

The Truth Clinic

A Black Phoenix Living Memorial

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"Laffin Out Loud With The Lord!!"

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The Gazette

"North Dallas' Weekly Paper of Choice"

SERVING PLANO, DALLAS, RICHARDSON, GARLAND, ALLEN, MCKINNEY AND MESQUITE



On the Homefront:

Sample food from the best area restaurants at the 15th annual Taste of Plano, March 3, 2003, 5:30pm - 8:30pm, at Southfork Ranch. Enjoy the food and fun while supporting Plano ISD's Outstanding Students Scholarships Awards Program. Presented by: The Plano Independent School District, Plano Chamber of Commerce, 99.5 the WOLF, and The Dallas Morning News. Advance Tickets: \$15 adult, \$8 grades K-12. Call Taste of Plano Hotline: 469.752.8009 for tickets and details.

In honor of Black History Month, 'The King Center, Education is Freedom Foundation', and 7-Eleven, Inc. have partnered to make Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have A Dream" speech available in its entirety. Includes a four-page introduction penned by Coretta Scott King, describing the hours leading up to Dr. King's speech. Available at counters in 7-Eleven stores while supplies last.

Free tax assistance for all ages provided by AARP, Mondays from February 3 to April 14, at the Mesquite Public Library, 300 W. Grubb Drive, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. First come, first served basis. Interested individuals should bring a copy of last year's return and required paperwork (W-2 forms, 1099 forms, etc.).

McKinney Symphony Orchestra presents the internationally renowned 'The Chamber Orchestra Kremlin', February 21, at First Baptist Church on Louisiana Street. This is their only stop in North Texas, as part of their 2002-2003 American tour. For more information: 972.502.9276.

Garland Civic Theatre fund raiser presents "Grand Night", February 20-22, at the Plaza Theatre, 521 West State, Garland. For more information call: 972.205.2790.

Volunteers needed in Plano, McKinney, Allen and Frisco for the Area Agency on Aging, as they plan a training session in Collin County in March. After completing a 36-hour training course, volunteers are Texas Department on Aging, Certified Long Term Care Ambassadors. No previous experience required. Training is free, hours worked are flexible. Call Lisa at 480.272.3421.

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Mesquite Branch NAACP President Rodney Harmon taking Oath of Office

Mesquite NAACP Newly Elected Officers Plan to Increase Membership

By: Brinda G. Alexander

The Mesquite Chapter of the NAACP has a strong background of members working for the benefit and betterment of their community, and to that end a newly elected group of officers are dedicated to continuing their success.

With the installation of new officers on February 17, 2003, Mr. Rodney Harmon, President, said, "We are already making plans and setting new goals to increase support from more African-Americans in the community."

Mrs. Denise Upchurch, newly elected second vice president, said of the Mesquite Chapter, "We encourage strong participation by all the community. Adults work along with young people to make the

Mesquite NAACP branch and community strong."

The new team of officers are ready to move forward and work toward their goals, which include completion of the Brickyard Cemetery Memorial, and increasing branch membership by 15 percent by the end of 2003.

The newly elected officers for the Mesquite Chapter are: Mr. Rodney Harmon - President, Mrs. Constance Paris - 1st Vice President, Mrs. Denise Upchurch - 2nd Vice President, Mrs. Donna White - Secretary, Mr. Reginald Hopkins - Treasurer.

The Mesquite NAACP was formed in 1993. Branch meetings are held every third

Mesquite NAACP Page 5

Local Organization Prepares Youth for Success



(Left to Right) Founder Frances Griffin-Brown pictured with Students Brittany and Brandy Piggins, and Board members Paula Parker and Sonja Harrison at a 2002 debutante ball. Club Generation Success Page 5

Garland NAACP Annual Winter Ball



African American History Honorees, "Celebrating the Year of the Man" (Left to Right) Mr. John H. Delaney, Deacon Ricky McNeal, Rev. Leonard O. Leach-Pastor of Mt. Hebron Baptist Church in Garland, Mr. Dale H. Long, Deacon David Lyons, Mr. Charles Chester, Rev. Anthony Wilson, Rev. Roosevelt E. Griffin-Pastor of St. Mark Baptist Church in Garland, Deacon Robert Clark, Deacon Ralph Anderson, Mr. Merrill Balanciere, and Deacon Chester Johnson

Garland NAACP Annual Winter Ball Page 2



Lessons for Today 100 Years After Du Bois' 'Souls of Black Folks'

By: Ron Walters

The theme of Black History Month is taken this year from the observance of the 100th anniversary of the famous book by Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois, *The Souls of Black Folks*. What strikes me while reading David Levering Lewis's outstanding work on Du Bois is the parallel between 1903 and today. Du Bois' book partly emerges from his conflict with Booker T. Washington over what kind of education would be best for progress of the race. Washington thought that Blacks would need "practical education" to obtain a vocation. His view of the vocational status of Blacks was consistent with the emerging needs of industrialists in the North for skilled, passive labor. Du Bois, on the other hand, was one of the "new Negroes" in a new century who wanted swift race advancement based on liberal arts collegiate training. His view was that the so-called "talented tenth" would provide the leadership for blacks to achieve equality in mainstream America.

At a deeper level, this well-known conflict was shaped by the power of a conservative movement that in the late 19th Century had fostered the famous doctrine of "separate but equal" in the 1896 U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Plessy v. Ferguson* as part of the general attempt to reconcile the white North and white South, but at the expense of blacks. As a result, Blacks were driven out of power in the South, literally, by terroristic methods, such as the rise of the Klan, Klux Klan night-riders, who drove Blacks away from the polls; lynchings, which were at high tide with nearly 100 Blacks murdered each year;

and by laws that forced Blacks into a new subordinate status.

Levering writes that Du Bois at first had hesitated to criticize Washington, as some of the radicals like William Montoye Trotter in Boston, Ida B. Wells Barnett and others had. But at last he could not hold back. His book, *The Souls of Black Folks*, was his attack on the conservative movement of his day.

Today, we are living in one of the most conservative periods of history, with the gains won in the Civil Rights Movement under attack every day. I have just learned that Princeton University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology have decided to change their summer programs designed to attract Black students to the study of math and the sciences, opening the programs to all. They are fearful that conservative legal organizations, such as the Center for Individual Rights, will sue them. Just a few weeks prior, the president of the United States announced that he did not support the version of affirmative action used at the University of Michigan. George Bush regarded the award of points for race as a factor in admissions as a "quota" and promoted the "percentage plans" adopted by California, Texas and Florida which all have eliminated affirmative action in college admissions.

However, the Harvard University Civil Rights Project has confirmed a recent U. S. Civil Rights Commission report that denounced the percentage

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'Minority' Programs Keep Us Fighting Over 15 Percent

By: James Clingman

You have probably heard the term "economic inclusion" being bantared about lately, so here's another question while we're at it: Who is doing the including? Who are they including? How does a public project, or one funded with public dollars, come under the authority of a White contractor or developer who, in turn, has the right to "include" a certain percentage of "minorities"? Why is it that White men, for the most part, are always the ones doing the "including" and "minorities" are always the ones being included, to the tune of an average of 15 percent of the pie?

What about the 85 percent of the contracting, the employment, the development and the tourism dollars? Who gets that? And, what entitles them to get it?

Isn't it amazing that we sometimes fall for the games people play on us? In Cincinnati, Ohio, my hometown, a disparity study (Cross Study) stated very clearly that Black people and other groups had been discriminated against via city contracting opportunities. What happens? Well, the city council voted to implement a "race-neutral" program, laced with a few small percentage goals, to make up for past discrimination. Mind you, the problem was based on race, but the solution was race-neutral.

We have all sorts of "minority" programs that call for goals, aspirations, goods intentions, hopes, wishes, and have encouraging words attached to them. However, they all center on a relatively small percentage of a

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Garland NAACP Annual Winter Ball



Shirley Turpley, Henry Bryant



Ronald E. Jones, Assistant City Manager of Garland, and Peggy R. Jones



Mayor Bob Day and wife, Reta Day



Garland NAACP President BJ Williams and wife, Dorothy Williams



Shirley Turpley, Religion Columnist for MON-The Gazette and Bob Day-Mayor of Garland



Rev. Leonard Leach (center) and wife, Sharon Leach (left) with BJ Williams, President of Garland-NAACP

Plano's Sweetheart's Ball 2003



Pastor Sam Fenceroy and Minister Gloria Fenceroy



Plano Mayor Pat Evans presents a proclamation to each of the presidents of the organizations who helped make the Sweetheart's Ball a success.

(Left to right) Julius Chambers, President of Omega Psi Phi -Alpha Iota Iota Chapter; Wendy Phynes, President of Links, Inc.-Plano North Metroplex Chapter; Barbara Simpkins, President of Plano Community Forum



Ron Williams and Mayor Pat Evans



John and Myrtle Hightower



Starting at Front, Counterclockwise - Doug Howie, Pat Howie, Louise Davis, Jim Davis, Rose Jones, Owen Jones, Edwin Terry, Rev. Charles Terry, Don McKnight, Evelyn McKnight



Shirley Taplin



Starting from Back, Counterclockwise - Evan Starks, Cecil Starks, Mary McKinzie, Lafayette McKinzie, Frank Henson, Sharon Henson, Andy Coney, Greta Coney, Herman Johnson, Vanessa Johnson

Around The Town

On-going

Learn how to be free of all your credit card debt, at the Douglass Community Center, 1111 Avenue H, Plano. Classes held every Tuesday, 7:00p.m to 8:30p.m. Receive a financial game plan and workbook, and a certificate of completion and \$10.00 upon graduation. Contact Flora Kynard at 214.496.9756. Cost: \$29.95.

The Arts Gallery at Collin County Community College, Spring Creek Campus, displays works by students and professionals. Visitors and new artists are welcome. For more information call: 972.881.5154. Open Mon-Fri 8a.m.-9p.m., Sat 10a.m.-2p.m.

February 1 - 28

Kaleidoscope 2003, featuring the art of Mary Griffin, Janet Shaw, Steve Simicik and Irish Yopp will be displayed at Plano Municipal Center, 1520 Avenue K, during February. These award-winning artists create in the media of watercolor and collage. Exhibits are available for viewing Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

February 1 - March 15

In celebration of the Chinese New Year, the City of Plano presents an art exhibit featuring four Chinese artists at the Courtyard Theater, 1509 Avenue H. The exhibit is free, and is part of the City of Plano's program.

February 1 - April 30

Heard Natural Science

Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary presents 'Here's Looking at You!' A new 2,000 square-foot award-winning interactive traveling exhibit at the Heard Museum sees nature through different eyes, to explore what is known about human and animal vision and to understand the ongoing quest to discover what animals actually see. Open Monday - Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission to exhibits and grounds: \$8 for adults, \$5 children 3-12 and senior citizens. Admission to grounds only: \$5 adults, \$3 children 3-12 and senior citizens. For more information call: 972.562.5566, or visit www.heardmuseum.org. March 1 through April 6

Texas Area Artists exhibit "Pigment of the Imagination" in the Main Gallery. Monday through Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Mondays until 9 p.m.), Saturdays 5:00 p.m. - 9 p.m. Call 972.216.8122, or 972.216.6444.

February 20

The Junction - Americana music (folk, blues, jazz, country) by a variety of artists at the Plano Station, east of the DART Downtown Plano Station, from 7pm to 9:30pm. Admission: \$10 per person at the door. For more information contact Jim Wear at 972.941.5202.

February 21

CLUB GENERATION SUCCESSSM presents "Where We Come From, Who We Are, Where We Are Going", a celebration of Black history, 7:30p.m. at Plano West Senior High School, 5601 W. Parker. \$5

children and adults.

February 22

"One Day Only!", a short play festival, 8:00 p.m. at the Mesquite Arts Center Black Box Theatre, 1527 N. Galloway Ave. A one-time performance of seven short plays will be the result of 24 hours of work by actors, writers, directors and technicians. Tickets are \$10 adults, \$8 students, seniors and STAGE members. Tickets available at the door. Call 214.731.8650 for more information.

The Collin County Republican Party invites you to the 35th Annual Lincoln Day Dinner "2002 An Election to Remember", at the Plano Centre, Spring Creek and Jupiter Roads from 6:30pm-7:30pm. Keynote Speaker is Michael Reagan, eldest son of Ronald Reagan. \$50.00 Individual Ticket/\$100.00 VIP/\$750.00 - \$5000.00 Table Sponsorships. For more information call Ashlea Quinonez at 974.242.2122 or visit www.collincountygop.com.

Trout Lily Tour, at the Spring Creek Forest Preserve, Garland, 10:00 a.m., 1770 Holford Road. Hosted by the Society for the Preservation of Spring Creek Forest. Call 972.205.2750.

February 23, 2003

Multi-Cultural Festival, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Market Place in Old East Dallas, 3915 Bryan St. This is the first of six festivals held by Multi Ethnic Education and Economic Development Center. Event is free. Free booth space for qualified vendors. For booth

reservation and event sponsorship contact Budi Kurniawan at 972.241.8250. For festival time and activities contact Joe Phumpong at 214.370.4760.

February 24

McKinney Storytelling Guild presents "Animal Stories," at 7:00 p.m. in the historic Foote Chapel of Chestnut Square Historical Park, on the SW corner of McDonald St. (Hwy 5) and Anthony Street. Free admission, donations accepted. For more information call Adah Leah Wolf at 972-548-7186 or email ellat@attbi.com. SMU School of Engineering Networking Event, at the Plano Centre, Spring Creek and Jupiter Roads, 6:00pm-9:00pm. For current and prospective graduate students, alumni, faculty, and corporate professionals. Presentations by SMU faculty and industry leaders. To RSVP email gradprograms@enr.smu.edu, or contact Ms. Rie Watts at 214-768-1403.

February 25

SPCA hosts its annual "Neuter Scooter for a Nickel", in association with Spay Day USA. Both Dallas and McKinney clinics will be able to schedule 150 surgeries each. To spay your male cat for just a nickel, call 972.562.7297, ext. 15 (McKinney) or 214.651.9611, ext. 133 (Dallas). Cats must have proof of vaccines, or get them at time of surgery for additional cost.

Baylor Medical Center and Nicholson Memorial Library

system in Garland present a health care seminar on "Foot Problems" at 12:00 noon, at Central Library, 625 Austin Street. Call 1.800.422.9567.

NAACP-Garland Branch and Youth Council Executive Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. - Women's Activity Center, 713 Austin Street at Glenbrook. General membership meeting and Youth Council will sponsor Black History program at 7:30 p.m.

February 27

Garland NAACP Youth Council Black History Program, "Having Our Say Through the Years: The African American Life in Song, Word and Dance", 7:00 p.m. at the Garland Women Activities Center, 713 Austin Street.

Heritage Farmstead Museum History Lecture 6:30 pm at Heritage Farmstead Museum, 1900 West 15th, Plano. Linda DeWeese, local history buff, will talk about intricacies of Victorian mourning traditions and superstitions prevalent in the 19th century. Admission: \$3.00.

February 28

Garland Symphony Orchestra is joined by U.S. Coast Guard Woodwind Quintet in concert, 8:00 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center, 300 North Fifth Street. For tickets call 972.926.0611.

In honor of African American Heritage Month, Vickery Meadows Elementary School kindergarten classes present songs about Dr. M.L. King, Jr., a dance by five/six grade girls and a musical

selection. 2:00 p.m., 6606 Ridgcrest, Dallas.

March 1

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc Xi Tau Lambda Chapter hosts its premier fundraiser 'The Alpha Legacy Celebration', at Adam's Mark Hotel, 400 Olive Street, Dallas, 6:00 p.m. to midnight. Black-tie event includes cocktail reception, dinner, live musical entertainment by soul jazz artist Jonathan Butler. Call 972.729.5598 for tickets.

Heaven's Crop Scrapbook Event, 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., at Resurrection Lutheran Church, 1919 Independence Parkway. Proceeds support families grieving the loss of a child to miscarriage, stillbirth, and/or early infant death. Contact: TX Moms of Tiny Angels at 972.346.2165, or visit: www.txmomsoftinyangels.org

March 4

Atrium at the Arts Center Ribbon Cutting, 300 North Fifth, Garland, 5:30 p.m. Call 972.205.2785.

March 5

Flood Awareness Seminar presented by the City of Garland in partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Association and the National Flood Insurance Program, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., City Hall Council Chamber, 200 North Fifth. Call 972.205.2170.

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THE TRUTH CLINIC

A Black Phoenix Living Memorial

During the course of some 18 hours on May 31-June 1, 1921, the City of Tulsa erupted, fueled by a firestorm of terrorism and violence perpetrated by a white mob hell bent on ethnic cleansing. Entire Black neighborhoods were destroyed, more than one thousand homes were burned to the ground, leaving over 9,000 people homeless.

In all, some 40 square blocks were laid to waste including the city's thriving Black commercial Greenwood district. Dubbed the "Negro Wall Street," Greenwood was an economic powerhouse. The rigid segregation of the time forced Tulsa's Blacks to create their own business district. However, the white Tulsa business owners began to feel resentment. The successful Black Greenwood community was undermining their downtown businesses. Strained race relationships between whites and blacks and the heightened jealousy over the thriving "Negro Wall Street" which was giving Blacks a sense of independence and self-determination was a festering keg of dynamite. The alleged encounter between the Black shoeshine boy and the white elevator operator was simply the match to ignite it.

The Greenwood businesses were some of the finest in the country; hotels, drug stores, restaurants, grocery stores, theaters, banquet halls, recreation facilities, a hospital, churches, newspapers, a Black bus line, schools, and professional buildings that housed doctors, lawyers, dentists and realtors. All were destroyed—turned into a surreal wasteland. For months, Blacks had to watch in silence as whites paraded Tulsa's streets wearing clothing and jewelry stolen during the

orchestrated pogrom. The total property loss was estimated at 1.5 million dollars; a staggering amount in 1921. The human toll was estimated at upwards of 300.

One observer who visited Tulsa following the conflagration could hardly describe the scorched landscape. He stated, "in terms of sheer brutality and willful destruction of life and property, this stands without parallel in America." Not one white person was ever arrested or charged for the Tulsa Massacre.

The president of the Tulsa chamber of commerce furnished news associations across the country with a press release stating, "The sympathy of the citizenship of Tulsa in a great wave has gone out to the unfortunate law-abiding Negroes who became victims of the bad advice of some of the lawless leaders, and as quickly as possible rehabilitation will take place and reparations made."

But the reality of rehabilitation and restitution never materialized. Tulsa's white leaders secretly plotted to do precisely the opposite of their promises. A conspiracy of silence evolved, key documents disappeared, and white business and political leaders worked feverishly to sweep the massacre beneath the carpet of history.

The Executive Welfare Committee in charge of "relief" efforts voted to solicit no money for aid, nor accept any donations to reconstruct the Negro District. The winter of 1921-22 found close to 1,000 terrorized Black Tulsans with nothing but tents to protect them from the cold and snow.

The Black community of Tulsa attempted to revive Greenwood during the '30s and '40s without the promised help. But, less than a decade later, dissected by

highways, emptied by suburban drift, and rebuffed by officials at every turn, the neighborhood finally succumbed to the bulldozer.

All that remains of the magnificent vision and entrepreneurial determination that created "the Negro Wall Street" is a single gentrified block of Greenwood Avenue, surrounded by new urban-renewal projects, a new university complex, a duck pond and a new cultural center that houses a jazz museum.

This month, the nation celebrates Black History. And Dr. M. L. King is in the spotlight with parades and banquets being held to honor the struggle for human dignity that he lead and eventually died for. His name is emblazoned on thousands of streets, schools, buildings, community centers, parks and bridges throughout the country. And there is a movement to have a national monument erected in Washington, D.C. These celebrations and monuments are great symbols to the indomitable Black spirit, but something more than symbolism is needed.

A more fitting monument to honor Black America and its heroic Black martyrs would be to create working replicas of Tulsa's "Black Wall Street" in urban communities across the nation. These dynamic memorials, rising like a phoenix from the ashes, would be a living testament to the African-American men and women, who, in spite of the blatant inequalities of a separate but equal nation accomplished the unimaginable; transforming dreams into reality.

Black America, it is time to do it again. It is past time.

James W. Breedlove
Comments or opinions may be sent to the writer at: jaydubub@swbell.net

Community Leader Upclose:

Denise Upchurch of Mesquite is taking on new roles and responsibilities and is continuing to forge her way ahead as a community leader. And MON-The Gazette is proud to announce that one of her new roles is as a member of the paper's Advisory Board.

Upchurch is hopeful that her involvement in the community, particularly in the area of education, will help her be a productive member of the board, and she said she is willing to serve in any area she is needed.

One of her major roles has been with the Mesquite Branch of the NAACP, where she served as president for six years, and was recently elected 2nd vice president. On Monday, February 17, she and four other newly elected officers were installed in the Mesquite branch.

"The installation evening went well," said Upchurch. "Our branch is active, but we're in transition mode right now with the installation of new officers."

Even with an active NAACP branch, Upchurch said they would like to get more people involved and aware of the responsibility of the NAACP.

"If you want to have an active branch, you have to work hard," said Upchurch.

And with B.J. Williams, president of the Garland Branch, as a friend, she said she has a strong person to look to.

"The Garland Branch is like a mentor branch, B.J. Williams is very involved," Upchurch said.

Although future goals for the Mesquite branch are to be discussed with the board, she said they are working toward holding a health fair sometime in June. She said the Junior Youth Council will be working with them on the projects.

Upchurch said she will be working heavily on education, and is chairperson for ACTSO, an educational program run through the NAACP, designed for students in grades 9-12. Students are allowed to perform in up to three categories, from science to art, and each year they have the opportunity to compete at local level, and go on to the national competition.

Although NAACP membership is not a requirement, Upchurch encourages the students to join, as it gives them avenues for information and involvement, particularly at leadership level.

Her eleven year-old daughter, Jasmine, is involved with the NAACP, and is serving as president of the Junior Youth Council.

"She's been involved with me since the beginning," said Upchurch. "We're a family of leaders, two of my sons were involved in office with the youth council."

But she said she keeps herself at a distance from her daughter in her role as president of the youth council, so she can learn the qualities of a leader by having to be a leader.

"When she went to Houston last year, she was awesome, and she earned her own recognition outside

of being my daughter. She volunteered, and she sat up in the roster with dignitaries," Upchurch said. "And when she goes to Miami for the ACTSO national competition she will be in meetings with other presidents and officers, so she has to learn leadership qualities."

Having relinquished her role as president of the Mesquite branch, Upchurch said she now has time to take on other activities, such as the advisory board. She also plans to run for a position on the Mesquite school board, hoping that her involvement with ACTSO and other educational projects will help her win votes. Other projects Upchurch is working on include raising funds for the Brickyard Cemetery in Mesquite, a burial ground for the first African-American residents in Mesquite. And she is trying to help African-American contractors be aware of the bond program involved in the freeway construction in Mesquite, she is a new board member of the Mesquite Chamber of Commerce, and would like to join the Heart Association, "And I think that would be enough," said Upchurch.

She added that her husband, Charles, has been very supportive of her, especially when he realized this is what she is meant to do. "I wouldn't and couldn't do this unless my husband was supportive," she said.

Denise Upchurch Joins MON-The Gazette Advisory Board

Mrs. Denise Upchurch was born July 17, 1953, in Las Vegas Nevada. Her family moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and then to Texas. After graduating from Mart High School, she attended Dallas Baptist University. Upchurch was employed with Southwestern Bell, where she met her husband, for twenty years (1977-1997). She left to spend more time with their daughter, Jasmine. She is now a Licensed Loan Officer for Carteret Mortgage/Investor, and ministers as a spiritual motivational speaker.

She was appointed by Senator David Cain and Texas State NAACP President, Gary Bledsoe, to

serve on the TAKS committee, and she is serving as Education Co-chairperson with the 2002-2003 Texas State NAACP. She is a 2003 Board Appointee to the Mesquite



Chamber of Commerce, and 2003 Advisory Board Member with MON-The Gazette.

Upchurch has five children from a previous marriage: Venecia Buhl-Bates -age 28, married with 4 children, Clarence Buhl -age 25, Captain in law enforcement, Jason Buhl - age 21, in United States Air Force, stationed in Turkey, Joshua Buhl - age 21, outstanding student and football player #7 with Kansas State University, and Joseph Buhl -age 20, Airman Leader in the United States Air Force.

She is currently married to Charles Upchurch, and they have an eleven year-old daughter, Jasmine, who is president of the Junior Youth Council of the Mesquite NAACP.

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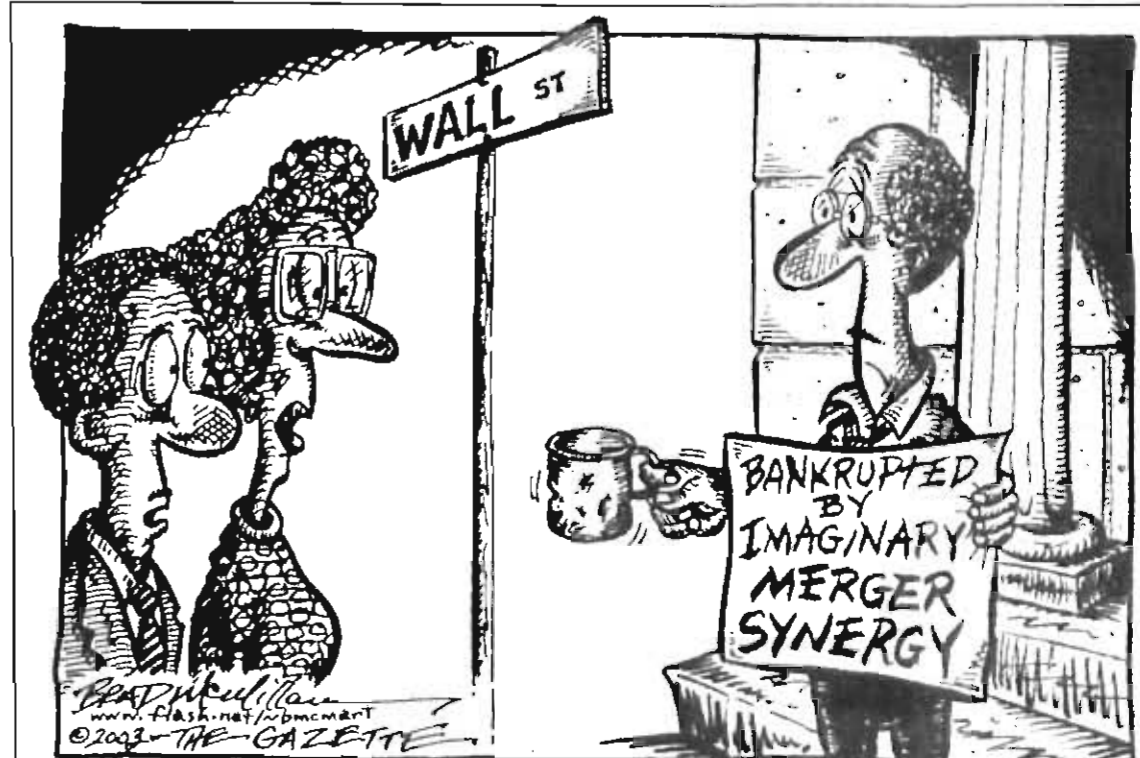
MON-The Gazette assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material and reserves the right to edit and make appropriate revisions.

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

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

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

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



**Collin County Republican Party presents:
"2002 AN ELECTION TO REMEMBER"
the 35th Annual Lincoln Day Dinner**

The Collin County Republican Party will hold its 35th Annual Lincoln Day Dinner on Saturday, February 22, 2003 at Plano Center. Congressman Sam Johnson and Mr. Victor Lattimore have graciously agreed to be the Honorary Co-Chairs for this spectacular event. We invite you to Enjoy a Fantastic Program!

Our Speaker will be Michael Reagan, the eldest son of Ronald Reagan. Mr. Reagan is heard daily by over 5 million listeners via his nationally syndicated talk radio program, *The Very Independent Michael Reagan Show*. The show airs on more than 200+ stations in the U.S. and for the world at reagan.com. Listeners count on Mike to pierce the public relations

veil that shrouds government and distorts the dominant media's coverage of social and cultural issues. The Collin County Republican Party 2520 Avenue K Plano, Texas 75074 Phone: (972) 424-2122 E-mail: chairman@collincountygop.com

Lessons Page 1

plans, saying they were reshaping higher education by re-segregating Black and Hispanic students into less selective institutions. Enrollment figures show students losing places at the University of California-Berkeley and UCLA, and slightly fewer loses at Rice University in Texas. Before affirmative action was eliminated in these states, Black students were 6.7 percent of the freshman class at Berkeley, now 3.9 percent; and Rice saw a 46 percent drop in Black student enrollment.

This Plessy-style Supreme Court, with Clarence Thomas in the lead, is poised to do a job on the Michigan case and we can expect a 5-4 decision to restrict affirmative action in higher education.

Now comes Stephen Cole, a professor at State University of New York-Stony Brook, who argues in a soon-to-be-released book, *Increasing Faculty Diversity*, that there are so few Black professors, not because they experience

racism in getting into graduate school, but because affirmative action has steered them to institutions where they fail to do well. How then, does he explain the more than 80 percent graduation rate by Blacks from such institutions?

Finally, Bush has just released his budget proposals and we find that he would raise the defense budget by more than 19 percent and cut poverty programs, reducing community services funding for dispossessed neighborhoods by 25 percent. This new brand of compassionate conservatism looks like the old Reagan conservatism to me.

We are experiencing déjà vu all over again. But where will the challenge that Du Bois launched in *The Souls of Black Folk* and in his activism come from today?

Ron Walters is Distinguished Leadership Scholar, director of the African American Leadership Institute and professor of government and politics at the University of Maryland-College Park. His most recent book is "African American Leadership," with Robert Smith.

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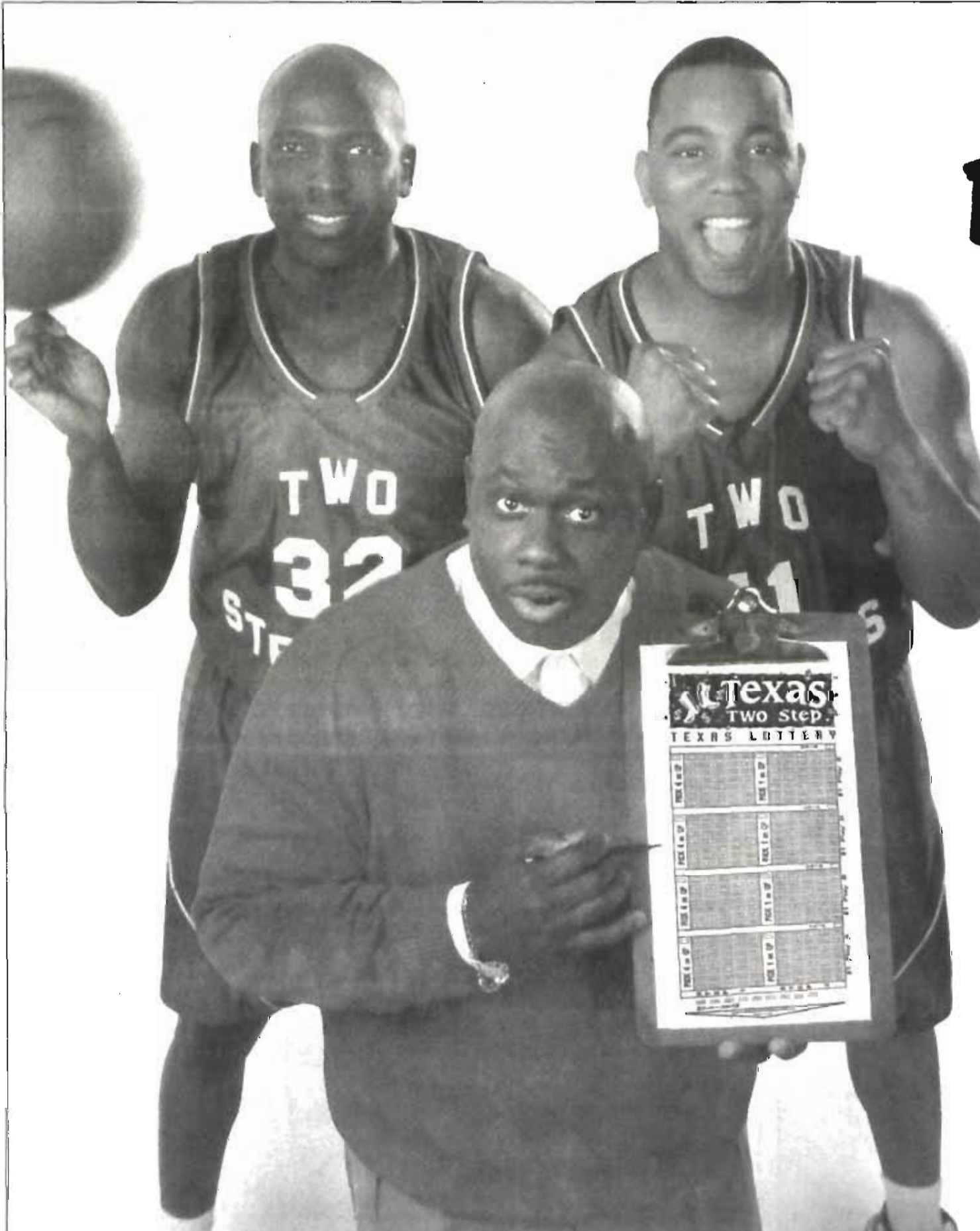
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Local Organization Prepares Youth for Success



CLUB GENERATION SUCCESS Board Members-
(Left to Right) Paula R. Parker, Frances Griffin-Brown, Doris Young, Wendy Phynes, Lucy Allen

By: Belinda G. Alexander

Seven years ago, teens in Plano were crying out for help. They were faced with academic and social challenges, and they wanted their concerns heard and addressed. Plano resident, Frances Griffin-Brown, answered their cries and founded CLUB GENERATION SUCCESS™.

CLUB GENERATION SUCCESS™ (CGS) is designed to reach teens in grades 6-12, teaching them valuable life skills and discipline in a positive and nurturing environment. It is a complete program that addresses every aspect of the members' lives, teaching them to confront and overcome problems and challenges socially, academically, and in the work force. CGS also works with the parents to help them with parenting skills and encouraging them to be more involved in their children's lives.

And what started out as a club with a handful of members has grown into a flourishing "safe-place" for teens.

"It started out small but it has grown much greater," said Griffin-Brown. "Although our membership was initially African-Americans, we now also have Hispanic and Caucasian

members. This is a diverse group."

She said her members are the "cream of the crop." "When they attend college fairs, our kids get primary consideration. This has taken on a life of its own."

CGS board member, Mr. Sam Frenkil, said he first became involved with CGS about four years ago through Frito-Lay, as a guest speaker. He was so impressed with the young people from CGS that he wanted to be a part of their success, and he has now served on the board for two years.

"CGS teaches young people how to look for, and get a job, and then how to behave in order to keep a job. It is a delight to help youths be more successful," said Frenkil.

Plano East High School student, Sherry Thomas, has been a CGS member for three years. Seventeen year-old Thomas said, "It is a good club. Mrs. Brown helps us prepare for college while working to help our community. On January 20 we gave the elderly an MLK breakfast at the Collin County Community Center. It was my honor to be CGS hostess for this celebration."

Thomas said she is proud that CGS helps its members in many ways, teaching them to give back to the community.

"As club members, we get help with school and college. My application to college has already been accepted. We also learn about respect and good self-esteem. And CGS also helps the needy in African and Haiti. I am proud to be a member of this club."

Chris Thomas (not related to Sherry), 16, has been a CGS member for two years. Chris said he first heard about CGS after getting into a little trouble at Williams School.

"After attending a meeting, I was very impressed by Mrs. Brown. This club pushes you to reach for higher levels in grades and standards for personal success," said Thomas. "I am currently in the band at Plano East and play three instruments. I am good with math and sometimes help others with their studies. My future plan is to major in music. CLUB GENERATION SUCCESS™ is great, the name speaks for itself."

Alphonso and Deirdre Hamilton are proud parents of CGS graduate Nicole, who now attends Texas Women's University at Denton, and is also a Dallas Mavericks' Dancer. "Mrs. Brown is wonderful. She will work hand in hand with the young people to help them succeed. That is what she did for our daughter Nicole during a tough last year of High

School. I have only good things to say about this club," Mrs. Hamilton said.

Rita Adefope works with CGS as a mentor to young single parents. She said they have helped young ladies obtain their GED and have helped prepare them for college. Adefope added that Frances Griffin-Brown inspires the children and parents to succeed by letting them know that she believes in them.

CGS President, Mrs. Paula Parker, said, "Frances' passion and love for helping kids drives the whole program. She calls the kids her 'Kings and Queens', and that is how they are mentored, as royalty, from class studies to getting ready for our Debutante Ball."

Parker, whose daughter Lauren is president of the Plano West chapter of CLUB GENERATION SUCCESS™, said CGS is the most positively uplifting group for young people that she has ever seen.

John Jones, CGS board member, works with "A Few Good Men" & "A Few Good Women," a division of CGS that offers individual mentoring to members.

"CGS offers a great advantage for any young person of any race or culture, not just those economically challenged or at-risk," said Jones.

Myrtle Hightower, who is also a CGS board member, speaks highly of the club and its founder.

"Frances Griffin-Brown is a wonderful person and Club Generation is a club whose time has come. I congratulate Mrs. Brown for taking the time out to work with the kids and community. CGS has made all the difference to many students regarding grades, credibility, morals and everything that is important for a young person to succeed in life," said Hightower.

Griffin-Brown reciprocates the respect toward Hightower, acknowledging her role in facilitating a good relationship for CGS with the Plano Independent School District.

In celebration of Black History month, on February 21, 2003, at 7:30 p.m., CLUB GENERATION SUCCESS™ presents "Where We Come From, Who We Are, Where We Are Going", at Plano West Senior High School Theatre, 5601 West Park Road. Admission is \$5.00 per person for children and adults.

Information contained in this story is the copyright and trademark of CLUB GENERATION SUCCESS™. Please direct related inquiries to CGS: 4120 Kirkwood Street, Plano, TX 75093, or call 972.867.4574 or visit www.clubgs.org



Mesquite NAACP Officers from left to right: Donna White, Secretary, Denise Upchurch-2nd VP, Rodney Harrison-President, Constance Paris-1st VP, Reginald Hopkins-Treasurer

Monday at the branch office, 309 North Gallway, at 7:00 p.m. For more information call the branch at 972.288.0281.

Mr. Rodney Harrison, President, Chairperson of Education: Born March 26, 1968, Harmon has been a member of the NAACP for two years. He works with the Department of Justice, and has worked in law enforcement for the past 14 years (military, city police and federal corrections). He is also pursuing a degree in Business. Harmon has been married to Julie for 14 years, and they have three children, Teyn (13), Teyn (9) and Desaray (14).

Mrs. Constance D. Paris, 1st Vice President, Chairperson Brickyard Cemetery Project: Born January 4, 1962, Paris has been a member of the NAACP for 18 months, joining it to serve as chairperson for the historical Brickyard Cemetery, a forgotten burial ground for the first African-American residents of Mesquite. Paris works for the City of Mesquite as Senior Housing Counselor for the Housing Department, and is currently pursuing a degree in Management. She was nominated by Texas State Senator David Cain to serve on the development committee for the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS). Paris is married to Ronald G. Paris, and they have three children, Chloe, Elliott and Andrew.

Mrs. Denise Upchurch, 2nd Vice President: Born July 17, 1953, Upchurch has served with the Mesquite NAACP for eight years, and served as president for six of those years. She was employed at Southwestern Bell (1977-1997), where she met her husband, Charles Upchurch. Their eleven-year old daughter, Jasmin, is President of the Mesquite NAACP Junior Youth Council. Upchurch is a Licensed Loan Officer for Carteret Mortgage Investor. She was appointed by Senator David

Cain and Texas State NAACP President, Gary Bledsoe to serve on the TAKS committee. Upchurch is serving as 2002-2003 Education Co-Chairperson with the Texas State NAACP, 2003 Board Appointee to the Mesquite Chamber of Commerce, and 2003 Advisory Board Member with MON-The Gazette. She has five children from a previous marriage, Venecia Buil-Hates, Clarence Buhl, Jason Buhl, Joshua Buhl and Joseph Buhl.

Mrs. Donna White, Secretary: White is a Dallas native, and graduated from Franklin D. Roosevelt High School. She received her B.A. in Psychology at Texas Woman's University in Denton. White has been employed at CTX Mortgage Company for ten years, where she is Assistant Vice President of Loan Servicing. She is an active member of Hamilton Park United Methodist Church. White lives in Mesquite with her daughter, Jordan, and son, Adam.

Mr. Reginald Hopkins, Treasurer: Hopkins has been a member of the Mesquite Branch NAACP since 1999, and has been treasurer since 2001. Hopkins is owner/partner of Hopkins & Associates CPA firm in Dallas. He graduated from Caus High School in Illinois in 1970 (National Honor Society/Who's Who in HS), earned a B.S. in Accounting from Northern Illinois University in DeKalb in 1974, and has been a CPA since 1981. He is Board Member/Workshop Leader of The SHELTER PROJECT, INC, and has been a member of the National Association of Black Accountants since 1979. Hopkins has been an active member of Hamilton Park United Methodist Church since 1981. He has been married to his high school sweetheart, Charyl, for 27 years, and they have two sons, Detric and Charles.

Know The Dream.

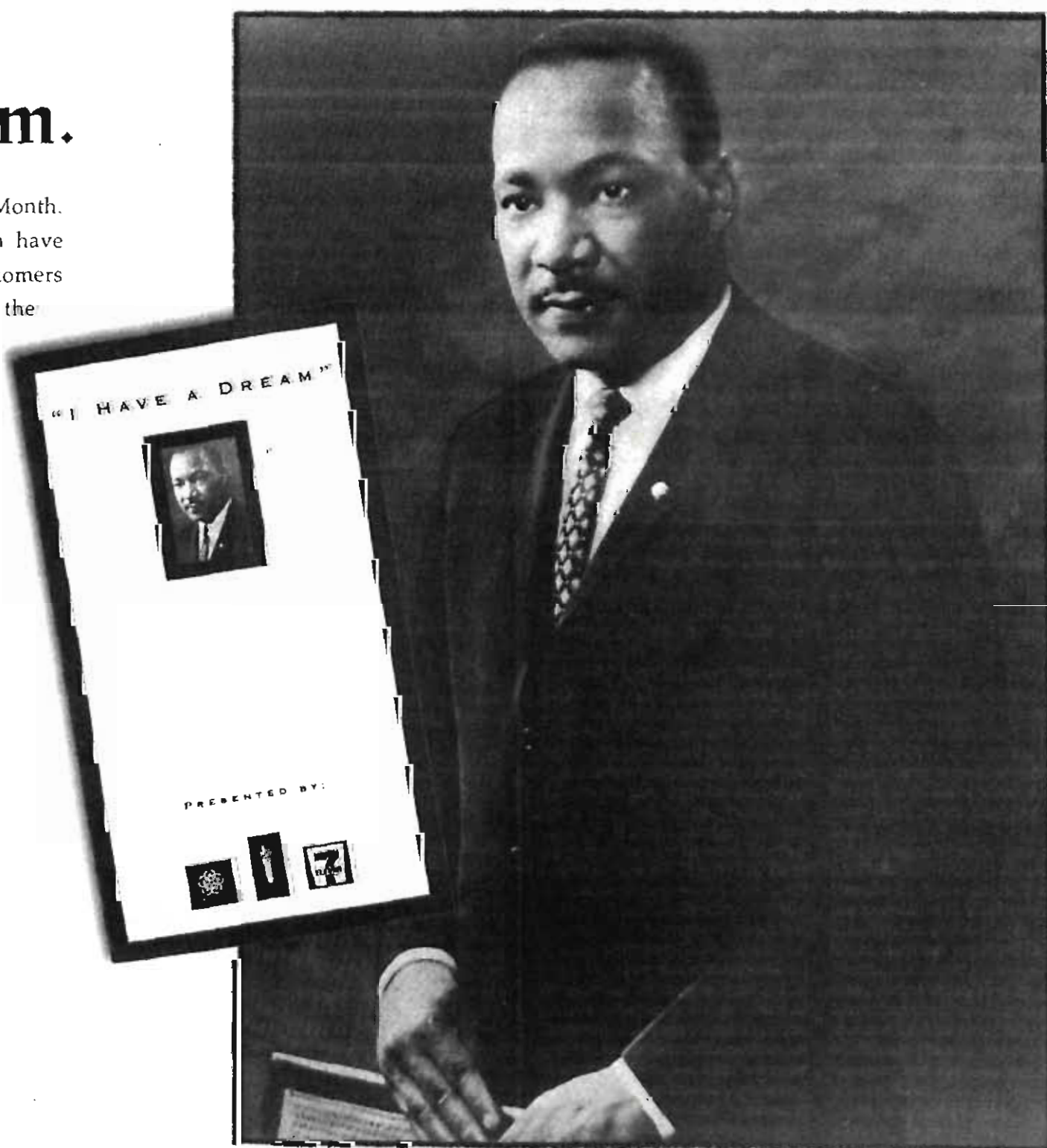
Each year, February is honored as Black History Month. 7-Eleven and the Education is Freedom Foundation have partnered with The King Center to offer 7-Eleven customers a free one-of-a-kind brochure. The brochure features the complete text of the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. on August 28, 1963. Included in the momentous keepsake is a special letter of introduction written by Mrs. Coretta Scott King, detailing the events leading up to Dr. King's famous speech.

Drop by a participating 7-Eleven store and pick up a commemorative brochure for you and your family.

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particular project; that 15 percent (a little more in some cases) is designated for a so-called minority group. Now check this out. The designated minority group, sometimes comprising as many as five or six individual groups, collectively, often has greater numbers than the so-called majority that is given the right to "include" minorities in public projects.

Does this make sense to you? Does it make sense for Black people to, first, allow ourselves to be called "minorities," and then allow a group of White men to dominate and control our tax dollars to the point that we end up fighting for 15 percent? Why are we competing with other groups for the "minority" share of our tax dollars and allowing the other 85 percent to escape into the hands of White men?

Maybe we should look at the percentages of population or the aggregate number of "minorities" in various areas, and base our economic inclusion efforts on that. Once again, I draw your attention to my hometown. We are building the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center for more than \$100 million. The "goal" for minority inclusion is 25 percent. The Black population is nearly 50% and Hispanics and Asians comprise between 5 percent and 7 percent.

First of all, the last time I read my history, the players in the Underground Railroad in Cincinnati, Ohio, were Black folks

and White folks, not "minorities." I never learned about a Chinese person swimming or walking across the Ohio River, or a Latino person, or a person from India or Pakistan participating, either by running from slave-catchers or helping slaves escape. That being the case, why then are "minorities" the focus of the Freedom Center's Economic Inclusion Program?

And where is the rule that says White men and women must always be the ones who determine how much everyone else will get? The same thing applies when it comes to other minority programs. Black people are the ones who were discriminated against, but everyone else has stepped up to get the benefits of our pain and suffering. We're gettin' played, y'all!

While we are scrambling to get our share of the 15 percent allotment, others are getting the 85 percent without the slightest problem. And to make it even worse, Black people have to comply with so-called minority set-aside regulations and horrendous "certification" programs to get a share of such a small piece of the pie. How can you call me and treat me "special" and make me jump through five hoops to get a contract, while White men don't have to jump through any hoops, yet they get the lion's share of public funds and development opportunities? They keep our attention diverted toward 15 percent and they get away with 85 percent in the process.

I can hear the detractors now, saying, "What about the fact that Black people do not have the professional and

business capacity to perform even if they were given a greater percentage."

While it's true there are far too few Black businesses whose annual receipts are far too low, that fact makes the case for more "access" to opportunity, information, education and capital. It makes the case for Black businesses to form partnerships, mergers, and alliances to capture a larger share of the proverbial pie. It makes a case for those in control to spend some of that 85 percent on the things that will enhance the opportunities for Black business development. (Maybe that's what George Bush means by that nonsensical term "affirmative access," no doubt following in his father's footsteps, or missteps, when he coined the term, "a thousand points of light.") Brothers and sisters, let's stop fighting over a share of the 15 percent set aside for "minorities," and start fighting for more of the 85 percent.

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



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Church Happenings

ALL NATIONS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m.

Divorce Recovery Support Group - Wherever you are in the separation process or however many years it's been since the divorce, come receive support, teaching in dealing with the many issues, and help from a professional in the area.

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 7:00 p.m.

English as a Second Language (ESL) Classes - Strengthen your English!

February 20, 7:00 p.m.

Plano Area Interfaith will be meeting at the church

February 21

Community Fun Night - Join us for an evening of fun. Refreshments will be served. Free and open to the public. Following the Community Fun Night, the youth of the church will host a lock-in through Saturday at 4 PM.

You don't want to miss either one of these events!

February 27, 7:00 p.m.

Financial Management Workshop II

Finance Management workshops are being conducted the last Thursday of Feb., March and April. There was one the last Thursday in January, and if you missed it you don't want to miss the next one. Call the church office for more information or pre-register so that you can receive a workshop packet at the next meeting.

Workshops will be conducted by professional financial advisors and attorneys. Free and open to the public.

Visit our website at

Church Happening Page 10

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new DART fare structure effective March 3, 2003

Single-Ride Fare (Exact change required)	Old Fare	New Fare
Local Service (includes local bus and DART Rail service, plus 1 commuter rail zone on the Trinity Railway Express)	\$1.00	\$1.25
Premium Service (includes local and express bus service, DART On-Call and DART Rail service, plus 2 commuter rail zones on the Trinity Railway Express)	\$2.00	\$2.25
Reduced Fare*	\$0.50	\$0.50
Paratransit - Demand Response Van/Sedan Service	\$2.00	\$2.50
Paratransit - Eligible riders on bus and rail***	FREE	FREE
Child (under age 5 with paid adult)	FREE	FREE

Prepaid Multi-Ride Fare	Old Fare	New Fare
Monthly Pass • Local (includes local bus and DART Rail service, plus 1 commuter rail zone on the Trinity Railway Express) • Premium (includes local and express bus service, DART On-Call and DART Rail service, plus 2 commuter rail zones on the Trinity Railway Express) • Reduced**	\$30.00 \$60.00 \$90.00	\$40.00 \$70.00 \$15.00
Day Pass (unlimited rides on bus and rail until 3 a.m. the next day) • Local • Premium • Reduced*	\$2.00 \$4.00 \$1.00	\$2.50 \$4.50 \$1.00
10-Ticket Paratransit Coupon Book †	\$20.00	\$25.00
10-Ticket Paratransit Frequent Rider Card ††	\$15.00	Eliminated

Restrictions
* Reduced fares apply to seniors (age 65 or older), non-paratransit disabled, high school students with valid photo ID, children ages 5-14, DART Rail service within the Central Business District (CBD), Reduced Fare Zone (Pearl Station to Convention Center Station), and designated trolley-bus/circulators.
** To purchase a Reduced Monthly Pass, purchaser must show proof of eligibility: valid DART senior citizen or disabled photo ID, Medicare card, DART student photo ID (ages 15 and above) or high school student photo ID. Elementary school and middle school students (ages 5-14) must be present at time of purchase. All Reduced Monthly Passes must be signed by user.
*** Must show valid DART Paratransit photo ID.
† Valid only on paratransit service.
†† Previously purchased Paratransit Frequent Rider Cards will be accepted through June 1, 2003.

minor schedule adjustments to bus routes March 3

Effective March 3, all connecting bus routes serving LB/Skullman Station (60, 488, 569, 583) will have modified timetables to reflect current route detours. Routes serving Westmoreland Station (438, 445, 518, 548, 549, 568, 574) will follow slightly modified routes when leaving the station to improve operational performance. Other bus routes with adjusted schedules are: 19, 26, 29, 76, 183, 205, 302, 311, 358, 360, 463, 475, 513, 519, 522, 550, 566, 567 and 573.

Look online at DART.org for details on trip planning, bus route schedule adjustments or pick up new customer timetables dated March 3 at DART Transit Centers, on trains or buses or at either of our DART Stores in downtown Dallas.

discover DARTget more

The *DART destination deals guide*, available in March, lists shopping, dining and entertainment destinations near DART Rail stations. The guide also provides a list of special offers for DART customers from a variety of businesses known as DART destination partners.

For a copy of the *DART destination deals guide*, a online trip planning, fares, maps and schedules, visit DART.org or call 214.979.1111 for a customer service representative.

Look for this decal in the window of participating DART destination partners and present your valid DART ticket or pass to receive a special offer.



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Remember to stop, look and listen around DART trains and buses.

Silverado Steps Up Its Performance



GM's best-selling vehicle, the Chevrolet Silverado is setting new standards for 2003. With a bold new exterior design and more than 40 new features and enhancements, the Silverado keeps improving performance and capability, making it harder for the competition to catch up.

The Silverado is the first full-size pickup to offer an optional Bose audio system and XM Satellite Radio. And for comfort, a new dual-zone heating and air conditioning system with manual and automatic climate control has been added, allowing the driver and front passenger to adjust the temperature to their own comfort levels.

The Silverado driver now has a central information center that reports on as many as 34 system functions, including new service indicators for "Ice Possible" and "Door Ajar." A memory subsystem remembers seat and mirror position preferences, and battery-rundown protection automatically turns off the lights and lamps after 10 minutes.

For safety, the Silverado comes with a dual-stage airbag system that deploys with varying levels of force depending on the crash severity, while the passenger sensor will deactivate the passenger-side airbag if it detects the presence of a child. Additional safety features include 4-wheel ABS with dynamic rear

proportioning, daytime running lights and adjustable rear seat head restraints.

For looks, the 2003 Silverado receives a new front-end design, differentiating it from anything else on the road. The grille is smoothly integrated into the front end, and the chrome bumper offers larger, recessed fog lamps. New body-side moldings look smooth and add protection, and restyled tail lamps complete the contemporary design.

Also available is QuadraSteer, a four-wheel-steering system offering low-speed maneuverability, high-speed stability, and significantly reduced turning circle. Combine this with a unique Z60 high-

performance chassis package, including Silverado's largest-ever 20-inch wheel and tire combination, and you have a vehicle with exceptional road holding and cornering capability.

Several engine choices are available for the Silverado, ranging from a 200-horsepower 4.3-liter V6 to a 285-hp 5.3-liter V8. A five-speed manual transmission is standard on regular cabs with the V6 engine, with an optional four-speed automatic (standard on extended cabs), featuring a tow-haul mode that improves shifting performance under heavy loads. The maximum towing capacity with the 5.3-liter V8 is 8,400 pounds (8,600 pounds on QuadraSteer-equipped models).

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"Laffin Out Loud With The Lord!!" - by Sister Cantaloupe. She's funny, she's effervescent. She's rude, gossipy, and a

well-meaning busy body. She's the queen of Christian Comedy. And this February 23, 2003, Sister Cantaloupe delivers her message regarding drugs to the congregation at Mt. Olive Church of Plano. Sister Cantaloupe was first introduced to the nation via BET's Bobby Jones Gospel. Her comedy ministry

combines unique, thought provoking perspectives on various topics, and has landed her numerous TV appearances. Don't miss this laugh extravaganza, at Mt. Olive Church of Plano, 740 Ave. F, Ste 303, Plano, TX 75074, February 23, 2003, at the 10:45 morning service. Call 972.633.5511

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To purchase tickets, contact Ticketmaster online at Ticketmaster.com or by phone at 214.373.8000, metro 972.647.5700. Tickets are also available at all Ticketmaster outlets including, Foley's, Fiesta, Warehouse Music, & Tower Records. In addition, tickets are available at the NextStage Box Office.



Plano Independent School District Purchasing Department

"Scaled bids will be received in the Plano ISD Purchasing Department, 6600 Alma Drive, Plano, TX 75023, then publicly read as follows:

- RFP# 3415 - Web Site Design - 3/18/03 @ 2:00 pm
- RFP# 3416 - Moving Services - 3/4/03 @ 2:30 pm
- Bid# 3417 - Concrete Projects - 2/28/03 @ 10:00 am
- Bid# 3418 - Drill Team Supplies - 3/12/03 @ 10:00 am
- Bid# 3419 - Microscope Repair - 3/12/03 @ 2:00 pm
- RFQ#3420 - Photography Services Plano East Senior High- 3/10/03 3:00 pm
- RFQ#3421 - Photography Services Plano Senior High School-3/10/03 @ 3:30 pm
- RFQ#3422 - Photography Services Plano West Senior High School-3/10/03 @ 2:30 pm
- RFP#3424 - Graphic Artist Services - 3/11/03/ @ 2:30 pm
- Bid# 3425 - Paint & Paint Related Supplies - opens 3/19/03 @ 10:00 am
- Bid # 3426 - Plumbing-Maintenance & Repair- opens 3/19/03 @ 10:30 am
- Bid # 3427 - Compressors (HVAC) - opens: 3/19/03 @ 2:00 pm
- Bid # 3428 - HVAC Equipment - opens: 3/19/03 @ 2:30 pm
- Bid # 3429 - Bleacher Maintenance - opens: 3/19/03 @ 3:00 pm
- Bid # 3430- Fire Sprinkler Inspection & Service - opens: 3/19/03 @ 3:30 pm

Bid specifications and/or information may be obtained from our web page at www.pisd.edu. Choose "web site index", then the letter "P", then open the "Purchasing" link and select "Upcoming Bids". Bid specifications may also be picked up at the office of the

Plano ISD Purchasing Department, 6600 Alma Drive, Plano, TX 75023.

For additional information contact:

Raymond Weaver, Purchasing Manager, 469-752-0285.

Career Opportunities

Fax or Email copy for quote:

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CITY OF PLANO, TEXAS

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Arts & Entertainment

Yolanda Adams To Appear At NextStage



For Gospel legend Yolanda Adams, her stirring Elektra debut Mountain High.... Valley Low was an opportunity to bring both her inspirational vision and her wide range of influences to an audience hungry for spiritual fruit. Since her 1988 debut, the acclaimed and uplifting Just As I Am, Yolanda has been wowing gospel audiences all over the world. Now in 1999, four studio albums and one live album later (the Grammy nominated Yolanda.... Live In Washington), the Houston, Texas native is ready to extend her magnificent reach without watering down the message. "I'm not one of those singers who wants to expand my audience at the expense of the people who already know my music," she says determinedly. "And I've grown both vocally and spiritually since my first album, through each phase of my career. So choosing

Elektra was just another step of growth. Gospel music had stepped up and gathered a myriad of influences-jazz, hip-hop, R&B. I need to be in a place where my message can be heard by everyone. I understand my purpose. I understand what I was put here for. I take that on every day of my life."

It's precisely that kind of conviction that has caused critics to refer to Yolanda as one of gospel's "seminal" voices. It has also empowered her to venture out of gospel's more sanctimonious confinements, and hook up with some of pop's most formidable producers, such as Keith Thomas, Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis. Yolanda stresses, however, that it was the process of "sharing" talents that made the unique collaborations such a great success. Thomas produced and wrote "The Things We Do."

"I had a chance to work with him," she says, "he's worked with so many great

people, like Vanessa Williams and Wynonna Judd. It was awesome. He's the kind of producer who pulls stuff out of you that you didn't know you were capable of." Yolanda also had high praise for the duo Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis, who helm the ethereal "Open My Heart," "Wherever You Are," and the disc's feel-good closer, "Already Alright," all which they co-wrote with Yolanda. "Coming from the gospel world and being able to work with them was a dream come true," she says. "They provided leadership and gave me the leeway necessary to develop the songs. They wanted me to bring material to them so that I wouldn't

lose connection, for non inspiration. Their input and approval really encouraged me as a writer."



NextStage

at Grand Prairie
Sesame Street Live
February 20
Kirk Franklin
March 8
The Doors 21st Century

On Stage at Next Stage

March 29
Norah Jones
July 23
George Lopez
July 26

BASS Performance Hall February 2003 Events

Lord of the Dance
Tuesday February 18, 2003 - 8:00 pm
Wednesday February 19, 2003 - 8:00 pm
Thursday February 20, 2003 - 8:00 pm
Friday February 21, 2003 - 8:00 pm
Saturday February 22, 2003 - 2:00 & 8:00 pm
Sunday February 23, 2003 - 2:00 & 7:30 pm

Irish Tenors
Thursday February 27, 2003 - 8:00 pm
Paul Barrere & Fred Tackett
Friday February 28, 2003 - 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm
McNair Rehearsal Studio, 301 East 5th street

Gil Shaham, Violin Soloist
Miguel Harth-Holoyak, conductor
Friday February 28, 2003 - 8:00 pm

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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
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- 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.

SOUTHWESTERN



Dark Blue

Set in Los Angeles in April 1992 during the week of the Rodney King trial, the film features Kurt Russell as Sgt. Eldon Perry Jr., a tough, fiery LAPD veteran who was "raised up to be a gunfighter by a family of gunfighters." Along with his rookie partner (Scott Speedman), he leads the investigation of a racially motivated robbery-homicide. Ving Rhames plays their boss, a by-the-book deputy who keeps a close eye on the aggressive Perry's definition of justice. Sensing corruption, he threatens to end Perry's intimidating actions on the L.A. streets.

Starts February 21, 2003



Gods and Generals

Based on the book Gods and Generals, this prequel to 1993's Gettysburg, a TNT TV movie, features much of the same cast. Set just prior to and during the Civil War, it's the true story of the battles of Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg, and Chancellorville. The story centers on Confederate General Stonewall Jackson (Stephen Lang); Robert DuVall plays General Robert E. Lee.

December 27, 2002 — Los Angeles/New York; one week Academy Awards-qualifying run; February 21, 2003 — expands wider

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Time: 6:00 PM -10:00 PM

Place: Texas Stardom Restaurant & Bar
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The Gazette SELEBRIAN

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Sister Tarpley

'Have a Little Respect', Comedy Play Guarantees Laughter

Deacon John Worthington Gibson, a renowned writer, with full support and praise from Dr. C. Paul McBride, Senior Pastor, the staff and congregation of Friendship Baptist Church in The Colony, is putting on another "free" play for the church and community-at-large. Sunday, February 23, 2003 at 3:30 pm, HAVE A LITTLE RESPECT FOR SISTER REBECCA, a comedy play hosted by the Drama Department at the church will be presented. The play that occurs in the late 60's to early 70's with the lead character Rebecca Lee inheriting a restaurant from her late employer Vince Franconis. The problem is that nobody is totally convinced of that, or they question the reason why Vince left Rebecca the restaurant. Rumors abound from her friends and her enemies. The warning is that at eleven o'clock p.m. Vince's brother Lou will arrive to claim the restaurant, either lawfully, by intimidation or by force. Whether a fact or a rumor, Rebecca who was recently "saved" must now decide whether to have faith in God or give up what she knows is rightfully hers. Her faith leads her to stand on the scripture. Galatians 5:1—STAND FAST therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. HAVE A LITTLE RESPECT FOR SISTER REBECCA is a comedy that guarantees that you will have fun watching the "would be" entrepreneur maintain her composure in the midst of numerous obstacles. Rebecca is modeled after Deacon Gibson's older sister and the "intellectual wino" in the play is modeled after his father. Born and raised in Columbus, Ohio, Deacon Gibson has been writing for approximately 30 years. He has written more than 17 scripts, novels, plays and screenplays. He has presented three other "free" plays (Marching to Glory, Playboy Comes Home and December 25th) at the church in recent past. He is a graduate of Anderson University, Anderson, Indiana and attended Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis, Indiana. Deacon Gibson has written and conducted dramas, musical plays, did drama workshops and conferences for churches, community theaters, high schools and colleges in Indiana, California, Texas and other southern states. Thirty-seven scripts were written for a radio soap opera "Becky's Place" for an organization called Just Us Media Production (JUMP) and aired on station KERS at California State University. One play was changed into a TV pilot for an NBC

affiliated in Minnesota. Deacon Gibson has two pending publications; A Sparrow Has Wings and Higher Heights. These two novels are based on the history of Tuskegee Airmen.



John Worthington Gibson

I am looking forward to the comedy HAVE A LITTLE RESPECT FOR SISTER REBECCA on Sunday, February 23, 2003 at 3:30 p.m. in the main sanctuary of the Friendship Baptist Church, 4396 Main Street, The Colony, TX 75056, 972-625-8186. Make certain you arrive early because if past attendance is an indication, seats will be hard to find. Thought of the week: "Mahatma Gandhi once wrote that there were seven sins in the world; wealth without work, pleasure without conscience, knowledge without character, commerce without morality, science without humanity, worship without sacrifice, and politics without principle."

You are Special! Sister Tarpley

Email: tarpley@wt.net
Pager: 214-833-1639
Voice Mail: 972-606-3878
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Let *MON-The Gazette* help your church accomplish the Prayer of Jabez, "Enlarge our territory to expand opportunities that may impact in such a way that we touch more lives for God's glory. Let us do more for Him."

Friendship Baptist Church



4396 Main Street
The Colony,
Texas 75056
(972) 625-8186
Dr. C. Paul
McBride, Pastor

"The Church with a Vision"

Schedule of Services:

Sunday
Early Morning Worship 8:00 a.m.
Sunday School Classes 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Tuesday-Early Bird Bible Study 6:00p.m.
Evening Worship (1st Sunday) 6:00 p.m.

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

Church Happening Page 7

www.allnationsumc.org

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

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN

February 23, 4:00 p.m.
Black History Program- "This Far by Faith-A Celebration of African-American Music, Dance, and Poetry" This dramatic presentation will feature excerpts from James Weldon Johnson's God's Trombones, and musical tributes to legendary gospel greats!

Refreshments will be served immediately following the service.

Fellowship Baptist Church
John Wilson, III, Pastor
200 Belmont St.
Allen, TX 75002

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK

February 22, 9:00 a.m.
Career Workshop- "Steadfast in Unsure Times"-First Baptist Family Life Center-Workshop will include seminars, career counseling, resume and cover letter tips, and interviewing techniques. Please bring your resume and cover letter!

February 23, 11:00 a.m.
Church Anniversary

February 23
Male Chorus in Concert-Christ United Methodist Church, Plano, TX

First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park
Dr. Gregory Foster, Senior Pastor
300 Phillips St.
Richardson, TX 75081

For more information concerning these events, call 972-235-4235

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

February 23, 3:00 p.m.
Annual Black History Program-For more information, please call 972-625-8186.

Friendship Baptist Church
C. Paul McBride, Pastor
4396 Main St.
The Colony, TX 75056

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

February 22, 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
Men's Prayer Breakfast

February 23, 4:00 p.m.
Black History Program-Specials
Guests include St. Andrew's C.O.G.I.C. of Denton, TX and more

For more information, call 972-436-2011

Macedonia Baptist Church
T.J. Denson, Pastor
702 S. Mill St.
Lewisville, TX 75057

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

March 7, 8
Spring Break Teen Summit & Lock-In, Theme: The Teen Years-In the Meantime
Check-in March 7, 6:30 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.
Check-out March 8, 10:00 a.m.
Registration- \$10, To register call, 972-278-4621
*Checks should be made payable to Garland NAACP Youth Council
Meals served Friday evening and Saturday morning.

For more information concerning any of these events, call 972-276-5218.

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. JAMES CME CHURCH

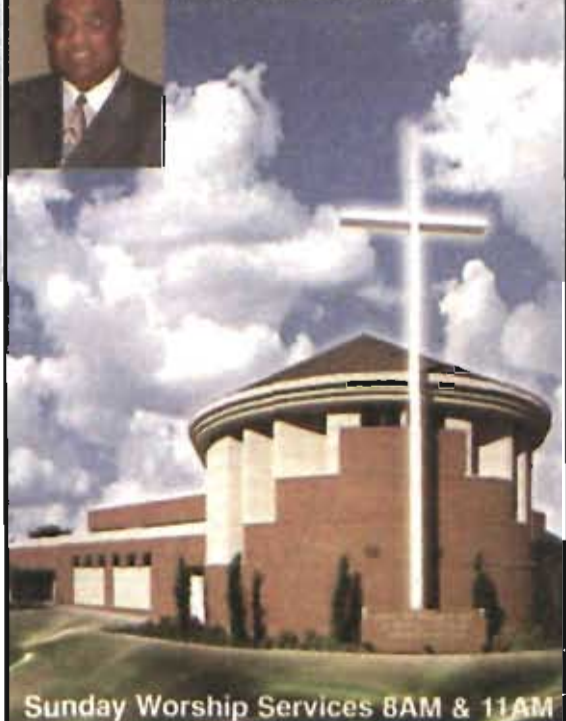
February 23, 3:00 p.m.
Black History Program & Silent Auction-Benefiting the Building Fund- Youth Multipurpose Room Guest Speaker- Pastor Isiah Joshua of Shiloh Baptist Church, Plano, TX
Following Morning Worship- All you can eat chicken spaghetti dinner, \$4 per plate

For more information, contact Ralph Evans at 972-548-4248 (day), or 214-544-3911 (evening), or send donations to: Ralph Evans 801 Canal St. McKinney, TX 75069

St. James CME Church
Thomas E. Jagours, Pastor
1003 Thockmorton St.
McKinney, TX 75069

Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church
920 E. 14th Street Plano, TX

Pastor Isiah Joshua, Jr.



Sunday Worship Services 8AM & 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

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Worship Celebration... 11:00 am.
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Worship Service 10:45 AM
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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
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