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A Division of

**MON**  
Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

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# The Gazette

"North Dallas' Weekly Paper of Choice"

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On the Homefront:

Heard Natural Science and Wildlife Sanctuary in McKinney offers a peek at nature after dark on January 18, starting at 6:30 p.m. and 7:45 p.m. Past night hikers have heard owls, coyotes, beavers, assorted frogs peeping and croaking, and other animals that are not active in the light of day. Open to adventurers ages 6 and up. Admission: \$7 per person, \$5 for Heard Museum members. Reservations and pre-payment required. Call 972.562.5566, ext. 236.

Guns and Hoses, January 18, Mesquite Arena at 6:00 p.m. - boxing tournament and benefit with proceeds benefiting: Garland Police Youth Boxing Program, Garland Fire Department Youth Christmas Program, Benevolent fund for police officers/firefighters killed in the line of duty. Call 972.205.2623.

Garland Civic Theatre presents "To Kill A Mockingbird" at the Performing Arts Center, January 16-18, 23-26, 30-31. Call 972.205.2790 for tickets.

The US Postal Service is alerting 12th grade students in the Dallas and Denton Independent School Districts about several \$1,000 Thurgood Marshall scholarships available through a Thurgood Marshall Essay Contest. Deadline for submission is January 22, 2003. For more information, call Willie Russell at 469-371-4933.

Dallas Area Train Show, January 18 and 19, at Plano Centre, Spring Creek and Jupiter Roads, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Model train shows with operating layouts, dealer displays and flea market. 'How-to' clinics and videos running both days. Admission \$6 per person - Children under 12 free. For more information contact Dave at 817.909.1793 or visit: www.WiringForDCC.com/plano/trainshow.htm

City of McKinney Hosts Homebuyer Seminar, January 25, from 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at The McKinney Memorial Public Library Dulaney Room. The event is free. For more information, please contact the City of McKinney Housing Services Dept. at 972-547-7519 or metro 972-562-6080, ext. 7519.

Garland NAACP presents and Education Forum, Tuesday, January 28, 7:00 p.m. at the Garland's Women's Activity Bldg., 713 Austin St. Garland, TX. Learn about the opportunities for Advanced Placement and The Rising Star Program. For more information, call the GNAACP at 972-381-0544.

## The McKinney/Fairview Airport Debate

By Belinda Alexander

A short time ago, two communities involved in a long time dispute have finally arrived at a workable solution. McKinney and Fairview found a place of agreement regarding their disagreements over the McKinney Municipal Airport. The two communities have been engaged in a heated dispute over a possible airport expansion with

Fairview on the opposition. Officials gladly announced that they are backing off from all legal proceedings the towns had against each other. Fearing that the property values and quiet lifestyles would be ruined, Fairview had filed a federal lawsuit against the FAA. They hoped to force the government to put a stop on construction, but each community seemed to

grow more inflexible while drifting farther apart on understanding the true issues.

The two cities became involved in this grievance over 12 years ago. McKinney argued the positive economic benefit of an expanded airport versus Fairview concerns on issues with the ecology and quality of life. Officials of Fairview added fuel to the debate when the

town purchased 200 acres of land just south of the airport. They said this move was in effort to guard the interests of Fairview residents by preventing additional airport development in that area.

Fairview officials have taken every opportunity to make their feelings known about possible airport expansion. There have been citizens on both 'pro and

con' sides of this sensitive subject. The issue has been brought up during Commissioner's Court and also at McKinney Airport Board meetings. Citizens against expansion voice concerns of property devaluation whereas some other citizens raised concerns by petitioning for a rollback election when city tax rates were doubled in

See McKinney/Fairview page 6

## Former Plano Senior High School Student Continues to Achieve Academic Excellence

By Lakeesha Joe

Once selected as "Who's Who Among American High School Students", Andrea Michelle Smith strives to maintain academic excellence while attending her third year in college.

Andrea Smith, a graduate of Plano Senior High School and currently a student at Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, Florida, is truly an outstanding student. Andrea graduated from Plano High School in 2000 with Honors and was also named as a National Achievement Scholar Finalist by the National Merit Corporation.

During her years at Plano High School, Andrea was active in school and the community while maintaining a very high grade point average. She participated in such activities as the Plano Drill Team, the National Honor Society, and the Toastmaster Youth Leadership Program. Andrea also served as a Math tutor for the Hamilton Park United Methodist Church Enrichment and Tutorial Program.

When I asked Andrea how she was able to maintain such a high GPA and juggle other activities, she said that a lot of the credit goes to being in the Plano School District.

"The Plano School District is very competitive and they set you up with the tools that you need to be successful," Andrea said.

Andrea entered Florida A&M University after she accepted their Distinguished Scholar Award, which granted her a full four-year academic scholarship. She also



Andrea Michelle Smith

received scholarships from the Columbia/HCA Foundation, the Raytheon Scholars Program, and the Plano Community Forum.

Set to graduate in Spring 2003, a year early, from Florida A&M's four year Psychology program, Andrea already has her sights set on entering a Doctorate program in Psychology.

"Florida A&M doesn't have a doctorate program in psychology so I have already applied to several different doctorate programs, which include Emory University in Atlanta," said Andrea.

Andrea said that she chose Psychology as her major because it is always something that held her interest.

See Andrea Smith page 5

## Remember Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. And Dare to Dream

By Belinda G. Alexander

On what would be the seventy-fourth birthday for Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., His name is plastered on all the 'Holiday' specials and any opportunity to make a sale. Like many Holidays in America, the initial idea has been buried in commercialism. We have become accustomed to many of these as reasons to take a day off or even sadder, many see it as no reason to take off. Since the third Monday of each January is now designated, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, there have been many viewpoints to discount or support the importance of this Holiday.

TO CELEBRATE or NOT

Dr. King was truly a great personality, preacher and professor, protestor, a subject of controversy while some refer to him as a prophet. However, the 'person' was the important part of who he was has been left out of many of the Holiday 'specials'. If it were not for some churches and organizations that remind us of the words and works of MLK, many young people would have no idea who this great man was.

The King family has their view of when where and how the special words and speeches of the Reverend should be used. There is controversy in commentary on a subject he stood for—that is—"freedom of speech" and the rights that should accompany that. The King family has shown reluctance to support some events and programs that use the personality of Dr. King. There are some instances in which they argue the right to charge for the use of the "I have a Dream" speech and the documented life and times of the Dr. King. This has been labeled 'appalling' and distasteful by many, however, is it any worse than the many special events said to recognize and

See Martin Luther King, Jr. page 4



## The Knights of Dunbar Proudly Present Six Debutantes To Society

By: Monica Thornton

"Once upon a time in a land far, far away, 27 wise, brave and noble knights set out on a quest to find a maiden pure in thought and deed, with unmatched beauty, intelligence, charm and grace. And they found six maidens worthy of presentation to the lords and ladies of the land."

T. J. Johnson, Mistress of Ceremony, began the presentation of the Knights of Dunbar Social and Charity Club, and their presentation of six debutantes for the season.

The Regal Ballroom in the Fairmont Hotel, Dallas helped set the atmosphere for this fairy tale evening, full of charm and grace, with men in tuxedos and ladies in long sequined gowns. Guests watched the six debutantes glide across the stage in their white evening gowns sweeping over the

floor. Then each debutante was escorted to curtsy for her sponsors, and to bow before her parents.

The debutantes and their escorts then started the dancing for the evening with "The Debutantes' Waltz," and dancing continued late into the evening, with guests breaking only for the evening's meal.

Debutante Lawanna Evans, 19, who was escorted by Brandon Malik Jamison of Plano, said the debutantes got along together immediately, and quickly developed a sisterhood.

"The second day of practice we knew we would look out for each other," said Evans.

Evans is studying at the University of North Texas.

See Dunbar Debutantes page 5  
See Community Spotlight page 2



The Waltz Cotillion

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# The Knights of Dunbar Proudly Present Six Debutantes To Society



Top L-R: John Tatum, Mr. & Mrs. Johnson and Vera Gibbs  
Bottom L-R: Mr. & Mrs. Hendricks, Myrtle Hightower and John Hightower



L-R: Indra Denise Smithers, Joy Ellen Forte, Kendra Renee Thomas, LaWanna Diane Evans, Crystal Inez Harold and Jessica Fae Dotson



Kendra Renee Thomas



Brandon Malik Jamison and LaWanna Evans



Crystal Inez Harold



Joy Ellen Forte



Bruce Weaver, security & Safety Officer for Dunbar and Brandon Malik Jamison, escort to LaWanna Evans



Debutantes, Escorts, and Debutante's parents dancing



Jessica Dotson and her family and friends



LaWanna Evans bows to her parents



Crystal Inez Harold



Lew Lewis, Co-coordinator (Dunbar member)



Lee Jones (Dunbar Member)

## Parkland Community Health Plan celebrates Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

1929 Born January 15, 1929

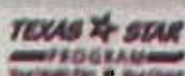
1957 Founds Southern Christian Leadership Conference advocating nonviolent struggle against racism

1963 Organizes March on Washington supporting proposed civil rights legislation



1964 Awarded Nobel Peace Prize

1983 Birthday declared a national holiday



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# THE TRUTH CLINIC

## New Studies Paint Bleak Picture of Minority Health Care

By James W. Breedlove

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' national initiative to eliminate racial and ethnic disparities in health by 2010 may be in trouble. Two groundbreaking reports on the status of minority health care in America present correlating evidence that the gap of unequal health care between White Americans and Americans of color may be even wider and deeper than experts had originally believed.

The first study *Unequal Treatment: Confronting Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care*, sponsored by the Department of Health and Human Services and conducted by the Institute of Medicine, shows that racial and ethnic minorities in this country tend to receive lower-quality health care than whites do, even when their insurance status, income, age and severity of conditions are comparable. There were also disparities in treating such deadly conditions as heart disease, cancer and HIV infection are partly responsible for higher death rates for Americans of color. Examples that support these conclusions include:

Compared to whites, minorities are less likely to be given appropriate cardiac medications, undergo bypass surgery, receive kidney dialysis and transplants, get appropriate cancer diagnostics tests and treatment or have access to the most sophisticated treatments for HIV.

Minority patients are more likely to receive certain less-desirable medical procedures, such as lower limb amputations for diabetes.

Even when they are insured at the same levels as whites, minorities are less likely to enjoy a consistent relationship with a

primary care physician, in part because of the lack of doctors in many minority communities.

Similar findings resulted from the study *Diverse Communities, Common Concerns: Assessing Health Care Quality for Minority Americans* by The Commonwealth Fund, a private foundation supporting independent research on health issues. It concluded, "Minority Americans lag behind whites in nearly every measure of health care."

Former U.S. Surgeon General M. Joycelyn Elders echoed this theme as she challenged doctors to get out of their "comfort zones" and help bridge the distressingly wide gap in the health status between white and black Americans.

Speaking at a research ethics conference at Meharry Medical College, Elders noted that African-American women were 30 percent more likely to die from breast cancer than were white women, even when they had the same education level and insurance coverage. The difference? White women were more likely to be offered corrective surgery and different treatment plans by their doctors.

"Why is AIDS rising so rapidly in the black community?" she continued. "We learned how to reach white, educated, gay males, and we targeted all of our efforts to that group."

The problem is, we didn't tailor the message to fit the (African-American) population."

"Some realignment of the national research agenda is needed if we are to bridge the gap in health disparities," said Dr. Ponjola Coney, senior vice president for health affairs and dean of the School of Medicine at Meharry. "It is critical to focus on the issues of racial bias in research, particularly involv-

ing minorities and the underserved. Yes, there's racism in medicine."

Elders agreed. "We doctors have always walked around and said, 'Oh, we treat all patients the same. All blood's red.' Well, they lived in the community, they came out of the community, and we behaved just like we lived."

The disparity in health status between whites and African-Americans is due in large part to the lack of primary, preventive and accessible health care, Elders said. "We spend almost \$1.3 trillion (a year), and still we don't provide health care for all of our people," she said. "Universal access to health care for all people is a morally and ethically right thing to do. We say we can't afford it. I'm concerned we can't afford not to have it."

The *Unequal Treatment* studies are intended to be not just a wake-up call for the nation's health care decision-makers but also a formal call to develop and implement strategies to eliminate them, according to Alan Nelson, chair of the IOM's Committee on Understanding and Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Care.

New Senate Majority Leader Frist, a physician, also called for improving the health care of blacks and other minorities. "For reasons we don't fully understand, but we've got to face, we know that African-Americans today do not live as long," he said. He wanted to find a way to bring health care to the uninsured. "Health care disparities, minority versus non-minority populations, is something I feel strongly about. So you'll see that elevated [on the agenda]."

Comments or opinions may be sent to the writer at jaydubub@swbell.net



Barbara Madden, State Rep. Jerry Madden, David McCall, Sr., Nellie McCall, State Rep. Brian McCall on floor of House awaiting swearing in and opening of the Session

## How A Bill Becomes A Law

### Overview

#### The Legislative Branch of Government

The Texas Constitution divides state government into three separate but equal branches: the executive branch, headed by the governor; the judicial branch, which consists of the Texas Supreme Court and all state courts; and the legislative branch, headed by the Texas Legislature, which includes the 150 members of the house of representatives and the 31 members of the state senate.

Members of the house of representatives are elected to two-year terms and represent districts of about 113,000 people each. Senators serve four-year terms and serve about 550,000 people each.

The legislature meets every odd-numbered year to write new laws and to find solutions to the problems facing the state. This meeting time, which begins on the second Tuesday in January and lasts 140 days, is called the regular session. The governor can direct the legislature to meet at other times also. These meetings, called special sessions, can last no more than 30 days and deal only with issues chosen by the governor.

On the first day of each regular session, the 150 members of the house of representatives choose one of their members to be the speaker of the house. The speaker is the presiding officer of the house. He or she maintains order, recognizes members to speak during debate, and rules on procedural matters.

The speaker also appoints the chairs and vice chairs of the committees that study legislation and decides which other representatives will serve on those committees, subject to seniority rules. There are 31 committees, each of which deals with a different subject area, and five committees that deal with procedural or administrative matters for the house. Most members serve on two or three different committees.

In the senate, the presiding officer is the lieutenant governor, who is not actually a member of the senate. The lieutenant governor is the second-highest ranking officer of the executive branch of government and, like the governor, is chosen for a four-year term by popular vote in a statewide election.

The first thing that the speaker of the house and the lieutenant governor ask their respective houses of the legislature to do is to decide on the rules that the legislators will follow during the session. Some legislative procedures are provided for in the state constitution, but additional rules can be adopted by a house of the legislature if approved by a majority vote of its members.

Once rules have been adopted, the legislature begins to consider bills.

#### Introducing A Bill

A representative or senator gets an idea for a bill by listening to the people he or she represents and then working to solve their problem. A bill may also grow out of the recommendations of an interim committee study conducted when the legislature is not



in session. The idea is researched to determine what state law needs to be changed or created to best solve that problem. A bill is then written by the legislator, often with legal assistance from the Texas Legislative Council, a legislative agency which provides bill drafting services, research assistance, computer support, and other services for legislators.

Once a bill has been written, it is introduced by a member of the house or senate in the member's own chamber. Sometimes, similar bills about a particular issue are introduced in both houses at the same time by a representative and senator working together. However, any bill increasing taxes or raising money for use by the state must start in the house of representatives.

House members and senators can introduce bills on any subject during the first 60 calendar days of a regular session. After 60 days, the introduction of any bill other than a local bill or a bill related to an emergency declared by the governor requires the consent of at least four-fifths of the members present and voting in the house or four-fifths of the membership in the senate.

After a bill has been introduced, a short description of the bill, called a caption, is read aloud while the chamber is in session so that all of the members are aware of the bill and its subject. This is called the first reading, and it is the point in the process where the presiding officer assigns the bill to a committee. This assignment is announced on the chamber floor during the first reading of the bill.

#### The Committee Process

The chair of each committee decides when the committee will meet and which bills will be considered. The house rules permit a house committee or subcommittee to meet: (1) in a public hearing where testimony is heard and where official action may be taken on bills, resolutions, or other matters; (2) in a formal meeting where the members may discuss and take official action without hearing public testimony; or (3) in a work session for discussion of matters before the committee without taking formal action. In the senate, testimony may be heard and official action may be taken at any meeting of a senate committee or subcommittee. Public testimony is almost always solicited on bills, allowing citizens the opportunity to present arguments on different sides of an issue.

A house committee or subcommittee holding a public hearing during a legislative session must post notice of the hearing at least five calendar days before the

hearing during a regular session and at least 24 hours in advance during a special session. For a formal meeting or a work session, written notice must be posted and sent to each member of the committee two hours in advance of the meeting or an announcement must be filed with the journal clerk and read while the house is in session. A senate committee or subcommittee must post notice of a meeting at least 24 hours before the meeting.

After considering a bill, a committee may choose to take no action or may issue a report on the bill. The committee report, expressing the committee's recommendations regarding action on a bill, includes a record of the committee's vote on the report, the text of the bill as reported by the committee, a detailed bill analysis, and a fiscal note or other impact statement, as necessary. The report is then printed, and a copy is distributed to every member of the house or senate.

In the house, a copy of the committee report is sent to either the Committee on Calendars or the Committee on Local and General Calendars for placement on a calendar for consideration by the full house. In the senate, local and noncontroversial bills are scheduled for senate consideration by the Senate Administration Committee. All other bills in the senate are placed on the regular order of business for consideration by the full senate in the order in which the bills were reported from senate committee. A bill on the regular order of business may not be brought up for floor consideration unless the senate sponsor of the bill has filed a written notice of intent to suspend the regular order of business for consideration of the bill.

#### Floor Action

When a bill comes up for consideration by the full house or senate, it receives its second reading. The bill is read, again by caption only, and then debated by the full membership of the chamber. Any member may offer an amendment, but it must be approved by a majority of the members present and voting to be adopted. The members then vote on whether to pass the bill. The bill is then considered by the full body again on third reading and final passage. A bill may be amended again on third reading, but amendments at this stage require a two-thirds majority for adoption. Although the Texas Constitution requires a bill to be read on three separate days in each house before it can have the force of law, this constitutional rule may be suspended by a four-fifths vote of the house in which the bill is pending. The senate routinely suspends this constitutional provision in order to give a bill an immediate third reading after its second reading consideration. The house, however, rarely suspends this provision, and third reading of a bill in the house normally occurs on the day following its second reading consideration.

In either house, a bill may be passed on a voice vote or a record vote. In the house, record votes are tallied by an electronic vote board controlled by buttons on each member's desk. In the senate, a roll call vote is required for all bills. See How A Bill... page 7

## Inspiration

# Wisdom for the Road

by : Unknown

Cherish things while you still have them,  
before they're gone,  
and you realize how precious they really are.  
Life can only be understood backwards,  
but it must be lived forwards.  
Everything in life is temporary.  
So if things are going good,  
enjoy it because it won't last forever.  
And if things are going bad,  
don't worry because it won't last forever either.

Destiny is not a matter of chance,  
it is a matter of choice;  
it is not a thing to be waited for,  
it is a thing to be achieved.  
A journey of a thousand miles  
begins with a single step.  
Never cross a bridge  
without knowing how to swim the tides.  
If you could not add years to your life  
Add life to your years.

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

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

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



# Martin Luther King, Jr. from Page 1

celebrate his life but are actually not benefiting any of the causes the great civil rights leader would stand for. Yes, Black Americans, and those labeled 'minorities'—have come a long way: We can go into the front door of the business establishments, drink water from the same fountains, our children can attend the segregated schools, vote without threats or danger (if the law is observed the Law) and we can even buy a home anywhere we choose to—well almost anywhere! All of these things are wonderful and worthy of celebration—but also worthy of deep study and reflection on their importance. They are important accomplishments—as we still keep in mind the reality in shadows behind these reasons to celebrate. Thousands of people are homeless on the streets, the numbers of families without affordable medical coverage continues to rise. Rising unemployment, mental illness and hunger are a daily American experience. We tend to see these conditions deplorable—as they are—but the idea is these are conditions in other countries—not the USA! If we are blind to the conditions in our own streets, how can we profess to live the Dream?

## TEACHING OUR YOUTH

If our young people act like they don't care about what it took to get 'us' to where we are or where we dare envision being—we can't blame them. The average black child may know who Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is, but it can usually be described in a brief phrase such as, "He fought for our rights, or He was famous for the 'I have a Dream' speech!" If this is what our young people see as the importance of Dr. King—we have truly lost sight and touch with the Dream. Dr. King, the person, was the basis for all that he marched, preached, prayed and stood for. This person was a true hero but more the fact; he was a great activist, humanitarian and communicator. King saw the great widespread injustice to his people and those worldwide who were oppressed for reasons of race, ethnicity and religion. He saw this for the great crime and cruelty that it was. The very things that make mankind wonderful and amazing—our differences—is used by many to isolate and suppress our progress. Dr. King was a strong, caring, brave, spiritual and genius human being. It is important to keep the emphasis on 'human being.' If we remember that he was a person, with flaws and gifts as possessed by all of us. The revelation of how great and gifted he was will become more obvious with time.

Martin Luther King Jr. was inspired by the great practice of non-violence by Mahatma Gandhi; however, his determination to stand, speak and pursue that which he believed to be truth should always be honored.

## CHECK YOURSELF

It is our duty to learn about the great person of Dr. King—and it is our also our duty to teach the young people the significance of MLK to mankind. Children learn what they see—we teach by our actions and lifestyle. Check your life with the basis of MLK's Dream:

- 1) Are you registered to vote?
- 2) Do you know the names and views of your political Representation?
- 3) Have you visited your neighborhood school other than to a forced meeting?
- 4) What does your child want to grow up to be?
- 5) Do you have a plan for further education?

If you answered 'No' or 'Don't Know' to any of these questions. You have great opportunity to promote and support the 'Dream'. This is what the person Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. stood for. We have come a long way, however, if we don't know how and why we came, what can the future be? 'Dare to Dream' but be sure to make reality checks along the way!

# Plano MLK 2003 Celebration A Community United: Making the Dream a Reality

Each January, Plano and the surrounding communities celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday with several informative and entertaining events around the city. The events increase in size and attendance every year and 2003 should be no exception. The theme for this year's celebration is "A Community United: Making the Dream a Reality". The schedule of events is shown below:

## Saturday January 18

A parade will start at 10:00 am at the southeast corner of Parker Road and Avenue K. It will travel south on Avenue K to 15th St., east to Avenue L and north into the City Hall parking lot. This will be the first year the parade has traveled this route. In previous years the parade has traveled on 15th Street through Downtown Plano to City Hall. One of the reasons for the new route was to avoid crossing the new Dart Rail Line.

Four bands have been confirmed to play in the parade; the

Huntington High School Band from Shreveport, LA, the South Oak Cliff High School Band, the Plano Community Band and the Plano People's Band. The parade will also consist of many community organizations with cars, floats, and walkers. Grand Marshals will be Clarice Tinsley and Steve Eager of Fox 4 News.

Immediately following the parade there will be an outdoor program held in the City Hall plaza area. It will include a Health and Information fair with booths set up for vendors to provide information and health services. There will also be speakers, performers, and performances by the bands. A free luncheon will be provided to the public. In case of inclement weather, the program will be moved inside City Hall.

## Sunday January 19

A Sunday Evening Celebration will be held at the Custer Road United Methodist Church in Plano at 7:00 PM. The program will feature guest

speakers and performances by the MLK All Community Choir. Celebrity Emcees for this event are Clarice Tinsley and Steve Eager. All area Churches and individual singers are welcomed to participate in the choir. A free dinner will be provided to the choir members.

## Monday January 20

A Power Leadership Breakfast will be held at the Collin County Community College, Spring Creek Campus at 8:00 AM. The full breakfast is free to the public. Following the breakfast a panel discussion will be held amongst the community leaders discussing pertinent topics that impact the citizens.

## Thursday January 23

Plano Independent School District will hold its annual MLK Multicultural Observance at the Plano Centre at 7:00 PM. The program includes performances by the students and an awards presentation for winners of the MLK art contest.

For more information call 972 260-4208

# NAACP-Garland Branch to Host Annual MLK Parade

The NAACP-Garland Branch will host its 14th annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade and March on **Saturday, January 18, 2003**, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Theme: "Celebrating Our Youth In Action"  
Grand Marshals: NAACP Youth Council Officers

Parade Route: North on Dairy Road @ Beverly Dr. to Highway 66

West on Avenue D (Hwy. 66) to First Street

North on First Street to Avenue B (Hwy. 66)

West on Avenue B (Hwy. 66) to Fifth Street

North on Fifth Street to State Street  
West on State Street to the Plaza Theatre

Program: A commemorative program will be held immediately following the parade at the Garland Plaza Theatre, 6th @ State Street, downtown Garland. The MLK Citywide Youth Choir and the Ida Handley Elementary School Choir will perform.

Float Contest: Winners of the 2003 MLK Float Contest will be announced at the program.

**Sunday, January 19th @ 4:00 p.m.**

Celebration Continues: A special Drill Team and Praise Dance Extravaganza will be held on Sunday, January 19, 2003, at the Plaza Theatre, beginning at 4:00 p.m.

For more information: Please contact the NAACP-Garland Branch at (972) 381-5044, **voice box #5**.

B. J. Williams, Branch President

Gwen Daniels, MLK Parade and Commemorative Program Coordinator

Rhonda Alley, Drill Team and Praise Dance Program Coordinator

# Mesquite NAACP Prepares for Annual MLK Parade

The Mesquite NAACP is having their 2003 annual MLK Parade. This year's Grand Marshal will be the Dallas Desperados along with their mascot, players and dancers.

Other participants are Mesquite City Officials, Mayor Mike Anderson, Mesquite Police and Fire Department. Church's attending at this time are Curry Temple, Family Cathedral of Praise who will have 3 entries and Mesquite Friendship Baptist. Also 97.9 The Beat,

Poteet ROTC, Mesquite NAACP Youth, ACTSO and Officers, and John Horn High School Homecoming Queen Shuntavia Reynolds.

We are also announcing our Poster winners. The parade starts at 10:00 a.m., Saturday January 18. Route will start at Florence Black Elementary School, 381 Newsom through Main Street in Mesquite. We will use the Mesquite High School Parade Route, which makes the turn at the City Lake Park Recre-

ation Center and end up back at the school. After the parade, around 11:30 a.m., the Multicultural event will begin at the Family Cathedral of Praise, located on Windbel Street in Mesquite. The event includes food, music, and other cultural favors.

For more information please contact Phyllis Jones at 972-288-0281 sign up is until January 16, 2003. We will like more to participate in the parade or the Multicultural event afterwards.

# Mothers Against Teen Violence Celebrate MLK Day

Celebrate Martin Luther King Day with Mothers Against Teen Violence at Le Meridien Hotel (950 N. Pearl St., Dallas) for the 4th Annual MLK Day Breakfast on Monday, January 20 at 8:00 a.m. Lynn Briggs of Smooth Jazz 107.5 will co-host. Joe Clark, Author, Educator, and subject of the hit movie, *Lean On Me*, will keynote.

The uplifting program will also feature African dancers from the Booker T. Washington School for the Performing and Visual Arts. Contact the MATV development office at 214-565-0422. Individual tickets are \$50 per person and can be purchased online at [www.matvinc.org](http://www.matvinc.org). Major credit cards are welcome.

MATV, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization located in the Wilson Historic District of Dallas, is committed to making schools and communities safer through effective teen violence prevention. The MLK Day Breakfast is sponsored by the Foundation of Community Empowerment and Friendship West Baptist Church. Proceeds benefit MATV.

## Around The Town

### On-going

Nature Stories at Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary, every Saturday at 11:00 a.m., and 2:00 p.m. Stories are hosted by the Heard Nature Store staff, and incorporate music, nature crafts and nature walks. Free with general admission. For topics and more details call 972.562.5566.

Come and see the Belgian draft horses, the mascot hitch team for Owens Country Sausage and the farming museum in Richardson. Petting zoo featuring pygmy goats, lambs, turkeys and pot-bellied pigs. 401 E. Lookout Drive, off Plano Road, Richardson. Open daily, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 972.235.0192.

Barnyard Buddies, at Fairview Farms, 3316 N. Central Expwy, at Parker Road, next to Hoffbrau. Country activities with a Western theme for kids. Visit the petting zoo, take a hayride or pony ride. Picnic tables on site. Available for birthday parties. Call 972.633.9779. Open 7 days a week.

The Arts Gallery at Collin County Community College, Spring Creek Campus, displays works by students and professionals. Visitors are welcome, as are new and exciting artists.

For more information call: 972.881.5145. Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Saturday: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.; Sunday: closed.

The Dallas Arboretum, open year round, 7 days a week, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. More than seven themed gardens to see, with sculptures, ponds and more. Admission: Adults \$7, Children 3-12 yrs. of age \$4, Children 2 and under and members are free. Parking \$4. Main phone number is 214-327-8263. Event hotline is 214-327-4901.

Collin County History Museum in the Old Post Office, 105 N. Chestnut and Virginia Streets, downtown McKinney. Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Admission: \$2.00 adults, \$1.00 children 6-12, \$5.00 family. School Tours for 3rd Grade. Special group tour rates. For more information, or to arrange group tours call 972.542.9457 or [www.collincountyhistory.org](http://www.collincountyhistory.org).

### January 16

The Plano Chamber of Commerce invites you to 'Business After Hours', hosted by Hooters, 720 N. Central Expwy, 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. RSVP at 972-424-7547 ext. 230.

Richardson Chamber of Commerce hosts "An Economic Overview for Small Businesses", a small business roundtable sponsored by the Dallas Morning News. UTD Professor, Donald A. Hicks, Ph.D is the speaker. Held at the Holiday Inn Select (1655 N. Central Expwy, 11:15 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. RSVP at [rsvp@telecomcorridor.com](mailto:rsvp@telecomcorridor.com).

### January 17

2003 Technology Innovation Showcase at the Omni Richardson Hotel, 11:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. The technology industry showcases technology innovations, new products/services and next generation devices. Exhibitors and sponsors are needed. Call 972.234.4141 for more information.

City of Garland Impounded vehicle auction - gates open 8:30 am, auction at 9:30 a.m., 1630 Commerce Street. For more information call 972.205.2415.

### January 21

2003 Plano Chamber of Commerce Annual Membership Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., at the Harvey Hotel, Plano. To reserve tickets call 972.424.7547.

### January 22 - 25

The Marriage Boot Camp, at Plano Centre, Spring Creek and Jupiter Roads, Wednesday,

January 22 through Saturday, January 25. Wednesday - Friday 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Improve marriages by using interactive experiential games, drills, exercises, & competitions. Admission Charge: \$1,800 per couple, or contact for a sponsor. For more information contact: David Bishop at 972.699.8886 or visit [www.themariagebootcamp.com](http://www.themariagebootcamp.com).

### January 23

"An Evening at the Eisemann" for Garland High School's School of Performing Arts, in the Hill Performance Hall, 7:30 p.m. For advanced ticket sales & information call: Patty Shubert 972.494.8492 ext. 5357. Tickets: Adults \$10/ Students \$5 at the door on day of performance.

### January 24

Mesquite Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Banquet, at the Mesquite Convention Center, 1700 Rodeo Drive, 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. After five dress, cash bar. Tickets \$45 per person before January 17, \$50 after. Tables of eight available for sponsorship. RSVP at 972.285.0211, or [info@mesquitechamber.com](mailto:info@mesquitechamber.com) by 5 p.m. January 17.

Cruise Fair at Plano Centre, Spring Creek and

Jupiter Roads, 11:30a.m.-3p.m. Informative seminars on cruise vacations with special offers. For more information contact Harold E. Oldham, Jr. at 972.294.2001 or visit [www.bestcruisevalues.com](http://www.bestcruisevalues.com).

### January 24

Heard Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary in McKinney is looking for adult volunteer trail guides (ages 18 and older) to lead nature hikes on our wildlife sanctuary for schools, scout groups, individuals and families. Training begins January 24. No experience necessary. Sessions led by Heard Museum naturalists at the museum Fridays, 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon on January 24, 31 and February 7, 14, 21, and 28. Participation in all training sessions is preferred, advanced registration is required. Training sessions include classroom study and hands-on training on the grounds of the wildlife sanctuary. Call Kelly Rypkema at the Heard Museum: 972.562.5566, ext. 234. Fee is \$5.

### January 25

Mesquite Community Theatre Annual Awards Banquet begins at 6:30. For tickets and information call 972/216-8126.

### January 26

Plano's Annual 'Very Special Arts Festival', at Plano Centre, Spring Creek and Jupiter Roads, 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. This is a gift to the children from over two-dozen community organizations who staff an array of "make it and take it" craft booths. All children, including those with special needs, are invited to attend this colorful, creative event! Admission is free, even refreshments! For more information 972.941.7272.

### January 27

Garland Chamber of Commerce holds its monthly luncheon from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., at the Holiday Inn Select, 11350 LBJ Frwy, Dallas. Beverly Carmichael-Southwest Airlines is the speaker. Call 972.272.7551, or email to [information@garlandchamber.com](mailto:information@garlandchamber.com).

### January 29

Genealogy Resources on the Internet will be offered 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon at the Mesquite Public Library, 300 W. Grubb Drive. Participants need some experience handling a computer mouse and the Internet. Registration required for all classes: call 972.216.6224.

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## Dunbar Debutantes from Page 1

Denton, and plans to major in Sociology and go on to work with children. She is also a dancer and has taught dance at community centers and churches.

Her escort, Jamison, said he has known Evans nearly all his life, and was honored that she asked him to escort her. He has a connection to the Dunbar Social and Charity Club through his mother, as she teaches dance to the granddaughter of Dunbar C.E. Reynolds. Jamison currently attends Collin County Community College, and aspires to enter the world of sports writing. He said he was impressed with the Dunbar Club and the debutantes, and is hopeful that one day his children could be involved.

"Hopefully I can start a tradition," said Jamison. "I might even be a Dunbar - who knows?"

The Dunbar Club has presented over 300 debutantes to society since 1978, and is also committed to community and charitable activities. Club President, Ed Whitman, who works in Plano, said at least half of the club's members live in Plano and Richardson. He said the club participates in mentoring and reading programs at schools, they help provide snacks to the children in the programs, help with extracurricular activities and give financial support to the teacher of the year. During the evening, Whitman presented a check in the amount of one thousand dollars to Mrs. Vera Gibbs-Spears, the Dean of Instruction at Paul Lawrence Dunbar Learning Center in Dallas, to be used at the school as she saw fit.

Bruce Weaver, responsible for safety and security, protocol and events coordinator, said it was a joy to be a part of the evening.

"I've been here since 1980, and every year it gets more rewarding," said Weaver. "We are making it better every year."

He added that the club has is now a 501 (c) 3 organization, and the members are excited at their potential to expand their services, allowing them to reach people from South Dallas to the Plano area. Weaver said he had a couple of people at his table pledge financial support to the club, including Tom Wilkins of the Wilkins Group, who was particularly impressed with



LaWanna Diane Evans with her parents, Ms. Freda Joyce Evans and Mr. Jimmy Darrin King, Jr.

Debutante Crystal Inez Harold, who was named Rookie of the Year her first year on her High School golf team.

Lee Jones is in his 5th year of membership with the Dunbar Social and Charity Club. He is 1st Vice President, co-chair of the Golf Tournament, and is 'Day of the Event' co-chair, the club's two biggest events. Jones teaches at the Special Programs Center for Plano ISD, and his wife, Deborah, is a Plano ISD Principal. Jones said he has known Dunbar Lew Lewis for thirty years, and was asked by Lewis to become a member. Jones said they had the opportunity to work together for the debutantes' ball, as Lewis was co-coordinator for the event. Jones is also looking forward to expanding the club's area of outreach this year, and to increase community awareness.

"It has been a great privilege and pleasure to do this," said Jones. "We all have a great time getting together, and it's getting better every year."

### Six Young Ladies of Society

The Dunbar Social and Charity Club Presented Debutantes at Its Ball on Friday January 3, 2003.

Indra Denise Smithers, daughter of Mr. Gregory Johnson Smithers and Ms. Bonita Felecia Perry Smithers of Dallas, Texas. She received her high school diploma from The Health Professions Cluster at Yvonne A. Jewell Townview Magnet Center. She is now a sophomore at El Centro College, and is working toward dual degrees in Paralegal Services

and Nursing. In the fall she will attend Texas Christian University to complete her Bachelor's of Nursing degree. After graduation, Indra plans to open her own clinic, specializing in Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Jessica Faye Dotson, daughter of Mr. Charles Henry Dotson, Sr., and Mrs. Althea Hayes Dotson, Mr. Osborn Blizard and Mrs. Margie Nell Dotson Blizard. Jessica is a 2001 honors graduate of David W. Carter High School in Dallas, where she was voted "New Comer of the Year" and "Offensive Player of the Year" in basketball. She is a sophomore majoring in Computer Science and Nursing at Lane College in Jackson, Tennessee, where she is on an academic/athletic scholarship. She plans to become a medical nurse at a children's hospital, after a professional basketball career in the WNBA.

Joy Ellen Forte, daughter of Mr. Paul Forte, Jr. of Duncanville, Texas, and Mr. and Mrs. Larry Jones of Desoto, Texas. She graduated from Townview Magnet Center School of Law in 1999, and is currently a junior at Prairie View A&M University, working on her Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Theater Performance. She recently received fourth runner-up honors in the Miss Ellis County Scholarship Pageant, and will compete in the Miss Texas Pageant in July. Joy will train with the "New York Radio City Rockettes" this month.

Crystal Inez Harold, daughter  
See Dunbar Debutantes page 10

## Andrea Smith from Page 1

"I have always liked to observe people and how they behave, so for me, psychology was a natural field to go into," said Andrea.

Clinical Psychology is the area of psychology that Andrea has the most interest and with a Doctorate degree in Psychology, Andrea said that she wants to do psychology work involving children and family counseling and maybe open her own psychology business one day.

Since Andrea has been a student at Florida A&M University, she has been able to add quite a list of accomplishments to her resume, which include Ronald E. McNair Scholar, the McNair Research Internship, second place finish for research presentation at McNair National Research Conference, selected to attend the 2002 Compact for Faculty Diversity Annual Institute on Teaching and Mentoring, Deans List at Florida A&M for all terms, and the National Dean's list.

"Relationship of Number of Siblings and Self Esteem in Black College Students" is the title of the research presentation that earned Andrea a second place finish at the McNair National Research Conference. The research paper examined the relationship between how many siblings one has and self esteem in black college students.

One of Andrea's accomplishments of becoming a Ronald E. McNair Scholar is truly a great accomplishment and one that would make any student proud.

The Ronald E. McNair Scholars program is named after Dr. Ronald E. McNair, who died aboard the space shuttle Challenger in 1986.

McNair Scholars are chosen on a competitive basis from talented college level sophomores and juniors. The applicants must have a cumulative and major grade point average of 3.0

or better, faculty recommendations, majoring in any liberal arts discipline, and a sincere interest in attending graduate school at the doctoral level.

The McNair program was created to provide experiences for college student at the undergraduate level that will encourage success in graduate school. McNair Scholars participate in the program for up to two years, during which, the students engage in research and scholarly activities.

Most of us who encounter a young person with such outstanding academic talents as Andrea Smith wonder whom their parents are and how they have able to influence them to study hard and achieve big.

Andrea's mom, Sandra Smith, is a Registered Nurse and currently the Director of Risk Management for the Denton Regional Medical Center. Andrea's Dad, Phillip Smith, is an engineer for the Raytheon Corporation.

When I asked Andrea's mother how she encouraged Andrea to achieve big as she was growing up, she replied that

both her and her husband set the stage by setting expectations for the kids.

"We have always encouraged our kids to communicate openly with us and have provided them with a loving, stable environment," said Sandra Smith. "I think kids thrive when they are in a stable environment."

The loving, stable environment formula must work because Andrea's sister, Tracey Smith, graduated from Tuskegee College in 2000, at the top of her class, and is now practicing as an Occupational Therapist.

"My parents never pushed me," Andrea said. "They were just good examples to me because of how they carried themselves and their work ethic."

Andrea says that the advice that she would give to young people concerning education is to not be discouraged. Also Andrea says that she would advise young people to find a mentor to lead them through their educational experience.

"It really helped me to have a mentor," said Andrea.

## DEPRESSED AGAIN?

The Department of Psychiatry at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center of Dallas is conducting research sponsored by the National Institute of Mental Health on cognitive therapy for depression. **Treatment is free.** The symptoms of depression include:

- Depressed or sad mood
- Loss of interest in activities
- Difficulty sleeping or sleeping too much
- Feeling slowed down
- Feeling tired or having low energy
- Feeling guilty or worthless
- Changes in weight or appetite
- Difficulty concentrating

If you have experienced these symptoms more than once in your life, are drug free and not currently in psychiatric treatment, please call the Psychosocial Research and Depression Clinic at 214-648-5351.

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## Consolidation Vote Set For February 1 Allen ISD and Lovejoy ISD

To consolidate or not to consolidate...that is the question that Allen voters will face at the polls in a special election on February 1. The Allen ISD Board of Trustees voted on November 25 to call for the election which will ask citizens to vote for or against the consolidation of Allen ISD with neighboring Lovejoy ISD. Earlier in November, the Lovejoy ISD School Board also called for a special election on the issue. According to state law, both elections must be held on the same day (February 1, 2003) and a majority of voters in both communities must vote for consolidation for it to take place.

Lovejoy ISD is a K-6 school district that serves the Fairview and Lucas communities east of Allen. Lovejoy students in grades 7-12 have attended Allen ISD middle schools and high school for the past twenty-five years under a tuition agreement that was mutually beneficial to both school districts. This year approximately 750 Lovejoy students are attending Allen schools. Another 880 Lovejoy students in grades K-6 attend Hart or Lovejoy Elementary Schools.

Two factors led Allen school administrators to begin discussing consolidation or separation options. State legislation first passed in 1999 greatly reduced the revenue Allen ISD could receive from Lovejoy for its secondary students. The timeline for the law to take effect was extended during the 2001 legislative session but that extension expires in August 2003. Allen ISD would lose approximately \$1.4 million in current revenue for 2003-2004 under the law. State restrictions would prevent Lovejoy ISD from raising taxes to compensate for the lost revenue.

High enrollment growth in both school communities has also been a major factor. As the number of Lovejoy secondary students increases over the next ten years, the need for Allen to build additional secondary school facilities also increases. In the past, Allen has built new secondary facilities for all students with the knowledge that spaces would be filled from enrollment growth if the agreement with Lovejoy ISD ended. Now, as Allen looks at buildout over the next ten years, the school district wants to avoid overbuilding secondary schools. A decision for or against consolidation will give Allen administrators a better

picture of how to plan for future facility needs.

A combined group of Allen and Lovejoy administrators began meeting last summer to study the issue. Both school boards first met on September 16 and a focus group of 100 patrons and staff members met on September 24. A second joint school board meeting was held on October 7 and public hearings on the issue were held on October 22 and 24. The Lovejoy school board voted to hold a consolidation vote in November but also voted unanimously at the same meeting to support separation from Allen. The Allen school board voted on December 13 to take an official position against consolidation of the two districts by a vote of 4-2 with one abstention.

The merging of two school districts is uncommon in current day Texas but the laws regarding consolidation are very specific. As mentioned, a majority in both communities must vote in favor of the merger on the same election day. The election must also be held on one of the State's four approved uniform election days each year. If the proposition fails, school districts must wait three years to bring it back to their voters. If approved by voters, the consolidation must take effect on July 1st following the election. Due to the difference in size between Allen and Lovejoy, Texas law dictates that the Lovejoy school board would be dissolved upon consolidation. Allen board members would complete their current terms of office.

The consolidation of Allen and Lovejoy ISD in July 2003 would create a school district of approximately 14,000 students. Allen ISD's geographic area would expand from 29 to 48 square miles. Allen's potential enrollment growth would also expand proportionately. Projections show Allen ISD enrollments in 2012 at approximately 19,000 students. Combined with Lovejoy, the numbers would be near 22,500 students in ten years. Allen ISD enrollments are expected to level out by the year 2014. Growth within Lovejoy's boundaries is projected to continue through the year 2020.

A financial impact study of consolidation or separation showed no significant advantage of one option over another. According to the study, Allen ISD slightly benefits from the increase in property wealth that

Lovejoy would bring. The increased cost of expanding secondary school capacity, transportation and other support services eliminates that slight financial advantage. Under either scenario, Allen and Lovejoy's increasing property wealth would lead them to send tax revenue back to the state (Robin Hood law). A consolidation would push Allen to "Robin Hood" status one or two years earlier. Together or separate, both school districts would be financially constrained by the state imposed tax cap of \$1.50 for the general fund and .50 for the debt service fund.

The greatest impact of consolidation would be on Allen's secondary facilities. Allen's comprehensive plan shows a total of four middle schools at buildout compared to five with Lovejoy students. The Lowery Freshman Center would need to be expanded or replaced to accommodate the long range growth in Lovejoy.

The combined numbers of Allen and Lovejoy students would require an additional secondary facility, according to projections. Allen High School's current enrollment is 2,400 students with a capacity for 3,600 students. The campus was designed to accommodate up to 4,200 students with the addition of one more academic house and expansion of the school cafeteria and library. Long range projections show approximately 5,500 students in grades 10-12 under consolidation.

With consolidation, a new high school campus would be required by the start of the 2007-2008 school year. In the event of a "yes" vote from both communities on February 1, planning for the campus would begin immediately to accommodate students by that date.

While the decision to consolidate or not has greater implications for the Lovejoy community, Allen voters and taxpayers must also decide which course is best for Allen ISD. Following six months of data gathering and public input, the Allen ISD Board of Trustees has determined that this important question should be decided by Allen voters.

The election will be held on Saturday, February 1, 2003 with an early voting period beginning January 18. A special consolidation election pamphlet will be mailed to Allen voters in early January with additional election information.

creative ways to do this, which is one of the elements we highlighted in our presentation. I think the judges agreed."

The 2002 celebration, themed "Hats Off to America," attracted more than 140,000 people to downtown Garland during this year's five-day event. Festival patrons enjoyed live entertainment on two stages. The Main Stage hosted Rick Trevino and Asleep at the Wheel for Country Night, Mercy Me and SonicFlood for Christian Night, and Pop Night featured KC and the Sunshine Band along with Morris Day and the Time.

One of 2002's feature attractions was the Rad Hatter, who helped kids of all ages create spectacular hats from paper grocery sacks, decorated with paints, feathers, glitter and all kinds of baubles. Another new

attraction this year was the War Stories tent. Festival patrons enjoyed the popular exhibit staged in a large Army tent where they heard from veterans of World War II, Korea, Viet Nam and Desert Storm. The veterans shared their memories and answered questions from the audience. They also brought historic memorabilia such as medals, photographs and even old weapons.

One of the new programs assisting on the revenue side was a new sponsorship program. The "Friends of the Festival" campaign encouraged individual donations of \$25 or more. Each "Friend" received a special lapel pin. 219 people joined the "Friends of the Festival" raising almost \$7,000. The program is planned to continue in 2003.

"It is so exciting to have

such a successful event that highlights our great city," said Ms. Vochatzer. "People from around the world know that Garland, Texas is the place to be on the Fourth of July!"

Other festival sponsors included Jerry Reynolds' Prestige Ford, Texans Credit Union, Kroger, Garland Power & Light, Cayenta, Rental Service Corporation, Dr Pepper, and Raytheon. Media sponsors included Fox 4, kdfi27, KSCS-FM, Memories 96.7, The Dallas Morning News, KLTU-FM, Radio Disney, and KISS-FM.

The city's annual 4th of July festival also received three awards in the 2002 Pinnacle Awards competition sponsored by the International Festival & Events Association.

## Garland Police Department Develops New Program "UNIDOS"(UNITED) To Assist the Hispanic Community

The Garland Police Department has developed "UNIDOS"(UNITED), an educational / informative class directed to assist the Hispanic community. The meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of each month starting February at the Gale Fields Recreation Center, 1701 Dairy Road in Garland, 972-205-3090.

Officer Steve Dye, who has been working on this program for the past year, saw a need through his observations and contacts while working on the street. Officer Dye is fluent in speaking, writing and translating Spanish. "Unidos"(UNITED)

is a program designed to assist the Hispanic community in learning more about the Garland Police Department and the laws unique to Texas and the United States. Topics to be covered include: understanding cultural differences, learning about the criminal justice system and the police department, understanding motor vehicle requirements and answering any questions or concerns about living and working in the community.

Officer Steve Dye has devoted a great deal of his personal time to developing this program. The Garland Police Department is excited to be able to host these

meetings for the community. "Living in a country where you don't speak the language and are not familiar with the laws can be very intimidating. I wanted to start a program that could assist not only the Hispanic community, but also the police department, in understanding cultural differences. I also wanted to use my Spanish speaking skills to help educate people, who are new to our country in understanding the laws and how police departments operate," said Officer Steve Dye.

For more information about this program contact Officer Steve Dye at 972-205-2924.

## Plano Very Special Arts Festival Brings Together People of All Abilities

The 19th Annual Very Special Arts Festival will be held on Sunday, January 26, 2003 from 2 to 5 p.m. The City of Plano Parks and Recreation Department, in conjunction with several local civic and school organizations will present the Festival at Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway.

Through the arts, this free Festival brings together people of all physical and mental abilities to celebrate creativity. Children from ages 3 to 12 will delight in the myriad of activities available this year ranging from making sun catchers and tumbourines, to face painting and cookie decorating.

An exciting variety of entertainers have signed on: the Dream Catchers Dance Group, the Survivors Dixieland Band, vocalist Kendra Harshbarger, Charles Neel on viola, the Plano

Senior High German Club Folk Dancers and the Denton State School rhythm band. City of Plano Firefighters will bring a fire truck on site for hands-on inspections, while others make a safety-fingerprinting booth available. Also, several costumed characters are scheduled to make appearances to capture the attention and be photographed with young visitors. In addition, the Junior League of Plano has volunteered to provide free refreshments and an activity.

The amazing thing about Plano's Very Special Arts Festival is that more than 25 local civic organizations and art groups, and many other individuals provide these "hands-on-arts" experiences. Groups return to this magical event each year because it is one of those rare situations where everyone

wins. Children enjoy creating, then taking home their new treasures. Artist Julio Suarez and computer art specialist Jacob Korman will also be sharing their talents.

State VSArts Director Celia Hughes and Amy Fortenberry, Plano Recreation Services Manager, will officially open this year's Festival and welcome visitors. Parents, teachers or anyone who nurtures children are encouraged to attend and create great crafts to last a lifetime.

The goal of VSArts is to enhance artistic expression and the quality of life through the arts for all people. For more information about the 2003 Very Special Arts Festival, call Joan Shopoff, Therapeutic Recreation Supervisor, at 972-941-7272 or Therapeutic Recreation Coordinator Addy Paruolo at 972-941-7327.

## Hefty Fines Await Illegal Dumpers in Mesquite

Illegal dumping of tires, oil and car batteries can seriously damage the environment but also ruin open spaces and cost several thousands of tax dollars to clean up. Over the past few years, convenient and legal opportunities for disposing of these products have been made available in Mesquite. However, illegal dumping continues to be a major problem in undeveloped areas of the community. In order to combat the problem, the State of Texas has established strict penalties for illegal dumping. Tires are one of the most common items deposited in vacant fields. Disposal fees charged at tire changing businesses are intended to make sure tires are discarded in a safe and appropriate manner. The penalty for one dumped tire, weighing about 17 pounds, is a Class B Misdemeanor according to Chapter

365 of the Texas Health and Safety Code. This could mean up to six months in jail and fines up to \$2,000 for anyone wishing to avoid a disposal fee.

There are many options for disposal of used motor oil. Many local automotive businesses will accept the oil and Dallas County operates a facility to accept the oil at no charge. However, many people continue to pour used oil onto their lawns and into the street. Oil disposed of in this manner eventually reaches our water supply and has a severe impact on the environment. The penalty for improper disposal of oil is a felony according to the Texas Water Code Chapter 7.17b with fines ranging from \$1,000 to \$50,000 and up to 5 years in prison. It is against Texas criminal law to use waste oil for weed control, fire ant eradication or any other purpose

that allows oil into the environment. Surprisingly, car batteries are also discarded on the side of the road. The City of Mesquite accepts car, marine and other automotive batteries at the Citizen's Convenience and Recycling Center; however, some people still wish to deposit these in the trash or on vacant property. It is a Class A misdemeanor with fines up to \$4,000 and one year in jail for dumping lead-acid batteries. In order to avoid heavy fines or penalties and damage to the environment, residents are encouraged to dispose of these products properly. For more information on appropriate disposal of tires, oil, batteries and other items, please visit the City of Mesquite Web site at [www.cityofmesquite.com/solidwaste/index.php](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/solidwaste/index.php) or contact the Recycling Coordinator at (972) 216-6972.

## Garland Event Wins International Award

The City of Garland's 2002 Star Spangled Fourth won the Gala Award for Best Fair/Festival from the International Special Events Society and Special Events Magazine. The winners of this year's Gala Awards were named Saturday, January 11, 2003 in Orlando, Florida. Entries for the competition went through three

rounds of judging to earn a nomination. Also nominated for Best Fair/Festival were the 2002 Pasadena Cherry Blossom Festival and "600 Festival" at Lowes Motor Speedway in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Garland's annual Star Spangled Fourth event is produced by the City's Community Relations Department; however

almost every department in the City is involved in some aspect of the event.

"I think that one of the reasons we won the award this year was our commitment to lowering costs and increasing revenue," said Cindy Vochatzer, Director of Community Relations. "Everyone looked for

Continued next column

### McKinney/Fairview from Page 1 September.

Some people reportedly believe that the citizens' rollback election "accelerated" the decision to drop the lawsuit against the McKinney airport. The signatures pressured officials for a special election on February 3. This election would rollback taxes due to the increase associated with lawsuits and land purchased by Fairview in the airport dispute. There was the possibility of foreclosure due to less tax revenue from Fairview. Under those circumstances, added debt would be avoided and Fairview has decided to keep any development of the 200 acres "airport-friendly."

Brian Loughmiller, McKinney city council representative for District 4 and liaison to the Airport Board offered an insight to the situation. "This has been going on for several years. I was elected in June and the 'issues' were in process then. Fairview and other communities had complaints and lawsuits that McKinney was not able to address without adequate pro-

cedures that would take time," Loughmiller continued. "A mediator was needed so that all sides would be able to hear the concerns and goals involved. McKinney had to learn what could and could not be done before addressing the issues. Fairview had. Some studies are required by law and must be completed before any decisions or changes can be implemented. It could be 12 to 24 months before all this is done. There was a mutual decision to put the litigation and lawsuits aside in order to better communicate during the process."

"There are still mediation issues concerning annexation of land and boundaries surrounding the airport," said Loughmiller. "This was the best move toward a favorable outcome for McKinney and Fairview and all of Collin County. To move beyond this confusion, an agreement was reached to notify all courts and to table everything pending completion of all studies and results. The lawsuits have not been dismissed," Loughmiller added. "If the general studies results do not compliment both

communities, the understanding is that they still have options to continue with legal address."

Loughmiller continued, "Once the final studies and reports are in, we will sit down with the people, involved businesses and concerned groups from Fairview. With the review of public and private studies available, McKinney and Fairview will be able to determine what is best for the communities. All decisions are being made with consideration and sensitivity to the community today and in the long-range. I plan to work for the best outcome during my term and it is my wish along with fellow councilmembers to help find solutions that benefit the city and citizens through changes in the future."

Fairview Town Administrator, John Godwin said, "We are quiet enthusiastic about reaching a decision that works for both Fairview and McKinney citizens." Everyone seems pleased to see the argument finally come to an end with these new positive steps in planning for involved communities.



## How a Bill Becomes Law from Page 3

ate, record votes are taken by calling the roll of the members. If a bill receives a majority vote on third reading, it is considered passed. When a bill is passed in the house where it originated, the bill is engrossed, and a new copy of the bill which incorporates all corrections and amendments is prepared and sent to the opposite chamber for consideration. In the second house, the bill follows basically the same steps it followed in the first house. When the bill is passed in the opposite house, it is returned to the originating chamber with any amendments that have been adopted simply attached to the bill.

If a bill is returned to the originating chamber without amendments, it is put in final form, signed by the speaker and



New State Rep. Jodie Laubenberg and supporter Linda Schneck

must be approved or rejected without amendment. If approved by both houses, the bill is signed by the presiding officers and sent to the governor.

If the governor vetoes the bill and the legislature is still in session, the bill is returned to the house in which it originated with an explanation of the governor's objections. A two-thirds majority in each house is required to override the veto. If the governor neither vetoes nor signs the bill within 10 days, the bill becomes a law. If a bill is sent to the governor within 10 days of final adjournment, the governor has until 20 days after final adjournment to sign the bill, veto it, or allow it to become law without a signature.

### Constitutional Amendments

Proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution are in the form of joint resolutions instead of bills and require a vote of two-thirds of the entire membership in each house for adoption. Joint resolutions are not sent to the governor for approval, but are filed directly with the secretary of state. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Texas Constitution does not become effective until it is approved by Texas voters in a general election.

SOURCE: Texas Legislature



US Congressman Sam Johnson, wife Shirley and Rick Neudorff, Collin County GOP chair

lieutenant governor, and sent to the governor. Action on the Other House's Amendments and Conference Committees

If a bill is returned to the originating chamber with amendments, the originating chamber can either agree to the amendments or request a conference committee to work out differences between the house version and the senate version. If the amendments are agreed to, the bill is put in final form, signed by the presiding officers, and sent to the governor.

Conference committees are composed of five members from each house appointed by the presiding officers. Once the conference committee reaches agreement, a conference committee report is prepared and must be approved by at least three of the five conferees from each house. Conference committee reports are voted on in each house and

### Governor's Action

Upon receiving a bill, the governor has 10 days in which to sign the bill, veto it, or allow it to become law without a signature.



US Congressman Sam Johnson, wife Shirley and Rick Neudorff, Collin County GOP chair

## Car Review

# 2004 FORD F-150 LAUNCHES A NEW ERA OF BUILT FORD TOUGH

The dominant force in pickups has just upped the ante.

Now, as it celebrates more than 85 years of truck experience and 55 years of legendary F-Series accomplishments, Ford is again redefining America's truck.

The all-new 2004 Ford F-150 creates a bold first impression as it extends Ford's tradition as America's Tough Truck leader. It creates an even bigger lasting impression when its doors are opened to reveal a revolutionary interior design with refinement, comfort and spaciousness unparalleled in a truck.

The combination of Tough Truck capability and refinement sets a new standard for the industry. Toughness. Strength. Pulling Power. Fuel Economy. Safety. Interior spaciousness. Refinement. Driving dynamics. Stability. Functionality. Cargo capacity. Comfort. Style.

Ford pioneered the pickup, gave it the first V-8 engine and Crew Cab and went on to create a brand that is synonymous with truck leadership. Tough, capable and powerful, the F-Series has been the best-selling full-size pickup for 25 years as of December 2002 and the nation's favorite vehicle for 20 years running. The Ford F-Series is America's truck.

The all-new F-150 exterior is designed to be confident, powerful, fresh and refined. Drawing on design elements from the current F-150, the F-Series Super Duty lineup and the Mighty F-350 TONKA concept, the new truck's taut, boldly chiseled shape resonates Ford Tough Truck tradition.

"Creating an all-new F-150 was about asserting the toughness and truck capability of the leader,"

tracks more than 1.5 inches. New larger standard wheel and tire combinations reside in straightforward circular wheel arches that visually communicate power.

The bold front-end design conveys strength and symbolizes the powerful engine range. It features new quad-circle-styled headlamps designed in form-follows-function clusters, and incorporates a new wrap-around fascia treatment that

communicates refined sophistication and precision. A bold bumper with integral foglamps, when equipped, and tow hooks (on 4x4 models) complete the look.

Enhancing the truck's visual strength is its high beltline, which draws attention to its chiseled, powerful flanks and a roofline reminiscent of chopped-top custom street trucks. A more vertical tumblehome (the inward bow of the side windows) balances the visual weight of the lower body while allowing nearly flush side glass, a mark of refinement. The doors adopt the Ford signature stepped-down beltline—a feature that aids outward visibility while providing an athletic rake that dynamically links the front and rear of the truck.

said Patrick Schiavone, design director, Ford Tough Trucks.

"We definitely wanted to push the design to a new level, to move the excitement needle up a notch. The result is a shape symbolic of strength with an underlying tone of sophistication that really gives this truck aspirational qualities," Schiavone said.

Bill-shouldered and proud, the new F-150 profile features a self-assured, "planted" stance achieved through widening the front and rear



# All Money Ain't Good Money

By James Clingman

There is an excellent book titled, "Betrayal By Any Other Name," written by Dr. Khalid Al-Mansour, in which he notes that the original charter of the NAACP prohibited the ownership of land by that organization. Of course, we know it was white people who started and initially funded the NAACP, thus, in light of that historical reality, let's look at one example of what Dr. Mansour says about the differences between the solutions offered to solve Black problems versus those offered to solve similar problems faced by white people. One example Mansour uses centers on the problem of the establishment and maintenance of a viable economic infrastructure for White and Black organizations. He cites the solutions that White organizations implemented included "investment of private capital, government incentives, establishment of banks, trade and exports, development of infrastructure, and great emphasis on business, education, vocational training, and strong leadership." Solutions offered by the NAACP included the "elimination of segregation, desegregate, vote, and own no land." According to Mansour's book, the NAACP charter prohibited that organization from owning land. Now, you figure this one out. If the majority of those who established the NAACP were White, and we know they were, why did they insist that the organization not own land, the very basis of economic empowerment? Too often we allow our organizations to fall into the role of puppet because we take money and assistance from those who would "keep us in our place." There is a similar situation occurring in "comedy central USA," Cincinnati, Ohio, that will culminate in a confrontation between pro boycott groups and the Black organization known as the Cincinnati Arts

Consortium. For more than 10 years, the consortium has held a Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast in downtown Cincinnati, at the Hyatt Hotel. This year's event will be on Jan. 20 and will find itself embroiled in national controversy and massive local protest. The organization will hold its celebration in the boycott zone despite, of all things, a personal request from Martin Luther King III asking them not to do so. As of Jan. 6, the organization's "board," made up of different people, White and Black, but funded primarily by White-owned corporations, the consortium has refused to comply with King's request. The main reasons given for its refusal is (wouldn't you guess it?) money. First of all, those sponsoring the breakfast are surely behind the scenes calling the shots. Just as we experienced with our local NAACP and Community Action Agency, there are those, Black and White, who hold these organizations hostage by threatening them with withdrawal of their precious sponsorship funds if they do not conform to corporate desires and motives. The national office of the NAACP called our local office and told them not to hold their annual dinner in the boycott zone; they ended up moving it. The Community Action Agency, did not comply with the wishes of the boycotters because its corporate funding was threatened by corporate lackeys, one of which is former federal Judge Nathaniel Jones, who is on the Toyota "diversity" advisory board that was formed after Jesse Jackson threatened, of all things, a boycott of Toyota. My point is this: We just celebrated a series of days called Kwanzaa, one day of which was dedicated to self-determination. How self-determined are we when we allow organizations that are suppose to benefit Black people to be co-opted by corporations that do not have

the best interests of Black folks in mind? Where is our self-determination when we submit to the demands and commands of puppet masters? All money is not good money, especially money that is attached to a rope with which to hang our people. My contention is that we must create revenue streams that give our organizations long sustainability and viability. Sure it's all right if some corporation wants to assist, but if they also seek to control our organizations, it's time to give them their money back or just say "no" to it. Additionally, if our organizations are doing what their mission statements describe, and they are providing a necessary service to Black folks, it follows that Black folks have the primary obligation to support them. If, as our local arts consortium has stated, they will lose corporate funding if they go against the grain, so to speak, then it follows that Black folks should step in and fill that corporate gap. We should also punish the corporate culprit for its attempt at compromising our organization.

And finally, if a particular Black organization is doing such a good job for Black people, and it loses some corporate funds, Black people will surely take care of it, won't we? If not, maybe that means we don't really need that particular organization.

James E. Clingman, an adjunct professor at the University of Cincinnati's African-American Studies department, is former editor of the Cincinnati Herald Newspaper and founder of the Greater Cincinnati African American Chamber of Commerce. He hosts the radio program, "Blackonomics," and is the author of the book, "Economic Empowerment or Economic Enslavement—We have a Choice." He can be reached at (513) 489-4132, or by e-mail at jclingman@blackonomics.com.

## Obituary

# Southwestern Baptist Seminary's First Full-Time African American Faculty Member Dies at 38

By Gregory Tomlin

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Raymond Bernard Spencer, assistant professor of preaching at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, died unexpectedly at his home in Fort Worth, Texas, Jan. 10.

Spencer, 38, was the seminary's first fulltime African American faculty member, known among fellow faculty members for his congenial spirit and humility. He died from natural causes, but the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's office has not made public the exact cause of death.

Funeral service was held Wednesday at New Rising Star Baptist Church in Fort Worth, where Spencer was assistant pastor. Services are still being planned in Houston at Hopewell Baptist Church, with burial scheduled for Friday in Houston Memorial Garden.

Born in Houston, Spencer attended Oklahoma Christian University, where he received a bachelor of science in 1989. He received a master of divinity from Southwestern Seminary in 1993 and then completed a Ph.D. at the seminary.

Spencer debated his call to the ministry, but asked God to make his path certain by providing a sign. In a 1998 interview with the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Spencer said he asked God to send three people his way in a single day, all of whom were to call him "preacher." God fulfilled the request.

"I prayed, and I asked the Lord, I told him that the only way I would do it was if I were 100 percent sure that he would be with me," Spencer said. "Just as I am talking with you, I heard a voice say, 'I am with you.' From that moment on, no doubts."

Spencer was elected to the faculty at Southwestern in 1998 while still a doctoral student.

He taught "Principles of



Raymond Bernard Spencer

Biblical Preaching" and other preaching-related courses.

Spencer's election to the faculty was not based on race, Southwestern President Kenneth Hemphill said. "When he was brought onto the faculty, his election was, I told the media then, not an issue of color. He was simply the best qualified for the position," Hemphill said Jan. 12.

Al Fasol, distinguished professor of preaching at Southwestern, said Spencer had impressed the entire preaching faculty with his skill and with his doctoral dissertation. "He was a student of mine ... an outstanding student, very bright. He broke some new ground with his dissertation on black preaching and gave us all a new understanding on imagery in black preaching," Fasol said. "He was going to be one of the strong members of our faculty."

"Raymond was an outstanding scholar and preacher who brought together the best of the academic world and practical ministry skills," Hemphill said. "He was a favorite among the students. He was one of the bright stars among Southern Baptist scholars of all races."

William Wilson, also a Ph.D. graduate from Southwestern who co-owned a home with Spencer, said the seminary had lost an influential faculty member. "He was going to hold

a generation of preachers for the better.... We're going to miss out on that opportunity," Wilson told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Wilson and Spencer were best friends, Fasol said, and the two often remarked that when they married and had families they would still live near one another. "They wanted to live close so their children could know each other," Fasol said.

Other faculty members at the seminary recalled Spencer's qualities of humility and congeniality. Larry Ashlock, assistant dean of the pastoral ministries division, called Spencer a "gracious man."

"Sometimes you have people who are larger than life that make you feel like you're the only person on the planet, like you are a person of value and worth. In that sense, Christ's hands touched your life," Ashlock said. "That's how it was with Raymond."

Karen Bullock, associate dean for the Ph.D. degree, worked alongside Spencer at the seminary as he mentored the Fellowship of Black Seminary students. She said Spencer was "a treasured gift to the faculty and to all of us at Southwestern Seminary." She recalled that he often baked cookies for his colleagues in adjoining offices and was fond of giving everyone "bear hugs."

"Raymond was so dear to all of us. We respect him and we were so excited about what God was doing in his life," Bullock added.

"We are sorrowful, but we do not grieve like those who have no hope," seminary spokesman David Porter said. "We rest assured in God's promise that he has a design beyond what we can see. Dr. Spencer was a valued member of the seminary family. The training that he imparted to young ministers will result in glory for God and his Kingdom."



# SOUNDS FROM WITHIN PRODUCTIONS DEBUTS "HOLDING ON" AT EASTFIELD COLLEGE Friday, February 7 at 8 PM

Dallas, TX... Sounds from Within writer/director Che Hill debuts his new stage play "Holding On" at Eastfield College as part of their celebration of Black History Month. The play chronicles the tragic events in the life of OTHELLO ST. CLAIR, a talented young saxophonist in the early 70's. Just as his dream of securing a lucrative recording contract with a prominent record label is within his reach, he loses his family in a horrific accident. Overwhelmed by grief and anger, Othello finds comfort in the very thing that causes him to question his existence...alcohol. He finds himself at a bitter crossroad when he must decide if he will allow himself to slowly vanish in a bottomless pit of depression or if he will confront the most difficult thing he's ever had to face in his life and keep holding on. The performance will take place on Friday, February 7 at 7 PM in the Eastfield College Performance Hall. Admission is free.

"My plays are true to life productions," says Hill. "These things happen. Tragedy happens. And often times, we find ourselves in seemingly insurmountable situations, and we have to

decide if our will to hold on and move through the pain, is greater than our grief." "HOLDING ON" is the follow up to Hill's critically acclaimed "ON THE EDGE". The play was highly praised for its message to at risk youth regarding the pitfalls of drug dealing. Its realistic depiction of the consequences of getting involved in that dangerous lifestyle was hailed by critics as powerful, moving and much needed in a time when people often talk about the risks, but few authors write about them. "HOLDING ON" promises to deliver the same intensity as Hill's other works, as it has been described as "...excellent," "interesting and entertaining," and a play that has "a poetic vibe that serenades the mind."

The mission of Sounds from Within is to touch people from all walks of life through the theatrical, oratorical, and motivational experience with realistic scenarios that help them to view their own lives in meaningful light. They specialize in the creation of works that have high moral values in a morally deprived society and productions that the whole family can enjoy, that are beneficial to youth. Hill concludes, "We

strive to represent realistic aspects of the African American experience today, providing insight into how black men and women truly interact...the intelligence, strength and spirituality of who we are."

Don't miss this remarkable stage play by one of the area's most talked about young artisans! For more information on attending "HOLDING ON" or booking a performance log onto [www.sfwproductions.com](http://www.sfwproductions.com) or contact Che Hill



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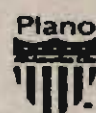
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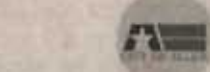
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THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF DALLAS, TEXAS

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Housing Authority of the City of Dallas, Texas ("DHA") is accepting Proposals from responsible and responsive businesses for a two (2) year contract with the possibility of one (1) one-year extension for a Fiscal Audit of the DHA's Retirement Plan.

Written Proposals will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. C.S.T., Monday, February 7, 2003 at the Compliance Department, DHA, 3939 North Hampton Road, Dallas, Texas 75212. A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on Thursday, January 30, 2003 at 10:00 a.m. C.S.T. at DHA's Executive Board Room, 3939 North Hampton Road, Dallas, Texas 75212.

Proposals package may be obtained from DHA's Compliance Department at 3939 North Hampton Road, Dallas, Texas 75212 or by calling 214/951-8397.

DHA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS IF SUCH ACTION IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND TO WAIVE ANY AND ALL INFORMALITIES AND MINOR IRREGULARITIES

**NTTA**

NORTH TEXAS TOLLWAY AUTHORITY

## NORTH TEXAS TOLLWAY AUTHORITY PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT

Sealed bids for construction of President George Bush Turnpike/I.H.635 Interchange to North of Valley View Lane covered by Contract DNT-335 will be received at the offices of the North Texas Tollway Authority (the "NTTA"), 5900 W. Plano Pkwy., Suite 100, Plano, TX 75093, (214) 461-2000, until 1:30 p.m., January 30, 2003, and then will be publicly opened and read. Plans for this project will be available January 7, 2003, at the address above.

Specifications may be seen for examination and for information at the office of the NTTA, 5900 W. Plano Parkway, Suite 100, Plano, Texas 75093. Proposals may be obtained from the North Texas Tollway Authority, address listed above, upon payment of One Hundred Fifty (\$150.00) Dollars, which sum will not be refunded. The usual rights are reserved.



# Arts & Entertainment

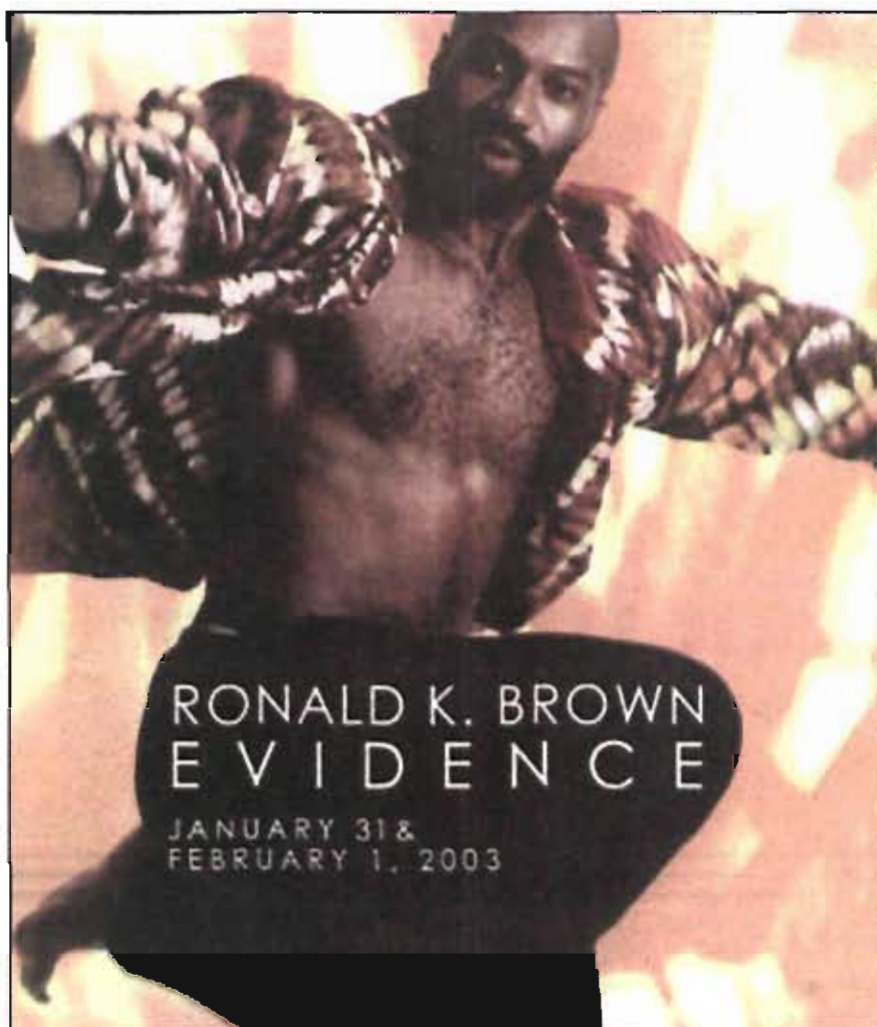
## TITAS SALUTES BLACK HISTORY MONTH WITH THE DANCE PERFORMANCE OF RONALD K. BROWN/EVIDENCE

"Ronald K. Brown/Evidence provides the kind of theater experience that almost makes you forget you're in the theater." -The Herald-Sun, Durham North Carolina

DALLAS, TX — TITAS' 2002-2003 Dance Season continues with a salute to Black History Month.

TITAS presents the Dallas Debut of RONALD K. BROWN/EVIDENCE on Friday, January 31st and Saturday, February 1st at 8PM at SMU's McFarlin Auditorium. Heralded by Dance Magazine as one of the best choreographers of the 21st century, Brown founded EVIDENCE in 1985 to present modern works portraying perspectives of African-American culture and history.

Numerous companies including Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Ailey II, Dayton Contemporary Dance Company and Philandanco have commissioned RONALD K. BROWN'S works. While he is often compared Alvin Ailey, Brown and his company are forging their own dance vocabulary, one that is highly diverse and resonates with any audience.



Based in New York City, RONALD K. BROWN/EVIDENCE has been featured at major festivals in the U.S. and abroad including Lyon/Biennale de la Dance, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, American Dance Festival, and National Black Arts Festival.

Tickets (\$10-\$55) for RONALD K. BROWN/EVIDENCE are available at the TITAS Box Office, 3101 North Fitzhugh, Suite 301, Dallas, TX or by phoning 214-528-5576 or faxing 214-528-0126, or online at [www.titas.org](http://www.titas.org). TITAS also offers a new \$5 Student Ticket (K-12) that is available only at the McFarlin Auditorium Box Office on the day of the show. Group discounts are available - call the TITAS Box Office for more information.

This special presentation of RONALD K. BROWN/EVIDENCE is made possible through the generous support of American Airlines, Philip Morris Companies Inc., The Dallas Morning News, KERA 90.1 FM, Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs, Circle R Group, Heritage Rare Coins, The Stoneleigh Hotel and WFAA-TV.



### Naitonal Security

Earl Montgomery (Martin Lawrence) and Hank Rafferty (Steve Zahn) met on opposite sides of the law during a routine traffic stop. Now they're teamed up as harebrained security guards. Despite facing resistance from the police department, the unlikely team uncovers a smuggling scheme involving an indestructible metal alloy.

Starring Martin Lawrence, Steve Zahn, Bill Duke, Colm Feore, Robinne Lee, Eric Roberts, Joe Flaherty, Timothy Busfield

Starts January 17, 2002



### Kangaroo Jack

A musician (Anthony Anderson) and his childhood friend (Jerry O'Connell), a New York hairstylist, get mixed up with the mob and must get to Australia to deliver \$100,000. Their will — and speed — is put to the test when a kangaroo runs off with the money.

Starring Jerry O'Connell, Anthony Anderson, Estella Warren, Christopher Walken, Dyan Cannon, Marton Csokas

Starts January 17, 2002

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Texas Boys Choir

"Nothing short of heavenly - silvery, melodic and majestic." - *Newweek*

These talented young women perform a dazzling, soul-stirring combination of pop, spiritual, classical, and roof-shaking gospel music. The performing choir of about 60 girls in grades 9-12 attends The Choir Academy of Harlem along with their counterparts in the Boys Choir. The Girls Choir of Harlem has performed at Lincoln Center, on "Good Morning, America" and "60 Minutes," at Harlem's famed Apollo Theatre, at Kennedy Center, and even on Broadway. Given the superb acoustics here in the Hall, they should sound - well - like angels.

"What every choir wants to be: talented and disciplined, with commanding stage presence and a deeply-rooted love of singing." - *Lawrence Journal-World*



NTheKnow.com and Millennium Jaguar, invites you out to attend the Ultimate Upscale Networking experience, where you can unwind in a elegant setting and network with some of Dallas finest urban professionals and business owners. Listen to the sultry sounds of Jazz, brought to you by, the Oasis 107.5. Complimentary food and beverages will be served throughout the evening.

Date: January 17, 2003  
Time: 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM  
Place: Millennium Jaguar

Address: 4422 West Plano Parkway, Plano, TX 75093

Phone: 972-769-2000

Enter to win a chance to drive a S-type Jaguar for a weekend.



Jeffrey Osborne with Regina Belle

Friday, February 14  
Bronco Bowl Theatre

Show starts at 7:30pm • Doors open at 6:30pm

Tickets available through Startickets or at all Albertsons.

Visit [www.startickets.com](http://www.startickets.com)

or call 1-888-597-7827 to order by phone

## BASS Performance Hall January 2003 Events

The Chieftains  
Thursday January 16, 2003 - 8:00 pm

Romeo and Juliet  
Friday January 17, 2003 - 8:00 pm  
Sunday January 19, 2003 - 2:00 pm  
Tuesday January 21, 2003 - 7:30 pm

Chanticleer  
Saturday January 18, 2003 - 8:00 pm

Martin Luther King Celebration  
Monday January 20, 2003 - 8:00 pm

Bruce Wood Dance Company  
Wednesday January 22, 2003 - 8:00 pm

Bach and Vivaldi: The Sound of Genius  
Miguel Harth-Bedoya, Conductor  
Saturday January 25, 2003 - 8:00 pm

Stand By Your Mao:  
The Tammy Wynette Story  
Tuesday January 28, 2003 - 8:00 pm  
Wednesday January 29, 2003 - 8:00 pm  
Thursday January 30, 2003 - 8:00 pm  
Friday January 31, 2003 - 8:00 pm



## BLOCKBUSTER'S® Hit List

These are the Top 10 Rating Video Titles at U.S. BLOCKBUSTER® stores for the week ending Jan. 12, 2003

- |                                        |                                    |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| VHS                                    | DVD                                |
| 1. SIGNS                               | 1. SIGNS                           |
| 2. XEN                                 | 2. XEN                             |
| 3. UNFAITHFUL                          | 3. BARBERSHOP                      |
| 4. MINORITY REPORT                     | 4. MINORITY REPORT                 |
| 5. BLOOD WORK                          | 5. THE GOOD GIRL                   |
| 6. EYE SEE YOU                         | 6. UNFAITHFUL                      |
| 7. MARTIN LAWRENCE LIVE: RINTELDAI     | 7. BLOOD WORK                      |
| 8. TRAPPED                             | 8. EYE SEE YOU                     |
| 9. DIVINE SECRETS OF THE YAWANSTERHOOD | 9. MARTIN LAWRENCE LIVE: RINTELDAI |
| 10. K-11 THE WIDOWMAKER                | 10. TRAPPED                        |

These are the Top 10 Selling Video Titles at U.S. BLOCKBUSTER® stores for the week ending Jan. 12, 2003

- |                                                 |                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| VHS                                             | DVD                                |
| 1. SIGNS                                        | 1. SIGNS                           |
| 2. LEO & STITCH                                 | 2. BARBERSHOP                      |
| 3. REY ANSOLO THE MOVIE                         | 3. SIGNS                           |
| 4. STUART LITTLE                                | 4. MARTIN LAWRENCE LIVE: RINTELDAI |
| 5. SPIDER-MAN                                   | 5. LEO & STITCH                    |
| 6. DRAGON BALL Z - AID BUL THE PRICE OF VICTORY | 6. REY ANSOLO                      |
| 7. DRAGON BALL Z - KID BUL VEGITA'S PLEA        | 7. THE GOOD GIRL                   |
| 8. REY ANSOLO                                   | 8. MINORITY REPORT                 |
| 9. THE LORD OF THE RINGS                        | 9. K-11 THE WIDOWMAKER             |
| 10. AUSTIN POWERS IN GOLDMEMBER                 | 10. BEAUTY AND THE BEAST           |

These are the most New Releases hitting the stores on Tuesday, January 14, 2003. Titles available for rent on DVD are indicated with \*.

THE BOURNE IDENTITY*	BLOOM STREETZ
SMOKE*	GO FOR BROKE
TADPOLE*	DISAPPEARANCE*
HARRISON'S FLOWERS*	BLACK LISTED
24 HOUR PARTY PEOPLE*	THE ROSA PARKS STORY*
ONE WEEK*	CRITICAL MASS
RAD LOVE (unrated)*	TWO OF US
THE COCKATIES	DONNER RUSH
WORLD TRAVELER*	JAM MIAMI A CELEBRATION OF LATIN JAZZ
101 DALMATIANS II PATCHES LONDON ADVENTURE*	THE STOCK UP*
AIR PANIC*	KILLER BATS*
PYTHON II*	





## Sister Tarpley

### GREETINGS TO ALL:

To honor and show respect for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday observation on January 20, 2003, if you plant this garden you will succeed in life, in love and in happiness. It has been said that this is hard to do, but strive to plant as much as you can and make certain you fertilize and water. I know you can do this because, "You Are Special."

### FOR THE GARDEN OF YOUR DAILY LIVING

**Plant Three Rows of Peas**  
Peace of mind.  
Peace of heart.  
Peace of soul.

**Plant Four Rows of Squash**  
Squash gossip.  
Squash indifference.  
Squash grumbling.  
Squash selfishness.

**Plant Four Rows of Lettuce**  
Lettuce be faithful.  
Lettuce be kind.  
Lettuce be patient.  
Lettuce really love one another.

**Plant Three Rows of Turnips**  
Turnip for meetings.  
Turnip for service.  
Turnip to help one another.

**To Conclude Your Garden, You Must Have Thyme**  
Thyme for God.  
Thyme for family.  
Thyme for each other.  
Thyme for friends.

Water freely with patience and cultivate with love. There will be much fruit in your garden because you reap what you sow.

### Thought for The Day:

**Time is...** Too slow for those who wait. Too swift for those who fear. Too long for those who grieve. Too short for those who rejoice, but for those who love—Time is Eternity.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DR. KING!

You are Special,  
Sister Tarpley

starpley@wt.net (Email)  
214-833-1639 (Pager)  
972-606-3878 (Voice Mail)  
972-516-4197 (Fax)

*Let MON-The Gazette help your church accomplish the Prayer of James, "Enlarge our territory to expand opportunities that may impact in such a way that we touch more lives for God's glory. Let us do more for Him."*

## Church Happenings

ever, tutors are specialized in Chemistry, Algebra, Algebra I, English, Writing, and Reading.

**January 19, 2003, 2:00 p.m.**  
Financial Aid Workshop/  
Luncheon.- Bring your FAFSA and W-2.  
Contact Joyce Miller at 972-278-4641 for more information.

**January 25, 7:45 a.m.**  
The Men's Ministry Council will host their monthly Men's Fellowship Breakfast.  
Guest speaker-Pastor Leonard O. Leach of Mesquite, TX.  
This event is free and open to all men in the community.

**February 7, 7:00-10:00 p.m.**  
The Men's Ministry, along with the Parenting Ministry, will sponsor a Father/Daughter Sweetheart Ball at the Alexander Mansion, 333 West Ave. D. Fathers, uncles, grandfathers, brothers, or male mentors are welcome!  
Cost: \$20 per person  
For more information concerning any of these events, call 972-276-5218.

Mt. Hebron Baptist Church  
Leonard Leach, Pastor  
901 Dairy Rd.  
Garland, TX 75040

### SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH

**Every 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 7:15 p.m.-8:15 p.m.**  
The Singles Ministry of Shiloh Baptist Church is sponsoring a single's fellowship, providing positive

life enrichment opportunities, support, and interaction with other singles within the context of the Christian Faith.  
Light refreshments served.

For more information, contact Minister Daniel Shaw at 972-291-0449 or email lakeith75104@yahoo.com.

Shiloh Baptist Church  
Isiah Joshua, Jr., Pastor  
1310 Ave. I  
Plano, TX 75074  
**ST. MARK BAPTIST CHURCH**

**January 19, 3:30 p.m.**  
MEN'S MONTH CELEBRATION  
Annual Men's Day Program.  
Theme: "We've Come This Far By Faith", Hebrews 11:6  
Special Guest, Rev. D. L. Wilson, Pastor of Sweet Home Baptist Church, Garland, TX

**January 26, 11:00 a.m.**  
Special Worship Service  
Join us, as we become "Disciples of Jesus Christ"

**February 9, 3:30 p.m.**  
Annual Black History Program and Harriet Tubman Award Presentations

For more information, call 972-542-6178

St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church  
Charles S. Wattle, Pastor  
1308 Wilcox Street  
McKinney, TX 75069

## Dunbar Debutantes from Page 5

of Mr. Walter Harold, Jr., and Cassandra Brand. Born and raised in Buffalo, New York, she relocated with her parents to Dallas in 1996. Crystal graduated a year early from Middle College High School in Dallas. She was recognized by Who's Who Amongst American High School Students for two consecutive years. Crystal is a sophomore at El Centro College, Dallas, and will graduate with her Associate of Science Degree in Paralegal Studies in May 2003.

Kendra Renee Thomas, daughter of Mr. Kenneth M. Thomas (Marshall, TX), and Mrs. Melba J. Runels (Dallas, TX). Kendra graduated from David W. Carter High School, Dallas. She is currently a sophomore at El Centro College, Dallas, where she is earning a Business

Management Degree. She plans to attend Paul Quinn College of Dallas to earn a Doctorate in teaching. She is a member of the SIFE/SAM Business Club at El Centro College. She plans to start a business in real estate.

LaWanna Diane Evans, daughter of Ms. Freda Joyce Evans and Mr. Jimmy Darrin King, Jr., of Dallas. LaWanna graduated from Dallas' High School Skyline Career Development Center, May 2001. While in high school, she spent most of her time as a student and dance instructor at Etta's Dance Expression, where she returns to teach and perform. LaWanna received several scholarships. Two of them, in the amount of \$10,000, with an expense paid trip to New York, were from Girls' Inc. where she was a 15-year member. She is a sophomore at the University of North Texas studying Sociology.

## HOW'S YOUR HEALTH?

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Lori Pearson, CLU

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## Church Happenings

### ALL NATIONS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**January 30, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

The Fundamentals of Achieving Financial Independence-The first in a series of four financial workshops to be held through April, sponsored by the Men's Ministry.

Workshops will be conducted by professional financial advisors and attorneys.

Free and open to the public

To RSVP and obtain a free seminar packet, please call 972-424-8500.

All Nations United Methodist Church  
Dr. Clara Reed, Pastor  
34185 E. 14th St.  
Plano, TX 75074

### MT. HEBRON BAPTIST CHURCH

**Through February 26, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**

Mt. Hebron will continue with weekly tutoring, but will be preparing students specifically in grade 3 for the TAKS test each Wednesday. The test is March 4. This is free and open to the public. Tutoring is conducted in all subject areas; how-

Continued next column

## Feel Better Now.

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## HEAVEN 97 AM

*Uplifting, Inspirational Music*

## Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church



1308 Wilcox Street, McKinney TX  
Pastor Charles S. Wattle



**Sunday**  
Education Ministries...9:30 a.m.  
Worship Celebration...11:00 a.m.  
-Nursery Facilities Available-

**Wednesday**  
Family Ministries...7:00 p.m.

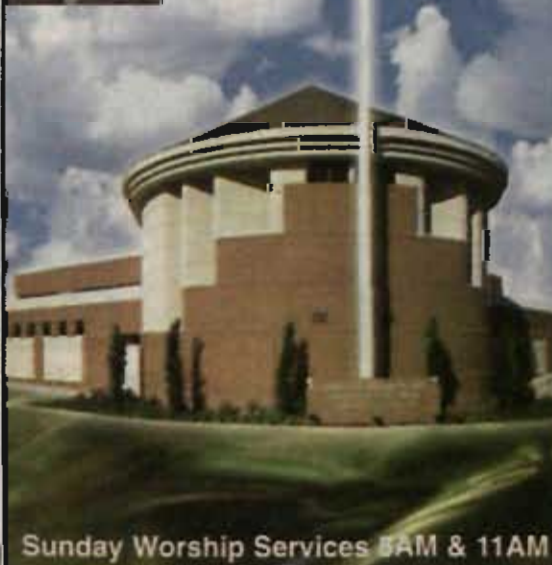
**Friendly Fellowship with A Family Focus**  
For more information Call  
972.542.6178

www.saintmarkbc.com  
saintmarkmissionary@aol.com

## Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church

920 E. 14th Street Plano, TX

Pastor Isiah Joshua, Jr.



### Sunday Worship Services 9AM & 11AM

Monday	7PM Youth, Brotherhood, Mission & Young Adult Ministries
Tuesday	7PM Bible Study & Men's Choir
Wednesday	7PM Mid-Week Service
Thursday	7PM Mass Choir

For more information call (972) 423-6695  
www.shilohbaptistchurch.org

## Mt. Olive Church of Plano

A Church Called to Unite the Body of Christ

740 Ave. F #303  
Plano, TX 75074

A Non-denominational Church for all Nations



Pastor Sam Fenceroy



Minister Gloria Fenceroy

### Standard Announcements

Sunday School	9:30 AM
Worship Service	10:45 AM
Men & Women Ministry 1st & 3rd Mondays	7:30-8:30 PM
Leadership Meeting	2nd Mondays 7:30-8:30 PM
Marriage Enrichment & Singles Ministry	
	4th Mondays 7:30-8:30 PM
Deliverance from Issues	Tuesdays 7:30-8:30 PM
Mid-Week Service	Wednesdays 7:15-8:30 PM
Youth Bible Study	Wednesdays 7:15-8:30 PM

Radio Broadcast Station 1040AM-KGGR  
M-F 10:25-10:30 AM.

For More Information: (972) 633-5511 or E-Mail  
slfenceroy@aol.com