

The Truth Clinic

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April 14 - April 20, 2005

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The Gazette

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On the Homefront:

The following event will be held at the Plano Centre located at 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway in Plano.

April 19, 2005 from 11 am to 1 pm

A celebration of outstanding volunteers throughout Collin County will be honored. Admission is \$25.00. For more information contact the Volunteer Center of Collin County at 972-422-1050 or visit www.volunteernorthtexas.org.

April 21-22, 2005 from 9 am to 9 pm

Divine Consign is the metroplex's largest twice yearly children's consignment sale specializing in the highest quality gently worn children's and maternity clothing, toys, books, games, videos, baby equipment and baby & children's furniture. Admission is free. For more information contact Tina Teutsch at 214-513-2839 or email divineconsign@hotmail.com or visit www.divineconsign.net.

For women who want to build a village, but don't know where to start, as the 2005 national underwriter for Habitat for Humanity International's Women Building program, Lowe's is hosting how-to clinics April 20, and 26, 2005 at its 75 & Spring Creek location in Plano to prepare women volunteers to build a Plano-area house this spring. For more information about Habitat for Humanity International's Women Build Program, visit: www.habitat.org/wb or call 972-567-8447.

The Plano Symphony Guild invites young women in Collin County and surrounding communities to the 2005-2006 Debutante Presentation Program. The Plano Symphony Orchestra's debutante program is a two year program open to high school sophomores to expand their cultural, social and volunteer opportunities. Activities begin in the fall of 2005 and end with a Presentation Ball in November 2007. For financial obligations and more information visit www.planosymphony.org.

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 this spring. Check out the continuing education schedule online at www.cccd.edu/ce for more information.

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Jerry Brooks Makes Artistic Conceptions that are Timeless!



Doubt

By: Kymberly Keeton
 Commissioned by The One who first... Created beauty on the earth... Who appoints the genius to the task... Revealing secrets behind mortal's mask... Journalism can be artistic can't it? Well one could say that when meeting Mr. Jerry Brooks of Coppell, TX that anything that has life can be just that-art. "I feel that I was a participant of creation, because I never had formal instruction. I just learned, and just

did it. When you see my work you will see," Mr. Brooks says with a smile on his face while standing in front of his portrait of Walter Payton that he painted after the football player retired. Jerry Brooks is the oldest son of nine children born to Jerry and Carmel Brooks; he was born on a farm in Duncan, Mississippi in 1936. "East Chicago and Gary, Indiana was where I was raised and educated. I am a veteran of the United States Airforce where I served four years from 1956-1959."

Jerry Brooks Page 2



The Fate of the Black Union

By: James Cline
 In February 2005, once again, we learned about the State of the Black Union. Now we know the condition, the position, the status, and the circumstances of Black people. With that in mind, let's now look at the Fate of the Black Union. Let's look at our destiny, our chances, our luck, and our lot. Knowing the State of our Union, and not being fully engaged in doing something to improve it, logically suggests a strong need for us to know the Fate of our Union.

Union? That word denotes coalition, alliance, harmony, accord, unity, amalgamation, coming together, and unification. Union? Doesn't that also connote one-for-all-and-all-for-one? Wouldn't you think that for Black folks the

word, "Union," would be used for more than just its marquis value? I sure do, but it sounds good, doesn't it? And you know how we love hype. Is "hype" short for hypothesis? Anyway, what about our fate? I assert that our fate is inextricably attached to our present state. And judging from what I have seen and heard over the past five years about the state of Black men, Black children, Black families, Black churches, and Black folks in general, our fate is all but sealed. Why? Because all we seem to do is talk about our state; it seems to me that anytime prominent, educated, intelligent, national leaders get together for two days to discuss the state of Black folks, there should be some immediate action steps set forth for the people to follow, that is, unless, as the President always

says, "The State of the Union is secure!" Or, "strong," or "better than ever," or whatever lie he decides to tell us every January.

For years now, we have heard Black "leaders" give numerous pronouncements regarding our condition and offer absolutely no direction, no action steps and, thus, no positive results from their discussion of the state of our Union. Seems to me they are wasting their talents by just getting together on television to discuss our issues and then leave without doing anything about those issues except making plans for the next year's discussion. Surely all of our Black intellectuals can come up with something we foot soldiers can do to improve our lot. We are listening. We are listening. We are listening.

Blackonomics Page 4

Second Government "Lawyer" Unlicensed

By: Makebra M. Anderson
 NNPA National Correspondent
 WASHINGTON

A second attorney working on one of the largest civil rights cases in history is being investigated by the Department of Justice for practicing law without a license. Michael Sitcov, the lead attorney in the controversial Pigford v. Veneman case, was unlicensed for two years, while making decisions on the fate of thousands of Black farmers.

"I think this is on purpose because this is the largest civil rights case in history for Black people," John Boyd, president of the National Black Farmers Association, said. "Michael Sitcov was an attorney for the Department of Justice, so this is not some flunky. He made mostly all the decisions on the case; therefore, DOJ should be re-looking at all of these cases."

Undoubtedly, that's the least they can do on this issue.

Sitcov stopped paying his bar dues in October 2002 after paying them consistently for more than 20 years. After numerous reminders, the District of Columbia Bar suspended his license between October 1, 2002 and November 7, 2004.

During his suspension, Sitcov continued to work on the case for DOJ, although it's illegal to practice law without a license. He is the second DOJ attorney accused of malpractice.

In December, Margaret O'Shea, who represented Black farmers as a lawyer for DOJ, misrepresented herself as an attorney. O'Shea was hired by a Public Defender's office in California. However, a co-worker tried to research

Lawyer Unlicensed Page 6

Senator Florence Shapiro Plano's First Governor Of Texas

On a beautiful, a sunny and a windy day, Saturday, April 9, 2005, Senator Florence Shapiro, as President Pro Tempore of the Senate, was sworn in as Texas Governor for a Day at a well-attended ceremony in Austin.

"During those years I have tried to give voice to your values... to make your aspirations my agenda; from education to transportation, homeland security to the safety of our children. I always think about your values."



Sister Terley, Religious Editor for MON-The Gazette and Governor for a Day, Senator Florence Shapiro.

Governor Shapiro said, "It is a great privilege, and to share this special moment with you is a great honor." "My journey, like all journeys, has taken many years and many friends to bring me to this moment. For the past 13 years I have been blessed to serve the people of Senate District 8 here in Austin."

your families and your needs. Your support and friendship has been a great source of strength to me. I have done my best to give you the representation that you so richly deserve," She further said.

The Escort Committee (members of the Texas Senate)

Senator Florence Shapiro Page 6

Pope's 1987 visit to city had spiritual impact on local deacon

By: Angela Johnson,
 Contributing Writer
 The Louisiana Weekly

When Pope John Paul II died on April 2 after a long illness, millions of people across the world mourned. The pope had a special connection to New Orleans, however, and in particular to the African-American Catholic community.

Deacon John Williams was instrumental in organizing the Pope's 1987 visit to New Orleans, and reflected on the pope's visit last week.

"I was ordained in 1976 in the Archdiocese of New Orleans," Williams told The Louisiana Weekly. "I was in the second class

of ordained deacons. Later I became the founding director of the Office of Black Catholics in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. At the occasion of the Pope's visit, Sept. 12, 1987, I had no inkling of the role that I would play in the mass."

He was selected to proclaim the gospel as the Deacon of the Word at the mass celebrated by the Pope.

"How I was selected I don't know," he said. "My guardian angel, my wife's prayers, or somebody must have been acting on his behalf."

"It was an awe-inspiring occasion for me to be in the Pope's 1987 visit Page 10

Dallas County's Rising Stars

By: Lakesha Joe

When the high school dropout rate in Dallas County increased alarmingly, the leaders of Dallas County and the Community realized that something needed to be done to ensure that Dallas would produce more leaders in the future.

In an effort to reduce the drop out rate among its high school students, the Dallas Community Leaders, along with the Dallas County College District and its foundation started the Rising Star Program in 1999.

"The Dallas Community Leaders recognized that kids in Dallas, especially in the southern sector (the southern sector includes schools such as South Oak Cliff, Grand Prairie, Kimball, and Pinkston), were not graduating from high school," said Mary Greely-Miller, District Director of the Rising Star Program.

Because the southern sector high schools in Dallas County had the highest dropout rate among the other Dallas County schools, the Rising Star Program began as a pilot program in this sector schools and was eventually initiated in all the other Dallas County Schools.

Rising Star is a partnership with Dallas County high schools and the Dallas County Community Colleges District (DCCCD) Foundation and is open to all Dallas County high school seniors or Dallas CAN Academy students who graduate with a "B" average, is in the top forty percent of their class, or passes the required skills assessment exam before enrolling in college classes and shows an economic need. Those students who are accepted into the Rising Star Program can attend any of the seven two-year Dallas County Community Colleges. Rising Stars Page 8

NAACP Kicks Off National Tour to Assail Bush's Social Security Plan

By: Michael H. Gottman, BlackAmericaWeb.com, and Associated Press

The NAACP said Monday it will sponsor a national campaign to immediately explain why President George W. Bush's plan to privatize Social Security would be detrimental to many Black Americans.

Local and regional NAACP members will take their initiative, entitled "Save Our Social Security," to seven cities across the country starting this weekend. Events will include town hall meetings and community forums. The new campaign, officials said, is also directed to younger Black Americans.

"The NAACP said it opposes any plan that would jeopardize benefits for America's seniors, disabled or surviving family members who receive Social Security."

Hilary Shelton, director of the NAACP's Washington, D.C. bureau, said half of all Black Americans rely on Social Security for more than 90 percent of their retirement fund.

"Social Security is not a welfare program, but it is the most effective anti-poverty program in the nation's history," Shelton told BlackAmericaWeb.com Monday. "You don't get anything out of Social Security unless you put into Social Security, so we must address the high rate of unemployment among African-Americans."

"We have to engage the African-American community," Shelton added, "and give them accurate data to help them make informed decisions."

Black leaders accused President Bush of "playing the race card" in his pitch to sell his proposed Social Security overhaul. NAACP to Assail Bush Page 8

More Community Events...

On Saturday, April 16, 2005 the NAACP Garland Adult Branch and Youth Council will hold an Education Enrichment Workshop for middle school and high school students at Eastfield College, 2600 Motley Drive, Mesquite, TX. The workshop will be from 9:00 am-1:00 pm. To volunteer and for more information please call 972-381-5044 or 972-278-4621.

Thursday April 14 through April 16, 2005, the City of Mesquite will recognize youth in Mesquite for their service in the community. This event will be held in celebration of National Youth Service Day. Call 972-222-3198 for more information.

In celebration of National Poetry Month, the Allen Library, 300 N. Allen Dr., Allen, TX will hold an Open Mike Poetry Night from 7 pm to 9 pm on Friday, April 15, 2005. This year's theme is "Devour a Poem - Humor in Poetry." The open mike will be

held in the Library Gallery and Meeting Room. Adults and teens are invited to come out and share an original or published poem. There will be games, prizes and refreshments served. For information on this FREE event call 214-509-4905.

The Jackie Townsend African Dance & Drumming Clinic on Saturday, April 16, 2005. The clinic starts at 10:00 am. Children ages 8 years old to 18 years old receive "hands on" instructions in the art of African dance and drumming. They will be taught traditional dances and learn the African country of origin. Classes are each Saturday morning except on May 7 and May 28 2005 and runs from April 16 - June 18, 2005. The students will perform at the Irving Heritage Festival.

The clinics will be held in Suite 200 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd., Irving, TX 75062. The classes are \$5.00. For information call 972-252-ARTS. This music activity is being sponsored by the Irving Black Arts Council.

Congressional Democrats are Refusing to Pay the Dues to the Democratic Congressional Committee

The Hill Newspaper in Washington, D.C. reported on Monday that members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus are withholding their party membership dues until they receive assurances from House Democratic leaders that the party will make a concerted effort to engage Hispanic voters and better serve the needs of the Hispanic community.

The lawmakers said their decision was the culmination of several years of frustration with what they view as the Democratic Party's failure to reach out to Hispanics and include them in the decision-making process. They are also increasingly concerned by results at the ballot box and of post-election surveys showing that President Bush won 44 percent of the Hispanic vote.

Community Spotlight

Jerry Brooks Page 1

He says that he began working as an artist just by his talent, "My gift from God came when I was about



Malcolm, Martin, Stochley

seven years old. I studied some of the Masters, but I am mostly self-taught. Talent and determination is what I have discovered is the greatest asset of an Artist. I firmly believe that if you pursue your dreams, most often than not, you will succeed."

Pursing his dreams is

Art Festival and the Spring Art Festival in Plano, TX. I have acquired awards from such events known as the "Best of Show" award and was presented on the cover of the Purdue University school magazine."

When walking in to his home and seeing all of the beautiful paintings on the walls and tables one has to ask himself why is this talented "young" man not showing his work in Texas?

"I met Mr. Brooks back in December of 2004. I was in awe upon entering his home and seeing his work displayed throughout. My mentors were visiting town and asked me to please do what I could to help him get exposure. God's plan fell in place," says Tamara Mack, who saw something exceptional in Mr. Brooks work and made way for him to exhibit his show in the

Delaney Room of the McKinney Public Library this past February.

Mr. Brooks says that when looking back he was influenced by Norman Rockwell.

"Norman Rockwell, he taught me that people, not things, have the greatest influence on our lives. This is the reason I seldom do drawings or paintings void of people." Mr. Brooks' works are captivating, inspiring, historical, and enlightening. To see his work in person and up close takes you back in time,



Untitled

through the future, and back again. "My paintings—like the life



Quest

images they define must follow the process of creation. They are created to suffer the pain of birth, adapt to a hostile environment and create their own destiny."

Spoken like a true-Artist. For more information on Jerry Brooks' artwork log on to: www.igi-art.com.

Poetry Excerpt provided by Pauline Dawkins-Morgan

Re-Elect Randall Dunning

Garland City Council District 8
Election on May 7 - Early vote starts April 20 at City Hall



Vote for a FAMILY MAN
who knows what it takes to pass freedom on to the next generation.

Pol. Ad. Randall Dunning Campaign 257 Belwood Dr. 75040

Experienced in solving complex problems with difficult people, on impossible schedules and few \$\$.

Dedicated to defending the rights of those I represent. Government should serve the people, not oppress and control with a heavy hand.

In Touch with People

Randall & his wife are members of the NAACP. As a family they celebrate cultural diversity and participate in many ways.

(972) 495-9654 www.votedunning.org

Around The Town

Eyecare America urges seniors to call the Senior Eyecare Hotline: 1-800-222-EYES (3937). The help-line is intended to remind the senior community about the value of sight and the eye care program is available all year round. For more information log on to: www.eyecareamerica.org.

The African Chamber of Commerce DFW chapter hosts weekly business luncheons every Wednesday from Noon - 1 pm, featuring guest speakers, networking, technical assistance, etc. Location: The Farmers Market Resource Center, 1010 S. Pearl Street - Dallas, TX. For more information call 214-670-5880.

PIP Productions, distributors of the new multi-station show, The Valder Beebe Show, announces The Valder Beebe Show broadcast on "KXNY FM The Bridge Network" each Sunday, from 6 - 7 pm. City of Allen Teen Book Discussion Group meets the third Thursday of each month at the Allen Public Library, located at 301 Century Parkway. For more information, please call 972-727-0195. Collin County emergency preparedness hotline: 972-548-4114. You can also visit the web at www.cc.collln.tx.us.

Tenn Graffiti seeks good students who take school seriously. Who knows... you could be Tenn Graffiti's Scholar Student of the Year! For contest rules and more information visit www.tenngraffiti.com, call 972-496-9457 or email info@tenngraffiti.com.

Jobseekers
Job seekers can attend weekly

meetings held by TeamNetworking of Collin County. The non-profit group oversees several chapter group meetings from 11:30 am to 1 pm every Tuesday at Blue Mesa Grill, 8200 North Dallas Parkway in Plano. For more information, log on to the Plano Chamber web site at www.planochamber.org.

DISD is looking for qualified teacher applicants to begin employment in FALL 2005. If you are interested in becoming a teacher, job fairs will take place in April. Call 972-925-4238 for more details.

Dallas County Community College District is looking for potential part-time instructors who can share their expertise and resumes, plus their college transcripts, to the admissions lobby in Building C. Recruiters are seeking adjunct faculty who would be interested in teaching at one of the system's colleges. Persons interested in teaching college credit course part time must have a master's degree and have demonstrable teaching skills. For more information, call Paul Forte in the DCCCD office of human resources at 214-860-2158.

General Information
The Urban League of Garland Community Service Center offers financial assistance for utilities, rent and mortgages, for local residents. Other services offered include housing counseling focusing on reverse mortgages, default mortgages, and financial literature for first-time home buyers is available by appointment only. For more information, please contact 214-413-1739.

PEAK Leadership Development - Information Luncheon-PEAK
Leadership is an executive development program for corporate leaders and managers. Lunch is \$5 for individuals interested in an executive leadership development program. For more information contact Wm. Jan

Daehnert at 214-808-0849.

The Dance Academy of Pathway of Life Church is registering applicants! Classes are held every Saturday from 10:15 am - 2 pm. Children ages 4 to adults are welcome to learn ballet, jazz, modern, lyrical, hip-hop and musical theater. For more information contact Cylinda Chapman at 214-275-7284 ext. 117.

The work of artist Annie Lee, "Annie Lee: The Artist, Her Life, Her Work" will be exhibited at James E. Kemp Gallery at The Black Academy of Arts and Letters (TBAAL) January 16 - May 14. The artwork may be viewed Tuesday - Friday, 10:00 am - 6:00 pm and Saturday, Noon - 4:00 pm.

Girls, Inc. (Dallas) will be taking their participant's West Africa in June 2005 for the Rites of Passage. The cost of the trip for each individual is \$3500.00. The group is in need of extra volunteers and funds. If you are interested in supporting the organization it will greatly appreciated. Contact Emma Rodgers, Co-Owner of Black Images Book Bazaar at 214-943-0142 or by email at eurodgers@aol.com.

The National Society of Black Marathoners' Association is pleased to present the NBMA Scholarship Program. This program will provide awards to two students for the 2005/2006 academic year. To be considered for these scholarships, students must complete an application demonstrating that all eligibility requirements are met. For more information contact the NBMA at 972-307-8731 or scholarship@blackmarathoners.org.

Teens Reaching Teens, Inc. is sponsoring an amateur poetry contest. Prizes will be in full effect at the Angelika Film Center in Dallas, TX at 5321 E. Mockingbird Lane at Central Expressway (DNE Corner). A complete schedule of all festival events may be

send one poem 21 lines or less: "My Own Words" Poetry Contest, P.O. Box 45271, Garland, TX 75045, you may also email your entry to info@teensreachingteens.org.

Women Empowerment Meetings and IESP Life Skills Training (Supporting Others Through Mentoring) are two programs that provide life transforming, intellectual, emotional, spiritual and physical life skills training to the community. Meetings are held at 423 W. Wheatland Rd., Suite 101, Duncanville, Texas 75116. For more information call the SOTM office at 972-709-1180.

April 15-16, 2005

Stephanie Ward Gallery Presents: Eduardo Lazo, who will be displaying his new series of originals on canvas during his annual show. Join in on the food and live jazz as the gallery celebrates contemporary abstracts and originals. Location is at 2546 Elm Street, Dallas, TX 75222. For more information contact the gallery at 214-752-5588.

April 15-18, 2005

KRNB "Old School" 105.7, Dallas Fort Worth's Station for Old School, will be giving away free gas. The secret location will be announced promptly at 7:20 am daily. Join 105.7 personalities to fill up your tank.

April 16, 2005

The Garland NAACP will be hosting an education enrichment workshop for middle and high school students, at Eastfield College, 2600 Motley Drive, Mesquite TX. Times are from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. To volunteer, please call 972-381-5044 or 972-278-4621.

April 21-28

The 35th Annual USA Film Festival will be in full effect at the Angelika Film Center in Dallas, TX at 5321 E. Mockingbird Lane at Central Expressway (DNE Corner). A complete schedule of all festival events may be

obtained by calling the festival office at 214-821-FILM.

April 22, 2005

NTheknow.com invites you out to attend... DFW's largest networking event at the Charles W. Eisemann Center. "Bringing Out The Millionaire in You" 2005 motivational series, featuring Les Brown & Company. Location of the event will be at 2351 Performance Drive, in Richardson, TX 75082 from 5 pm - 11 pm. Log onto www.ntheknow.com or www.eisemanncenter.com to purchase tickets.

April 22-24, 2005

Flower Mound Writer/Illustrator, Robert James Luedke, will be attending the ArborDaze Festival in Euless. Mr. Luedke will be meeting the public and signing copies of his nationally acclaimed Christian-themed graphic novel, EyeWitness: A Fictional Tale of Absolute Truth. The ArborDaze Festival is an annual event that features local artists, craftsmen, musicians, a carnival and national music acts. For more information visit: http://www.ci.euless.tx.us/arbordaze/default.htm.

April 23, 2005

Denton County Branch NAACP's 25th Silver Anniversary Freedom Fund Banquet: "The Struggle Continues: There is a Silver Lining." The keynote speaker for the evening will be Drew Pearson, former Dallas Cowboy and author of "Hail Mary." Joe Traban of Channel 8 Weekend Sports Anchor will be the toastmaster. For more information on tickets contact Elibu Gillespie at 972-347-1884 or gforce@igima.com.

"Putting It On Paper: A Teen Writing Seminar" is a fun-filled, activity-filled, interactive seminar that will be held from 9:00 am to 3:45 pm at the Center for Community Cooperation, 2900 Live Oak, Dallas, TX. The low cost seminar of \$49.00

guarantees a work manual, writing materials, breakfast, and lunch. To register please visit: www.dentoncc.com or call 972-496-9457.

April 24, 2005

Sunday Jazz Groove at Arbor Daze presented by Club Oasis. The concert is FREE, but you must have a ticket to get in. Concert gates open at 1 pm and the festival begins at 10 am - 7 pm. Location: Arbor Daze is located at Highway 183 and Highway 360 in Euless. Paid reserved seating is available by calling the City of Euless at 817-685-1666.

April 28, 2005

Spend an intimate evening with hip-hop diva Eryka Badu at Bus Hall. Badu a four time Grammy award winner and Dallas native will perform in Fort Worth from the first time in seven years. Event time begins at 8 pm at 4th and Calhoun Streets in Downtown Ft. Worth. For further information call the box office at 817-212-4280 or 1-877-212-4280.

Support Groups

"Healing Matters" Grief Support Group meets the fourth Monday of every month at 7:30 pm at Medical Center of Plano classrooms. This is a pregnancy loss support group for anyone who has lost a baby to miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, stillbirth, newborn death or SIDS. There is also a share group for those pregnant again following a loss. For more information, call 972-519-1588.

DivorceCare meets at 7 pm each Tuesday at Fellowship Bible Church: North, 850 Lexington, Plano. Call Bob Hornstein at 972-783-8800.

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THE TRUTH CLINIC

The Continuing Pathetic State Of Black America

By: James W. Breddow

The National Urban League released its annual report on the State of Black America last week and while Blacks have made significant gains in many areas the overall well being of African Americans compared to that of Whites is not improving and in some areas is worse than reported last year.

The report published annually since 1976 is intended to provide a snapshot of the Black condition in America. It uses an "Equality Index" to measure the disparity between Blacks and Whites in economics, housing, education, health, social justice and civic participation. While the overall index is at 73 percent, imbedded factors such as unemployment, income, wealth and home ownership paint a bleak picture.

After a decade where Blacks began to see drops in the unemployment rate and gains in income, the post-9/11 recession has resulted in economic stagnation. Recent unemployment statistics show an unemployment rate for Whites of 4.7 percent while for Blacks it was more than twice that at 10.8 percent.

Blacks seem to be stuck in the pre-civil rights era when home ownership statistics are analyzed. The Black home ownership wealth deficient rate of 48 percent compared to the White rate of 74 percent. Sixty years after the civil rights movement got underway and still no signs of significant progress relative to the White majority.

In the area of health care, Blacks are twice as likely to die from disease, accident, behavior and homicide than Whites. Physicians are less

likely to perform the high tech diagnostics, transplants or prescribe appropriate medical treatment for Blacks as they do for Whites.

At the current rate of economic progress the Equality Index will never reach parity. Family Income shows a reverse trend and the poverty rate of progress indicates that it will take 169 years for the triple level poverty burden that Blacks currently carry to drop to the poverty level of Whites. Can Blacks afford to wait for eight generations?

Blacks hold an insignificant share of the wealth of this country. White family average financial net worth is about 10 times that of the average Black family. At the rate of change indicated by the trend line over the last 100 years it would take about five centuries for Blacks to catch up to Whites. Perhaps, since Blacks waited 250 years to get to this point on the Equality Index another 500 years won't matter.

The report paints a similar disparity picture in other areas such as politics and education. Except for minor variations in the numerical percentages only the date of the report changes. Blacks as a group continue to ride in the nation's economic caboose, with only a chosen few getting to ride up front.

But the strange thing about having these reports and the supporting statistics issued for the past 28 years, detailing the sorry state of Black America, is that Blacks do not appear to have been galvanized into a high state of action.

It seems that Blacks are content to have scholars, public-policy experts, legislatures and activists periodically issue reports, hold panel discussions, make resolutions, and urge the government to fund more

programs.

The National Urban League is even calling on Congress to assemble a bipartisan commission to examine economic equality and racial disparity in America. This idea was backed by Rep. Mel Watt, (D-NC), the chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Another study? Is the National Urban League's president, Marc H. Morial, suggesting that the many State of Black America reports that are based on research from all the available government data is flawed and cannot be used as the basis to fashion remedies for the Black problems listed in the reports? What purpose then are the reports published each year?

When are Black leaders going to roll up their collective sleeves, develop a plan of action, allocate resources from the Black \$700 billion dollar economy, and coordinate implementation of Black initiated solutions to the problems that are burdening the Black community?

It is fitting and proper to assign some responsibility to the government for assisting with solutions. However, it should be crystal clear that the White majority's priorities do not include developing programs or providing resources that mitigate the factors that make up the Urban League's Equality Index. Their rhetoric says one thing but the truth is revealed when looking at the fiscal year 2006 federal budget.

Cuts in education, housing, job training, childcare, energy assistance, and health care for the poor--areas that disproportionately impact Blacks--say that ultimately Blacks must look out for themselves.

Email Comments to: Politics@MonTheGazette.com



Pastor Stephen Nash

IMA Opposes Blackwood Proposal

politics! Say NO to taking away the voice of people of color in Dallas! Again, VOTE NO!

"We strongly oppose the Blackwood Charter Amendment, which will appear on the ballot as Proposition #1 on the May 7th City of Dallas election," IMA President Stephen C. Nash, PhD, said at a press conference Thursday, April 7 in South Dallas.

"A city divided cannot stand and will not stand for a form of government where people have no voice and cannot be heard. We do not need 'Lame Duck' representation from council members around the horseshoe who are prevented from giving genuine representation to their district constituencies!"

Black clergy say that even the math is wrong with the Blackwood petition, noting the disparity between the relative small numbers of signatures required to change the entire City of Dallas governance versus the very large number of signatures required for a citywide recall.

"Something is seriously wrong with this picture," Rev. Nash pointed out.

"The math is funny and smells bad, while this vicious move to disenfranchise people of color is definitely NOT FUNNY! Do the math: 64 thousand voter signatures were needed statewide to get Ralph Nader on the 2004 Presidential Ballot; only 20 thousand voter signatures were

needed to get Blackwood on the ballot; but more than 74 thousand voter signatures were required to recall Dallas' top elected official."

"It is sad that we find ourselves in a war we did not declare but we must fight!" I humbly pray that God will guide our steps and bless us with the strength to be vigilant in defeating the Blackwood Proposal and any other effort to set Dallas backward. People of color gave their lives for the right to vote and now we must give more courage and commitment to our people to vote down Blackwood to protect those rights. Dallas does not need a dictatorial leadership; we need an empowered city council that is the voice of the people. How ironic to go across the waters to fight for Democracy in Iraq, while we set the stage for dismantling Democracy in Dallas, Texas. Down with Blackwood! Up with 14-11! VOTE NOT C O N C E R N I N G P R O P O S I T I O N # 1 O N M A Y 7 T H !

Editor's Note: The Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Dallas was founded as the dawn of the Civil Rights Movement to provide a shield for Black folk in Dallas in their struggle to effectively fight Jim Crow, segregation and public lynchings. As a human rights organization, the IMA has served as an organizing entity and umbrella human rights advocacy clearinghouse for the people of color for some 70 years and more. We stand committed to honor our heritage as we continue to fight for the rights of our people!

Assistant City Manager Announces Retirement

Garland - Assistant City Manager Ronald E. Jones, Sr. announced his retirement at the end of March after 28 years serving the City of Garland, TX.

"The City of Garland has been a wonderful place to work and serve, and I have been given opportunities to develop my talents," says Mr. Jones. "The friendships and professional relationships that I have established will be part of the precious memories that I will always cherish."

City Manager Bill Dollar says Mr. Jones' unique gifts have served the City well and will have a lasting impact. "Ron has worked hard to serve the needs of our citizens. He has combined compassion and understanding with sound judgment and practicality to make decisions that have made the City a better place."

Mr. Jones began his City of Garland career in 1974, in the Neighborhood Service Center, which at that time was an agency sponsored by the City, the Chamber of Commerce and the US Department of Housing and

Urban Development (HUD). He became director of Neighborhood Services when the Center became an official City Department. In 1992, Mr. Jones was named Managing Director of Customer Service, Municipal Court, Tax, Purchasing and Warehouse



Services. He was named Assistant City Manager in 1999. He also has a background as an educator, a business professional and an artist. Mr. Jones is also affiliated

with the International City Management Association, the Texas City Management Association, and the National Forum for Black Public Administrators. His civic involvement includes the Kiwanis Club of Garland, Garland Civic Theater, and Garland Summer Musicals.

Mr. Jones' official retirement will begin at the end of May. He plans to continue to participate in some public service opportunities, and resume his role as an adjunct professor at one of the community colleges. As a Professional Clinical Manager of the National Christian Counselors Association, he plans to continue leading the counseling ministry at his church. He will also spend more time pursuing one of his more creative hobbies, drawing. He says he wants to make portraits of his grandchildren.

However, Mr. Jones says his number one priority upon retirement is to fulfill a request of his wife...clean the garage.

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MON-The Gazette assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material and reserves the right to edit and make appropriate revisions.

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!

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

Visit Our Website At www.MONTheGazette.com



Cheryl and Oprah...True Givers

By: Kymberly Keeton

Cheryl Jackson is a woman who is on a mission to make a better way for the community to come together by providing services that will enable one to advance in life. She says of the organization that was created ten years ago, The Truth Ministry, "The purpose is to help women and families who are in need of food, clothing, employment, and to provide a service to the community."

Based in Plano, The Truth Ministry was originally started by Ms. Jackson's late grandmother, Minnie Hawthorne. Speaking of her grandmother and the legacy that she created she goes on to say, "It uplifts my spirit being able to dedicate your life to others and receive gifts that money can't buy in return... my grandmother started that legacy."

In continuing in the spirit of giving, Ms. Jackson bought four tickets to sell for her charity that



Publicist Cheryl Jackson with tickets to the 2005 "Live Your Best Life" tour to be auctioned on eBay.

Convention Center on May 21, 2005. She sees buying and selling the tickets as a way to provide adequate shelter, clothing, and food for needy families.

Jackson, who says she's Ms. Winfrey's No. 1 Fan, is auctioning off the tickets on eBay. The Plano woman paid \$185 each for her tickets. "I've seen people pay \$2,000 for them," Ms. Jackson said. "If people are going to pay crazy money for these tickets, it might as well be for a good cause, right?"

Indeed Ms. Jackson is right, in that she is trying to make a strong difference in North Texas and by using Oprah Winfrey as a mentor and guide in helping people. "[Oprah] manufactures smiles everywhere and I want to be found guilty of doing this everywhere as well."

Spoken like a true-giver.

Blackonomics Page 1

waiting. (Where is Harold Cruse when we need him most?)

Here's what we know. Black families have been all but destroyed; Black children are being mis-educated and taught to grow up and work for the children of those who are teaching them; Black people have the highest infant mortality rate; Black women have the highest increase in HIV/AIDS; Black men are the least employed; Black men - and women - occupy most of the prison cells in this country; Black people have the lowest home ownership rate in this country and the worst housing; Black people have the fewest businesses per capita; Black families' median net worth is ten times lower than white families; Black politicians have no real "power" in government; Black businesses have the lowest annual revenues; and Black people top the list of victims of police brutality.

What else do we know? Black people attend church services more than other groups; Black congregations build multi-million dollar edifices; Black people rank among the highest consumers of travel and tourism; Black people spend billions to attend music festivals, football games, and conventions; Black people earn more than \$750 billion per year; Black people have accumulated trillions of dollars in intellectual resources; Black people have risen to the highest heights in corporate America; Black people earn billions in entertainment and athletics; Black people have thousands of elected officials and comprise a huge voting bloc; Black people are survivors, and have been since we were brought to this country; Black people have a heritage of community, entrepreneurship, and self-help; Black people, throughout recent history, have shown what we can do when we work together in support of one another.

That's the state of our union.

Now, what is the fate of the Black Union? Despite the tremendous resources and talents we have been blessed to accumulate, Black folks are busy squandering them at a mind-boggling rate. Some Black business executives get to the top and all of a sudden forget about the rest of us; some Black politicians get elected and instantly become invisible when it comes to Black issues; some Black entertainers and athletes are so busy seeking the approval of others that they forget about their own; some Black ministers are more interested in stadium-sized church buildings than they are in helping those who sit in those buildings every week; and some of our Black intellectuals are content with giving speeches rather than writing strategies to help Black people move forward.

The fate of the Black Union ominously awaits us. It is paradoxical that we have so much and yet do so little with it. Many of our leaders are enconced in vying to see who is the most in-po-tent, I mean important, and have no time to serve anyone but themselves - and their former masters, of course. Many of our "everyday people" are so busy racing the

rats and spending what we have on "nonsense," as Maria Stewart said. We complain about other folks' businesses being in our neighborhoods, but we don't start our own businesses, and we refuse to make the sacrifices necessary to enhance our feeble economic position.

The State of the Black Union is in our minds; the Fate of the Black Union is in our hands.

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 Blackonomics: Knowledge-Stuff. To book Clingman for a speech or purchase his books, go to his Web site, www.blackonomics.com. He can be contacted by telephone at 513-489-4132.

Hill Chapel C.M.E. to feature the Dallas Police Choir

Rev. James E. Larry and the entire Hill Chapel C.M.E. Church invite you to join them for the Sixth Annual Scholarship & Outreach Banquet on Friday, April 29, 2005. This special affair will be held in Plano at Mount

Olive Church located at 740 Avenue 5, Suite 303. The program and banquet dinner will begin at 7 pm and the Dallas Police Choir will be the featured entertainment. Tickets are \$40.00 per person and \$320 per table. The dress

for the evening is business attire. For additional information and to purchase tickets contact Hill Chapel C.M.E. Church at 972-423-4090 or contact the event committee chair at 972-596-2667.

National Black Church leaders say GOP is new "political home"

The New York Times reported Monday that a number of conservative black ministers say they have finally found a political home in the Republican Party.

The Rev. O'Neal Dozier, pastor of the Worldwide Christian Church Center in Pompano Beach, Fla., said that for years he had

struggled to organize a local ecumenical group of ministers concerned about issues like abortion and same-sex marriage. Now, attendance at these meetings has risen considerably, and Mr. Dozier expects 200 ministers, black and white, at the next gathering in April. "I don't think the old guard is that strong now. We're in

south Florida and south Florida is heavily Democratic, yet the pastors I see are beginning to change, and as a result of them changing, it is going to change their flock," said Mr. Dozier, who also attended the January meeting with Mr. Bush. "Every social change has to start from the pulpit."

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Motivational Series on Wealth Creation Coming to the Eisemann

N T h e N o w . c o m presents "Bringing Out The Millionaire In You" motivational speeches for Fortune 500 companies and organizations. In

Motivational Series, featuring Les Brown & Company on Friday, April 22, 2005 at the Eisemann Center in the Hill Performance Hall, 2351 Performance Drive, Richardson, TX 75082. This power packed event will take place from 5:00 pm - 11:30 pm.

World renowned motivational speaker Les Brown, Johnny

Wimbrey, Chip Cummings, Kevin Bracy, Patrick Alcorna, John Garcia, and Shirley Davis will present a series of talks on the subject of wealth creation.

Les Brown is one of the nation's leading authorities in understanding and stimulating human potential. Utilizing powerful delivery and newly emerging insights Les' customized presentation teaches, inspires, and channels audiences to new levels of achievement.

Today Les Brown conducts seminars and Les Brown & Company



will share their experiences and provide tips on how you can become a millionaire between 7:30 pm and 9:30 pm. Topics to be discussed include: How to excel as an entrepreneur in 2005; Stop selling & start listening; Marketing strategies for the top products; Creating passion for your dreams; Increase your network to increase your net worth and many more.

During the evening there will also be a FREE Business Vendor Expo from 5:00 pm - 10 pm. Over 50 vendors will be participating.

Immediately following the motivational series, there will be a special VIP

Reception from 9:30 pm to 11:00 pm for individuals holding VIP tickets.

Event sponsor MON-The Gazette along with the other event sponsors invite you to attend what will be the largest networking event in the D/FW Metroplex.

Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased online at ntheknow.com or www.eisemanncenter.com. Tickets range from \$20 (Balcony) to \$75 (VIP Seating/Reception).

You can also call the ticket office at the Eisemann Center directly at 972-774-4650. A portion of the proceeds to benefit Urban Theater Incorporated 501(c)3.

2005 Tri-Chamber Mixer

You are cordially invited to the 2005 Tri-Chamber Mixer presented by the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce, Greater Dallas Asian American Chamber of Commerce, and Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. The mixer will be held on Tuesday, April 26, 2005 from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm at The Pavilion at Belo Mansion, 2101 Ross Avenue at Olive Street, Dallas, TX.

The 2005 Tri-Chamber Mixer will also include a demonstration of People Meter technology from event sponsor Nielsen Media Research.

The first Chamber to have 100 members arrive at the mixer will receive a \$2000

prize for their Chamber. You must be present to be counted in this friendly competition among the chambers! A limited number of exhibit spaces are available at the event for chamber members. Please contact your chamber to purchase exhibit space.

Complimentary hors d'oeuvres will be served and there will be a cash bar. Business attire is required. Bring business cards!

Parking is available for \$6/car. The garage entrance is on Olive Street.

RSVP by Friday, April 22, 2005 by calling 214-661-7772.

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Plano was well represented, the Eagle Scouts from Boy Scout Troop 261, did the Posting of Colors. Notable individuals there were: The Honorable James Muns, Former Mayor of Plano, who had remarks for Governor Shapiro. Fred Moses, Board Member of **MON-The Gazette** and wife, Mазzie; and LaCrisla "Cris" Gilbert, President of the Conner Harrington Republican Club of Plano and the ADR

There were performances by The University of Texas Longhorn Band; the Dallas Police Choir, Lucy Barnett was the Director; the Abilene Christian University; Rebecca Barnett; sang our

The Ceremony Program was followed by a receiving line for the Governor and a luncheon and entertainment on the Capitol grounds.

"This is especially shocking at the Department of Justice, where you expect the highest caliber of legal representation, that they would have two lawyers assigned to the same case that aren't licensed," Arienne Callender, author of the Environmental Working Group (EWG) report *Obstruction of Justice: USDA Undermines Historic Civil Rights Settlement with Black Farmers* said. "Did they just not pay attention to the quality of lawyers being assigned to this case? Did these farmers get second class treatment? It sure seems like it."

In a letter to Congressman Steve Chabot (R-OH), EWG writes, "...I request that you conduct a thorough investigation into the potentially illegal actions of these two DOJ employees, and that you take legislative action to ensure that the farmers affected by their actions have an opportunity for their cases to be reconsidered by the settlement's Monitor."

Boyd, who has been at the forefront of fight for farmers' rights, feels that now is the time for Congress to intervene. According to him, the issues of Black farmers have to become the issues of America.

"There hasn't been enough national attention on this subject. Everyone that has looked at the case can't believe what's happening, but there hasn't been a real fix and that's what I'm after," he said. "I hope after all of this Congress steps up and makes a move. If they can step up and say put Terry Schiavo's tube back in at 2 in the morning, I know they can make calls and do something for these Black farmers."

**AIMADIYYA
MUSLIM COMMUNITY
(BAIT-UL-IKRAAM MOSQUE)**
April 17, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

The public is cordially invited to an Interfaith Conference, featuring speakers from various faiths including Islam, Christianity, Judaism, Sikhism, Hinduism, and Buddhism. Each will present their views on the topic "Concept of God."

For more information, please call
912-727-1522.

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**BEAR CREEK
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April 24, 7:00 pm
Come and experience "The Trial of
Jesus," directed and produced by Pastor
Dennis Webb and members of the
church.
For detail information, please call the
church at 972-313-9815.

Bear Creek Community Church
Rev. Dennis Webb Sr., Pastor
4821 Coulbass Road
Irving, TX 75061
972-311-9815

**CAMP WISDOM UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
April 13 - 15, 7:00 pm
Spring Revival, our guest Evangelist will be
the Rev. Steve Hland, Jr. Senior Pastor of
Liberty Temple Baptist Church in Detroit,
MI. Come and feel the presence of the Lord
in this revival!

April 23 - 24, 2005
We will celebrate the legacy of women of faith by presenting "Women of Color in Covenant with God," A Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, at the Thormore Country Club in Dakota featuring Dr. Sharon C. Patterson, Senior Pastor of the Paul UMC in Dallas at 10:00 am. Our guest speaker for Sunday Morning Worship, 10:30 am will be Rev Rochelle L. C. in Arlington, Pastor, St. Andrew's UMC in Dallas, and a special "Women's Day Service," 4:00 pm featuring Rev Sonja Dickerson, Co-Pastor of Davenport Family Church, in Irving. The public is invited to come.
For more information, call 972-234-8556.

Camp Wisdom UMC
Rev. L. Charles Stevalls, Senior Pastor
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214-421-9455 where Rev. Donald Parish is
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Come or call to find out how to get involved.
For more information, please call Carolyn
Johnson @ 972-235-6433.

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**COMMUNITY OUTREACH
MINISTRY**
April 30, 6:30 pm
Our 15th Church Homecoming and Anniversary Banquet will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel, DFW, 4650 West Airport Freeway, Irving, TX 75062. Chief Guest Dr. Lloyd Benson, Sr. will be our Keynote Speaker and Pastor Darin E. Floyd, Sr. will be our Toastmaster. The public is invited to join us for a Holy Spirit joyful time.
For details and to register, please call

972-986-5552
May 1, 2005
You are welcome and encouraged to join us in our 15th Church Homecoming and Anniversary Sunday Morning Service at the church. We will be looking for you!

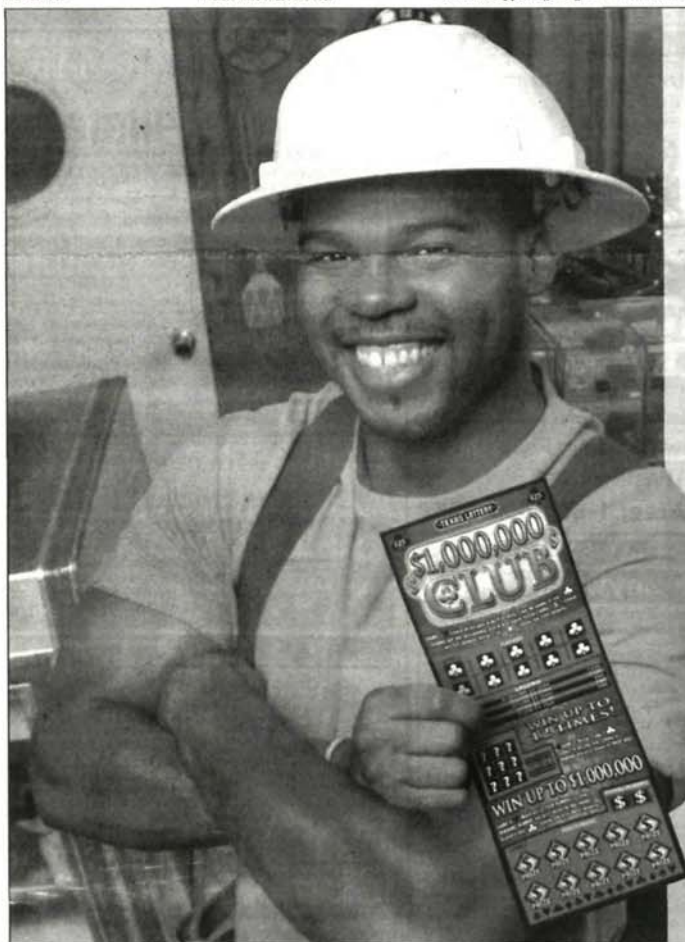
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972-986-5552

**COMMUNITY UNITARIAN
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Wednesday evening class on "Spiritual
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teach the class. The public is welcome.
On-Going

Hope Preschool, ages 2-5 has begun pre-registration for 2005. Call the church office on Tuesday through Thursday @ 972-424-8989.

For more information on the above classes, please call the church office @ 972-424-8989

Community UU Church
Rev. Priscilla Richter, Minister
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Minority Opportunity News - The Gazette • April 14 - April 20, 2005 • Page 7

NAACP leaders Julian Bond and Dennis Courtland Hayes said Bush should focus on addressing the underlying health care reasons why blacks have a shorter life expectancy instead of citing it as a reason they should support his idea of private accounts.

Under Bush's proposal, money diverted by Social Security taxes into personal retirement accounts could be passed along as an inheritance. Under the current system, relatives of people who die before retiring sometimes do not receive Social Security benefits.

"Rather than playing the race card to set Americans against Americans, we urge the administration to address the long-term problems the system faces now," said Bond, the NAACP's chairman. "Recognizing the shorter life expectancy of people of color is commendable, but placing them further at risk is no solution."

Government statistics show that the average life span for a newborn black male is 69, compared with 75 for a newborn white male. Critics of Bush's plan say black mortality figures are skewed by higher death rates among infants and a higher exposure to violent crime. They cite statistics showing that by the common retirement age of 65, life expectancy for black males becomes 79.6 years, compared with 81.6 years for white males.

For months, Bush and Republican aides have promoted a controversial plan to create individual accounts out of the nation's Social Security system. Bush proposes a structure that would allow Americans younger than 55 to invest a portion of their payroll taxes into individual retirement accounts, stocks and bonds.

Bush administration officials say the restructured Social Security program would require workers to accept smaller monthly checks from the Social Security Administration, but upon retirement, workers would collect the savings and investments from their personal accounts.

Democrats and black economists have criticized Bush's proposal, saying individual accounts would increase budget deficits and a fluctuating economy could further jeopardize retirement options for seniors who have relied on Social Security benefits for the

past 70 years.

Rep. Elijah E. Cummings (D-MD) told BlackAmericaWeb.com Monday the more black Americans hear from Democrats about Social Security, the less they like Bush's proposal.

"When I move from town hall meeting to town hall meeting, Cummings said, 'lots of people tell me the president's plan just doesn't smell right, but they don't know why. Tell them why.'"

Cummings attended a press conference on Capitol Hill Monday with NAACP leaders to support their efforts.

"The Congressional Black Caucus welcomes this kind of [NAACP] activity," he said. "[The CBC has] had more than 100 town hall meetings on Social Security in two months; I've had 10 myself. We want to get accurate information out to people."

Last week, the National Urban League released its annual State of Black America report and concluded that 40 years after landmark civil rights legislation was enacted, economic and social progress for black Americans remains stagnant or is worsening. The median wealth for blacks, according to the report, is 10 times less than it is for whites. Black unemployment remains twice as high as whites, with black unemployment holding steady at 10.8%, while white unemployment decreased to 4.7%.

Cummings said while it is important to address Bush's Social Security plan, black organizations must also find ways to work closer together to help reduce a range of racial disparities that impact black Americans.

"I've always believed that when you're in a situation where you have a difficult problem, and you don't have all the resources you need, we have to move more toward coalitions and organizations with a common mission and common concerns," Cummings said. "It makes sense to work together, and I think you're going to see more organizations working together."

Shelton agreed with Cummings, adding that the NAACP is already working in partnership with the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation and other organizations to confront racial disparities. The NAACP has also formed a three-year, \$1 million partnership with Pfizer Inc. to reduce health disparities and help blacks live healthier and longer. Events for the NAACP's new campaign will begin in Los

Angeles, New York, Detroit, Columbia, Mo., Atlanta, Dallas and Washington, D.C. Each will consist of panelists and speakers representing NAACP youth chapters, branch offices, AARP members and congressional representatives.

"Many African-American and other minority youth depend on Social Security survivor benefits to help offset the cost of college," said NAACP National Director of Youth and College Brandon Neal in a statement. "So our youth need to understand how changes to the system could affect them."

"We applaud the fact that the NAACP has joined the growing list of national leadership organizations opposed to private accounts taken out of Social Security," AARP Chief Diversity Officer Ron I. Grand added in an official statement in support of the campaign. "We are pleased to see they believe it is time to begin a serious debate on strengthening Social Security."

The NAACP's efforts come several months after Ken Mehlman, chairman of the Republican National Committee, has embarked on a campaign of his own. He has traveled to a number of black communities speaking about Bush's Social Security plan.

Mehlman has aggressively taken his GOP message of racial inclusion to black organizations and to young people. Last month, he spoke to students at Howard University in Washington, D.C. Some Democrats are warning that some blacks are embracing Mehlman's ideology. The Howard University event, for example, was sponsored by a student group called Howard University College Republicans.

"It gives Howard University [attendees] another political outlook," Brandon Brice, chairman for Howard University College Republicans, told BlackAmericaWeb.com after Mehlman's speech. "It gives people a choice."

that include Brookhaven College, Cedar Valley College, Eastfield College, El Centro, Northlake College, Richland College, Mountain View College, or the Bill J. Priest Institute for Economic Development.

Students who are eligible for college but are not financially able to attend college benefit a great deal from the Rising Star Program. The scholarship initiatives through DCCCD helps to eliminate financial need as a barrier to higher education in Dallas County. The program promises the young people of Dallas County that if they stay in high school, graduate, demonstrate a modest level of academic potential, and have specific financial need, the Foundation will guarantee them the opportunity to earn a two-year college education.

To help students complete their two-year education, the Rising Star Program provides academic support services through Rising Star Advisors and up to \$4,000 for tuition and books throughout an education at a Dallas County Community College.

Shirley Higgs, Director of the Rising Star Program at Mountain View College believes that the Rising Star Program has truly helped those who want to attend college.

"The program is designed to help those who want to do college but don't have the background to complete the process," said Higgs.

According to Higgs the admissions process sometimes intimidates first generation students trying to attend college. Admissions tell them that they need certain documents for enrollment and they never come back.

"A lot of the students are in situations where the father is incarcerated, the grandmother is raising the child and it makes for a difficult situation especially when trying to attend college," said Higgs.

Higgs says that the program changes students. They start the program and at the end of two years

they are more confident students.

"The program has impacted the kids' lives and dreams of a college education without having to deal with the money factor," said Greely. "Money should never stop a kid from going to college."

Donna Crenshaw, Rising Star Coordinator at Richland College says that the program has produced good students in the classroom and that she is always receiving comments from teachers on Richland's campus about how they love Rising Star students.

On the campus of Brookhaven College, Rising Star Coordinator Vince Wagner believes that the students benefit greatly from the program.

"The Rising Star Program mainly benefits the students and through the students growth from being in the program the school benefits," said Wagner.

Wagner says that the Rising Star Program is different on each campus since each school is unique.

"We all work with the Rising Star Program that comes from the district, but once the program is at the school each one is a little different," said Wagner.

Over two thousand students currently participate in the Rising Star Programs throughout the DCCCD. The students have three

years to complete the program.

Richland College student Rynn Howard, who graduated from Lake Highlands High School in Dallas, has been in the Rising Star Program for two years.

"The program has really helped me pay for summer and winter term classes," said Howard.

Howard says that she plans to attend a four-year college after graduation from Richland and is thinking about becoming a doctor some day.

"The Rising Star Program ultimately benefits the Dallas community," said Greely. Kids coming out of high school and community college are better prepared."

Currently, DCCCD is trying to get an agreement with neighboring colleges (Texas Women's University and The University of North Texas - Dallas Campus) to take Rising Star students and help them complete their college experience.

The program, which offers two transfer scholarships (Complete the Dream and Dreams Come True) for students wanting to move on to a four-year college, has gotten national attention. A lot of colleges already know about the Rising Star students.

Career Opportunities

Contact Marketing to advertise in our career opportunities section 972-369-9019 Fax or Email copy for quote Fax: 972-369-9019 Email: opportunities@montgazzette.com

INVITATION TO BID

EAGLE CONTRACTING L.P.

an Equal Opportunity Employer, is soliciting Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprises for Subcontract and Material Supply Bids for the following project:

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Bachman Water Treatment Plant
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Dave Mullenix
Metro: 817-379-1897 • Fax, Metro: 817-379-0610

Mail to:

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Community Newspaper seeks Part Time Writer to cover Government Relations events (e.g. School District and City Council Meetings). Must be familiar with AP style. Bilingual English/Spanish a Plus.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

The Word 100.7 FM located in Irving TX is looking for a Production Assistant to work 30 hours per week for in Production Department. Candidate should be able to handle daily spot production and editing with quick turnaround, run live satellite programs and board operation for 2 stations, possible evening fill-in news anchor, available to work evenings and be extremely detail oriented.

Benefits package includes medical, dental, vision, life insurance, 401(k), paid vacation and sick leave. Please fax cover letter and resume to David Darling, Operations Manager at 214-561-9662 or email to ddarling@ksky.com

NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE!

The Word 100.7 FM is a subsidiary of Salem Communications, an equal opportunity employer.

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ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

News Talk 660 KSKY-AM is looking for a full-time Account Executive with outside sales experience. Candidate should have an understanding of news talk format and be ready to hit the ground running. Previous news talk radio sales experience a plus. 2 years sales experience required.

Please fax a letter along with a brief resume to Bob Johnson, Sales Manager at 214-561-9662 or email to bjohnson@ksky.com. No phone calls please.

News Talk 660 KSKY-AM is a subsidiary of Salem Communications, an equal opportunity employer.

FT ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

KWRD-FM is looking for candidates who have been successful in outside sales. A commitment to the programming and the mission of KWRD is critical. Previous radio sales experience is not necessary.

If you're interested in this position with KWRD-FM, Please fax an introduction letter along with a resume to Easy Exel at 214-561-9662.

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Applications required. Applications available on www.tarrantcounty.com or issued/accepted M-F 7:00 a - 4:45 p. If outside Tarrant County, call (817) 884-1188 to request & listen to the Job Line for details on these & other position openings. Tarrant County Human Resources, 100 E. Weatherford, Ste#301, FW, TX 76196-0105. EOE/AA.



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Church News

Bitter Roots



Sister Tarpley

(KJV). How can you know the difference between a properly controlled anger and a destructive anger? You can easily check yourself for bitterness in two ways: 1) Listen to yourself. When you speak, do you make sarcastic, cutting, or heated remarks about the person toward whom you have a "strong feeling of displeasure?" Whenever his or her name is mentioned, do you have something negative to say? As God

are displeased with a person, you seek to stay out of their company. Please do not forget how you look at a person that you are displeased with. I have often heard, "Oh, if looks could kill..." You may be priding yourself on the restraint you have shown in not attacking openly, but no matter how you may try to hide it, unresolved anger shows.

Give yourself the bitterness test today. If you pass, great! To God be the glory. If not, you have a choice to make. God says you can pull up those bitter roots. Get rid of them and move on. Ask God to help you make the right choice.

Good things to consider: 1) We get our moral bearings by looking at God, and only Him. We must begin with God. We are right when, and only when, we stand in a right position relative to God, and we are wrong so far and so long as we stand in any other position—A. W. Tozer. 2) If a window of opportunity appears, even the opportunity to forgive, don't pull down the shade—Tim Peters.

3) We weave in time, we will wear in eternity—Sparks. 4) How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday you will have been all of these—George Washington Carver.

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

Let MON-The Gazette help your church accomplish the Prayer of John, "Enlarge our 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."



Picture of The Week
Sister Tarpley with Rev. C.A.W. Clark, Pastor of Good Street Baptist Church, in Dallas; he is the only living African American in Dallas with a Post Office named for him in Oak Cliff.

has been showing me this truth in my own life, I have identified some anger I have to deal with. Speech is the first-line indicator of a bitterness problem. My daughter has said to me, and it has been said by many others, "All of the time, it is not what you have to say that hurts but how you say it to the person." 2) Observe your own actions. You may not overtly attack the person with whom you are angry, but how about the many subtle ways of getting your point across? The silent treatment, for example, silence speaks volumes and, in case you think other people don't notice the tension your "displeasure" causes, think again. Avoidance is another way of showing your displeasure, when you

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New Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Dallas
Sunday Service
Morning Worship
7:30 am & 10:30 am
9:00 am Sunday School
Wednesday Service
Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm
Brotherhood 7:00 pm
Sundays 7:00 pm
Singles Group 7:00 pm
Bible Study 7:45 pm
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Friendship Baptist Church
Dr. C. Paul McBride, Pastor
Schedule of Services:
Sunday
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8:00 a.m.
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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.
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9:30 am - Sunday School
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7:00 pm - Teacher's Meeting
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9:45 a.m. Prayer & Worship
10:15 a.m. Worship Experience
Thursday
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
Tuesday
7:15 p.m. Bible Study
Wednesday
6:30 p.m. Prayer Service
7:00 p.m. Church School
Reverend Charles E. Franklin, Pastor

Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church
920 E. 14th Street Plano, TX
Pastor Ishai Joshua, Jr.
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Sunday Worship Services 8AM & 11AM
Sunday 9:45AM Sunday School
Monday 7PM Youth, Brotherhood, Mission & Young Adult Ministries
Tuesday 7PM Bible Study & Men's Choir
Wednesday 7PM Mid-Week Service
Thursday 7PM Mass Choir
For more information call (972) 423-6895
www.shilohbaptistchurch.org

Church Happenings

Church Happenings Page 6
DALLAS AREA INTERFAITH (DAI)
April 17, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
The DAI is expecting 2,000 leaders at its regional convention at the Dallas Convention Center, Ballroom A. Topics of discussion will be on education, health, neighborhood security, immigration, and Dallas Southern Sector renewal. The public is invited.
For more information, call Pearl Caesar @ 214-689-5988.

accepted for this powerful work of God. For more information and registration, please contact Sister Jacques Hawthorne @ 972-769-8826.
DayStar Deliverance Ministries
Bishop Mamie Hawthorne, Senior Pastor
6205 East Road, Suite 336, PMB 142
Plano, TX 75024
972-769-8826

FAITH & POWER MINISTRIES
April 17, 6:00 pm
Our Women's Ministry, "Daughters of Excellence" presents our 9th Women in Red Service. The public is welcome.
For more information, please call 972-329-1358.

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For more information, please call 972-329-1358.

FRIENDSHIP AMONG FAITHS
April 17, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Friendship Among Faiths will hold its 5th Annual Conference, Art and Architecture As It Relates to Our Sacred Spaces at Holy Temple Church, 13555 Hillcrest Avenue, Dallas, TX 75240. The event is FREE and open to the public. Speakers from the three Abrahamic faiths, Judaism, Christianity and Islam, will examine symbolism and architecture in each religion's houses of worship. A reception and a question & answer period will follow the speaker.
For detail information, please contact Roy Harrell @ 214-969-1977 or Masnuq Jasmi @ 214-924-0270.

DAUGHTERS OF THUNDER MINISTRIES
April 28 - 30, 2005
The "Women Leading in Ministry" Conference will be held at The Inspiring Body of Christ Church (IBOC), 7710 South Westmoreland Road in Dallas, Dr. Rickie G. Rush is the Senior Pastor. This conference will be hosted by Dr. Ouida Lee of St. Luke Community UMC, Rev. Susan Stephens of Friendship UMC, and Loretta Cockley of Jubilee UMC. The public is invited.
For more information, call 972-283-2244.

DAYSTAR DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES
May 12 - 14, 2005
The Touch Ministry of DayStar Deliverance Ministries will sponsor a FREE, Women In Transition (WIT) Conference at 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 Jacques Hawthorne @ 972-769-8826.

GREENVILLE AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST (GACOC)
May 7, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm
GACOC will host our 20th Annual Adolescent and Ladies Symposium. Our theme is "Twenty Years at the Cross." This FREE symposium includes a continental breakfast, luncheon, and raffle prizes.
For early registration and further information, please call 972-444-2335.

LITTLE FLOCK BAPTIST CHURCH
April 17, 8:00 pm
We will have our Pastor and Wife's 2nd Anniversary. The public is invited. Our guest speaker will be Rev. Chris Evans of the Metropolitan Baptist Church in Dallas. Please join us; you don't want to miss this dynamic preacher.

MT. HERBON BAPTIST CHURCH (THE MOUNT)
April 17, 10:00 am
Continuing our year-long Church Entrance Celebration, Recording Artist Dorothy Norwood will be a guest soloist in our 10:00 am Service. Please come out and enjoy this event.
For detail information, please call the church @ 972-276-5218.

MT. OLIVE CHURCH OF PLANO
Starting this Sunday, April 17, 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 Fenceroy. Come and join the congregation for these wonderful services.

GREATER ALLEN TEMPLE A.M.E.
April 15, 7:00 pm
We are having a Mr. & Mrs. Tom Pagant & Fashion Show at the West Park Recreation Center, 530 Davis Street, Irving, TX.
For more information and donation, please call the church @ 972-790-0432.
Greater Allen Temple A.M.E.
Rev. Michael Waters, Pastor
3338 East Gilbert
Grand Prairie, TX 75050
972-790-0432

Church Directory

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
Fair Morning Worship Services
7:00 A.M. • 9:00 A.M. • 10:00 A.M. and 11:35 A.M.

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40 Days of Purpose
Purpose Driven Life Studies
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Pastors Sam & Gloria Fenceroy
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HEAR PASTOR SAM DAILY ON: "TRUTH MADE SIMPLE"
KGGR 1040AM MONDAY - FRIDAY 10:25-10:30 AM

Peoples Baptist Church To Celebrate Pastor's 11th Anniversary

Guest speakers include Bishop Kenneth Dupree and Elder Joseph Jackson.

DALLAS - Peoples Baptist Church excitedly announces the eleventh anniversary celebration for their Pastor, Rev. S. M. Wright II. Rev. Wright succeeded his father, Dr. S. M. Wright, Sr., as the Pastor of Peoples on November 3, 1994.

Special services for the celebration will feature some of the country's most profound ministers of the gospel. The Anniversary Hour will be on Sunday, April 17, 2005 at 3:00 pm with special guest speaker Elder Joseph Jackson, Pastor of First Pentecostal Church of God in Christ. The celebration kicked

off on Sunday, April 10, 2005 with guest speaker Bishop Kenneth Dupree of The Victory Church in Nashville, Tennessee. The community is invited to attend all anniversary services. Peoples Baptist Church is located at 3119 Pine Street in Dallas, TX.

Rev. Wright was ordained, anointed and voted in November 1993 at the age of 19 under his father's pastorate, Dr. S. M. Wright, Sr. This appointment made him the youngest pastor in church history. He continued his education, receiving his Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies, minoring in Business Administration from Dallas Baptist University.

Since the death of his father in

November 1994, Rev. Wright has worked unrelentingly to keep the dream and legacy of his father alive. He is the President of the S. M. Wright Foundation, whose mission is to continue the legacy of his father in providing support to the world to enhance the quality of life through the areas of race relations, health, education, community economic development and social assistance programs for the Glory of God.

Rev. Wright serves on numerous boards and commissions throughout the state of Texas. He lists his finest accomplishment to date as 10 years of profound pastoring of the great People's Missionary Baptist Church.

There will be door prizes and lunch. Please RSVP. For additional information contact Sister Wanda Seal @ 469-831-6507.

New Outreach Church
Elder Eddie R. Seal, Pastor
506 Wilcox Street
McKinney, TX 75069
972-442-8913

NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE
TELLING OUR STORY
On-going Minister Program
Operation Ours sponsors a program that assists youth that are at-risk, and re-entrants returning to society. The program's goals are to change lives of the formerly incarcerated person, to increase safety, and to spiritually fortify our community. For more details about this wonderful project, please contact Juanita Lee, Administrative Assistant at 972-437-5801 or call Free at 1-800-375-0326 (375-2747).

April 2 through May 7, 9:30 am - 11:30 am
NDCCBP's Christian Education Department will start on Sunday, 2. Sunday Morning Classes: 1) Evangelism and Discipleship 2) Advanced Bible Study Methods 3) Prompts and Prayers for the World, and 4) FIDIC Master's Seminars

April 1 through May 16, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
NDCCBP's Bible Study Series, 2. Tuesday Evening Classes: 1) Issues & Answers: A Biblical Perspective 2) Biblical Business Development (Christian Ethics) 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 NDCCBP's Christian Education Department and registration fees, please contact Associate Pastor T. Roch Coleman, T.M. at 972-437-5437, Ext 102.
April 16, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Operation Ours will sponsor its Annual

Church Happenings Page 9

NEW MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH OF DALLAS
This Sunday, April 16, 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
We will have a Community-Wide Health Fair at the church. The event is FREE and the public is welcomed.

New Mount Zion B.C.
Dr. Robert E. Price, Pastor
9150 Shephard Road
Dallas, TX 75243
214-341-6479

NEW OUTREACH CHURCH
April 24, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
We will have our second Annual Boy-to-Men Seminar. Guest speakers will include Fellowship Christian Athlete Eugene Lockhart, Josie Pott, Angelo King (all former Dallas Cowboys), Glen Sanders, former Baltimore Colts, and Pastor Eugene Lockhart, Jr. The Colony, TX where Dr. C. Paul McBride is the pastor, and Marcus Harris, former Law Enforcement.

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Operation Ours sponsors a program that assists youth that are at-risk, and re-entrants returning to society. The program's goals are to change lives of the formerly incarcerated person, to increase safety, and to spiritually fortify our community. For more details about this wonderful project, please contact Juanita Lee, Administrative Assistant at 972-437-5801 or call Free at 1-800-375-0326 (375-2747).

April 2 through May 7, 9:30 am - 11:30 am
NDCCBP's Christian Education Department will start on Sunday, 2. Sunday Morning Classes: 1) Evangelism and Discipleship 2) Advanced Bible Study Methods 3) Prompts and Prayers for the World, and 4) FIDIC Master's Seminars

April 1 through May 16, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
NDCCBP's Bible Study Series, 2. Tuesday Evening Classes: 1) Issues & Answers: A Biblical Perspective 2) Biblical Business Development (Christian Ethics) 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 NDCCBP's Christian Education Department and registration fees, please contact Associate Pastor T. Roch Coleman, T.M. at 972-437-5437, Ext 102.
April 16, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Operation Ours will sponsor its Annual

Send your church announcements to religion@monthegazette.com or fax to 972-416-4197 c/o Church Happenings. Deadlines are Fridays before publication date. (MON-The Gazette is published each Thursday.)

Church Happenings

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 972-437-5801.

North Dallas Community Bible Fellowship in Richardson
Dr. Leslie W. Smith, Senior Pastor
1010-1020 South Sherrin Street
Richardson, TX 75081
972-477-1493

PILGRIM REST BAPTIST CHURCH
April 25 - 28, 2005
Spring Retreat with guest minister, Rev. Ralph West, Brookhaven Baptist Church in Houston, TX.

April 28, 6:00 pm
Our Worship and First Arts Ministry presents a FREE live recording of "Bring It To The Nations" (Revelations 5:9). The public is invited.

Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church
Dr. Curtis Wallace, Pastor
1819 N. Washington Avenue
Dallas, TX 75204
214-423-7338

ST. JOHN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
This Sunday, April 16, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm
We will host "The UMI 2005 VBS Showcase"

For detail information, please call Mary Jones @ 214-275-7550.

St. John Missionary Baptist Church
Rev. Leroy Armstrong, Jr.
Senior Pastor
2600 South Marilla Avenue
Dallas, TX 75216
214-775-4676

SABO RELIGION OF DALLAS
This Sunday, April 16, 11:00 am
Sabbat from across Texas will celebrate the 50th Anniversary Celebration with a Parade, Poets, a Sabat Martial Arts Team, and bands to showcase the Unity and Oneness of Manikind at Double-Cross Square, 1627 Pacific Avenue, Downtown Dallas. Various interfaith speakers will talk about the preeminence of the sabbath and express prayer and songs of gratitude. The event is free and open to the public.

For more information, call Anit Kaur @ 972-644-5627 or Marjory Janni @ 214-330-4172.

Sabo Religion of Dallas
834 Nursery Road
Irving, TX 75061
972-444-5627

Send your church announcements to religion@monthegazette.com or fax to 972-416-4197 c/o Church Happenings. Deadlines are Fridays before publication date. (MON-The Gazette is published each Thursday.)

THE INSPIRING BODY OF CHRIST CHURCH (IBCC)

April 24 - 26, 2005

The "Women Leading in Ministry" Conference will be held at IBCC Church. This conference will be hosted by Dr. Ouida Lee of St. Luke Community United Methodist Church, Rev. Susan Stephens of Friendship West Baptist Church, and Rev. Lucetta Cooksey of Jubilee UMC. The public is invited.

For more information, call 972-283-2264.

Sign Up Now
FREE Computer Training classes by Decision Training & Support Center. For more information and registration, please call Rev. C. Grier @ 214-760-9573 or Email: Rongqing@jail.com

Monday School with Holy Spirit Bible Teachings.

The Inspiring Body of Christ Church (IBCC)
Dr. Bakki G. Ross, Pastor
7710 South Westmoreland
Dallas, TX 75221
972-572-1800 (462)

TRINITY PRAYER CHAPEL
Sign Up Now
Reynolds Wood Ministries is now conducting FREE GED and ESL Classes, Mentoring Programs, and Dance/Ballet/Karate Classes (scholarships 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 in: 406 N. Tennessee
McKinney, TX 75069
Dallas, TX 75251
214-544-1886

WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH OF LEVINSVILLE
April 22 - 23, 2005

Our Mission Ministry will conduct a Women's Conference. Our theme is "Women of Joy, Even in the Midst" (John 15:11).

April 30, 3:00 pm
The Youth Choir will perform a PRIDE concert. The public is invited.

For more information and to register call the church @ 972-221-5668.

Westside Baptist Church
Rev. Kenneth Blake, Senior Pastor
802 Hillside Blvd.
Levittown, TX 75067
972-221-5668

Pope's 1987 visit Page 1

presence of the Holy Father. I never dreamed that it would happen," Williams said, adding that he had the good fortune to meet with the Pope again on two other occasions, once in Detroit and again at the Vatican in Rome.

Williams won't forget the Pope's visit and the mass for several reasons. The numbers were enough to stand out in his mind - 130,000 people attended the mass across from the University of New Orleans campus.

"We celebrated the Eucharist and of course it was a memorable occasion for me," Williams said. "I won't forget on that day how it rained. It rained torrents."

Preparing for the mass presented Williams with a unique opportunity.

"We were dressing for the mass where clergy dressed among deacons and priests. The Holy Father was being dressed in a room adjacent to ours. And he came among us unannounced, that's the kind of person he was. We didn't know he was there, and he welcomed us in his Polish way. I shan't forget after I proclaimed the gospel, and after his homily and after the mass he spoke to me. His words to me were that God

had given me a gift of communication and that I must use that gift. I assured him that I would," Williams said.

According to Williams, one of the many good features about that mass was that it had a cohesive quality that is not always common in groups of more than 100,000 people. The rain served to bring the crowd together in an unexpected way. Although the crowd was made up of members of the Catholic faith, many of the people were strangers to each other. They began to share their umbrellas and rain gear with those who did not have any.

"The moment the Pope stepped on the altar, the rain stopped and the sun came out and it was quiet," he said. "It was providential, I expect. It was one of the most beautiful celebrations I think I have witnessed in my life."

The mass was a culmination of more than a year's worth of planning. Williams was on the committee headed by then-Monsignor Roger Morin, which organized the visit. Morin is now Auxiliary Bishop in the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

"Archbishop Hannan was in charge of the whole event, of course," Williams said. "But there

was a series of meetings and tasks that were delegated to put the event together."

Williams' position as director of the Office of Black Catholics gave him the chance to offer an additional perspective.

"The black Catholic population in the city of New Orleans is the largest ethnic population in the Roman Catholic Church," he said. "There are more than 80,000 ethnic members."

Looking back, many in New Orleans will remember the Pope's historic visit, and Williams has his own observations. He views the gathering as an event that made people realize that there was a Christ for all of us.

"Our Jewish and Muslim friends also had respect for his warmth and charm," he said. "I think his background made him an electric person. He had a lasting effect on our church and the Christian community and we will never forget him."

"The visit was significant because it was the first time in 2,000 years a Pope wanted to visit this city, and it's especially significant for us because the city has so many Catholics of African-American descent who have been involved with the church since its inception."

DayStar Deliverance Ministries

Our Services:

Sunday Sunday School: 10:00 am Midday Service: 11:00 am	Tuesday Prayer Service: 7:00 p.m. Service: 7:30 p.m.
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Sponsored by:
The Touch Ministry - Women in Transition (WIT)
Website: www.thetouchministry.com • Phone: 972-768-8826

Southfork Hotel • 1600 N. Central Expressway • Plano, TX

Hill Chapel

Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
11131 Ave. Plano, TX 75074 (972) 423-4990
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. Wattle



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 75221
Phone: 972-572-1800 Fax: 972-760-3888

Sunday Services: 7:30 am, 10:00 am, 12:30 pm
Monday School 7 am
Men's Fellowship: Friday 7:00 pm

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

6710 Webster Avenue • Dallas, TX 75209
214-612-1552 (Phone) • 214-612-6789 (Fax)
albethany@thechurch.net (Email)

Little Flock Baptist Church

Pastor Louis E. Laurent
Internet Broadcast: www.lfgm.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. Almet 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

"Christian by Faith, Diverse by Design"

Sunday 8:00am	Sunday School
Sunday 8:00am	Estudio Bíblico En Español
Sunday 10:00am	Worship Service
Wed. 8:15pm	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@sbcglobal.net (Email)

Healthy Beginnings Child Development Center
972-404-1412