the verge of commemorating the Martin Luther King National Holiday Jan. 19, Martin Luther King III, has declared "We've got to

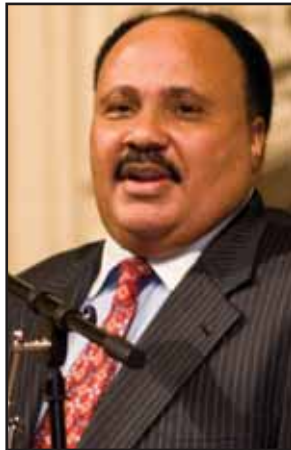
roll up our sleeves" during what he describes as "a very special period in the history of our nation and world."

Speaking last week to the ceremonial swearing in of the Congressional Black Caucus, King says America must remind

itself that despite the historic swearing in of the nation's first Black president Jan. 20, his father's "dream has not been fulfilled even though a significant aspect of that dream has been fulfilled."

Sitting aside a prepared

See **MLK**, Page 11



"I Have a Dream" concert preludes Black History Month

For more information see pg. 10
www.northdallasgazette.com

Plano Celebrates Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday

From staff reports

In 1983, the 98th Congress passed Public Law 98-144 to honor the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr. This was first celebrated as a Federal legal holiday on January 20, 1986 and has been

observed on the third Monday of January since that time. Congress' intention was that the holiday "serve as a time for Americans to reflect on the principles of racial equality and social change espoused by Martin Luther King, Jr." (36 USC, Section 169). Dr.

King gained national prominence during the Montgomery Bus Boycott. The boycott began when Rosa Parks, a 42 year old seamstress refused to give up her seat to a white man on December 1, 1955. A Montgomery city ordinance at that time required

black individuals to give up their seats to white individuals. The boycott lasted 381 days and served as the impetus in the creation of Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

From this point forward,

See **MLK EVENTS**, Page 16

COMMENTARY We're Not Going to Spend Our Way to Economic Recovery

American's largest third party is calling plans by the incoming Obama administration a "multibillion-dollar boondoggle."

"We're not going to spend our way to economic recovery," says Andrew Davis, a spokesperson for the Libertarian Party. "You can't even call Obama's economic plans a gamble because the results are written in stone."

We've tried this Keynesian experiment many times in the past, with no proven success. It's nothing but a multi-billion-dollar boondoggle."

The Libertarian Party says that Obama's spending proposals, which include funding the largest public works program since the 1950s, will take too long to

See **LIBERTARIAN**, Page 11

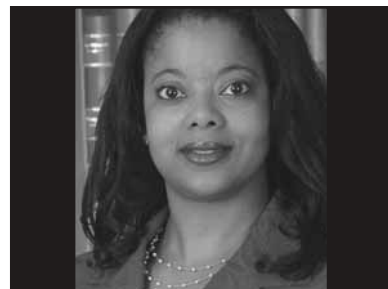
INSIDE...

People In The News	2
Op-Ed	3
Out of Africa/Health	4
Community News	5
Education	6
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...



Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick



Daphne L. Session



Pat Simmons

See Page 2

Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick

Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick (MI-13) secured membership on two powerful U.S. House Appropriations Subcommittees—the Defense Subcommittee and the Transportation/Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Subcommittee—during the historic 111th Congress.

Congresswoman Kilpatrick is the first African American woman and the second woman in the history of our country to serve on the Defense Subcommittee, which is the largest appropriations bill

in the federal government. The Defense Subcommittee has jurisdiction over the Departments of the Army, Navy (including Marine Corps), Air Force, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Central Intelligence Agency, Intelligence Community Staff, and Defense Agencies. The subcommittee has \$512.7 billion authorized in total spending for fiscal year 2009. Energy, healthcare, housing, education, and research and development funding is also included in the Defense bill.

“It is an honor and a priv-

ilege to serve on the Defense Subcommittee. I look forward to working to provide our military with the resources necessary to defend and protect our freedoms and ensure the safety and security of America’s families,” said Kilpatrick.

The Transportation Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee has jurisdiction over the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Department of Transportation, the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board, the

Federal Maritime Commission, the National Transportation Safety Board, the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. The subcommittee appropriated \$103.6 billion in total spending for fiscal year 2008.

Kilpatrick is the second African American woman to serve on the powerful House Appropriations Committee, which authorizes spending for all levels of the federal government. As a Member of the Appropriations Committee,



the Congresswoman has a vote on all 12 appropriations bills.

Born Carolyn Jean Cheeks, she graduated from the Detroit High School of Commerce. She then attended Ferris State University in Big Rapids

from 1968 to 1970 and received a B.S. from Western Michigan University (Kalamazoo) in 1972. She earned a M.S. from the University of Michigan in 1977. She worked as a high school teacher and was later a member of the Michigan State House of Representatives from 1979 to 1996.

She was married to Bernard Nathaniel Kilpatrick, with whom she has daughter Ayanna and son Kwame Kilpatrick. Kwame Kilpatrick recently resigned as Detroit's mayor following his guilty plea to two felonies for obstruction of justice.

Daphne L. Session

Daphne L. Session was sworn in as Houston County Attorney on January 1, 2009. The state of Texas is divided into 254 counties. Miss Session is one of only three black county attorneys in the history of the state of Texas and the first black female.

At 11:00 AM on January 1, 2009, the District Court Room at the Houston County Court House was

filled to capacity with Houston County Officials, their families and well wishers. It was an emotional moment for Attorney Daphne L. Session, her family and friends as the honorable Pam Foster Fletcher, Judge 349th Judicial District, administered the oath of office to Miss Session. It had been a long and difficult year and a half of endless campaigning to get to

this moment. But she was finally there and had finally opened the doorway for other African Americans by demonstrating that it could be done.

May 2006 she became the first African American to open a private practice law office in Cherokee County and Houston County and prior to that the first African American Assistant District Attorney in both Anderson County and Houston County. Daphne feels that what she has accomplished is nothing



out of the ordinary. In private practice she has taken on many challenges to defend her clients both private pay and court appoint-

ed and as a prosecutor seeing that justice was administered fairly. She understands well that the stereotypical image of an East Texas Prosecutor is not that of an African American or a woman.

Miss Session is the daughter of Rusk City Councilman Walter Session and wife Maxine Session. She was born and raised in Rusk. Daphne graduated Sam Houston State University with a Bachelor Degree in Criminal Justice and Texas Tech School of

Law with a Doctor of Jurisprudence Degree in 1999.

Other newly elected Houston County officials sworn in were Donna Kaspar, District Attorney; Pam Foster Fletcher, District Judge; Roger Dickey, Commissioner Pct. 1; Pat Perry, Commissioner Pct. 3; Darrel Bobbitt, Sheriff; Dannette Millican, Tax Assessor-Collector; Morris Luker, Commissioner Pct 1; and Kenneth “Red” Smith Constable Pct. 2.

Pat Simmons

Pat Simmons is the first recipient of the Katherine D. Jones Award, presented at the 2008 Romance Slam Jam in Chicago, IL, for humility and grace. She is a Jesus baptized Believer and received the Gift of Holy Ghost by the evidence of speaking in other tongues. She is a news writer and assignment editor for a St. Louis television station. Prior to that position, she worked as a talk show host, board operator, and news reporter for various radio stations for ten years. She recently celebrated her twenty-fifth wedding anniversary, and she is the mother of two college students.

Pat Simmons is the co-publicist at Midwest

Publicity, a two-woman public relations company. She handles media publicity for the yearly Romantic Times BOOKLOVERS Conventions and secures author interviews for such national bestselling authors like L.A. Banks, Bobbi Smith, Christina Skye, and Heather Graham via radio, television, and newspaper.

Pat Simmons holds a B.S. in Mass Communications from Emerson College in Boston, MA. Her hobbies/interests include digging up dirt on dead people while researching her genealogy. She is a closet collector of greeting cards and tears up when she sees fighter jets zoom in the sky, marking the beginning of a sport event.



Pat Simmons is nosy by nature. She’s known for making friends where ever she goes, and being the life of the party—only if there are four guests or less. Pat is considered a connoisseur of board games, and collects off-brand games that nobody wants to play so she bribes them with her tetrazzini. She praises God for the inspiration to write, and the “village people” for

helping her get the job done. She is a contributor to the Essence Magazine best selling anthology, Love is Blind with Parry “Ebony Satin” Brown. She is the bestselling author of her debut novel Guilty of Love (September 2007). Her upcoming novels include Talk To Me (November 2008), and Not Guilty of Love (September 2009).

Pat is appearing in the area to meet readers and sign her books:

Thursday, January 29, 2009, 4-6 pm. Barnes & Noble Booksellers, Firewheel Town Center, Garland 972-496-2000

Friday, January 30, 2009, 4-6 pm. Borders Books Store, Mesquite, 972-279-5203

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North Dallas Gazette



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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



Barack the Magic Negro

By JAMES W. BREEDLOVE
The Truth Clinic

As the final days of 2008 ebb away even the wave of euphoria that swept over America following the election of Barack Obama as President could not purify the country of its embedded racism.

Opinion polls taken after the November 4 election seemed to imply that the collapsing economy had opened America's collective eyes and hearts to put aside that which divided us.

It seemed that Obama's campaign reminder to America had taken root. That America is not made up of blue states or red states, but must always be the United States. United we could come together and tackle the great challenges that we face by summoning a new spirit of patriotism; of service and responsibility where each of us resolves to pitch in and work harder and look after not only ourselves, but each other.

We watched and waited—hopeful, anxious, tearfully—as a dream that had been decades in the making began to unfold before our eyes on election night. The state by state voting results started to come in beginning on the east coast and moving west.

The suspense was short lived. A McCain victory quickly became improbable as the hope of an Obama victory gradually turned into a certainty with Obama's early wins in the Northeast, Iowa, and the critical swing states of Pennsylvania and Ohio. He also won the victories in the states of Michigan, Wisconsin, and neighboring Minnesota by double digits.

Every major American network called the election in favor of Barack Obama at 11:00 PM Eastern

Standard Time as the polls closed on the West Coast and Obama's electoral count reached the magic 270 number.

Then the reality sunk in when the man himself stepped on the stage in Chicago's historic Grant Park to the thundering cheers of 250,000 supporters; an African-American who would soon be addressed as Mr. President.

Later that night Obama picked up additional swing states that had been too close to call.

These included Florida, Indiana, Virginia, and the western states of New Mexico, Colorado, and Nevada, all states that had been carried by George Bush in 2004. Obama carried 28 states and the District of Columbia with a projected electoral vote count of 365 to McCain's 173.

Other Democrats have captured the White House in the last 40 years since Johnson. However, none has won both a majority of the votes and simultaneously a broad mandate from the states. Jimmy Carter won the popular vote impressively, but did not change the red and blue political map. Obama by contrast has unquestionably given the Democratic Party both the political legitimacy of an unchallengeable victory and the moral authority of red and blue states.

Obama, on the other hand, has won the presidency by crafting a majoritarian platform and boldly making that message acceptable in places that have rarely voted Democrat in any presidential election since Lyndon Johnson's 1964 blowout victory.

But reality dictates that the negativists throw buckets of cold water on the political fireworks of unity ignited by Obama's amaz-



ing victory. After all, racism and bigotry are still the universal weapons of America's dividers.

One such bucket is the song called "Barack the Magic Negro" recently distributed to RNC members by Chip Saltsman, who is seeking the RNC chairmanship.

The ditty, sung to the music of the "Puff, the Magic Dragon" in the sound alike voice of Rev. Al Sharpton, originated on conservative commentator Rush Limbaugh's radio program (no surprise here).

When admonished by saner Republicans Mr. Saltsman responded that members of the RNC committee have "the good humor and good sense" to see the tune as "lighthearted political parodies."

While it is shocking no one should be surprised by this childish act of bigotry. The mere fact that Rush Limbaugh was involved should say a lot about the entire affair. One thing is certain; the current extremists running the Republican Party like their predecessors find racism funny. To them, bigotry is not only fun but big business. And Rush is one of the biggest.

Remember the Don Imus controversial "nappy head" joke of 2007?

America, like much of the world, faces a growing polarization of wealth that has made poverty the new and real racism. People of all colors are being left out of the opportunities for good educations, good jobs, good health, and good housing.

As poverty has spread throughout our society, there has been a steady effort to put in place a system of laws to contain this growing mass of the dispossessed. This paradigm has already made America the world's leading prison nation. This travesty supersedes the childish racism that enjoys so much media attention.

In his victory speech following the election, Barack Obama has drawn a line under the last eight dreadful years of the Bush administration that few will mourn. And whether he is magical or just a special individual whose time has come it is evident that he has taken on his shoulders the great weight of leadership that the United States of America so desperately needs.

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.

Jamati.com: Joins Inaugural Ball Honoring Obama

NNPA

In a statement from Diaspora Interactive Media Corporation Founder & CEO Elias Mageto; "Jamati.com (Africa's Premiere Entertainment Portal) is honored to be part of this extraordinary event, specifically with its theme - I AM CHANGE. The spirit of this inaugural event is truly in step with our mission to Educate, Elevate & Entertain the

world via African talent and contributions."

I AM CHANGE celebrates the inauguration of President-elect Barack Obama and the accomplishments of African Diaspora communities in the United States. The Red-carpet event takes place on Sunday, January 18th 2009, at the luxuriously appointed, 800-seat Harman Center for the Arts in downtown Washington, DC. Guests can expect to

enjoy exquisite food, an open bar, live entertainment by some of the Diaspora's brightest stars including an all women's Brazilian drumming group, an energetic East African Dance troupe and a live South African band for The African Diaspora Inaugural Ball.

Confirmed artists include Grammy-award nominated sultry, singing sensation, LES NUBIANS with a live performance,

and a special guest appearance by Grammy Award winner and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, ANGELIQUE KIDJO. In addition, you can expect VIP's from the entertainment, political, humanitarian and business worlds—including featured Speaker Dr. Whitney Schneidman, Member of the National Security Policy Working Group, Obama-Biden transition team.

The theme, —"I AM

CHANGE: Educating, Empowering and Engaging the Next Generation of Leaders,"—highlights the importance of investing in the education and empowerment of the next generation. 100% of proceeds will go to: Angelique Kidjo's Batonga Foundation, ensuring that the organization is able to continue its outreach to children throughout Africa; and First Book, a nonprofit organization that provides



Pres. Elect Barack Obama

new books to children in low income communities.

The event promises to be an elegant,

black-tie event featuring class and culture and benefits great causes supporting "Mama Africa."

Free Workshops Help Family Members Cope with Alzheimer's

From staff reports

The Alzheimer's Association of North Central Texas, with funding from the North Central Texas Council of Governments' Area Agency on Aging, is sponsoring a series of free workshops to help family

members cope with dementia and memory loss.

"Mapping the Journey" will be held on four consecutive Wednesdays in February, at Stonewall Title Company, 1840 Acton Highway, Granbury. The series will cover "Understanding

Alzheimer's," "Legal and Safety Issues," "Financial Considerations" and "Caregiving Strategies." Sessions will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, on February 4, 11, 18, and 25.

On February 27, the Alzheimer's Association will sponsor "Planning Ahead: Planning for Future

Legal and Financial Needs." The program will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at Crockett National Bank, 1901 Wall Street, Weatherford. For more information about any of these workshops, or to register call Shelly Young at 817-336-4949 or 800-272-3900

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MLK Celebrations in the DFW Metroplex

African American Pastor's Coalition Martin Luther King Memorial Service

The African American Pastor's Coalition presents their annual Martin Luther King Memorial Worship Service on Monday, January 19, 2009 at Christian Chapel Temple of Faith CME Church, 14120 Noel Rd. in Dallas. This year's guest speaker is Bishop Dennis V. Proctor, Presiding Prelate of the Western Episcopal District of the AME Zion Church. A native of Buffalo, New York, Bishop Proctor received his Bachelor of Arts (Summa Cum laude) from Livingstone College, Master of Arts in Pastoral Care and Counseling from Ashland Theological Seminary, a Juris Doctor from The Ohio State University College of Law, and a Doctor of Ministry from the United Theological Seminary where he was named a Samuel D. Proctor/Otis Moss Fellow. He was inducted in Martin Luther King, Jr. Board of Preachers at Morehouse College, Atlanta Georgia. In addition, one of his sermons is published in the book of "Outstanding Black Sermons Volume." Bishop Proctor is the Founding President of the Congress of National Black Churches (Baltimore Affiliate). He co-authored "Christians Under Construction" with Dr. Staccato Powell.

Chapel Christian Methodist Episcopal/White Rock Chapel Methodist Church was the first African American Church established in far north Dallas and is believed to be the first such establishment for African Americans in the North Texas Area. It has a membership of over 4,800. Under the leadership of Dr. Jerome McNeil, Jr., CCTOF continues to serve the community through over 90 ministries like the Friends of Family

Place, My Father's House Christian Bookstore, the Healthy Beginnings Child Care, One Church, One School. and Operation Blessings outreach ministry.

Dallas to hold Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration events

City of Dallas activities celebrating the life and legacy of Dr. King will be held this weekend. The theme is: "Remember! Celebrate! Act! The Dream Continues..."

Friday, January 16, 2009 - Candle-Lighting Ceremony, 7:00 p.m. Martin Luther King, Jr. Recreation Center 2901 Pennsylvania Avenue Presented by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Saturday, January 17, 2009 - Martin Luther King, Jr. March/Parade, 10:00 a.m.

The march/parade will assemble at City Hall Plaza and conclude inside Fair Park at the MLK Blvd. entrance. Participants will include bands, floats, community/civic groups, churches and a live broadcast featuring Radio One's, 97.9/94.5, radio personalities

Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards Banquet 7:30 p.m. The Sheraton Hotel Dallas (formerly the Adam's Mark) - 400 North Olive Street, Dallas Keynote Speaker: Dr. Alvin Poussaint, author, psychiatrist, educator and respected social critic. Few fans realized that the inspiring force behind "The Cosby Show" and its spin-off, "A Different World," was Dr. Alvin Poussaint, a psychiatrist known more for his insightful studies into the needs of the African American Family than for his screen-writing talents. He continues to work with Bill Cosby, in their newest collaboration, Come On, People! On the Path from Victims to Victors.

Tickets: \$50 Individual, \$500 Community Table, \$1,000 Table Sponsor

Information: For information about events and banquet tickets, call: (214) 670-8438 or (214) 670-8418.

17th Annual Gardere MLK Jr. Oratory Competition

Drawing from the inspiration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life and words, Dallas elementary school students will present original speeches on the topic: "If Dr. King Were Alive Today, What Do You Think He Would Say About Current Events?" during the 17th annual Gardere MLK Jr. Oratory Competition.

Hosted by Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP, the competition is free and open to the public. Established in 1993, the event commemorates the life of Dr. King by keeping his teachings alive for a new generation.

Fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grade students from participating Dallas ISD schools write and deliver brief speeches based on Dr. King's ideals. In order to compete at the Jan. 16 event, the students went through qualifying competitions at their respective schools during the month of December. All finalists receive college savings bonds. Winner of the 2008 competition was Dalton Sherman of Charles Rice Learning Center.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Celebration:

The 2009 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. McKinney Commemorative Committee cordially invites you to an evening of joyous community collaboration through the sacred arts of song, dance, music and speaking on Sunday, January 18, 2009 at 7pm at McKinney North High School Auditorium (2550

Wilmeth Rd.). The committee, which is made up of several community and church leaders, is looking to pack the house. By partnering with the local schools, churches, businesses and local government, we are determined to keep Dr. King's vision alive!

The theme for this event is A Vision that Reaches Beyond Color, making for a most memorable evening. Culminating the evening will be resounding wisdom as expressed by speaker, McKinney's own Dr. Jeff Warren, Pastor of First Baptist Church McKinney.

"This committee is extremely excited about the presenters for this momentous occasion. It is truly going to be a reflection of Dr. King's Dream," says Committee Coordinator, Kerry Madison.

To receive additional information about this event that is free to the general public, please contact the Kerry Madison, at Kmadison06@aol.com or 972.965.7242.

Black Cinematheque Dallas and the South Dallas Cultural Center Celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King's Birthday

Black Cinematheque Dallas will kick off the Martin Luther King Birthday cwith a screening of the film "Citizen King" by Orlando Bagwell and Noland Walker, Friday, Jan. 16, 2009 @ 7:30 pm at the South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh Street South Dallas, Texas. Admission \$5.00 or pay what you can at the door. The public should call Marilyn Clark 214-426-1683.

Rather than glorify the civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. as a saint, Orlando Bagwell's documentary Citizen King recognizes that it's easy to idolize a dead hero. Instead, Bagwell chooses to tell the story of a Southern minister who served as an ambassador of good will despite his many opponents. By focusing on the major events of the last five years of King's life



(1963-1968), the personal story of a great American leader is able to unfold chronologically with the help of historical footage. Marches, speeches, and various other media appearances reveal a dignified man with an amazing audience and a dynamic and undeniable physical presence. A contemporary perspective is provided by his colleagues in the Southern Christian Leadership Conference who supported him, as well as the U.S. government employees who investigated him. The music of Nina Simone beautifully underscores some poignant moments in King's life, with particular relevance to his courage under intense pressure and constant death threats.



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North Texas Students Seeking Financial Assistance, Urged To Apply For Scholarship

From staff reports

Local high school seniors are encouraged to apply for the 2008 – 2009 Ronald McDonald House Charities® (RMHC®) U.S. Scholarship Program. The annual scholarship program, sponsored by Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater North Texas, will award scholarships to local high school seniors.

Applications are avail-

able from high school guidance counselors or online at www.RMHC.org. Students may also apply for the scholarship electronically via the program web site.

"The RMHC U.S. Scholarship Program provides local high school seniors who wish to continue their education the opportunity to apply for a scholarship and receive financial assistance to attend col-

lege," said Jeff Phillips, RMHC of Greater North Texas Board Chair and McDonald's Owner/Operator. "It is our goal to help make the dream of a college education a reality for students who may not otherwise attend college."

This year the local RMHC chapter will award \$100,000 in scholarships to North Texas high school students. The scholarship

programs are supported by local McDonald's franchisees.

Scholarship recipients will be selected based on their academic achievement, financial need, community involvement, and leadership potential. RMHC of Greater North Texas offers four scholarship programs for eligible students to apply. The scholarship deadline is February 16, 2009.

New Teaching Techniques Hold Big Promise for Area School Districts

By STEPHANIE WARD
Guest Correspondent

Brain Education has awakened the desire to learn in students all over the country and is now being offered to school districts and parents throughout North Texas.

"This program helps to connect students with their mind and body - if you don't feel good you can't learn," said Dr. Vanneise Collins, an educator and workshop facilitator for BE.

Dr. Collins will facilitate a 2-day workshop introducing the Brain Education For Enhanced learning program to area educators and interested parents. The program will take participants through 15-session curriculum; give them the opportunity to experi-

ence the basic of the program. The workshop will be held at the Dahn Yoga Center at 5920 Belt line Rd. Dallas, TX 75252 on January 24 and 25, 2009 at 8:20 to 4:30 p.m.

Dr. Collins said she has seen amazing results from children in other areas. "Where you mind goes, you energy follows," she said. This program includes physical, emotional and cognitive exercises, as well as postures, breathing techniques, guided imagery and games used to stimulate healthy, dynamic and productive functioning of the body and brain.

Dr. Collins said as families struggle with the economy, and other problems, their children are

See COLLINS, Page 7

SMU set to launch innovative graduate program

From staff reports

Focusing on the creative talents and business acumen required to be successful in today's rapidly evolving world of advertising, Southern Methodist University's acclaimed Temerlin Advertising Institute for Education and Research will launch a unique graduate program in advertising in August 2009, emphasizing both social responsibility and

highly effective campaign strategies for the future marketplace.

"Globalization, social media and other advances of this digital age have created tremendous opportunities for marketers to deliver their messages to the public in innovative ways," said Dr. Patricia Alvey, distinguished chair and director of the Temerlin Advertising Institute. "However, only those advertising profes-

sionals who fully embrace both the business and creative aspects of the advertising disciplines, as well as the enormity of change in the global consumer marketplace, will be truly prepared for the business environment of tomorrow."

SMU's faculty spent 18 months studying 150 advertising programs across the country in order to identify what was working and what was not

before designing the university's own program. The cutting-edge program will groom tomorrow's leaders and is designed to be home to a lively and invigorating environment where students will investigate what's new and what's next in the marketplace.

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Lynetta Haynes-Oliver

Dr. Velma Prince Smith

Saturday, January 31, 2009
at The Black Academy of Arts and Letters

For ticket information, call Ticketmaster at (214)373-8000

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. At Reel Thing Catfish Cafe, 600 East Main Street - Suite A, Allen, TX 75002. 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 info: 469-942-0809 or meeetup.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) Learning Over Lunch Series: Monthly 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. 4th Saturdays, 11AM-1PM, ReMarkable Affairs Cafe, 2727 LBJ Freeway, Suite 140, Dallas, \$20 for members; \$35 for non-members, \$5 off for early bird registration. Visit <http://nbwenorg.ning.com> for more information. **THIS IS A PREPAID EVENT** so register early!

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).

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 15

Plano Chamber Business After Hours Hooters, 720 N. Central Expwy, Plano 75074 5:30 p.m. RSVP at info@planochamber.org starting 2 weeks prior to event

January 17

Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Parade The parade assembly begins at Dallas city hall plaza, located at 1500 Marilla, and marches past the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center and ends at Fair Park. Info at www.dallascityhall.com or (214) 670-8438.

"Business Basics for Entrepreneurs." This class combines financial management and other key business concepts, such as Marketing, Forecasting, Cash Flow, Pricing, and Business Planning. Upon completion of the training class, prospective members will receive a PLAN Fund certification and become eligible for business loans. MEED Center 1327 N. Peak Street,

Dallas, TX 75204. \$40 - www.planfund.org or call 214-942-6698.

Play Date 8pm-2am, alternative to typical night out at Excuses Extreme Cafe, 3025 Main Street, Dallas, TX Singles, couples, groups...EVERYBODY for food, drink, music, and GAMES! Cost is \$10, Info Contact: 713-283-2469 or info@playdatedallas.com.

Urban League Health and Quality of Life Ice Skating Event - Fun and Exercise at the Galleria Ice Skating Rink 13350 Dallas Parkway Dallas, TX health@ulgdyp.org

January 18

26th Annual Black Music and The Civil Rights Movement Concert - This moving tribute reflects on Dr. King and the Civil Right Movement of the 1960s while celebrating a nationwide spirit of change through Barack Obama's presidential campaign with powerful film footage, narration, music and dance. The concert features special artist FANTASIA. Conceived and produced by CURTIS KING. Details about this event may be found by visiting www.tbaal.org.

January 19

MLK Holiday Comedy Jam Featuring AJ Jamal and Jay Lamont hosted by D Ellis the MLK Holiday Comedy Jam will be held 7:30 pm at the Fort Worth Event Center, 2100 Evans Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76104. Reserve Seats \$45.00, General Admission, \$35.00 for more info or to buy tickets, call 817-207.9744 or 817-923-9305.

ULGDYP Professional Development / Economic Empowerment Committee Meeting at Urban Market Café 1500 Jackson St., Dallas, TX 75201

January 22

Plano ISD Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute

Program Students from various schools will be spotlighted in the program "I Am America." Contact Plano ISD Communications Department at 469.752.8150 for more information.

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.

January 24

Fine Arts Chamber Players 3:00 pm a free afternoon concert at the Horchow Auditorium at the Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 N. Harwood, Dallas 75201. The auditorium doors open at 2:30 pm for the 3:00 pm concert. No admission fee or reservations are required. 214.520.2219 or visit www.fineartschamberplayers.org

ULGDYP Economic Empowerment Event - Right on the Money: Creating a Monthly Budget 3pm, Location: TBD; Send an email to economic_empowerment@ulgdyp.org for more information

January 30

"Simply Sinatra" starring Steve Lippia at The Eisemann Center - 972-744-4650 or visit www.eisemanncenter.com

January 31

Harlem Globetrotters 2009 World Tour will take the court on Jan 31st at 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm. This event will be held at the American Airlines Center in Dallas Texas. Details at www.americanairlinescenter.com or www.harlemglobetrotters.com.

African American Read In 2 pm at the Majestic Theatre, 1925 Elm Street Dallas TX. Send an email to community_outreach@ulgdyp.org by January 15th to get involved

reach@ulgdyp.org by January 15th to get involved

February 7

Free China adoption workshop held by Great Wall China Adoption, a non-profit organization dedicated to place abandoned girls from China. 1:30-4:30 pm L.E.R. Schimelpfenig Library 5024 Custer Road Plano, TX 75023. To register <http://www.gwca.org/events/workshops/view?2237> For more information about Great Wall China Adoption, please visit our website at www.gwca.org or call us toll free at 1.888.GW.FAMILY.

February 14

Smucker's Stars on Ice - The world's top skaters are coming to American Airlines Center in America's number one skating tour -- Smucker's Stars on Ice. Come see the sport's most exciting Olympic, World and National Champions including Sasha Cohen, Illia Kulik, Todd Eldredge, Shen & Zhao, Michael Weiss and more in this Emmy Award winning tour! Produced by Scott Hamilton, Smucker's Stars on Ice - On the Edge is coming for one performance only with special guest Evan Lysacek! Visit www.starsonice.com or at www.americanairlinescenter.com

February 18-21

Dallas Auto Show - One of the most anticipated annual events in the Metroplex, the Dallas Auto Show is the ideal opportunity for consumers to compare styling and pricing of every major line make under one roof in just a few hours. The Dallas Auto Show was conceived in 1982, and now boasts more than 550,000 square feet of new cars, trucks and SUVs at the Dallas Convention Center and an attendance of close to 400,000 auto enthusiasts. For 2008, more than 40 manufacturers from A to V will display more than 700 vehicles. www.dallasautoshow.org

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.

Feb. 22 -Mar. 1, 2009

Sesame Street: Elmo's Green Thumb - Sunny isn't just the weather forecast on Sesame Street - it's also the name of Elmo's sunflower friend! Join all your favorite friends on an amazing adventure as they help Elmo find a new home for Sunny in the all new Sesame Street Live stage show, "Elmo's Green Thumb". NOKIA Theatre Grand Prairie, www.nokialivedfw.com - www.sesamestreetlive.com

February 22

Krewe of Barkus Parade Dress your four-legged friend in celebrity style and head to Historic Downtown McKinney for an afternoon of Mardi Gras fun! Patterned after the legendary Mystic Krewe of Barkus in New Orleans, Historic Downtown McKinney will feature a parade and costume contest! Humans and their dog escorts are invited to participate. Children may also enter decorated wagon floats. Participants should meet at Mitchell Park located at the corner of Louisiana & Church in Historic Downtown McKinney at 12:30pm. Following the parade there will be a costume contest in Mitchell Park. Couple these festivities with an enjoyable shopping environment and plenty of parking which leads us to expecting a very successful event. Visit www.downtownmckinney.com or call McKinney Main Street at 972.547.2660.

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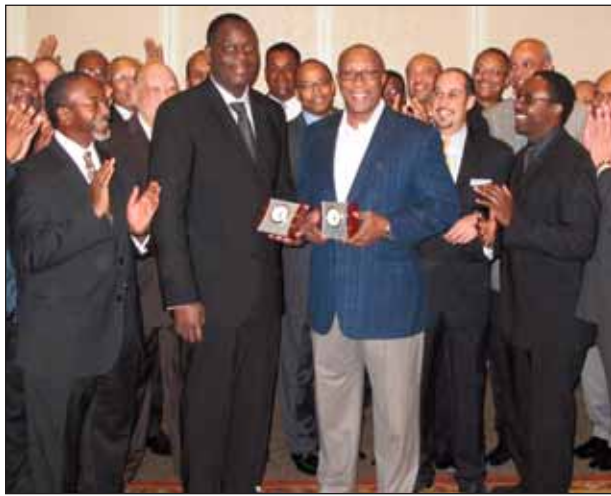
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Proud To Be An Active Partner In The Community

Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity Celebrates Two of Its Members

From staff reports

The Dallas Chapter of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, Alpha Epsilon Boule', celebrated two of its members for their outstanding accomplishments - former Mayor Ron Kirk, who was recently nominated for U. S. Trade representative under the Obama administration and current Dallas District Attorney, Craig Watkins, named the 2008 Texas of the Year by the Dallas Morning News.



Mr. Kirk, a full trade advocate, will take on the

challenges of existing trade deals, as well as, new trade initiatives including Asia. President-elect Barack Obama described Mr. Kirk as "a leader, negotiator and principled proponent of trade." Mr. Kirk promises to maintain his commitment to America's workers. Mr. Kirk, who is currently a partner at the law firm of Vinson & Elkins, will take the post after confirmation.

Mr. Watkins' selection as "Texan of the Year" is a major accomplishment for

the first African American District Attorney in the state of Texas. As Dallas County District Attorney, his most significant accomplishments as District Attorney has been the DNA exoneration of 19 wrongfully convicted prisoners while maintaining a conviction rate comparable to his predecessor. Mr. Watkins is driven to reform an imperfect criminal justice system and has received national media attention by 60 Minutes and The Wall

Street Journal for his new approach as prosecutor.

The President of the Dallas Chapter, Sire Archon William Frazier, expressed his excitement about the accomplishments, "Ron and Craig represent everything the Boule' stands for and we are very proud of both of them."

Sigma Pi Phi is the oldest black fraternity and is made up of a select group of men who have made significant achievements and contributions to the community.

COLLINS, from Page 6

benefactors of a stress filled environment and this makes learning even more difficult. The BE program teaches students how to focus and improve their information - processing skills to reinforce their learning.

Children are taught how to breath, focus on flexibility, and how to clear away emotional residues of earlier experiences and releases the associated energy toward new perspectives and attitude.

Brain Education started in East Asian. It has been updated and refined with critical insights from neuroscience and other disciplines. BE integrates and applies core understands about brain, mind and behavior.

Twenty students at fifth grade level participated in a pilot Brain Education

program twice weekly for twelve weeks. After completion of the program, they displayed significant improvements in five out of twelve tests of learning efficiency, including concentration, learning strategy, learning acceptability, self-control strategy, and emotional control strategy, as well as a global score of learning efficiency. In contrast, a control group of twenty students did not show improvements in any of these measures, according Korean Journal of Educational Research. 2004.

Forty pre-schoolers (age 5) participated in a Brain Education program for thirty minutes daily, for five months. Compared to a control group of 40 children, the children in the Brain Education program showed significant

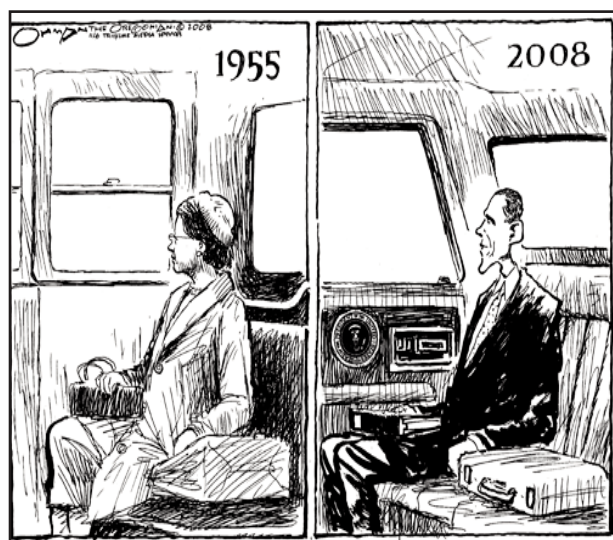


Dr. Vanneise Collins

improvements in six of eight different intelligences tested, including linguistic, logical-mathematical, body-kinesthetic, musical, interpersonal, and intrapersonal intelligence, according to the Journal of Brain Education.

Dr. Collins said BE is a win, win for students, teachers, principal, and parents. Children she said become more comfortable with learning and also more supportive of each other. Teachers have an easier time in the classroom and more confidence that their students are learning. Principals, she said, benefit it is easier to meet academic goals and also easier to retain teacher because they are no constantly dealing with disciplinary problems.

Anyone interested in more information about the Brain Education program can go to the site at www.powerbrainedu.com or call Dr. Collins at (214) 971-5851.



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<h3>TRANSPORTATION</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Material and Distribution Operations Basic Truck Driving (ATDS) 	<h3>HOSPITALITY</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Culinary Arts
<h3>HOMELAND SECURITY</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Security and Protective Services 	<h3>ADVANCED CAREER TRAINING (ACT)</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced Career Training (Collin County Community College)
<h3>CONSTRUCTION</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electrician Basic Cement Bricklayer Facilities Maintenance Carpentry Plumber Painter 	

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downpayment on a dream

By RUTH FERGUSON
North Dallas Gazette

Dallas, Washington, DC and the nation are preparing for a four day celebration truly unlike any the United States has ever known. The annual observation of the only holiday recognizing the contributions of an African American leader will lead into the inauguration of the first African American President of the United States. Or some historians would say at least the first acknowledged African American President.

Celebrations for both the achievements and contributions of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the inauguration of President-elect Barack H. Obama are scheduled not only in Washington, DC, but across the Metroplex. Local events honoring Dr. King are featured throughout this issue.

Youth in Action

The support of the young voters was pivotal in the election of Obama and several from Dallas, those of voting age or and not is, are participating in the celebrations. The **Lake Highlands High School Wildcat**

Wranglers, a dance and stunt team will perform at the Texas State Society's Black Tie & Boots Inaugural Ball.

Seven students from the **Lincoln High School Humanities/Communications Magnet** are putting into action what they study each day in the radio-television department as they travel to Washington to record footage for an inaugural documentary, *Through the Eyes of the Children*. Private donors and churches provided the funding for the selected students airplane tickets and rented rooms at a Victorian home in the DC area.

About twenty students from the **Ron Clark Academy** will sing their new song, "**Dear Obama**," during at least three inaugural events, including two balls on Jan. 20. At one of the events, the students will share the stage with R&B stars Usher and Patti LaBelle.

The students performed the song for donors on Tuesday, January 13th before they learned about the trip from Clark, who surprised them with the news.

Saturday, January 17th

President-elect Barack Obama has invited a group of "everyday Americans" to join him and Vice President-elect Joe Biden on their Whistle Stop Tour from Philadelphia – to the nation's capital on the Saturday. Shandra Jackson and her 11 year-old son Ryan from Arlington, were the only Texans invited to participate.

Jackson, recovering from an illness in 2007, became involved in Obama's campaign and served as a delegate to the Democratic Party's national convention in Denver, Colorado.

Sunday, January 18th Inauguration

Celebration Concert
The Inauguration Summit will presents a series of events beginning with the Inauguration Celebration Gospel Concert at Free Gospel Deliverance Temple, 4703 Marlboro Pike, Capitol Heights, MD 20743 on Sunday, January 18, 2009 at 6:00 pm, featuring a host of the nation's top gospel artists including Micah Stampley, Beverly Crawford, V3 and Lancer Clark.

**Celebration of America
to Kick Off Inaugural**

Opening Festivities at the Lincoln Memorial

HBO will exclusively televise the Opening Celebration for the 56th Presidential Inaugural, a celebration of America to be held on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial on Sunday, January 18th. HBO will televise the event beginning at 6:00 PM on an open signal, working with all of its distributors to allow Americans across the country with access to cable or satellite television to join in the Opening Celebration for free.

A sampling of performers includes Beyonce, Bono, Sheryl Crow, Usher, Shakira, will.i.am and Stevie Wonder - among several others scheduled to perform. Additionally, Martin Luther King III, Queen Latifah, Denzel Washington and Jamie Foxx are to read historical passages.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day - January 19th

U.S. Senate Chaplain Dr. Barry Black will host the **Inauguration Prayer Breakfast** at the Hyatt Regency Capital Hill, Washington DC. Guest speakers will include Bishop Charles Blake,

Bishop Vashti McKenzie, Bishop T.D. Jakes and Pastor Tony Evans, and a special musical performance by Stellar Award-winning artist, Marvin Sapp.

"Standing on the basic philosophy of the inclusive nature of the Obama campaign, the concert and breakfast provide a unique experience during the inaugural week for prayer for the President-elect Obama and his family and the many issues confronting him and our country," comments Rev. Shelley Henderson, founder of the Inauguration Coalition and The First Ladies Summit.

In Washington, DC, President-Elect Obama and Vice-President Elect Joe Biden will join Gen. Colin Powell in volunteer activities in honor of Dr. King's legacy as they urge supporters to participate in community service. They are also launching "**Renew America Together**" Web site on Martin Luther King Day, January 19, to help people answer the call.

The Web site, www.USAservice.org, will allow people to offer their time or resources and be contacted by people in the community who need that type of help.

Students, faculty and staff from Southern Methodist University and Paul Quinn College will be working with the Cornerstone Baptist Church Homeless Outreach Ministry.

Several community groups are hosting food bank drives such as the Wine Therapist's Food for Neighbors Finale, a group of Obama supporters are collecting canned food on behalf of the North Texas Food Bank at five fire stations in the North Dallas area.

The "**Kids' Inaugural: We Are The Future**," a concert honoring military families is airing on Disney Channel (7:00 p.m.). Musical performances for the Kids' Inaugural event include the Jonas Brothers, Miley Cyrus, Demi Lovato and Bow Wow. Billy Ray Cyrus, Keke Palmer, and Usher Raymond IV are also scheduled to appear.

Inauguration Day, January 20th

Every major network and cable news channel will provide live coverage throughout the day of the swearing in, parades and

See INAGURAL, Page 13

TV ONE celebrates its fifth anniversary

From staff reports

In a week when its schedule is chock-full of special programming devoted to the inauguration of the USA's first African American President, TV One also celebrates its fifth birthday on the Martin Luther King holiday Monday, Jan. 19 at 9 PM (all times ET) with a two-hour anniversary special featuring highlights from its long-running interview series, TV One on One. Hosted by Radio One Chairperson and acclaimed former radio talk show host Cathy Hughes, TV One on One features interviews with some of the most intriguing and newsworthy public figures and celebrities in America today.

During the special, which repeats at midnight that night, Ms. Hughes takes a

look back at some of the most memorable moments, the controversies and interesting topics from her interviews, including the first-ever episode of TV One on One, in which she interviewed Barack Obama, then a candidate for the U.S. Senate from Illinois, in 2004. Comedian and actor Sinbad stops by to help keep things light during the evening.

TV One's anniversary programming is part of a special holiday weekend with programming honoring President-elect Obama and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., celebrating TV One's fifth anniversary and covering live the inauguration and related activities.

Also, on Monday, Jan. 19, TV One will air: • King, the six-hour mini-series starring Paul Winfield and

Cicely Tyson, from noon – 6 PM. This Emmy Award-winning mini-series also aired on the Martin Luther King holiday 2004, TV One's first day on the air; and

• TV One premieres one of two, new, original documentaries about our 44th President: Barack Obama: The Man and His Journey, premiering from 8-9 PM.

This film from Verdictus Films, Ebony/Jet Entertainment Group and Codeblack Entertainment, explores the dynamics of change in America through an intimate look at the personal and political journey of President-elect Barack Obama. Barack Obama: The Man and His Journey is narrated by actor and director Blair Underwood.



MLK Day Concert set

From staff reports

The Lone Star Wind Orchestra is proud to support The Office of Cultural Affairs' mission of bringing the highest quality of culturally diverse programming appealing to the widest population of Dallas citizens. On January 25th 2009, at 7:00 pm, our concert presentation of "I Have A Dream" will pay tribute to our multifaceted and diverse African-American culture, and serve as a prelude to celebrate Black History Month.

This exciting concert event presented at the Meyerson Symphony Center will incorporate featured works by African-American composers, Scott Joplin and Duane Milbourne as well as Schwanter's "Daybreak of Freedom" with dramatic readings from Martin Luther King's historic "I Have A Dream" speech. Guest conducting the Lone Star Wind Orchestra will be African-American conductor, Nicholas Williams who is Assistant Director

of Bands at The University of North Texas.

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters, The African-American Museum and others will be our special partners in reaching the African-American community. A talented young soprano will grace our stage performing "We Shall Overcome" as a dramatic lead into Mark Camphouses' stirring composition, "A Movement For Rosa". This dramatic composition for wind ensemble features a musical exploration of Rosa Parks and how her fierce determination changed the future for so many Americans.

An appropriate "Featured Rising Stars" Title-1 school will be our featured guests, receiving complimentary tickets for an "up-front-and-personal" classical music experience.

The Lone Star Wind Orchestra is truly devoted to enriching the cultural lives of the citizens of Dallas with no financial gain to our musicians, conductors, our Board of Trustees.

2009 INAUGURAL

WATCH CELEBRATION

Jan. 20, 2009

10am-2pm

Come join us as we celebrate this HISTORICAL and MONUMENTAL Induction of the 44th President of the United States of America, President Barack Obama.

5 HUGE Movie Screens to watch the swearing in of President Barack Obama.

There will be a full lunch, entertainment, guest speakers, prizes, vendors and a live discussion afterwards.

Host: K104's Skip Cheatham & Nate Quick

Special Guest: Honorable Carolyn R. Davis

Portion of the proceeds will go to Paul Quinn College in an effort to rebuild and encourage community responsibility in our young peoples education and their future.

COST: \$15 general seating / \$30 Preferred VIP Seating

To Purchase Tickets visit:

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Studio Movie Grill Addison

5405 Beltline Rd. Dallas, TX 75248 (Between Tollway & Preston Rd.)

OBAMA, continued from Page 1

two terms between 1801 and 1809, was described as the "son of a half-breed Indian squaw and a Virginia mulatto father," as stated in Vaughn's findings. Jefferson also was said to have destroyed all documentation attached to his mother, even going to extremes to seize letters written by his mother to other people.

Jackson, the nation's seventh president, was in office between 1829 and 1837. Vaughn cites an article written in The Virginia Magazine of History that Jackson was the son of an Irish woman who married a black man. The magazine also stated that Jackson's oldest brother had been sold as a slave.

Lincoln, the nation's 16th president, served

between 1861 and 1865. Lincoln was said to have been the illegitimate son of an African man, according to Leroy's findings. Lincoln had very dark skin and coarse hair and his mother allegedly came from an Ethiopian tribe. His heritage fueled so much controversy that Lincoln was nicknamed "Abraham Africanus the First" by his opponents.

President Warren Harding, the 29th presi-

dent, in office between 1921 and 1923, apparently never denied his ancestry. According to Vaughn, William Chancellor, a professor of economics and politics at Wooster College in Ohio, wrote a book on the Harding family genealogy. Evidently, Harding had black ancestors between both sets of parents. Chancellor also said that Harding attended Iberia College, a school founded to educate fugitive

slaves.

Coolidge, the nation's 30th president, served between 1923 and 1929 and supposedly was proud of his heritage. He claimed his mother was dark because of mixed Indian ancestry. Coolidge's mother's maiden name was "Moor" and in Europe the name "Moor" was given to all blacks just as "Negro" was used in America. It later was concluded that Coolidge was part black.

The only difference between Obama and these former presidents is that none of their family histories were fully acknowledged by others. Even though Obama is half-white, he strongly resembles his Kenyan father. And not only is Obama open about his ancestry, most people acknowledge him as a black man, which is why people identify Obama as the first black president of the United States.

MLK, continued from Page 1

speech, King III, now a human rights leader in his own right, spoke from his heart as he stood before the Capitol Hill audience of hundreds, thinking of his father, who was assassinated April 4, 1968 and his mother who died of cancer on Jan. 30, 2006.

"I cannot say exactly

what my father and mother would say, but I know they're looking down on us smiling," said King, founder and president of Realizing the Dream, a non-profit advocacy organization for the poor. Then he laid out the bare facts:

"But, as long as there are 37 plus million people liv-

ing in poverty, the dream will not be fulfilled; as long as we live in a nation where 47 plus million people have no health insurance, the dream has not been fulfilled, as long as we live in a nation where the criminal justice system has millions of people and just about 50-50 percent of those people are people of color, the dream will not be fulfilled," he told the vigorously

applauding audience. "We still have work to do, but the wonderful thing is we can make it happen. Where there is great challenge, there is also great opportunity."

But, he added, "We've got to roll up our sleeves."

Had he lived, Dr. King would be 80 years old on Jan. 15 this year. Listening to King III speak were civil rights icons U. S. Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.) and Dr.

Dorothy Height, president emeritus of the National Council of Negro Women, both of whom marched on Washington with Dr. King on Aug. 28, 1963, where he rendered the famous "I Have a Dream" speech. Both Lewis and Height received rousing applause when acknowledged by King III.

But, King pointed out that it was the principles for

which they stood that made them great. He encouraged the CBC and the audience to remember those principles as outlined succinctly by Dr. King in several of his speeches. King quoted his father, "The ultimate measure of a person is not where they stand in times of comfort and convenience, but where they stand in times of challenge and controversy."

LIBERTARIAN, continued from Page 1

implement and don't pass a cost/benefit test.

"The best plan for economic recovery would be giving more money back to taxpayers in the form of tax cuts, which can increase consumer spending and increase job creation," says Davis. "It will also avoid the corruption and wastefulness of government spending—something that must be addressed at once if we expect to remain a free and prosperous nation."

"Public works projects, like those proposed by the Obama administration, will take too long to implement and many will cost far more than their economic benefit," Davis explains. "So, not only will the government be spending taxpayer money on wasteful projects, it be spending money during a time when economic relief is not needed. Conversely, tax cuts are always in season."

The Libertarian Party also warns that adding

close to a trillion dollars in additional government spending to the budget will push the United States

closer to financial ruin.

"Elected officials don't like to talk about the reality of government spending

because it's not an issue that gets them reelected, especially when they will be long-gone before it comes time to pay the piper," says Davis.

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Inc. Presents

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“

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal." I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slaveowners will be able to sit down together at a table of brotherhood. I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a desert state, sweltering with the heat of injustice and oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice. I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."

-Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

”



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INAGURAL, from Page 9

the ten inaugural balls scheduled.

Beginning at 10:30 AM, first come, first served seating is available at the **Magnolia Theater** to watch the live simulcast of Obama's Inaugural address. The event is free and open to the public.

The 2009 Inaugural Watch Celebration is being hosted at the Studio Movie Grill Addison. The hosts are K104's Skip Cheatham and 105.7's Nate Quick with special guest The Honorable Carolyn R. Davis.

There will be a full lunch, entertainment, guest speakers, prizes, vendors and a live discussion afterwards. Portion of the proceeds will go to Paul Quinn College in an effort to rebuild and encourage community responsibility in our youth's education and their future.

COST: \$15 general seating/ \$30 Preferred VIP Seating. To purchase tickets: <http://rsvpvip.com/celebration> NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR.

Texas Democratic Women of Collin County and Obama Collin County Present - An Inaugural Gala: TDWCC and OCC are hosting an Inaugural Gala on Tuesday, January 20, 2009, from 7-11 p.m. at Plano Centre, 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway 75074. There are over 100 reservations and as many as 500 are expected to celebrate the momentous event of Barack Obama's inauguration as the 44th President of the United States in high style. There will be dancing to the music of Memphis Soul Live interspersed with live TV Coverage of the inaugural events in Washington, D.C. A buffet dinner will be served along with a champagne toast and a cash bar. Visit <http://tdwcc.org/InauguralGala.html> for more info.

Wednesday, January 21st

General Minister and President Dr. Sharon E. Watkins of the Christian Church was selected to give the sermon at the National Prayer Service. The National Prayer Service will be held at the National Cathedral at the conclusion of Inaugural activities and will celebrate America's diversity of faith. Reverend Dr. Sharon Watkins will be the first woman to deliver the sermon at this traditional Inaugural event.

"I am truly honored to speak at this historic occasion," said Reverend Watkins. "My prayer when I preach is always that God

will use me to bring a Gospel message that is uplifting and appropriately challenging to those who hear it..."

Then once the speeches are over, parties have ended and the prayers have been said, President-elect Obama will begin at last to govern. For the sake of the nation, and the pride of the African American commu-

nity, many pray that he will do it well.



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Church Happenings

Please Remember: 1-Minute Each Night

Nightly @ 8 pm Central (our time); 9 pm Eastern; 7 pm Mountain; and 6 pm Pacific Time, spend 1-Minute praying for the safety of the USA, our troops, citizens, world peace, wisdom and courage for our newly elected leaders, that the Holy Bible will remain the basis for laws governing our land. Don't put this off! Start your 1-Minute Prayer tonight! God Bless you, Sister Tarpley

CHRIST COMMUNITY CONNECTION, INC. (CCC)

January 17, 8 am

Make plans now to be in or attend Carrollton's City-Wide Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Parade. Our theme is: "Unity in Our Community." There will be awards for Best Float, Band, Decorated Vehicle, and Best Marching Group. A must attend is the "After-Parade" program @ Ted Polk Middle School, 2001 Kelly Blvd., in the cafeteria, Carrollton, TX. Entertainment will be provided and community leaders from all over Carrollton and Farmers Branch will be in the audience.

The parade will start on Jamestown Street (behind Carrollton City Hall) and will go West to Josey Lane; South on Josey to Keller Springs; East on Keller Springs to Kelly Blvd; South on Kelly Blvd to Ted Polk Middle School @ 2001 Kelly Blvd.

CCC is a non-profit 501(3)c organization that is a concerned community of citizens with a commitment to the education of our children. We have awarded numerous scholarships and financial assistance to students in area. We need your support to continue this tradition. For information, contributions, and to volunteer, call 972-242-0933.

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Wednesdays, 7 pm
In January 2009

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

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 Monicah

Johnson from Epitome Magazine. This is one event you don't 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

FELLOWSHIP OF BELIEVERS MINISTRIES

January 18, 3:30 pm

Join us to partake in a prophetic word and divine healing with our "Women's 7-UP Program" featuring Pastor Barbara Lewis on Prayed-Up, Lady Cheryl Cornett on Lift-Up, Evangelist Evelyn Crawford on Word-Up, Minister Wilean Blair on Check-Up, Minister Sheaniqua Batty on Geer-Up, Pastor Minnie Choice on Rise-Up, and Evangelist Debra Robinson on Praise-Up. Confirm your attendance by tomorrow, January 16th. Call 214-780-7856.

February 14, 10:30 am
Don't miss our Marriage

Conference 2009 "Hell in My House, Heaven in My Heart" @ The Holiday Inn Suites, 2287 Northwest Hwy, Dallas, TX 75220. Theme: A Match Made in Heaven with Elder Olivia Stith from Norfolk, VA. Book title "If God is My Lover Then Why is My Bed so Cold." Registration deadline is February 6th, call Minister Sheaniqua Batty @ 214-780-7856 for registration fees, directions and seminar sessions.

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WALK OF FAITH MINISTRIES

February 13-14, 2009

Join us for our Travailing for Soul Summit 2009 @ the Hampton Inn and Suites, 1311 E. Centre Park Blvd., Desoto, TX. Service on Friday, 02-13-2009 is @ 7:30 pm. On Saturday, February 14, Seminar Classes from 9:30 am to 12 Noon; Worship & Prayer

Service is from 3:30 pm to 5 pm; and Lunch and Fashion Show from 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm with the Cedar Hills High School Modeling Club, a Special Soloist and Praise Dance Teams. Evening Worship Service starts at 6 pm.

Summit speakers include Apostle Delonor Lawrence from God Explosive

Ministries and Prophetess Syneth Hassell from Cathedral of Christ Holy Temple. For information, directions, summit topics and registration call 469-364-2445.

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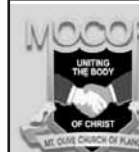


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Sister Tarpley

A humanitarian, civil rights leader, author, teacher, preacher – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was all of these and more. Plainly put, Dr. King proudly changed the consciousness and character of America. With his urgent messages of non-violence and justice for all Americans, Dr. King reached more people than any other African-American leader in history, at the time. In 1964, he became the youngest recipient of the world renown and coveted Nobel Peace Prize.

“I Have a Dream,” Dr. King’s most famous speech, was delivered to more than 200,000 people at the “March on Washington” at the Lincoln Memorial. In the summer of 1963, the nation was seething with racial tension, and frequent riots were tearing apart communities. In the midst of these calamities, Dr. King conveyed his vision in a very powerful language that the world has not forgotten and probably never will forget. Dr. King’s spouse, Mrs. Coretta Scott King recalled, “At that moment it seemed as if the Kingdom of God appeared; but it only lasted for a moment.”

Happy Birthday Dr. King!

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee on April 4, 1968. He was only 39 years old.

Some Timely Quotes of Dr. King: “Let us rise up tonight with a greater readiness. Let us stand with a greater determination. And let us move on in these powerful days, these days of challenge, to make America what it ought to be. We have an opportunity to make America a better nation.” “Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.” “We will have to repent in this generation not merely for the hateful words and actions of the bad people but for the appalling silence of the good people.” “Nonviolence means avoiding not only external physical violence but also internal violence of spirit. You not only refuse to shoot a man, but you refuse to hate him.” “Life’s most urgent question is: What are you doing for others?” “So Let Freedom Ring ...”

As a New Year begins, I am reminded of something that I read; it is something to ponder and to take action on as we embrace and anticipate another new page in



Sister Tarpley & world renown gospel artist, Beau Williams from Houston, TX @ Mt. Olive Church of Plano Christmas Concert

our lives:

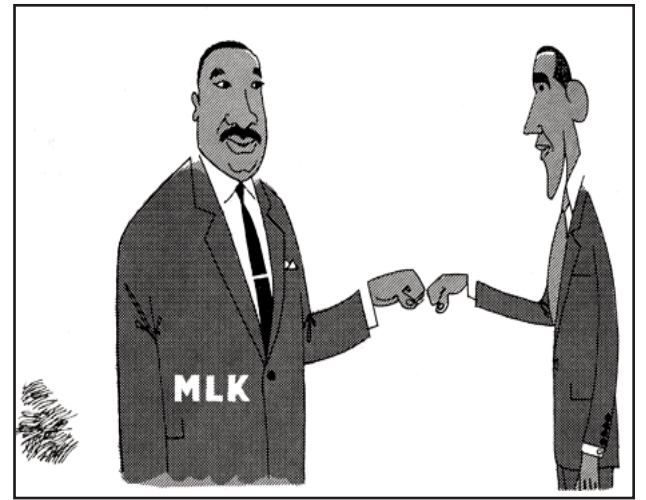
Four Things You Can’t Take Back: 1) The rock, after it’s thrown. 2) The word, after it’s said. 3) The occasion, after the loss. 4) The time, after it’s gone. This year decide to, **Stop Making Excuses!** “Each of us finds our meaning and functions as a part of His (Christ’s) body.” **Romans 12:5.** Service is the pathway to joy and fulfillment! As we serve God’s purposes, our lives take on eternal importance. Paul writes, “All this makes you more significant, not less, because of what you are a part of. 1 **Corinthians 12:14 & 19.**

Don’t just exist; get involved in something greater than yourself, because life is meant for ministry. God wants you to learn to love and serve others unselfishly. He wants

you to make a difference in His world: God wants to work through you; ultimately, what matter is not how long you live, but how effectively you live!

Abraham was old. Jacob was insecure. Leah was unattractive. Joseph was abused. Moses stuttered. Gideon was poor. David had an affair resulting in all kinds of family problems.

Elijah was suicidal. Jeremiah was depressed. Naomi was a widow. Peter was impulsive. Martha worried a lot. The Samaritan woman had several failed marriages. Thomas had doubts. Paul had poor health and Timothy was timid. That’s quite a variety of misfits, yet God used each of them – and He will use you too, if you stop making excuses.



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

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Email: info@dallasmtpisgah.org
Website: www.dallasmtpisgah.org

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Sunday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Early Morning Worship-8:00 a.m. Sunday School Classes-9:30 a.m. Morning Worship-11:00 a.m.	Early Bird Bible Study - 6:00 p.m.	Morning Bible Study - 9:30 a.m. Prayer Meeting and Evening Bible Study - 7:30 p.m.

“The Church with a Vision”

MLK EVENTS, continued from Page 1

King's name became virtually synonymous with the civil rights movement of the late 1950's and early 1960's.

Leading the 2009 Plano community activities in celebration and commemoration of the birthday and legacy of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is the Unity Walk for A Day of Non-Violence on Saturday, January 17. Just as Dr. King and his contemporaries united with local, state, and national diverse groups to build a coalition of trust, justice, and brotherhood, our mission on that day will be to plant another seed to help

achieve his vision as we walk together united in a common cause promoting a day of non-violence. The walk begins at 10 AM in the parking lot of Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, located at 920 14th Street, and proceeds through the historic Douglass Community en route to City Hall. Early arrivals will get a sneak peak of the new African American Museum. Leading the Unity Walk will be Rev. Isaiah Joshua, Pastor of the Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church.

Immediately following the Unity Walk is the City

Hall Program at 11:00 AM in the Plano City Council chambers. Various awards and prizes will be given for the winners of the community art contest and Unity Walk participants. Guest speaker at this event will be Maureen Haley, niece of noted author Alex Haley.

The Sunday evening pro-

gram on January 18 at Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church features a performance by the MLK All Community Choir of 150-plus voices from local churches. The evening program will include the Committee's fourth annual naturalization ceremony, swearing in eligible candidates as US citizens.

In partnership with Collin College, the Annual

Monday Morning Power Community Breakfast on January 19 at the Spring Creek Campus will introduce a new blogging component. Anyone can log on before, during, and after the breakfast to comment on Dr. King's vision. Also present at the breakfast will be local and state elected officials as well as other civic leaders. Breakfast will be served at 7:00 AM, and the program

begins at 8:00 AM.

The city-wide celebration concludes with PISD's MLK tribute on January 22. This year's program, "I Am America", will salute family members who are serving or who have served in the military services. The program will be held from 7 to 8:15 p.m. in Collinwood Hall at Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway, in Plano.

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Women's Ministry 7:00 pm
Young Adult Ministry 7:00 pm

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



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Sunday School
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