

## The Truth Clinic

A Division of

**MON**  
Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

## A New Era Needs New Black Leadership

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## Beyonce Donates \$1 Million To Hurricane Victims

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## Local DJ "Lives" In Shelter To Raise Money For Homeless

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# The Gazette

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## People In The News



**Singles trying to figure out the opposite sex**, will have the chance to get insight on questions during a relationship forum and holiday gathering to be held on December 6, 2005 at 7:30 pm. The "What Man Wants and What A Woman Needs Relationship Forum and Holiday Gathering" will take place at Christian Chapel Temple of Faith CME Church, 14120 Noel Rd, Dallas.

This unique forum will feature a dynamic panel discussion led by Dallas-based best selling authors Shewanda Riley, author of Love Hangover: Moving From Pain to Purpose After a Relationship, and Chris Howell, author of Mantalk.

The forum will cover questions such as "Do men really want an independent woman? Is it possible for married men and single women to be friends? Should men be given leadership roles in a relationship or should they have to earn them?"

Shewanda Riley is a former broadcast personality who hosts the annual Love Hangover Relationship Conference annually in June, a conference she founded 6 years ago. Broadcast personality Chris Howell leads the Men's Ministry at the Potter's House Church and hosts Mantalk, a monthly meeting for men in the Dallas Fort Worth area.

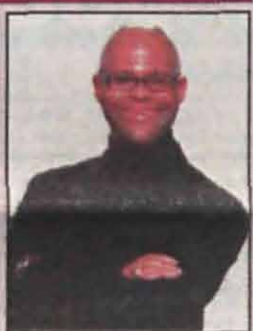
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Minister Roger Russell is the founder of Servant's Heart Ministries. It is ministry which endeavors according to Russell, "To edify the body of Christ in sanctification or spiritual growth through preaching, writing, music, teaching workshops and giving back to the community, through acts of agape love."

Aside from the many interests and activities in which Russell is involved, he has found the time to author a self-published book entitled, "Faith Beyond the Comfort Zone." He believes the book aids Christians who have received the gift of salvation a chance to live life more abundantly and commit themselves to a lifestyle of holiness. It also serves as a guide for those who are being trained for the ministry, or those who just want to walk closer to God. Ultimately, he feels the book offers an invitation for the reader to know the fullness of God's power through complete surrender, based on his personal relationship with the Lord over the years.

To promote his book Russell has had signings at several local bookstores, where the book is available. It is also available on line at pleasantword.com, amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com.

You can purchase "Faith Beyond the Comfort Zone" at: Black Images Book Bazaar, Joke's African American Books, Logos Bookstore, and Dallas Seminary Bookstore.



Longtime federal judge William B. Bryant- the first black person to serve as chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia-died last week. He was 94.

Bryant, who continued hearing cases as a senior judge until recently, died Sunday night, court spokesman Sheldon Snook said.

President Lyndon B. Johnson nominated Bryant to the federal bench in 1965, after Bryant distinguished himself in private practice and as a federal prosecutor in Washington. He was first hired as an assistant U.S. attorney in 1951.

On Friday, President George W. Bush signed legislation that will name a new \$110 million (euro94 million), nine-courtroom addition to the federal courthouse in Bryant's honor.

Bryant was known for his dedication to constitutional law and believed that lawyers could stop injustice.

"Without lawyers, this is just a piece of paper," he said of the Constitution in an interview with The Washington Post last year.

"If it weren't for lawyers, I'd still be three-fifths of a man. If it weren't for lawyers, we'd still have signs directing people this way and that, based on the color of their skin."

Bryant was a graduate of Howard University and its law school, where he taught for more than 20 years.

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## FEMA Gives Hurricane Katrina Victims Extra Month In Hotels

By: Lora Jakes Jordan

Stung by complaints it was pushing hurricane victims out before the holidays, FEMA extended its hotel housing program Tuesday by a month in 10 states where most of the homeless evacuees sought shelter after Katrina and Rita.

More than 46,000 families in those states now have until Jan. 7 to move out of hotels and into travel trailers, mobile homes or apartments until they find permanent homes. The deadline comes much sooner - Dec. 15 - for 3,500 other households scattered nationwide, before the Federal Emergency Management Agency stops paying their hotel bills.

In all, FEMA is paying for 49,826 hotel rooms for hurricane victims at an estimated \$3 million a day. The hotel program has cost the agency at



Hurricane Katrina disaster victim, Martha Hentor, 82, stands in front of her FEMA provided temporary housing travel trailer.

least \$300 million since Katrina hit Aug. 29, followed by Rita on Sept. 24. At its height, FEMA was housing 85,000 families in hotels.

FEMA Gives Extra Month Page 6

## Man Who Allegedly Shot U.S. Cop To Be Extradited

A Toronto judge ruled Friday that a man should be extradited to the U.S. to face attempted murder charges for a 35-year-old shooting.

Reputed former Black Panther Joseph Pannell is alleged to have shot and paralyzed Chicago police officer Terrance Knox.

He's been wanted in the U.S. since skipping bail on two occasions, the first time in 1971 and the second in 1973, when he fled to Canada.

Pannell, who went by the name Gary Freeman, had worked as a researcher with the Toronto Public Library for 13 years and had lived in Mississauga, for more than two decades.

After the ruling, his wife and four children held a protest outside the U.S. Consulate,



directly across from the court house.

"We all have bleeding hearts

Joseph Pannell Page 6

## Study Verifies Impact Of Tax Cuts On Blacks

By: Henry Allen Hurst

"The Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003 will deliver substantial tax relief to 136 million American taxpayers by ensuring that Americans have more to spend, to save and to invest. This legislation is adding fuel to an economic recovery. We have taken aggressive action to strengthen the foundation of our economy that every American who wants to work will be able to find a job."

- President George W. Bush, May 28, 2003

A recent study conducted by United for a Fair Economy, a Boston, Mass.-based economic policy group, reports that many Americans won't have much to be thankful for this holiday

season because of tax cuts that favor the wealthiest Americans.

"As the nation prepares for our annual feast of bounty and thanksgiving, many U.S. families will not be participating," said Anisha Desai, UFE's program director and a co-author of the report. "This is because the multiple breadwinners each family needs these days don't all have jobs. Of those that do, many are not making

Impact Of Tax Cuts Page 5

## Former Cowboys Chair DBDT's 10th Anniversary Luncheon

Dallas Black Dance Theatre (DBDT) will celebrate its Tenth Anniversary Founder's Luncheon at the Wyndham Anatole on January 13, 2006 at 12:00 p.m. The luncheon celebrates the vision of DBDT Founder/Artistic Director Ann Williams and acknowledges the community's support of Dallas' only full-time professional dance company. Annually the luncheon recognizes civic and business leaders for their contributions both to the community and to the arts. The 2006 honorees are American



Emmitt Smith



Dexter Coakley

DBDT Story Page 7

## Local Artist Utilizes Gift To Inspire

By: Paul Hailey

It's been said that all art is simply an expression of the artist's soul. Local artist Mark Hartfield has expressed the word of God from his soul through his drawings, paintings and sculptures for over 20 years. His art is a unique blend of abstraction and realistic depiction of spiritual themes through color and tone.

Mr. Hartfield's work will be showcased on December 17th in a presentation entitled "A New Beginning", at the Stephanie Ward Art Gallery, 2546 Elm Street, Dallas from 3:00- 6:00 p.m.

From early childhood, Mr. Hartfield sensed that he had



been blessed with a gift that needed to be expressed, and that the gift came directly from God.

"As a child, I used to draw all the time around the house. Then one day in high

Gift To Inspire Page 8

## Meals On Wheels Brightens Holidays For Elderly



(L to R) Mary Alexander receives assistance from Susan Wilson of Meals On Wheels.

The holiday season has begun and most people have started planning for family feasts, gifts, home decorating, and travel. Not everyone, though, will be able to leave home, enjoy a holiday trip, or be with family and friends. For many homebound frail elderly, sick, and disabled, the holidays mean staying home without the festivities enjoyed by others.

"There are eight simple ways, though, to help make the holidays more pleasurable for our homebound neighbors," says Linda Mason, vice president of

long-term care with the Visiting Nurse Association.

1.) One way to literally make the holidays brighter for homebound individuals is to help replace burned out light bulbs in their homes. Changing light bulbs inside and outside the house can be a tremendous assistance to someone who has difficulty standing or turning bulbs in light sockets. The same is true for replacing batteries in smoke detectors.

2.) Help with holiday decorations. For many frail elderly, putting up decorations can be difficult.

With a little assistance, lights and ornaments that usually remain in boxes can instead brighten up a home during the holidays.

3.) Give a holiday food gift. For elderly individuals on low fixed incomes, a special gift of

Brighter Holidays Page 8

## Bill Funds Transportation, Housing, And Redevelopment Projects Across 30st District

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson, a Senior member of the House Transportation Committee, announced today more than \$13 million in funding for projects in the 30th Congressional District in the 2006 Transportation, Treasury, Housing, and Justice Appropriations Bill.

"I am pleased that these important projects will receive federal support," said Congresswoman Johnson. "In particular, development of our senior support infrastructure and public transportation is critical to the 30th District."

The projects include:

- \$12 million for Dallas NW/Southeast Light Rail
- \$500,000 for Bus Shelters, Dallas,



- \$400,000 for the Dallas Women's Museum to conduct renovations.

- \$200,000 to the City of Dallas for the Dallas Fair Park Commercial District.

- \$150,000 to the City of Dallas for planning and design of an Afro-Centric cultural district.



## Plano Symphony Orchestra "Home For The Holidays"

*A Holiday Tradition The Entire Family Can Enjoy*

Plano Symphony Orchestra will celebrate the season with a new holiday program featuring "America's Tenor," Steve Amerson. Plano's favorite holiday tradition "Home for the Holidays" features The Younger Chorus—a magical combination of talented youth. Enjoy your season

favorites including the popular audience sing-along, Sleighride, T'was the Night Before Christmas and more!

The "Home for the Holidays" program will be held on Sunday, December 18, 2005, presented twice at 4:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. It will be held at the St. Andrew United

Methodist Church in Plano 5801 W. Plano Parkway, Plano, TX 75093

Tickets for the December 18 concert are \$9-\$35. Tickets are priced \$2 more at the door. Student and group rates are available. For more information and to purchase tickets, call or visit [www.planosymphony.org](http://www.planosymphony.org).



The Younger Chorus to perform with The Plano Symphony Orchestra

## Dickens in Historic Downtown Plano Begins Holiday Season

The City of Plano Parks and Recreation Department and the City Centre Association will host **Dickens in Historic Downtown Plano** on Friday, December 2 with activities starting at 6:00 pm in Haggard Park, 901 East 15th Street; then the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony taking place at 7:00 pm. There will be live music and carolers, pony rides and mini-train rides for children, and the Tenth Annual Festival of Trees—plus, downtown merchants will be staying open late for shopping.

**Dickens in Historic Downtown Plano** will show-

case three entertainment stages with presenting local performers like the Shepton High School Top Hatters & Sheptones, the Deering Christmas Jam, the First United Methodist Church Choir, and 4 Keeps—a female quartet. In addition, visitors can enjoy music provided by a handbell choir, the Plano Community Band, Younger Generation, the Plano Civic Chorus, as well as seeing festive dance groups.

A free shuttle will run from **Dickens in Historic Downtown Plano** to the Heritage Farmstead Museum's Lantern Light: A Shadow Circus

Christmas Circa 1900 with tours of the house, children's activities, entertainment, hayrides, a strolling St. Nicholas in period clothing, refreshments, and a Christmas carol sing-a-long. Admission to the Heritage Farmstead Museum is \$5.00 per person or \$18.00 per family of 4 or more.

For more info contact Plano Parks & Recreation Event Information Line at 972-941-PARK, or by contacting the City of Plano Parks and Recreation Administrative Office at 972-941-7250.

## BoA Awards Neighborhood Grants

Bank of America in Dallas has awarded more than \$450,000 in grants as part of its annual Neighborhood Excellence Initiative.

Girls Inc. of Metropolitan Dallas and the Interfaith Housing Coalition received \$200,000 as the Dallas area's Neighborhood Builders this year.

Further, five community leaders have received \$5,000 to contribute to nonprofits of their choosing, and five local high school students have earned a combination internship/mentorship underwritten by the bank. The students will intern with a community group

and also be connected with a Bank of America executive for mentoring.

The community leaders recognized by Bank of America are Miguel Sarmiento of Dallas, Ray Schufford of Cedar Hill, Giselle Antoni of Dallas, Jack Matthews of Lewisville and Velma Mitchell of Lancaster. The student leaders honored are Lindsay Marzett of Plano Senior High, Jonathan Perez of Bishop Lynch, Luciana Alvaradeo of McKinney North High, Flynn Bailey of Bishop Dunne Catholic School and Briana Dunn of Hockaday High School.



Ray Schufford is a member of the Dallas Fire and Rescue Department who created Mentoring Brother 2 Brother, Inc. where he is involved with the mentoring of disenfranchised youth of the Dallas.

## These Are They Community Church To Present Christmas Musical

These Are They Community Church (TAT), located at 200 South Polk Street, DeSoto, Texas 75115, will be presenting a "live" Christmas Musical Production called On the Road.

On the Road is an adaptation of The Wizard of Oz. The tale centers around a ten year-old girl, named Danielle, who lives with her mother and wonders why she does not have a father like some of her friends. On Christmas Eve she asks her mother if she can ask Santa Claus for a father and her mother explains that God truly grants all of her Christmas wishes. As Danielle sets off to find God, along her adventure she encounters her Christmas gifts a Bratz doll, a musical ballerina and a dog.

TAT recently celebrated its 10th Anniversary under the leadership of Pastor Willie J. Bolden. Pastor Bolden shares a strong vision with the TAT family that one day we will be able to provide a community center (It's For the Children) for all young children within the

DeSoto area and surrounding communities.

The vision is to provide educational learning tools i.e. tutoring and study guides for TAKS tests, open gym nights and mentoring for youth. This production is to assist in making that

vision a reality.

For further information please contact These Are They at 972-274-9400 or visit [www.thesearethey.org](http://www.thesearethey.org).

A \$5 (five-dollar) donation is requested for each guest in attendance.

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## Around The Town

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 11-December 26

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 16-

The Women's Museum Premieres "Artist Among Us", featuring 10 local women artists' perspective on how art is found in daily life and how communities are affected in which they work., Tuesday- Sunday, Noon to 5:00 p.m. Call 214-915-0871 for information. November 17-January 29, 2006

"If This Hat Could Talk", the compelling new musical set to the sounds of R&B, Jazz, Blues and Gospel about civil rights icon Dorothy Height. Presented by the Black Academy of Arts and Letters, corner of Canton and Akard Streets. For

ticket information call 214-373-8000. November 30-December 4.

### December Ongoing

Poets N' Jazz at the Clarence Muse Cafe Theatre. Dallas Black Academy, Canton and Akard Dallas Convention Center. Call 214-743-2400 for information. December 2 & 3

Greater St. John Primitive Baptist Church, 3633 Atlanta ST. (Dallas) presents Langston Hughes, 7:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. (Saturday) Call 972-285-0705 for information. December 13-17

Word of Mouth Productions presents the holiday musical comedy "Sanders Family Christmas, at the Courtyard Theater in downtown Plano. Purchase tickets on-line at [www.womproductions.com](http://www.womproductions.com) or call 214-734-7326. December 9-18

Winter Holiday Crafts, North Branch Library, 2600 Oates Dr., 4:00 p.m.

### December 2-23

Dallas Festivos, Dallas Farmers Market Plaza, 12 Noon-4:00 p.m. Call 214-939-2806 or visit [www.dallasfarmersmarket.org](http://www.dallasfarmersmarket.org). December 3,4,10,11,17& 18

### December 1

World Aids Day  
The Project Hope Foundation Pastor's Initiative against HIV/AIDS presents 2nd Annual Praise 7 Workshop Service, 7:00 p.m. at ST. Paul AME Church, 2420 Metropolitan. Call 214-421-1344 for information.

Come see Westlake Park transformed into a winter wonderland. The 19th annual Christmas in the Park will be held from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at Westlake Park 600 Grossman. (Mesquite) Call 972-216-6260 for information.

Mark your calendar for the City's annual Christmas on the Square and Parade of Lights (Garland)

### December 2

10 Year Gala Celebration of the Mesquite Center. Opening night includes lighting of the Courtyard and caroling through out the building, 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Dickens in historic downtown Plano, Haggard Park, 901 E. 15th St., 6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. [www.planotx.org](http://www.planotx.org).

A Grown and Sexy Christmas featuring Babyface, Ginuwine and Jagged Edge, 7:30 p.m., at Nokia Theatre, 1001 Next Stage Dr. Call 214-373-8000 or 972-647-5700 for information.

The Dallas Branch of the NAACP will host its 2005 Holiday Gala to celebrate the many milestones achieved by the organization during the year and to salute exemplary community leaders. This year's honorees are John "J. R." Powel of Powell Chevrolet, Brian Custer, sports anchor for KTVT-TV and Avery Johnson, head coach of the Dallas Mavericks. Entertainment for the evening will be Chante' Moore and Kenny Latimore

The event will be held Live@

105 in the Westend Market Place (the old Planet Hollywood, 603 Munger Ave. Call 214-421-9006 or 214-943-1559.

### December 3

The Annual Plano Christmas Parade features floats, high school bands and cheerleaders and more. The parade starts at 9:00 a.m., Williams High School and weaves thru downtown Plano. For information call 972-424-4714.

The 18th Annual Neiman Marcus Aldolphus Children's Parade benefiting Children's Medical Center. The fun and pageantry begins at 10:00 a.m. at the corner of Commerce and Austin Streets and continues east on Commerce to Harwood Streets.

The 34th Annual Richardson Christmas Parade starts at 9:00 a.m., at the Richardson Square Mall. Call 972-231-3424.

"What I Want You to Know Before I Go", turn simple memories into a treasured family heirloom. Attend a workshop on writing memoirs. Call 214-331-2677 or [manelock@sbcglobal.net](mailto:manelock@sbcglobal.net).

A French wine tasting event hosted by the African American Wine Tasting Society, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. at Vino 100, 2909 McKinney Ave. For information call 214-255-0124.

The Mesquite Arts Council will celebrate the Center's 10 year anniversary at 7:00 p.m. in the Center's Main Gallery by Lupita Murillo Tinnen.

Dallas Metropolitan Ballet

presents the Night Before Christmas, McFarlin Auditorium (SMU Campus), 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; December 4, 2:00 p.m. Call 214-631-2787 for information.

State Senator Royce West along with 10 other honorees will be inducted into the African American Museum Hall of Fame, 7:00 p.m., Wyndam Anatole Hotel.

Family day in which people can meet inductees will be from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the Museum (Fair Park). Call 214-565-9026 x. 209 for information.

The Visiting Nurse Association will host a workshop on coping during the holidays while grieving the loss of a loved one, Heritage Senior Center, 200 South Jefferson ST in Irving. Call 214-689-2922.

December 5 Drop off a new unwrapped toy and help a North Texas child this holiday season

Mesquite City Council meeting, 3:00 p.m. Council Chambers 7th and Galloway.

### December 7

Extraordinary women to be honored at the Annual Celebration of Women to benefit Special Olympics Texas, Wyndham Anatole Hotel, 2201 Stemmons Freeway. Call 512-491-2959 for information.

### December 8

The National Organization of Minority Architects host their annual Christmas party, 7:00 p.m. Call 214-752-5588 for

information.

Drop off a new unwrapped toy and help a North Texas child this holiday season. In Plano the drop off is at the Legacy Town Center, main Plaza, Marriott Hotel, 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

### December 9

Holiday Craft Fair Mesquite Main Library, 300 West Grubb, 4:00 p.m.

### December 10

Drop off a new unwrapped toy and help a North Texas child this holiday season, Downtown Square in McKinney, Noon-3:00 p.m.

Teen Open Mic, Central Library Auditorium, 801 W. Irving Blvd., 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Features teens and grades 6-12. Call 972-721-3503 for information.

The Mesquite Symphonic Band in concert, 8:00 p.m. Concert Hall. Call 972-216-8127 for information.

### December 11

Texas Herald's 1st International Holiday Songfest & Fashion Parade benefiting the Katrina, Rita and Earthquake victims, 4:00 p.m., at Sterling Hotel. Call 214-575-6993.

### December 12

"A Grown and Sexy Christmas" featuring Babyface with Ginuwine and Jagged Edge at the Nokia in Grand Prairie.

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# Proud To Be An Active Partner In The Community



# THE TRUTH CLINIC

## A New Era Needs New Black Leadership

By: James W. Breedlove

Their silence is deafening amid the serious economic, political and social issues that are adversely impacting Black America. The Iraq war, health care, high unemployment, tax cuts, budget deficits, natural disasters, and the disappearing social safety net are topping the headlines yet the old guard black leaders seem to be missing in action.

Who is speaking for Black America on these critical issues? Speaking in this case does not refer to the show time of rhyming speeches and rousing rhetoric but ensuring that when decisions are made the black input has been considered. We need strong black leaders who can generate appropriate action that brings relief to the inequity that befalls Blacks when they are not represented at the decision table. Where and who are these black leaders?

It certainly isn't the ivory tower intellectuals. To maintain their lofty elite positions they must spend their time studying and providing theories to white America on why Blacks behave as they do.

And blacks cannot depend on the civil rights organizations. As the emphasis on non-violent direct action of the 50's and 60's has faded away these organizations spend most of their time passing resolutions at conventions and genuflecting to the corporate money that keeps them in business. That lack of independence has neutered them from speaking effectively for Black America.

Congressman Elijah E. Cummings, the chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus during the 108th congressional session stated at the beginning of his term, "I believe in addition to being the conscience of this great institution, the 39 extraordinary men and women of the Congressional Black Caucus are also the 'Conscience of the Country.'" We choose to stand up

and speak out when others choose to sit down and remain silent. We are the voice for the voiceless, and will continue that tradition during the 108th Congress."

The stated priorities of the Caucus included: building wealth; universal health care for every American; ensuring equity in education; strengthening and enforcing civil rights laws; and providing homeland and hometown security. They have not delivered on their stated agenda.

Black needs are not taken seriously because people believe that most Blacks do not care. This causes law and policy makers as well as corporate decision makers to assume Blacks will take whatever is thrown their way. Blacks care but the problem is that the voices speaking out have the wrong strategy for accomplishing a new era agenda. Because the old guards are not independent they care more about how to fulfill their own agendas and how to protect their positions than they do about the real problems of Black-America.

Although we need government as a supportive partner, the destiny of the black community lies in the hands of black Americans, not in the hands of a particular political party. It is the 11th hour for the black community. It is time for black people to take responsibility for their own lives, the lives of their children and the lives of their community.

For blacks to take on this responsibility it is obvious that the political, civic and religious leadership of the old guard cannot provide the direction and guidance needed for the new dynamics of the 21st century. A new leadership must be cultivated and embraced that is charismatic, independent, fearless, knowledgeable, adaptive, committed, accountable, and organizationally sound.

The mega church has become one of the most significant phenomena in the United States over the past two decades and is a potential source for the needed new leadership. Scott Thumma of

the Hartford Institute for Religion Research has studied these mega non-denominational churches and found that they have a high level of operational and financial independence and are already having a profound impact on the way Americans worship. Indications are they can also be an effective catalyst for social change in our communities.

These massive multi-thousand congregation churches represent a force to be reckoned with in a community. The cumulative effect of the mass gatherings, the giant structures, and the local and national influence that these churches have is to create a powerful presence in the community and provide a vision for changing society through the self-empowerment and direct action of their membership.

In addition to being in a prominent location, offering multiple ministries, and hosting television programs that provide high visibility the churches are also positioned to tailor social service programs to the particular needs of the local community. They can support and sustain community programs because they have a dedicated staff available and do not have to depend on part time volunteers. Black mega churches are particularly likely to take advantage of additional funding opportunities made available by governmental agencies to provide needed social services and economic development opportunities.

The silent civic, religious, and political old guard who wish to be leaders need to start acting the part. The new paradigm, as implemented by visionary mega center organizations such as the T. D. Jakes ministries, is at hand and those who will be leaders instead of lackeys need to adapt to this new model for action. It is time they straighten up their dysfunctional backbones and recognize that they must either lead in this new era or get out of the way.

Email Comments to: [Politics@MonTheGazette.com](mailto:Politics@MonTheGazette.com)

## The Escalating Criminalizing Of Children

By: Marian Wright Edelman

The increasing criminalization of children has become a major crisis. Children are being suspended and expelled from school and incarcerated in the juvenile and adult justice systems at alarming rates and at younger and younger ages. This increased incarceration is not due to an increase in serious delinquent or violent criminal behavior by young people. Juvenile arrests for violent crimes grew rapidly in the late 1980s and peaked in 1991, but then began falling. Between 1994 and 2003, the juvenile arrest rate for Violent Crime Index offenses—murder, forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assault—fell 48 percent to its lowest level since 1980. So if actual crime is not the cause for the rise in incarceration rates, what is?

One piece of the puzzle is the rise of "zero tolerance" policies in schools. Institutions began adopting these policies in the late 1980s, taking the term from the war on drugs. While zero tolerance once applied to serious offenses involving safety, it is now an overarching and catch-all disciplinary approach for real, perceived, and imaginary weapons and "misbehavior" that is defined by highly subjective terms like "disruption" and "disrespect." Aspirin, Certs, and Midol are considered drugs. Paper clips, nail files, scissors, and spitballs are considered weapons.

Another disturbing piece of the increased criminalization of children is the growing numbers of children sent into the adult criminal justice system. Approximately 250,000 teens

under 18 enter the adult criminal justice system every year. More than half have been charged with nonviolent drug or property offenses. The idea of youth serving "adult time for adult crime" grew in popularity in response to a sharp increase in drug and



firearms violations. But the vast majority of teens tried and sentenced in adult court are not the serious, violent, chronic offenders who might have been subject to the juvenile death penalty, a feature the U.S. Supreme Court recently struck down in the Simmons case involving a juvenile from Missouri.

In many states, laws now require prosecutors to file certain cases in adult court—even if it is against their better judgment—simply because of the nature of the offense or the age of the youth. Nearly 90 percent of youth who are transferred to the adult system fall under a lowered age of adulthood in 13 states. In these states any youth accused of an offense who is 17 years old (or 16 years old in three of the 13 states) will be sent into the adult criminal justice system for any offense, whether serious or not.

Finally, a key piece of the

increase stems from the disparate treatment of Black and Brown children in the juvenile and criminal justice systems. Minority youths make up 34 percent of the adolescent population and 62 percent of juveniles confined to public facilities. In 1999, Blacks outnumbered Whites nearly two to one in the number of youth under 18 admitted to adult state prisons. For drug charges, the ratio was more than 8 to 1. A Black youth is 48 times more likely than a White youth to be incarcerated for comparable drug offenses. Data from 18 of the largest court jurisdictions showed that 82 percent of juvenile cases filed in adult court involved youth of color. School suspensions are similarly imbalanced: in 2000, Black students were suspended at a rate almost three times higher than White students.

The road that has been taking more and more of our children to prison and away from their homes and schools and communities and off the path to college and productive futures is long and twisted. But we don't have to keep allowing our children to be led astray. It's time for caring adults to stand up and demand we change course.

Marian Wright Edelman is President and Founder of the Children's Defense Fund and its Action Council whose mission is to Leave No Child Behind and to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start, and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

## No-Parole Sentences Hammer Black Teens

By: Earl Ofari Hutchinson

Death penalty opponents were overjoyed at the U.S. Supreme Court's decision last March to join nearly every other nation on the globe and ban teen executions. But that joy should be tempered by yet another appalling fact about America's criminal justice system. The U.S. locks up more juveniles for life without parole than all nations combined. Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International count more than 2,000 inmates currently serving life sentences without the possibility of parole in U.S. jails. And, as is the case with the death penalty, the no-parole sentences are not race neutral.

Black teens are ten times more likely to receive a no-parole life sentence than white youths. They are even more likely to get those sentences when their victims are white, and they are tried by all-white or majority white juries, and those same juries seldom considered their age as a mitigating factor. Also, a significant number of those sentenced to no-parole sentences did not actually commit murder but were participants in a robbery or were at the scene of the crime when the death occurred. The majority of the teens slapped with the draconian sentence had no prior convictions, and a substantial number were aged 15 or under.

The harsh sentence and the racial disparity is so glaring that former Congressman Ron Dellums and the National Bar Association, an African-American legal group, have demanded that courts, and DAs, drastically reform their policy of treating teen offenders as adults when asking for and imposing no parole life sentences. Their plea so far has fallen on deaf ears.

Most experts agree that children don't have the same maturity, judgment, or emotional development as adults. In a report on juveniles and the death penalty, Amnesty International found that a number of child offenders sentenced to death suffered severe physical or sexual abuse. Many others were alcohol or drug impaired, or suffered from acute mental illness or brain damage. Nearly all were below average intelligence.

The irony is that the Supreme Court's ban on executing those who kill as teens may actually work against no-parole reform efforts. The thinking is that since states no longer can execute juvenile offenders, that it's far more humane to sentence them to life sentences. Victims rights advocacy groups claim that taking away the option of no parole sentences for juveniles will weaken crime deterrent. This makes it even tougher to make the case that

counseling treatment, and education is the more effective way to redeem young people who commit than harsh sentencing, but it is.

Then there's the question of race. The racial gap between black and white juvenile offenders is vast and troubling. The rush to toss the key on black juveniles has had terrible consequences in black communities. It has increased poverty, fractured families, and further criminalized a generation of young black men.

Those who commit crimes, especially murder, no matter what age they are must be punished, but the punishment should not only fit the crime, it should also fit the age of the person that committed it, and the circumstances that drove them to commit their offenses. If a juvenile offender with the right help can turn their life around, they deserve that chance, and judges should be able to give it to them. The Supreme Court majority that voted to ban juvenile executions called teen executions shameful. They recognized that the practice cannot, nor should not, be justified on moral or legal grounds, and that it was past time to put a stop to them. The same can be said about teen no-parole life sentences.

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# Jack And Jill Of America Foundation Donate \$150,000 To Aid HBCU Students Displaced By Katrina

Jack and Jill of America Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. has recently announced a donation of \$150,000 to aid Katrina Relief efforts. This donation is made possible by the membership of Jack and Jill of America, with members in more than 216 chapters, representing over 8,000 families. Since its inception in 1968, the Jack and Jill of America Foundation has distributed millions of dollars to communities all across America.

The devastation resulting from Hurricane Katrina affected all Americans. The disaster forced individuals and organizations to identify ways they

could help their fellow Americans in this time of need. "As a Foundation, we wanted to continue to support programs that empower young people and their future," says Grace Speights, President, Jack and Jill Foundation of America. "Using this as a guide, the Foundation decided to provide aid to students enrolled at Historically Black Colleges and Universities who were displaced by Katrina."

The Jack and Jill of America Foundation is donating \$50,000 to the Tom Joyner Foundation. This donation will support displaced students who have trans-



Alice Peoples, Pres. of Jack and Jill Inc and Grace Speights, Pres. of Jack and Jill Foundation present Tom Joyner with a \$50,000 check for the Tom Joyner Foundation.

ferred from Dillard, Southern and Xavier University to another college or university. Financial support in the form of \$1,000 grants are being made available per student to assist with tuition, books, and room and board by the Tom Joyner Foundation.

Spelman College will also receive a donation of \$50,000 from the Jack and Jill Foundation to assist students from areas devastated by the hurricane. Over 100 students who have transferred to Spelman from Dillard or Xavier University will receive financial

support through an emergency scholarship fund supported by this donation. The Foundation has also earmarked an additional \$50,000 to aid children affected or displaced by Katrina.

"Jack and Jill Foundation is honored to partner with such respected and committed organizations like The Tom Joyner Foundation and Spelman College. This donation provides no quick fix to the many who are suffering, but collectively we can help African American students displaced by Katrina continue their education," said Alice Peoples, National President of Jack and Jill of America Inc.

## HBCU Marching Bands Prepare For 4th Annual Honda Battle Of The Bands

Crowd-pleasing dance teams, high-stepping drum majors, precision drumlines and roaring brass sections. These are among the many facets of black college marching band culture, and fans of all ages are sure to be rocking the south as the 2006 Honda Battle of the Bands rolls into Atlanta's Georgia Dome, January 28th.

A bevy of surprises are in store as the acclaimed annual showcase promises to bring down the house for its fourth consecutive year. Ten show-stopping Historically Black College and University (HBCU) marching bands, including 2 first-time bands, nominated from a field of 41 participating HBCUs during the fall Celebration Tour, have now been selected and are preparing to perform at the Honda Battle of the Bands Invitational Showcase.

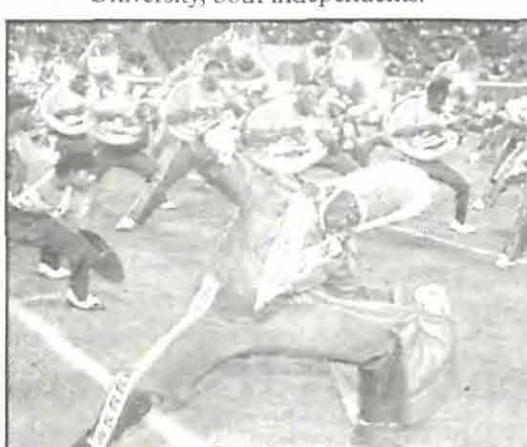
As they take the field, these top bands will bring fresh routines, riveting choreography and contemporary song selections ranging from the best in R&B, funk, Hip-Hop, classical and jazz — something for every generation. The lineup of colleges now set to march on the Dome in the largest and only national scholarship program showcasing the pageantry, heritage and showmanship of black college bands is:

- Jackson State University (1st time participant) and Prairie View A&M University, representing the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC);
- North Carolina Central University and Virginia State University, representing the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA);

— Florida A&M University and Bethune-Cookman College, representing the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC);

— Clark Atlanta University and Tuskegee University, representing the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SIAC); and

— Central State University (1st time participant) and Langston University, both independents.



Florida A&M University "Marching 100"

HBCU commissioners, presidents, band directors and fans judged the 41 participating bands on showmanship, musicianship and fan interaction during the Celebration Tour, which took place during the college football season. School officials were not permitted to vote for their own school.

As sponsor of the Honda Battle of the Bands, American Honda Motor Co., Inc. will award \$141,000 in grants to the HBCU bands. Each of the participating Invitational Showcase schools will earn a \$10,000 grant for their music programs. The 10 institutions also earned a \$1,000 grant for their performances during the Celebration Tour.

General admission to the Honda Battle of the Bands is \$10 for reserved seating, and tickets can be purchased at Ticketmaster or the Georgia Dome box-office. Interested high school students

and their parents are also welcomed to visit the Honda Battle of the Bands recruitment fair, taking place from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. the day of the event at the Georgia World Congress Center, to learn more about the nation's black colleges, their music programs, scholarships and admissions requirements.

"It is a tremendous honor for the Mighty Marching Panthers of Clark Atlanta University (CAU) to be invited to the Honda showcase for the fourth consecutive year," said CAU President Walter "The Transformer" Broadnax. "This is testimony to the commitment of our student-musicians and their leadership, and a reflection of the spirit of CAU among our students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends of the university."

"For the past three years, the Honda Battle of the Bands has been the hottest ticket in town," said Barbara Ponce, manager of Emerging Markets National Advertising for Honda. "Each year it's a unique show, and the 2006 event will be no exception with a new mix of musical talent from Mississippi and Ohio, including two bands that are appearing for the first time. Honda is proud to present a unique event that reinforces the important contributions that HBCUs have made to all facets of our society."

Honda's long-term commitment to HBCUs was established 16 years ago when the company introduced the Honda Campus All Star Challenge, a program designed to showcase the academic gifts of HBCU students.

For more information about the Honda Battle of the Bands, visit <http://www.HondaBattleoftheBands.com>.

## Elementary Schools to Host Ceremonies Celebrating 2005 No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Awards

Mathews and Saigling Elementary Schools will host ceremonies and receptions honoring students, teachers and staff for having earned the 2005 No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School Awards. Dignitaries from the around

the area will visit as the PTAs, students and staff celebrate the awards. The community is welcome to attend these special celebrations.

**Mathews Elementary School** - Jane Ball, Principal  
7500 Marchman Way, Plano -

Blue Ribbon Ceremony: 6:30 p.m. - Thursday, December 8

**Saigling Elementary School** - Kellie Lattimer, Principal  
3600 Matterhorn Drive, Plano -

Blue Ribbon Ceremony: 6:30 p.m. - Thursday, December 1.

## Scholarship Applications Being Accepted

Students urged to apply for \$90,000 in available funds before January 17, 2006 deadline.

Local high school seniors are encouraged to apply for the 2005 - 2006 Ronald McDonald House Charities National Scholarship Program. The annual scholarship program, sponsored by Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) of Greater North Texas, will award 45 scholarships to local high school students.

Applications are available from high school guidance

counselors or online at [www.rmhc.org](http://www.rmhc.org). Students may also apply for the scholarship electronically via the program web site.

"The RMHC National Scholarship Program provides local high school seniors who wish to continue their education the opportunity to apply for a scholarship and receive financial assistance to attend college," said Jeff Phillips, RMHC of Greater North Texas Board Chair and McDonald's Owner/Operator. "It is our goal to help make the dream of a college education a reality for students who may not

otherwise attend college."

This year the local RMHC chapter will award \$90,000 in scholarship dollars to area high school students. The scholarship programs are supported by local McDonald's franchisees.

Scholarship recipients will be selected based on their academic achievement, financial need, community involvement, and leadership potential.

For more information about RMHC National Scholarship Program, please visit [www.rmhc.org](http://www.rmhc.org).



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# BET Founder Aims To Build Major Black-Owned Investment Company

By: Terence O'Hara

Black Entertainment Television founder Robert L. Johnson said yesterday that he is launching an institutional investment management firm as part of a broad effort to create what he hopes will be a major black-owned financial services operation.

Johnson said the firm, which will sell its services to large investors such as pension funds and endowments that want to put money into hedge funds, is a key part of his "second act" after his career in cable television.

"I'm approaching this in the same way I did 25 years ago with cable television," Johnson said. "Asset management is a sector that is open to opportunities by African Americans who can bring real talent to the effort. I see this becoming a major African American entity in this sector."

The as-yet-to-be named company will be majority owned by Johnson, with Deutsche Bank taking a minority stake. Deutsche Bank, a German financial services conglomerate with major investment banking and

investment management operations in the United States, will also provide advisory services to Johnson's firm.

"I told them, 'It'd be great to have you manage my money, but while we're at it let's talk about something much bigger,'" Johnson said. Johnson's net worth, according to Forbes magazine in 2003, is around \$1.3 billion.

While there are few black money managers in the hedge fund industry, pension funds have in recent years sought to increase the diversity of their money manager base.

"The fact is there is no strong, leading African-American-owned player in this space," Johnson said. "A lot of state pension fund money comes from a growing class of African American and minority workers. And that money is all managed by others, by professionals. I think we can make the case that we have the talent, the

skills and the strategic partnership to be a major player in that professional community. It's the same case I made in the cable industry."

The firm will operate under the umbrella of the RLJ Cos.

Johnson sold Black Entertainment Television to



Viacom for \$3 billion in 2000, and his five-year employment agreement with Viacom ends Jan. 26. In the past two years, Johnson has bought a National Basketball Association expansion franchise in North Carolina and launched a hotel investment company that owns an \$800 million portfolio of more than two dozen metropolitan hotels. He has also made investments in music recording,

Caribbean nightclubs and gaming, and an online IRA rollover service.

Hedge funds are pools of capital that seek high returns by employing higher-risk investment strategies. They are becoming increasingly popular with public and private employee pension funds. Johnson's firm plans to create what is known as a "hedge fund-of-funds," a type of investment vehicle popular among pension funds, endowments and wealthy individuals who want to lower the risk of hedge fund investing.

Johnson said that in the next year he will be announcing several deals in the financial services sector. Earlier this year, he considered buying the District's Independence Federal Savings Bank, an African American-owned savings and loan, as part of his nascent strategy to offer consumer banking services to wealthy African Americans nationwide.

"I'm still looking at opportunities to buy a savings and loan and will be making an announcement about that I hope in the near future," Johnson said.

# Gov. Perry Announces T-Mobile Will Create 850 New Jobs In Frisco Enterprise Fund Grant Helps Secure High-Paying Jobs

Gov. Rick Perry recently announced that T-Mobile USA, one of the nation's largest providers of voice and data networks in the United States, will establish a new Technology Campus in Frisco. The investment will create 850 new jobs for well-educated and highly-trained employees, including engineers, computer technicians and support professionals for T-Mobile's Wi-Fi and digital voice services.

Perry also announced that the state secured the T-Mobile project over several competing states with a \$2.1 million grant from the Texas Enterprise Fund (TEF).

"T-Mobile's investment is great news for the people of North Texas, not just because it will mean more money flowing through the local economy, but also because it is a clear signal that the telecom corridor is becoming revitalized," Perry said.

In addition to the 850 new jobs that will be created, T-Mobile will transfer several hundred existing positions from other locations, ultimately bringing more than 1,200 workers to its Technology Campus.

By the time this 230,000 square foot facility is fully operational, T-Mobile will have increased its total Texas workforce by more than 30 percent.

The state's investment in the project is expected to yield a 10-fold return, just in terms of T-Mobile's financial commitment.

"Texas will benefit even further as more people are put to work, as paychecks are cashed and spent at local shops, and as government has more revenue to pay for essential services because of an expanded tax base instead of increased tax bills," Perry said.

"This expansion is early evidence of the type of growth this region can experience as the telecommunications industry continues to recalibrate with an eye towards new technology," Perry added.

In 2003 the Texas Legislature approved the governor's request for the \$295 million TEF to help create new jobs in Texas and recruit new employers, and earlier this year the legislature reauthorized funding for the TEF.

To date, the TEF has helped secure more than 34,000 new jobs and \$6.5 billion in capital investments in the state. Among the victories the TEF has scored for Texas workers are the largest capital investment nationally for 2003 and the largest job creation announcements in the nation for both 2004 and 2005.

# North Texas Affiliate Of The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Distributes Grant Applications

The North Texas Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation is now distributing its Request for Proposal (RFP), which includes instructions and guidelines for applying for their grant program. The application deadline is December 23, 2005 and organizations in Collin, Denton and Grayson counties may apply. To request an RFP, please contact Martha Still, Grant Chair at 972-378-4808 or email ntxskomen@yahoo.com. Applications are also available online at [www.komennorth-texas.org](http://www.komennorth-texas.org).

The purpose of each Komen Affiliate is to fulfill the mission of the Foundation within a defined service area. This mission is to eradicate breast cancer as a life-threatening disease by advancing research, education, screening, and treatment.

Affiliates work toward this goal by funding screening, treatment, and education programs, STEP, in their communities. The North Texas Affiliate grants non-profit community agencies, educational organizations, and governmental organizations within the defined areas of Collin, Denton, and Grayson counties to carry out breast cancer screening, treatment, support, and education projects.

Komen Affiliates raise funds through various means, including Komen Race for the Cure® events and various other fundraisers throughout the year. Up to 75% of the net proceeds remain in the local community to fund education screening and

treatment programs. A minimum of 25% is contributed directly to the Komen Foundation's Research Fund. These monies serve as each Affiliate's contribution to breast

cancer research. Last year, the North Texas Affiliate distributed \$350,000 in grant funds. For further information, please contact Martha Still at 972-378-4808.

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## Austin Publisher Reaches Out To Save NOKOA Newspaper

**Editor's Note: Akwasi Evans is the Publisher of the NOKOA Newspaper, a black paper serving the Austin area. NOKOA is currently in a financial crisis and is appealing to blacks across the state for assistance. Below is Mr. Evan's case on the importance of the black press.**

NOKOA Crisis Reflects Black Quality of Life in Austin  
By Akwasi Evans

Last week we sent out an S.O.S. to several people on our e-mail favorites list asking for help us out of a financial crunch. It was both a humbling and embarrassing moment. It hurt to have to ask for help with a business that has survived for over 18 years, but the holiday season has always been a slow pace season for us, and business has been incredibly slow. After almost two decades of building an audience as diverse as any media in the area, one might think Austin organizations and business might want NOKOA exposure, but our advocacy seem to have the opposite effect.

Our commitment to uphold our mission of speaking truth to power and weakness. NOKOA has challenged injustice and stood with the politically disenfranchised for over 18 years, and hundreds, if not thousands, of people have been helped by our disclosures. No paper in Austin has offered its readers a more culturally inclusive perspective than NOKOA, and our multicultural reader-

ship make up the core of the largest consumer population in Central Texas.

NOKOA has experienced first hand many of the injustices that we rail against on behalf of our readers, and the fact that we refuse to restrict ourselves only to issues that involve African Americans has even some Black-owned businesses reluctant to advertise in NOKOA. We have even had businesses have been highlighted on our front page advertise in every Black-owned media in Austin but NOKOA. Our directness with indifference disturbs some people., NOKOA wasn't created to sugar coat injustice. Sometimes that puts us in a pickle.

The Black press and Black radio are more than just Black businesses - they are the voices of the Black community, and as such, they are instrumental to the survival of other Black businesses. Every time a Black business opens the contact the Black press for publicity and many underachieve because they don't consistently advertise. The fact that more Black-owned businesses fail to support Black media in their own communities is an indication of the externally-imposed defeatism that evolves from habitual devaluation.. The fact that White-owned businesses that depend upon Black dollars do not use the Black press in their communities more is testimony to the indifference they show toward the Blacks customer who so thoughtlessly spend freely with them.

If the assembled world repre-

sentatives who attended the International Conference on Racism in 2001 were correct in saying that "all racism is economic," then NOKOA's crisis can partially be attributed to economic racism. It is a problem shared by The Villager Newspaper and KAZI Radio, the other two Black media outlets in Austin. It is a problem that exist throughout the Black diaspora, in media, religion, politics, business and life. Black America needs a consumer revolution and like with all other things in society if Blacks start a fad others inevitably emulate the effort.

Last week's crisis for NOKOA could, in retrospect, be seen as a blessing in disguise, dispelling the myth that the city really want to address and improve the quality of life of African Americans. It is people like the one who responded to our plea who want, and are working on, equity and parity in life for all Austin. Thank God they appreciate the fact that progress can't be made without dissent. I, and NOKOA, sincerely thank the allies who came to our aid last week. Ultimately it is their parishioners, customers, clients, constituents, organizations, members and associates that are being taken for granted and discounted. For the quality of life for African American to be improved the voice of Black America has to be strengthened.

Akwasi Evans is the publisher of NOKOA Newspaper, in Austin, Texas. His email address is akwasievs@hotmail.com.

## Cindy Sheehan To Visit Camp Casey Dallas

For the past seven Fridays, a coalition of groups and individuals which calls itself the Camp Casey Dallas Coalition has held vigils outside Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison's Dallas office. The vigils began as an effort to get the senator's answers to three questions which Ms. Sheehan has asked every U.S. legislator: What is the "noble cause" my son died for? How many more lives are you willing to sacrifice? What plan do you have for getting us out of this war? As no answer to these questions was forthcoming, and constituents have been given warnings of criminal trespass and arrested for trying to approach the senator's office,

the coalition is now demanding a town hall meeting, where the senator will answer her constituents' concerns.

This Friday December 2, in order to show her support for their concerns, and to add her voice to the demand for a town hall meeting, Cindy Sheehan will join the Camp Casey Dallas Coalition at 11:00 AM, outside the senator's office, 10440 N. Central Expressway, just north of Meadow St. in Dallas. She will remain until approximately 1:30.

In addition to Ms. Sheehan, there will be a number of men, women and youth who are interested in having the town hall meeting. There will also be

signs, banners and tents, many of which just came from Camp Casey in Crawford over the Thanksgiving weekend, along with music and food.



## Local DJ "Lives" In Shelter To Raise Money For Homeless

The BEAT's on-air personality, Chris "Action" Jaxon will pack up and move into the Annette Strauss Family Gateway Center this year for his 4th annual 'shelter stay' in an effort to raise money for the shelter and to collect donations for the center to continue its services to Dallas' homeless population.

In 2002, because of an overwhelming amount of homeless people seeking shelter during the winter months, Jaxon spent five nights at the Austin Street Shelter and urged his listeners to donate money and goods to the center. Enough money for thirty new coats was raised in addition to 300 pounds of clothing and two crates worth of food. The following two years he stayed at Family Gateway with even greater achievements reached.

To raise money this year for the Annette Strauss Family Gateway Center, Jaxon will live and broadcast live from the shelter from Monday, December 19th through Wednesday, December 21st.

The center offers a wide range of services to the homeless including information and referral, employment and housing assistance, shower and laundry facilities, limited medical services, and a variety of social services designed to assist the homeless in the return to a stable lifestyle. On-site agencies include Dallas County MHMR, Community Outreach Coalition, and the Veterans Administration.

While in D.C., Jaxon began cycling in various charity rides to raise money for AIDS/HIV his career as an on-air radio personality over a decade ago in Tucson, Arizona at a top 40's station. In 1994 Jaxon moved charities. He found quickly that this was his passion in life, raising money and awareness to for the devastating

AIDS epidemic. Every chance Action gets, he lends a helping hand to the fight against HIV and AIDS. Action cycles in the Tanqueray AIDS Rides in New York, DC and San Francisco, the Charity Challenge Bike Tour, the Lone Star Ride yearly. He is also the CO- emcee of Razzle Dazzle Dallas, a member of former Mayor Kirk's Reading Team, AIDS Service of Dallas volunteer & Advisory Board member, Deep Ellum Film Festival's volunteer emcee, the organizer of one of Dallas' Largest HIV Testing Drives. Most recently Action was named '2002's Business Person of the Year' by the Mesquite chapter of the NAACP.

The need to raise money for the shelter hits home with Jaxon, as he

too was homeless at one point in his life. "I had just started deejaying and just didn't make enough money to afford an apartment, so I lived out of my car for a couple of months. I know how it feels to be without a home." The public is encouraged to drop by the Family Gateway Center with cash, clothing and/or food donations at 711 South St. Paul Street.

Action Jaxon can be heard on 97.9 Monday through Saturday from 2p.m. to 6 p.m.



### Eastpointe Station

Affordable Senior Housing  
For people 62 or older

Applications Available  
Soon!

Eastpointe Station, currently in construction at 2750 Broadway Blvd. in Garland, will be ready for occupancy in the spring of 2006. Eligible residents must have incomes of less than 50% of the median income for the area. Current maximum income limits are \$23,300 for one person and \$26,600 for two.

Applications for residence will be released from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 13th at the Garland Senior Center, 222 Carver Dr., Garland. After December 13th, applications will be available locally at the Senior Center or by calling:

(214) 227-5280

TDD 1-800-925-8689  
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## East Meets West In The Battle Over Hair Loss New Multivitamin Provides Innovative Hair Restoration Treatment

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sively on decades of successful clinical studies. Unlike many other hair restoration products, ViTrichol works to improve the body's major functions. Like everything else, when the body gets what it needs, it flourishes. Hair is no different. Improving vascular function as well as repairing cell and follicle damage, ViTrichol works down to the core by improving basic bodily functions so that hair can grow in fuller and thicker.

ViTrichol is available online at [www.vitrichol.com](http://www.vitrichol.com) and is endorsed and recommended by Sword Medical Center, located in Torrance, California. Operated by Dr. Randall Sword, a leading spe-

cialist in hair treatment and transplantation surgery, the practice focuses on hair restoration and preventative treatments.

As Dr. Sword can attest, hair transplantation is a combination of artistry and skill. Having performed over 25,000 hair transplant procedures, he is dedicated to his craft. Of anybody, Dr. Sword would know the antidote, that being prevention. He has made it his life's mission to restore hair, and is willing to share his discoveries and expertise. "ViTrichol is the only natural hair restoration product I recommend," says Dr. Sword.

For more information, please visit <http://www.vitrichol.com>.

### Joseph Pannell Page 1

right now, but this is not over," said Pannell's wife Natercia Coelho.

"He came here because he feared for his life. What happened to him was wrong in '69, and what happened today is wrong.

"One thing that you learn, we will not surrender."

Pannell's wife and four children had hoped the court would not allow the extradition.

They plan to file an appeal of the court decision.

When the shooting occurred in 1969, Knox was patrolling high school grounds in the Kensington District of Chicago. The officer stopped a 19-year-old on the street to ask him why

he wasn't in school.

Pannell allegedly pulled out a 9 mm handgun and fired 13 times. Three shots struck Knox, severing an artery in his arm and leaving him partially paralyzed.

In the summer of 2004 American authorities started to catch-up with the suspected former Black Panther.

Investigators sent Pannell's fingerprints to Canada. After a check, authorities north of the border found a match. It came from a 1983 customs violation where Pannell failed to declare a camera he bought during a trip to the U.S.

It has not been proven that Pannell was a member of the militant black rights group.

### FEMA Gives Extra Month Page 1

Last week, FEMA set a Dec. 1 deadline to stop hotel payments everywhere but Louisiana and Mississippi, where housing remains scarce. But that plan drew sharp criticism from Congress, city and state officials and housing advocates who feared 15 days would not be enough time for evacuees to find stable housing and sign leases - a process that can take months in rental markets already nearing capacity.

"We want these families to be back in some semblance of normalcy," FEMA acting director R. David Paulison told reporters. "We want them in decent housing. We want them out of these hotels and motels and into apartments."

Still, Paulison said, "Let me make this really clear: We are not kicking people out into the street. We are simply moving

them from hotels and motels and into apartments that we will continue to pay for."

In Las Vegas, The Rev. Jesse Jackson said the FEMA extension did nothing to solve what he called certain eviction of evacuees. Nearly 730 families remain in hotels in Nevada.

"These are artificial deadlines that do not correspond to a house in which to move," Jackson said.

Under the new guidelines, officials in the 10 states will have to file plans with FEMA by Dec. 15 outlining how they will help evacuees move out of hotels and into travel trailers, mobile homes or apartments until they find permanent homes. Those states are: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, Tennessee and Texas.

Those states "should be able to get these people out by Dec. 15, we believe," Paulison said. "But

we know it's going to be difficult. ... So that's why we are giving them through Jan. 7, if they feel like they need that time."

Louisiana and Mississippi previously faced a Jan. 7 deadline for evacuees living in a combined 13,600 hotel rooms in the two states. But Texas took in the greatest number of evacuees, including 16,100 families who were still living in hotel rooms across the state.

Texas officials welcomed the six-week extension they had pushed for since FEMA announced the Dec. 1 deadline. Republican Sens. Kay Bailey Hutchison and John Cornyn said they were encouraged by the new plan and pledged to help local and state officials make sure evacuees' needs are met.

Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, a Democrat who represents the city of Houston, also applauded FEMA but said the agency needs

to have "ongoing flexibility" in upcoming months.

"We're seeing that trailer homes will not be placed as fast as we would like them placed, people will not be transitioning from hotels as fast we'd like them to be placed, furniture may not be placed in apartments that make it ready for families that are either physically challenged, or families with children," she said.

Housing advocates said they were cautiously optimistic about the extension.

"It's reasonable," said Barbara A. Vassallo of the National Apartment Association. "We think that's workable."

She questioned, however, whether the extension would affect deadlines for other housing programs, and if FEMA was planning to give pending applications for assistance a fast review.

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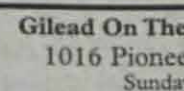
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## Kirk Franklin Debuts At Bass Hall On December 21

Fort Worth Native Will Perform Revolutionary Gospel/R&B Blend

Bass Performance Hall hosts three-time Grammy winner and nine-time Dove Award winner Kirk Franklin in his first performance at the venue. With songs from his new album, *Hero*, and music commemorating the Christmas season, Franklin promises to fill Bass Performance Hall with soul and inspiration on Wednesday, December 21, 2005 at 8:00 p.m. Tickets go on sale Saturday, October 29 at 10:00 a.m.

Since his debut in 1993, Kirk Franklin has helped redefine contemporary gospel music through merging secular and spiritual ideas to create songs that top both gospel and R&B charts. Despite his evident success, Franklin shies away from being labeled an "entertainer" – in favor of his "church boy" roots.

Franklin, who never knew his father and was abandoned by his mother, was raised by his Aunt Gertrude, a strict Baptist who collected aluminum cans to pay for Franklin's piano lessons. By age 11, Franklin, who could sight read and play by ear, was leading the Mount Rose Baptist Church choir in Fort Worth.

Franklin's new album, *Hero*, focuses on the need for a savior amidst the loss of hope in families, marriages and government. "I feel one of my responsibilities as an artist

is to help people feel good and be hopeful," Franklin said. The part-time youth pastor goes on to reveal himself through an endearing honesty in songs such as, "Looking for You," and "Let It Go," where Franklin sings and raps about his personal battles.

Traditionally backed up by



his 17-member "family," which consists of friends and past associates, *Hero* also contains tracks with artists including Stevie Wonder, Fred Hammond and Yolanda Adams – a collection guaranteed to be full of emotion and toe-tapping beats.

"I'm not trying to produce ready-made microwave music. The danger with contemporary gospel is that it can sometimes sound contrived and that is something I'm not trying to do," Franklin said.

Instead, Franklin aims to stay

grounded and make a difference in the world through his music. In a joint venture with Zomba/Jive, Franklin's newly launched boutique label – FoYo Soul Entertainment – mixes unique groove-worthy beats that cause listeners to experience joy. Though some of his songs focus on his life's struggles, Franklin sees it as a personal responsibility to anchor his music in hope.

Franklin depends on support from his pastor, his wife Tammy and his two children to keep him aware of his religious core. His new album is a return to the form he is known for, with an added depth that will make him further stand out in gospel music. Franklin said he has taken criticism for some of his past musical choices, but that as long as he keeps his words pure, he is not worried about these opinions.

Franklin will be hosting the 37th Annual Gospel Music Awards in Nashville, Tenn. in April 2006.

Tickets for Kirk Franklin range from \$34.50 to \$50.00. To charge by phone, call (817) 212-4280 in Fort Worth; 1-877-212-4280 (toll-free) outside Fort Worth; or order online at [www.basshall.com](http://www.basshall.com). Tickets are also available at the Bass Performance Hall ticket office at 525 Commerce Street. Ticket office hours: Tuesday through Friday 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

## Beyonce And Family Donate To Housing Charity: Singer Gives \$1 Million To Houston Homeless Displaced By Hurricane.

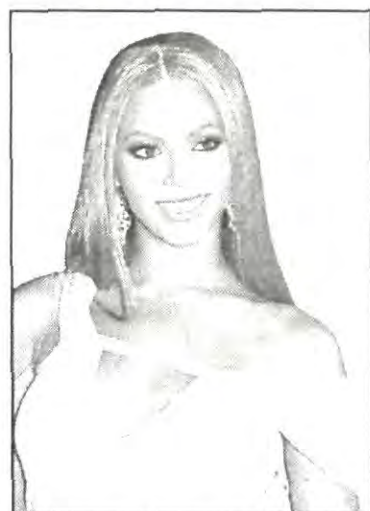
In response to the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina, Beyonce Knowles, her mother Tina Knowles, singer Kelly Rowland and the Knowles family are donating \$1,000,000 via the family's Survivor Foundation to St. John's Downtown and the Bread of Life. The money will go toward the development of transitional living apartments for people who are homeless as a result of personal or natural disasters.

The transitional housing development is a collaborative effort between the Knowles', St. John's Downtown and the Bread of Life, the non-profit agency

that has addressed the homeless problem in Houston, TX over the past 13 years.

"This is truly a blessing in our attempt to add transitional living opportunities for the men, women and families that we have strived to care for over the years," states Rudy Rasmus pastor of St. John's downtown. "I've known the Knowles family for many years and this is a true reflection of their generosity and humanitarian spirit."

St. John's has benefited from the Knowles' philanthropy when they built the Knowles/Rowland Youth Center, which is the site for teen activities and worship,



and was also the donation center for evacuees of the Katrina hurricane.

## Kirk Whalum's Hurricane Relief Efforts



Kirk Whalum's latest CD, *Kirk Whalum Performs the Babyface Songbook* is the #1 selling contemporary jazz CD in the country for several weeks and is currently among the top 5 in the Billboard contemporary jazz chart.

Whalum is a part of an All-

Star Katrina fundraiser album *Hurricane Relief: Come Together Now* (along with Coldplay, John Mayer, Lenny Kravitz, Louis Armstrong, Barbra Streisand, Diddy, Kanye West, Gloria Estefan, Harry Connick Jr. etc, etc) – the multi-label project is being released on November 22 by Concord Records, which is donating 100% of the proceeds to the victims of Hurricanes Katrina & Rita. Kirk performs the song *When the Saints Go Marching Back In* (with a rap by Coolio), and Kirk is the only jazz artist on the project.

Whalum's record label,

Rendezvous Entertainment is releasing *When the Saints Go Marching Back In* digitally on its website, [www.rendezvous-music.com](http://www.rendezvous-music.com), and is donating 100% of those proceeds to aid the relief efforts for the Gulf Coast victims.

Kirk will be playing at select Dave Koz & Friends: A Smooth Jazz Christmas tour dates, along with Jonathan Butler, Patti Austin and David Benoit. He will be in San Francisco on December 2, Los Angeles on December 3, Baltimore on December 9 and New York on December 12.

## UNICEF To Honor Music Icon Quincy Jones

Quincy Jones, a man who has reached more musical milestones than virtually anyone in recent history, will receive UNICEF's Spirit of Compassion Award at the second annual UNICEF Snowflake Ball, presented by Baccarat, in New York City. Jones will receive the award for his role as a lifelong activist and philanthropist.

Jones has devoted much of the past 30 years to humanitarian causes. He believes that every child deserves an equal opportunity to grow to their full potential. To that end, he founded the Quincy Jones Listen Up Foundation in 1991, which supports pro-

grams that meet the healthcare and educational needs of children, and works to bridge the gap between privilege and poverty for young people around the world. As producer and conductor of the historic "We Are The World" recording (the best-selling single of all time), Quincy Jones stands as one of the most successful and admired creative artist/executives in the entertainment industry. Jones has been awarded virtually every accolade imaginable: an Emmy, seven Oscar nominations, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award, 27 Grammy Awards,



N.A.R.A.S.' prestigious Trustee's Award and the Grammy Living Legend Award.

He has received the most Grammy nominations of all time, with a total of 79. In 1990, France recognized Jones with its most distinguished title, the Legion d'Honneur, as well as the Ministry of Culture's Distinguished Arts and Letters Award.

UNICEF celebrated the second annual Snowflake Ball, presented by Baccarat, to benefit the organization's efforts to ensure the health, education, equality and protection of every child. UNICEF supporter Bryant Gumbel hosted the black tie fundraiser for the second year in a row, at the Waldorf Astoria in New York City.

DBDT Story Page 1

Airlines, JCPenney Corporation and Mrs. Marilyn Mask. Fox 4 News' Clarice Tinsley will host the ceremonies for the fourth consecutive year. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased by calling (214) 871-2390.

"This will be a celebration of not only the past 10 years of this luncheon, but also a celebration of all the accomplishments that this prestigious dance company has had over its 29 years in existence," states Susie Bell, co-

chairperson of this year's Luncheon celebration. "This dance company is world traveled; but they belong to us, the citizens of Dallas; and I encourage all members of the community to support this event financially and with your presence."

This community event attracted over 700 patrons last year, and this year's goal is 1,000 attendees. In addition to individual tickets, table sponsorships and privileges are also available. Proceeds for this annual

fundraiser go towards DBDT's operations and community education and outreach programs.

Honorary Chairs for this event are Emmitt and Pat Smith and Dexter and Nicole Coakley. General Chairpersons, Dr. H. B. and Mrs. Susie Bell, are leading the Steering Committee of community volunteers, which includes Mrs. JoAnn S. Brown, Diedrae Bell-Hunter, Brenda Eikner-Jones, Errika Flood, Marge Irwin, Cynthia Jackson, Betty S. Johnson, Sandra

Malone, Lynda Mayberry, Verna Mitchell, Hattie Newhouse, Audrey Thomas, Patricia Webb and Connie Wilson.

For more information on DBDT, visit their web site at [www.dbdt.com](http://www.dbdt.com) or call (214) 871-2376.

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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 won-

der 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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## Science Projects And Game Show Demonstrate Practical Use Of Math & Science During Girls Inc. Event



Dr. Elba Garcia, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem, City of Dallas; Jan Madigan, ExxonMobil volunteer, and Tatjana Brown, 1st grade, explore science during the ExxonMobil Family Math and Science Night.



Abena Cabbil, ExxonMobil volunteer; Jasmine Whitfield, 5th grade; Jayquale Scott, 6th grade and Maricela Villensulla, 5th grade, visit about the importance of math, science and engineering. They also talked about Abena's role as an engineer at ExxonMobil.

ExxonMobil and Girls Incorporated of Metropolitan Dallas (Girls Inc.) hosted ExxonMobil Family Math and Science Night, an event to encourage girls to consider careers in math and science fields through early exposure and hands-on experience. In conjunction with the Operation SMART (Science Math And Relevant Technology) program, this

event allowed girls to explore all three areas through various activities.

According to the National Council of Research on Women, women constitute 45 percent of the workforce in the U.S., but hold only 12 percent of science and engineering jobs in business and industry. In 2003, males represented three-fourths of those who took the SAT test and planned to major in com-

puter science and engineering.

Family night was part of ExxonMobil's overall support of the Girls Inc. Operation SMART Program. This year, ExxonMobil provided a \$25,000 grant for SMART projects, which support the company's effort to improve education by creating an awareness of career opportunities for minorities and women in the field of math and science.

## Citizen's Group Planning Lawsuit Against Garland City Council

A group of citizens have combined resources to bring suit against the Garland City Council. "The suit will restore the 2006 Election as provided by the City Charter," said Doug Athas. "It will establish the two-year terms instituted by the voters on May 15, 2004

and will protect the annual elections provided in the Charter."

The law firm of Strasburger and Price has been retained to handle the case and a suit will be filed against the City Council in seven to ten days.

"Obviously it is a shame that

the citizens have to sue the government to give them back the right to vote," said Mayor Day. "A lot of citizens are real upset that there is not going to be an election in Spring of '06. They showed it at the public hearing and now they are demonstrating in other ways."

### Brighter Holidays Page 1

jam, fruit, or tea would be a "luxury" item for them.

4.) Check to see if heat inside an elderly person's home is adequate and that precautions are taken so that faucets are working during freezing temperatures.

5.) A lap robe or quilt can be a welcomed gift for someone whose home is not well insulated or heated when winter temperatures drop into the lower digits.

6.) Offer to do yard work, such as clearing away fallen tree branches or other debris. Shoveling snow off the porch or

walkway of the home of a frail elderly neighbor can help prevent injuries.

7.) Volunteer to deliver Meals on Wheels. Holiday vacations create an even greater shortage of volunteer drivers who bring needed meals to the homebound elderly, sick, and disabled.

### Gift To Inspire Page 1

school my art teacher encouraged me to become an artist. Soon after that I realized that God had given me a gift to be used for His Glory," he reflected.

Upon graduating from Wilmer Hutchins High School, Mr. Hartfield attended Prairie View A&M University, where he met one of his biggest influences, Professor of Arts, Reverend Clarence Talley.

"Professor Talley has been my friend, my godfather and my teacher," Hartfield said. "He is one of my favorite artists as well, along with Robert Motherwell, and John Biggers."

After graduating from Prairie View, Mr. Hartfield became an art teacher, and has taught art for over 15 years in public schools, universities, prisons and in community programs. He currently teaches art to 7th -12th grade students at the Faith Family Academy in Dallas.

Mr. Hartfield has been married for 10 years and is a father of six, three boys and three girls. His strong sense of faith and family comes out in his instruction of his students and in his art.

"I encourage my students to work hard to develop their craft and produce works of art that give glory to God. Anyone can become anything they want as long as they put God first in their life. That's why I sign my art work as 'I Can', taken from Philippians 4:13.

Mark Hartfield's work has been exhibited at the Museum

Besides delivering a meal, the driver can also bring needed holiday cheer.

8.) Spend some time visiting. For a person living alone, the holidays are oftentimes a reminder to them of family or friends who are no longer here. The company of a neighbor can do a lot to relieve these feelings of loneliness.

"Many of our elderly find it difficult to ask for something, valuing self-reliance and independence, even if it means ignoring a need," states Ms. Mason.

"If you think a homebound neighbor needs assistance or could use a special gift, simply make the effort to help," she adds.

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Please call 972-606-3890 and leave a message.

of Fine Arts in Houston, Texas, African Art Museum in Dallas, Texas A&M University, Prairie View A&M University, and other art galleries around the state of Texas. His work will be displayed on December 17th at the Stephanie Ward Art

Gallery, and on January 1st-January 30th at the Dallas Public Library Art Gallery, J.Erik Jonsson Branch, 1515 Young Street, Dallas.

For more information visit www.stephaniewardgallery.com and www.dallaslibrary.org.

## Career Opportunities

Contact Marketing to advertise in our career opportunity section 972-606-7498 Fax or Email copy for quote: Fax: 972-509-9058; Email: opportunity@monthegazette.com

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### HUB Vendors Wanted

Delta Dental is seeking Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) vendors in Texas to assist us in providing the following services for the Texas Dental Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP):

- Translation Services:
  - Translate or proofread member materials for grammatical or typographical errors in any language deemed appropriate by Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC). Expected volume per item is approximately 10,000 - 20,000 words.
  - Translate member materials to Braille and/or audio formats for use by visually impaired members. Expected volume per item is approximately 10,000 - 20,000 words.
  - Receive and/or place approximately 100 monthly calls for members and providers in Spanish and/or any other language deemed necessary by HHSC.
  - Offer face to face translation services as deemed necessary.
- Communication and Media Services:
  - Produce newspaper advertisements, pamphlets, and brochures as required by HHSC
  - Provide graphic and ad design services as required by HHSC
- Health Services:
  - Develop health care education materials
- Printing, Fulfillment and Related Services:
  - Provide printing services for the following materials and their respective, approximate volumes:
    - Member materials in large and/or Braille print: 38,000 items
    - Member welcome letters/ID cards: 350,000 - 380,000 items
    - Provider directories: 300,000 - 320,000 items
    - Provider directory revisions: 280,000 - 300,000 items
    - Provider directory addenda: 280,000 - 300,000 items
    - Evidence of coverage brochures: 300,000 - 320,000 items
    - Educational brochures: 350,000 - 380,000 items
    - Flyers: 50,000 - 80,000 items
  - Provide fulfillment and storage services for the above-mentioned items and volumes
  - Manage mailing, courier and/or delivery services for the above mentioned items and volumes
  - Ability to handle changes to format and content as requested by HHSC.
  - System must be capable of receiving HIPAA compliant transaction in the format determined by Delta and/or HHSC
  - Ability to meet aggressive turnaround times.

If your company is interested, HUB certified and can meet the criteria for any of the services listed above, please contact Kelly Carpenter at (916) 861-1947 or by e-mail at [kcarpenter@delta.org](mailto:kcarpenter@delta.org).

If your company is selected, you must provide evidence of bonding and insurance as required by HHSC.



## Church News



### Sister Tarpley

By: Rev. Jarrey Autrey  
Because of various disasters that we are having in our world today, (hurricanes, terrorism, mudslides, earthquakes, the war in Iraq, other wars world-wide, life's uncertainty, etc.; many people are in a state of despair. I wanted to share a message that I heard years ago with our readers. Last week was Part I of that message that made an impact in my life. This week I will conclude the message of the Four Levels of Thanksgiving.

The first three levels that were covered last week are: *Grammar School Level*. 1) Thanks to God for what He gives us. *High School Level*. 2) Thanks to God for what He does through us. *College Level*. 3) Thanks to God for what He has done for and in us.

The Fourth Level of Thanksgiving is the Graduate Level. This is the highest level; it is when we give 4) Thanksgiving to God for what He is to us.

When you reach this level, you are a "Born Again Christian." You know that you are saved by HIS grace.

You must first ask, "What is God to me?" Serle, an author, over 100 years ago wrote over 600 pages that deal with 41 names of our Lord that is in the Bible; and later author Charles J. Rhoades wrote 84 names of our Lord in the scriptures. Each of these writers gave us an idea of what God is. I am going to talk about six names that can be found in the Bible.

1) The Lord is **my inheritance** (Psalms 16:5.) He is my wealth, my

## Four Levels Of Thanksgiving St. Luke 10:1-24

source, my bank, my reservoir, my supplier. David, the King, who was wealthy in his own right, said that he would by-pass all of his earthly wealth for Christ because God was his source.

2) The Lord is **my shield** (Psalms 28:7.) He is a protector, a safety net. David, a warrior, said that God was his strength and shield; he knew the value of a shield. In David's day there was an arm shield and a body shield, both for protection. Life is not a playground it's a battle ground. But in the end time, it will be God, He is a protector.



Picture Of The Week

Dr. Reynolds Wood, Pastor of Trinity Prayer Chapel and Founder/CEO of Reynolds Wood Ministries with his daughter Mirinda at a book signing of his newest book, "The Ability Within--Principles of Leadership"

3) The Lord is **the health of my countenance** (Psalms 43:5.) He is my make-up artist, meaning, what I am. I have peace with God which results in the peace of God within me which results in the glory of God on my face; and a God's satisfied face

means there's something on the inside that is affecting my outside. It's good to know that God's peace is reserved power.

4) The Lord is **my helper** (Psalms 54:4.) He gives me His promise, His love, His power, His presence; He is with me all of the time, and has delivered me out of all trouble.

5) The Lord is **my refuge and fortress** (Psalms 91:2-4.) Moses declared that from generation to generation that God has always been, is now, and will always be God to His people. Refuge implies deliverance, read and study (Exodus 6:6 and 19:4.) He will bring you out, bring you up, and will bring you in. God will deliver you from an environment, from bondage, from a strong enemy, fear, lust, danger, or what ever has you bound (Psalms 18:16-19.) He has the power. Faith in God is the price you have to pay for His blessings. (Psalms 18:20 - 22.)

6) The Lord is **my strength** (Isaiah 40:29.) When I need God, He is there for me (Deuteronomy 32:12-14.)

Now the four levels of Thanksgiving brings my favorite scripture to mind: "Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the powers that worketh in us, Unto Him be glory." (Ephesians 3:20-21.)

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."

## Church Happenings

### 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

#### December 10, 6:30 pm

We are calling all Groups, Choirs, Singers, and the public to join us for our "Annual Holiday Musical." Our theme is "Giving The Best You Have In Jesus Name."

For further information or for donations for the homeless, contact Minister Dana Blair @ 214-575-8224.

#### December 24, 2005

Bishop Gregory D. Crawford, Senior Pastor, will give clothing and toys to families that need them. Please call the church for more detail.

### Fellowship of Believers Ministries

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

### FRIENDSHIP-WEST BAPTIST CHURCH

#### December 2,

#### Midnight to 6:00 am

Our CAMPUS Life Collegiate Community will host the 2005 Midnight Madness Concert, Step Show, and a Christian After Party. The event will include college choirs from around Texas: Alpha Phi Alpha, Delta Sigma Theta, Beta Phi Sigma, Alpha Lambda Omega and more. For more information, call Nikki Jones @ 214-371-0964, Ext. 359

### Friendship-West Baptist Church

Rev. Freddie Haynes, III, Pastor  
616 West Kiest Blvd.  
Dallas, TX 75224

### KELLER SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

#### December 11, 2005

We will host our Annual Christmas Play, A Journey to Christmas about precious moments leading up to the birth of Jesus Christ. The play is FREE and open to the community. Please join us.

For more information on the above events, call the church @ 972-735-8077

### Keller Springs Baptist Church

Rev. Larry Sanders, Pastor  
3227 Keller Springs Road  
Carrollton, TX 75006  
972-735-8122

### 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 NEXT GENERATION

#### December 3, 4:00 pm

Our play, "Oh, My Child!" a play about Christian relationships will be shown at the Dallas Central Library, 1515 Young Street, Downtown Dallas. Showtime is 12 Noon and a Buffet will be served at 2:00 pm. For more information about ticket price and the buffet, please email: newnextgen2@msn.com

### New Next Generation

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

Church Happenings Page 10

## Community Relations Commission Of Plano Hosts Meeting

The Community Relations Commission of Plano will host a meeting to seek public comments December 6, 2005 on the following:

Consideration of Annual Affirmative Action Report for 2004-05;

Request for an extension of

time completion of the Children's Advocacy Center's 2001 CDBG Grant;

Request for an extension of time for use of 2003 and 2004 Homeless Prevention CDBG Grants;

Discussion and selection of a logo for the Community

Relations Commission and;

Determination of dates for Public Hearings for 2006 Grant Requests items for future agendas.

The meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Plano Municipal Center, Conference Room 2E, 1520 K Avenue.

## Church Directory

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



#### "Where Jesus is the Main Attraction"

Sunday Worship Experience - 8:00 am & 10:45 am  
Wednesday Bible Study - 12:00 Noon & 7:00 pm

14120 Noel Road • Dallas, TX 75254

972-239-1120 (Office) • 972-239-5925 (Fax)

templeoffaith\_cme@sbcglobal.net (Email)

Healthy Beginnings Child Development Center - 972-404-1412

### 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



### NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

"A Spiritual Oasis for a Thirsty World" Isaiah 55:1

#### SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES:

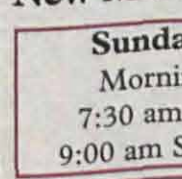
8:00 AM • 9:30 AM • 11:30 AM

972-437-3493

1010-1020 South Sherman Street • Richardson, TX 75081

www.ndcbf.org

### New Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Dallas



#### Sunday Service

Morning Worship  
7:30 am & 10:30 am

9:00 am Sunday School

#### Wednesday Service

Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm

Brotherhood 7:00 pm

Missions 7:00 pm

Singles Group 7:00 pm

Bible Study 7:45 pm

Dr. Robert E. Price,  
Senior Pastor

#### A Praying Church Family

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9550 Shepard Road

Dallas, TX 75243

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

Visit Our Website At www.MONTheGazette.com



### Ben Washington Baptist Church, Inc.

3901 Frisco Avenue

Irving, TX 75061

Church 972-790-8421 Fax 972-986-6590

Email: church@bwbcirving.org

Web: bwbcirving.org

Dr. Joseph R. Sheppard, Pastor



"THE CHURCH WITH AN OPEN BIBLE"

#### Sunday Worship Services

8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

6:00 p.m. Baptist Training Union

#### Wednesday

12:00 p.m. Bible Study

7:00 p.m. Prayer Hour

7:30 p.m. Bible Study



### Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church

920 E. 14th Street Plano, TX

Pastor Ishai Joshua, Jr.



FANNING THE FLAMES OF OUR FAITH

Sunday Worship Services 8AM & 11AM

Sunday 9:45AM Sunday School

Monday 7PM Youth, Brotherhood, Mission & Young Adult Ministries

Tuesday 7PM Bible Study & Men's Choir

Wednesday 7PM Mid-Week Service

Thursday 7PM Mass Choir

For more information call (972) 423-6695

www.shilohbaptistchurch.org

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Children's Church 11:00 am  
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## Daughter Of Victim Talks Of Williams

Rebecca Owens spoke Sunday about pain, but not about punishment, about responsibility, but not about revenge.

She was 8 years old when her father was murdered — shot twice in the back at close range. She is 35 today and will not say whether Stanley Tookie Williams should be executed next month for the 1979 murders of Albert Owens and three others in Southern California.

"I have not asked anyone to be killed," Owens told a gathering here of 1,200 high school students during what she described as her first public appearance. "I did not make that decision. A jury of 12 people based on the evidence decided the crime was so heinous that it deserved death."

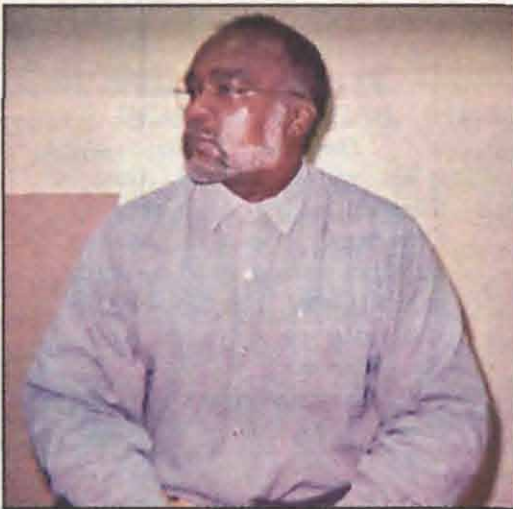
She would not say whether she agreed with the jury that declared the co-founder of the Crips street gang guilty and sentenced him to die. She also insisted that she was not "advocating his death."

On Saturday, Williams himself addressed the group from San Quentin State Prison's death row as part of a panel discussion that included rapper Snoop Dogg. The singer is working to help persuade Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to grant Williams clemency.

Williams has denied that he committed the murders. He insists that he underwent a transformation after a decade in prison.

Along with Barbara Becnel, he has co-written books for children advocating an end to violence and an avoidance of gang life. He has been nominated for the Nobel Prize for his anti-gang efforts.

Owens seems angry that Williams has not taken responsibility for the murders and has not apologized to the families of the victims. But with time, she said, she has forgiven the man who murdered her father in the convenience store where he worked.



Convicted killer Stanley "Tookie" Williams scheduled for execution.

She said she would not "talk about how I feel about the death penalty, out of respect to the state of California."

Owens, a widow and mother of four, is a cosmetology student. She did not reveal her married name or where she lives. She does not allow her picture to be taken.

"I have children, and they know about my dad, but it's not a part of our everyday life," she told reporters after the event. "We have our own life."

Owens only flew to Northern California, she said, to help the student leaders learn to get all the facts and think for themselves before they make decisions in life.

It is the same message that she has for Schwarzenegger: "Look into the whole story. Make an informed decision. What bad can come from having all the facts?"

Owens was 4 years old when her father left her family. She learned of his death through a phone call from a relative, she said, and "I remember crying all day."

Her mother had remarried, she said, and her stepfather would not allow her to attend her father's funeral.

And she spent most of her life believing that the man who murdered her father had been convicted and executed; family members insisted that was the case.

Then four years ago, she said, she learned that Williams was alive and had been nominated for a Nobel Prize, and "it literally hit me like a ton of bricks."

"It literally almost destroyed my life because of my own anger," she said. "I was just flabbergasted. How could the man who co-founded the Crips be nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. What in the world?"

Although she has been invited to watch the Dec. 13 execution, if it goes forward, she plans to be at home instead.

"I don't need to go and watch another man die," she said.

## Church Happenings

Church Happenings Page 9

### 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 Networking of Dallas (MIND.) For more information, registration, or donations call 214-289-4802 or 214-924-0177.

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

### 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  
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Dr. Rickie G. Rush, Pastor  
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Dallas, TX 75237  
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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

### WOMEN PRAYING FOR CHRIST MINISTRIES

December 3,

9:00 am - 12:00 Noon

We are having a FREE Prayer & Praise Breakfast @ The Radisson Hotel & Suites Dallas, 2320 W. Northwest Highway @ Highway 35, Dallas, TX. Our speaker will be Angela S. King, Founder/President. You must pre-register for this event by November 30, 2005. For more information and registration, please call 214-450-7634.

Women Praying For Christ Ministries  
Ms. Angela S. King,  
Founder/President  
P.O. Box 863766  
Plano, TX 75086-3766  
972-618-1247 or  
214-450-7634

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

**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: 7pm  
Men's Fellowship: Friday 7:00pm

**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

**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.**

**St. Luke A.M.E. Church (aka - SLAME)**  
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521 W. Avenue E Garland, TX 75040 972.487.9703  
Email: slamechurch@aol.com

**Sunday**  
8:45 a.m. Church School  
9:45 a.m. Praise & Worship  
10:15 a.m. Worship Experience

**Tuesday**  
7:15 p.m. Bible Study

**Wednesday**  
6:30 p.m. Prayer Service  
7:00 p.m. Church School

**Thursday**  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

**Reverend Charles E. Franklin, Pastor**

**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

**Our Hearts, Our Arms and Our Doors Are Always Open to YOU!**

**2701 Briarwood Drive # Plano, TX 75074**  
**972-422-4248**

**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: 972-371-7021  
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"**