

The Truth Clinic

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The Gazette

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People In The News

Vocalist: Melba Stevens is an artist who simply loves to sing. As a musical artist, Melba Stevens' goal is to spread Love, Joy and Peace through song. Her love for music, singing and song writing has brought her overwhelming fulfillment. She seeks to share with others her wonderful gift of song. To her credit, Melba has written lyrics to more than 250 songs. Her lyrics originate from the heart and soul. Most everyone can relate to her lyrics because the words are true to everyday life and relationships. Melba is currently the lead female vocalist for "Memphis Soul Live" band (aka Fingerprints). "Fingerprints" is mostly an original jazz band with four successful musical CDs and an overwhelming large following across the U.S. "Memphis Soul Live" is a party band that performs cover tunes. As a former member of the U. S. 214th Army Band and the U. S. Army variety of musical genres. When possible, she still performs at military functions to include: Chapel services, retirements, banquets, conferences and other special ceremonies. Melba can be reached at 972-935-7563 or Melbastevens@aol.com.

The works of Ethiopian artist **Wesene Keenel** will be featured in an exhibition entitled **Painted Words** at the Pan American Art Gallery on Friday, Jan. 20 from 6-8 p.m. The artist will be in attendance. Born in 1950, Wesene received his BFA in 1972 from the School of Fine Arts in Addis Ababa. In 1978, he enrolled at Howard University in Washington, DC, to pursue graduate studies in studio painting, obtaining his MFA in 1980. His work is represented in the permanent collection of museums in Africa, the United States, and Europe, including the National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution and the Library of Congress. In 1998, he became the first African artist to participate in the Rockefeller artist-in-residence program in Bellagio, Italy. Wesene currently maintains a studio in Oakland, California, and resides in Berkeley, CA. Pan American Art Gallery is located in the Turtle Creek neighborhood of Dallas at 3303 Lee Parkway, Suite 101. Established in 1994, the gallery seeks to create a bridge between North and South American cultures and to present and exhibit artists from both regions concurrently. The exhibition will continue through Feb. 18. Call 214-522-1303 or visit www.panamericanart.com for more information.

Dr. **Jean "Jes" Carrion**, chancellor of the Dallas County Community College District, has accepted an appointment to serve on the board of directors for the American Council on Education, based in Washington, D.C. Carrion will represent the American Association of Community Colleges for a three-year term from February 2006 through February 2009. "I feel honored to accept this appointment and to represent community colleges from across the United States. I look forward to working with ACE members on higher education issues and needs that face all two- and four-year colleges and universities." Dr. Jean "Jes" Carrion began his academic career as a community college graduate. His educational background includes: Associate degree from Grossmont Community College in San Diego; Bachelor's degree in history from San Diego State University; Master's degree from the University of California, Irvine; Doctorate in higher education from the University of Southern California.

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Bush Defends Secret Wiretaps

Lewis suggests impeachment

By: **Trevino Hunt**
The disclosure of top-secret domestic spying has ignited a furious debate about presidential authority, civil liberties and whether President Bush is acting above the law. "Do I have the legal authority to do this? And the answer is, absolutely," Bush insisted on Monday. But plenty of people disagreed with his conclusion. Angry that the program had been revealed, Bush said it was an effective tool in disrupting terrorists. He said it was "a shameful act" for someone to have leaked details to the media. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales said it was "probably the most classified program that exists in the United States government" - involving electronic intercepts of telephone calls and e-mails in the United States of people with known ties to al-Qaida and other terrorist groups. At a news conference, Bush brushed at the suggestion he was assuming unlimited powers. "To say 'unchecked power' basically is ascribing some kind of dictatorial position to the president,



Rep. John Lewis, D-GA

which I strongly reject," he said angrily in a finger-pointing answer. "I am doing what you expect me to do, and at the same time, safeguarding the civil liberties of the country." Despite Bush's defense, there

Secret Wiretaps Page 4

Dick Gregory: Still Telling Us About Ourselves

By: **Paul Halley**
Photos By: **Ronald Coleman**

A crowd of over 200 gathered at St. Paul United Methodist Church on Monday to hear the inspiring blend of humor and social commentary of activist, author, comedian and satirist Dick Gregory. Mr. Gregory spoke on a number of issues ranging from President Bush, to the King Kong movie, to the fate of albinos.



The event was organized by death penalty activist Ricky Jason, David Amos of the Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, and Pastor Charles Stovall. Mr. Gregory addressed the crowd following a trip earlier in the day to Huntsville prison to visit death row inmate Thomas Miller-El who has been on death row for 20 years and has had 10 execution dates. Also in attendance was Mr. Miller-El's wife Dorothy Miller-El, who was convicted with her husband as an accomplice to a 1985 slaying in Irving. Ms. Miller-El's conviction was sub-

Dick Gregory Page 5

Plano's Veterans Memorial Art Project Hosts First Community Input Meeting

A community input meeting for the design of a Veterans Memorial in the City of Plano will occur Tuesday, January 10, 2006 at 7 p.m. at the Courtyard Theater, 1509 Avenue H. Plano residents, including veterans groups, are invited to attend and provide input for the direction and design of the memorial. The project architect, Art Selection Panel members, Public Art Committee, Parks and Recreation Department and possibly Plano City Councilmembers will be present to hear and consider public input. This is the first in a series of community input meetings for this project. This public art project will be in Plano's Memorial Park on the southwest corner of Spring Creek Parkway and Custer Road. The Plano City Council has allocated \$40,000 for the design and

creation of an art element of the memorial. A roster-based call will be issued to area artists for design submissions. The Art Selection Panel will review the submissions and, with further community input, make a recommendation to the Public Art Committee for approval. Subsequently it will be considered by the Park and Recreation Board and the City Council for final approval. The selected artist will work with the landscape architect, Michael Kendall of Kendall Landscape Architecture, to design the art element in the park.

Bill Includes Unprecedented Flood Aid



Gulf Coast residents could receive federal money for uninsured homes

By: **Elizabeth Chack**
A Senate vote expected this week could bring unprecedented government aid to Gulf Coast residents who did not purchase flood

insurance because they lived outside high-risk areas, but whose homes were ravaged by Hurricane Katrina nevertheless. Residents whose homes were in designated federal floodplains were required to buy flood insurance ahead of Katrina, which struck the Gulf Coast on Aug. 29. People living outside those zones were not required to purchase flood insurance, but could have done so if they had wished. Now thousands of uninsured homeowners are facing the

Flood Aid Page 10

Congressional Black Caucus To Oppose Alito Confirmation



Rep. Mel Watt, D-NC and the Congressional Black Caucus

By: **Jean J. Holland**
While they don't have a vote, the House's black members - all Democrats - don't want to see Samuel Alito confirmed as retiring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor's replacement on the Supreme Court. The one black member of Congress who does have a vote,

Democratic Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois, hasn't made up his mind about the New Jersey jurist picked by President Bush for the job. The Congressional Black Caucus, which includes 42 House members as well as Obama, will announce

CBC Opposes Alito Page 11

Denton Recognized As Top Digital City

The city of Denton recently received the second place "2005 Digital Cities Award" in the population category of 75,000-124,999. The award is sponsored by the Center for Digital Government (Center), the National League of Cities (NLC), and Government Technology magazine and recognizes the cities that best provide online services to streamline operations and improve service delivery to citizens. The technology efforts of the City were recognized making Denton one of the most digital-savvy, cutting-edge cities in the nation.

The Digital Cities Survey is an annual study conducted by the Center for Digital Government, a national research and advisory institute on information technology (IT) in government and education. The survey examines and assesses how city governments are progressing in utilizing information technology. Mayors, city managers and chief technology officers from cities across the nation were invited to participate in the fifth annual survey, which service delivery to citizens. The technology efforts of the City were recognized making Denton one of the most digital-savvy, cutting-edge cities in the nation. The Digital Cities Survey is an annual study conducted by the Center for Digital

Top Digital City Page 12

Liberia: Riots Erupt As Weah Claims Presidency

Former soccer superstar and loser of Liberia's first post-war elections, George Weah, claimed the presidency recently in a series of rabble-rousing speeches that sparked rioting in the battered capital Monrovia. Several policemen were reported to be badly hurt and at least 40 arrested in the trouble. Weah's verbal onslaught began as soon as he was off a plane, fresh from visiting presidents John Kufuor of Ghana and Thabo Mbeki of South Africa, who have



Defeated Liberian presidential candidate George Weah

Liberia Riots Page 4

Black Nativity Production Features Youth



Mary and Joseph played by Shaquenta Taylor and Zephaniah Miller.



Black Nativity "Angels" Tia Johnson, Kevin Nappers, and Damoderic Wade backstage.



Youth of Greater St. John Primitive Baptist Church as cast of "Black Nativity" by Langston Hughes.

Greater St. John Primitive Baptist Church is presenting a production of a Langston Hughes play "Black Nativity" during this holiday season. The production features narrator Cassandra Morgan, Mary and Joseph played by Shaquenta Taylor and Zephaniah Miller. The Angels are played by Tia Johnson, Darling Walker, Kevin

Nappers, Damoderic Wade, and Raiyn Hall-Shields. Shepherds in the play are Diallo Dotson Sr., Alexander Blankson and Elijah Harrison. Pilgrims are played by China Adams, Malik Brown, Desiree Dotson, Breasia Hampton, Tasha Hopkins, and Armeshia Walker. Ja'Lisa Brown and Amira Spikes are Old Women 1 and 2, Courtland Bob plays the King and Samuel Bob III plays the Wise Man, with Willie Minor playing the Elder.

Other cast members include soloists Da'Nelle, Laitavaya Loring and Cathy Sparks. Also adding to the performance are Heavenly Choir members Tonya Henderson, Joncith Davis, Felicia Brown, Linda Johnson, Lauren Kirk, Perlie Willis, Cassie Livingston, Thomas Walker, Chandra Willis, Terra Jean Booker, Paula

Spiller, Tajuana Ray and Alvis Lewis. The play is being held over through December 24 and is being held at 3633 Atlanta Street, Dallas. Call 972-285-

0705 for more information. The play is produced by Michael Minor Enterprises, Pastor F.E. Livingston and Lance Harkey and directed by Willie Minor.

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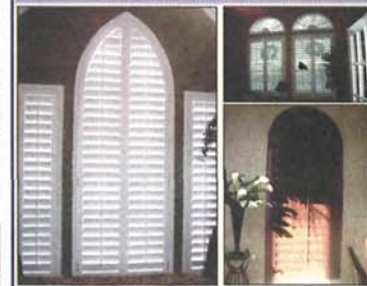
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Voletta Wallace Visits Dallas



Voletta Wallace with Stephen Stroud, the owner of Cosmo Rouge Bistro Lounge, where reception was held in her honor.



Voletta Wallace speaks about her book, "Voletta Wallace Remembers Her Son, Christopher Wallace, aka Notorious B.I.G."

Photos By Gwen Elder
Voletta Wallace was in town December 8 for a book signing and discussion at the Urban League of Greater Dallas and a reception at the Cosmo Rouge Bistro Lounge.

Christopher Wallace, aka Notorious B.I.G. Eight years after the murder of her son she has written a book entitled, "Voletta Wallace Remembers Her Son, Christopher Wallace, aka Notorious B.I.G." She wrote the book for two

reasons. First she felt that her identity had been lost. "I was no longer Voletta Wallace, I was Biggie's mom. I am a mother; I am a strong Black woman; I am me," she stated stoically.

The second reason for writing the book is to refute what she considers erroneous information that has circulated about her son. "My son's name was Christopher Wallace. He was more than the East Coast gangsta" rapper people refer to him as." She emphasizes that though his lyrics may have seemed violent he was not hurting anyone.

In July of this year, though a mistrial had been declared in the wrongful death suit brought against the city of Los Angeles by Christopher's family, the judge ordered the city and police department to pay the late

rapper's family fees and costs incurred as a result of the defendants' misconduct, according to a news report.

After the decision was rendered Ms. Wallace was quoted as saying, "Eight years, three months and 29 days ago, my son was murdered in this town, in this city. For all that time I've labored with the pain and sweat just to find out the truth of what happened. This was not about money, it was about honesty. It was about a cover-up."



Voletta Wallace with Stephen Stroud, the owner of Cosmo Rouge Bistro Lounge, where reception was held in her honor.

Around The Town

Ongoing
The Winter Wonderettes and the Santaland Diaries will run thru December 23 at the Water Tower Theatre, Addison. Call 972-450-6232 for information.

The McKinney SPCA at 8411 FM720 is offering an adoption special for all dogs 36 pounds and more thru the end of the year. Call 972-562-7297 for information.

Pharmacy Compounding Specialties, an independent pharmacy in North Dallas will collect canned goods for the North Texas Food Bank through December 31 at 8061 Walnut Hill Lane. Call 214-327-8200.

The Garland ISD Faculty Art Show continues through January 3 at the Granville Arts Center, 300 N. Fifth St. Proceeds benefit the Memorial Senior Scholarship Fund. Call 972-205-2790 for information.

The Richardson Optimist Club is selling mixed nuts, fudge, etc. to raise funds for its youth activities. Contact any Optimist Club member or call 972-233-9097.

Alcoholics Anonymous: Garland Clean Air, a local Alcoholics Anonymous Chapter, has extended its hours. The group meets at

noon Mondays thru Fridays, 11:00 a.m. Saturdays and 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, First Christian Church, 115 S. Glenbrook Drive. Call 972-994-7879.

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, 214-618-1919 for information. November 16-

Blue Horizon Chorus, a volunteer chorus seeks seniors to sign at retirement and nursing homes. It meets from 10 a.m.-Noon, Wednesdays at the Mesquite Arts Center, 1572 N. Galloway Ave. Call 214-566-8459.

A Free Legal Clinic is offered at 6:00 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at First United Methodist Church, 601 S. Greenville Ave. Must be Collin County residents and income eligible. Call 1-800-906-3045.

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

Allen Public Library's Genre Book Club meets at 7:00 p.m. every third Monday in the Library Board Room, 300 N. Allen Dr. Call 214-509-4906 for information.

Assistance League of Greater Collin County meets

the third Wednesday of each month. Visit www.assistance-league-gcc.org.

Collin County Health Care Services continues offering flu shots from 8:00-11:00 a.m. Monday-Friday at 825 N. McDonald St., McKinney. Call 972-548-5532 for information.

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

Spirit of Praise Community and Youth Choir now forming. Participants are needed who sing and play instruments. Practices begin on the 2nd and 4th Sunday. For information call 817-626-7342.

Allen Public Library's Genre Book Club meets at 7:00 p.m. every third Monday in the Library Board Room, 300 N. Allen Drive. Call 214-509-4906 for information.

"A Holiday Collage", presented by The Plano Dance Theater, 7:00 p.m. Call 972-517-8232 for information.

December 23
Exclusive screening of "The Ringer", 7:30 p.m., Loews Keystone Theater, Spring Valley and Hwy 75 in Richardson. Call 469-231-3716.

NTheKnow.com presents, The Holiday Sizzle, 7:00 p.m. 11:00 p.m., TePheze, 2226 Elm St. For more information <http://ntheknow.com/staticcontent/indirect/dec23.asp> RSVP is requested.

December 24
Christmas Eve
The Jewish Community of North Dallas will hold a Matzah Ball, 8:00 p.m. Four Seasons Resort Club at Las Colinas. Call 214-739-2737.

December 25
MERRY CHRISTMAS!! HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!
"No Room in My Inn" an original Christmas play performed at Concord Church, 6808 Pastor Bailey Drive, 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. For information call 214-455-5670.

December 26
13th Annual Kwanzaa Parade, 1:00 p.m. Route starts at Lincoln High School, 5000 Oakland (Malcolm X) Avenue, continues on to the MLK Center. Call 214-941-1511 or 214-392-0884 for information.

Chanukah Over Texas: Dallas-Fort Worth Chabad Centers will present a community-wide Hanukkah celebration at Six Flags Over Texas, noon-6:00 p.m. Call 972-818-0770 for information.

Evans Senior Dance, adults 50 and over enjoy live music and dancing and light refreshments at Evans Recreation Center, 7:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Call 972-285-6781 for information.

December 27
Time to Talk: Male Chauvinism and the Black American Movement panel discussion will be held 6:00, Thurgood Marshall Recreation Center, 5150 Marktrail Recreation Center, 5150 Marktrail Way.

For information email: tmuham2003@yahoo.com.

December 30
B.G. Live in Concert, 4:18 p.m. at Club Blue. Call 214-880-0888 for information.

December 31
5th Annual Ultimate New Years Eve Classic, Abbotford Court (5th Ave), 14775 Midway Rd. Addison, 9:30 p.m. Call 817-937-8301 for information.

Teens ages 13-18 interested in entering the 2006 Mr. & Miss Teen Graffiti Scholarship Pageant must apply by December 31. The winners will be featured on the cover of Teen Graffiti Magazine. Visit www.teengraffiti.com or call 972-496-9457.

January Ongoing 2006
New York Times Arts & Leisure Weekend comes to Dallas. January 5-9

The First Baptist Church is again offering "DivorceCare" beginning January 15 and running for 13 weeks. Call 972-727-2341 for information.

The RISD collecting used books new and used videos, CD's for the PTAs' Used Book Fair. January 17-27.

Free classes available on how to repair credit and prepare to buy a home will be offered from 9:00-3:00 p.m. each second Saturday of the month. The meetings will be held at the

Jeffries Street Learning Center, 3001 Grand Ave. in South Dallas. Call 214-426-1834.

January 7
Huston-Tillotson University will be featured during the 27th

Annual broadcast of "An Evening of Stars-A Celebration of Educational Excellence" benefiting the United Negro College Fund on KNVA-TV Channel 54, 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Casa Linda AARP Chapter 3880 will meet at 10 a.m. at the Community Life Center of Casa Linda United Methodist Church, 1800 Barnes Bridge Road in Dallas. Call 214-321-1705 for information.

January 12
Ricker Retirement Specialists presents "Retire Smart", 6:00 p.m. at 3200 Broadway Blvd., Suite 150 (Garland). Call 972-840-3764 for information.

January 14
How to Organize an Effective Summer Learning Program, 2900 Live Oak St. Call 214-235-2352 for information.

January 17
The Dallas Society of Women Engineers will meet at 6:15 p.m. in the community room at Nedley's Restaurant, 1801 N. Plano Road in Richardson. Call 214-226-6967 for information.

February
All new Seaside Street Live Production, Nokia Theatre at Grand Prairie, 1001 Performance Pl., 10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Call 972-854-5111 for information.

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THE TRUTH CLINIC The Redemption Of Tookie Williams

By: James W. Brodlove

Stanley "Tookie" Williams, convicted multiple murderer and co-founder of the notorious "Crips" street gang, was executed by lethal injection at 12:35 a.m. on Dec. 13, 2005, in San Quentin Prison.

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, only hours before the scheduled execution, refused to grant Williams clemency. In his five-page statement, Gov. Schwarzenegger stated his reasons for denying clemency: "Stanley Williams insists he is innocent, and that he will not and should not apologize or otherwise atone for the murders. Without an apology and atonement for these senseless and brutal killings there can be no redemption."

Asked about his legacy, Williams told an interviewer that he wanted to be remembered as one who had made a redemptive transition.

But what is redemption? Tookie Williams caused redemption to be debated worldwide by friends, foes, politicians, religious leaders and celebrities. The obvious bias on both sides of the discussion provided confusing insight and disjointed meaning whether the context was religious or secular.

The English words ransom and redemption, both coming from the Latin word *redemptio*, have been used in translating ancient Hebrew and Greek concepts of the giving of a price or of justice to satisfy the demands of value and balancing the matters in contention.

This idea should have special meaning for Christians because of the ransom paid for the redemption of humankind when God gave up his son, Jesus, to offset the sinful transgressions of Adam.

What does the death penalty say about us as a nation? What do we get out of vindictively taking a human life, however heinous the perpetrator's act? The death penalty, no matter

how humanely it is implemented, is still an inhumane act. It demands all of us because it is done in our name. It makes us killers, however solemn the ceremonial ritual and legal precision in which it is couched. It drags us down placing us at the same level as the murderers we kill.

Some argue that an apology or expressions of remorse do not make evil disappear. Good works after doing evil does not erase the devastation to the victims and their families. Their argument is correct. So how does the devastation to the families of the person murdered by "we the people" get erased or mitigated? Does society both its victims in their sympathy and love?

Does anyone feel better or safer because of the execution of Stanley Tookie Williams? The United States, with its capital punishment, has the highest murder rate of any of the industrialized nations. In 1999 (the most recent year for which valid data has been compiled), handguns were used to murder 11,789 people in the U.S., but only 373 in Germany, 161 in Canada, 19 in Japan and 54 in England.

One reason for intervention in death penalty cases is the inherent unfairness that characterizes the use of the death penalty. Statistically, the death penalty is more often handed out on the basis of the race of the victim, or the geographic location of the crime, than on factors such as the crime's seriousness. Knowing what we know about our society and its biases based on race, religion, sexual orientation, and class it's hard to maintain the belief that the death penalty is imposed fairly and accurately.

Overall, over 120 death row inmates have been exonerated since 1976—even after being convicted "beyond a reasonable doubt." Some of these exonerations came posthumously. Any time the death penalty is in the news, the more people learn about the flawed criminal justice system

the more they oppose it. They think the death penalty is great until they hear about the racial discrimination, death sentences handed down to minors and the mentally retarded, and the 120 people convicted and sentenced but later proved to be innocent.

As Governor Ryan in Illinois observed when he announced his blanket commutation of death row, the administration of the death penalty is infected with the pestilence of error and arbitrariness. The broken system is not unique to Illinois. There is growing evidence the death penalty is falling out of favor. The legislatures of New York and Kansas declared it unconstitutional last year and a moratorium on executions remains in New Jersey and Illinois. California and North Carolina are reviewing their capital punishment laws.

When other means are available to advance the goals of expressing social condemnation for the apparent perpetrator's acts, and protecting society from a person found to be dangerous to its members, the state should refuse to impose a punishment that prevents it from later acknowledging—and making amends for—its own wrongful acts to unintended victims.

Extending clemency to Williams would have been the right thing to do, but not because of his claims that he had redeemed himself or the many procedural inconsistencies present during his trial. Rather, it's because Schwarzenegger, should have recognized, as did Governor Ryan of Illinois, that the constitutional values he is obligated to uphold have been invalidated through the continued use of the capricious death penalty. In other words, Tookie should have been spared from execution simply because death row needs to be shut down. This would not have been in the name of mercy, but in the name of justice.

Email Comments to: Politica@MonTheGazette.com

Nothing New About NSA Spying On Americans

By: Earl Ofari Hutchinson

The big puzzle is why anyone is shocked that President Bush eavesdropped on Americans. The National Security Agency for decades has routinely monitored the phone calls and telegrams of thousands of Americans. The rationale has always been the same, and Bush said it again in defending his spying, that it was done to protect Americans from foreign threat or attack. The named targets in the past have been Muslim extremists, Communists, peace activists, black radicals, civil rights leaders, and drug peddlers.

Even before President Harry Truman established the NSA in a Cold War era directive in 1952, government cryptologists jumped in the domestic spy hunt with Operation Shamrock. That was a super secret operation that forced private telegraphic companies to turn over the telegraphic correspondence of Americans to the government. The NSA kicked its spy campaign into high gear in the 1960s. The FBI demanded that the NSA monitor antiwar activists, civil rights leaders, and drug peddlers. The Senate Select Committee that investigated government domestic spying in 1976 pried open a tiny public window into the scope of NSA spying. But the agency slammed the window shut fast when it refused to cough up documents to the committee that would tell more about its surveillance of Americans. The NSA claimed that disclosure would compromise national security. The few feeble Congressional attempts over the years to probe NSA domestic spying have gone nowhere. Even though rumors swirled that NSA eyes were riveted on more than a few Americans, Congressional investigators showed no stomach to fight the NSA's entrenched code of silence.

There was a huge warning sign in 2002 that government agencies would jump deeper into the domestic spy business. President Bush scrapped the old 1970s guidelines that banned FBI spying on domestic organizations. The directive gave the FBI carte blanche authority to surveil and plant agents in churches, mosques, and political groups, and ramrack the Internet to hunt for potential subversives, without the need or requirement to show probable cause of criminal wrongdoing. The revised Bush administration spy guidelines, along with the anti-terrorist provisions of the Patriot Act, also gave local agents even wider discretion to investigate them. The FBI wasted little time in flexing its new found intelligence muscle. It mounted a secret campaign to monitor and harass Iraq war protesters in Washington D.C. and San Francisco in October 2003.

Another sign that government domestic spying was back in full swing came during Condoleezza Rice's finger point at the FBI in her testimony before the 9-11 Commission in 2004. Rice blamed the FBI for allegedly failing to follow up on its investigation of Al-Qaeda operatives in the United States U.S. prior to the September 11 terror attacks. That increased the clamor for an independent domestic spy agency. FBI Director Robert Mueller made an impassioned plea against a separate agency, and the reason was simple. Domestic spying was an established fact that the FBI, and the NSA had long been engaged in it.

The September 11 terror attacks, and the heat Bush administration took for its toxic intelligence lapses, gave Bush the excuse to plunge even deeper into domestic spying. But Bush also recognized that if word got out about NSA domestic spying, it would ignite a firestorm of protest. Fortunately it did. Despite

Bush's weak, and self-serving national security excuse that it thwarted potential terrorist attacks, none of which is verifiable, the Supreme Court, the NSA's own mandate, and past executive orders explicitly bar domestic spying without court authorization. The exception is if there is a grave and imminent terror threat. That's the shaky legal dodge that Bush used to justify domestic spying.

Bush, and his defenders, discount the monumental threat and damage that spying on Americans poses to civil liberties. But it can't and shouldn't be shrugged off. During the debate over the creation of a domestic spy agency in 2002, even proponents recognized the potential threat of such an agency to civil liberties. As a safeguard they recommended that the agency not have expanded wiretap and surveillance powers or law enforcement authority, and that the Senate and House intelligence committees have strict oversight over its activities.

These supposed fail-safe measures were hardly ironclad safeguards against abuses, but they understood that domestic spying is a civil liberties nightmare minefield that has blown up and wreaked havoc on American's lives in the past. The FBI is the prime example. During the 1950s and 1960s, FBI director J. Edgar Hoover kicked FBI domestic spying into high gear. FBI agents compiled secret dossiers, illegally wiretapped, used undercover plants, and agent provocateurs, sent poison pen letters, and staged black bag jobs against black activists and anti-war groups.

Bush's claim that domestic spying poses no risk to civil liberties is laughable. Congress should demand that Bush and the NSA come clean on domestic spying, and then promptly end it.

Freedom Rider Condi, Torture And Christmas

By: Margaret Kimberley

After a short drive, I was dragged out of the car, pushed roughly into a building, thrown to the floor, and kicked and beaten on the head, the soles of my feet, and the small of my back. I was left in a small, dirty, cold concrete cell. — Khaled El-Masri describing detention in CIA prison.

Some American Christians are spending this Christmas season torturing and defending the use of torture. Condi Rice, church-going queen of torture, traveled to Europe where she tried to justify extra judicial kidnappings and secret prisons. She began her visit by scolding uppity Europeans who took exception to the American inquisition. She told them that interrogations and renditions were saving their wimpy, unappreciative lives.

It was a bit inconvenient for Dr. Rice when Khaled El-Masri, a German citizen, used former CIA director George Tenet during her European tour. El-Masri was accused of being a terror suspect upon entering Macedonia. He was flown to a CIA run prison in Afghanistan, where he was denied access to counsel or any contact with the German government. His imprisonment lasted for a total of four months. George Tenet kept him behind bars even after his identity and proof of his innocence in any wrong doing were confirmed.

The ACLU is representing El-Masri in his lawsuit against Tenet. When El-Masri attempted to attend a press conference

in Washington to announce his lawsuit, he was denied entry into the United States. Embarrassing the United States government and trying to attend a press conference all in the same week was just too much for the powers that be.

Condi's latest European trip was rocky from the start. After meeting with Rice, new German chancellor Angela Merkel stated that Rice had admitted a mistake in the El-Masri case. It isn't clear if Merkel intentionally cleared Rice or if she hadn't yet learned the diplomatic art of being a good liar.

By the end of her trip Rice was forced to back track a bit. She had to claim that the U.S. doesn't torture and will follow the Geneva conventions on treatment of prisoners of war. Of course the Bushmen and women always want the world to know that they will do whatever they feel like doing. She couldn't give assurance that there would be no more El-Masris. "Will there be abuses of policy? That's entirely possible. Just because you're a democracy it doesn't mean that you're perfect."

Dr. Mushroom Cloud just doesn't get it. Respecting international law on human rights isn't asking for perfection. On the contrary, it is asking for a bare minimum in acceptable behavior. Someone who thinks that prohibitions against torture require perfection is a very dangerous person indeed.

The Christian right has attacked even their icons like

Laura Bush. Their sin was uttering the word "holiday" when they should utter the word "Christmas". Retailers who don't say "Christmas" are browbeaten into connecting cross commercialism with the name of Jesus.

To add curious insult to injury, many conservative mega churches will not hold services on Sunday, December 25th. They know that pews will be empty when Sunday and Christmas inconveniently coincide. If they don't want to go to church, they can stay home and pray for the unknown El-Masri currently in secret detention. That is just a suggestion from one Christian to others.

It isn't even clear that we will see the last of her when Bush's term ends. There is still a draft Condi movement among conservatives. If anyone could cause them to overcome their reflexive revulsion against black people, it be Condi Rice.

In order to become president, a black candidate would have to be like Condi, denying connections to other black people and their history, and becoming the most blood thirsty of all. We should think twice and then three times about whether it would be good to have a black resident at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. Whoever resides there will not be perfect, but some are far less perfect than others.

Margaret Kimberley is a freelance writer living in New York City.

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

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

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

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

The 7th Annual Black College Alumni Night

"The 7th Annual Black College Alumni Night" is Saturday, February 4, 2006 at the American Airlines Center (2500 Victory Avenue, Dallas 75219) with the game between the Mavericks and the Sonics. The Dallas Metroplex Council of Black Alumni Associations (DMCBA) will be hosting its 6th Annual Black College Alumni Night College Fair that morning from 8:00am-10:00 AM also at the American Airlines Center. There will be 18 to 25 HBCU representatives present to provide application, financial aid and scholarship information on their respective HBCU. All metroplex 9th thru 12th graders and their parents, teachers, counselors are invited to attend this free event. For more information, contact DMCBA (dmcbaa@yahoo.com or 972-412-5169).

To purchase tickets to the game and assist DMCBA & UNCF in raising funds to sup-

port DFW students attending HBCUs, contact Gail O'Bannon (Mavericks) at 214-658-7123 or gail.obannon@dallasma.com. Halftime will feature Prairie View A&M University's "Marching Storm" and the "Black Foxes".

In February 2000, the Dallas Metroplex Council of Black Alumni Associations and Dallas Mavericks held its first "Black College Alumni Night" at Reunion Arena. In addition to establishing fundraiser for its scholarship fund, this event was created to celebrate Historically Black College and Universities (HBCUs) and its local alumni. Since its inception, the proceeds from this event have provided scholarships to DFW students attending HBCUs.

"Black College Alumni Night" now includes a morning college fair; pre-game reception recognizing a local HBCU alumnus of the year; halftime entertainment by an HBCU marching band and post game celebration. Previous

Alumnus of the Year included 2000-Terrell Bolton (former Dallas Chief of Police) of Jackson State University; 2001-Tom Joyner (Famous radio personality) of Tuskegee University; 2002-Hawatha Williams (President of Williams Fried Chicken) of Paul Quinn College; 2003-Curtis Ransom (President/Owner of CERP Food, Inc. and Ransom Management) of Hampton University; 2004-David Stephens (President/CEO of Stephens Automotive Group) of Southern University; and 2005-Avery Johnson (Dallas Mavericks Head Coach) of Southern University. The dynamic HBCU marching bands have included Southern University's "Human Jukebox" in 2000 and 2001; Jackson State University's "Sonic Boom of the South" in 2002; Texas Southern University's "Ocean of Soul" in 2003; Florida A&M University's "Marching 100" in 2004; and Alcorn State University's "Sounds of Dynamite" in 2005.

Charter High School At Richland College Seeking Applications

Apply now to be one of the first students at Richland Collegiate High School (RCHS).

RCHS, which opens in Fall 2006, will start out with 200 high school juniors. These students will be able to complete their last two years of high school as well as earn college credits. In the Fall of 2007, RCHS will include juniors and seniors.

RCHS curriculum will focus

on mathematics, science and engineering.

The school will be tuition-free, and students will be issued a laptop computer.

Students at RCHS won't miss out on many of the classic high school activities. They can participate in the Richland College choir, bands and orchestras, theater productions, The Richland Chronicle student newspaper, intramurals, athletics, and student government.

RCHS will accept applications for admission from Jan. 3 to March 31 for students who will be in the 11th grade in Fall 2006. Application forms are available on the admissions portion of the RCHS website, www.richlandcollege.edu/rchs/admissions.htm.

For more information about Richland Collegiate High School, visit www.richlandcollege.edu/rchs or call 972-238-6919.

DCCCD Increases Spring Tuition

The Dallas County Community College District will implement a \$3-per-semester-credit-hour tuition increase in spring 2006; students will pay \$36 per semester credit hour - an amount which continues to place

the system among colleges that offer the lowest tuition rates in the state, thanks to the support of taxpayers in DCCCD's service area. Enrollment continues to grow at the district's seven colleges; that increase requires additional financial

support, as well as increased costs in general operations, according to Bob Brown, DCCCD's vice chancellor for business affairs. Rising gas and utilities prices are affecting those costs as well.

Real Estate Program Info Session

Learn how to start a career in real estate by earning an associate's degree at Richland College. An information session from 6:30-7:30 p.m. will be held on Jan. 5 in Room E070 of El Paso Hall. Dorian Barton, the Real Estate program coordinator, will facilitate the session.

Richland College is located at 12800 Abrams Road in Dallas. Contact Mr. Barton at 972-761-

6795 for dbarton@dccc.edu for information.

For more than 30 years, Richland College of the Dallas County Community Colleges has focused on teaching, learning and community building. Richland helps students build their future through courses that can be applied to the first two years of a baccalaureate degree, one- or two-year certificates in a number of

career fields, and training in the latest technology for students who want to advance in their current careers. The student body of more than 14,000 college credit students and about 6,000 continuing education students at Richland is internationally and ethnically diverse, speaking more than 78 first languages. Visit www.richlandcollege.edu for more information.

Secret Wiretaps Page 1

was a growing storm of criticism from Congress and calls for investigations, from Democrats and Republicans alike. West Virginia Sen. Jay Rockefeller, the top Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee, released a handwritten letter he wrote more than two years ago expressing concern to Vice President Dick Cheney.

Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., suggested Bush's actions could justify impeachment. The longtime

civil-rights leader said the spying program evokes "the dark past when our government spied on civil-rights leaders and Vietnam War protesters," adding he believed Bush broke the law.

"There is no question that the U.S. Congress has impeached presidents for lesser offenses," he said.

"Where does he find in the Constitution the authority to tap the wires and the phones of American citizens without any court oversight?" asked Sen. Carl

Levin (D-Mich).

The spying uproar was the latest controversy about Bush's handling of the war on terror.

Appealing for support, Bush used the word "understand" 25 times in a nearly hour-long news conference. "I hope the American people understand -- there is still an enemy that would like to strike the United States of America, and they're very dangerous," he said. Similarly, he said he hoped blacks who doubt his intentions "understand that I care about them."

Liberia Riots Page 1

been urging the onetime FIFA world soccer champ to concede defeat gracefully.

"I am president of this country, whether you like it or not, it will not change. I told President Mbeki this. I repeat that I was cheated in the elections," Weah told reporters.

Weah lost to Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf in the second round runoff of Liberia's first post-war

presidential elections on November 8 but has refused to accept her victory claiming large scale rigging and fraud in the UN-organized poll.

Newly trained Liberian police were attacked by CDC supporters after Weah's speech. According to the UN's mission in Liberia, peacekeepers were called in to assist as a small group of Weah supporters began throwing stones injuring officers and vandalizing

vehicles.

Weah has a strong following among young Liberian men, many of whom took up arms as guerrilla fighters during the country's 14 years of civil war.

Weah has filed an official complaint to the national elections commission over how the polls were conducted. An investigation has been launched though international observers have already given the ballot the thumbs up.

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Black Enterprise Seeks Small Business Award Nominations

Black Enterprise magazine (BE), is seeking nominations for the 2006 Black Enterprise Small Business Awards. Now in their 11th year, the awards recognize outstanding African American entrepreneurs for business excellence.

"Our award winners represent the best of the best," says BE Small Business Editor James C. Johnson. "They not only embody the entrepreneurial spirit and are representative of exceptional achievement, but they also serve as inspiration to others striving to make their mark in the economic mainstream."

Black Enterprise will present awards in the following categories:

- **The Emerging Company of the Year** honors an organization that has adopted creative marketing techniques, carved out a special niche or strategically capitalized on general market opportunities to enable its business to successfully forge ahead.

• **The Rising Star** award recognizes exceptional business achievement by persons under the age of 35.

- **The Business Innovator of the Year** acknowledges an individual who has broken new ground or developed a new and unique method of doing business. To be eligible for nomination in these categories, companies must be independently owned; be at least five years old; be at least 51% black owned; and generate annual revenues of at least \$250,000 but no more than \$20 million. Businesses should demonstrate a pattern of increasing revenues for the two years preceding the nomination application and must have a minimum of three employees.

- **The Kidpreneur/Teenpreneur of the Year** award honors a young entrepreneur or group, age 17 or under, who is committed to advancing the rich tradition of black business achievement.

To be eligible for nomination

in the Kidpreneur/Teenpreneur category, an individual or group must operate a business that is at least two years old and at least 51% black owned; demonstrate that the company generates revenues (even if it is not yet profitable); serve as a role model to young entrepreneurs; and have a comprehensive understanding of, and direct involvement in, the daily operations of the company.

Honorees will be announced in Dallas, Texas on May 20, 2006 at the Black Enterprise Entrepreneurs Conference and Dealmakers Expo hosted by General Motors. Award winners will also be profiled as one of America's best small businesses in a future issue of BE.

Entries must be received by January 15, 2006.

Nomination forms for the Black Enterprise Small Business Awards can be obtained at www.blackenterprise.com/sba or by calling 1-212-886-9542.

Black Businesses Are Growing Despite Barriers

Small black businesses today are poised for more explosive, diversified growth than ever before, despite the barriers of not having the same access to capital or markets as their white counterparts.

In fact, new black business owners are better educated with Master of Business Administration degrees than their white counterparts, and black firms, with over \$1 million in annual sales, account for over 50% of the black-

owned business growth today.

According to the Survey of Minority Owned Business Enterprises (SMORE), while traditional black businesses like restaurants and grocery stores have been losing steam between 1972 and 1997, black-owned business service companies during that same 25-year period grew 867.5%.

Between 1912 and 1938, per the NAACP, the ministry and teaching professions accounted for 73% of all black college graduates.

However, between 1976 and 2000, while the number of blacks earning Bachelor of Science degrees in Education dropped almost 46%, the number of BS degrees in Business shot up 149.2%, and engineering a whopping 232.6%.

In that same period, the number of blacks earning a Master of Business Administration degree exploded by 457.1%, far exceeding the 102.4% by non-Hispanic whites.

TXU, Current To Offer Internet Over Power Lines

TXU Electric Delivery has teamed up with Current Communications Group L.L.C. to provide customers high-speed Internet access via power lines.

TXU Electric, a subsidiary of Dallas-based TXU Corp., will pay Current Communications about \$150 million for 10 years of services. TXU Corp. (NYSE: TXU) also will become an equity holder in Current, a Germantown, Md.-based provider of broadband over power lines.

Under the deal, Current will design, build and operate the "smart grid," which will cover the majority of the TXU Electric Delivery service area -- about 2 million homes and businesses in Dallas-Fort Worth and other communities in Texas.

The network allows advanced digital communication and computing capabilities that provide real-time monitoring through the electric distribution network. The network also will allow TXU Electric to increase network reliability and power quality, prevent, detect and restore customer outages more effectively and implement automated meter reading more efficiently.

Current also will use the

same network to provide

home and businesses broadband and wireless services, including voice, video and high speed Internet access delivered over existing electrical lines by plugging into any

home outlet.

A spokeswoman for Current said the broadband services would be available in Dallas-Fort Worth in late 2006. Prices for broadband services have not been set.

Charter Loses NFL Network

The NFL Network on Jan. 11 pulled its signal from Charter Communications, the cable company confirmed Tuesday.

The NFL Network is a cable channel dedicated to the National Football League and professional football. Charter was the first multiple cable-system operator to carry the network, signing a deal in January 2004. Charter said it lacks a digital basic tier where it could move the NFL Network, according to Charter's executive vice president of programming,

Lamont confirmed that the signal went down Monday morning.

"We have a great many sports programming offerings that are live," instead of taped sporting events, she told the Business Journal.

Charter was the first multiple cable-system operator to carry the network, signing a deal in January 2004. Charter said it lacks a digital basic tier where it could move the NFL Network, according to Charter's executive vice president of programming,

Sue Hamilton, told the trade newsletter that Charter takes "the enforcement of favorable positions in its carriage agreements" very seriously, and the company couldn't agree to the terms demanded by the network.

St. Louis-based Charter Communications Inc. (Nasdaq: CHTR) is the nation's third-largest cable television provider, and also provides digital video programming and high-speed Internet access. Charter serves customers in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Perot Lands Outsourcing Deal With Howard University

Perot Systems Corp. has inked a 10-year deal to provide information technology and revenue cycle outsourcing services for Howard University's physician services group.

Financial terms of the deal were not disclosed.

Dallas-based Perot (NYSE: PER) will fund, implement and operate Allscripts' elec-

tronic medical record software suite for the university's Faculty Practice Plan.

The collaborative agreement allows the university to speed up the adoption of the electronic health record software and allows the Faculty Practice Plan the ability to address funding, implementation and benefits issues.

Allscripts, part of Chicago-

based Allscripts Healthcare Solutions Inc. (Nasdaq: MDXY), provides clinical software, connectivity and information software and services to physicians.

More than 200 physicians are affiliated with Howard's faculty practice. The Washington, D.C.-based historically black university is one of country's oldest teaching universities.

Dick Gregory Page 1

sequently overruled due to improper jury selection.

"The Rockefellers, the DuPonts, they could never get the death penalty in this country," said Mr. Gregory. "I am amazed that ignorant black folks are for something [the death penalty] that was designed just for them."

"How stupid do you have to be to believe in Christianity and capital punishment at the same time," he asked. "Jesus wasn't mugged or run over by a chair-or-it was a state ordered execution. It is a white, racist, sexist system that kills people. The State of California killed Toole Williams with a governor that can't even pronounce the state name."

Dick Gregory had the racially mixed crowd alternating between moments of uncontrollable laughter and moments of silent introspection at his keen observations.

He had a comment for a wide range of topics, among his thoughts:

On money: "The person you give your money to is the person you give your power to."

On black people: "Black people need to wake up. We are mad at the wrong white folks. We get mad at the racists we see, we need to be mad at the white folks that set public policy."

On white people: "White is not a color. It is an attitude determined by money. I like the real white folks like, Queen Elizabeth. They don't lie to you,

the tell you straight up how racist they are. White folks are God's creation just like I am-when they piss me off, I go to God about them."

On the King Kong movie: "As a boy, I pulled for the white woman, now I pull for the gorilla. The whole mess is a symbol for a black man raping a white woman."

On black on black crime: "98% of white folks killed in America were killed by white folks. They're not crying about white on white crime. Black on black crime is not the issue, crime is the issue. People commit crime where they live."

On albinos: "What happened to albinos after high school? Every school had one albino, but you don't see them anymore. Where did they go?"

On President Bush: "Bush and his boys done messed with the

tapped people's telephones and everybody went crazy. Me and Minister Farrakhan been saying the first thing for years."

Mr. Gregory left the crowd with some uplifting thoughts.

"Do something different, smile. You can't underestimate the power of prayer to a univer-

sal God. It worked for me when they told me I had cancer. I'm 74 and my wife is 69, and we don't have a prescription between us."

Here's to hoping that Dick Gregory never loses his insightful way of telling us about ourselves.

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Mary J: Mixing Joy And Pain To Uneven Effect

By Rashad D. Ollison

Her hardness is what sold her from the start. And she continues to sell her. So on her new album, *The Breakthrough*, don't be fooled by the demure cover shot of Mary J. Blige. In the silver-toned picture, the Yonkers, N.Y., native seems peaceful.

The look is regal, and it fits. After all, Blige has been known as the "Queen of Hip-Hop Soul" since the release of her 1992 debut, *What's the 411?* On *The Breakthrough*, her seventh album, she even brags about her hit-making status.

But beyond that, Blige wants us to know that she's much happier these days. She's married. The drug abuse, the nasty attitude, the toxic relationships—all of that is behind her. But again, don't be fooled. It's never all good in Blige's hood. For every tune celebrating the joys of newfound love and the resilience of her spirit, there's a naked song of pain and yearning. Those are the type of cuts Blige does well, the wounded-soul numbers in which her rough-around-the-edges voice still manages to convey a concrete-like strength.

The 16-cut album becomes more engaging about midway through with "Good Woman

Down," a mid-tempo anti-feminine number for downtrodden sisters looking for a way out of abusive relationships. In "Take Me as I Am," Blige acknowledges the drama of her past and urges her lover (and her fans) to accept her scars and all.

"Can't Hide From Love," featuring Jay-Z, recalls the beat-heavy, feel-good vibe of such



Blige classics as "Real Love" and "You Bring Me Joy." "MJB Da MVP," which uses the same beat from the Game's "Hate It or Love It," is a shamelessly vain track where the Grammy-winning vocalist boasts about her gold-and-platinum-studded career.

After that totally pointless cut, Blige delivers several stunning, creamy soul numbers that would have been at home on 1999's *Mary*, the singer's most

assured and consistent album to date. With its gentle guitars and swooning layered vocals, "Can't Get Enough" updates the softer side of classic Curtis Mayfield. On the aching "Ain't Really Love," Blige's vocals swirl and burn as she kicks her coldhearted man to the curb. The song is reminiscent of her 1995 hit-the-road-jack anthem, "Not Gon' Cry."

"I Found My Everything," featuring the gifted Raphael Saadiq, marries the down-home churchiness of Candi Staton with the dramatic orchestral swells heard on Diana Ross' early solo records. The blissful song is magnificent, probably Blige's best performance committed to tape. But she returns to brutal emotional honesty on the self-penned "Father in You," in which the vocalist wails about the pain of not having her father around. The album ends with a sanctified version of U2's "One," a duet with Bono.

The Breakthrough is an uneven album. As a whole, it doesn't rank with Blige's best efforts, namely 1994's *My Life* and the aforementioned *Mary*. But the songs on the latter half of the new CD reveal the singer's tremendous growth as an interpreter. Underneath Blige's steeliness is a pearl of a soul singer.

Foxy Brown Says She's Been Deaf For Months

Foxy Brown says she hasn't heard another person's voice in six months and will have surgery early next year to restore her hearing. The 26-year-old rapper was diagnosed with sudden hearing loss in May while she was recording her upcoming album, she told reporters Thursday.



"I ask only for your continued prayers and compassion as I embrace the blessings of my journey," Brown said, her voice at times choking up and tears coming to her eyes. She was accompanied by supporters including Russell Simmons and his wife, Kimora Lee Simmons, and Brown's new lawyer, Joseph Fleming.

Brown's former lawyer, Joseph Tacopina, disclosed her hearing loss last week. He had been asked why they had exchanged notes while waiting in Manhattan Criminal Court for her case to be called on an unresolved 2004 assault charge. The two parties way just days later.

At the news conference, Brown's medical consultant, Laura Aris, refused to give any details on what the surgery would involve, the exact date it would take place, or how long the recovery would be.

Brown said she would return

to recording as soon as possible. "I am racing to the studio the moment that God affords me the opportunity to hear again," she said.

Fleming said he was "cautiously optimistic" that an agreement would be reached with prosecutors prior to her next court appearance on Dec. 23.

Brown, whose real name is Inga Marchand, has refused at least two misdemeanor plea deals that would have let her avoid any jail time for allegedly assaulting two mall salon workers on Aug. 29, 2004, in a fight over payment for a manicure at Bloomingdale's in Manhattan's Chelsea area.

LEGAL NOTICE

These Texas Lottery Commission scratch-off games will close on December 31, 2005. You have until June 29, 2006, to redeem any tickets for these games:

Game #441, \$10 Player's Club Overall Odds are 1 in 2.89	Game #478, \$1 Find The 9's Overall Odds are 1 in 4.85
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Game #542, \$1 Money Jar Overall Odds are 1 in 4.81	Game #548, \$1 Happy Anniversary Overall Odds are 1 in 4.76
Game #556, \$5 Cash Win-Fall Overall Odds are 1 in 3.39	
Game #584, \$1 Gimme 5 Overall Odds are 1 in 4.83	



The odds listed here are the overall odds of winning any prize in a game, including break-even prizes. Lottery retailers are authorized to redeem prizes of up to and including \$500. Prizes of \$500 or more must be claimed in person at a Lottery Claim Center or by mail with a completed Texas Lottery claim form; however, annuity prizes or prizes over \$999,999 must be claimed in person at the Commission Headquarters in Austin. Call Customer Service at 1-800-371-0770 or visit the Lottery Web site at www.texaslottery.com for more information and location of nearest Claim Center. The Texas Lottery is not responsible for lost or stolen tickets, or for tickets lost in the mail. Tickets, transactions, players, and winners are subject to, and players and winners agree to abide by, all applicable laws, Commission rules, regulations, policies, directives, instructions, conditions, procedures, and final decisions of the Executive Director. A scratch-off game may continue to be sold even when all the top prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 years of age or older to purchase a Texas Lottery ticket. Play Responsibly. Remember, it's just a game. The Texas Lottery supports Texas education. © 2005 Texas Lottery Commission. All Rights Reserved.

Jazz Great David 'Fathead' Newman In Concert At UTD

Texas' jazz legend David "Fathead" Newman will perform at The University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) on Saturday, January 14 at 8 p.m. in UTD's Conference Center Auditorium. Fee support for the concert is provided by the Carl J. Thomsen Fund for Student Enrichment.

Performing with Newman will be UTD faculty member Kelly Durbin on piano, as well as popular local musicians James Gilyard on bass and Andrew Griffith on drums.

Newman has worked as a studio musician with artists such as Hank Crawford, Aretha Franklin, Aaron Neville and Herbie Mann. While touring in the 1940s, he met Ray Charles. Newman went on to play with the Ray Charles Band for 12 years. He has appeared on David Sanborn's *Night Music*, David Letterman and Saturday Night Live.

Newman has recorded albums with Franklin, Ben E. King, Natalie Cole and B.B. King. The Washington Post calls his most recent CD, *I Remember Brother Ray*, a "sincere, evocative and soulful homage" to the late Charles.



Newman, portrayed by actor Bokeem Woodbine, was featured in the recent movie, *Ray*, for which Jamie Foxx received an Oscar.

A graduate of the University

of North Texas, Durbin's professional credits include work with James Clay, Chuck Rainey, Billy Hart, Lynn Seaton, Hank Crawford, Sebastian Whitaker and Roseanne Vitro. Gilyard, who has more than 39 years of performing experience, has recorded four albums and was nominated for Jazz Artist of the Year in a 1996 Dallas Observer reader's poll. Linda Jones of The Dallas Morning News' Guide Live called Griffith "a fixture in the rhythm sections of notable Dallas jazz veterans."

Tickets for the concert are \$20 for general admission and free at the door to UTD students with a valid identification. Office hours for advance purchase are from 2 to 5 p.m. Mondays to Fridays. To purchase tickets using Visa, MasterCard or Discover, please call 972-883-2552.

More information about the concert can be found at <http://ah.utdallas.edu/season0506/newman.htm>.

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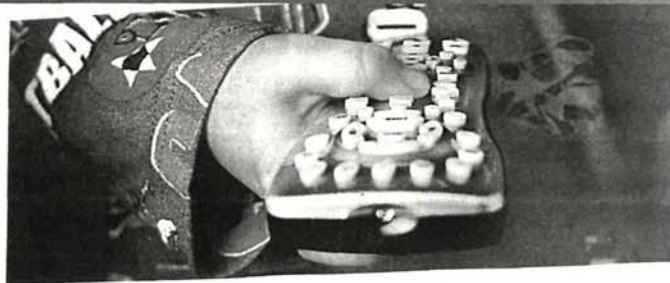
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Survivors Remember The Tulsa Race Riots Of 1921

By: Tina Susman

Eighty-five years ago, allegations that a black man had tried to assault a white woman in a city elevator spurred hundreds of whites to attack what was one of the country's most prosperous black communities, a bustling neighborhood called Greenwood.

Wees Young was only 3, but he still remembers his mother rousing him from bed in the middle of the night, and the gunshots crackling like fireworks as they ran through the burning streets to escape the riot. Otis Clark, who was 18, recalls blood spraying across him when a friend was shot in the hand as they tried to flee in an ambulance from a local funeral home.

Today, the two are among fewer than 100 known survivors of the May 31-June 1, 1921 riot, for which no one was punished and no reparations ever paid, despite the loss of hundreds of lives, businesses and fortunes. With survivors dying off, activists

are hoping to change that, spurred not only by the justice done to riot victims, but also by the plight of Hurricane Katrina's mainly poor, black survivors, who they say are a reminder that the inequality of 1921 isn't a thing of the past.

"It's still here. We're still marginal," said Eddie Faye Gates, a Tulsa writer and retired teacher who has tracked down and interviewed scores of riot survivors. "There's still the racial litmus test."

So far, survivors' attempts to get compensation through legal action have failed. A grand jury convened in the immediate aftermath of the riot blamed blacks for inciting the violence and refused to indict any whites. In 2003, survivors and descendants filed suit against the city and state seeking reparations, but U.S. District Court Judge James Ellison, while lamenting "the tragedy of the riot," dismissed it on the grounds that too much time had passed. An

appellate court upheld the decision. In May, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear the case, leading Global Rights to turn to the Organization of American States.



Mt. Zion Baptist Church burns after being torched by white mobs during the 1921 Tulsa race riot.

With the loss of survivors, the case has a unique sense of urgency. In 1999, when Gates began searching for survivors, more than 200 were alive. Now, there are about 95.

Back in 1921, Tulsa was an oil boomtown, and Greenwood, a 30-square-block area north of downtown, just over the railroad tracks from the white section, was part of the boom. The neighborhood

and in later years, "Black Wall Street."

By all accounts, the trouble began on the evening of May 31, 1921, after a black man, Dick Rowland, allegedly stepped on the foot of Sarah Page, a white woman, as he entered an elevator, causing her to scream. Rowland was jailed on suspicion of assault, and tempers flared when blacks and whites gathered at the jail, amid rumors he was to be lynched.

Four months later, the case against Rowland was dropped after Page declined to press charges.

When the rioters crossed the railway tracks into Greenwood, Venice Dunn Sims, then 21, was standing outside her house. "All at once, bullets began dropping into our yard," she told Gates in 1999.

Survivors tell of whites kicking down doors of homes and businesses, torching the buildings and firing guns wildly at the fleeing blacks. "They tore up our little city.

The folks went crazy, shooting up black people," Clark, now 102, said in an interview with Newsday.

He and Young, who also spoke to Newsday, remember the devastation after the riot ended.

"There wasn't nothing but ashes," said Young, 88.

Young, a retired machinist, and his wife, Cathryn, are adamant that all the survivors or their descendants deserve reparations. "The reparations won't erase what has been done, but it's an apology," Cathryn Young said. "They've apologized to everyone else," she added, referring in particular to Japanese-Americans held in camps during World War II.

Her husband agreed, saying reparations would not only send an apology, but bring the tragedy into the open, where it belongs. "It's history," he said. "And if you don't know your history, you'll keep making the same mistakes."

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Brothers Plan Fla. Paper For Blacks

They hope to have 300,000 copies in circulation in '06.

By: Eric Duggan

Glenn Cherry still remembers the reaction from a group of white publishers when he broached the idea of creating Florida's first statewide, black-focused newspaper.

"They said, 'Who?' " recalled Glenn Cherry, who serves as general manager of WTSP-TV 11.50 AM in Tampa and president CEO of Tampa Broadcasting, the state's largest black-owned media company. "It's an expense they don't see as a revenue source. But when you put the numbers down and you think about it - (advertisers) could make one stop and capture so many people."

Working with his brother Charles, Glenn Cherry has developed plans for a weekly paper called the Florida Courier, which would circulate across the state with black-focused news from a multitude of communities. Initially, the Cherry's hope to get

100,000 copies, circulated in five markets: Tampa, St. Petersburg, Orlando, Jacksonville, Tallahassee and Fort Lauderdale. With Palm Beach, Miami, by the end of 2006, they plan to have 300,000 copies available each week.

At a time when few newspaper chains have announced space cutbacks, shrinking circulation numbers and massive layoffs, the Cherry brothers will stake their family-owned company's future on a corner of the media business increasingly seen as untapped and in decline.

In the process, they will create a type of publication that exists almost nowhere else in the nation - a statewide newspaper focused on Florida's nearly 5 million black people.

"Once word gets out in the community, we think there will be demand for it," said Charles Cherry II, who will supervise content and distribution, while brother Glenn focuses on advertising sales.

"Black folks, for example, are disproportionately affected by Taser deaths," added Cherry, who currently serves as publisher of the Daytona Times and the Florida



Dr. Glenn Cherry, President and CEO of Tampa Broadcasting

Courier, two black-focused newspapers (combined circulation: 25,000), owned by Tampa Broadcasting. "We think we can provide a much wider look at issues which nobody else in the state is bothering to do."

Stories in the prototype range from a profile of singer Jethro Osbourne to a look at Daytona-area businesses helping victims of Hurricane Katrina.

One nod to the old school: a cheese cake photo of a bikini-clad woman just above the weather map on the first section's back page. See an online version of each section from at www.flourner.com.

To make this venture work, the brothers must craft deals in three zones to print the newspaper: South Florida, West Florida and North Central. Their editorial staff alone must expand from eight people now at their current papers to a network of 25 to 30 people - mostly freelancers.

They expect to circulate the paper for at least three months, distributing copies at grocery stores and barber shops while cultivating subscription delivery by mail in hopes advertisers will soon see the value of a statewide reach. And though the Cherry's wouldn't release specific cost figures - they plan to finance the venture themselves - one media analyst predicted such a project could cost anywhere from \$5 million to \$10 million.

There are lots of potential advertisers out there who have not utilized the black press," said Glenn Cherry, who estimated about 1.8 million black people live in the five metropolitan areas they have targeted. "The Wal-Mart's, the Targets, the Walgreens you see them sporadically in the black press because circulation numbers aren't large enough for them. We've had conversations with sponsors who have shown a lot of interest."

While some Spanish-language newspapers in different markets have attempted to unify their advertising and content, few black-focused publications have tried anything similar. And with at least 20 black-focused newspapers already in Florida, the competition may be steep.

"It's going to be hard to crack these cities which already have established African-American publications," and informant editor Gloris Campbell Jr. "Unless they offer something unique, with some unique information they're going to be wasting paper and ink, and eventually a lot of money."

Flood Aid Page 1

possibility of foreclosures because the storm destroyed or damaged their houses.

The vote, which may come as early as Wednesday, could bring as much as \$11.5 billion to these uninsured flood victims in Mississippi and Louisiana.

Adam Sharp, a spokesman for Sen. Mary Landrieu, D-La., said this is the first time the government has done this.

"I believe it's unprecedented, but it's also an unprecedented disaster," he said. "The homes in question did not have flood insurance. The reason is, because the federal government told them they didn't need it."

The relief still faces serious hurdles in the Senate, but it was tacked onto a broad \$453 billion defense budget bill. That bill also includes several unrelated measures that are controversial and could bring down the whole bill, including authorization to drill for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska and compromise language for a ban on cruel treatment of terrorism detainees.

Most Democrats oppose the ANWR provision, but it has support from both Republicans and Democrats in Louisiana. If drilling is approved, it would bring federal oil revenues to the

Gulf Coast

"Cutting ANWR would mean cutting about \$6 billion in hurricane protection and coastal restoration in Louisiana," Sharp said.

The pending relief plan, led by Sen. Thad Cochran, R-Miss., would set aside \$11.5 billion in the form of Community Development Block Grants to the affected states.

The grants give the states considerable flexibility on how to use them. Mississippi officials have said they plan to use the grants to bail out homeowners who didn't purchase flood insurance because the government didn't force them to buy it.

That would mean homeowners could receive up to \$150,000 for repairing or replacing their flood-ravaged homes despite not having flood insurance.

Louisiana officials say they

intend to use at least a portion of their grant money for the same purpose. Sen. Landrieu's spokesperson said some of the money also would likely be used to rebuild damaged infrastructure.

The proposal to bail out homeowners without flood insurance would help thousands of storm victims currently facing the possibility of foreclosures. Some banks in the Gulf Coast have been lenient on late mortgage payments but have not decided when they will stop making concessions.

According to data released by the Census Bureau and FEMA published in The New York Times, the percentage of homes with flood insurance in counties affected by Katrina varied: In Louisiana, it ranged from 57.7 percent to 7 percent of people in affected areas; in Mississippi, 23.4 percent to 10.4 percent; and in Alabama, 23.5 percent in 3.9 percent.

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Church News

To Meet Such A Man (Part 2)



Sister Tarpley

This is Part 2 of my column from last week, with the Christmas Holidays, and 2005 coming to a close; Christians can pause and think of their purpose in life.

What seemed to be a homeless man walking into town, however, after a townsman learned the man's story he discovered that the stranger wasn't homeless; he was on a mission and lived this way by choice.

The townsman asked, "What's it like to walk into a town carrying all your things on your back and showing your sign that reads, 'I will work for food?' "It was humiliating at first; people stared and made comments. Someone once tossed a half-eaten bread slice and made a gesture I didn't feel welcome. Then it became humbling to realize that God used me to touch lives and change people's concepts of other folks like me."

We finished our dessert and gathered his things. Outside Daniel said, "Come Ye blessed of my Father and inherit the kingdom I've prepared for you. For when I was hungry you gave me food, when I was thirsty you gave me drink, a stranger and you took me

in." "Could you use another Bible?" I asked. "Yes, but I prefer a certain translation, it travels well and it isn't too heavy, I've read through it 14 times," Daniel said.

At the church I found a Bible that would work for him; he seemed very grateful.

"Where're you headed Daniel?" "I found this map on the back of an Amusement Park coupon; I figured



Picture of The Week
(L to R) Flo Davis, Ruth Carter, and Sherry Gumbrell with Sister Tarpley enjoying Christmas Activities.

that someone there needs a Bible; that's where I'm going."

The warmth of his spirit radiated the sincerity of his mission. Driving back to the town-square it started raining. We unloaded his things. "Would you sign my autograph book?" He asked. "I like to keep messages from folks I meet."

I wrote that Daniel's commitment to his calling had touched my life; and to stay strong. I left him with a scripture from Jeremiah, "I know the plans I have for you, declared the Lord. 'Plans to prosper you and not to harm you; plans to give you a future and a hope.'"

"Thanks," he said. "We just met and we're strangers, but I love you." I said, "I love you too; the Lord is good." "How long has it been since someone has hugged you?" "A long time," he replied. On the busy corner, in the rain, my new friend and I embraced.

He put his things on his back, flashed his winning smile and said, "I'll see you in the New Jerusalem." "I'll be there!" was my reply. As he walked away with his sign and Bibles, he said, "When you see something that makes you think of me, will you pray for me?" "You bet," I shouted, "God bless." That was the last I saw of him.

I left my office that evening, the cold front had settled on the town. In my car, I reached for the brakes and saw a pair of well-worn gloves that was neatly laid. I wondered if my friend hands would stay warm that night. Then I remembered his words, "If you see something that makes you think of me, will you pray for me?"

Today his gloves lie on my desk. They help me to see people in a new way; they help me remember my unique friend; I pray for his ministry. "See you in the New Jerusalem," he said. "Yes, Daniel, I know I will..."

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Day O'Connor. She has often seen the swing vote on abortion, the death penalty, affirmative action and other contentious issues.

"The members of the CBC are concerned about Judge Alito's opinions, many in dissent, in race cases where his decisions have disproportionately affected African-Americans," said Rep. Mel Watt, D-N.C., the caucus chairman.

"We are troubled by what appears to be a very conservative judicial philosophy that seems greatly at odds with much of 20th century constitutional jurisprudence," Watt said.

A group of Democratic House women also planned to announce their opposition to Alito on Thursday, along with the National Women's Law Center.

Republicans want a confirmation vote for Alito by Jan. 20th.

CBC Opposes Alito Page 1

Thursday its opposition to Alito. It also opposed the nomination of now-Chief Justice John Roberts, but waited until his confirmation hearings to announce that position. Alito's hearing begins Jan. 9.

President Bush nominated the 55-year-old federal appeals court judge on Oct. 31. If confirmed by the Republican-controlled Senate, Alito would succeed retiring Justice Sandra

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December 24, 6:00 pm
The public is welcome to join us for our Home for Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Services.

December 25, 10:00 am
Please join us for our Christmas Morning Worship Service.

December 31, 5:00 pm
The public is welcome to join us for our New Year's Eve Worship Service.

All Nations UMC in Plano
Dr. Clara M. Reed, Senior Pastor
3415 East 14th Street
Plano, TX 75074
972-424-8500

COALITION OF CHURCHES IN PRISON MINISTRY
On-Going Mentor Program

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

Coalition of Churches in Prison Ministry
Rev. Isaac Johnson, Coordinator
P.O. Box 215863
Dallas, TX 75222-5863
972-235-6432 or 214-632-6519

EBENEZER WORSHIP CENTER
December 25, 11:00 am
We are inviting the public to join us for our Christmas Worship Service
Monday's Starting January 2006
Please join us each Monday for our Women of Power and Men of Power Services.

Ebenezer Worship Center
Rev. Cecil T. Smith, II, Pastor
14000 Preston Road
Dallas, TX 75254
972-980-0977

FELLOWSHIP OF BELIEVERS MINISTRIES
December 24, 2005

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

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

KELLER SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH
December 25, 10:00 am

We extend a warm welcome to the community an invitation to worship with us on Christmas Day. Please join us for Christmas Morning Worship at this special time to celebrate the birth of Jesus. 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

MESQUITE FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH
Every 2nd & 4th Sunday
Blood Pressure screening is available to all after the 11:00 am Service.

December 31, 10:00 pm
Please join us at our Annual Watch Night Services as we prepare to close out 2005 reflecting on God's Grace and usher in 2006 remembering His promises. For more information contact Rev. Leon Moore @ 972-329-5030, Ext. 28.

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

MT. OLIVE CHURCH OF PLANO
December 24, 11:00 am

We cordially invite you, the entire Plano Community, to be a part of a monumental day. Our church will officially open our brand new youth facility, THE AYC CENTER located across from the church @ 740 Avenue F. Please come and join us.

Mt. Olive Church of Plano
Rev. Sam Fenceroy, Senior Pastor
740 Avenue K
Plano, TX 75074
972-633-5511

Church Happenings Page 12

MICHELLE'S FIRST LADY FASHION BOUTIQUE
Men & Women Leather Jackets
Now Available
\$49.99 & up
Ask us how your First Lady, Church Choir, Praise Team, or Usher Ministry can save 10% - 20% on each purchase.
2305 South Business Hwy 121, Suite 138
Lewisville, Texas 75067
Wednesday - Thursday 10:00 am - 7:00 pm
Friday - Saturday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Call for Holiday Hours
For more information call 972-956-0030
Or visit our website at: www.firstlady-fashions.com

St. John Baptist Church
1701 W. Jefferson St., Grand Prairie, Texas 75051
2805 Market Loop, Suite 300, Southlake, Texas 76092
Denny D. Davis, Servant
One Church - Two Locations
Four Morning Worship Services
7:00 A.M. • 9:30 A.M. • 10:00 A.M. and 11:15 A.M.
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.

New Orleans Chief Says 60 Officers Fired

The city's new police chief said he's focused on dealing with officers who deserted their posts after Hurricane Katrina and those who broke the law instead of enforcing it.

Chief Warren Riley defends the majority of his 1,500 officers. But hundreds left the city without permission in the days after the hurricane.

A few rogue cops caused trouble and stirred public uneasiness and mistrust, he acknowledged in an interview Thursday with The Associated Press.

"It's my opinion that only 40 or 50 people, and hopefully some of them are gone, that really makes this department have a bad reputation," said Riley, who was appointed interim chief when Eddie Compass resigned a month after the storm.

The desertions, allegations of theft and looting and the videotaped beating of a retired teacher by police in the French Quarter tarnished the department's reputation. The officers accused of the beating will be tried next month. Allegations

of looting and theft are being investigated.

The FBI and federal drug enforcement agents will help train the department in behavior and leadership skills starting in January, Riley said.

In the meantime, he has fired 60 officers and suspended more than 25 others who didn't show up for duty after Katrina struck



Chief Warren Riley

Aug. 29, leaving much of the city under water and in chaos. Fifty-one of the fired officers were let go before the hearings began, Riley said.

The 228 officers now involved in disciplinary hearings left New Orleans without permission, the chief said.

"They did return," Riley said. "But they left without permis-

sion, and at a critical time like this, it's totally unacceptable."

Officers missing for 14 days are being fired. Absences under 14 days result in a suspension, Riley said.

Officials have completed 42 of the 228 disciplinary hearings, Riley said. The hearings resulted in two officers listed as AWOL have been exonerated, he said.

The desertion hearings should be done by the end of February, and the three officers arrested for beating the teacher will be tried Jan. 11.

Officials are also investigating a shooting five days after the hurricane in which police confronted seven people on a bridge after workers in boats reported gunshots aimed in their direction. Six people on the bridge were shot, two fatally.

The state attorney general's office and the police are also investigating the theft of vehicles from a dealership. Police say some were used for rescues and patrols after the department lost 300 vehicles to flooding. But one former officer faces federal charges after he was caught in Texas with one of the vehicles.

recognition for our efforts."

In recognition of their achievements, the top-ranked cities were honored by the Center for Digital Government and the National League of Cities at the NLC Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina on December 8, 2005. The leading cities will be profiled in Government Technology magazine and on the Web sites of NLC and the Center.

Top Digital City Page 1

ment by local officials to view technology as a key element in delivering vital citizen services.

"This is the third year that Denton has participated in the Digital Cities Survey and the third year we have won a top award. Participation in this survey allows us to continue to evaluate where we are compared to other cities," said Mayor Brock. "It is great to see that we have again received national

recognition for our efforts."

In recognition of their achievements, the top-ranked cities were honored by the Center for Digital Government and the National League of Cities at the NLC Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina on December 8, 2005. The leading cities will be profiled in Government Technology magazine and on the Web sites of NLC and the Center.

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

Church Happenings

Church Happenings Page 11

NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Join Us at Our New Worship Location:
"New Service Times"
Sunday: Life Bible School - Sundays @ 9:00 am
Sunday Life Worship Service - Sundays @ 10:00 am
Life In The Word Prayer & Bible Study - Wednesdays @ 7:00 pm
For more information, please call 972-671-1096

New Life Fellowship Church
Bishop Miller E. Johnson, Jr.
Senior Pastor
New Worship Location:
Wyndham Garden Hotel-Park Central
8051 LBJ Freeway
Dallas, TX 75251
972-671-1096

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

NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP IN RICHARDSON

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

For more details about this wonderful project, please contact Juanita Lee, Administrative Assistant at 972-437-3801 or call Toll Free at 1-800-370-0351 (376-2747)

North Dallas Community Bible Fellowship in Richardson
Dr. Leslie W. Smith,
Senior Pastor

1010-1020 South Sherman Street
Richardson, TX 75081
972-437-3491

RHEMA LIFE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Tuesdays, 7:00 pm
Please join us and bring a friend as we study Women of The Word in our Truth on Tuesday Bible Study Night.

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

ST. ANDREW CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

December 28 - 30, 7:30 pm
The public is invited to help us usher in the New Year at our End-of-the-Year Revival. We will kick-off a FREE four-day celebration, (The Gathering) our theme is "Prepare for the Outpouring," Joel 2:25-29. Our guest speakers will be Sheryl K. Randolph, Living Word Ministries COGIC, Chattanooga, TN; Pastor Reginald Jordan, Inspiring Temple of Praise, Fort Worth, TX; Pastor Corby Bush, Sr., Greater Harvest COGIC, Dallas, TX; and our Interim Pastor Michael McWilliams. Daryl Collins, Praise and Worship Leader, Agape Temple COGIC, Lubbock, TX will perform for our End-of-the-Year Revival

St. Andrew COGIC
Elder Michael McWilliams,
Interim Pastor
608 Lakey Street
Denton, TX 76205
940-566-0834 or
940-243-3797 (metro)

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@ibocglobal.net
Mondays, 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 (4262)

TRINITY PRAYER CHAPEL

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

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

WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH, LEWISVILLE

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

Faithway Fellowship Baptist Church
Of Hamilton Park
8219 Bunche Dr. Dallas, TX 75243
Church Office: (972) 792-6239
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

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

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

Website: www.ibocjoy.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Church School
9:45 a.m. Praise & Worship
10:15 a.m. Worship Experience

Tuesday: 7:15 pm Bible Study

Wednesday: 6:30 pm Praise Service
7:00 pm Church School

Thursday: 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Reverend Charles E. Franklin, Pastor

OPEN BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Sunday Services
9:00 am - Prayer Ministry
9:30 am - Sunday School
10:45 am - Morning Worship & Children's Church

Tuesday Service
7:00 pm - Bible Study

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

2701 Briarwood Drive Y Plano, TX 75074
972-422-4248

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

Sunday
Education Ministries... 9:30 a.m.
Worship Celebration... 11:00 am.
- 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
smarkmissionary@aol.com

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

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

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

704 E. Almee Street • P.O. Box 903 • Forney, Texas 75126
Phone: 214-325-7021
Fax: 214-371-8922 or 214-372-2135
Email: thewordcuts@yahoo.com

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"

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

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 940466 • Plano, TX 75094-0466
972-671-1096 (Church)
A Place of New Beginnings... 11:15

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.