

## The Truth Clinic

A Division of

**MON**  
Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Volume XIV, Number XXXXIV

November 17 - November 23, 2005

Fifty Cents

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# The Gazette

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## People In The News



Temmora is Memphis, Tennessee's blossoming 23 year old soul songstress whose highly anticipated debut with veteran crooner Howard Hewett, "There's No Me," is expected to be a hit.

The song is the featured debut to her self-titled CD Any Other Girl that will be released on LEG Records. The single captures the professionally trained singer and church choir veteran providing a poignant offer of lifetime love and affection to a new mate.

Grammy nominated songwriter Rodney Shelton assisted Temmora with several song selections and her CD was mixed by Rob Chiarelli, the famed engineer whose previous clients have included Luther Vandross, Christina Aguilera, Janet Jackson and the late Aaliyah.

"I want you to feel something with my music," said Temmora, who has been moving crowds and having her music felt from church pews to talent shows, music festivals and concerts. "I want to be that kind of artist who is always a step ahead."

Temmora's debut CD- Any Other Girl will also feature several up-tempo, radio friendly cuts as well as a ballad performed by Temmora in Spanish; all complemented by her soothing, sometimes searing lyrics about making sense of the chaotic while being young, gifted and female.

To see and hear more of Temmora, visit her [www.temmora.com](http://www.temmora.com)

Dr. Franklyn G. Jenifer, the former president of The University of Texas at Dallas, was named president emeritus of that institution on November 10th by the UT System Board of Regents.



Dr. Jenifer served as president of UT Dallas from 1994 to 2005. UT Dallas' enrollment increased more than 61 percent during his tenure -- from less than 8,500 students to nearly 14,000.

Jenifer, a biologist, earned his bachelor's and master's degree from Howard University and his Ph.D. from the University of Maryland. He previously served as president of Howard University in Washington, D.C., as chancellor of higher education in Massachusetts, where he was responsible for 27 public colleges and universities with a total enrollment of approximately 180,000 students, and as vice chancellor of the New Jersey Department of Higher Education, a system composed of 32 public institutions of higher education with an enrollment of nearly a quarter-million students.

Jenifer began his career in academia at Rutgers University in New Jersey. He started as an assistant professor of biology at the Livingston College campus in New Brunswick in 1970, became an associate professor the following year and a full professor in 1976. He also served as chairperson of the biology department and as chairperson of the university senate. Later, he served as associate provost at Rutgers' Newark campus.



Visual 826 Design Studio today announced the launch of 'Journey to Birth' coffee-table maternity photo books.

"I have always enjoyed working with papers and images, and I wanted to offer parents-to-be unique ways to remember a special time in their lives, as well as share and display their photographs," said the company's owner, LaRhonda Jefferson-Mills.

The hand-bound books are available in a variety of sizes, and Visual 826 Design Studio offers several session options from a one-time shoot, to a photo session each trimester with family portrait after the baby's birth. "We work closely with couples, particularly expectant mothers, to create a comfortable atmosphere on-location, in-studio, or in their home, using lighting, fabrics and floral treatments to enhance the setting. We assemble each book using color with black and white portraits and photo montages to tell their story." Jefferson-Mills also creates coffee-table books from existing pictures.

Located in Dallas, Visual 826 Design Studio specializes in wedding and event styling and decor. Journey to Birth coffee-table maternity photo books can be found online at [www.journeytobirth.com](http://www.journeytobirth.com). Visual 826 Design Studio can be contacted at 214/395-3011; email inquiries can be sent to [info@journeytobirth.com](mailto:info@journeytobirth.com)

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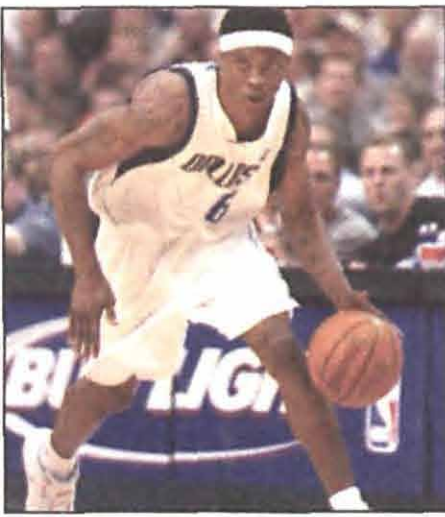
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## Dallas Mavericks and Dave & Busters Slam Dunk Hunger

With the holidays right around the corner, the Dallas Mavericks, Dave & Buster's, CBS 11 and UPN 21 are asking fans to help fight hunger in North Texas by making a donation to the fifth annual "Slam Dunk Hunger with the Mavs Challenge", benefiting the North Texas Food Bank (NTFB).

Participating in this year's drive are Mavs players Dirk Nowitzki, Jason Terry, and Marquis Daniels, who will each match fan donations up to \$10,000. Dave & Buster's, a Mavs partner, will also match up to \$10,000, emphasizing their support of America's Second Harvest - The Nation's Food Bank Network, of which the NTFB is a member.

Through this donation drive, the North Texas Food Bank hopes to collect enough money to purchase 630,000 pounds of food that will provide 540,000 meals for hungry North Texas families. The North Texas Food Bank anticipates food demand this holiday season to increase by 50 percent from last year because of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, causing the Food Bank to issue a call to action to the community.

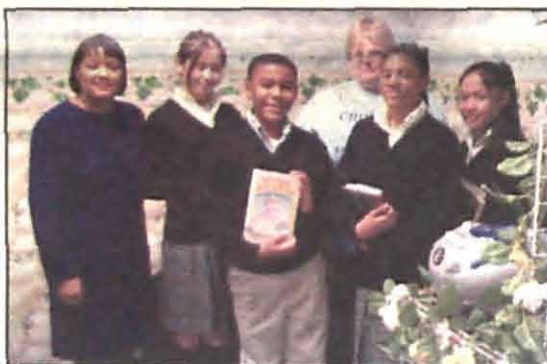


Dallas Maverick Marquis Daniels

son to increase by 50 percent from last year because of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, causing the Food Bank to issue a call to action to the community.

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## Choices Leadership Academy Promotes Diversity



Principal and founder Karen Harkey with students Nikki Price, Billy Smith, Jasmine Flowers and Anny Tin in the Choices Reading Garden.

By: Curtis Ippolito

What if a school taught students the meaning of "refugee" directly from the experiences of another student and not a dictionary? Or

why some people in India don't eat beef?

Choices Leadership Academy, a preparatory middle school in North Dallas, is offering the advantages of private schools to students of all races and cultures. The school hopes to prepare students to succeed and move onto the likes of Greenhill School or Jesuit College Preparatory.

Karen Harkey founded Choices in February of last year. She said the school was established out of need.

"Parents, mostly from

Promoting Diversity Page 8

## The Bush White House: Sleaze With Ease

By: James Clingman

Has there ever been a time in this country when the "ruling" administration has done so much dirt, right before our very eyes, with such arrogance, such disdain, and such outright disregard for "the people"? Think about it. For a guy who was appointed president by the Supreme Court after a crooked election process in his brother's state of Florida, and even after that debacle this same guy took his road show to Ohio for the next "selection" and did another in-your-face on "the people," your boy George Bush really has it goin' on. Can you believe some of the stuff he has gotten away with during the past five years? And the hits just keep on comin'. Bush is bad enough, with his absolute dismal

ratings among "the people," but to add insult to injury, his boys and girls are worse than he is. Talk about sleaze with ease; they get the prize. Even before they joined Bush, Jr's camp, guys like Donald Rumsfeld and Dick Cheney were busy doing their dirt under Ronald Reagan, the Great Communicator. The lovely and talented "Condi" Rice was doing the bidding of George Bush, Sr. All the while, waiting in the wings (or was it a dugout,

Blackonomics Page 3

## Parking Scarce For Collin DART Riders

Taking the train is supposed to be the stress-free way to go, but rising ridership is putting a strain on parking lots at DART light rail stations in Collin County.

Since gas prices started their climb, the 778 parking spaces at the Bush Turnpike Station on the Richardson-Plano border fill up almost daily. And at the northern terminus of DART's Red Line, parking at Parker Road to catch the train can be impossible - even with more than 1,500 spaces.

"Some of the land that DART owns there could be better utilized in terms of parking, so we believe there are some shorter-term strategies," said DART planner Tim Newby.

Newby said DART acquired a former store parking lot adjacent to the Parker Road station several years ago, but even it is now full on many days.

"That handled the need for a few years, but with the gas prices we've seen an increase in the need," he said.

For commuters willing to drive a bit further, on many days parking spaces are still available at the Arapaho and Spring Valley stations in Richardson.

## Christian Business Expo To Promote Unity Through Economics

By: Paul Hailey

And if you make a sale to your neighbor or buy from your neighbor, you shall not wrong one another...Leviticus 25:14

The sentiment behind this scripture is the underlying principle behind the Christian Chamber of Commerce's 1st Annual Christian Business Expo taking place on November 19th, 2005. The scripture is also consistent with the conference theme of "Promoting Unity Through Economic Development". Christian Chamber of Commerce founder Minister Tim Lynch provided insight into the Expo's objective.

"Our purpose is to showcase Christian businesses, min-



KDFW Fox4 Reporter Shaun Rabb

istries and organizations right before the busiest shopping season of the year," he said. "Expos are a great opportunity

Business Expo Page 4

## Liberia Elects First Woman President



President-Elect Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf with supporters.

By: Lane Hartill

Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, the woman who is all but certain to become Liberia's next president and Africa's first elected female head of state, seems unfazed by her sudden fame and unruffled by her opponent's charges of fraud in last Tuesday's runoff election.

The career economist and grandmother, 67, seems content to wait coolly at home for the

National Elections Commission to certify the results, while a sister visiting from New York fields a barrage of phone calls.

Meanwhile, Johnson-Sirleaf is looking ahead to a presidency she says will help bring political unity and economic development to Liberia, a country battered by civil conflict for much of the past two decades.

Liberian President Page 3

## In Wake Of Katrina, Activists Launch ColorOfChange.org

10,000 Join Black Online Political Group

Angered by the government response that followed Hurricane Katrina, two Black activists have launched a new, online organization, ColorOfChange.org, to give a stronger voice to Black concerns in U.S. politics. In its first month, the site has attracted 10,000 members.

The founders of Color OfChange.org, James Rucker and Van Jones, see their early success as a sign that African-Americans and those who are concerned about Black issues see Katrina as a "wake-up call" - and that they're ready to make a difference politically.

"Middle-class Black folks like ourselves got a clear dose of reality. While many of us are doing well, millions of our folks have been left behind," Rucker said. "When we saw the television



Color of Change Co-founder Van Jones

screens, the emotions were almost universal. First we were sad and angry, and then we realized we had no political voice - no organized way to respond and hold government accountable. That's when we decided to start ColorOfChange.org. For too long, Black America has been effectively left out of the political discourse - Republicans are

Activists Website Page 6



## Soul Of The City Fashion Show



Actor Morris Chestnut giving interviews during the event.



Ebony Williams (left) and Kena Vining (right) of Mokka Cosmetics, make-up and hair stylists for the event pose with Master of Ceremonies, Kevan Browning.



Jeffery Osbourne sings to the crowd.



Howard Hewitt involves the audience during his ballad.



Singer Tony Terry breaks it down during his performance.



Models displaying classic evening gown attire during fashion show.

94.5 KSoul Presented its 1st Annual Soul of the City Fashion Show and Concert November 13, at the Great Hall, International Apparel Mart.

Browning served as Master of Ceremonies, actor Morris Chestnut was also in attendance. Performances were given by singers Jeffrey Osbourne, Tony Terry and Howard Hewitt.

## Dallas Lupus Research Walk



Lupus survivor Dorian Mims feeling victorious after completing the walkathon.



Mother and daughter participants, Shana and Shania Mims.



Participants who walked on the Dorian Mims Team.



The Dorian Mims "Support Team": Charise Johnson, Shana Mims, Jeri Tillman, Julian Johnson and Dorian Mims.

The first ever Dallas Walk with Us to Cure Lupus Walkathon was held on Saturday, November 12th, at Bachman Lake. The walkathon was sponsored by the Alliance for Lupus Research.

and dancing."

Friday night's events begin with the rededication ceremony at 7:30 pm followed by the 8:00 pm reception, and caroling until 9:00 pm. Saturday's festivities commence at 11:30 am. For tickets to the David Chicken performance or questions regarding the gala, please call 972-216-6444.

## Mesquite Arts Center 10th Anniversary Celebration

The Mesquite Arts Council will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Mesquite Arts Center with a two-day gala on December 2nd and 3rd, 2005, at the Arts Center.

The lighting of the courtyard and caroling through the building will open the festivities. Friday evening also boasts a rededication ceremony and reception.

Patrons gathering during the evening will be greeted by Mayor Anderson and City Council Members, as well as the Mesquite Arts Council Board of Directors. Tours of the building will be given on Friday with representatives of the community arts groups in attendance.

On Saturday, all ages are invited to join in the celebration. David Chicken,

songwriter, musician and performer, will put on a high-energy, audience-interactive performance. "My big thing is making the kids be the stars of the show," David Chicken said in a 2004 interview with the Dallas Morning News. "Usually by the second or third song, I have everybody in the audience up singing

## Around The Town

### November 7-18

Collin County Community College and the Arts presents, "The Music of Nature and the Nature of Music," a photographic interpretation by Barry L. Schoenholz. The exhibition and reception will be held in the main Atrium at Collin's Spring Creek Campus. For information call 972-881-5873.

### November 11-20

In celebration of World's Children's Day, the Ronald McDonald House Charities ask that you purchase a "paper hand" available at all McDonalds. Money raise will support the RMHC and RMHC of North Texas which provides grants to local children's charities and scholarships to local youth. Call 214-252-1747 or 214-252-1738 for information.

### November 11-December 26

The SPCA celebrating its 15th year in NorthPark with adoptable animals and merchandise at its all new Paws and Presents storefront on the upper level between Neiman Marcus and Nordstrom, next to Santa's Workshop, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Mon-Sat. For information call 214-651-9611, ext 118 or ext. 143.

### November 16-19

A Life Enrichment Boot Camp, an interactive work-

shop that uses experiential games, drills and competitions to improve relationships will be held at the Plano Centre, 2000 East Spring Creek Pkwy. Call 972-699-886 for information.

### November 16-30

At Risk African American, Latino and Asian women who wish to participate in a study to find ways to increase breast cancer survival are ask to call Kirsten Shelby, 214-648-1919 for information.

### November 17

The Medical Center of Plano invites you to participate in the following Diabetes Management Activity: A Delicious Holiday Dinner. "Thank Goodness!" Space is limited so please RSVP to 972-519-1437.

The Senior Source of Greater Dallas announces senior support meetings. The subject for this meeting is "The Follow-up Factor", 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. 1215 Skiles St. RSVP at 214-823-5700.

MPI DFW Multi-Cultural Luncheon and Seminar, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 14315 Midway Rd. (Addison), 11-4:30 p.m. Call 214-421-5200 for information.

### November 18-19

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters present "Dallas Sings, An Evening of Opera" 8:00p.m., Clarence Muse Café Theater. Call 214-743-2400 for information.

### November 18

Black Tie & Boots benefit for State Representative Yvonne Davis Featuring Jerry "The Ice Man" Butler, Eddie Deen's

Ranch, 944 S. Lamar St. (Dallas), 8:00 p.m. Sponsored by State Rep. Yvonne Davis. For information call 214-946-8808

Jammin@the Center, late night jam session, 12 a.m.-3:00 a.m., 1409 S. Lamar St. Call 214-670-0315 for information.

Marriage Workshop, 7:00 p.m., Mount Olive Church of Plano, 740 Avenue F. The speaker will be Rev. Marilyn Giles. For information call 214-850-6775 or 972-396-9651.

Black Cinematheque Dallas invites you to screen the film, Silence: In Search of Black Female Sexuality in America. All films screened at Erykah Badu's Black Forest Theater, 1920 MLK. Blvd. Call 214-426-1683.

### November 19

The Millions More Movement will hold a Town Meeting at St. Paul United Methodist Church, 1816 Routh St., 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Call 214-922-0000 for information.

27th Annual Plano Parks and Recreation Christmas Crafts Fair, City of Plano Parks and Recreation Department, 972-941-7250 or www.planoparks.org.

Garland NAACP Youth Council meeting, 12 noon, South Branch Library, 4845 Broadway Blvd. For information call 972-381-5044.

Rev. Cecil Smith, Sr. and Ms. Janice Manous will be honored at the 4th Annual Scholarship Banquet, 1:00 p.m., Covenant Church Wedding Chapel, 2644 E. Trinity Mills Rd., Carrollton. For information call 972-242-0933.

All Prison Ministries and

Church will feed those in need of a good meal at 4608 Wahoo St. from 10:00 a.m. until food is gone. Call 214-372-6642 for information.

Author Jervey Tervalon will read and sign his books 7:30 p.m., at Paperbacks Plus, 6115 La Vista (Dallas). For information call 214-828-1715.

The Real Estate Council Honors "Dreamers, Doers and Unsung Heroes" at the 14th Annual Fall Gala, Gaylord Texas (Grapevine), 6 p.m. Call 214-692-3600 for information.

Christian Expo, 9:00a.m.-5:00 p.m. Infomart, 1950 Stemmons Freeway. Call 972-293-9719 for information.

Thanksgiving Dinner for Hurricane Katrina Survivors, 12 Noon-3:00p.m., Fair Park Centennial Hall. Identification needs to be presented. Call the First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park, 972-235-4235 for information.

Madden 2006 Playstation Tournament. "1st South Dallas Community Blitz for kids ages 11-17. Starts 10-5:00pm, St. Phillips School and Community Center, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. Call 214-428-8958 for information.

Learn the basics of writing a press release and tips on how to access the media at the "I Can't Afford a Publicist" Workshop, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Call 214-331-2677 or manelock@sbcglobal.net for information.

Fall Fitness Festival from 9a.m.-Noon at the Park South Family YMCA fitness Department.

November 20

In celebration of the 60th Anniversary of Ebony Magazine, TV One will present "The John H. Johnson Story", which honors the legendary and groundbreaking founder. The program will air at 10:00 p.m. (ET) TV One (www.tvoneonline.com)

Richardson Community Band concludes Fourth Season of Concerts, 2:00 p.m. at the Eisemann Center.

9th Annual Thanksgiving Celebration Awards Night, 5:00 p.m., Sterling Hotel. Call 214-325-1916 for information.

The Garland Police Department, the Dallas Texas Chapter-Harley Owners Groups and the Shriners present the 4th Annual Motor Cops for Kids Toy Run, Dallas Harley Davidson, 1334 W. Centerville Rd. @ LBJ, 10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Call 972-463-2820 for information.

9th Annual Thanksgiving Celebration Awards Night, 5:00 p.m. at the Sterling Hotel. Call 214-325-1916 for information.

### November 22

Plano Senior High's Jazz ensemble will feature "A Night at Club Cat, We Got That Swing", 7:30 p.m., in the PSHS cafeteria. For information call 972-867-5334.

### November 24

All City of Plano offices and Facilities will be closed except for the Pecan Hollow Golf Course.

4th Annual Thanksgiving Meal hosted by the Plano Sunrise Rotary Club is free to families who are in need of a wonderful home-cooked meal. The event will feature a visit from Santa and gifts to

all children. Contact 972-633-6695.

### November 25

November is National Diabetes Awareness Month. KSoul 94.5 and the MLK Medical Health Center will be offering free diabetes screenings at the radio station located in the Valley View Mall. Call 214-787-1945 for information.

### November 26

Kanye West Touch the Sky Tour, Nokia Theatre, Grand Prairie. Guest stars Fantasia and Keyshia Cole. Tickets available at Ticketmaster outlets.

"If This Hat Could Talk" a theatrical musical celebration about the life of civil rights activist Dorothy Height. Black Academy of Arts, Dallas Convention Center, (corner of Akard and Canton)

### November 27

Little Hands...Big Hearts Presents: "When Christmas Comes to Town!", Plano Centre, 2000 East Spring Creek Pkwy. Call 469-774-5092 for information.

### November 28

Plano City Council bi-monthly meeting will be held at the Municipal Center, 1520 K Ave.

### November 30

Stephen Fite Children's Concert for ages 3 yrs to 7 yrs., Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Pkwy. For information call 800-234-9228.

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# THE TRUTH CLINIC Church, Politics And The IRS

By: James W. Breedlove

The recent IRS harassment of the All Saints Episcopal Church in Pasadena, CA should result in another public relations embarrassment for the Bush administration and provide further evidence of the punitive reprisal tactics unleashed against any who would dare exercise the American prerogative to question the soundness of selected government policies.

All Saints Episcopal Church is one of Southern California's largest and most liberal churches and the issue with the IRS is over a guest sermon delivered on October 31, 2004 by the church's former rector, the Rev. George F. Regas, two days before the presidential election.

According to an article by the Los Angeles Times the IRS contends the Regas sermon, entitled "IF JESUS DEBATED SENATOR KERRY AND PRESIDENT BUSH", amounted to advocating on behalf of Senator Kerry and therefore is a violation of the church's tax-exempt status.

After reading a transcript of the sermon, to determine what was actually preached, instead of what the Times reported, the only discernable violation is the sermon is not a debate since Bush and Kerry do not speak. It can more accurately be described as a presentation depicting Jesus reprimanding both Bush and Kerry on such issues as the Iraq War, poverty, nuclear weapons, human suffering, greed, and the need for both men to be peacemakers.

However, if one were keeping a tally then Rev. Regas scolds Bush more than he scolds Kerry. He specifically rebukes Bush for the Iraq war, his doctrine of preemption and the insanity of the nuclear weapons policy. Still, Reverend Regas never affirms either of the candidates.

Before making a decision on the validity of IRS case it would be instructive to understand what the Tax Code has to say about church exemption and partisan

political activity. The crucial question is whether or not that sermon can reasonably be understood to have been an effort by Regas to influence the presidential election of 2004. The IRS says "yes"; Regas and All Saints say "no."

In the 1913 income tax provisions, an accommodation was made for exemption from taxation of religious, charitable, educational, and scientific organizations. This initial exemption, however, was not conditioned on abstaining from political campaign activity. In fact, the express prohibition on political campaign activity did not become part of the Code until 1954.

The statutory language of section 501(c)(3) prohibits churches from participating or intervening in political campaigns on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office was added by a motion of Senator Lyndon B. Johnson and a voice vote of the Senate.

There were no congressional hearings, testimony, or comment from affected organizations on the merits of Johnson's amendment. He proposed the amendment, apparently, because he was upset about the use of funds from a tax-exempt organization being used to support Dudley Dougherty, his challenger in the 1954 primary election. Johnson got his personal revenge on the tax-exempt organization that had supported his opponent but for churches and the IRS it was the beginning of a perpetual nightmare. Revocation of a church's tax-exempt status and loss of deductible contributions imposes a serious financial and operating burden on the church.

Many churches thumb their noses at the political activity restrictions and get away with it. Americans United for Separation of Church and State filed a complaint with the IRS accusing Jerry Falwell Ministries of endorsing President George W. Bush's reelection in a July e-mail that also urged supporters to send money to support Republican candidates. Falwell also posted the partisan

election-year appeal on his ministry website. Falwell's partisan politics are overt and over the top and he makes no bones about it. Yet, his church's tax-exempt status is not being threatened.

To the extent that churches venture into the area of partisan electoral politics, they also jeopardize their institutional autonomy, religious liberty, and become indistinguishable from myriad interest groups competing in the political arena. Consider Pastor Pat Robertson's flipped moral position on faith-based initiatives when administration money poured into his ministry.

There is a growing trend toward politicizing churches as they gravitate toward political power. Power corrupts. To obtain and maintain power requires compromise and a compromised church no longer speaks truth in the face of the political power it embraces. In choosing involvement in electoral politics a church risks compromise, co-option, and collusion and its religious message, delivered without integrity, is no message at all.

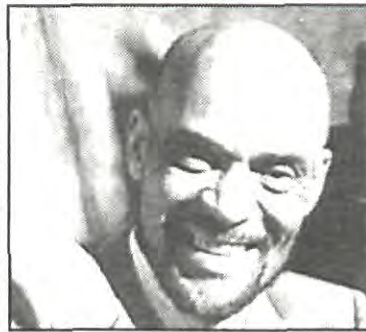
The IRS harassment of the All Saints Episcopal Church does not pass the smell test. It reeks of political chicanery and selective persecution to send a message as the Presidents poll numbers plummet.

As religious organizations of all denominations, including Ted Haggard who heads the 30-million-member National Assn. of Evangelicals, circled their wagons in protest the IRS has offered to quietly let this matter disappear if All Saints would confess to wrongdoing. All Saints refused, preferring to stand on its principles, integrity and Jesus centered moral compass.

Churches take heed and remember you have a responsibility to address the moral parameters of political policy issues on behalf of those that cannot speak for themselves.

Email Comments to  
Politics@MonTheGazette.com

## Get Rich Or Die Tryin Sends Deadly Message



By: Earl Ofari Hutchinson

Let's be clear. Get Rich or Die Tryin, the semi-autobiographical movie that tracks the life of gangster Rap icon Curtis "Fifty Cent" Jackson from street thug to musical superstar is not going to send young blacks sprinting from the theaters to commit murder and mayhem in their neighborhoods. It's a movie, and there's no smoking gun connect between the violence on the big screen and bodies in the streets. Still, Get Rich and the horde of other boys in the hood movies that Hollywood churned out over the past decade again raise troubling questions. Why do a handful of influential rap entrepreneurs, and that certainly includes Jackson, who are rich and famous beyond their wildest fantasies brand themselves with a criminal, thuggish image?

Do films such as Get Rich promote, and at their worst, reinforce the ancient thug stereotype of young black males? And why, despite white fears that young blacks are the ultimate menaces to society, in almost all cases, the victims of the thug acting rappers are other young blacks?

The first is easy to answer. Get Rich will reap a king's ransom at the box office from exploiting the violent, outlaw image of black life. It will boost the sales of Jackson's tapes, and games. Legions of rebellious young blacks, and non-blacks will happily cough up megadollars to revel in this image. Few give much thought to the stereotypes that these movies

reinforce. And they do reinforce them. Films like Juice, Straight Out of Brooklyn, Menace II Society, Boyz in the Hood, and Poetic Justice that also purported to give a raw look at "the hood" glorified violence, glamorized gangs and ignored poverty and racism.

Black critics blame Hollywood for this. And why not, it's a soft target. Most studio executives know nothing about life in "the hood." And as long as they can turn the thuggish image of the ghetto into dollars, they don't want to know. The young rappers also bear responsibility for promoting the thug image. But as long as it sells, don't expect any apologies or change. In fact, Fifty Cent went one better and sneered that protests of the movie's ad campaign "help me." The sarcastic and sardonic quip said it all.

Then there's the question of the violence. The self-destructive violence of some young black males such as pre "Fifty Cent" Jackson is explained by reflexively finger pointing at the tumultuous and self-indulgent world of rap music. It has been a violent world. In the past decade, the rap landscape has been littered with rappers such as Biggie Small, Tupac Shakur, Nate Dogg, Naughty by Nature, the Wu-Tang Clan's Ghostface Killah, Heltah Skeltah, Cocoa Brovaz, and convicted perjurer Lil Kim's crew who have been assaulted, murdered or run afoul of the law. They exult the bad actor lifestyle and play hard on the us versus them volcanic rage of many young blacks.

But black-on-black violence though exploited, glorified, and even celebrated, especially if there's a payoff in it, is hardly an invention of rappers. In the last two decades, murder has been at or near the top of the list of the leading causes of death of black males under age 25 years. This is the age group that idolizes rappers such as Fifty Cent and that will pack the theaters to see Get

Rich. Their assailants were not white racist cops or Klan nightriders but other black males. Their death tolled has soared because far too many Americans still don't get too excited about black violence as long as it doesn't spill over the borders of the ghettos into their suburbs.

But pent-up anger is only one cause of the dangerous cycle of black-on-black violence. Many black males are engaged in a seemingly eternal desperate search for self-identity and esteem. Their tough talk, swagger, and mannerisms are defense mechanisms they use to boost their esteem. They measure their status or boost their self-worth by demonstrating their proficiency in physical fights, assaults and, yes, murder.

Some blacks even cite a litany of excuses, such as poverty, broken homes, and abuse, to excuse the violence. These explanations for the mindless violence that thug acting rap entrepreneurs engage in are phony and self-serving. Many of them of the other rappers who have landed hard in a court docket are also anything but hard-core, dysfunctional poverty cases. Yet the internal rage that propel them to commit thuggish acts still lays dangerously close to the surface.

It's the glorification of that rage and violence that angered many community residents. In Los Angeles, some took to the streets and demanded that Paramount pull ad billboards that showed Fifty Cent holding a gun extended in one hand and a microphone in the other. They got the billboard removed. Get Rich or Die Tryin may be one man's tale of redemption but it also exalts the criminal violence that has cost the lives of many black men like Fifty Cent. That's a hell of a way to try to get rich.

## Where Do You Want To Go Today?

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**MON The Gazette**  
Founded 1991  
"North Dallas' Weekly Paper of Choice"  
SERVING PLANO, DALLAS, RICHARDSON, GARLAND, ALLEN, MCKINNEY AND MESQUITE

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## Is the sky clearest on the day it is most blue?

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

Think of MON-The Gazette as your paper of opportunity!

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



Visit Our Website At [www.MONTheGazette.com](http://www.MONTheGazette.com)

## Liberian President Page 1

"A national identity, something that everybody feels that brings them together - we haven't had that," she said during a relaxed interview in her yard Saturday. "We've always been America's stepchild, never a truly African country," she added. "We've got to find the things that bind."

Johnson-Sirleaf said she was "shocked" that her opponent, former soccer star George Weah, had said the election was marred by fraud. With virtually all the ballots counted Saturday, she had 59.6 percent of the vote to Weah's 40.4 percent. Results were expected to be certified early this week.

On Friday, angry crowds of young men supporting Weah marched through the capital, Monrovia, surrounding the U.S. Embassy and chanting that the election had been rigged. The crowds threw stones but were dispersed by U.N. peacekeepers using tear gas and batons.

While Weah, 39, appealed to jobless young men and former militia fighters, Johnson-Sirleaf has said her candidacy benefited

from the strong support of women, who made up slightly more than half of registered voters.

The history of Liberia, which was settled by former American slaves in the early 1800s, has often been marred by disputed elections and subsequent political uprisings, and Johnson-Sirleaf could take office under a similar cloud.

Johnson-Sirleaf said the allegations had hurt her personally, but she blamed advisers to Weah, a political novice with a high school education.

"I don't think Mr. Weah himself understands the implications of what he's doing," she said. "But he's being fed these things and so he's repeating these things."

Johnson-Sirleaf said rehabilitating young former combatants was one of her top priorities. She said she intended to apply lessons learned by participants in U.N. programs in such countries as Sierra Leone, Rwanda and Mozambique, which successfully integrated opposition groups and rebels after bloody civil con-

## Blackonomics Page 1

Iran and Syria. They face indictments, charges, trials, and convictions. They are Rovin' like a bunch of wild animals to see whom they can devour. They are "Scootin'" around, in attempts to deploy "dirty tricks" to destroy those on their "enemies list." They are "Delayin'" justice and making every effort to change the laws to protect their comrades in crime. All of these acts are committed under their ringleader, the diabolical Dick "Spiro Agnew" Cheney, the head-sleeze-in-charge.

They have presided over a concocted and contrived war. They have directed billions of dollars to their friends at Halliburton and all the others, despite taxpayers being ripped off by these firms and their exorbitant prices. They cannot

account for some \$9 billion or so, in cash, that went "somewhere" to "someone" in Iraq. They watched while millions were being paid - in cash - to contractors in Iraq, while those who worked for those crooked contractors got kidnapped and beheaded as they tried to take care of their families.

Sleaze with ease. Our future hangs in the balance, and the best we can seem to do is have George Bush and his den of thieves in charge of our fate. Lord help us, because they have adopted a "Sleaze With Ease" campaign, and they are on the rampage. Why? The same answer Clinton gave when asked why he had his dalliance with Monica; they do it because they can.



# Riots In France And Hurricane Katrina Have Forced Sparring Nations To Confront Race

By: David Crary

In one case, the catalyst was Hurricane Katrina; in the other, a freak electrocution accident in a Paris suburb. What followed - drownings and dislocation in the United States, riots across France - has forced each nation to confront problems of racism and poverty that are deeply entrenched but usually ignored.

The parallel soul-searching is taking place in two countries where politicians and pundits have long delighted in mocking the other's perceived hypocrisies and flaws. "I'm not sure you can say that one country's system is better or worse than the other - neither works very well," said Dominique Moisi of the French Institute of International Relations. "Each government waits for the problems to occur in order to address them, and their first reaction is slow and inadequate."

The devastation wreaked by Katrina in New Orleans took a disproportionate toll on low-income blacks, with hundreds drowning and tens of thousands losing their homes to flooding in low-lying neighborhoods.

In France, the deaths of two Muslim youths hiding from police in an electricity substation triggered rioting nationwide in bleak, immigrant-filled suburban housing projects where joblessness and alienation are endemic.

"After Katrina, many French took an undisguised glee in poking the eyes of the Americans. ... They said this couldn't happen in France," said Steven Ekovich, a political

science professor at the American University of Paris.

"Now, the French are just stunned, groping to make sense out of what's happening around them. It's very difficult to admit they have a race riot, but that's what it is."

Experts from both countries said the United States, with its painful history of slavery and segregation, has been more willing than France to acknowledge and address racial tensions.

"In France, issues of discrimination were not supposed to arise," said Francois Heisbourg, a leading French foreign policy analyst. "Officially, we're all equal. It's politically incorrect to say otherwise."

The principle of equality has such weight in France that authorities generally do not collect racial or ethnic demographic data and have shunned U.S.-style affirmative action programs.

"Affirmative action in the U.S. at least recognizes that racism exists, that problems are linked to color," said Dominic Thomas, who grew up in France and now teaches at the University of California, Los Angeles. "The French talk about how they're indivisible, but they end up with unrepresentative government."

More so than the United States, France has failed to propel significant numbers of its racial minorities to top-rung positions in government, busi-

ness or the media.

"In America, one can talk about a sizable black middle class, about influential African-Americans in Congress, the corporate world, Hollywood, in ways you don't see with Muslims in France," said Charles Kupchan, director of Europe studies at the New York-based Council on Foreign Relations.

"There may be racism in the United States, but nobody would say an African-American is not an American," Kupchan added. "Muslims in France find themselves feeling like second-class citizens - not really part of the French nation."

Catherine Durandin, a Paris-based expert on trans-Atlantic relations, said she had been impressed by the efforts of Americans - including former Presidents Clinton and George H. W. Bush - to raise money for Katrina's victims.

"The most shocking difference in France is that there is no solidarity with the suburbs," she said. "The main reaction is fear, how to prevent the contagion from spreading to the more prosperous parts of the cities."

During the U.S. race riots of

the 1960s, and again after rioting in Los Angeles in 1992, many in France were quick to criticize U.S. policies. Then President Francois Mitterrand suggested in 1992 that France would avoid such strife because of its generous social programs.

In the aftermath of Katrina, elements in the French media seized a new chance to expound on America's problems. Now the French unrest has given some Americans a chance to point at bad examples.

One of the major U.S. groups urging a crackdown on illegal immigration cited the French riots as evidence that President Bush should abandon plans to accommodate more foreigners under a guest worker program.

"France is being ripped apart by the unemployed and unassimilated offspring of their own failed guest worker programs of the 1970s and 1980s," said Dan Stein of the Federation for American Immigration Reform. "If we bring millions of guest workers to this country, they will never leave. ... We will face massive social problems and costs down the road."

Several commentators suggested that France, more so than the United States, was likely to be so chastened by the latest trauma that it would undertake concrete steps to fight poverty and discrimination. Others were skeptical.

"I'm not very optimistic that this will lead to powerful change in either country," said Thomas, the UCLA professor. "There are incredible pressures not to look at these questions."

# Yolanda King, American Stroke Association Launch Power To End Stroke Campaign

It happened to Coretta Scott King, Luther Vandross, and Robert Guillaume. And it may happen to you - a stroke. In fact, blacks are almost twice as likely to have a stroke as whites, and about 100,000 African Americans will suffer from one this year, according to the American Stroke Association, a division of the American Heart Association.

That's why Yolanda King, daughter of Coretta Scott King and the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., has teamed with the American Stroke Association to launch Power To End Stroke - an aggressive education and

may be shared with relatives and friends, and includes a reply card for people to request and receive stroke-related information and incentives throughout the year.

The American Stroke Association encourages African Americans to know their family's health history, and work with their doctors to prevent and manage stroke risks. "A substantial number of African Americans aren't making the connection that their ethnicity and family's history increases their stroke risk," said Bruce Ovbiagele, M.D., a neurologist at UCLA Westwood Hospital. "Some factors, such as family history, age, ethnicity and having a previous stroke, increase risk for stroke and can't be controlled. Others, such as high blood pressure, smoking, diabetes, obesity or high cholesterol can be changed or treated."

"Since my mother has suffered a stroke, I know that it is doubly important for my family and me to pay special attention to the risk factors that we can control or eliminate. That's why we are taking the American Stroke Association's pledge and getting serious about reducing our stroke risks for ourselves and our legacy," King said.

"In most cases, stroke is not inevitable," said Dr. Ovbiagele. "Taking simple steps now against even one risk factor can help reduce your risk of stroke."

Join the movement to fight stroke because you are the power to end stroke:

- \* Put down the cigarettes and stop smoking.
- \* Observe advice from your doctor and know your family's medical history.
- \* Watch your weight and be physically active at least 30 minutes most days of the week.
- \* Eat healthfully, avoid foods high in saturated, trans fat, cholesterol and sodium.
- \* Regulate and control high blood pressure and diabetes.

It is never too late to take action against stroke. For more information about the American Stroke Association or how you can join the "movement" to fight stroke, call 1-888-4-STROKE or visit [StrokeAssociation.org/power](http://StrokeAssociation.org/power).



awareness initiative to reach African Americans, who are at greater risk than other ethnic groups.

An American Stroke Association survey of African Americans, conducted in August by Harris Interactive, found that 70 percent of African American adults think they are knowledgeable about stroke. However,

- \* Only 30 percent correctly define stroke;
- \* 49 percent know stroke symptoms; and
- \* Only 43 percent recognize that African Americans are the racial/ethnic group at the most risk for stroke; and
- \* 51 percent of African-American adults do not think that they will ever have a stroke.

"We want African Americans to first take the association's stroke pledge," King said. "It's a promise for people to sign committing to not just 'survive,' but 'thrive' by doing their part to make the right health choices for themselves, their families and their communities to prevent and overcome stroke." The pledge

# Dellums Commission Holds Symposium On Minority Youths Tried As Adults

The Dellums Commission, headed by former Oakland Congressman Ronald V. Dellums, is calling on national and state criminal justice officials to reform practices and policies responsible for increasing the number of minority youths tried as adults in courtrooms across the country.

At a symposium held jointly with the National Bar Association on Saturday, Rep. Dellums led a discussion of the problems associated with treating juveniles as adults in the court system, and also addressed the broader impact on communities when a disproportionate percentage of minorities, particularly African-American youths, are sentenced to and jail cells.

"This trend of sending young men off to prison instead of using the juvenile justice system is limiting the life options for male youth of color," Mr. Dellums said. "Too frequently the adult justice system is the

destination point for young men of color due to policy failures in health and education, and a lack of family and community support." Rep. Dellums cited alarming statistics from the US Bureau of Justice Statistics showing that last year 2,267,787 people were incarcerated in the United States, and nearly two-thirds of the prison population were persons of color, mostly males. In fact, the data showed that 8.4 percent of African Americans ages 25 to 29 are in state or fed-

eral prisons. Further, Amnesty International found that there are currently 2,225 prisoners across the country serving life without parole sentences for crimes that were committed when they were a juvenile.

The Dellums Commission, established this year by the Joint Center Health Policy Institute, consists of national policy makers, government officials, educators, health professionals and business, legal and religious leaders, who are studying the problems plaguing male youth of color, and making recommendations to increase opportunities for these youths.

The symposium identified several public policy issues that need to be addressed, such as zero-tolerance policies in schools that are resulting in excessive expulsions among African American males; judicial policies that allow juveniles to face criminal infractions in adult courts with subsequent detention in adult facilities; dwindling economic and job opportunities for

the minority youths, which is often a factor in turning them to crime; and the lack of adequate mental health and drug treatment programs.

Dr. Gail Christopher, VP for Health, Women and Family for the Joint Center and director of the Joint Center Health Policy Institute, said the rate of incarceration among young African American males is increasing because of misguided public policies and social ills that limit life options. For instance, Dr. Christopher noted that the Bureau of Justice Statistics has found that two-thirds of male youths in juvenile justice system have been diagnosed with emotional disturbances.

Participants in the symposium included California Assemblyman Mervyn Dymally; Washington State Rep. John McCoy; New York Assemblyman Felix Ortiz; Dr. Gloria Grantham, CEO of Chester Upland School District in Pennsylvania; George White, of UCLA's Center for Communications and Community and the Honorable Arthur L. Burnett who sits on the Dellums Commission.



(From Left To Right) Judge Arthur Burnett, Pat Babcock, George White, Ron Dellums, and Reginald Turner prepare for start of Dellums Commission symposium on minority youths treated as adults in the courts.

ty to view what is going on in the Christian business community. We want to unite and network Christians in business, one of our goals is to keep dollars circulating within the Christian community".

The Christian Business Expo will feature networking and vendor booths displaying and advertising Christian business products. The Expo will also feature VIP "Power Networking" session, which includes a "Power Lunch" with a theme of "Strategic Wealth Transfer for Christians". Speakers for the luncheon are Minister Tim Lynch and KDFW/Fox 4 Reporter and Pastor Shaun Rabb. The Expo and the luncheon will take place at the Dallas Infomart, 1950 Stemmons Freeway, Dallas. The Expo is from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, the luncheon is from Noon- 2:00

pm. Admission to the Expo is free to the public.

Minister Timothy Lynch is ordained Elder of the Potter's House Church, pastured by Bishop T.D. Jakes. Mr. Lynch has spent the last 15 years studying organizational development and leadership principles as they relate to the church and is author of the book "10 Habits of Highly Effective Christians". He is also an advisory board member of Forward Dallas, an organization devoted to developing comprehensive faith-based strategic plans for neighborhoods. He founded the Christian Chamber of Commerce in May of 2004, with an immediate objective of creating an instrument for investment in Christian businesses. Mr. Lynch's founding principle behind the organization is simple.

"When Christian businesses prosper, they undergird the

church and the church as a whole prospers. We are attempting to develop 'spiritually conscious' capitalists."

The Christian Chamber of Commerce is branching out and opening several satellite offices both domestically and internationally. Plans are to open offices in India and Kenya by February of 2006. Additional offices are scheduled to open in Atlanta, New York, Detroit, Chicago, Baltimore and Virginia in the early part of next year.

The Christian Chamber is also partnering with the SMU Cox School of Business Entrepreneurial Component in developing a curriculum for alternate investment strategies and creating and Christian business investment instrument.

The Christian Chamber is dedicated to carrying out the biblical principles of fair and honest trade as outlined in

Leviticus.

"We must build an economic base from a Christian perspective," said Minister Lynch. "That begins with socially responsible investment in underserved communities and underdeveloped countries".

For more information on the 1st Annual Christian Business Expo, call 972-556-0522 or email: [events@ccc1.us](mailto:events@ccc1.us)



Christian Chamber of Commerce Founder Timothy Lynch

# Xavier Struggles To Survive Post-Katrina

By: Russ Bynum

Warped wooden floors and ruined desks have been stripped out of Xavier University's main campus building. Its 4,000 students are scattered across the nation. Half the faculty and staff have been laid off.

The nation's only historically black and Roman Catholic college, which expected to be celebrating its 180th anniversary this year, was battered to the brink of financial collapse by Hurricane Katrina.

"If you bottled up all of the problems I've had in 38 years, it would only be half the bottle compared to what Katrina did," said Norman C. Francis, Xavier's president of nearly four decades.

Founded in 1825 by the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, the liberal arts college has built a reputation for black students seeking medical careers. It sends more black undergraduates to medical school than any other university in the nation. It is also tops in graduating black pharmacists.

But after Katrina hit New Orleans on Aug. 29, Xavier's midtown campus was flooded with water up to 8 feet deep.

Administrators estimate losses at more than \$90 million in

storm damage and lost tuition and scholarship revenue, a devastating sum for a school whose endowment is only \$52 million.

Xavier was forced to lay off or place on unpaid leave 396 of its 784 faculty and staff. That included terminating 78 faculty members, a third of Xavier's professors.

"Those were tough decisions nobody likes to make," Francis said. "You wait in hope that maybe somebody will drop a big bag of money at your doorstep and you can keep them all. But that didn't happen."

Chemistry professor Heike Geissler learned of her termination last month at Williams College in Williamstown, Mass., where she has been watching over eight Xavier students who enrolled there after Katrina.

"I don't want to see Xavier going bankrupt or disappearing from the map, so I'm not mad or sad," said Geissler, who taught there for seven years and was tenured in 2005. "I have to get on with my life. I'm very seriously considering leaving Louisiana."

Dillard University, another



## Manufacturers Expo: Quality Jewelry At Discount Prices

What if you could buy high end merchandise at discounted prices? Would that be appealing? This was the idea behind Behzad Sarhady's desire to create just that type of store. Having been in the jewelry and retail business for 30 years, Behzad turned his dream into action. Desire plus action equals a unique shopping envi-

ronment", states Sarhady. At ME there is no middleman. The savings are passed on to the customer. ME offers their merchandise, as well as other name brand fine jewelry elegantly displayed in sixty-six showcases.

The general manager and gemologist for the store Todd Bales stated, "We wanted to build a store that everyone can leave with something." In order to offer significant discounts, they manufacturer a majority of the merchandise they sell and "deliver it straight to their showroom. "Shopping at ME", according to Bale "Is like going to Neiman Marcus and buying at half price."

As for future plans Sarhady dreams big. "I think the key to our success is that we have a unique business." To that end he hopes to have at least 50 stores nationally.

Aside from offering discounted prices and outstanding customer service, just in time for the holiday season, ME is working on developing a website so customers can shop online.



Behzad Sarhady and Todd Bales

ronment housed in a 15,000 sq. ft. showroom located in east Plano at 5900 K Ave., called Manufacturer's Expo.

"We decided to take our company straight to the cus-

## Stream Adding 1,000 Short-Term Jobs In N. Texas

Technical support outsourcing firm Stream announced Wednesday it will add more than 1,000 new short-term positions at its contact center in Carrollton.

Stream officials said numerous positions are immediately available, and hiring will continue through early December.

"These new positions create great opportunities for people in the Dallas area to learn new skills," Debra Millage, acting site director of Stream's Carrollton site, said. "The short-term positions offer supplemental holiday income as well as a fun environment supporting customers of the very best satellite radio provider."

These inbound customer service positions will support Sirius Satellite Radio in what is

expected to be a hectic holiday season. The company plans to launch exciting new programming in January, including the addition of nationally-syndicated host Howard Stern.

Stream provides flexible shifts and paid training for all positions, as well as giveaways, contests and other incentives. In addition to placing an application on its Web site, Stream is accepting applications at 1235 Trinity Mills Road in Carrollton.

Stream's Richardson facility currently employs 100 people in its contact center and provides service for major technology companies, including computer hardware and software manufacturers. The Carrollton site will open specifically for supporting Sirius.

## Gasoline Prices Drop For Fifth Straight Week

For the fifth straight week, average retail gasoline prices have dropped nationwide, falling below \$2.40 a gallon for the first time since early August.

The federal Energy Information Administration said Monday that U.S. motorists paid \$2.376 cents a gallon on average for regular grade last week, a decline of more than 10 cents from the previous week. Pump prices are still 38 cents higher than a year ago.

Average retail prices peaked at \$3.07 a gallon in early September, a reflection of the extreme tightness in the market following Hurricane Katrina, which knocked out refineries in the Gulf region, as well as pipelines that deliver fuel to the

East Coast and Midwest. Prices have since retreated because of the recovery of oil production and refining facilities, increased imports from Europe and a slight reduction in demand.

Gasoline prices were most expensive last week on the West Coast, averaging \$2.623 per gallon, and cheapest in the Midwest, averaging \$2.231 per gallon.

One of the key factors underpinning the high price of gasoline is the cost of crude oil, which has been elevated by strong demand, tight global supplies and geopolitical uncertainties.

Crude-oil futures settled Monday at \$59.47 on the New York Mercantile Exchange. That is about 20 percent higher than a year ago.

## Chicago Company Closing N. Texas Facility

Packaging Dynamics Corp. plans to close its Texas manufacturing plant in Farmers Branch early next year, the company said Monday.

Production at the facility, which employs about 55 people, will be transferred to other facilities owned by the Chicago-based packaging company.

"The decision to close this facility was very difficult and should not be viewed as a reflection of the efforts or performance of our employees," said the company's CEO and Chairman Frank V. Tannura in

a written statement. "We believe this action will better position the business for accelerated revenue and earnings growth as we enter 2006."

The company bought Atlanta-based Papercon Inc., a maker of paper- and foil-based specialty packaging products, in September 2004 for \$68.4 million. At the time of the announcement, Papercon had manufacturing facilities in Dallas, Atlanta and Los Angeles.

A spokesman for the company was not immediately available for comment.

## Can TV One Become A Better BET?



By: Kehlin Sears

When Broadcast company Radio One Inc. and cable giant Comcast Corp. joined forces last year, some industry insiders believed that the merger would eventually challenge Black Entertainment Television's (BET) dominance over the African-American programming market.

With last month's announcement of a programming distribution deal with Verizon, it appears that TV One may be moving toward challenging

BET's dominance.

The creator, Alfred Liggins III, first had the idea for a new channel in 1999 after he noticed blacks had one television outlet in BET and Hispanics nearly a half-dozen.

Despite some similarities, TV One CEO Liggins said his network differs from BET.

"We're going to be more adult-focused. We won't be heavily focused on music videos," Liggins told Black Enterprise Magazine. "We're not going after [BET's] audience. We'll be heavily targeting 25 to 54-year-olds, with very little, if any, 12 to 24-year-old content." Still, the timing for a new network to challenge BET could not be any better.

BET, founded in 1980 by entrepreneur Robert L. Johnson, has for two decades had a lock on black cable programming.

The channel has almost always faced criticism about its heavy rotation toward music videos and away from news programming.

That criticism picked up

steam in 2000 when BET was sold to media giant Viacom for \$3 billion. Many critics feared that with BET no longer under African-American control, its new owners would feel no responsibility to broadcast news and public affairs programming geared toward our community.

"A lot of the quality of the programs has definitely lessened, but BET is the only station I can rely on to have all African-American themed programs, with music I like or with people who look like me, as opposed to MTV," sophomore broadcast journalism major Simone White said. "So I just deal with the bad to get some of the good."

BET officials also announced that they were eliminating 'BET Tonight With Ed Gordon,' 'Lead Story,' and teen-issue program 'Teen Summit,' leaving the network with only one Sunday morning news program and a slew of entertainment shows like 'College Hill' or 'The New Comic View.'

"I feel all these shows that are being cancelled are the result of

Robert Johnson selling out to Viacom," said sophomore speech communication major Brandon Willis. "If we owned our own companies, we could control what is being put out under the name Black Entertainment Television."

With the big programming gap at BET, a huge opportunity opens for the Radio One-Comcast network. Sophomore business marketing major Whitney Hopkins said, "There is a huge demand for a new alternative to BET."

Hopkins adds, "If TV One plays their cards right and also let in a slightly younger demographic, it would surely surpass BET."

TV One is doing just that. The company recently announced plans to launch a hip-hop cable with entertainment mogul Russell Simmons. Given Simmons' popularity with the young hip-hop generation, the venture with TV One may give the cable system deeper penetration into African-American households.

## Gabberts Exiting Dallas-Fort Worth

Gabberts Furniture and Design Studio said Tuesday it plans to shutter its Dallas-Fort Worth operations.

"After 32 years in the Metroplex, it's with deep sadness that we've made the difficult decision to divest our Dallas and Fort Worth operations," said Gabberts CEO and Chairman Jim Gabbert. "Five years of declining sales and increasing operating expenses have forced a number of privately held, high-end home fur-

nishings retailers out of business around the country."

The Edina, Minn.-based furniture retailer operates a 100,000-square-foot store and adjacent warehouse and service center at 13342 Midway Road in Dallas and a 70,000-square-foot store at 6301 Oakmont Blvd. in Fort Worth. The company, earlier this year, closed its outlet store at 4207 Simonton Road in Dallas.

Gabberts said it is currently considering a number of strate-

gies for its area operations, ranging from selling the stores to licensing the Gabberts name to liquidating its inventory and exiting the market. The family-owned company said it expects to make a final decision by late February.

The company's Fort Worth store is currently up for sale and the company leases its Dallas showroom and service center.

Gabberts has 177 employees at its Dallas-Fort Worth stores. The company employs 228

workers at its Minnesota headquarters and said about 32 of those positions will be eliminated as a result of the Texas market divestiture.

Gabbert said the company's stores and design studios would continue to take new orders and would fulfill all current customer orders.

"We know it will be difficult for our employees and our valued customers to continue business-as-usual operations, but that's the case," Gabbert said.

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# Dallas Airport Dispute Goes To Washington

Verbal sparring over a 26-year-old law restricting flights from a Dallas regional airport filled an oversized congressional hearing room Thursday, but the Republican chairman of an aviation Senate panel said the issue isn't going to be resolved soon.

American and Southwest airlines have been exchanging barbs over whether Congress should repeal the Wright Amendment since Southwest launched an offensive last year against it. The hearing was the first in about a decade over the law authored by former House Speaker Jim Wright in 1979, when he was U.S. House majority leader. (When the hearing was finished, panel chairman Sen. Conrad Burns, R-Mont., noted the dueling testimony had made for a "spirited hearing.")

Burns said the fate of the Wright Amendment would take time to decide because it would affect the nation's aviation system, but the law's opponents may soon put another dent in it.

During one of the hearing's liveliest moments, Southwest Airlines founder Herb Kelleher leapt from his chair at the witness table — as if he were a lawyer objecting at a trial — and interrupted testimony of Kevin Cox, Dallas Fort Worth International Airport's chief executive.

Cox was quoting a statement Kelleher made in a deposition, but Kelleher insisted he hadn't read his full statement.

The Wright Amendment pertains only to Love Field in central Dallas but prevents any airline from flying from that airport beyond Texas, with the exception of four contiguous

states and three others. Although it was born of controversy, the law has largely kept the peace between airlines and Dallas and Fort Worth.

Gerard Arpey, chairman and

premise that Wright would remain in place forever.

He dismissed arguments that restricting flights at Love Field is anti-competition, arguing that Southwest could move to and compete at DFW Airport — as did all other airlines when Love Field was to be shut down.

Kelleher scoffed at Arpey's prediction of job losses and cutbacks in services should the amendment be lifted. He said similar predictions of doom and gloom were made when Southwest went to court to keep Love Field from shutting down.

"You'd have thought we threatened to release the four

horsemen of the Apocalypse," Kelleher said.

Kelleher said he protested "bitterly" when the Wright Amendment was brokered in a conference committee but accepted it after he recognized that the Jim Wright "was the majority leader and I was not."

"In the ensuing years, DFW has gotten so big that I'm surprised it hasn't been implicated in the steroids scandal," he said.

The airport is one of the biggest in the country, and American controls 84% of the passenger traffic at DFW "and does not necessarily welcome interlopers with warm milk and graham crackers," Kelleher said.

Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and John Ensign, R-Nev., asked American and DFW officials why DFW couldn't coexist with much smaller Love Field if both are allowed to operate

long-haul flights.

"Why can't DFW compete like San Francisco does with Oakland, like Miami does with Fort Lauderdale, and like Chicago O'Hare does with Midway?" Ensign asked.

Arpey and Cox said local officials decided decades ago it would be best for the regional economy to close Love Field and operate a single strong airport. Cox also said the airports Ensign named are run by the same local government boards and share revenue, while Love Field and DFW are run separately and don't share proceeds, such as landing fees.

When Arpey and Cox raised the issue that Dallas and Fort Worth had agreed to close their respective local airports to operate DFW, Ensign snapped: "That's past history. Southwest Airlines won that argument in the courts."

## Activists Website Page 1

rarely on our side, and too many Democrats take our support for granted. And it needs to change."

"The energy is out there. It just hasn't been tapped," Rucker said. Given simple, tangible ways to make a difference, people will act. And when they act together, it amplifies their political voice. We've seen it with MoveOn.org and were seeing it now. ColorOfChange.org members use the Internet to pressure elected officials using petitions and phone calls, and soon they'll be able to support media campaigns that call attention to issues that concern them and thereby frame the public debate. Our mission is to help Black people and pro-Black people become politically engaged and to have a renewed and strengthened political voice."

The effort already has some successes under its belt. More than 5,400 people signed the groups online petition to hold radio host and former U.S. Secretary of Education Bill

Bennett accountable for his racial comments that "you could abort every black baby in this country, and your crime rate would go down."

James Rucker, 36, is a veteran leader of online activism. As Grassroots Mobilization Director, Rucker helped MoveOn.org grow into a powerful 3.3 million-member organization. MoveOn's mission is to return political influence to where it's supposed to be in a democracy — everyday people — instead of moneyed special interests and corporations.

Van Jones, 37, is the founder and executive director of the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights (EBC). Under Jones' leadership, EBC has grown from a small local non-profit to a leading organization in the national fight for alternatives to the "incarceration industry." Jones is also a leader in the push to integrate the environmental movement with other social justice movements.

In time, the duo plans to build a membership of 250,000 people.

ColorOfChange.org will tackle many key issues, including economic fairness and opportunity for African-Americans.

"When TV is showing you people who look like your grandmothers and your children just dying and getting no help in the richest country in the world, you can't just go on with business as usual," Jones said. "With ColorOfChange.org, we are on the path to making sure that nobody gets left behind like that ever again."



Color of Change  
Co-founder James Rucker

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## It's All Peace And Love At The Vibe Awards: Mariah Picks Up Four; Blige Crowned 'Legend,' No One Is Stabbed.

Amidst a security presence resembling the Secret Service, the third annual Vibe Awards came and went Saturday without a chair being tossed or a rapper being assaulted. The evening saw Mariah Carey walk away with a show-leading four trophies, and the crowning of Mary J. Blige as this year's Vibe Legend Award winner. (See full list of winners below.) The show will air tomorrow night on UPN at 8pm Eastern/Pacific and 7pm central.

Security was indeed thick at the ceremony, held at Sony Pictures studio lot in Culver City, Calif. Organizers were trying to avoid the brawl that briefly interrupted the show last year and sent a man to jail with a stab wound, courtesy of rapper Young Buck - allegedly.

The 2004 melee occurred when Dr. Dre was sucker-punched as he was walking to the stage to receive an award. The assailant, Jimmy James Johnson, was then allegedly stabbed by Buck, whose real name is David Darnell Brown. Johnson was sentenced to a year in jail last September, while Brown is free on bail awaiting trial.

To ensure that a repeat of 2004's event in Santa Monica would not be repeated, artists and audience members alike had to go through metal detectors to enter the venue, and

organizers requested a promise from labels that their artists wouldn't act a fool.

"We certainly took all the necessary precautions that we felt we needed to take," said Vibe publisher Kenard Gibbs, who added that the magazine decided to take another chance on staging the show after receiving support from advertisers, record labels and broadcaster UPN, which will air the ceremony on Tuesday.



Meanwhile, Carey won Artist of the Year, R&B Voice of the Year, Best R&B Song for "We Belong Together" and Album of the Year for "The Emancipation of Mimi."

"Whatever you're going through in your life, don't ever give up," she said at the podium.

The Diplomats were named Best Group, while T.I. won the Street Anthem award for "U Don't Know Me." The night's

first award, for Hottest Hook, went to "Hate It or Love It," by The Game featuring 50 Cent. While 50 did not attend, the Game accepted the award with the word "G-Unot" shaved into the side of his head.

The topic of last year's brawl became a popular theme for jokes throughout the evening, which was hosted by Tracee Ellis Ross from the sitcom "Girlfriends" and actor Anthony Anderson.

"Three awards have been given out, and no one's been stabbed yet. Come on black people!" said presenter Tony Rock, brother of comedian Chris Rock.

Damian "Jr. Gong" Marley, Bob Marley's son, got the crowd hyped with his reggae hit, "Welcome to Jamrock," which won the Boomshot Award honoring Caribbean music.

A segment featuring performances from artists affected by the hurricanes included New Orleans-based Lil' Wayne, Houston's Paul Wall and rapper David Banner from Jacksonville, Miss.

Quincy Jones presented Mary J. Blige with the VLegend award, a special honor for her 15 years in music.

"Like a phoenix, I stayed strong and didn't kill myself," Blige said backstage, noting her struggle over the years with drugs, alcohol and depression.

## Halle, Tyra, Diddy Make B.E.'S Under 40 Hot List

Halle Berry, Tyra Banks and Sean "Diddy" Combs are among the entertainers who grace the Black Enterprise 2005 Hot List of America's Most Powerful Players Under 40.

The list is comprised of professionals, entrepreneurs and moguls whose influence, talent and business prowess have produced billions of dollars in revenues.

Other celebrities on the list include Jay-Z and Beyonce, Aaron McGruder, Tyler Perry and Kanye West. Members of this year's list range from BE100s CEOs and financiers to innovative scientists, politicians, entertainment moguls and hip-hop entrepreneurs.

The full list is featured in the

December 2005 issue, available on newsstands Nov. 22. Here are some of the entertainers who made the cut:

Nick Cannon, 25, Actor &



Producer

Shawn "Jay-Z" Carter, 36, President & CEO, Def Jam Recordings

Sean "Diddy" Combs, 36, Chairman & CEO, Bad Boy Entertainment

Antoine Fuqua, 39, Film

Director, Producer, Fuqua Films

F. Gary Gray, 36, Film

Director, Producer

Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson, 30, Rapper, Entrepreneur, G-Unit

Beyonce Knowles, 24, Singer, Actress

Soledad O'Brien, 39, Anchor/Reporter, American Morning, CNN

John Singleton, 38, Executive Producer & Filmmaker

Stephen A. Smith, 38, NBA Analyst, ESPN

Will Smith, 37, Producer, Actor, Overbrook Entertainment

Raven-Symone, 20, Actor, Singer, Producer

Pharrell Williams, 32, Producer, Star Trak Entertainment

Wyclef, 33, Hip-Hop Artist, Producer

Director, Producer, Fuqua Films

## Snoop Supports Tookie

Rapper Snoop Dogg is expected to attend a community protest of the execution of Stanley "Tookie" Williams at San Quentin State Prison.

In 1981, Williams was sentenced to death after being convicted of slaying four people in Los Angeles.

Williams, now a Nobel Peace

prize nominated author, has maintained his innocence and penned a number of children's books.

Williams, now 51, and Raymond Washington, a high school friend, established the Crips street gang in Los Angeles in 1971.

Williams is slated to be exe-



cuted on December 13. Savetookie.org, has been erected to galvanize support him.

## Simmons Media Group Backs New Hip-Hop Channel

Hip-hop mogul Russell Simmons' media group this month will launch a video-on-demand channel for rap music, aiming to capture a coveted urban male demographic with programming that partly relies on advertisers.

The channel, dubbed DoD, was created by media entrepreneur Will Griffin together with the Simmons Lathan Media Group.

Beginning on Friday, the channel will be available free to subscribers of cable operator Comcast Corp. in 22 markets, with sponsorship from advertisers that include athletic apparel maker Reebok, Coca-Cola Co. and General Motors Corp.

"We're trying to do something grassroots and organic for the fans," DoD Chief Executive Griffin told Reuters. "Our obligation is to find more morsels, more content and put more out there than you would see any-

where else."

The channel will offer music videos, documentaries on hip-hop stars, features on locally popular bands, and comedy specials.

Griffin said some of the new programming includes interview footage that Reebok shot with top stars like 50 Cent and Jay-Z for its RBK apparel campaign, letting the advertiser take advantage of content that normally wouldn't make it past the commercial cutting room.

"Those commercials were shot documentary-style," Griffin said. "With a typical media buy, they could only show 30 seconds of that, but for a fan of 50 Cent, almost anything they shot will be interesting."

Other advertising and branding opportunities include a short-form documentary produced by General Motors that focuses on Slum Village, a group popular in the Detroit area.

Griffin said DoD is in talks with other cable operators and media companies to offer the service to other audiences and through additional media devices.

Clear Channel Entertainment Properties, part of Clear Channel Communications, signed on the advertisers to the new venture.



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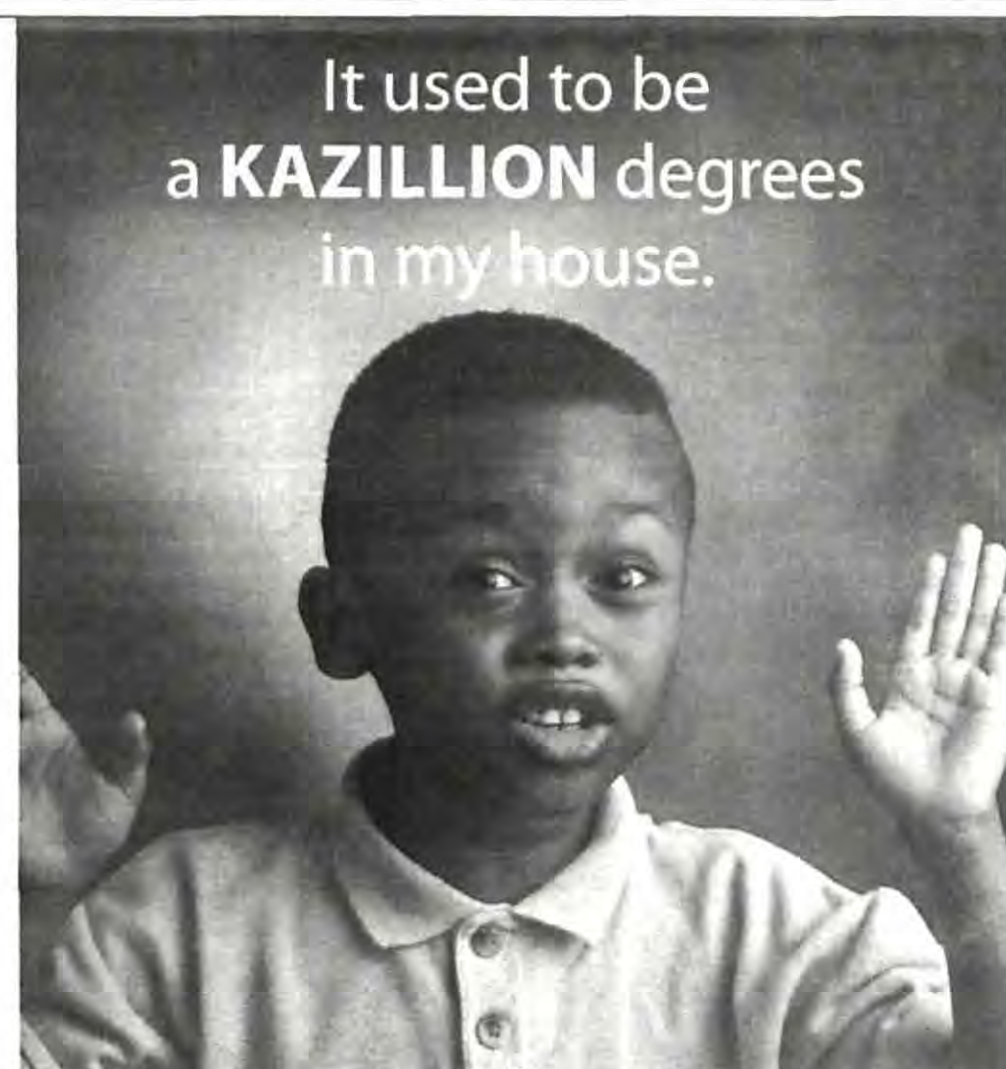
Check it out, this story is about race. How often has your child wondered why some children are Black and others are White. Well, so does Douglas, the lead character in Cherub-The Human Race. So he prays to God for an answer. God answers by sending Cherub, an angel, to carry the message that when God created the world, White and Black children etc. He said it was good - so Black is good and White is good. We are all fearfully and wonderfully made. Cherub-The Human Race plants a seed of high-self esteem from a Biblical perspective. There is also a nine-week lesson plan written for Bible Study teachers.

Well, it looks like the public, or at least some members of the public who have read an advance copy, have decided that it is a winner! Dr. Ginger Smith honored as one of the top twenty teachers in the nation by USA Today said, "an explosion of color and values;

if you like the wonder and imagination of Dr. Seuss and the quality of Walt Disney then you'll like this too! And the accolades do not stop there, Stephanie Strickland WJTV News Channel 12 said, "I loved it! This book manages in simple words to echo Dr. King's dream. Every child should read this!" Judge Houston Patton remarked, "Cherub-The Human Race is an exceptional book that depicts positive images of children's perception of humanity."

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## Dallas Housing Authority Celebrates Rising Youth Through Scholarships



The Housing Authority of the City of Dallas, Texas (DHA) awarded nearly \$70,000 in scholarships through its Celebrating Rising Youth in their Successes, Talents, Achievements and Leadership (C.R.Y.S.T.A.L.) Scholarship Awards program. The Phoenix Self-Sufficiency Foundation, a non-profit organization, donates funds for C.R.Y.S.T.A.L. scholarships that range from \$500 to \$2500. The Foundation provides financial assistance to residents of DHA who choose to attend college, trade or technical school.

DHA is the only housing

authority in North Texas to offer such a program. This year, DHA awarded 50 students for academic excellence, leadership and community involvement. "We provide more than housing for the families we serve," said Ann Lott, president and CEO. "DHA continues to support educational programs because we recognize that education remains one of the primary factors in determining a family's level of economic independence."

Kimberly Tutt, a graduate of Lincoln Humanities & Communications Magnet, received the 2005 Ann Lott award for achieving academic

excellence, displaying a positive self-image and demonstrating exceptional leadership in her school and community. Tutt said the stories her great-grandmother shared with her about being denied the right to an education pushes her to succeed.

"I know my grandmother is watching over me, witnessing how her stories and past has motivated and molded my future. I am a leader, versatile and focused person today because of it." Tutt is pursuing an education at the University of North Texas majoring in psychology and microbiology.

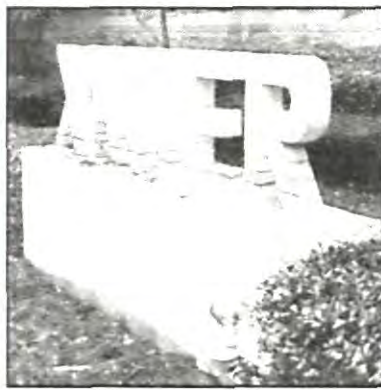
Since the C.R.Y.S.T.A.L. pro-

gram's inception more than half of the scholarship recipients have completed four-year college or trade programs, with some earning graduate degrees. LaQuandra Brown said support from DHA enabled her to finish undergraduate and graduate school studies. In 2000, Brown earned a Bachelor of Science from Tulane University and obtained a juris doctor from The University of Texas at Austin in May. Still in pursuit of her educational goals, Brown is studying in London this fall.

For more information on how to contribute to the Phoenix Foundation call 214-583-2030. The Phoenix Foundation has awarded over \$300,000 in C.R.Y.S.T.A.L. scholarships to students who reside in public housing or developments that accept Section 8 subsidy.

Created in 1938, DHA offers housing assistance to low-income families. Some 450 employees provide housing opportunities to nearly 60,000 people through public housing and housing choice voucher (formerly Section 8) programs.

Xavier Struggles Page 4



historically black New Orleans college with 2,155 students, also had to lay off about half its faculty and staff. It estimates its losses at \$400 million.

Since 2001, more than 350 Xavier graduates have been enrolled in medical schools. Xavier also claims to have graduated one of every four of the nation's black pharmacists.

Up to a third of the black students enrolled annually at Emory University Medical School in Atlanta come from Xavier, said Dr. Bill Eley, an Emory associate dean.

"While we all want to increase the number of African-American doctors, we are constantly searching for qualified

applicants. And Xavier has been a key part of meeting that need," Eley said.

Both Xavier and Dillard plan to hold classes in January.

Dillard's classes will temporarily be held at nearby Tulane University. Finding temporary classrooms and student housing by January, President Marvalene Hughes said, has been "like starting a university all over again."

Francis said Xavier plans to hold classes on its own campus, though the water-damaged ground floors of many buildings may have to be sealed off. He expects roughly half the student body to come back for the winter semester.

Rene Turner, a 21-year-old Xavier senior in pre-medicine, hopes to be among them. She transferred for the fall to Williams College.

"I feel like that's my home now," Turner, of Kansas City, Mo., said of Xavier. "I have a deep connection there and have spent so much time there. I definitely want to graduate from Xavier."

Promoting Diversity Page 1

diverse cultures, came to me wanting a transition to higher learning," said the 35-year educator and the head of Choices.

At the time, Harkey ran a tutoring service and an after-school program. Once a building became available—the former north location of Brookhaven College—the school was officially established.

The school instructs fifth through eighth grade students and has an enrollment consisting of five blacks, two Hispanics, two Asians and one Indian student. It is the only area prep school with a college (Brookhaven College) affiliation.

Pheap Chay heard of Choices when she initially sought math tutoring for her daughter Anny Tin. After speaking with Harkey, she soon discovered how Choices could benefit her daughter's education and enrolled her.

"I can see a real difference," she said. "She knows what to do now and doesn't need my help anymore." Chay also said she is impressed with the attention given to each student.

According to the school, keeping an eight to ten student per teacher ratio is just one of the advantages of Choices, but a very important one.

"I know my kids' weaknesses, strengths and interests," said Jan Weever, Choice's literature and language arts teacher. She said keeping a small class allows her to focus on a particular student's needs, something not commonly found in public and even some private schools.

Science and math teacher Jerry Bartz agrees.

"I can identify those little problems and immediately get with the student to correct it," he said.

But what most parents may find most appealing about the school, is its primary focus—diversity. Not only does the school seek a multiracial student body, but it also teaches diversity in the classroom.

"A lot of schools embrace diversity, but we've incorporated it into our curriculum," Harkey said. Students presented community leaders with an interactive look at each of their races and cultures a few months ago. In addition, race and culture is emphasized in class lessons.

"They learn so much from each other's cultures and backgrounds," Harkey said. She said students have learned more about India, for example, and "why some kids from India don't eat beef" than from any textbook.

LaTanya Martin said she likes that her son Billy now learns about more than one race at school.

"They taught black history in public school. But he's learning languages and about different people and what they've went through," she said.

Some may find it difficult to understand why it's necessary to have a prep middle school to "prepare" students for high school. But Choices contends these formative years are the best place to begin preparing kids for a successful academic future.

"It's a critical time," Bartz said. "If I can get them to enjoy math at these grades, they'll be more comfortable with the material in high school and college."

"If you can capture their love of learning, then they'll have a better concept of success," Harkey said.

Martin agreed, saying she hopes this time in her son's education will spur him on to bigger and better things.

"I want him to stay on that level. I really do think they [Choices] will give my son the advantage he needs to get into a good private high school," she said.

Parents such as Martin have received more than just academic advantages from Choices. Billy is one of six students who have benefited from scholarships to pay for their tuition.



Choices students get instruction during Karate Class.

Harkey realizes the challenges that face low-income families with academically gifted children. Tuition is set at \$8,950 a year but she said even though a few families have been turned away in the past, the school is currently enrolling and now has more financial aid to offer to those in need.

Harkey hopes to see enrollment reach between 80 to 100 students.

No matter how many students attend Choices, Weever hopes "her kids" can be whatever they want after they leave.

"I want to give them wings," she said.

Slam Dunk Hunger Page 1

nity for support.

"The Dallas Mavericks team and fans have generously helped provide over 1.4 million meals for hungry North Texans over the past five years of 'Slam Dunk Hunger,'" said North Texas Food Bank CEO Jan Pruitt.

"The timing of this year's campaign comes at no greater time as thousands of evacuee families join the ranks of other North Texans in need, working diligently to put a roof over their heads, food on their tables and a solid foundation for a hope-filled future. Each dollar donated by fans or the public is matched by Mavs players and Dave & Buster's to provide 30 meals or \$330 worth of distributed food."

To make donations via credit card, Mavs fans can visit mavs.com during the month of November. In addition, fans who attend the Tuesday, Nov. 22nd Mavs vs. Houston game can make a donation by visiting a collection table on the Plaza concourse of American Airlines Center or locating a volunteer wearing bright-colored "Slam Dunk Hunger with the Mavs" T-shirt on the Plaza and Terrace Level concourses. The collection table and floating volunteers will be on-site throughout the game.

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## Church News



### Sister Tarpley

This was emailed to me the other day. I thought you might enjoy it as much as I did.

While shopping at a local discount store, I spotted a man with an acronym on his shirt that had a "B.A.D. Me"; being a curious person I asked the man, "What does B.A.D. stand for? His response was: B.A.D. stands for "Blessed And Delivered." That thought stayed with me through out the day; so I came up with a little advice for you today. 1) When the enemy tries to attack you, be B.A.D. Pray for the enemy! 2) When things don't seem to be going right on your job, be B.A.D. Take it to the Lord in prayer. 3) When things are not looking good in your marriage, be B.A.D. Talk to your spouse and the two you take it to the Lord in prayer. 4) When folks scandalize your name, just be B.A.D; and take it to the Lord in prayer.

Get with somebody that you know that you can be B.A.D. with and praise God.

**GOOD THINGS TO CONTEMPLATE**

**Just Hang In There:** It is within certain passages of the scriptures we learn that unholiness have an unrestrained reverence for God's word, as well as, God's Will. Peter predicted men will be (scoffers) or they will mock in unbelief the return of the Lord. Those people

## Let's Get B.A.D. Not Mad

who strive to do what's pleasing in God's sight will be ridiculed, talked about, laughed at, and considered foolish for their faith in God. The sinner will be skeptical, critical, and question the sanity of the Christians who trust in the coming of the Lord. Most people do not believe that God will save the world by His Son, Jesus.



### Picture Of The Week

(L to R): Demarcus Blackman, a student @ Skyline High School, Brandon Blackman, a student @ Lincoln High School and Stanley Walker, a Senior Student @ Skyline High School; these handsome young men had just left Morning Worship at Love Chapel Church, Elder Philip White, Pastor

Christians will be reviled, reproached, persecuted, denied, rejected by the world, and even by some who claim to be Christians. My friends, the world has carnal affections. "Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subjected to the law of God, neither indeed can be." (Romans 8:7)

Just because God is a loving father, and He is long suffering, some people have no fear of His return; they think that they will get away from the wrath of God. But don't be fooled!

Christians, "Just Hang In There,"

in spite of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Wilma, earthquakes, fires, floods, and people who do not believe. Hold on, keep praying, keep worshipping, keep serving, keep singing, keep trusting God so that you can hear Him say, "Well done—my son, well done, my daughter, come on up a little higher . . .

**God's Eternal Love:** It's amazing and incredible, but it's as true as it can be. God loves and understands us all, and that means you and me. His Grace is all-sufficient, for both the young and old. It's sufficient for those that are lonely, and those that are timid. For the brash and for the bold God's Grace is indeed sufficient.

No matter what your past has been, trust God to understand. And no matter what your problem is, just place it in His hand. For in all of our unloveliness, this great God loves us still. He loved us since the world began, and what's more God always will!

Greenville Avenue CofC Bulletin

**A final thought**—You can either complain that rose bushes have thorns—or rejoice and praise God that thorn bushes have roses. It's all how you look at the situation.

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

Let *MON-The Gazette* help your church accomplish the Prayer of Jabez, "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."

## Students Expelled For Actions During Hurricane

William Carey College, a predominantly white Southern Baptist private school, has recently wrongfully expelled four black students for using an electric generator during the Presidential-declared disaster.

Immediately following Katrina, several students of the college were stranded due to road blockage, gas shortage, or distance from their homes. A student went into a maintenance shed that had been ripped open by high speed winds and made use of a generator that remained on the campus.

This reportedly helped students recharge and use their cell phones while the land lines were down as well as give them lights at night. The men's dorm lobby, where the generator was being used, also became a safe haven of sorts for some of the remaining female students.

The students were escorted off campus by police with armed military personnel and had to immediately take with them all of their belongings with no place to go. No other students were expelled or reprimanded. When asked what their plans were Marvin Flemmons replied, "We are looking for legal representation and we want our story to get out so this does not happen to anyone else."

## Church Happenings

### CHRIST COMMUNITY CONNECTION, INC.

This Saturday, November 19, 1:00 pm

The public is welcome and encouraged to attend our Fourth Annual Scholarship Banquet. This year the honorees are Rev. Cecil Smith, Sr. for his Community Leadership and Ms. Janice Manous for her work in the field of Education. The banquet will be held at Covenant Church Wedding Chapel, 2644 E. Trinity Mills Road, Carrollton, TX 75006.

There will be plenty of food, fun, fellowship, and entertainment. For more information, tickets and donations, please call 972-242-0933. This is an event that you don't want to miss.

Christ Community Connection  
Rev. Willie Rainwater, Founder/Director  
2006 Southern Oaks  
Carrollton, TX 75007  
972-242-0933

### COALITION OF CHURCHES IN PRISON MINISTRY

On-Going Mentor Program

Our host church, True Lee Baptist Church, 3907 Bertrand Avenue, Dallas, TX 75210, 214-421-9435 where Rev. Donald Parish is the Pastor, is working with a mentor program for children of parents that are incarcerated. Come or call to find out how to get involved. For more information, please call Carolyn Johnson @ 972-235-6432.

Coalition of Churches in Prison Ministry  
Rev. Isaac Johnson, Coordinator  
P. O. Box 225863  
Dallas, TX 75222-5863  
972-235-6432 or  
214-632-6519

### FELLOWSHIP OF BELIEVERS MINISTRIES

November 19, 7:00 pm

Please join us for our "Building Fund Service." Our theme: Building on a Solid Foundation. Our guest speaker will be Dr. David Hill from St. John Baptist Church in Grand Prairie, TX.

For further information contact Minister Dana Blair @ 214-575-8224.

Fellowship of Believers Ministries  
Bishop Gregory Crawford  
Founder and Senior Pastor  
3911 S. Lancaster Road  
Dallas, TX 75216  
214-372-3624

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK

This Saturday, November 19,

12 noon - 3:00 pm

We are the Coordinating Church that will host a Thanksgiving Reunion Dinner for all Hurricane Impacted families, children, and individuals at the Centennial Hall on the Fair Park Grounds in South East Dallas on Grand Street; in the true spirit of Thanksgiving. There will be child care, youth activities, entertainment, fellowship and networking with friends and family. We will also have Information and Service

Booths to assist with any help needed. Please don't forget to bring your I.D. information from Louisiana, FEMA, or the Red Cross.

Additional details, to volunteer your help, to support this endeavor with donations of money or other items, and directions to the dinner site go to the website: www.fbcnp.org or call 469-522-1122 to confirm your attendance. Your call will help us with planning enough food for the meal. Dr. Michael Lindsey is the General Coordinator and The Honorable Leo Chaney, Dallas City Councilman is the City Liaison.

First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park  
Dr. Gregory Foster, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Anthony Foster, Pastor  
300 East Phillips Street  
Richardson, TX 75081-4127  
972-235-4235

### MESQUITE FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

Every 2nd & 4th Sunday

Blood Pressure screening is available to all after the 11:00 am Service.

November 19, 7:00 pm

Please join us for a Holy Spirit-Filled occasion as we host our Annual Harvest Musical. For more information, contact Michael Looney @ 972-329-5030, Ext. 25.

Mesquite Friendship Baptist Church  
Rev. Terry M. Turner, Pastor  
2232 Franklin Drive  
Mesquite, TX 75150  
972-329-5030

### NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Join Us at Our New Worship Location:  
"New Service Times"  
Sunday Life Bible School - Sundays  
@ 9:00 am

Sunday Life Worship Service -  
Sundays @ 10:00 am  
Life In The Word Prayer & Bible  
Study - Wednesdays @ 7:00 pm  
For more information, please call  
972-671-1096

### New Life Fellowship Church

Bishop Miller E. Johnson, Jr.

Senior Pastor

New Worship Location:

Wyndham Garden Hotel-Park

Central

8051 LBJ Freeway

Dallas, TX 75251

972-671-1096

Mailing Address:

P. O. Box 940466

Plano, TX 75094-0466

972-671-1096

### NEW PILGRIM REST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

November 16 - 18, 6:30 pm

V & B Ministries, Inc. will conduct classes for youth and adults. Special Guest Evangelist is Dr. Frank E. Ray, Sr., Pastor of New Salem MBC in Memphis, TN. The General Assembly Instructor will be Dr. Timothy Winters, Pastor of Bayview MBC in San Diego, CA.

For more information, directions, or registration, please call 214-637-1019. Childcare will be provided for children that are 3 years and younger.

### New Pilgrim Rest MBC

Dr. Billy L. Bell, Sr.

Pastor/Teacher

1930 Gallagher Street

Dallas, TX 75212

214-637-1019

Church Happenings Page 10

## MICHELLE'S FIRST LADY FASHION BOUTIQUE

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## Church Directory

### Temple of Faith Christian Chapel C.M.E. Church



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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

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY

The Equipping Church, "Serving Together To Transform Lives"



Sunday Service Times  
9:00 am - Corporate Prayer  
9:30 am - Sunday School  
11:00 am - Morning Worship

Wednesday Night  
7:00 pm - Teacher's Meeting,  
Bible Study, & Mid-Week Service

2nd and 4th Tuesday: 7:30 pm - Family Night

526 Compton Avenue • Irving, TX 75061

972-986-5552

1-888-9-Outreach (Prayer Line)

Email: equippingchurch@sbcglobal.net

### St. Andrew Church of God In Christ

Supt. Kenneth D. Davis, Pastor  
608 Lakey Street • Denton, TX 76205  
940-243-3797 (Metro)  
www.standrewcogic.org  
standrew@charterinternet.com



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Wednesday Bible Study  
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:15 pm • Youth Bible Study: 7:30 pm

Friday Intercessory Prayer  
Early Morning: 6:00 am to 7:00 am • Evening: 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm

Worship Celebrations

1st & 3rd Sundays: . . . 8:30 am Sunday School: . . . . . 9:30 am  
Every Sunday: . . . . . 10:50 am Evening Worship . . . . . 7:00 pm

### 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) 423-6695

www.shilohbaptistchurch.org

### NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

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8:00 AM • 9:30 AM • 11:30 AM

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www.ndcbf.org

Dr. Leslie W. Smith, Senior Pastor

### New Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Dallas

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

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



Dr. Robert E. Price,  
Senior Pastor

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www.nmzb.org (Website) • newmzbc@aol.com (Email)

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Sunday School . . . . . 9:30 am

Sunday Morning Worship/ Children's Church . . . . . 11:00 am

Wednesday Prayer/Bible Study . . . . . 7:00 pm

2nd & 4th Monday / "Youth for Christ" . . . . . 7:00 pm

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\*If you need a ride to worship with us, please call the church.



## With Renovation, Town East Moving In A New Direction

By: Richard Abshire

Town East Mall officials are anxious to show off the center's first major renovation since the mid-1980s.

The changes didn't make the mall bigger, but they brightened the look, added amenities and created clear branding of the three sides of its triangular design - dubbing the three components Lakeside, Parkside and Cityside, each with its own logo and color scheme.

"With 20 million shoppers per year, it could start looking its age," said Amy Mellett, marketing director.

General Manager Jim Foster described the improvements as more than cosmetic and insisted they were not made in response to the opening of Firewheel Town Center in Garland in October.

"We had been planning this since 1999," he said. "Amy knew four years ago what the potential impact would be."

"We just worked with our management to push the renovation through and keep our shoppers loyal," Ms. Mellett said.

Re-opening events are planned for Thursday, Friday and Nov. 19.

General Growth Properties - the nation's second-largest real estate investment trust in the mall business and owner of Stonebriar Centre, Vista Ridge, the Parks at Arlington and Hulen



malls - acquired total interest in Town East in 2004.

One of the key elements of the redesign is a commitment to nonrevenue producing space in the forms of play areas, lounges, nursing rooms and restrooms.

"We're trying to step it up a

notch by making easier for mom to shop," Ms. Mellett said. "We know parents are multitaskers."

A tour of the mall this week found plenty of shoppers taking advantage of the upgraded amenities.

Town East opened in 1971, making it one of the old-timers among Dallas-area malls, but it remains a major player, according to Mr. Foster and Ms. Mellett.

The mall sits on 122 acres with 7,900 parking spaces, boasts 3,500 employees in 230 stores on three levels covering 1.3 million square feet, and rings up \$440 million in annual sales, making it one of the half-dozen biggest and busiest retail centers in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

"We have been 90 to 96 percent leased for the last five years," Mr. Foster said. "And we have added premier retailers in the last three to four years like Sharper Image, Starbucks and Hollister."

### Church Happenings Page 9

#### NEW NEXT GENERATION

November 27, 3:00 pm - 5:30 pm

We are hosting a dinner and play at the Carrollton Library located at the Josey Ranch Lake on Keller Springs Road in Carrollton, TX. Our great and dramatic play "Oh, My Child" which has now been shown in California and Mesquite, TX; is now moving across Texas. The meal and play is free for ticket holders of "Oh, My Child." For additional information and to RSVP, email: newnextgen2@msn.com.

New Next Generation  
Ms. Rosie McGee Founder/CEO  
18352 North Dallas Parkway  
Suite 136-217  
Dallas, TX 75287

#### NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP IN RICHARDSON

On-Going Mentor Program

Operation Oasis sponsors a program that assists youth that are at-risk, and ex-offenders returning to society. The program's goals are to change lives of the formerly incarcerated person, to increase safety, and to spiritually fortify our communities.

For more details about this wonderful project, please contact Juanita Lee, Administrative Assistant at 972-437-3801 or call Toll Free at 1-800-370-Oasis (376-2747)

North Dallas Community Bible Fellowship in Richardson  
Dr. Leslie W. Smith, Senior Pastor  
1010-1020 South Sherman Street  
Richardson, TX 75081  
972-437-3493

#### OASIS INTERNATIONAL CHURCH

December 10, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

The public is invited to join Women's International Network (WIN) as they present a Special Holiday Meeting and Auction which will include a full buffet breakfast with special speaker Evelina Ruth. Benefits from the auction will go to Hartman House that promotes better education for disadvantaged children in the U.S. and Haiti. There will also be time for you to introduce your business or organization. Men are invited! Dr. Charles Hughes will share information on launching Men's International Network of Dallas (MIND).

For more information, registration, or donations call 214-289-4802 or 214-924-0177.

## Church Happenings

Oasis International Church  
Doctors Charles & Vera Hughes,  
Founders/Overseers  
P. O. Box 941192  
Plano, TX 75093  
469-4676797

#### PILLAR OF TRUTH CHURCH INTERNATIONAL

November 27, 6:30 pm

The public is invited as we host a Thanksgiving Concert featuring the Pillar of Truth Praise Singers.

Pillar of Truth Church  
International  
Pastors C. R. & Malinda Scott,  
Founders/Overseers  
Service Location: Southfork Hotel  
1600 E. Central Expwy (Hwy 75)  
Plano, TX 75074  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 452141  
Garland, TX 75045  
972-675-4231

#### RHEMA LIFE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Tuesdays, 7:00 pm

Please join us and bring a friend as we study Women of The Word in our Truth on Tuesday Bible Study Night.

Rhema Life Fellowship Church  
Reverend James W. Thomas, Pastor  
3801 Avenue K  
Plano, TX 75074  
469-467-7575

#### SANCTUARY OF PRAISE FELLOWSHIP OF ALLEN

November 18, 7:30 pm

The public is invited to our Youth Night featuring Meleka Lewis and the Anointed Sanctuary of Praise Dancers.

November 19, 7:00 pm

Please join us at an Anniversary Banquet being held at the Southfork Hotel, 1600 E. Central Expwy (Hwy 75) Plano, TX 75074 with guest speaker Elder Benjamin Nickerson of the Hospitality COGIC.

November 20, 10:00 am and 3:00 pm  
Dr. J.O. Robinson of Word in Truth Ministries, Memphis, TN will be the guest speaker. Dr. Timothy J. Wilbert and the members of the Bibleway Baptist Church, Irving, TX will be our guest at 3:00 pm; the public is invited.

Sanctuary of Praise Fellowship  
Rev. John Wilson, III, Pastor  
100 East Main Street  
Allen, TX 75002  
469-853-2380

#### THE INSPIRING BODY OF CHRIST CHURCH (IBOC)

Sign Up Now

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Monday, 7:00 pm

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

#### TRINITY PRAYER CHAPEL

Sign Up Now

Reynolds Wood Ministries is now conducting FREE GED and ESL Classes, Mentoring Program, and Dance/Ballet/Karate Classes (scholarships are available.)

For more information and registration, please call 214-544-1886.

Trinity Prayer Chapel  
Rev. Reynolds Wood,  
Senior Pastor  
P. O. Box 650  
Dallas, TX 75251

Service Location is:  
406 N. Tennessee  
McKinney, TX 75069  
214-544-1886

#### V & B MINISTRIES, INC.

November 16 - 18, 6:30 pm

We will conduct Spiritual classes for youth and adults. Special Guest Evangelist is Dr. Frank E. Ray, Sr., Pastor of New Salem MBC in Memphis, TN. The General Assembly Instructor will be Dr. Timothy Winters, Pastor of Bayview MBC in San Diego, CA.

For more information, directions, or registration, please call 214-637-1019. Childcare will be provided for children that are 3 years and younger.

V & B Ministries, Inc.  
Dr. V. K. Jones, President  
Pastor Billy L. Bell,  
Founder & Vice President  
P. O. Box 462144  
Garland, TX 75046  
214-637-1019

## Lee Says Educated Blacks Should Be Icons

Spike Lee says the value of education is being overshadowed by the images that gangsta rap glorifies.

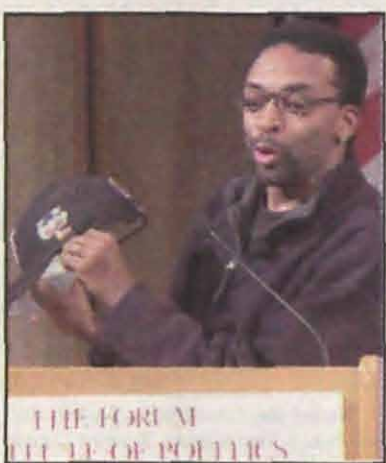
"Young black kids didn't grow up wanting to be a pimp or a stripper like they do now," Lee said of his youth in Brooklyn.

He drew two standing ovations as a featured speaker at a conference on cultural diversity at Middle Tennessee State University.

The 48-year-old filmmaker, who is working on a documentary on Hurricane Katrina, urged students to find a way to make being educated cool again.

"Back then, we were not called sellouts for using our brains. And being intelligent was not frowned upon," Lee said.

He likened the images from some rap videos to the distorted view minstrel shows of the 19th century gave most of the world about American blacks.



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

**Faithway Fellowship Baptist Church**  
8219 Bunche Dr. Dallas, TX 75243  
Church Office: (972) 792-0239  
Pastor's Office: (972) 792-0240

**Service Times**  
Sunday School: 9:45 AM  
Morning Worship: 11:00 AM  
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 PM

*Pastor Derrick L. Bowman, Sr.*

PEOPLE OF FAITH WITH A MIND TO WORK

**The Inspiring Body of Christ Church**  
7710 S. Westmoreland Rd.  
Dallas Texas 75237  
Phone: 972-572-4262 Fax: 972-709-3888

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

*Pastor Rickie G. Rush*

Website: www.ibocjoy.org

**RHEMA LIFE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH**  
3801 Avenue K.  
Plano, TX 75074 469-467-7575

**SERVICE TIMES**  
Sunday School: 9:00 am  
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:15 am  
Tuesday Night Bible Study: 7:00 pm

*Reverend James W. Thomas, Servant*

Raised to Walk in the Newness of Life. Romans 6:4

**Hill Chapel**  
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church  
1113 Ave. I, Plano, TX 75074 (972) 423-4090  
Rev. Clarence J. Ford, Jr., Pastor

**Sunday School:** 9:30 A.M.  
**Sunday Worship Service:** 11:00 A.M.  
**Wednesday Night-Community Bible Class:** 7:30 P.M.

**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

*Rev. A.K. Haynes, Sr. Senior Pastor*

6710 Webster Avenue • Dallas, TX 75209  
214-352-3552 (Phone) • 214-352-6793 (Fax)  
abethany@sbglobal.net (Email)

**OPEN BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH**

**Sunday Services**  
9:00 am - Prayer Ministry  
9:30 am - Sunday School  
10:45 am - Morning Worship & Children's Church  
**Tuesday Service**  
7:00 pm - Bible Study

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Our Arms and  
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Are Always  
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*Rev. Don Bright, Pastor  
M.A. Counseling, LPC*

**Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church**  
1308 Wilcox Street, McKinney TX  
Pastor Charles S. Wattley

**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

**Little Flock Baptist Church**  
Pastor Louis E. Laurent  
Internet Broadcast: www.krgm.com  
(Mon - Fri @ 12 Noon)

A Place Where a "Taste of the Word" is Guaranteed

Sunday School: 9:30 am  
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:45 am  
Sunday Night Service: 6:30 pm  
Tuesday Night Brotherhood: 7:00 pm  
Wednesday Prayer Meeting/Bible Study: 7:00 pm

704 E. Aimee 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 Church**  
New Worship Location:  
Wyndham Garden Hotel-Park Central  
8051 LBJ Freeway • Dallas, TX 75251  
Bishop Miller E. Johnson Jr., Senior Pastor

Mailing Address:  
P. O. Box 940466 • Plano, TX 75094-0466  
972-671-1096 (Church)

A Place of New Beginnings... II Corinthians 5:17

Sunday Life Bible School: 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday Life Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.  
Life In The Word Prayer and Bible Study (Wednesdays): 7:00 p.m.

**Friendship Baptist Church**  
Dr. C. Paul McBride, Pastor

**Schedule of Services:**  
**Sunday**  
Early Morning Worship 8:00 a.m.  
Sunday School Classes 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.  
Evening Worship (1st Sunday) 6:00 p.m.

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

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

4396 Main Street  
The Colony, Texas 75056  
(972) 625-8186  
website: www.fbc-online.net  
"The Church with a Vision"