

The Truth Clinic

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Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

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The Gazette

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People In The News



Ware & Associates, Inc. was recently named Business of the Year by the North Central Texas Regional Certification Agency. The Award was given by the NCTRCA at the organization's 'An Evening of Outstanding Achievements' Awards Banquet, which celebrated business achievements of the top certified disadvantaged, minority and women businesses.

"It was truly an honor and a privilege to receive this year's highest achievement award," stated Wynness Ware, Principal/CEO of Ware & Associates, Inc. "There were so many NCTRCA member companies and the Business of the Year Award which makes the recognition extremely special and one that we will cherish for years to come."

With over 19 years of administrative experience, specializing in public relations, marketing, and management, Ma. Ware has served as a resource for newspaper articles and has appeared on various radio broadcast programs. A graduate of The University of Texas at Arlington, she has spent fifteen years in public relations and marketing in the corporate arena.

Ms. Ware holds many board memberships and licenses. Currently, she serves as board chairman for Emergency 9-1-1 and serves on the board of the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Ware was named one of Texas' County's Most Influential Women in 1997, and received the New Image Business Association Akibaqui Entrepreneur of the Year Award in 1998.

New Jersey's Democratic governor Jon Corzine has verbally singled out state senator Nita Gill, an African-American female, to fill his unexpired term. Corzine says he plans to choose his successor in early December.

New Jersey law gives the governor the power to fill House and Senate vacancies. Corzine's Senate term expires in 2008.

"It would certainly cement his status with African Americans and progressives in general, and would come in handy down the line if he's thinking about running for president," said David Bonis Sr., a political analyst at The Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies in Washington, D.C. He studies black politics.

If Corzine does select Gill, a 57-year-old attorney, she would become only the sixth African-American, and second African-American woman, ever to serve in the U.S. Senate. New Jersey has never had a female or minority U.S. senator. The only African-American woman to serve in the U.S. Senate was Carol Moseley-Braun of Illinois.

Gill is a second-term state senator who previously served four terms in the state Assembly. She would not reveal whether she and Corzine had discussed the U.S. Senate seat, saying any such conversations are private.



December 18th marks the birth of noted non-violent apartheid activist Stripling Bantz Biko.

While a student at the University of Natal Medical School, Biko helped found the South African Students' Organization (SASO) in 1968 and was elected its first president. The SASO evolved into the influential Black Consciousness Movement.

He was banned during the height of apartheid in March 1973, meaning that he was not allowed to speak to more than one person at a time, was restricted to certain areas, and could not make speeches in public. In spite of the repression of the apartheid government, Biko and the BCM played a large role in organizing the protests which led to the Soweto riots on June 16, 1976.

In the aftermath of the Soweto riots, police began to target Biko further. He suffered a major head injury while in police custody and was chained to a window grille for a full day. On September 11, police loaded him into the back of a car and began the 140-mile drive to Pretoria. He died shortly after the arrival in the Pretoria prison.

Due to his fame, news of his death quickly spread across the world, and it provided a great wake-up call internationally to the extent of the brutality of the apartheid regime.

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Bush Asks Congress To Renew Voting Rights Act

While honoring civil rights hero Rosa Parks, President Bush on Thursday delighted modern-day black leaders by calling on Congress to renew the provisions of the landmark 1965 Voting Rights Act that are set to expire.

On the 50th anniversary of Parks' refusal to give up to a white man her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Ala., Bush signed into law a bill directing that a statue of Parks go up in the Capitol's Statuary Hall. Parks, who died Oct. 24 at age 92, will be the first black woman represented in Statuary Hall, where many states have statues honoring notable people in their history.

Bush credited Parks for helping to "set in motion a national movement for equality and freedom." "Eventually the civil rights movement would succeed in persuading Congress to pass more sweeping legislation that dealt with voting rights and discrimination in public places, and school segregation," said the president. "And the United States Congress should renew the Voting Rights Act of 1965."



Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, left, and Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr., D-Ill., right, watch President Bush sign a bill, authorizing a statue of civil rights leader Rosa Parks be placed in the U.S. Capitol's Statuary Hall.

Bush Asks Page 8

Coach's Cancer Inspires Players



By Linda Stewart Ball
It's been a pretty tough season for the Frisco Wildcats. Undeclared for two years in flag football, these 8-year-old boys didn't know about loss until they donned pads and tumbled onto the field to play tackle football.

Then two months ago, their beloved Coach Eli - Elijah Alexander, a former NFL player from the inner city who helped suburban kids learn about football and life - was told he had cancer.

Multiple myeloma, a rare cancer of the bone marrow, threatened to permanently sideline the 35-year-old Frisco businessman.

But it hasn't. The team should have fallen apart. But it didn't.

Coach Eli, a strict disciplinarian, didn't want these 17 boys to know the seriousness of his illness and lose their focus. Yes, he missed a few practices because he was sick, but he somehow made most of the games, often sitting to conserve his energy. And he wasn't as loud as he once was.

In spite of the challenges, the Wildcats went on to win the city championship in the 8-year-old division on Nov. 12.

Coach Eli, whose career included stints with the Oakland Raiders, Indianapolis

Coach's Cancer Inspires Page 6

Collin County Healthcare Offering Flu Shots

Collin County Healthcare Services wants you to know that it's not too late to get a flu shot.

Flu season usually peaks in February, so there is plenty of time to ensure that you and your family are protected this year. Collin County Healthcare Services is offering flu vaccinations to the general public Monday through Friday from 8 am to 11 am and 1 pm to 4 pm. To determine the availability of the adult or children's flu vaccine on a given day, please call the Collin County Health Care Services office at 972-548-5500.

Some people are at high risk of having

serious flu complications or live with or care for those at high risk for serious complications. People at high risk include:

- Adults aged 65 or older
- Children aged 6-23 months
- Children aged 6 months - 11 years on chronic aspirin therapy
- Children 2 years of age or older who live with one or more children less than 6

Flu Shots Offered Page 10

DOJ Memo: Delay's Redistricting Plan Diluted Minority Voting

U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales defended the Justice Department's decision about Texas' redistricting plan.

Staff lawyers raised concerns that the plan orchestrated by former U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay of Sugar Land would dilute minority voting rights.

A 73-page department memo, released Friday, showed agency staffers objected to the plan, which DeLay pushed through the Legislature to help elect more



U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales

DOJ Memo Page 11

City To Tow Uninsured Motorists

Drivers using Plano streets after Jan. 1 better have insurance coverage, or their cars could be towed.

Like other Metroplex cities, the city will soon start towing cars if a driver in a crash or who is stopped by police doesn't have insurance. City council members informally reviewed the plan on Monday.

Plano police have already issued 10,461 citations for driving without insurance this year and tallied 13,661 last year, including 780 citations issued at accident scenes, Chief Greg Rushin told council members.

The state requires drivers to maintain "financial responsibility," but one-fifth of Texas drivers currently do not have insur-

ance, Rushin said, quoting Texas Department of Public Safety statistics.

"With traffic safety being such an issue to the citizens of Plano, we are spending a lot of time enforcing the traffic laws," said Gay Schaffer, a police department administrative lieutenant who researched the plan.

Plano's new rules will be different for traffic stops and collisions. If a driver involved in a crash does not have proof of insurance, the vehicle will be immediately towed.

During traffic stops, the officer can decide to impound the vehicle if the driver is known to not have insurance, the driver continues to operate without

City To Tow Page 6

UN Head Says "Do Far, Far More" Against AIDS



UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan holds Thandazile's four-year-old son during remarks on World AIDS Day by President Bush in Washington, December 1, 2005.

Around the globe, leaders, activists and victims used World AIDS Day last week to send the message that far stronger action is needed in the battle against the disease that kills millions of people every year.

The United Nations' special envoy for AIDS in Africa proposed big business dedicate a portion of profits to the fight, French President Jacques Chirac suggested schools install condom vending machines and Indian Prime Minister Manmohan

Singh called on people to talk openly about safe sex.

The number of people living with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, has reached its highest level with an estimated 40.3 million people, UNAIDS Executive Director Peter Piot said. Nearly half of them are women.

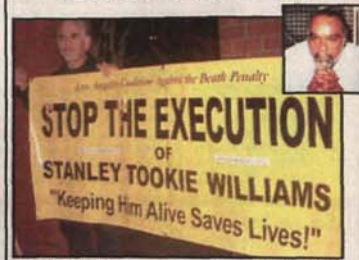
"We must do far, far more," U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said. "It is time to recognize that although our response so far has succeeded in some of the particulars, it has yet to match the epidemic in scale."

Others, including U.S. President George W. Bush, noted what progress has been made. Speaking in Washington, he said U.S. efforts were helping 400,000 people in sub-Saharan Africa get treatment.

With just over 10 percent of the world's population, sub-

Do Far More Page 6

California Refuses To Block Execution Of Crips Founder Stanley Tookie Williams



By David Kravets
The California Supreme Court refused last Wednesday to halt the scheduled execution of convicted killer Stanley Tookie Williams, the

Crips gang founder who became an anti-gang activist while in prison and whose supporters claim he redeemed himself.

Refused To Block Page 8

Community Spotlight

33rd Annual Plano Christmas Parade



Plano for Pous Inn presents Santa Pous



Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church Nativity Scene



Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church members enjoying the festivities



Scorpions of Plano member greets the crowd

Photos by: Paul Halley
Last Saturday morning at 9am the music of marching bands bounced off the rooftops as the 33rd annual Plano Christmas Parade snaked through Downtown Plano. With over 100 entries, the parade featured music, dance, song, floats and fun to delight all ages.

The parade began at Williams



Sandra, Tiffani, and Christian Faltcher pose for a picture during the parade

High School, turned south on Avenue K to 15th Street, then turning west onto 15th Street (through Downtown Plano and past Haggard Park), then North on Avenue G, ending at the

Courtyard Theatre/Cox Building parking lot.

This year's theme, Sights and Sounds of Christmas, provided a spectacular world view of the holiday!

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Cindy Sheehan Joins Weekly Anti-War Protestors In Dallas



Protester Rev. Peter Johnson of the SCLC



Cindy Sheehan signs autographs for supporters



Tribute to Casey Sheehan, killed in action 2004

Photos by: Paul Halley

On Friday, December 2nd anti-war protestors on the street outside of Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson's North Dallas office were joined by anti-war activist Cindy Sheehan. The protestors comprised of groups and individuals which call themselves the Camp Casey Dallas Coalition, have held vigils outside the Senator's office for the past 8 Fridays. The group intends to continue to

hold the vigils until Senator Hutchinson answers three questions posed by Ms. Sheehan: 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?

Ms. Sheehan said, "I don't think Iraq has anything to do with the war on terror, except now terrorists are crossing the borders to go and kill innocent Iraqis and our troops. So the President went almost unilat-



Supporters of the anti-war cause protest outside Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchinson's office

erally, with very little international support, to invade a country. He didn't have a plan for the peace or for the occupation of Iraq". Also among the protestors was Reverend Peter Johnson of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference who has been arrested for trying to enter the building to speak to Senator Hutchinson.

Around The Town

Ongoing

70th SBC Cotton Bowl Classic is accepting applications through December 16. Call 972-230-5655.

A Christmas Carol at the Dallas Theater Center, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd., Call 214-522-8499 for information. November 25-December 24.

"Yes Virginia, There Is A Santa Claus", Frisco Community Theatre, 7774 Maple St., 8:00 p.m. Call 972-849-0358. Thru December 18.

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.

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

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.

Dr. Melvin VanWade, president of the National Missionary Baptist Convention of America, will speak at a one day holiday revival, 6:30 p.m., Carver Heights Baptist Church, 2510 E. Ledbetter Dr. Call 214-371-2024 for information.

December 9

City, county, regional and state leaders will participate in a ribbon cutting ceremony for S.H. 121 frontage roads from Custer Road to U.S. 75, 10 a.m.

1st Annual Dirty South Hip-Hop Awards show, 7:00 p.m., Club Hush, 2642 Main St. Go to www.dirtyouthawards.com for information

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

The Corner Theatre presents "Grandma's Hand" by Barbara Christian, 211 E. Pleasant Run Rd., (DeSoto), 7:30 p.m. Call 972-285-0705

Holiday in the Valley, sponsored by the Valley Ranch and the

Friends of the Library, Valley Ranch Library 9940 W. Valley Ranch Pkwy., 7 p.m. Call 972-831-0669

Trinity Bridges groundbreaking ceremony with the City of Dallas. Call 214-670-3900.

"These Are They" Community Church presents a Christmas adaptation of the Wizard of Oz with "On the Road", 6:30 p.m., 200 South Polk (Dallas). Call 972-274-9400 for information.

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.

KwanzaaFest Welcomes Dr. Jocelyn Elders as Keynote speaker of the 2005 event. The former U.S. Surgeon General will speak on the main stage 11:00a.m., Fair Park Automobile Building.

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.

Workshop on how to write memoirs, conquering writer's block and accessing the media will be held at 2530 Sunset Ave. in west Oak Cliff, 10:00 am. Call 214-331-2677 to register and for information.

Mocha Sisters will celebrate the Yuletide, 7-10 p.m. RSVP at info-mochasisters.org.

Trinity Valley Neighborhood Community Meeting, Dallas West Library, 2:00 p.m. Call 214-358-3361.

15th Annual Kwanzaa Fest at the Automobile Building, Fair Park, 10:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. Call 214-653-6671. December 10-11.

Christmas at Spring Creek Farm, 1401 E. Lookout Dr. (Richardson), 10:00 am-8:00 p.m. Call 972-235-0192. Dec. 10-24.

December 11

Wylie's Festival of Lights and Tree lighting in downtown Wylie, 6:00 p.m., at Oak ST. and Jackson Ave. Tree lighting will take place after the parade, at 301 N. Ballard. Call 972-442-2804 for information.

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.

The Potters House Grammy Award winning choir presents a free Christmas concert, The Potter's House, 6777 W. Kiest Blvd, 7:00 p.m. Call 214-331-0954.

Collin County Holiday Home Tour, 11:00-5:00 p.m., Call 972-618-6285 for information.

December 13

Black Nativity, the rousing gospel musical by Langston Hughes, Greater St. Johns Primitive Baptist Church, 3633 Atlanta (Dallas), 7:30 p.m. Call 972-285-0705 for information. December 13-17

December 16

India Arie in concert at the Black Academy of Arts and Letters, 650 S. Griffin St. (Naomi Bruton Theater), 7:00 p.m. Call 214-743-2400.

TBAAL and Galaxy Entertainment presents The Christmas Gift Concert & Comedy Show, 7:00 p.m. at the Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Naomi Bruton Theater, 7:00 p.m. Featured artists are jazz guitarist Wayne Tiedale, New Orleans violinist Michael Ward and comedian A.J. Jamal. Call 817-701-0575 or Ticketmaster 214-373-8000.

December 17

Toy Drive 2005 Christmas Concert, 7:30 p.m. at the House of Praise Family Church, 5007 Ivy Ln. Call 469-995-2761 for information.

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters Galaxy Entertainment presents The Christmas Gift Concert, 7 p.m., 650 S. Griffin St. Call 214-373-8000.

All You Can Eat Pancakes @ Applebee's for only \$5.00, 8:30 a.m.- 10:30 a.m., 1905 I-635 (Mesquite) The fund-raiser will benefit the Mesquite NAACP ACT-SO Program. Call 972-288-0281 for information.

When a Sister's Fed Up Book Signing, 2:00-4:00 p.m., Black Images Book Bazaar.

The Ebony Nutcracker an adaptation of the Nutcracker comes to the Majestic Theater, 1925 Elm St., 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

December 19

VA North Texas Healthcare System, Dallas VA Medical Center in collaboration with the City of Dallas will host the 12th Annual homeless stand down from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Dallas Convention Center, Exhibit Hall. Call 214-670-5122 for information

December 20

Drop off a new unwrapped toy and help a North Texas child this holiday, WFAA Downtown Studios in Dallas, 5:00 p.m.- 10:00 p.m.

Comedian Simbad will perform at the Bass Performance Hall, 4th and Calhoun Streets, Fort Worth. Call 1-877-212-4280 for information.

Kirk Franklin in concert, at the Bass Performance Hall, 4th and Calhoun Streets, 8 p.m. Call 1-877-212-4280 for information.

December 26

13th Annual Kwanzaa Parade 1:00 p.m. Lincoln High School, 5000 Malcolm X Blvd. (Oakland Ave.)

December 27

A Tuna Christmas, Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Dr., 8:00 p.m. Call 972-744-4650 for ticket information. December 27-Jan. 1

December 31

5th Annual Ultimate New Years Eve Classic, Abbotsford Court (5th Avenue), 9:30 p.m.

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THE TRUTH CLINIC

Texas' Three Step Redistricting Dance

By: James W. Breedlove

The Texas Two-Step is probably the most widely known and performed country-dance in America. But the new Texas Three Step initially introduced by the Texas legislature and curiously approved by the Department of Justice may induce the Supreme Court to become a participant in determining the validity of this intriguing political dance.

The genesis of this Redistricting Three Step was the branch of Congressman Tom DeLay who used the triumvirate of Governor Perry, Lt. Governor Dewhurst and House Speaker Craddick to spearhead the redrawing of Texas' state congressional map in 2003. By focusing on the delay inspired redistricting of Texas' congressional districts these "nattering nabobs of nonsense" have sown the seeds that will poison the Texas political landscape for years to come. Congressman DeLay is currently under indictment in Texas for money laundering and conspiracy associated with the elections of 2003.

This strange gerrymandered redistricting map was eventually approved by the Republican-controlled Texas state legislature following several special sessions, during which a group of democratic state senators fled the state for over a month in an effort to block voting on the controversial congressional boundaries.

Under provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 Texas is one of the states required to submit proposed changes in their voting systems or district maps to the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division for approval to ensure that minority voting power is not adversely impacted.

The Justice Department approved or "pre-cleared" the Texas redistricting plan on December 19, 2003.

The redistricting plan was challenged in court by Democrats and minority voting groups, claiming that district boundaries had been illegally manipulated to give one party an unfair advantage. Oral

arguments were heard on January 21, 2005 in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas and on June 9, 2005 the court refused to invalidate the redistricting plan.

What was not publicly known at the time was in spite of the safeguards in the 1965 Voting Rights Act the Bush Administration blatantly manipulated the review process and surreptitiously imposed its self-interests over those of the people.

The Washington Post recently revealed that a December 12, 2003 Department of Justice internal memo shows that staff lawyers and analysts at the Justice Department had unanimously concluded that the Texas redistricting plan illegally diluted black and Hispanic voting power in two congressional districts, and eliminated other districts where minorities had substantial influence. The memo also noted that Republican lawmakers and Texas officials who endorsed the plan were fully aware that there was a high risk it would run afoul of the Voting Rights Act but pushed the plan because it would maximize the number of congressional seats the Republicans could win.

Justice Department officials stated in the memo, "The State of Texas has not met its burden in showing that the proposed congressional redistricting plan does not have a discriminatory effect."

However, Bush political appointees in the Justice department disagreed with the unanimous staff conclusion and overruled the decision allowing the plan to go forward.

Mark Posner, a longtime Justice Department lawyer who now teaches law at American University, said it was "highly unusual" for political appointees to override a unanimous finding such as occurred in the Texas case.

The disclosure of the 73-page justice department memo, held secret for two years, prompted complaints from Democratic lawmakers in Congress and in Texas. House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) said the decision was the result of a "contemptible

politicization of the Justice Department and reveals a cynical manipulation of the democratic process designed to deny fair representation to millions of American citizens."

Texas Sen. Leticia Van De Putte, one of the Democratic lawmakers who coiled in New Mexico during the contentious battle over passage of the redistricting plan said, "The fact that the White House has covered up this document for so long provides a smoking gun pointing out efforts, led by Bush political appointees and Tom DeLay, to systematically cripple the voting rights of minorities."

White House and other Justice Department officials were quick to paint the allegations of politicization and manipulation as democratic spoilsport pointing to the rulings of the three-judge Texas district court as vindication of the justice department's decision to approve the Texas plan.

But election law experts said the court considered legal issues that were different from those examined by the Justice Department under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act. Richard L. Hasen, who teaches election law at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles said, "I don't think you can point to it [court's decision] as vindication of their [Justice] decision to pre-clear under Section 5. It's a totally different standard."

The justice department memo provides yet another view into the highly politicized "ask me no questions" environment orchestrated by the Bush administration. The Iraq war, the feeble Katrina response, homeland security, media objectivity, federal contracting, intelligence integrity, and environmental enlightenment have all been victimized by the Administration's conspiratorial political mandate of "make the facts fit the preordained decision."

The Supreme Court is expected to announce soon whether it will consider this case that has far reaching implications on America's domestic and global future.

Email Comments to: Politics@MonTheGazette.com

"Tookie" Williams Is Not My Hero

By: Paul Bailey

Lately, I've been making some enlightened black folks I know very angry by uttering what they feel is a completely radical statement: Stanley "Tookie" Williams is not a hero.

Neither is R. Kelly, Irv "Gotti," or O.J. Simpson.

When I make these statements, the enlightened black folks I know get indignant and accuse me of not recognizing the genocidal institutionalized racism against the black male by the criminal justice system.

Others simply tell me that I am not down for "the cause," or even worse, that I'm becoming a Republican in my views.

Their problem with my opinion is centered on them refusing to take an objective, informed view of the facts. Stanley Tookie Williams was convicted and sentenced to death for the 1979 slayings of Albert Owens, Yen-I Yang, his wife, Tsai-Shai Chen Yang, and their daughter, Yu-Chin Yang Lin. Without clemency from California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, Stanley Williams will be executed on December 13th by lethal injection.

Oh, and by the way, did I mention that Stanley Williams is the co-founder of the Crips street gang?

Personalities from Jamie Foxx, Snoop Dogg and Danny Glover to NAACP President Bruce Gordon have protested for clemency for Williams. Their premise is that "Tookie" Williams is no longer a violent predator, and that he has worked diligently from prison to discourage young black men

from joining gangs.

Nationwide, there are 2,848 death row inmates, half of them minorities. Whites constitute 50%, Blacks 40%, Hispanic 7% and 3% other races. 80% of the federal death row population is either black or Hispanic.

In September, Frances Newton, (a black woman) became the first woman put to death in Texas since the Civil War. Why aren't these high profile protesters on the front line for the execution of every black person on death row in this country? What gives Stanley Williams more value than Frances Newton or others like her?

The answer is notorious.

As a people, we have become enamored with criminals. We believed that O.J. did it, but we celebrated his triumph over the racist judicial system. The same dynamic is happening with black opinion in the R. Kelly case. In our contempt for the system, we have become desensitized to the crimes that

Rap music, television and movies push images that glorify "thug life", to the point that we glorify gangsters. How else do you explain a rap producer going by the moniker Irv "Gotti," after a convicted mafia don? Or why, in a recent Esquire magazine article, NBA player Carmelo Anthony is shown in the office of his mansion in front of pictures of Al Capone and John Gotti? Would Snoop Dogg describe Williams as "an inspirer" if Williams wasn't affiliated with the Crips?

I am not advocating the death penalty for "Tookie" Williams. As Tupac Shakur said in paraphrasing the bible, only God can judge

him. However, in the rush to make a hero out of Williams, it is crucial that we not lose sight of the destruction in black communities caused by him and the organization he created.

According to retired Los Angeles County Sheriff's Sgt. and gang expert Wes McBride, there are now some 200 Crips gangs, with some 25,000 members in the Los Angeles area. Hundreds of people, mostly young black men, are killed each year in California by gangs.

There's not a whole lot of difference between the Crips of today and the Crips of yesteryear, only there's more of them," McBride said. "They are more involved in narcotics trafficking than they used to be, but Crips will do whatever they can to make money. Bank robberies, armored car robberies."

"Their legacy is that they've helped destroy the black community," McBride said. "Gangs kill communities just as surely as they kill people."

We must be careful of who we hold up as heroes. Stanley "Tookie" Williams is not Rosa Parks or Nelson Mandela. But he should not be executed, and his life is not without value. What we must understand is that his life is not any more valuable than the other 1100 black death row inmates that didn't start a street gang. I'm hoping that statements will make some enlightened black folks angry enough to stop protesting for a minute and think about what makes a real hero.

White House's AIDS Record

By: Phil Wilson

President Bush marked World AIDS Day with a moving and remarkable speech. "At the start of this century," the President offered, "AIDS causes suffering from remote villages of Africa to the heart of America's big cities. This danger is multiplied by indifference and complacency. This danger will be overcome by compassion, honesty, and decisive action."

Unfortunately, those words articulate a clarity of vision and purpose that we are sorely lacking in Washington, D.C., today.

In the speech, President Bush ticked off his administration's domestic achievements in fighting AIDS. He described "funding that brings life-saving drugs and treatment to hundreds of thousands of low-income Americans" and has turned AIDS into "a long-term illness like heart disease or diabetes."

Yet, Congress is right now finalizing a budget - showed through by this White House - that will transfer the costs of our state-run public health insurance programs onto

the desperately poor families those programs were intended to help.

The Medicaid budget recently passed by the House would cut tens of millions of dollars out of the program by removing federal regulations that limit how much states may force beneficiaries to put up in co-pays and premiums, among other "savings" taken out of consumers' pockets. Worse, analysts predict that the savings will come not from the actual co-pays but by discouraging people in the program from actually seeking care.

Meanwhile, our community is being disproportionately killed by AIDS - much like we are by the president's examples of heart disease and diabetes. African-Americans - who rely far more heavily on public insurance programs for AIDS care - remain seven times more likely to die from an HIV infection once they get it than Whites.

The president also rightly reminded us all that HIV/AIDS is "a special concern in the gay community, which has effectively fought this disease for decades

through education and prevention."

He added that AIDS is "increasingly found among women and minorities." That's one reason why it is unfortunate that, under this administration, funding for abstinence-only sex education in our schools has more than doubled. Abstinence-only education teaches that the only way to protect yourself from HIV and other STDs is to not have sex outside of heterosexual marriage. Such "educational" programs typically bar instructors from discussing how to use condoms at all.

The Black AIDS Institute applauds President Bush's moving words on World AIDS Day - for an administration in which the vice president acknowledged just over a year ago that he hadn't realized the intensity of the epidemic among African-American women - that is certainly progress. We now urge the administration and Congress to start putting action behind their words on the other 364 days of the year.

Taking Christ out of Christmas

By: George E. Curry - NNPA

This is the season to be jolly, but you'd never know it, considering all the attacks on Christmas. In a well-intended but misguided effort to be more inclusive of other religions, some government units, businesses and civic groups are urging everyone to stop saying, "Merry Christmas" and replace it with a bland, and presumably more acceptable, "Happy Holidays."

This is where I part company with many of my liberal friends. The purpose of Christmas - the commercialization issue not withstanding - is to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, which is recounted in the first chapter of Matthew, beginning with verse 18.

As a Christian, I make no apologies for celebrating my faith. There is no getting around it: Christmas is about the birth of Christ. Period. It would be the ultimate insult to relegate Jesus to the background in an effort not to offend non-Christians. We can celebrate the birth of our

Lord and Savior Jesus Christ while wishing our Jewish friends, for example, a Happy Hanukkah. The two are not mutually exclusive.

Like it or not, the reality is that this nation was founded by Christians and established, at least in principle, on Judeo-Christian values. The Founding Fathers, most of whom owned slaves, did not always exhibit the Christian spirit but they at least held it up as an ideal. So much so that our currency still reads, "In God We Trust." At Christmas, the last people that should be offended are Christians. But that is exactly what's been happening in recent years.

It's astounding how far some take positions only if right-wingers don't take them. They are not part of my thought process. We should take positions because they are right and not oppose a view simply because it is supported by the Right. And if we get confused, we can always fall back on: What Would Jesus Do?

Students were forbidden from exchanging gifts with religious messages on them, apparently fearing "Merry Christmas" and reindeer might offend others.

Finally, let me address the political aspects of this controversy. Make no mistake about it: the driving force behind reclaiming Christmas as conservatives, through such organizations as the Alliance Defense Fund and Liberty Counsel, both affiliated with Jerry Falwell. The televangelist and others at the forefront of this movement also actively oppose affirmative action and other social programs that I support.

But as a free thinker, I don't take positions only if right-wingers don't take them. They are not part of my thought process. We should take positions because they are right and not oppose a view simply because it is supported by the Right. And if we get confused, we can always fall back on: What Would Jesus Do?

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

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

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

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

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

Hampton University Punishes Protesters

By: Sonja Barile
Several students who handed out fliers at a private university criticizing the Iraq war and the federal response to Hurricane Katrina were ordered to perform community service after appearing Friday before a campus disciplinary panel.

No one was expelled from Hampton University, but seven students were charged with a minor procedural violation for posting unauthorized handbills and failing to register a protest with the school, the university said in a statement Friday.

A university spokeswoman said she could not comment on actions taken against individual students.

Student Aaron Ray said he and four others received letters

Friday evening telling them to complete 20 hours of community service. A sixth student said she received a warning. The seventh



Brandon King, left, John Robinson and Aaron Ray wait for their disciplinary hearings at Hampton University. King said students were not able to question panel members or serve as witnesses for each other.

student had not received a letter, Ray said.

"The community service is reasonable, but what we had to go through to get to this point was not reasonable," said Ray, 19, of

Columbia, Md. Ray said the students received letters informing them that they could be expelled after they distributed fliers Nov. 2 as part of a nationwide demonstration by a group that wants President Bush removed from office.

In its statement Friday, the university said it permits peaceful protest but that students must comply with school policies and procedures.

"No students were disciplined for their beliefs," the statement said.

Punishments listed in the student handbook include a warning, suspension and expulsion, said Rebecca K. Glenberg, an American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia lawyer who attended the closed hearings Friday to advise the students.

Organization Honors Community Leader And Educator At Banquet

Recently, Christ Community Connection (CCC) honored two prominent individuals at their Fourth Scholarship Fundraising Banquet held at Covenant Church Wedding Chapel in Carrollton. Rev. Cecil Smith, Sr. was honored for his Community Leadership and Ms. Janice Manous for her work in the field of Education.

The Scholarship Fundraising Banquet has been supported by distinguished members of the Carrollton-Farmers Branch

Independent School District (C-FB), members of the Carrollton City Council and other community leaders for the four years it has been given.

Dr. Sharon L. Blackman, Ed. D. President of Brookhaven Junior College was the guest speaker; she spoke about the importance of an education in terms of life style and wage earnings for high school and college graduates in the future.

Rev. Smith is the living embodiment of his own quote: "Never



(L to R) Rudy McDonald, Janice Manous, Sister Torrey, Rev. Cecil Smith, Sr., and Nicholas Lasher current and past Bernice Chatham Freeman Scholarship Award recipients.

give up! Keep your mind always on the goal that God gave you." After serving in the ministry for 48 years in the local areas, retired on December 31, 2004 from Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church in Dallas where he proudly served as the pastor for 32 years.

Rev. Smith's past leadership involve-

ment includes President of the Baptist Minister's Union, Third Vice Moderator of the Greater Rising Star District Association, Devotional Leader for the National Sunday School and Baptist Training Union Convention, Chairman of the Divine Services of the Dallas Ministerial Alliance's City Wide Revival, and Vice President of the North Dallas Ministers Fellowship.

Ms. Manous has lived and worked in Carrollton since 1982. She and her husband Kenneth have four children. She is a member of Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church in Dallas; and has taught in the C-FB ISD for 19 years. She has also been nominated for Who's Who of National Teachers.

Rev. Willie Rainwater is Founder and Director of CCC, an organization that has supported families in the Carrollton area for more than 10 years.

Call CCC at 972-242-0933 for donations.

Scholarships going unnoticed by African-American students

Though there are a number of companies and organizations that have donated money for scholarship use to African Americans, a great deal of the money is being returned because of a lack of interest.

These funds are being returned to donating companies because of a failure to apply.

Please pass this information on to family members and friends to get the word out that money is available. If you are a college student or getting ready to become one, you probably already know how useful additional money can be.

Below are several scholarship awards and websites:

- Bell Labs Fellowships for under-represented minorities <http://www.bell-labs.com>
- Student Inventors Scholarships <http://www.invent.org>
- Student Video Scholarships <http://www.christophers.org>
- Coca-Cola Two-Year College Scholarships <http://www.coca-cola.com>
- Holocaust Remembrance Scholarships <http://holocaust.hklaw.com>
- Ayn Rand Essay Scholarships <http://www.aynrand.org>
- Brand Essay Competition <http://www.instituteof>
- Gates Millennium Scholarships <http://www.gates.org>
- Xerox Scholarships for Students <http://www2.xerox.com>
- Sports Scholarships and Internships <http://www.ncaa.org>
- National Assoc. of Black Journalists Scholarships (NABJ) <http://www.nabj.org>
- Saul T. Wilson Scholarships (Veterinary) <http://www.aphis.usda.gov>
- Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund <http://www.thurgoodmarshallfund.org>
- Fin Aid: The Smart Students Guide to Financial Aid scholarships <http://www.finaid.org>
- Presidential Freedom Scholarships <http://www.nationalservice.org>
- Microsoft Scholarship Program <http://www.microsoft.com>
- Wired Scholar Free Scholarship Search <http://www.wiredscholar.com>
- Hope Scholarships & Lifetime Credits <http://www.ed.gov>
- William Randolph Hearst Endowed Scholarship for Minority Students <http://www.apsanet.org>

- Multiple List of Minority Scholarships <http://gchom.it.miami.edu>
- Guaranteed Scholarships <http://www.guaranteed-scholarships.com>
- BOEING scholarships <http://www.boeing.com>
- Easley National Scholarship Program <http://www.easley.org>
- Maryland Artists Scholarships <http://www.maef.org>
- Jacki Tuckfield Memorial Graduate Business Scholarship (for AfrAm students in South Florida) <http://www.jackituckfield.org>
- Historically Black College & University Scholarships <http://www.iesabroad.org>
- Actuarial Scholarships for Minority Students <http://www.beanactuary.org>
- International Students Scholarships & Aid Help <http://www.iesfa.org>
- College Board Scholarship Search <http://cbweb10p.collegeboard.org>
- Burger King Scholarship Program <http://www.bkscholars.org>
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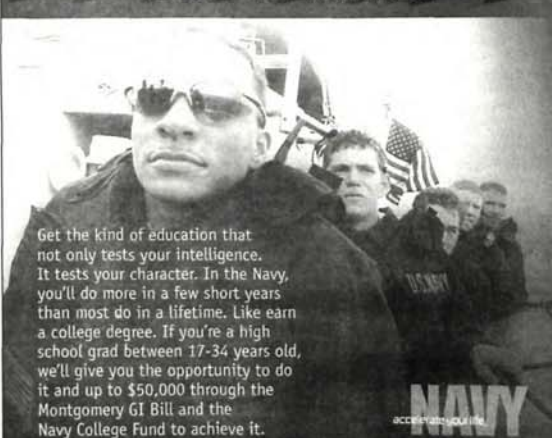
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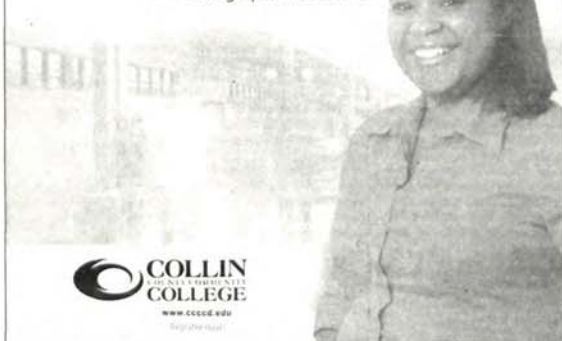
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Radio One Plans To Make National Talk Radio History

Radio One Inc. has plans to launch the first national talk-radio network geared for a Black audience, the chief executive said.

"We're in the Black people business," Alfred C. Liggins III said in a recent conference call. "We are in the business of aggregating audience for this particular demo and providing content to them."

It is Liggins' latest effort to diversify Radio One from a pure radio company into a catchall for Black consumers, who spend more than \$750 billion a year. He hopes that strategy will mean growth for the 69-station company despite a national slowdown in the radio industry, which has been depressed for several years with competition from satellite radio, Internet radio and MP3 players.

Liggins has spent the last two years coming up with new ways for his company to reach Black consumers. Last year, he launched TV One LLC, a cable network backed by Comcast Corp. that is aimed at Blacks. Earlier this year he bought a 51 percent interest in Reach Media, which syndicates the popular Tom Joyner Morning Show on about 115 radio sta-

tions nationwide. The talk network is his current project.

"We think the market for talk is there," Liggins said. "There are tons of talk options for non-African Americans."

The network, which is still being developed, will air 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays and include a political morning show hosted by



Catherine L. Hughes

Al Sharpton. Earlier this year Sharpton signed a deal to host a talk radio show for Chicago-based Matrix Media, which syndicates radio programs. But that show has yet to air, and Liggins said Radio One has locked Sharpton into a new agreement.

Brothers Doug and Ryan Stewart of The 2 Live Stews sports show on an Atlanta AM station will host the afternoon drive. Their three-hour show brings together hip-hop and

sports talk. Liggins said he is still trying to negotiate deals with other talent and could not discuss the rest of the lineup.

Early next year he plans to put the talk network on some of Radio One's AM stations and try to sell it to other urban outlets not owned by the company. Liggins said he has not done any research to determine whether there is a market for such a national talk network for Blacks, but the lack of Black news programs convinced him there was room.

There are 2,179 news talk radio stations in the country. Their primary audience, according to radio research firm Arbitron, is white men. Only about 7.6 percent of talk radio's listeners are Black.

Radio One began as one talk station in 1980, when Liggins' mother, Catherine L. Hughes, acquired WOL-AM. She changed the station's programming to talk and hosted a radio show. Now most of that company's radio stations are programmed with hip-hop and R&B music.

Shares of Radio One fell 23 cents, or 2 percent, to close at \$11 in trading on the Nasdaq Stock Market.

It's Official: Southwest Free To Fly About Missouri

President Bush signed a transportation appropriations bill into law last week that will allow Southwest to begin flying to Missouri from Dallas Love Field.

A provision in the spending bill exempts Missouri from the restrictions imposed by the Wright Amendment, a 1979 federal law that limits long-haul flights from Dallas Love Field to Texas and seven other surrounding states. Last year, Dallas-based Southwest Airlines Co. (NYSE: LUV), which flies out of Love Field, launched a fight to have the amendment repealed. Earlier this month hearings on the issue took place in a Senate subcommittee.

Following Congress' passage of the transportation appropriations bill earlier this month, Southwest said the St. Louis and Kansas City markets, opened up to Texas by the bill's passage, are desirable markets for the low-cost carrier.

Southwest wasn't immediately available for comment Wednesday.

Fort Worth-based American Airlines (NYSE: AMR), the flag carrier at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport, said Wednesday that it plans to start service from Love Field as soon as it can prepare appropriate facilities.

The airline did not have a flight schedule to announce Wednesday, but said a full schedule-change announcement would be forthcoming.

American met with officials

at Love Field earlier this month to discuss future operations at the airport. The airline leases three gates at Love Field for about \$300,000 a year, but suspended service shortly after the 9/11 attacks. American moved some flights to Love Field to compete with Legend Airlines in 2000, but Legend failed the same year.

American currently operates 13 daily flights out of Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport to St. Louis and 12 daily flights to Kansas City, Mo. Southwest (NYSE: LUV) has 65 daily flights out of St. Louis to various markets and 61 flights out of Kansas City.

American Chairman and CEO Gerard Arpey said during the Senate subcommittee hearing on the Wright Amendment that 60 percent of the airline's customers live closer to Dallas Love Field than Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport, where American is the fortress carrier.

The North Dallas Chamber of Commerce, which has supported a repeal of the Wright Amendment, issued a statement supporting the spending bill being signed into law.

"The addition of Missouri to list of states exempt from the Wright Amendment is a good first step to creating more competition in the Dallas commercial aviation marketplace," said Corey Hill, a spokesman for the chamber. "We continue to believe the traveling public would be best served by the immediate removal of the

Capgemini To Lay Off Employees In Irving

Capgemini Energy L.P. says it plans to lay off 65 employees early next year at its customer operations facility in Irving.

The layoffs are expected to begin Feb. 7 or within 14 days after that date, Capgemini said in a filing with the Texas Workforce Commission.

Capgemini Energy, in January, said it would likely lay off 450 to 500 people in Dallas, Irving, Sugarland and Waco because productivity gains made by the company would reduce the need for positions in revenue management, finance and accounting, supply chain, customer care

and information technology.

The cuts announced for February are part of those planned reductions, said Capgemini Energy spokesman Joe Gimenez. All of the positions are customer service jobs. Gimenez said it was too early to say whether more reductions would occur at the Irving facility.

"Capgemini has been implementing a transformation plan at Capgemini Energy since the inception," he said. "That plan changes all the time, so it would really be premature to make any other announcements on anything."

Developers Announce Urban-Style Retail, Office, Apartment Project At Central And Campbell

More than 200,000 cars drive by the southeast corner of North Central Expressway and Campbell Road every day. Developers are planning to give them a reason to stop.

Three firms are teaming up to build a \$90 million town center project at the busy intersection.

The Eastside development will contain an urban-style shopping center, more than 400 apartments and office space built around a two-acre park.

Developers Greenway Investment Co., Fobare Commercial and Post Properties Inc. got approvals this week from the city of Richardson and plan to break ground next summer.

"We saw this property a couple of years ago and couldn't believe there were almost 30 acres to redevelop at this intersection," said Gerald Stool, chief executive of Greenway Investment.

It will construct more than a half-dozen retail and office buildings in the project.

"You have all these people

working in the area," he said, "but you don't have the type of mixed-use developments we have in Uptown, Southlake or some of the other cities."

The Eastside development is about a 10-minute walk from two of DART's light rail stations.

To make the stroll more pleasant, a \$1.5 million improvement project will upgrade and land-

scaping the walkways running along the east side of North Central between the DART stops.

"Our hope is to [eventually] take it all the way down to Spring Valley," said Richardson City Manager Bill Keffer.

The 90,000-square-foot retail center will be designed by architect O'Brien and Associates and leased by the Retail Connection. About half the space will be leased to restaurants, Stool said.

Next to the shops, Atlanta-based Post Properties will build a four-story, 425-unit apartment complex with ground-floor retail. Post has done similar projects in Uptown, Addison and Plano.

"We see a huge demand for the rental units, and it's a great retail location," said Post Executive Vice President David Ward. "We're filling a slot that's been left vacant thanks to the change in the office market." BGO Architects of Dallas designed the Post project.

The heart of Eastside is an

escaping 10-story office tower. Richardson Mayor Gary Slagel said the Telecom Corridor office district is perfect for retail and residential.

"We have gone around the country and seen things like this," he said. "This project combines all the elements."



Subaru Breaking Ground On New Dealership In Plano

Subaru of America Inc. executives are planning to gather in Plano on Dec. 13 to celebrate the groundbreaking for a new Subaru dealership.

Subaru of Plano, at 4480 West Plano Parkway, will be the first Subaru dealership to feature the latest interior and exterior designs of the new Subaru Signature Facility Program.

Subaru will build and own the Plano dealership, which it will lease to David Thomas, managing partner of Subaru of Dallas.

Cherry Hill, N.J.-based subsidiary of Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd. of Japan.

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Ibrahim Mohammadi, who is HIV positive, speaks during a ceremony to mark World HIV/AIDS Day at the Atrium sport complex in Tehran December 1, 2005.

Saltwater Africa is home to more than 60 percent of all people infected with HIV. Africa saw about 4.2 million of the almost 5 million new infections recorded in 2005.

"These countries, and many others, are fighting for the lives of their citizens, and America is now their strongest partner in that fight," he said. The 400,000 getting treatment, he said, was up from 50,000 two years ago.

However, critics including senior U.N. officials say Bush's emphasis on abstinence-only programs has hindered efforts by playing down the role of condoms.

Stephen Lewis, the U.N. spe-

cial envoy for AIDS in Africa, called upon on major corporations to contribute 0.7 percent of pretax profits to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS.

The fund "is in terrible trouble" after increases promised by the Group of 8 industrialized nations in July failed to materialize, he said.

"We need a new source of dollars," he said in a statement. "That source must be the private sector."

The United Nations has long called on wealthy nations to donate 0.7 percent of gross domestic product for development aid every year.

African AIDS patients criticized politicians for failing to take adequate measures.

"Money earmarked for HIV/AIDS has gone into everything else but AIDS," said Meris Kafusi, a 64-year-old AIDS patient in Tanzania who only recently began receiving life-prolonging antiretroviral drugs that are widespread in the West.

"Organizations that say they are dealing with AIDS are always in seminars or workshops. They should be buying food for widows and orphans ... Is this fair?"

Lobby group Africa Action targeted pharmaceutical companies. "The prices charged by pharmaceutical companies, and the

policies pursued by rich countries at their behest, continue to keep life-saving treatment out of reach for those most affected by HIV/AIDS," said Salah Booker, Africa Action's executive director.

Politicians say taboos need to be broken to tackle AIDS. In India, which says it has 5.13 million people with HIV/AIDS, the second largest number after South Africa, Singh called on people to shed the inhibitions that keep them from talking about sex. "This, quite obviously, has to change if we are to succeed in creating awareness of the hazards of unsafe sexual practices," he said.



Complexes who are HIV positive celebrate World AIDS Day at an outpatient treatment center run by Doctors Without Borders in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo December 1, 2005.

them. The importance of discipline, structure and being accountable are among the lessons the coach is trying to convey.

"Excuses are a reason to fail," his coach told him. It's a lesson he shares with his boys.

"It's like me being ill. I don't have time for pity. I have to do what I need to do to get better to take care of my family."

Still, he didn't realize how sick he was until he wound up in the emergency room at Presbyterian Hospital of Plano this fall, dehydrated, his kidneys shutting down.

He went from 228 pounds in February down to 180 pounds when he received his diagnosis Oct. 8.

Through it all, he said, his wife, Kim Alexander, was there for him. He thanked her, his assistant coaches and Wildcat parents for picking up the slack. "Life is going to knock you down," Coach Eli said. "Who is going to get up and who is going to stay down?"



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insurance or is being arrested.

DeSoto, Irving, Mesquite and Haltom City have similar plans, and Arlington plans to review its plan on Thursday, Rushin said.

"There are a lot of vehicles with no insurance. When they are involved, it's a cost to people who have insurance and have to pay," said Schaffer.

One concern when creating the policy was the perception of bias, Rushin said. Irving officials reported concerns from the Hispanic community when it started a similar program. Plano is working with its new Unidos program to spread the information to Hispanics.

"It looks like we are issuing 40 citations a day for people without insurance," said Councilman Shep Stahel. "If we

can reduce that, we can free our resources."

"Will the officer make a reasonable attempt for the safety ... if there are children and other passengers? What happens then?" asked Councilman Harry

Plano police often work with disabled vehicles after an accident, Rushin said. Drivers may be asked to call for a ride, or police will call nearby departments for transportation.

DART through the holidays!



Avoid traffic by taking DART to all your favorite holiday shopping destinations. It's the easiest way to NorthPark Center, Mockingbird Station, Collin Creek Mall, West Village, the West End and more! Visit www.DART.org for directions to these and other great shops.

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(South Garland) or Route 60 (LB/Skillman)
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Bring an unwrapped toy for DART and K104's Santa Cap promotion, benefiting Toys for Tots.

Thursday, December 15 at Mockingbird Station, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Red or Blue Line to Mockingbird Station

Monday, January 2, 2006, 10 a.m.
www.sbcottonbowlclassic.com
Red or Blue Line to Pearl Station, then hop on the Cotton Bowl Shuttle

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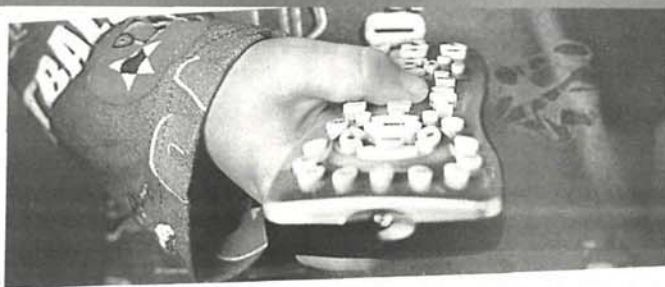
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Refused To Block Page 1

In a last-ditch legal move, defense attorneys petitioned the high court earlier this month, alleging shoddy forensic testing and other errors may have wrongly sent Williams to San Quentin State Prison, where he is scheduled to die by injection Dec. 13.

Lawyers for Williams, author of a series of anti-gang books for children, wanted to re-examine ballistics evidence that showed his shotgun was used to kill three people during a 1979 motel robbery.

The defense claimed the forensic evidence was "junk science," but prosecutors said that allegation was "based upon innuendo, supposition and the potent bias of (Williams') purported expert."

The extraordinary relief Williams sought is reserved for those cases which have legal merit," said Nathan Barankin, spokesman for Attorney General Bill Lockyer.

The high court voted 4-2 without comment to deny the inmate's petition, with Chief Justice Ronald George voting to

reopen the case.

"We think the chief justice's dissent highlights the seriousness of the issues raised," defense attorney Jonathan Harris said. He was unsure whether he would ask the federal courts to intervene again.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger could also still intervene. He has agreed to hear Williams' clemency petition, and if clemency is granted it would commute the inmate's sentence to life without parole.

"What I want to do is make sure we make the right decisions, because we're dealing here with a person's life," Schwarzenegger said Wednesday.

The high court's ruling came as death penalty opponents rallied around the state urging the governor to spare Williams' life because of his apparent turnaround on death row.

"We're all remaining optimistic. We're all remaining hopeful," Bonnie Williams-Taylor, Williams' ex-wife and the mother of one of his sons, said at a rally in Los Angeles.

Nathan Barankin, spokesman for Attorney General Bill Lockyer, expressed satisfaction with Wednesday's ruling. "The extraor-

inary relief Williams sought is reserved for those cases which have legal merit," he said.

Williams, condemned in 1981, has maintained his innocence. Among his claims is that fabricated testimony sent him to death row. He also says prosecutors violated his rights when they dismissed all potential black jurors from his case.

The California Supreme Court, federal trial and appeals courts, and the U.S. Supreme Court have already ruled against him in earlier appeals.

Williams was condemned for killing Yen-I Yang, Tsai-Shai Chen Yang and Yu-Chin Yang Lin in the motel robbery, and for gunning down Albert Owens, a 7-Eleven clerk, in a separate crime.

While in prison, Williams has campaigned for an end to youth gang violence while co-authoring anti-gang books for youngsters. Supporters have nominated him several times for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Williams and a high school friend started the Crips in Los Angeles in 1971 and it grew into one of the nation's most notorious street gangs.



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Prescription drug coverage is a crucial lifeline for many low-income seniors and Texans with disabilities. The new Medicare Rx program changes that lifeline. Between now and December 31, these vulnerable Texans must make informed choices to maintain effective prescription drug coverage. Visit www.TexasMedicareRx.org for clear information on how you can help low-income seniors and Texans with disabilities get the most from Medicare Rx.



MedicareRx

Bush Aids Page 1

That declaration surprised many of the civil rights leaders, Parks relatives and politicians who had gathered at the White House for the signing ceremony. They erupted in applause and rose to give Bush a standing ovation.

The Rev. Jesse Jackson lavishly praised Bush for committing to seeing the expiring portions of the Voting Rights Act extended. He called the president's public urging "a significant breakthrough" since he had previously declined even in private to support the renewal.

"That was kind of a double victory for civil rights today," Jackson said.

The provisions that expire in 2007, include one requiring states with a history of racial discrimination - mostly in the South - to get federal approval to change their voting laws or dis-

trict lines and another requiring election officials to provide voting material in the native language of immigrant voters who don't speak English.

The 15th Amendment to the Constitution, adopted in 1870, guarantees voting rights for minorities. But the 1965 law clarified and extended those rights. It was pushed through by President Lyndon Johnson in response to states' requirements that black voters pass literacy and other tests.

Parks, a former seamstress, became the first woman to lie in honor in the Capitol Rotunda, where the bodies of Abraham Lincoln, John F. Kennedy and other national leaders have been paid tribute after their deaths. Statuary Hall is next to the Rotunda.

The bill gives the Capitol Architect's office two years to obtain a statue.

Parks called America back to its founding promise of equality and justice for everyone," Bush said. "We hope that generations of Americans will remember what this brave woman did, and be inspired to add their own contributions to the unfolding story of American freedom for all."

Bush warmly greeted the bill's sponsors, including Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr., D-Ill., and his 2004 opponent for the presidency, Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass. Bush and Kerry repeatedly shook hands and exchanged whispered pleasantries. "Thanks for coming," Bush could be heard telling his one-time rival.

Kerry said the ceremony transcended the differences between him and the president. "This was a woman who really gave life to our Constitution, gave life to the promise of our country in ways that very few people get a chance to do," he said.



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Alicia Keys And Bono To Release Song



Alicia Keys and Bono are hoping to save the lives of children through song. The two superstars have collaborated on "Don't Give Up (Africa)," and will donate all proceeds to Keep A Child Alive, which provides medicine to families infected with AIDS and the HIV virus.

The song will be available exclusively on iTunes starting Tuesday. The pair first sang the tune at a Nov. 5 fund-raiser in New York City for the charity. (Keys performed onstage while Bono crooned via satellite from a remote location.)

"I love this song. And I love

Bono. I really respect what he has done for Africa and how he has used his fame to do good in the world. I hope I can do half as much in my life," Keys, a global ambassador for the charity, said in statement Wednesday.

"I believe AIDS is the most important issue we face, because how we treat the poor is a reflection of who we are as a people. I urge everyone to recognize the extreme disaster Africa is facing and step up for the Motherland."

"Don't Give Up" was originally performed by Peter Dinklage and Kate Bush in 1986, and was titled, "So."

21st Annual Stellar Awards Nominations Announced

Nominations for the 21st Annual Stellar Gospel Music Awards were announced today at a breakfast and press conference sponsored by AARP held at the Sheraton Music City Hotel in Nashville. Nominees were revealed by eight-time Stellar Award winner and gospel great Vicki Winans.

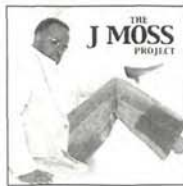
This year's package of nominees is a musical potpourri with a mix of traditional, contemporary, urban, rap and hip-hop and jazz artists up for award consideration.

J Moss and Donald Lawrence dominated the 21st Annual Stellar Gospel Music Awards list of nominees by picking up 10 nominations each for the most prestigious awards in gospel music. The two artists will go head-to-head in a number of categories, including Artist of the Year, Male Vocalist of the Year, CD of the Year, Contemporary Male Vocalist of the Year and Contemporary CD of the Year. J Moss' recording, The J Moss Project, also collected nominations in the New Artist of the Year.

Urban Inspiration Single Performance of the Year and Music Video of the Year categories. Lawrence's single "Celebrate" is also up for Song of the Year. In addition, his CD entitled, I Speak Life garnered nods for Producer of the Year, Group Duo of the Year and Contemporary Group Duo of the Year with Donald Lawrence & Co.

Sister duo Mary Mary placed second to Lawrence and Moss with six selections stemming from their popular self-titled project Mary Mary. Not far

behind Mary Mary is the group Rizen with five nods and solo artist Smokey Norful with three. Donnie McClurkin, who will serve as a co-host for the 21st Annual Stellar Gospel Music Awards Show on January 21, received nominations for Artist of the Year and Traditional Male Vocalist of the Year. For a complete listing of all nominations, please visit www.thestellarawards.com.



Brandy Returning To TV With WB Sitcom Pilot

Singer-actress Brandy, who starred in the 1990s UPN sitcom "Moesha," is headed to rival WB for a comedy that will explore the life of a young woman after the hits 25.

Brandy will play a die-hard New Yorker who moves to Los Angeles to take a job as an entertainment editor. The pilot for the untitled project will be written by "Girlfriends" creator Mara Brock Akil.

Akil first met Brandy and her brother, actor Ray J, on "The Sinbad Show" where Ray J was a cast member and Akil was production assistant.

"They both told me that I was



going to be huge in this business," Akil said. "They believed in me when I was answering

phones -- I've never forgotten that."

Akil, Brandy and Ray J's paths crossed again a few years later when Akil was a rookie writer on "Moesha," which ran from 1996 to 2001.

"I truly believe that Brandy deserves a wonderful platform to return to television," Akil said. "I'd like to be the one who gives her next big hit."

Brandy's other TV credits include the 1997 musical "Cinderella," in which she played the title character. "Girlfriends," meanwhile, is in its sixth season on UPN.

Kanye West Performs At High School

Kanye West's first album is titled "The College Dropout" and his lyrics often extoll the benefits of a real-world education.

But Monday found the 27-year-old rapper at Santa Monica High School, performing a rousing, six-song set and answering



questions after students won a local radio contest.

"Me! I use real life, I learn from real people," West said as he sat in a classroom, waiting to go onstage. "The great thing about it, is that you can just sit there in the back of the room and not pay any attention. In real life, being shy is not going to get you anywhere. I get educated every day."

West's visit began with a contest that radio station KPWR-FM announced in November. The rules were simple: West would perform for the Southern California student body that cast the most votes for its school on the contest Web site.

Santa Monica High students submitted nearly 1 million votes out of the 5 million cast.

The 3,500-student campus buzzed with excitement Monday. "This is the best thing that's ever happened to us," said 15-year-old Laura Thatcher. "We have 30-minute classes, and then we're seeing a concert."

Some students gathered together and spelled K-A-N-Y-E-W-E-S-T on their sweat shirts with marking tape. Others wore T-shirts featuring West's post-Hurricane Katrina statement: "Bush doesn't care about black people."

West stopped in the middle of his hourlong set to take questions from the crowd - including one about the grades he earned in high school.

"I didn't do a lot of homework," West answered, to laughter. "But I got a lot of A's and B's."

CHILDREN'S CORNER: CHERUB-THE HUMAN RACE



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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. The Gospel Smith honored as one of the top twenty leaders in the nation by USA Today said, "an explosion of color and values, if you like the wonder and imagination of Dr. Seuss and the quality of Walt Disney then you'll like this too! And the accolades do not stop there. Stephanie Smith-Wright of WFTV 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."

Forget other heroes and heroines, Cherub - will remind them of one greater - God! Order today at www.masteredore.com. Price is \$15.00 for Cherub-The Human Race and \$19.95 for Lesson Plan or buy ten books get a free lesson plan! Cherub-The Human Race because race matters.

Wonder To Perform At Super Bowl Pre-Game

By Sarah Karush
Motown fans miffed by the NFL's choice of the Rolling Stones for Super Bowl halftime entertainment are getting at least some satisfaction: Stevie Wonder will perform during the pre-game show at Ford Field.

Wonder will play three or four songs before the Feb. 5 game, Lori Lambert, vice president of strategic marketing for Universal Motown Records Group, told The Associated Press on Monday.

Other artists - still to be announced - also will be featured in the pre-game show, Lambert said.

Wonder performed during halftime in 1999.

The NFL's announcement last week that the Rolling Stones would provide the halftime entertainment prompted an uproar in

Detroit, the original home of Motown Records, the label for artists such as Wonder, Smokey Robinson, the Supremes and the Four Tops.



Detroit-area residents are fiercely proud of the city's musical contributions, which extend beyond Motown to more recent stars including Eminem and Kid Rock.

Aretha Franklin's career started at the Detroit church where her father preached, and the Queen of Soul still lives in the area. Ted

Nugent, Madonna and Bob Seger also hail from Michigan.

Many saw it as a snub that those stars were passed over for halftime. Detroit radio personality Mildred Gaddy gave out the phone number of an NFL official on the air and urged listeners to call and complain.

McCarthy said it was always the league's intention to honor Motown in the pre-game show. But halftime, he said, is bigger than Detroit.

"The Super Bowl transcends the host city and even the country," he said.

McCarthy noted that the 1998 Super Bowl in San Diego featured a Motown tribute in honor of the label's 40th anniversary. Performers included Robinson, Martha Reeves and The Temptations.

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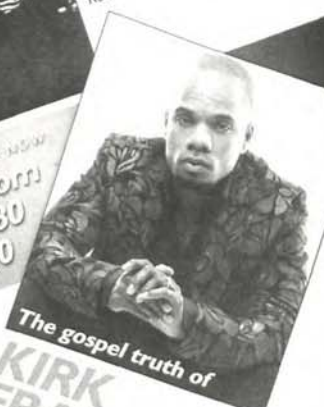
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Dist Div: Dallas
Contract 2374-04-061 for CONTINUOUS ILLUMINATION in
DALLAS County will be opened on January 10, 2006
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Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding
proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list,
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bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at
least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project.
Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office
listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from
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 - Translate member materials to Braille and/or audio formats for use by visually
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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
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 - Provide graphic and ad design services as required by HHSC
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 - Develop health care education materials
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 - 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
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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.

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

Church News



Sister Tarpley

Talking to a friend (Ms. Stephanie Brown) who lives in Hampton, VA, before the beginning of the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays, we were discussing that Christmas has become so commercial that people in the United States are putting up Christmas decorations before the end of October; and they are doing a good job of by-passing one of the greatest holidays authorized by man, Thanksgiving Day; and for the most part, they are forgetting the true meaning of Christmas.

The following is one of Stephanie's testimonies. It is something to think about as another year is about to close:

"Looking back on my life, I can see the merciful and awesome presence of Almighty God. He has been very faithful to me—His love and mercy I see. There were times that I questioned Him, I even failed to believe Him—but He's been oh so faithful to me. Look up my brothers and sisters, when you look back over your life, you will truly say, 'Our God is oh so faithful.'"

One blessed and wonderful day God reached down and touched my miserable life. He spoke over so gently, "I love you, and I will take care of you. You are mine!" In Hebrew 13:5(b), He said, "...be content with such things as you have: for He had said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." I am a living witness; you can take God's word to the bank! He said to me, "The turmoil that I allowed in your

Thank God For The Battles In Your Life

life, even now, I've placed for my purpose in you." In life, I have found that there isn't a valley too high, nor a river too wide, nor a mountain too high that stops Him from taking care of me. Remember friends, especially the household of faith. God is a defense and a refuge. Don't think for one moment that the day Jesus saved you and you gave your life to Him that there wouldn't be battles to



Picture Of The Week
Sister Tarpley and Recording Artist Vanessa Bell Armstrong who performed at a concert of *CD Professional Services* hosted by Perfect Praise Production.

fight. The day you said, "I will" to God, He stepped into the fighting ring with you. Don't forget to put on the whole armor of God, how else would you be able to fight at your best?

While you are in battle with your gloves on, your shoes half laced and your helmet on half cocked, upside down and out of place, your opponent is in the ring with you; he has

already sized up your case. He is aware of your weakness from your head to your feet. Satan, the accuser, says, "Your gear is all out of place, you are a mess and you know that you can't go the extra mile." You know that Satan is a bully, he says, "One hard blow and you're dead." Without Jesus in you, he is right!

With the sword of Spirit, with faith and truth that was given, you slowly move in place with your head bowed and sweat dripping from your face, you cry, "Lord, do I run or do I wait?" Suddenly, you notice your opponent, the devil, that old serpent who always lie and cheat. The bell has not rung for you to fight, but Satan is standing in your face. He knows that you're afraid; and says, "Take your best shot." Men while your heart is pounding and sweat is pouring from you. You are about to stand and take your place; out of no where an awesome bright beam of light appear, and out of that light an audible voice says, "My child stand still and see the salvation of the Lord." Your opponent trembles; he knows he has lost. He knows the voice of Jesus. Jesus says, "Satan move on, pick up your gear and go! Suddenly you fall to your knees and cry out, 'Father, my father, I am a sinner and I give you my life tonight, take it and use it as you like.'"

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

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

2003 when the map was up for the Department's approval. Despite the dissent, the Justice Department accepted the new boundaries.

But senior agency officials, appointed by President Bush, brushed aside concerns about the possible impact on minority voting and approved the new districts for 2004 elections.

Gonzales wasn't U.S. attorney general when the agency reviewed the redistricting plan.

He said it was approved by people confirmed by the Senate to exercise their own independent judgment.

A three-judge federal panel upheld the plan, which has been challenged by Democrats and minority voting groups.

The Supreme Court is considering whether to review the case, making way for more questions about whether Texas lawmakers will create yet another redistricting map.

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, 214-421-0415 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

BENEZER WORSHIP CENTER

December 25, 11:00 am
We are inviting the public to join us for our Christmas Worship Service
Monday Starting
January 2006, 7:00 pm

Please join us each Monday for our Women of Power and Men of Power Services.

Benezar Worship Center
Rev. Cecil T. Smith, II, Pastor
1400 Preston Road
Dallas, TX 75234
972-980-0977

FELLOWSHIP OF BELIEVERS MINISTRIES

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK

December 11, 6:00 pm
Our Music Ministry will present its Annual Male Chorus Christmas Concert "Celebrating the Birth of Our King." The musical will feature our

Mass Choir, The Instruments of Praise, Bronze/Voice Hand Bell Choir, and the Young Men's Ensemble. Come out and experience a glorious occasion as we sing an electric menu of gospel and choral selections to uplift your spirit while we offer praises to our new born King. For more information, please call the church at 972-235-4235.

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

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 event, please 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 LHJ Freeway
Dallas, TX 75251
972-671-1096

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

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 persons, to increase safety, and to spiritually fortify our communities.

For more details about this wonderful project, please contact Justita 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 Evelyn Ruth. Benefits from the auction will go to Hartman House that promotes better education for disadvantaged children in the U.S. and Haiti. There will also be time for you to introduce your business or organization. Men are invited! Dr. Charles Hughes will share information on launching Men's International Network of Dallas (MIND). For more information, registration, or donations, please call 214-289-4802 or 214-924-0177.

Oasis International Church
Doctors Charles & Vera Hughes, Founders/Overseers
P.O. Box 941192
Plano, TX 75093
469-467697

Church Happenings Page 12

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 - 972-484-1412

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
972-966-5552
1-888-9-Outreach (Prayer Line)
Email: equipingchurch@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 "Watchmen on the Walls"

214-341-6459 (Phone) • 214-342-8403 (Fax)
9550 Shepard Road
Dallas, TX 75243

www.nmzb.org (Website) • newmzb@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@bwbirving.org
Web: bwbirving.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 Edna Johnson, 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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Saturday: 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
972-956-0030 or 972-898-0361
Website: www.firstlady-fashion.com

St. John Baptist Church
1701 W. Jefferson St., Grand Prairie, Texas 75051
2805 Market Loop, Suite 300, Southlake, Texas 76092
Dennis D. Davis, Servant
Four Morning Worship Sessions
7:00 A.M., 9:00 A.M., 10:00 A.M. and 11:15 A.M.

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN

Pastor W.L. Stafford Sr., M.Div
"A Ministry that is on the Move for Christ"
200 Belmont Drive • Allen, Texas • 75013
Phone: 972-359-9956 • www.fbcallen.org
"If you need a ride to worship with us, please call the church."

The Votes Are In!

MON-The Gazette receives 1st Place for "Best Religious Section"
at the 19th Annual African American Texas Publisher's Association Conference. The contest was judged by the University of Texas at Tyler.

Residents Return To New Orleans' Ninth Ward

A husband and wife who waited three months to see what Hurricane Katrina did to their neighborhood finally returned Thursday to find their blue, wood-frame house sitting in the front yard, three feet off its foundation.

Louis Phillips and Donna Williams were among those allowed access to the Lower Ninth Ward for the first time since Katrina struck Aug. 29. It was the last section of the city to reopen, because of the maze of destruction wrought by the storm and floods after the London Avenue Canal levee breach.

Residents were allowed in for the day to collect what belongings they could before leaving. Until now, people had been able to view the destruction only on bus tours.

A long line of cars waited to pass a checkpoint at a school where the Red Cross was handing out water and snacks and providing mental health counselors to those who wanted them. Police officers and firefighters warned those entering that there was still dangerous debris and buildings on the verge of collapse.

Williams first tried to enter a house next door that the couple had been renovating, but she stopped at the front door.

"There's a lot of debris and dirt and nails on the floor," she said, fighting back tears.

Phillips tore the door off the other residence, entered and

began tossing out clothes still in plastic dry cleaning bags, along with bits of furniture destroyed by floodwaters.

"Don't throw them out here," Williams said to her husband. "I don't want to look at them."

Frank Wingate, who had returned to inspect his mother's property, found her refrigerator balanced on the edge of



a rooftop where it had floated during the flood. It was held partially in place by some of the few power lines that had not snapped during the storm.

"I don't think you're ever prepared," said Greg Pigford, a Salvation Army chaplain who accompanied some of the returning residents. "You can see it on TV, but when you see it for the first time up close, what was your home, it's a jolt."

The Lower Ninth Ward, one of the city's poorest The Lower Ninth Ward, one of the city's poorest sections, is part of the 40 percent of the city still without power, three months after Katrina hit. Thousands of residences were destroyed in the area, in the eastern New Orleans section and in the upper-income Lakeview section.

At one intersection, the twisted remains of a yellow wood-frame house sat on Antonio Jackson's front lawn.

"It's from somewhere down the road," Jackson said.

She surveyed the destruction in her yard and sighed. "Everything's gone," she said. "Everything's gone."

Darlana and Alfred Green weren't sure the pile of wreckage in the median of Tupelo Street was their house until they saw the Spiderman sheets from their children's bedroom.

Darlana Green said she and her three children were in the house Aug. 29 when floodwaters lifted it off its foundation. They were rescued three days later, and the house eventually collapsed in a heap.

Picking through the debris, they found a water-swollen family Bible and a uniform that one of their daughters used to wear to nearby Martin Luther King School.

Despite the destruction, she was happy about where she ended up — what she described as a nice, rental house in Allen, Texas, far from the impoverished Lower Ninth Ward.

"She was a blessing to me," Green said of Katrina. "Everything was falling apart here."

The Greens have no intention to return, and they see little future for the neighborhood.

"What can they do with it but bulldoze it?" Darlana Green said.

Church Happenings Page 11

PILLAR OF TRUTH CHURCH INTERNATIONAL

December 10, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Please join us as our Praise and Worship Team honor God at a Prayer Breakfast sponsored by the Shirley Clark International Ministries/ Jabez Prayer Network at the Adam's Mark Hotel, 400 Olive Street, Downtown Dallas. The guest speaker will be Cate Halford, Executive Director, Prayer Texas. Judge Dianne K. Jones will have a Book Signing and Reception. For more information and registration fees (parking included) please call 972-206-7024

Pillar of Truth Church

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

RHEMA LIFE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Foundings, 7:00 pm

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

Rhema Life Fellowship Church

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

SHIRLEY CLARK INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES

December 10, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Please join us for our Prayer Breakfast sponsored by the Jabez Prayer Network at the Adam's Mark Hotel, 400 Olive Street, Downtown Dallas. Our guest speaker will be Cate Halford, Executive Director, Prayer Texas and we will feature the Praise & Worship Team from the Pillar of Truth Church with Pastors Cate

Church Happenings

& Malinda Scott. Judge Dianne K. Jones will have a Book Signing and Reception. For more information and registration fees (parking included) please call 972-206-7024

Shirley Clark International Ministries

Rev. Shirley K. Clark, Founder/CEO P.O. Box 860794 Plano, TX 75086-0794 972-424-2074

THE INSPIRING BODY OF CHRIST CHURCH (IBOC)

Sign Up Now

FREE Computer Training classes by Christian Business Services. For more information and registration, please call Rev. C. Greer @ 214-796-1294 or Email: cgreer@ibcglobal.net

Monday, 7:00 pm

Monday School with Holy Spirit Bible Teachings

The Inspiring Body of Christ Church (IBOC)

Dr. Rickie G. Rush, Pastor 7710 South Westmoreland Dallas, TX 75237 972-572-IBOC (4242)

TRINITY PRAYER CHAPEL

Sign Up Now

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

Trinity Prayer Chapel

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

WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH, LEWISVILLE

December 11, 10:30 am

The public is invited to join us in

our two-year "Forward By Faith" campaign at our very first service in our state-of-the-art brand-new worship center. The journey began on February 1, 2004 with a groundbreaking ceremony highlighted by a congressional march from the current site to the new Worship Center. Lewisville Mayor Gene Casey issued a Proclamation during the groundbreaking ceremony. We look forward to seeing you!

December 17, 2005

Our Music Ministry will present its Annual Christmas Concert featuring special guest gospel recording artist Tommy Young West and world-acclaimed organist Don Lewis.

January 7 - 8, 2006

Please join us for our official Open House and Dedication Ceremony in our new worship center. For more information about the above events, please call 972-221-5668

Westside Baptist Church Rev. Kenneth Blake, Pastor 802 Bellaire Blvd. Lewisville, TX 75067 972-221-5668

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, 2330 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@monthgazette.com or fax to 972-516-4197 also Church Happenings. Deadlines are Fridays before publication date. (MON-The Gazette is published each Thursday.)

Faithway Fellowship Baptist Church
Of Hamilton Park
8219 Birch Dr. Dallas, TX 75243
Church Office: (972) 792-0259
Pastor's Office: (972) 792-0240

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

PEOPLE OF FAITH WITH A MIND TO WORK

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.

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

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

Sunday Services: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 12:30 pm
Munday School: 7pm
Men's Fellowship: Friday 7:00pm

Website: www.ibcjoy.org

St. Luke A.M.E. Church (aka - SLAME)
"Where we slam dunk the devil and serve up Jesus"
521 W. Avenue E Garland, TX 75040 972.487.9703
Email: slamechurch@aol.com

Sunday
9:45 am. Church School
9:45 am. Praise & Worship
10:15 am. Worship Experience

Tuesday
7:15 pm. Bible Study

Wednesday
6:30 pm. Prayer Service
7:00 pm. Church School

Thursday
7:00 pm. Choir Rehearsal

Reverend Charles E. Franklin, Pastor

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

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

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

704 E. Almee Street • P.O. Box 901 • Forney, Texas 75126
Phone: 214-325-7021
Fax: 214-371-8922 or 214-372-2135
Email: thewordcuts@yahoo.com

New Life Fellowship Church
New Worship Location:
Wynham Gardens, Hards-Park Central
8051 LBJ Freeway • Dallas, TX 75251
Bishop Miller E. Johnson Jr., Senior Pastor

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 84844 • Plano, TX 75084-0446
972-671-1098 (Church)

A Place of New Beginnings... • 31 Contributions 6:17

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.

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

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

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"