

The Truth Clinic

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SERVING PLANO, DALLAS, RICHARDSON, GARLAND, IRVING, MCKINNEY AND MESQUITE

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On the Homefront

The following events will be held at the Plano Centre located at 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway in Plano. April 2, 2005 from 10 am to 8 pm.

American Dance Awards. Dance competition accepting late entries. Admission is free.

For more information call 203-998-8144 or visit www.americandanceawards.com. April 2, 2005 from Noon to 2 pm.

AAA Disney Travel Show. Presentation by Disney Representative. Prizes and Performances.

Admission is Free For more information contact Marianne McCreary at 214-599-7783.

A Fundraiser for Futaba Foundation (futabafoundation.org) will be held at Collin County Community College from 4 to 6 pm on Thursday, April 7 at the Spring Creek Campus Conference Center, room A-A 135, 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway in Plano. Speaker for the event will be Shabree Haas, co-founder and director of development of the Futaba Foundation in New York. For more information, contact Kay Minelli, director of the Honors Institute, at 972-481-5800.

Collin County Community College District (Collin) will show off its international flair with a day of events beginning March 31, 2005. International Day will feature a wide variety of activities, which showcase the college's melting pot of students and faculty. All events will be at the Spring Creek Campus, 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway in Plano. Events are free and open to the public. For more information call the Collin International office at 972-516-3012 or by email at icollin@cccd.edu.

Plano ISD's early childhood schools are "Serious About Having Fun," and they are sharing that message with the community during a series of upcoming schools tours to encourage enrollment of three- and four-year old learners in the schools' tuition-supported programs. Parents are invited to tour the campuses. For more information, visit the district web site: www.pisd.edu/earlychildhood.

For over twenty years the Collin County Committee on Aging has been delivering nutritious meals and smiles to the frail elderly of Collin County. Please take the time to help out the much-needed organization. Your donation will truly change lives. Donations can be mailed or dropped off at Collin County Committee on Aging at 600 N. Tennessee Street, McKinney, TX 75069. All donations are tax deductible.

Collin County Community College District is offering a new advanced-level Java programming class at its Courtyard Center for Professional and Economic Development (CYC), 4800 Preston Park Boulevard in Plano. The new class, Custom JSP Tag begins April 7. Check out the continuing education schedule online at www.cccd.edu/ce for more information.

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Strengthening the Community

By Ruth Ferguson

LaTressa Kinney's mother, Paulette Kinney, was a nurse and single parent, who along with LaTressa's relatives and high school teachers always emphasized the importance of an education. Her mother never wanted her to depend on anyone but herself.

Kinney, who played basketball in high school and was awarded a full four-year scholarship, saw many people who were college material, but had no working knowledge of college application, financial aid, or the need to further their education. This led her to pursue a career in social work so she could help others find ways to improve their lives and those around them. Beginning her career with MHRM services of Texas as an Employment Services Supervisor and Transition Services Coordinator, Kinney quickly realized that her calling was much greater.

Originally from Colbert, Oklahoma, Kinney joined the North Texas Job Corps Social Development team as a means of getting her career started. After only one month she moved to the Career Transition department, as the Work Based Training Specialist. With a strong work ethic and the internal

motivation to meet her calling she was promoted to Work-based Training Coordinator. She remained in this role for two years until being promoted to Career Transition Services Coordinator.



for the Construction Center. Her role as a Transition Coordinator allowed her the opportunity to meet many employers throughout the Dallas and Fort Worth areas which strengthened her

abilities as the North Texas Job Corps Center's new Business and Community Liaison.

In her current role as Business and Community Liaison, Kinney is charged with increasing community awareness of the program, ensuring the needs of the Employment Industry are being met, and plays an integral part in developing partnerships throughout the community. Among her duties is managing community service projects.

Community service is close to Kinney's heart because throughout her life she observed how her mother and grandmother, Mable Parker, gave generously to others. Parker worked very hard all of her life until her retirement, yet she always had a spirit of joy, and never complained. Kinney laughs because even today at 85 years old her grandmother, "will want to feed everyone, and is always sending someone a plate of food." Kinney credits her grandmother and mother with instilling in her the belief that helping others is the greatest gift you can give.

In today's economy, additional education following high school is imperative, yet Kinney points out, "Strengthen the Community Page 3"

Blackonomics

Colder Ice Makes Wetter Water

By James Chigman

Did you hear about the plan being touted by Detroit officials to hire

Michael Porter, a professor at Harvard University, in an effort to revive Detroit's urban economy? According to an editorial in the Detroit Free Press, written by Tom Walsh, "Porter's nonprofit initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC) will dispatch a consulting team to Detroit this summer, launching the 18-24-month effort."

The consulting team will come to Detroit, "Assuming that Detroit rounds up \$500,000 in the next few weeks from local foundations and businesses to fund the project," Walsh wrote.

Don't get me wrong, Michael Porter is no slouch; he knows his stuff, but what is striking about this situation is the attitude of Detroit's current Black mayor on this particular proposal versus the one that dealt specifically with Black economic development. "Brotha"

Kilpatrick is quoted in the article calling it, "a historic partnership among Detroit, Harvard, Porter and the ICIC."

The proposal to build an African-American economic enclave in Detroit caused quite a stir in Detroit a few months ago. Remember Africa Town?

It may be just a small "c" coincidence, or it could be a big "C" conspiracy, as Gil Scott Heron once said, but it is nevertheless quite interesting to see this proposal come forth at this time, a few months after Black folks in Detroit showed interest and put forth an effort to do some economic development on their own. Mayor Kwame and others didn't show as much enthusiasm for this plan. They called it divisive and scary.

It would be comical, if it were not so tragic, that whenever Black folks start to do what is often advised by those in charge, "get in the big game" and "play by the rules," the game gets even bigger and the rules change. Something similar

happened in Cincinnati when a Black group of experienced developers came together to bid on the \$800 million riverfront project called The Banks. They got into the big game, brought private money, played by the rules, and now the rules have changed. The team, although highly qualified, was not even allowed to submit a bid on the project - and wouldn't you know, some of our (Black) gatekeepers gave the public rationales against Black participation in the development phase of the project.

Well, it's time to see what will happen in Detroit, Chocolate City, 85 percent Black. Surely the city's foundations and private businesses will raise the half-million necessary to pay the ICIC for the initial phase of the daunting task of revitalizing Detroit's urban economy. Urban? Hmmm. Isn't that a code word that really means "where Black folks live? We shall see."

Blackonomics Page 3

Denton Black

Chamber of Commerce

The Denton Black Chamber of Commerce will be hosting their Eighth Annual Banquet April 2, 2005 at Texas Women's University. This year's theme is, "One focus, one economy, and one America," says Sharon McClellan, Banquet Chair. Greg Fields of WFAA Channel Eight News will be the Master of Ceremonies on this coveted evening.

McClellan adds that the Chamber services the community in many different ways including, "Holding seminars, and teaching you how to manage your money, retirement, and entrepreneurship. Our chapter holds meetings every 2nd Tuesday in each month," Lewis says.

Denton's Black Chamber Banquet will be featuring guest speaker Rev. Randy Vaughn of

the Mount Sinai Missionary Baptist Church in Port Arthur, Texas. Under his leadership, Mount Sinai's Membership has grown from 250 to approximately 800 members.

At this year's banquet the Denton Black Chamber will be giving away two \$200.00 scholarships to deserving students, hosting a silent auction, and presenting the annual ballroom hosted in the Texas Women's Hubbard Hall in the SW entry.

If you are interested in attending this wonderful gala tickets are \$35.00 pre-sale and \$40.00 at the door. The location of the event is at 304 Administration Drive, Denton, TX 76206. For more information contact Ms. Sharon McClellan at 214-351-7940.

Mesquite

Local Honor Student Arrested Over Rap Lyrics

MESQUITE - A 17-year old African-American Mesquite honor high school student was reported to have been arrested and indicted for felony stalking after authorizing, recording and distributing a rap song at his school containing explicit lyrics that threatened another student.

Denise Upchurch, Mesquite Independent School District 2005 Board of Trustees Candidate, had this to say about the indictment of Brock Anthony Coleman of Mesquite's Dr. John D. Horn High School, "We need to pay attention to our kids. Parents can't take anything for granted. It doesn't mean anything whether a student is an honors student or not."

Sheriff's detectives arrested Coleman, the student after he recorded a song containing lyrics that threatened and threats of both bodily harm and death directed at another student.

Coleman is said to have repeatedly called the student by phone, followed him and later went to his home with other gang members in an effort to intimidate and harass him and his family, sheriff's officials said. "We (parents) have to pay attention. This issue just happened to surface in Mesquite, but there are issues in all of the schools districts. The racial dynamics of Mesquite is changing and we must have diverse representation on the school board," Coleman is said to have repeatedly called the student by phone, followed him and later went to his home with other gang members in an effort to intimidate and harass him and his family, sheriff's officials said.

This case falls under a Class 4. When asked about the lack of diversity among the current Trustee Board, Jobe stated, "All of the Board Members are elected-students. So they represent every grade and the interest of every student."

On March 21, a grand jury indicted Coleman on the stalking charge. The student is out of jail on a \$5,000 bond. He could receive a prison sentence up to 10 years and a fine of up to \$10,000, if convicted.

Schiavo Case Exposes Hypocrisy

By George E. Curry

Conservatives and libertarians are noted for championing states' rights. However, the Terri Schiavo case in Florida has exposed deep-seated hypocrisy on the political right and illustrated how right-wingers from President Bush to his brother, Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, will do almost anything for political gain.

Republican Congressman Christopher Shays of Connecticut put it best: "My party is demonstrating that they are for states' rights unless they don't like what states are doing."

Conservatives have long complained of unwanted federal intervention and the purported abuse of individual rights. Now, the outsiders have become insiders, with Republicans controlling every branch of the government - executive, legislative and judicial.

Instead of letting Florida handle what is essentially a state matter, President Bush and Congress intervened. Just Easter recess to grandstand about "the right to life." At 1:11 A.M. on March 21, Bush signed special legislation into law transferring the Schiavo case from state to federal jurisdiction.

This is a bunch that can't pass a budget on time, yet they acted with extraordinary speed on an issue that more than 20 judges had reviewed and found that Schiavo's husband, Michael, had acted legally when he decided that after 15 years, the feeding tube that preserved his wife in a vegetative state should now be removed.

Only three Senators, acting for the entire body, authorized the federal courts to take over the Schiavo case. Schiavo Case Page 8

Up-close with Dr. Samella S. Lewis: Art Historian

By Kimberly Keeton

Many Black's are numb when asked if they are in tune with African-American art and the contribution it has made on American history.

Praise to all the 20th century artists who have made it a point to capture their history in various art forms and by doing so send a strong and clear message that: we have so far to go. One artist who is still making an impact at eighty-one years young is Dr. Samella S. Lewis. "I'm doing this because it's something I have to do," she says via telephone from California.

The African American Museum in Dallas, TX is currently showing: Fifty Years Brown vs. the Topeka Board of Education by Dr. Samella S. Lewis, which is an extraordinary art exhibition. The Supreme Court of the United States handed down a decision that forever altered the economic, political and social structure of this nation. Lewis developed this Samella S. Lewis Page 2



Famous Trial Lawyer Johnnie Cochran Has Died

LOS ANGELES, California - Famed attorney Johnnie Cochran, perhaps best known for his successful defense of O.J. Simpson, died Tuesday March 30, after suffering from an inoperable brain tumor, his family said. He was 67 years old.

"Johnnie Cochran was a loving, heartfelt human being who cared about everybody," said William Epps, pastor of the Second Baptist Church in Los Angeles, which Cochran attended for 18 years.

Cochran died at 12:30 pm PT at his home in Los Angeles. His family was by his side and he had been in a hospice, Epps said.

Cochran's family and members of his law firm issued a joint statement saying the "world has lost not only a legendary attorney, but an outstanding humanitarian."

"Johnnie's career will be noted as one marked by celebrity cases and clientele. But he and his family were most proud of the work he did on behalf of those in the community," the statement said. "As Johnnie always said, 'An injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.' It was his rallying cry as he worked to right many wrongs, and as he provided a voice to those who needed to be heard. He was deeply committed to helping and inspiring others, especially young people." If it doesn't fit, you must acquit! Johnnie Cochran Page 4



THE TRUTH CLINIC

Civil Rights—Pragmatism Trumps Altruism

By James W. Broadlove

Between the late 1960s and early 1970s serious questions were raised by legal scholars and activists who were concerned that many of the significant gains made during the Civil Rights heyday had stalled or were being rolled back.

The Nation whose sense of fairness had resulted in a flood of new laws such as the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and the Fair Housing Act of 1968 appeared to be resetting the sensitivity of its moral compass.

The Civil Rights momentum was being deliberately slowed using subtle, color-conscious institutional forms of racism supported by a majority that seemed increasingly irked at dealing with issues of race.

Critical Race Theory that evolved during this period to explain the "on again off again" attitude toward Blacks was based on the concept of "interest convergence" where the self-interest of elite Whites and the interests of Blacks become temporarily co-joined.

Recently available government documents verify that interest convergence orchestrated by powerful Whites determined civil rights progress more than any conversion of conscience or outpouring of altruism from contrite hearts.

Following World War II, the United States assumed the role of world leader and sought to solidify its global sphere of influence. However, simultaneously, the nation found itself the target of increasing international criticism from allies as well as critics. They highlighted the hypocrisy of holding up America's "democracy" as a model for other nations to follow (especially in Africa, Asia and Latin America) when

persons of color were being lynched, disenfranchised, and segregated in the heartland of democracy.

During the early years of the Cold War the Soviet Union made American racism a primary anti-American propaganda theme. Concerns about the negative impact of "the Negro Problem" on America's foreign relations objectives led presidents from Truman through Johnson to pursue civil rights reform as part of their Cold War strategies. American officials feared that in the absence of definitive progress towards racial equality, African Americans might become strong supporters of Communism.

As obvious as it sounds now, the government finally came to the realization that the best way to make America's case to the world was to actually take tangible steps toward racial equality. For example, in the midst of the Cold War, the Justice Department filed a brief in the 1954 Brown v. Board of Education case arguing that school segregation undermined America's prestige in other countries and was an impediment to successful foreign relations. The passage of Brown was considered a blow to Communism because people of color around the world saw evidence that democracy was a superior system of government compared to communism.

For nearly twenty years, countering the negative image of its racial problem was a primary objective of America's Cold War policy. Cold war threats helped facilitate a number of key social reforms and gave civil rights activists tremendous leverage as the government sought to create a positive international image.

But improving the nation's reputation did not always result in real change. The focus on perceived image rather than substance limited the scope and

extent of civil rights progress. Civil rights conflicts that prompted international condemnation such as Little Rock and Bull Connor's televised attacks on demonstrators in Birmingham created urgency for the government to do something.

Although "the Cold War imperative" enabled civil rights progress there was duplicity in implementation. In school desegregation, the abstract principles of equality set forth in the Brown decision elicited accolades from the foreign community, but a decade later most southern schools had undergone only token desegregation. During the height of McCarthyism the government advocated civil rights while repressing legitimate activities of prominent African Americans (Josephine Baker, Paul Robeson, Malcolm X) in an attempt to curtail criticism of America's racial hypocrisy. The State Department revoked the passports of a number of high profile Blacks that spoke out against tokenism and worked with foreign countries to have public speaking engagements cancelled.

The data that correlates Civil Rights and the Cold War easily leads to the conclusion that when social changes occur in America that benefit people of color, it is only because the interests of elite Whites and people of color have temporarily converged. The resultant social changes that appear to benefit people of color actually offer greater benefits for White Americans, and the interests of people of color are served only when they coincide with the greater interests of Whites.

Such irony is emblematic of racial justice in America and tragically points to the unfulfilled promises of the Black struggle for racial equality.

Internal Comments to
Politics at MonTheGazette.com

Don't Rush Into Equity-indexed Annuities

Alex
A.
Desamours

Every so often, a new investment product comes along and attracts a lot of interest from investors - but not a lot of scrutiny. That might be the case with "equity-indexed annuities." Sales of this insurance product have grown dramatically in recent years, but evidence may suggest that many investors do not know all the facts before they buy.

Issues to consider
An equity-indexed annuity (EIA) actually has characteristics of both fixed annuities, which pay a fixed rate of return, and variable annuities, whose returns depend on the investment options selected. An EIA provides a minimum guaranteed interest rate (guaranteed by the claim-paying ability of the issuing insurance company) combined with an interest rate linked to a market index, such as the S & P 500.

The EIA interest rate is typically lower than that of a fixed annuity. However, due to the market-index factor, an EIA offers potentially higher returns than a fixed annuity - along with a higher level of risk. On the other hand, an EIA is generally less risky than a variable annuity, but, at the same time, its "upside" potential is limited in that if you surrender your contract early or choose not to begin taking

some attractive features, investors should take a closer look at an EIA before purchasing one by going to the National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD) Web site at www.nasd.com and type in "equity-indexed annuities" in the search area.

Here are a few other items to consider:

Complexity - An EIA is not a simple product to grasp. It's primarily because the return does not perfectly correspond to the market index to which the annuity is linked. Instead, the index-linked interest rate you receive will depend on the terms of the contract. You need to understand the calculation used to determine what percentage of the index gain will be credited and what limits apply. (Most EIAs put a cap on the return you're allowed to earn.) There are also several methods used to determine the change in the index, which can affect the calculation. Finally, most EIAs only count the index gains from market price changes, excluding any gains from dividends. These variables mean that you could receive less than what you expect.

Access to your money - If you cash out of your EIA early, you may have to pay a sizable surrender charge (and a 10 percent penalty tax if you're under 59-1/2). Some EIAs also require you to forfeit your index-linked interest if you surrender your contract early or choose not to begin taking

payment when the contract matures. Together, these charges can reduce, or erase, your return.

Lack of regulation - Unlike variable annuities, EIAs are generally structured so that they are not registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). And EIAs are primarily sold by individuals who are not registered to sell securities; those individuals may not look at your entire financial picture before recommending an EIA.

Other alternatives:
Do your homework before making any EIA purchase decision. If you're an annuity buyer looking for a guaranteed rate of return, you should probably consider a fixed annuity. If you want some equity exposure, then a variable annuity may be your best choice. If you own both, you could get the guaranteed rate of return you need and the upside potential you desire.

Editor's Note:
This complimentary article is being provided by Edward Jones. Alex A. Desamours is a licensed investment representative and has been chosen as a consultant to MON-The Gazette to help us to dispense educational information pertaining to the investment industry. Mr. Desamours can be reached at 972-416-6288.

Strengthen the Community Page 1

"Sometimes mainstream schools [colleges] do not work for everyone. For some students (ages 16-24) Job Corps offers an alternative way of building a better career and future with the self-paced Career Development Services System. The system involves four modules: Outreach and Administration; Career Preparation; Career Development and Career Transition; Job Corps, established by President Lyndon B. Johnson, is funded by the Department of Labor and is managed by the CUBE Corporation. The Program is celebrating its 40th Anniversary of serving students from Texas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma.

Through the North Texas Job Corps students are given the necessary training to help them become successful in high demand industries - at no cost to the student. The students complete the program - 95% of the graduates successfully find job placement in their chosen industry. With 118 campuses located throughout the nation, each offer a curriculum based on the industry demands in their respective regions. Advisory councils include the Industry Advisory Council and the Academic Advisory Council who assess the needs of the local labor market, identify critical software, equipment and current trends required for today's job market, and then an appropriate

curriculum is implemented to ensure they are meeting the needs of the industry. Training for 14 trades are offered at the North Texas Job Corps Center which includes: Accounting, Brick Masonry, Carpentry, Culinary Arts, Desktop Publishing, Electrical, Facilities Maintenance, Health Occupations, Landscaping, Material Handling, Office Technology, Painting, Plumbing, and Security Operations.

Kinney states her goal is to ensure, "employers are aware of what we have to offer them."

As a means of accomplishing this goal, students complete paid and unpaid internships in their area of training, as a part of their curriculum. A company, therefore, has the opportunity to gain additional staffing at little or no cost to their staffing budget. This proves a win-win situation because a high school or the employer gains a trained individual that they can impact through job experience and the student gains the much needed work experience in their chosen vocation.

The North Texas Job Corps stresses the importance of community service; Kinney says "students find this so exciting that they frequently volunteer to participate in additional projects."

She even receives project suggestions from excited students. In 2003, the students have already completed nearly 800 volunteer hours, which is an incredible boost to citizens throughout the community. The North Texas Job Corps has partnered with non-profits

and community agencies for such events as a blood drive with the American Red Cross, Make A Difference Day, National Youth Services Day, Grounding Job Shadowing Day, and actively provides the Boys & Girls Club of Collin County, McKinney Branch with volunteers. Through the City of McKinney's volunteer services coordinator, Kinney stays abreast of the community service needs in the area.

Kinney is working to ensure, "the DPW community is aware of their program and what we have to offer them. This is a graduate who is trained, eager and ready to work. We not only teach them vocational and educational skills but employability and social skills as well."

She shared that employers point out that they often terminate employees due to a lack of employability and social skills, not a lack of job skills.

What is her calling as mentioned earlier, LaTressa says, "I believe everything happens for a reason, we are where we are at a particular time for a particular reason. I don't believe I have met my true calling, but I do know I am on my way."

Employers seeking information regarding Graduate Placement, internship candidates, or community organizations seeking volunteers, should contact LaTressa Kinney Business and Community Liaison at 972-545-7772.

Blackonomics Page 1

Michael Porter says, "I have spent 2 1/2 years in a major research effort concerning the economic viability of the inner city. The problems in the inner city are not there because of lack of effort. They are there because we are using the wrong model... the only way to solve the problems of the inner city is by building an economic strategy... we need to create the conditions to develop profitable businesses there."

I wholeheartedly agree with that, and I would remind us once again, that "inner city" is another term for "where Black folks live," thus, Black folks should have a major role in the development of their neighborhoods into viable and sustainable communities. And I did say Black folks, not just the usual suspects who are "chosen" and always paraded out front for us to see.

In that same vein, I have another important statement about inner city neighborhoods made by Michael Shuman, author of the book, *Going Local*. He says, "Anacostia is one of the poorest neighborhoods in Washington, D.C., yet the total income of all its households is \$370 million per year. Most of this money quickly departs

in the hands of landlords, business owners, and bankers who live in more upscale parts of town... The principal affliction of poor communities in the United States is not the absence of money, but its systematic exit. It seems everyone knows "there's gold in them thar hills" except the folks who live there."

Black people had better wake up to the games being played on us by those who are hell-bent on maintaining economic and political control of all the resources in this country. We had better start making some rules of our own. For example, we had better start telling these folks "if we don't get ours you don't get yours."

We had better get serious about who we give our money to and what we get in return. We had better start realizing that it's not just about "jobs" for "those poor unfortunate Blacks" it's about control of the development of projects that bring the jobs, and it's about business ownership and education of our youth in that regard.

When we finally understand that their ice is not colder, their water is not wetter, and their sugar is not sweeter, then we finally realize that Black folks are capable of doing the

things necessary for our economic survival in this country - and then step up and do it, or take it, if that be the case, we will win. Until then, our politicians will always sell us out for colder ice, and the (B)lack gatekeepers will always block the entrance to economic prosperity for the Black masses. Cooperative economics is the answer. Want to know more on how it's done? Take a look at *Koratown in Annapolis, Va.* They buy and sell their own ice.

James E. Clingman, an adjunct professor at the University of Cincinnati's African American Studies department, is former editor of the Cincinnati *Herald* Newspaper and founder of the Greater Cincinnati African American Chamber of Commerce. He hosts the radio program, "Blackonomics," and has written several books, including: *Economic Empowerment or Economic Enslavement? We have a Choice*; *Blackonomics*; and the recently published *Black-o-Knowledge-Stuff* we need to know. Clingman's books are available at his Web site, www.blackonomics.com. He can be contacted there or by telephone at 513-489-4132.

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A MAN'S GOTTA DO WHAT A MAN'S GOTTA DO!

BRAD McMillon
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The Metro Business Pages Business Mixer

Metro Business Pages will have a Business Mixer for like-minded business owners and professionals in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area. MetroBusinessPages.com is a community database of small businesses, as well as corporate companies, in Dallas/Fort Worth and surrounding areas. Our searchable business database features business listings, job postings and some local events.

This one time mixer will provide attendees valuable time to mix and mingle with like-minded business owners and professionals who are interested in meeting people with

products and services that meet their needs. The mixer will include web designers, marketing professionals, consumer goods, insurance professional, real estate professionals to name a few. Each individual will have the opportunity to give a 30 second commercial on what they have to offer. Throughout the evening, attendees will network over appetizing hors d'oeuvres and beverages.

Local businesses and consumers will have an opportunity to network within their own city and put dollars back into our own community. This marks the second occasion that Metro

Business Pages has offered a networking event. Last year, Metro partnered with two Dallas based companies and offered an "Extreme Business Makeover" to small businesses in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area. Attendees will be able to personally meet and interact with experts who can assist them with growing their business.

The Business Mixer will be held Friday, April 8, 2005 from 6 pm to 9 pm at Carson's Live - 17727 Dallas Pkwy., Suite #150, Dallas, TX 75287.

The admission is FREE. For reservations, please call 214-339-7790. Reservations are required.

Johnnie Cochran Page 1

Of Cochran, Simpson told reports, "I loved him as a good Christian man. I look at Johnnie as a great Christian. I knew him as that. He was a great guy."

Simpson said he last saw Cochran at a Los Angeles Lakers basketball game a few months ago and found the flamboyant lawyer to be in good spirits. "We were praying for him then, and I still am," Simpson said. Simpson added that he knew Cochran long before he hired the African-American lawyer to lead his "Dream Team" defense. "I was in social circles with Johnnie, and we knew each other in that way," he said.

Cochran was the lead attorney for Simpson, accused of murder in the 1994 slayings of his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her acquaintance Ron Goldman.

During Simpson's 1995 trial, Cochran famously quipped, "If it doesn't fit, you must acquit," in reminding jurors during his summation that the former star football running back couldn't fit his hands inside a bloody glove found at the scene of the killings.

The simple rhyme hammered home for jurors the defense argument that the evidence against Simpson not only failed to fit the crime, but the defendant himself.

Cochran convinced the jury that race defined the Simpson case and the police investigation against the onetime Heisman Trophy winner at the University of Southern California.

Simpson was acquitted in the criminal case, but he was later found liable in a civil trial and ordered to pay the victims' families \$33 million.

Johnnie L. Cochran Jr. was born in Shreveport, Louisiana, on October 2, 1937, the great-grandson of a slave, and grew up in a prosperous family.

He was raised in Los Angeles and attended UCLA, supporting himself by selling insurance policies for his father's company. He graduated in 1959 and earned his law degree from Loyola Marymount University in 1963.

He passed the California bar in 1963, and then took a job in Los Angeles as a deputy city attorney in the criminal division.

His career was intertwined with celebrities almost from his beginning.

Among his early cases was a 1964 effort to prosecute comedian Lenny Bruce on obscenity charges.

In 1965, he entered private practice and soon opened his own firm, Cochran, Atkins & Evans. His current practice, The Cochran Firm, was established in 1981 and has offices in 12 states and the District of Columbia.

He made his name with a series of high-profile police brutality and criminal cases in the late 1970s and worked as a Los Angeles County deputy district attorney in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

He negotiated a 1993 settlement in a civil lawsuit against pop star Michael Jackson that accused him of child molestation — a case that has resurfaced in Jackson's current criminal trial on other child molestation charges.

And he represented Reginald Denny, the white truck driver beaten by a black mob at the height of the Los Angeles riots in 1992.

Cochran argued that the city's police department was guilty of discrimination for failing to protect the neighborhood where Denny was assaulted.

In another high-profile case, Cochran represented Abner Louima, the Haitian immigrant sodomized with a broken broomstick by two New York City policemen.

And although his 1972 defense of former Black Panther Party member Elmer "Geronimo" Pratt for murder charges wound up in defeat, Cochran's perseverance eventually led to the reversal of that conviction — and his client's release — 25 years later.

The names go on and on: rap singer Sean "Puffy" Combs, on trial for weapons and bribery charges; Rosa Parks, in the lawsuit launched against OutKast and their label, LaFace Records.

But it was the Simpson trial that defined him.

In his 2002 book, "A Lawyer's Life," Cochran wrote that the case "gave me the platform to try to change some of those things that need to be changed in this country."

"It was the Simpson case that put me squarely in a position to make a difference. And that was precisely the reason I became an attorney," he wrote.

Cochran's flamboyancy inspired

parodies — among them the Jackie Chiles character on "Seinfeld," who unsuccessfully defended the show's gang in the series finale, and sketches on "Saturday Night Live."

"At times, it was a bit of fun," Cochran wrote of the "Seinfeld" spoof. "And I knew that accepting it good-naturedly, even participating in it, helped soothe some of the angry feelings from the Simpson case."

The City of Dallas, Allstate, Civic Group Team-Up for Youth Entrepreneur Program

Councilmember Leo V. Chaney, Jr., the City of Dallas Youth Services Office and The Allstate Foundation, in partnership with the South Dallas Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc., and Family Forward will sponsor the second annual entrepreneurial program for Dallas area teens in the ninth and tenth grades this summer.

The program, "Youth Today... Entrepreneur Tomorrow," is designed to teach youth how to start and maintain a small business and achieve financial independence. The program consists of four education sessions, which are held May-August, an entrepreneur bazaar and a graduation ceremony.

"We recognize that today's youth are our future," explains Councilmember Chaney. "This program

gives our youth the tools they need to be successful in the business world of tomorrow." The Allstate Foundation provided a \$25,000 grant to support the program.

Members of the South Dallas Business and Professional Women's Club will serve as facilitators of the educational component of the program; business owners, professionals, and leaders in the community

will serve as mentors to the students and will provide real life experiences and guidance through the development of a business concept.

The program is in need of mentors as well as mentees. For more information, to apply for the program or become a mentor, please contact the City of Dallas Youth Services office at 214-243-1575.

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A Rapper's Prison Time as a Résumé Booster

By KILEFA SANNI
A week ago, when the rapper Lil' Kim was convicted of perjury (three counts) and conspiring to lie to a grand jury, even her biggest fans didn't seem particularly shocked - they seemed curious. People were



C-Murder

wondering how a jail sentence might affect an already-rocky career.

If Lil' Kim is contemplating her uncertain future, three new CDs by imprisoned stars might give her more to think about.

On Tuesday, Master P's younger brother C-Murder released "The Truest #1 (I Ever Said)" (Koch); the jewel-box sticker boasts, "Behind bars ... still tuggin'." C-Murder has been locked up since 2003, when he was convicted of second-degree murder. Next week the Philadelphia rapper Beanie Sigel is to release "The B. Coming" (Roc-A-Fella/Island Def Jam), recorded last year before he began his one-year sentence for weapons possession.

And one of the season's

most eagerly anticipated reggae albums is "Freedom Blues" (VP Records) by Jah Cure, wildly successful in 2004 even though he's been in prison since 1999, convicted of robbery, gun possession and two counts of rape.

Beanie Sigel released his first album, "The Truth," in 2000. It established him as Jay-Z's most promising protégé, a hardboiled storyteller who seemed to chew on each syllable before he spat it out. As it happens, the album's most

memorable track was about doing time. Called "What Your Life Like," it offered a series of precise images of prison life, as when he described an inmate who didn't get any letters: "You got five years in, never been flown a kite." You hearing grown men moan at night. "The next year, when an interviewer asked him if he had ever been in jail, he responded coyly. "Yo, I spend time in jail every day that my people locked up," he snarled. "I'm in jail right now."



Lil' Kim

LEGAL NOTICE

These Texas Lottery Commission scratch-off games will close on April 30, 2005. You have until October 27, 2005, to redeem any tickets for these games:

Game #500

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Overall Odds are 1 in 4.53

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12 Days Of Winning

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Game #517

Deck The Halls

Overall Odds are 1 in 3.26

Game #519

Pinball

Overall Odds are 1 in 4.66

Game #521

Fabulous 5's

Overall Odds are 1 in 3.63



The odds listed here are the overall odds of winning any prize in a game, including break-even prizes. Lottery retailers are authorized to redeem prizes up to and including \$200. Prizes of \$600 or more must be claimed in person at a Lottery Claim Center or by mail with a completed Texas Lottery claim form. However, annuity prizes or prizes over \$200,000 must be claimed in person at the Commission Headquarters in Austin. Call Customer Service at 1-800-37-COTTO or visit the Lottery Web site at www.lottery.org for more information and location of nearest Claim Center. The Texas Lottery is not responsible for lost or stolen tickets, or for tickets lost in the mail. Tickets, transactions, players, and winners are subject to, and players and winners agree to abide by, all applicable laws, Commission rules, regulations, policies, instructions, conditions, procedures, and final decisions of the Executive Director. A scratch-off game may continue to be sold even when all the top prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 years of age or older to purchase a Texas Lottery ticket. Play Responsibly. Remember, it's just a game. The Texas Lottery supports Texas education by contributing to the Foundation School Fund. © 2005 Texas Lottery Commission. All Rights Reserved.

"Super Sunday" to Feature Grammy Award Winner Smokie Norful

A FREE "Super Sunday" Concert will be held at The Potter's House in Dallas, TX on Sunday, April 3, 2005 at 7 pm. EMI Gospel Recording artist and 2005 Grammy Award winner, Smokie Norful will be the featured performer. Norful was introduced to the national music industry in 2002 with his debut album *I Need You Now* which achieved gold status. Come out and enjoy songs from his latest album *Nothing Without You*. Joining Norful for this magnificent evening to heavenly sounds will be Dextery EMI Gospel Recording Artist Micah Stampley and Gospel Stylist J. Moss. The Potter's House is located at 6777 West Kent Blvd.,



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Car Review

2005 GMC ENVOY

By: E. Dewayne Gibson Jr.
The GMC Envoy comes in 5 Models: Envoy, Envoy XL, Envoy XUV, Envoy Denali & Envoy Denali XL.

The Envoy's powertrain is available in either a Vortec 4200 4.2L, I-6 with 275 horsepower and 275 torque or a Vortec 5300 5.3L V-8 290 horsepower 325 lb-ft of torque. Two-wheel drive or Autotrac four-wheel drive is offered. The Envoy has towing capability up to 7100 pounds using 2 wheel drive.

Electroluminescent instrument panel displays fuel usage and engine oil life. Other options on the digital instrument panel are: language options, automatically lock doors in gear or with speed options, trip timer, and headlamp settings. The driver will not be able to leave 5 feet from his or her parking lot unbelted due to the constant enhanced driver and front passenger seat belt reminder. Blinkers on the side view mirrors are an added safety feature for the driver.

GMC has the bragging rights to Industry-firsts features: power-sliding rear roof, Next-generation Midgate with power glass, All-weather cargo area, and a tailgate that drops or



swings open. The seats and Midgate can be reconfigured in seconds without tools. The two way tailgate and the power sliding moonroof employ the Envoy as one of the most cargo versatile SUVs on the market. All Envoy rear seats fold down flat. The result is 107.4 cubic feet of flat-loading cargo space.

Two enhanced features that decrease the noise level to a mute are the exhaust resonator and the sound absorber insulators. The exhaust resonator achieves quieter performance with an acoustic chamber tuned to the Vortec 5300's specific resonant

frequency- effectively canceling much of the exhaust noise. The Sound absorber insulators are placed throughout the doors, pillars, body openings and speaker areas, in order to mute noise from the wind.

GM's fuel-saving Displacement on Demand (DOD) technology efficiently utilizes the V8 powertrain. When the cylinders are deactivated, the engine effectively operates as a V-4 with alternate cylinders on each cylinder bank disabled. The engine returns to V-8 mode when the controller perceives the vehicle speed or load requires additional power. The process is seamless and virtually imperceptible.

XM Radio. One can listen to the same radio station traveling the U.S. coast to coast. I've tried it and found the XM stations and satellite quality enjoyable when traveling long distance. Customers with GMAC financing can choose to include the XM subscription in their car payments.

On Star is an added in-vehicle safety option. An MP3 adapter is also available.

Fuel economy is 15 city/21 highway.

"The Refiner's Fire Revival"

In celebration of their 15th Church Anniversary, New Life Fellowship Church of Hamilton Park welcomes the public to a Holy Spirit Revival that will feature National Revivalist Apostle Cornell Hamilton, From Bondage to Freedom Outreach Ministries in Shreveport, LA.

The revival started March 29th and the service continues tonight and tomorrow night at 7:30 pm. This Holy Spirit Revival and Church Anniversary will culminate on Sunday, April 3, 2005. Service will start with Sunday Morning Bible School at 9:15 am and Morning Worship Services starts at

10:30 am.

Some testimonies received from attendees at the service are as follows: "Tuesday night was a truly blessed evening. God showed up and then showed out by using this man of God in a miraculous way. Not only did he minister to my and other people hearts, he also ministered to our needs, unknowingly, and his prophetic words came to pass as evidence was shown and seen on Tuesday night."

"Please ask God to let you live long enough to hear this dynamic man of God exemplify the true meaning of Faith, Hope, Love,

Longsuffering, Patience, and Goodness as God has given it through HIM to him (Apostle Hamilton)." - Minister Johnnie Griffin.

"What a time we had in the Lord on Tuesday night! If you were not there the last two nights, you have missed a treat. Apostle Hamilton spoke a word and GOD blessed! Wednesday was miracle night and people came expecting a miracle, and they were not disappointed. You need to be at NEW LIFE CHURCH ON TONIGHT!" - Sis. Tabitha Perkins.

Refiner's Fire Revival Page 8

Church Happenings

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English is a second language Class; call 972-424-8500 for more information.

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BETHEL BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
Sunday Mornings, 9:00 am through
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Winter Adult Discipleship Series Workshop, entitled, "Restoring Your Spiritual Passion." Facilitators include Johanna Fisher of KCBF-FM, 90.9 Radio; Dr. Richard Allen Farmer, Music Minister and Teacher; and Dr. Terrance S. Woodson, Pastor.

For details and to register, please contact the church office @ 972-492-4300.

Bethel Bible Fellowship
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COALITION OF CHURCHES IN PRISON MINISTRY

On-Going Mentor Program
Our host church, True Lee Baptist Church, 3907 Bertrand Avenue, Dallas, TX 75210, 214-421-9435 where Rev. Donald Parish is the Pastor, is working with a mentor program for children of parents that are incarcerated. Come or call to find out how to get involved.

For more information, please call Carolyn Johnson @ 972-235-6132.

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COMMUNITY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

April 1 - 2, 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Church-Wide garage sale. The garage sale will end on the 1st of April @ 4:00 pm. On the 2nd of April, the garage sale ends at 12 Noon. The public is invited.

For more detail information, call the church @ 972-424-8999.

April 3, 10:30 am
New Member Sunday; (we will celebrate members that have joined the church over the last quarter.) The message for the day will be, "The Power of Our Stories." The public is invited and childcare is available.

On-Going
Hope Preschool, ages 2-5 has begun pre-registration for 2005. Call the church office on Tuesday through Thursday @ 972-424-8999.

For more information and ticket prices, please call the church office @ 972-424-8999.

Career Opportunities

For more information, please call the church office @ 972-424-8999.

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Church News

Sister Tarpley



In closing Women's History Month, I honor a few more "strong" women in my life, past and present. Mrs. Rhonda (her maiden name is unknown) Baker Calico is in my maternal great grandmother. With her only two daughters and the last two of her sons, after slavery, she left Texas and settled in Elizabeth, NJ, praying, I have been told, to go back to her native land, Madagascar. In the middle 90s while researching my family history, I discovered new cousins and new family history. Mrs. Ida Rutherford Demus (AKA known as "Mother Ida" by her family and "Mother Demus" in the community and at the church where she was a member. She was the Church Mother of Union Primitive Baptist Church in Mexico, TX. Mother Demus was my paternal grandmother, she was an eloquent, proper, and a strong lady. She insisted that her children and grandchildren dressed presentable and use correct English at all times. Mrs. Maggie Smith Baker (AKA known as Mama Mag). What a great lady and cook Mama Mag was. She and Papa James, her husband, and their 17 children grew fruit and vegetables crops, and they raised cows, chickens, hogs, etc. so that the family would always eat well. Mama Mag's philosophy, whatever you had to eat, if nothing but beans, then have plenty of beans to eat. I have very fond memories of visiting both sets of grandparents, during winter and summer. There was always plenty of food and a lot of fun playing with cousins.

The Demus' lived in Freestone County and the Baker's lived in Limestone County, both counties are in Mexico, TX; my grandparents' homes are only two miles apart. Both of my grandmothers were members of the same church and I strongly believe that

Women's History Month 2005

the church is where my parents met and fell in love. My father sang in the church choir and my mother, following in her mother's footsteps was a great cook, and when food was served at church functions, she was responsible for helping to prepare the meal. In researching my family history, I would tell individuals in the community who my mother and father was, once I mentioned my mother's name, the community folks would say, we knew your mother, she was the prettiest lady in the county, with her long black pretty



Picture of The Week

Lloyd David & Cedella Baker Demus' daughters: (L to R), standing: Nurse Lloyd Avery, Teacher Rose Fielding, and Hair Stylist Billie Leece Davis. Sitting: Evangelist Ida Mae Eggin and Retired Teacher and Columnist Shirley Jean Tarpley (Sister Tarpley).

hair, she was the best cook, her food was always good, they said. I thank God and truly appreciate the values and goals that were handed down to me. Church attendance was important. High honor and praises to God for His abundance of love and peace to the family was extremely important, as was a formal education. Both sets of grandparents, donated land for a school for the children in the community, and each paid the teacher's salary and gave her room and board.

When I traveled to Elizabeth, NJ to meet uncles, aunts, cousins and to trace family history, I was privileged to meet cousin Pauline Robinson Drake.

Cousin Pauline is into everything good. In 1995 she was President of the Aberdeen-Matawan New Jersey Chapter of Hadassah, the only African-American Hadassah President in America. Cousin Pauline was always fascinated by biblical stories and the Hebrew language. In her early 50's she went to a synagogue, was befriended by members of the Jewish religion and learned to speak Hebrew. She learned to speak the language so that she could speak to the Hebrew young Jewish children. I could fill a book about Cousin Pauline.

However, there are two stories I love to tell about Cousin Pauline. One is when she went to a Holocaust Observance Service, at the end of the program, she greeted the guest speaker from Israel in Hebrew, he was surprised and delighted that she could engage in a long conversation with him in the Hebrew language. He invited Pauline and her wonderful husband, "WW II War Veterans" Howard Drake, to visit him at his palace-home in Israel, at any time, and they did. Pauline said they were treated royally. The other story is that on one of Pauline's trips to Israel, she was on a tour bus to important landmarks and one of the tour guides told a joke in Hebrew, when the young men laughed, Pauline did also, the young men were shocked and surprised that she could speak and understand their language. I think that from now on, they will be very careful about what they say in front of anyone.

It is great to honor women, especially God-fearing women, at any time, for what they have done for their families, and all mankind to make lives better.

Email: religion@monthgazette.com
Office: 972-516-4191
Voice Mail: 972-606-3878
Fax: 972-516-4197

Let MON-The Gazette help your church accomplish the purpose of Jesus, "bring us territory to expand opportunities that may impact in such a way that we touch more lives for God's glory. Let us do more for Him."

Church Happenings

Church Happenings Page 6

DAYSTAR DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES

May 12-14, 2005
The Touch Ministry of DayStar Deliverance Ministries will sponsor a FREE Women in Transaction (WLT) Conference @ the Adam's Mark Hotel, 400 North Olive Street in Downtown Dallas. The Conference is free, but donations are generously accepted for this powerful work of God.

For more information and registration, please contact Sister Jackie Hawthorne @ 972-769-8826.

DayStar Deliverance Ministries

Bishop Minnie Hawthorne, Senior Pastor
6205 Coit Road, Suite 336, PMB 142
Plano, TX 75024
972-769-8826

MORSE STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

April 4 - 8, 2005

Our Annual Spring Festival with guest Under Johnson & Company. Wednesday is College Ministry Night. For more information, please call 940-320-5364.

MORSE STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. A. R. Stokes, Pastor
921 Morse Street
Denton, TX 76205
940-320-5364

MT. HEBRON BAPTIST CHURCH (THE MOUNT)

Wednesday Night, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
FREE Tutorials. SAT packets are available, and with 1 to 1 help.

MT. HEBRON BAPTIST CHURCH (THE MOUNT)

Rev. Leonard Leach, Pastor
901 Dairy Road
Garland, TX 75040
972-276-5218

MT. OLIVE CHURCH OF PLANO

April 5, through May 22, 2005
You are invited to a church-wide "40 Days of Purpose" the studies on a

Purpose Driven Life conducted by

Pastors Sam and Gloria Fencency. Come and join the congregation for these wonderful services.

Mr. Olive Church of Plano
Rev. Sam Fencency, Pastor
740 Avenue F, Suite 303
Plano, TX 75074
972-633-5511

NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK

Tomorrow, Last Night, April 1, 7:30 pm

"The Refiner's Fire Revival" featuring guest speaker: National Revivalist Apollos Cornell Hamilton from Bondage to Freedom Outreach Ministries, Shreveport, LA.

The public is invited to join us for this soul-stirring message. The Holy Spirit has been with us each night.

New Life Fellowship Church

Bishop Miller H. Johnson, Jr., Senior Pastor
8219 Busch Drive
Dallas, TX 75243
972-671-1097

NEW MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH OF DALLAS

April 10, 5:00 pm

The North Dallas, Denton and Collin Counties (NDDC) Alumni Chapter of Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) will present The PVAMU Concert Chorus at the New Mount Zion Baptist Church, 9530 Shepherd Road, Dallas, TX 75243.

The concert is FREE and open to the public; however, donations will be generously accepted to benefit the Music and Drama Departments with academic scholarships.

For more information, call Ada Raglin, Publicity Chair @ 214-381-1790 or Bill Heath, President @ 972-669-0261 (HM) or 214-341-6459 (WK).

New Mount Zion Baptist Church

Dr. Robert E. Price, Senior Pastor
9530 Shepherd Road
Dallas, TX 75243
972-341-6459

NEW OUTREACH CHURCH

April 23, 10:00 am - 12:30 pm

We will have our second Annual Boys-to-Men Seminar. Guest speakers will include: Fellowship Christian Athletes Eugene Lockhart, Jesse Penn, Angelo King (all Former Dallas Cowboys), Glen Sanders, Former Baltimore Colts; Friendship Baptist Church in The Colony, TX where Dr. C. Paul McBride is the pastor, and Marcus Harris, Former Law Enforcement.

There will be door prizes and lunch. Please RSVP.

For additional information contact Sister Wanda Seals @ 469-851-6507.

New Outreach Church

Elder Eddie R. Seals, Pastor
506 Wilcox Street
McKinney, TX 75069
972-542-4993

NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP IN RICHARDSON

On-Going Mentor Program

Operation Oasis sponsors a program that assists youth that are at-risk, and ex-offenders returning to society. The program's goals are to change lives of the formerly incarcerated person, to increase safety, and to spiritually fortify our communities. For more details about this wonderful project, please contact: Juanita Lee, Administrative Assistant at 972-437-3801 or call Toll Free at 1-800-370-0315 (376-2747).

April 2 through May 7,

6:30 am - 11:30 am

NDCCBP - Christian Education

Department will start their Session 2, Saturday Morning classes: 1) Evangelism and Discipleship 2) Advanced Bible Study Methods 3) Proverbs and Ecclesiastes: Wisdom for the World, and 4) FDIC Money Smart.

Church Happenings Page 8

Church Directory

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

New Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Dallas
Sunday Service
Morning Worship
7:30 am & 10:30 am
9:00 am Sunday School
Wednesday Service
Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm
Brotherhood 7:00 pm
Missions 7:00 pm
Singles Group 7:00 pm
Bible Study 7:45 pm
Dr. Robert E. Price, Senior Pastor
A Praying Church Family
"Watchmen on the Walls"
214-341-6459 (Phone) • 214-342-5403 (Fax)
9550 Shepard Road
Dallas, TX 75243
www.nmzb.org (Website) • newmzb@aol.com (Email)

Friendship Baptist Church
Dr. C. Paul McBride, Pastor
Schedule of Services:
Sunday
Early Morning Worship
8:00 a.m.
Sunday School Classes
9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship
11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship (1st Sunday) 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday
Early Bird Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday
Morning Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Prayer Meeting and Evening Bible Study 7:30 p.m.
4396 Main Street
The Colony, Texas 75056
(972) 625-8186
website: www.fbc-online.net
"The Church with a Vision"
Visit Our Website At: www.MONTheGazette.com

St. Andrew Church of God in Christ
Supt. Kenneth D. Davis, Pastor
608 Lake Street • Denton, TX 76205
940-243-3797 (Metro)
www.standrewcogic.org
standrewcogic@verizon.net
"Building to Reach - Reaching to Change - Reaching to Impact"
Worship Celebrations
1st & 3rd Sundays: 8:30 am
Every Sunday: 10:50 am
Sunday School: 9:30 am
Evening Worship: 7:00 pm
Wednesday Bible Study
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:15 pm
Youth Bible Study: 7:30 pm
Friday Intercessory Prayer
Early Morning: 6:00 am to 7:00 am
Evening: 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm

St. Luke A.M.E. Church (aka - SLAME)
"Where we slam dunk the devil and serve up Jesus"
521 W. Avenue E. Garland, TX 75040
972-487-9703
Email: slamechurch@aol.com
Sunday
8:45 a.m. Church School
9:45 a.m. Prayer & Worship
10:15 a.m. Morning Equester
Thursday
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Reverend Charles E. Franklin, Pastor

RHEMA LIFE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
3801 Avenue K.
Plano, TX 75074 469-467-7575
SERVICE TIMES
Sunday School: 9:00 am
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:15 am
Sunday Night Bible Study: 7:00 pm
Raised to Walk in the Newness of Life. Romans 6:4

Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church
920 E. 14th Street Plano, TX
Pastor Leah Justus, Jr.
FANNING THE FLAMES OF OUR FAITH
Sunday Worship Services 8AM & 11AM
Sunday 9:45AM Sunday School
Monday 7PM Youth, Brotherhood, Mission & Young Adult Ministries
Tuesday 7PM Bible Study & Men's Choir
Wednesday 7PM Mid-Week Service
Thursday 7PM Mass Choir
For more information call (972) 423-6695
www.shilohbaptistchurch.org

The St. John Experience
St. John Baptist Church
1701 W. Jefferson St., Grand Prairie, Texas 75051
2805 Market Loop, Suite 300, Southlake, Texas 75092
Denny D. Davis, Servant
One Church - Two Locations
Four Morning Worship Services
7:00 A.M., 9:30 A.M., 10:00 A.M. and 11:15 A.M.

Mt. Olive Church of Plano
740 Avenue F, Plano, TX 75074 972-633-5511
WWW.MOCOP.ORG
Serving the Plano Community for 12 Years
Sunday Worship 8 am & 11 am
Wednesday Night 7:15 pm
Pastors Sam & Gloria Fencency
40 Days of Purpose
Purpose Driven Life Studies
April 9th thru May 22nd
Call Pastor Sam
LIVE ON: "Vision & Truth"
Radio Broadcast: KWRD 100.7 FM Sundays 9pm-10pm
HEAR PASTOR SAM DAILY ON: "TRUTH MADE SIMPLE"
KGGR 1040AM MONDAY - FRIDAY 10:25-10:30 AM

The Votes Are In!

MON-The Gazette receives 1st Place for "Best Religious Section"

at the 19th Annual African American Texas Publisher's Association Conference. The contest was judged by the University of Texas at Tyler.

Refiner's Fire Revival Page 6

"It was a spirit-filled night making you not want to miss any night. I was blessed in a way that words can't describe. I have been blessed. Pastor Hamilton is



Apostle Cornell Hamilton
Revivalist

truly anointed." - Sis. Cassandra Stewart
"I was glad that I got a chance to come. God always know what you need and when you need it. God has a way of sending just what you need in the nick of time. We serve such an awesome God. My soul was blessed in a way that words cannot describe. Thanks for inviting me. Much love." - Evangelist Shirley Jackson.

"It was a very awesome night. We were truly blessed in songs; and by our own Bishop and Apostle Hamilton. I had a burden lifted off of me that I can't explain, but I feel extremely good today. I got confirmation on something that I had been dealing with, Praise God! It was truly a blessed night. Can't wait till tonight! See you all there. Be Blessed!" - Sis. Calandra Paul.

The rest of the revival and church anniversary promises to be

more of the same as these testimonies. You are invited by Bishop Johnson and his congregation, and encouraged to come to New Life Church for a halleluiah good time.



Bishop M.E. Johnson, Jr.
Host Pastor

Schiavo Case Page 1

Involving unanimous consent rules, they were able to quickly pass legislation without debate that would allow Schiavo's parents, who opposed removing the feeding tube, to again present their case in federal court. The House passed the measure 203-58.

When the parents returned to federal court, they were again rebuffed. The parents appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, which declined to hear the case. With no prospect of winning, they eventually gave up their fight.

The case of Terri Schiavo was tragic enough without the demagoguery of President Bush and the Congress. She suffered severe brain damage as a result of a heart attack 15 years ago and her husband, Michael, said his wife did not want to be kept alive by artificial means. Through initially united in their effort to seek medical help for Terri, the parents and the husband have since gone separate ways, with the parents lobbying to keep their daughter on the feeding tube and her husband opposing, saying she has become a vegetable, with no prospect of a reversal.

Into that fray, stepped Gov. Jeb Bush, who pushed a bill through the Florida legislature in 2003 that gave

him the right to order reinstatement of the feeding tube. However, the Florida Supreme Court overruled the governor.

This is not the first time "states' rights" proponents have forsaken their core belief for political expediency. In 2002, Republican officials successfully urged the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn a Florida court ruling that ordered a recount in the presidential election between George Bush and Al Gore.

The National Association of State Public Interest Research Groups issued a report last summer titled, "Lying the Hands of the States: The Impact of Federal Preemption on State Problem-Solvers." It concluded, "Over the last three decades, states have become increasingly active in passing strong state laws to protect the health, safety and well-being of their residents."

However, the report continued, "The federal government has increasingly responded to state-level problem solving with its own powerful political tool - preempting the right of state governments to legislate on a given issue and establishing federal law as the ceiling."

The Schiavo case is yet another example of federal officials trying to preempt local judges. They showboat about preserving life yet have

recommended cuts in Medicaid, the very program that has sustained Schiavo this long.

The activity around Schiavo also exposed the inconsistency of those who oppose a woman's choice to have an abortion. George Bush is Exhibit A. He now claims to be concerned about human life. Yet, as governor of Texas, he approved more executions than any other governor in the country. Bush and his fellow conservatives can't have it both ways - they can't be for life when it involves abortion or a high-profile medical case while simultaneously supporting the death penalty.

Comedian Dave Chapelle said it is tantamount to saying, "Let them live so that we can kill them." And Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.) says this crew believes life begins at conception and ends with birth.

What should end is politicians exploiting the grief and pain of families to further their political agendas.

George E. Curry is editor-in-chief of the NNPA News Service and BlackPressUSA.com. He appears on National Public Radio (NPR) three times a week as part of "News and Notes with Ed Gordon." In addition, his radio commentary is syndicated each week by Capitol Radio News Service 301-588-1993.

Church Happenings

Church Happenings Page 7

NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP IN RICHARDSON

April 5 through May 16, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

NDCBF will start their Session 2, Tuesday Evening Courses 1) Issues & Answers: A Biblical Perspective 2) Biblical Foundations 3) The Book of Acts: From Religion to Relationship 4) Bible Study Methods (formerly named How to Study the Bible) 5) The Gospel: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John 6) The Origin and Development of the Black Church: 1600-Present.

For further information about NDCBF's Christian Education Department and registration fees, please contact Associate Pastor T. Coleman, Th.M., at RCOlema@ndcbf.org or call 972-437-3437, Ext. 102.

April 16, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Operation Oaks will sponsor its Annual Banquet with a Silent Auction at the Oakridge Country Club at 2800 Diamond Oaks Drive in Garland, TX 75044. Please join us for an evening which should prove to be a fantastic and very valuable event.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Juanita Lee at 972-437-3401.

North Dallas Community Bible Fellowship in Richardson

Dr. Leslie W. Smith, Senior Pastor 1010-1020 South Sherman Street Richardson, TX 75081 972-437-3493

PILGRIM REST BAPTIST CHURCH

April 12, 10:30 am

You are invited to help us celebrate in this "One Service Only" for Dr. Curtis W. Wallace and First Lady Phyllis A. Wallace's 15 years at Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, and for Pastor Wallace's 31-years in the ministry. Our theme is "Don't Miss The Shift."

For more information, please contact Stephanie Cook-Jones at 214-564-7860.

April 25 - 26, 2005

Spring Revival with guest minister, Rev. Ralph West, Brookhollow Baptist Church in Houston, TX.

Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church Dr. Curtis Wallace, Pastor 1819 N. Washington Avenue Dallas, TX 75204 214-823-7388

ST. LUKE "COMMUNITY" UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

April 1, 7:30 pm

Family Conference - Reclaiming the Village: Living in the Liberty & Unity of Christ. We will have a Worship Celebration and the Opening Session in the church sanctuary.

April 2, 8:00 am

Family Conference - Reclaiming the Village: Living in the Liberty & Unity of Christ. We will have Workshop Sessions at the Zan W. Holmes, Jr. Community Life Center, 6211 East Grand Avenue, Dallas, TX 75223.

Keynote speakers for the family conference and workshop sessions will be Rev. Martin L. Espinosa, Founder & Senior Pastor of Ray of Hope Community Church in Nashville, Tennessee; and Dr. Renita Weems, Associate Professor of Old Testament at Vanderbilt University Divinity School.

For more information about the family conference, workshop and registration fees, please call Jeanne Davis at 972-943-1297 or 214-821-2970.

St. Luke "Community" UMC

Rev. Tyrone Gordon, Pastor 5710 East R.L. Thornton Dallas, TX 75223 214-821-2970

THE INSPIRING BODY OF CHRIST CHURCH (IBCC)

Sign Up Now

FREE Computer Training classes by Dominion Training & Support Center. For more information and registration, please call Rev. C. Greer at 214-760-9575 or Email: Rrogers@ibcc.com

Mondays, 7:00 pm

Monday School with Holy Spirit Bible Teachings

The Inspiring Body of Christ Church (IBCC) Dr. Rickie G. Rush, Pastor 7710 South Westmoreland Dallas, TX 75237 972-572-IBCC (4262)

THE POTTER'S HOUSE OF DALLAS

April 3, 7:00 pm

We will host a FREE Super Sunday Concert with Grammy Award Winner Smoke Norful, Dextery/EMI Gospel Recording Artist Micah Stampley, and Gospel Music Stylis J. Moss.

For more detail information, contact Carolyn Miller or Tanisha Pace at 214-331-0954, Ext. 1115.

The Potter's House of Dallas Bishop T. D. Jakes, Senior Pastor 6777 West Kiest Blvd. Dallas, TX 75236 214-331-0954

TRINITY PRAYER CHAPEL

Sign Up Now

Reynolds Wood Ministries is now conducting FREE GED and ESL Classes, Mentoring Program, and Dance/Ballet/Karate Classes (scholarships are available). For more information and registration, please call 214-544-1886.

Trinity Prayer Chapel Rev. Reynolds Wood, Senior Pastor P. O. Box 650 Service Location is: 406 N. Tennessee McKinney, TX 75069 Dallas, TX 75251 214-544-1886

Send your church announcements to religion@monthegazette.com or fax to 972-516-4197 c/o Church Happenings. Deadlines are Fridays before publication date. (MON-The Gazette is published each Thursday.)

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has a Special Promotion for business people who want to get those profits moving in the right direction!
How would you feel if you had the opportunity to go for the "Gold" - but you landed on the Silver?
Contact MON-The Gazette
Marketing Department at: Phone: 972-606-7498

DayStar Deliverance Ministries
Our Services:
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Tuesday
Midday Service: 11:00 a.m. Prayer Service: 7:00 p.m.
Sponsored by:
The Touch Ministry • Women in Transition (WIT)
Website: www.thetouchministry.com • Phone: 972-769-8826
Southfork Hotel • 1600 N. Central Expressway • Plano, TX

Hill Chapel
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
1113 J Ave. Plano, TX 75074 (972) 423-6090
Rev. James E. Larry, Pastor
Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.
Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 A.M.
Wednesday Night-Community Bible Class: 7:30 P.M.

Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church
1308 Wilcox Street, McKinney TX
Pastor Charles S. Watley
Sunday
Education Ministries... 9:30 a.m.
Worship Celebration... 11:00 a.m.
- Nursery Facilities Available -
Wednesday
Family Ministries... 7:00 p.m.
Friendly Fellowship with a Family Focus
For More Information Call
972.542.6178
www.saintmarkbc.com
stmarkmissionary@aol.com

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

BETHANY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
SUNDAY ACTIVITIES
8:30 am - Sunday School • 10:00 am - Worship Services
MONDAY
6:30 pm - Missions • 7:00 pm - Brotherhood
WEDNESDAY
6:00 pm - Teacher's Meeting
7:00 pm - Prayer & Midweek Lesson
SATURDAY
10:00 am thru 1:00 pm Youth Activities
8710 Westmore Avenue • Dallas, TX 75209
214-572-3552 (Phone) • 214-572-6793 (Fax)
bethany@sbeglobal.net (Email)

Little Flock Baptist Church
Pastor Louis E. Laurent
Internet Broadcast: www.krgm.com
(Mon - Fri @ 12 Noon)
A Place Where a "Taste of the Word" is Guaranteed
Sunday School..... 9:30 am
Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 am
Sunday Night Service..... 6:30 pm
Tuesday Night Brotherhood 7:00 pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting/Bible Study..... 7:00 pm
704 E. Almee Street • P.O. Box 903 • Forney, Texas 75126
Phone: 214-325-7021
Fax: 214-371-8922 or 214-372-2135
Email: thewordcuts@yahoo.com

New Life Fellowship of Hamilton Park
8219 Bunche Drive • Dallas, TX 75243
972-671-1096
Bishop Miller E. Johnson Jr., Senior Pastor
A Place of New Beginnings... • II Corinthians 5:17
Sunday Morning Bible School 9:15 a.m.
Morning Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship (Agape Hour) First Sunday 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting and Evening Bible Study 7:15 p.m.

All Nations United Methodist Church
Dr. Clara M. Reed Senior Pastor
Dr. Bert Afflick Hispanic Ministries
"Christian by Faith, Diverse by Design"
Sunday 8:45am Sunday School
Sunday 8:45am Estudio Biblico En Español
Sunday 10:00am Worship Service
Wed. 6:15pm Prayer Meeting
3415 E. 14th St.
Plano, TX • 75074
972-424-8500
www.allnationsumc.org
(Free Nursery Provided For Ages 4 and Under)
Other ministries include: "English As A Second Language" and "Spanish As A Second Language" Classes.

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