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December 23 - December 29, 2004

The Gazette

"North Dallas' Weekly Paper of Choice"

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



On the Homefront:

The Plano Municipal Center, Animal Shelter, Parks and Recreation Administration, Household Hazardous Waste Center and all branches of the Plano Public Library System will be closed December 23 and 24 for the Christmas Holiday.

The SBC Cotton Bowl Music Festival Annual Battle of the Bands will take place on Thursday, December 30 at the Plano Centre located at 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway. Schools will perform at the SBC Cotton Bowl Pre-Game and Half-time. Various schools will be performing all day from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm in both Concert Band and Jazz Band. Admission is free. For more information call (801) 598-8820.

The Arts of Collin County Commission, Inc. (ACCC) is accepting applications from Collin County residents interested in serving on one of the following committees: ACCC Advisory Committee, Public Outreach Committee or the Technology Committee. Additional information and an application packet can be found on the Arts of Collin County website or by calling 214-495-5801.

The Plano City Council accepts nominations for "Volunteer of the Month" on a regular basis. The deadline is the first of every month and the final selection is made by the Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem and the Deputy Mayor Pro Tem. For more information visit the city's website www.ci.plano.tx.us

The Allen Rotary Club meets every Wednesday at 12 Noon at the First Methodist Church on South Jupiter. For more information, call Randy Sandifer, 972-396-1118 or Grif Moore, 972-727-9945.

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Restoring History in Plano



Plano Mayor Pat Evans address crowd as T.J. Johnson looks on.

By: Justin Jones

At one point in time, Plano's historical Thornton House on 900 13th St. came close to being torn down to make way for a parking lot.

However, in recent months the house — one former slave John Thornton bought in 1909 — has been under going heavy renovation and will serve, along with the church

beside it, as the Plano African American Museum.

In a way to celebrate the Thornton House and church's perseverance, and to recognize all those who played a hand in turning what was nearly pavement into Collin County's first African American Museum, the 12-member museum board hosted an open house

December 15.

"I'm and just so happy, and we've had a wonderful turnout. Tonight we celebrate all of the community partners and the blessings that we have experienced as a

Restoring History Page 3

Shopping with the Enemy

By: George E. Curry

Picture this: You slide into your Progressive Insurance-covered Toyota automobile or SUV and bypass the ChevronTexaco and Exxon Mobile service stations in order to stop at Shell to fill your tank. From there, you pick Arby's over KFC, McDonald's and Wendy's for lunch. You decide to shop at Costco instead of Circuit City, Sears, Target or J.C. Penney. And you charge your purchase on your Citibank card instead of American Express or Capital One.

That's what you would do if you followed the advice of www.choosetheblue.com, a Consumer Reports-like site for Democrats who want to

patronize companies that support them. Corporations and labor unions are prohibited from making direct contributions to political candidates. But they are able to circumvent this ban by donating to political action committees (PACs) or having their employees donate money to a candidate's campaign.

Each day, consumers make dozens of decisions that translate into millions of dollars, decision about what to wear, where to eat and what to buy. Although some companies protect themselves by giving to both major parties, most funnel the bulk of their resources to Republicans.

Organizers of choose the

blue.com decided to examine the records of the Federal Election Commission and the Center for Responsive Politics to see how companies and industries were contributing to the major parties.

Records on the retail industry show that Home Depot, J.C. Penney Co., Circuit City, Dollar General, Saks, May Department Stores, Sam's Club and Wal-Mart gave more than 80 percent of their political donations to Republicans. On the other hand, Costco, Bed Bath & Beyond, B. Dalton Bookseller, Barnes & Noble and Harmon Discount Drugs each gave

Shopping with the Enemy Page 8

An Interview with an international painter: Amanda Dunbar

By: E. Dewayne Gibson Jr.

Amanda Dunbar never painted nor expressed any creative ability until she signed up for an after school art class at her middle

run her business.

Amanda Dunbar is a young master. She paints in three distinct styles: French Impression, American



Amanda and her mother, Judi at Galerie Papillon.

school in Allen. After Dunbar completed her first painting, Amanda's teacher immediately contacted her parents to set up a meeting. Within a few weeks, Amanda had her first show at the tender age of 13.

Dunbar has enormous support from her family including her Father, Ken, Mother, Judi and younger sister, Meghan who keep her grounded, inspired, and help

Expressionism, and Abstract. Her unique talent has brought attracted opportunities and accolades from around the world.

After two appearances on the Oprah Winfrey Show before she could legally vote, Dunbar now has her own gallery at the SouthSide on the Lamar Lofts adjacent to downtown Dallas. Her gallery is called Galerie

Amanda Dunbar Page 5

17th Annual Journalism Workshop A Success

By: Lakeesha Joe
Eastfield College held its 17th annual Journalism Workshop for high school students earlier this month.

Definitely worthy of being a sponsor for such a workshop, Eastfield College produces the Et Cetera newspaper that has won over 500 regional and national awards in the last 17 years. Eastfield's journalism program also produces the Alternative magazine, which was awarded Overall Excellence category in 2002 by the Texas Community College Journalism Association.

Marilyn Worsham, advisor to Eastfield's student newspaper said that the idea of the journalism workshop started seventeen years ago with the journalism professors at Eastfield.

"The Journalism Workshop is just a practice run for the real thing," said Worsham. "High Schools participate in UIL (University Interscholastic) regional competition in March."

The Eastfield College Journalism Workshop is a one-day event that serves as a practice competition for the University Interscholastic writing contest and puts emphasis on issues that affect high school publication staffs.

The workshop included four writing categories (feature writing, news

writing, editorial writing, and headline writing), a digital photography category, Yearbook design, and an advertising design contest.

Media representative from the Dallas/Fort Worth area were brought in to judge the competition and also give seminars on different areas journalism.

Awards during the workshop were presented to first, second, third and two honorable mentions. The first and second place winners of the different categories include:

New Writing
Mallory Edens of Rockwall High School and Jessica Surrey of John Horn High School

Feature Writing
Mallory Edens of Rockwall High School and Amanda Goodwin of West Mesquite High School

Advertising Design
Angelsa Jackman of Poteet High School and Ashley Chaddick of John High Horn School

Editorial Writing
Heather Houser of Forney High School

Photography
Danny Brown of John Horn High School and Linh Hons of Poteet High School

Year Book Design
Malina Li of John Horn High School and Sheree Brown of West Mesquite High School

Minority Scholarship Opportunities

Although the cost of higher education is increasing many organizations and companies have made funds available for minority applicants. Despite the plethora of opportunities that are available, a number of companies and organization that have donated monies for scholarships are asking for the funds to be returned, due to lake of use. The following is a comprehensive list of scholarships, fellowships and other information that will make paying for college a lot easier. Take advantage of the resources and PASS the word!

Graduate Study Scholarships

Thanks to a new \$928,000 grant, American Library Association is nearly doubling the number of scholarships available to graduate school students of color. ALA's Spectrum Initiative will allow for sixty scholarships of \$6,500 to be given each year for the next three years. For more information visit: <http://www.ala.org/ala/piopresskits/recruitment/Newlibrians.htm>.

Undergraduate Scholarships and Fellowships

BELL LABS FELLOWSHIPS FOR UNDER REPRESENTED MINORITIES
<http://www.bell-labs.com/fellowships/CRFP/info.html> Minority Scholarships Page 4

Season's Greetings

Kwanzaa is an African American and Pan-African holiday, which celebrates family, community and culture. Celebrated from 26 December thru 1 January, its origins are in the first harvest celebrations of Africa from which it takes its name. The name Kwanzaa is derived from the phrase "matunda ya kwanza" which means "first fruits" in Swahili, a Pan-African language which is the most widely spoken African language.

Kwanzaa was established in 1966 in the midst of the Black Freedom Movement and thus reflects its concern for cultural groundedness in thought and practice, and the unity and self-determination associated with this. Created by Dr. Maulana Karenga professor in the Department of Black Studies at California State University-Long Beach; it was conceived and established to reaffirm and restore culture, to serve as a regular communal celebration to reaffirm and reinforce the bonds between us as a people and to introduce and reinforce the Nguzo Saba (the Seven Principles).

These seven communitarian African values are: Umoja (Unity), Kujichagulia (Self-Determination), Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility), Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics), Nia (Purpose), Kuumba (Creativity), and Imani (Faith).

Christmas means "Christ's Mass" and is the celebration of Jesus Christ's birth and baptism. Christmas is Season's Greetings Page 2

Season's Greetings Page 1

celebrated by Christians all over the world. No one knows the exact date of Christ's birth, but most Christians observe Christmas on December 25.

The historic record of the birth of Christ can be found in the Matthew 1:18-25 and Luke 2:1-20 of the Bible. According to Luke, an angel appeared to shepherds outside the town of Bethlehem and told them of Jesus's birth. Matthew tells how the wise men, called Magi, followed a bright star that led them to Jesus.

Unlike any other baby, the one born that night in Bethlehem was unique in all of history. He was not created by a human father and mother. He had a heavenly pre-existence. He was God, the Creator of the universe. This is why Christmas is called the incarnation, a word that

means "in the flesh." In the birth of Jesus, the eternal, all-powerful and all-knowing Creator came to earth in the flesh.

Hanukkah, which means "dedication" and is also referred to as "The Festival of Lights", is a Jewish festival which begins on the Hebrew date of the 25th of the Jewish month of Kislev (the ninth month of the Jewish year, occurring in November/December) and lasts eight days, through the 2nd of Tevet.

Hannukah commemorates the victory of the Maccabees (led by Judah) over the Hellenistic Syrians in a revolt that took place around 165 BCE (note: Jews use BCE—Before the Common Era and CE—the Common Era instead of BC and AD).

The victory in itself was considered a miracle, but Jewish

legend gives an additional explanation for Hanukkah rituals, explained below. Once the Temple Mount in Jerusalem had been reclaimed, the Temple had to be rededicated. According to legend, only one jar of sacramental oil was found, enough for one day. Miraculously, the oil burned for eight days, thus the eight days of Hanukkah.

The most important Hanukkah ritual is the candle lighting. Jews light candles in a special candleholder called a "menorah" or a "hanukiah". Each night, one more candle is added. The middle candle, called the "shamash", is used to light each of the other candles and it is lit every night. Therefore, on the first night of Hanukkah, two candles are lit (the shamash and the candle for the first night) and on the last night, there are nine lit candles.

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For information or assistance, contact:

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817-336-6617

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1-877-966-3784 (877-9NO-DRUG)

Greater Dallas Council on
Alcohol and Drug Abuse
214-522-8600
www.gdcada.org

LEGAL NOTICE

These Texas Lottery Commission scratch-off games will close on January 30, 2005. You have until July 29, 2005, to redeem any tickets for these games:

Game #438
Find The 9's
Overall Odds are 1 in 4.85

Game #440
Sizzlin' 7's
Overall Odds are 1 in 3.00

Game #444
Golden Riches
Overall Odds are 1 in 3.46

Game #447
Super Deuces
Overall Odds are 1 in 4.34

Game #457
Corvette® Cash
Overall Odds are 1 in 3.38

Game #458
Red Hot 5's
Overall Odds are 1 in 4.30

Game #464
75 Grand
Overall Odds are 1 in 3.27

Game #467
Texas Stars & Guitars
Overall Odds are 1 in 4.81

Game #475
Double Dollars
Overall Odds are 1 in 4.62

Game #483
Glittering Gold
Overall Odds are 1 in 4.48



The odds listed here are the overall odds of winning any prize in a game, including break-even prizes. Lottery retailers are authorized to redeem prizes up to and including \$599. Prizes of \$600 or more must be claimed in person at a Lottery Claim Center or by mail with a completed Texas Lottery claim form, however, annuity prizes or prizes over \$999,999 must be claimed in person at the Commission Headquarters in Austin. Call Customer Service at 1-800-37-LOTTO or visit the Lottery Web site at www.tlottery.org for more information and location of nearest Claim Center. The Texas Lottery is not responsible for lost or stolen tickets, or for tickets lost in the mail. Tickets, transactions, players, and winners are subject to, and players and winners agree to abide by, all applicable laws. Commission rules, regulations, policies, directives, instructions, conditions, procedures, and final decisions of the Executive Director. A scratch-off game may continue to be sold even when all the top prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 years of age or older to purchase a Texas Lottery ticket. Play Responsibly. Remember, it's just a game! The Texas Lottery supports Texas education by contributing to the Foundation School Fund. © 2004 Texas Lottery Commission. All Rights Reserved.

Around The Town

Ongoing

Eyecare America urges seniors to call the Seniors Eye-care Hotline: 1800-222-EYES (3937). The help-line is intended to remind the senior community about the value of sight. The free eye care program is available all year round. For more information, visit www.eyecareamerica.org.

The **African Chamber of Commerce DFW** chapter hosts weekly business luncheons every Wednesday from 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM, at the Farmers Market Resource Center, 1010 S. Pearl Street in Dallas. The luncheons feature Guest speakers, networking, technical assistance and referrals. For more information please call 214-670-5880.

PIP Productions,

distributors of the new multi-station show, **The Valder Beebe Show**, announces The Valder Beebe Show broadcast on "KXVI FM The Bridge Network" each Sunday, from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

City of Allen Teen Book Discussion Group meets the third Thursday of each month at the Allen Public Library, located at 301 Century Parkway. For more information, please call 972-727-0195.

Collin County emergency preparedness hotline: 972-548-4114. You can also visit the web at www.co.collin.tx.us.

Teen Graffiti Seeks Good Students who take school seriously. Who knows—you could be Teen Graffiti's Scholar Student of the Year! For contest rules and more information visit www.teengraffiti.com, call 972-496-9457 or email info@teensreachingteens.org.

Jobseekers

Job seekers can attend

weekly meetings held by **TeamNetworking** of Collin County. The non-profit group oversees several chapters, group meetings from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Tuesday at Blue Mesa Grill, 8200 North Dallas Parkway in Plano. No reservations are required and more information is available online.

The Plano Chamber of Commerce offers a weekly networking opportunity called "Business Interchange" every Friday 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., 1200 E. 15th Street, Plano, 75074. For more information, log on to the Plano City web site at www.planochamber.org.

General Information

The Urban League of Garland Community Service Center offers limited financial assistance for utilities, rent and mortgages, for local residents. Other services offered include housing counseling focusing on reverse

mortgages, default mortgages, and financial literature for first-time home buyers is available by appointment only. For more information, please contact 214-413-1739.

The Dance Academy of Pathway of Life Church is registering! Classes are held every Saturday from 10:15 a.m. to 2 p.m. Children ages 4 to adult are welcome to learn ballet, jazz, modern, lyrical, hip-hop and musical theater. For more information contact Cylinda Chapman at 214-275-7284 ext. 117.

December 23 - 25

City of Allen facilities will be closed December 23 and 24 in recognition of the Christmas holidays.

This includes the Allen Public Library and the Interim Allen Senior Center.

The Don Rodenbaugh Natatorium will be open for public swimming from 1 to 6 p.m. on December 23 and closed on December 24 and 25.

The Joe Farmer Recreation Center will be closed on December 24 and 25.

December 30

SBC Cotton Bowl Music Festival Annual Battle of the Bands will take place at the Plano Centre located at 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway. Schools will perform at the SBC Cotton Bowl Pre-Game and Half-time. Various schools will be performing all day from 8:00am to 2:00 pm in both Concert Band and Jazz Band. Admission is free. For more information call (801) 598-8820.

December 31-January 2 The greatest hits of the '50s and '60s are all on the menu at Smokey Joe's Cafe, a show that will have your hands clapping and toes tapping. Smokey Joe's Café, the longest running Broadway review in history, will show at the Eisemann Center in Richardson December 31-January 2. Tickets on

sale now and are available at the Eisemann Center box office, by phone at 972.744.4650 or online at www.theaterleague.com

Support Groups

"Healing Matters" Grief Support Group meets the fourth Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at Medical Center of Plano classrooms. This is a pregnancy loss support group for anyone who has lost a baby to miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, stillbirth, newborn death or SIDS. There is also a share group for those pregnant again following a loss. For more information, call 972-519-1588.

DivorceCare meets at 7 p.m. each Tuesday at Fellowship Bible Church North, 850 Lexington, Plano. Call Bob Hornstein at 972-783-8800.

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Proud To Be An Active Partner In The Community

THE TRUTH CLINIC Merry Christmas To Rosa Parks

By: James W. Breedlove

Many civil rights activists were caught by surprise a few weeks ago when major broadcast and print media announced that Kweisi Mfume, NAACP President and CEO, was resigning after heading the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization for the past nine years.

About the same time, buried on the inside pages of a few secondary newspapers with no national TV coverage, there was a scant reference that Rosa Parks the "mother of the civil rights movement" was financially destitute and faced eviction from her Detroit apartment.

Rosa Parks, the 91 year old American Icon reported to be afflicted with dementia, is at the heart of multiple legal controversies involving her relatives, her lawyers, a caregiver and debt collectors. Two charities created to preserve and protect the name and legacy of the civil rights legend have spent the last seven years entangled in lawsuits for nonpayment of bills and accusations of financial mismanagement.

Without trying to determine the merits of the litigation or the causes for the desperate financial condition of the non-profits the published facts give cause for concern. Parks co-founded the first non-profit institute in 1987 with current caregiver Elaine Steele. A short Black History refresher lesson may help shed light on this dilemma.

Mrs. Parks worked as a seamstress at a Montgomery department store in 1955. On December 1 she boarded a city bus and sat at the front of the "colored" section. The whites

only section in the front of the bus filled up and the bus driver demanded that Mrs. Parks and three other blacks in the "colored" section give up their seats for a white rider. The other three moved, but Mrs. Parks, tired and weary from a long day of work, refused to yield her seat.

Parks in her book, *Quiet Strength*, says of the bus incident, "Our mistreatment under the racism, segregation, and Jim Crow laws was just not right, and I was tired of it. I kept thinking about my mother and my grandparents, and how strong they were. I knew there was a possibility of being mistreated, but an opportunity was being given to me to do what I had asked of others."

She was arrested after the bus driver contacted the police and filed charges against her. Four days later she was found guilty of disorderly conduct and fined \$14. Parks refused to pay the fine and the NAACP initiated a legal suit to reverse the segregation laws on public transportation. Simultaneously, the Montgomery bus boycott, originally planned to be a one-day event, began. It lasted for 381 days. A decision was rendered in the U.S. District Court declaring segregated seating on buses unconstitutional and upheld by the Supreme Court in November 1956.

Mrs. Parks had won the battle, but her ordeal was not over. While praised for her role in the Montgomery bus boycott her financial security was jeopardized. She was fired from her seamstress job and was unable to find work in Montgomery. Her family was harassed and threatened.

In 1957, she moved to Detroit with her husband and mother

where they struggled for the next eight years. She joined the staff of U.S. Representative John Conyers of Michigan in 1965 and worked there until her retirement in 1988.

Parks has received countless honors and awards in recognition of her act of courage including 10 honorary degrees, the NAACP's Spingarn Medal in 1979 and the prestigious Martin Luther King, Jr. award in 1980. In 1996 president Bill Clinton awarded her a Presidential Medal of Freedom and the United States Congress presented her its Congressional Gold Medal.

She continued her activism and traveled extensively to make public appearances and speak on her role in the civil rights movement. Concern of friends and family began to grow over Park's strenuous schedule and financial relationship with her non-profit trustees especially after she was beaten and robbed in her Detroit home in 1994. A second non-profit, The Parks Legacy, had been formed by Park's attorney and her caregiver to control Park's public property image rights.

Riverfront Associates, the owners of the luxury, high-security Detroit complex where Rosa Parks lives, now say she can live there rent free for the rest of her life. Whether this is a touch of altruism or capitulation to the bad publicity associated with evicting this civil rights icon the apartment owners are due thanks for their generosity. The irony—Blacks will not look after their own heroes.

Merry Christmas Rosa Parks and may you have the peace and tranquility you so rightfully deserve.

Email Comments to
Politics @ MonTheGazette.com

USDA Rural Development Accepting Applications For Fiscal Year 2005 Distance Learning And Telemedicine Program

TEMPLE- Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, announced today USDA Rural Development is accepting applications for Fiscal Year 2005 Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program.

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2005 Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program will have competitive grant funds to provide access to education, training and health care resources for people in rural America.

"Texas communities can benefit from the opportunities provided by the distance learning and telemedicine program. This grant will help ensure that rural Texans have the access to modern technology and telemedicine services," said

Daniel.

Distance learning and telemedicine grants are specifically designed to provide access to education, training and health care resources for people in rural America. Funds may be used to provide distance learning or telemedicine services to residents or entities in rural areas. Incorporated organizations, federally recognized Indian tribes, state, or local governments are eligible to apply in rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less.

The maximum award per grant is \$500,000. Applications must be completed and submitted no later than February 1, 2005, and will be scored and awarded on a competitive basis. For

more information, on the distance learning and telemedicine program for 2005, please contact Francisco Valentin, Jr., Community Programs Director, (254) 742-9789 or visit the website at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rus/telecom>.

USDA Rural Development was created in 1994 to help enhance the quality of life and increase economic opportunities for the nation's rural residents. For more information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, contact any USDA Service Center or visit our website at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>

Email Comments to
Politics @ MonTheGazette.com

Restoring History Page 1

museum," said T.J. Johnson, the museum board's chairwoman.

Some of the museum's major community partners are the City of Plano, Hibernia Bank (the event's official sponsor), the Heritage Farmstead Museum, Home Depot, Legacy Bank of Texas, Plano Area Habitat for Humanity, Plano Community Charity, Plano Conservancy and the Plano Heritage Commission.

"I think this can really be an anchor for the community because there's so much rich history in this part of the land, and I think it extends beyond the buildings and the land itself," said Willie Spears, Hibernia Bank's Executive Vice President.

Currently the Thornton House is in the process of being renovated. Once complete, Plano's African American Museum will have authentic period furnishings and high-quality interpretive structure to help teach African American history.

"We are hoping that this project becomes a vehicle through which many, many stories are told of how African Americans, or how we here in Plano, lived, worked, played and worshiped," Johnson said.

Part of that history is the church right beside the Thornton House. It will be the museum's Education and Visitor Center, which originally housed a congregation of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church of America—recently known as the Greater New

Birth Baptist Church.

The Education and Visitor Center will include the Great Room, which will be used for community meetings, classrooms, a museum library, exhibit and office space for staff and volunteers.

"I've been so excited about this project for as long as I can remember," Plano Mayor Pat Evans said.

"It's just been a real dream to have this underway and now to know that it really is going to be a reality, it's just wonderful."

In between the Education and Visitor Center and the Thornton House will be the museum's Faith Garden, which will contain planted cotton, corn, beans and other crops that were grown by African American farmers.

The purpose of the Faith Garden is to teach museum visitors about African Americans' way of living in those days and the important contributions they made.

"This was fate because no matter the hurdles we had, we overcame them," Maggie Sprague of the Plano Conservancy for Historic Preservation said. "Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for making one of our dreams come true."

Three Thornton generations lived in the house, which was among the first owned by an African American in Collin County, before it started getting too old to live in and was close

to being torn down to build a parking lot.

But instead of destroying the building, thanks to PAAM, the Plano Conservancy, the Plano Heritage Commission and city support, it was agreed that it would be best to preserve the Thornton House.

"The significance of this project is the fact that it will be a learning opportunity for people of all ages to come learn about what life was like back then," said Chris Gandy, the board's treasurer.

Using a \$90,000 loan, the museum board purchased the land, which included the Thornton House and the church.

The board then got a \$40,000 grant from the Heritage Commission, which it used to start renovating the house.

"This house goes back to 1909 and it's still standing. It represents our history and I'm just glad they didn't knock this down, and that they decided to turn this into a black museum," said Carla Broom, who brought her three kids with her to experience history in the making.



T.J. Johnson, Plano African American Museum Chairwoman speaks to audience.



Historic Thornton House.

Tentatively, the museum is set to open around the spring or summer.

Memberships of \$10 for individuals and \$25 for families are being offered. For more information on the PAAM, volunteering or becoming a sponsor, call (972) 769-0750.

Where Do You Want To Go Today?

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

While you ponder that thought we would like to announce that Minority Opportunity News, Inc., formerly a Dallas based renaissance community tabloid, founded in 1991, has relocated to Plano, Texas and changed our name to MON-The Gazette. In addition to moving our offices to Plano, our editorial coverage has also shifted to encompass Dallas' Northern Corridor. The Northern Corridor is clearly the fastest growing region in Texas, if not in America. MON-The Gazette believes that the engine to continue the 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



More Blacks Working for Self

By: Kenneth Mallory
Afro Newspapers

WASHINGTON (NNPA) — A new study, "Self-Employed Business Ownership Rates in the United States: 1979-2003," finds that self-employment rates among minorities have dramatically increased.

"This study provides definitive evidence for the growth trend we've seen in entrepreneurship over the years," said Robert Hughes, president of the National Association for the Self-Employed.

"Particularly strong among women, Blacks and Latinos, these numbers help to better quantify the appeal of self-employment and

the impact this segment of the small business population has on the economy."

Based on data obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the study, conducted by the national Small Business Administration's (SBA) Office of Advocacy, finds that from 1979-2003, incorporated and unincorporated business ownership rates rose by 37 percent for African-Americans, while 33 percent for women and 17 percent for Latino Americans. Self-employment among Black men rose 59.9 percent from 1984-2003.

Robert W. Fairlie, associate professor of economics at the

University of California, Santa Cruz, conducted the study under contract with the SBA. "What I'm hoping is that it [the study] will generate research to figure out what's going on [and] what's driving these trends," said Fairlie in a telephone interview.

Fairlie is unsure of what has led to the increase in self-employment among minorities. Although entrepreneurial trends are rising, African-Americans still face challenges becoming business owners.

"I've done a lot of work on the overall question of why business ownership rates are low among African-Americans. What the literature finds is that there are a

few explanations that come out pretty strong. One is African-Americans have lower levels of initial capital. That's one thing that is definitely a barrier into business ownership," said Fairlie.

"Another is that they're [African-Americans] less likely to have family businesses, so they're less likely to grow up in a family business, less likely to have parents that are business owners. Those things tend to be very important — sort of informal ways of getting human capital to start your own business."

"Lower levels of education on average, hold African-American business owners back a little bit. But that doesn't seem to be that important, being a more minor factor."

Minority Scholarships Page 1

Student Scholarships

<http://www.invent.org/collegiate/>

Student Video Scholarships
<http://www.christophers.org/videon2k.html>

Coca-Cola Two Year College Scholarships
<http://www.coca-cola-scholars.org/programs.html>

Holocaust Remembrance Scholarships
<http://holocaust.hklaw.com/>

Ayn Rand Essay Scholarships
<http://www.aynrand.org/contests/>

Brand Essay Competition
<http://www.instituteforbrand-leadership.org/IBLEssayContest-2002Rules.html>

Gates Millennium Scholarships (major)
<http://www.gates.org/nominations/materials/read.dbm?ID=12>

Xerox Scholarships for Students
http://www2.xerox.com/go/xrs/about_xerox/about_xerox_detail.jsp

Sports Scholarships and Internships
<http://www.ncaa.org/about/scholarships.html>

National Assoc. of Black Journalists Scholarships (NABJ)
<http://www.nabj.org/html/studentssvc.html>

Saul T. Wilson Scholarships (Veterinary)
<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/mb/mrphr/jobs/stw.html>

Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund
http://www.thurgoodmarshallfund.org/sk_v6.cfm

FinAid: The Smart Students Guide to Financial Aid Scholarships
<http://www.finaid.org/>

Presidential Freedom Scholarships
<http://www.nationalservice.org/scholarships/>

Microsoft Scholarship Program
<http://www.microsoft.com/college/scholarships/minority.asp>

WiredScholar Free Scholarship Search
http://www.wiredscholar.com/paying/scholarship_search/paying_scholarship_search.jsp

Hope Scholarships & Lifetime Credits
<http://www.ed.gov/initiatives/hope/>

William Randolph Hearst Endowed Scholarship for Minority Students
<http://www.apsanet.org/PS/grants/aspen3.cfm>

Multiple List of Minority Scholarships
<http://gehon.ir.miami.edu/financialassistance/Scholarship/black.html>

Guaranteed Scholarships
<http://www.guaranteed-scholarships.com/>

BOEING Scholarships (some HBCU connects)
<http://www.boeing.com/company/offices/educationrelations/scholarships>

Easley National Scholarship Program
<http://www.naas.org/senior.htm>

Maryland Artists Scholarships
<http://www.mae.org/>

Jacki Tuckfield Memorial Graduate Business Scholarship (for AA students in South Florida)
<http://www.jackituckfield.org/>

Historically Black College & University Scholarships
<http://www.hbcuabroad.org/info/hbcu.htm>

Actuarial Scholarships for Minority Students
<http://www.beanactuary.org/minority/scholarships.htm>

International Students Scholarships & Aid Help
<http://www.icfa.org/>

College Board Scholarship Search
<http://cbweb10p.collegeboard.org/fundfinder/html/fundfind01.html>

Burger King Scholarship Program
<http://www.bkscholars.esfa.org>

Siemens Westinghouse Competition
<http://www.siemens-foundation.org>

GE and LuLac Scholarship Funds
<http://www.lulac.org/Programs/Scholar.html>

CollegeNet's Scholarship Database
<http://mach25.collegenet.com/cgi-bin/M25/index>

Union Sponsored Scholarships and Aid
<http://www.afficio.org/scholarships/scholar.htm>

Federal Scholarships & Aid Gateways 25 Scholarship Gateways from Black Excel
<http://www.blackexcel.org/25scholarships.htm>

Scholarship & Financial Aid Help
<http://www.blackexcel.org/financialsch.htm>

Scholarship Links (Ed Finance Group)
<http://www.efg.net/link/scholarship.htm>

FAFSA On The Web (Your Key Aid Form & Info)
<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

Aid & Resources For Re-Entry Students
<http://www.back2college.com/>

Scholarships and Fellowships
<http://www.osc.cuny.edu/seplinks.html>

Scholarships for Study in Paralegal Studies
<http://www.paralegals.org/Choice/2000west.htm>

HBCU "Packard" Sit Abroad Scholarships (for study around the world)
http://www.sit.edu/studyabroad/packard_nomination.html

Scholarship and Fellowship Opportunities
<http://ccmi.uchicago.edu/schl1.html>

INROADS Internships
<http://www.inroads.org>

Black Alliance for Educational Options Scholarships
<http://www.baeo.org/options/private/financial.asp>


ScienceNet Scholarship Listing
<http://www.sciencenet.emory.edu/undergrad/scholarships.html>

Graduate Fellowships For Minorities Nationwide
<http://cuinfo.cornell.edu/Student/GRFN/list.phtml?category=MINORITIES>

RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS AT OXFORD
<http://www.rhodes-scholar.org/info.html>

The Roothbert Scholarship Fund
<http://www.roothbertfund.org/schol>

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Arts & Entertainment

Email Entertainment News And Events to
Entertainment@MonTheGazette.com

Shaquille O'Neal Adds Some Heat to the 21st Annual Walt Disney World Christmas Day Parade Airing Christmas Day on ABC-TV



The Renowned Miami Heat Center Teams Up With Mickey for the Gala Christmas Day Holiday Telecast

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla., PRNewswire/— Shaquille O'Neal takes center court as the newest guest star recruit for the Walt Disney World

Christmas Day Parade airing on ABC-TV Christmas Day from 12:00PM to 2:00PM (CT).

The 7'1" center for the Miami Heat goes one on one with Mickey and the Disney team as they score holiday magic for viewers of all ages. ABC viewers can also watch as Shaq goes on the attack against the L.A. Lakers at 3:00PM Eastern and 12:00PM Pacific.

Shaq joins a stellar list of celebrity talent for the Walt Disney World Christmas Day Parade that includes the legendary Julie Andrews, actor John Stamos, Hope & Faith stars Faith Ford and

Ted McGinley, Less Than Perfect star Patrick Warburton, Constance Marie from the George Lopez show, Erik von Detten from the new comedy Complete Savages, Tom Bergeron host of America's Funniest Home Videos, Rodney Carrington from Rodney and film and television star Zach Braff.

Featured appearances include Disney Channel stars Raven, Christy Carlson-Romano and Meredith Vieira, Co-Host of The View and Host of Who Wants to Be a Millionaire. Musical performers include pop music idols Mariah Carey and Ashanti; Latin singing sensation Juanes;

American Idol favorites Kelly Clarkson and Diana DeGarmo; and country stars Wynonna and SheDaisy.

A 21-year television tradition, the Walt Disney World Christmas Day Parade decks the halls with a star-studded line-up of major musical performers and favorite celebrities for two hours of holiday cheer. Presiding over the festivities are Regis Philbin -- who has hosted more Walt Disney World Christmas Day Parades than anyone -- and his Live! With Regis & Kelly co-star (and star of ABC-TV's Hope & Faith), Kelly Ripa.

Amanda Dunbar Page 1

Papillon, which means "Butterfly Gallery" in French.

Dunbar recently earned a 4.0 GPA from SMU and completed her Bachelor's in Fine Arts in Art History within four years time while painting Friday thru Sunday in her studio in Allen. She plans to pursue her Master's in Fine Arts and eventually obtain a Doctorate in Art History.

Her mother, an advocate for education, explains to children that Amanda influences the importance of "getting your education so that you can stay successful."

Dunbar's art studies have given her the opportunity to travel abroad to attend graduate courses including Advanced Painting at the famed Pont-Aven School of Art in Brittany, France, where she studied under the tutelage of professors from Yale University.

Already a philanthropist, Dunbar has contributed half a million dollars to children's charities and scholarship programs.

The artist started Youth Art for Harmony, an initiative created to bolster arts programming in U.S. schools.

She has been named Ambassador to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children. With this honor, Dunbar has launched a program, "In Celebration of Children," where proceeds of her selected children's painting go towards helping and supporting our nation's children.

Dunbar has landed her first one million dollar commission to paint the Island of Fiji. To complete this work she will spend quality time on the island. Fiji is an independent state in the S.W. Pacific. It is east of Vanuatu and consists of two large islands (Viti Levu and Vanua Levu).



"In Celebration" painting of local women on the Island of Fiji completed in 2004.

Dunbar's mission is to denystify fine art, "to get the average person to live with art again..."

Intriguingly, Dunbar has no problem with people touching her artwork as long as it is dry. She encourages playful children to touch the paint

and to feel the rich texture.

Her book entitled "Guided By Angels": Divinely Inspired Paintings by Amanda Dunbar has been in print for 5 years. An avid reader herself, Dunbar offered a description of her painting 'A Journey In Brotherhood'.

"These two little boys portray the essence of understanding. They're reading and learning together."

"This is the basis for all of us. Reading builds knowledge and knowledge builds understanding. Understanding ultimately promotes tolerance and a kinder world."

"If you are given a gift, you have the responsibility to do something positive with it." Amanda recognizes her gift and with wisdom beyond her years, the vibrant artist sets out to make a difference in the world.

For more information, check out Amandadunbar.com

WINTER WONDER HITS WEEK OF DECEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 30

Top Ten Movies (boxofficeonline.com)	Top Ten Video Rentals DVD
1. Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events	1. 1. Robot
2. Ocean's Twelve	2. Collateral
3. Spanglish	3. Bourne Supremacy
4. The Polar Express	4. Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story
5. Blade: Trinity	5. Elf
6. National Treasure	6. The Princess Diaries II
7. Christmas with the Kranks	7. The Terminal
8. The Flight of the Phoenix	8. Spider-Man 2
9. Clover	9. Hero
10. The Incredibles	10. The Stepford Wives
Top Ten CD's (Billboard) R & B/Hip Hop	VHS
1. Ludacris, The Red Light District	1. Collateral
2. Mario, Turning Point	2. 1. Robot
3. Destiny's Child, Destiny Fulfilled	3. Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story
4. Cam'ron, Purple Haze	4. Elf
5. Lil Jon & The East Side Boyz, Crunk Juice	5. The Terminal
6. Eminem, Encore	6. Spider-Man 2
7. T.I., Urban Legend	7. Bourne Supremacy
8. Jay-Z/Linkin Park, MTV Ultimate Mash-Ups Presents: Collision Course	8. The Princess Diaries II
9. Usher, Confessions	9. Harry Potter & The Prisoner Of Azkaban
10. Nas, Street's Disciple	10. The Day After Tomorrow

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.

SOUTHWESTERN

WATCH NIGHT
*Christmas Eve
& New Year's
Eve
Celebrations*

The people of The United Methodist Church

DALLAS

Camp Wisdom UMC
1300 W. Camp Wisdom Rd.
Christmas Eve 7 pm*
(with Jazz & Candlelight)
Dec. 31 • Watch Night 7 pm

Crest-Moore-King UMC
4501 Marsalis
Christmas Eve 7 pm*
Dec. 31 • Watch Night 7 pm

East Grand Foundry UMC
6211 E. Grand Ave.
Christmas Eve 5 pm*

Elmwood UMC
1315 Berkley
Christmas Eve
5 pm* (English)
7 pm* (Bilingual)

Emmanu-EL UMC
2422 N. Akard
Christmas Eve 6 pm*
Dec. 31 • Watch Night 9 pm
(at 3274 St. Croix)

Hamilton Park UMC
11881 Schroeder Rd.
Christmas Eve 6 pm*
Dec. 31 • Watch Night
10 pm

Highland Hills UMC
6006 Flagstaff
Dec. 31 • Watch Night
10:30 pm

San Juan UMC

6211 East Grand Ave.
Dec. 31 • Watch Night
7 pm

Spring Valley UMC
7700 Spring Valley Rd.
Christmas Eve 5 pm*
7:30 pm Spanish
Communion,
8 pm* & 11 pm*
Dec. 31 • Spanish Watch
Night 9 pm

St. Luke's "Community" UMC
5710 East R.L. Thornton Fwy.
Christmas Eve 6 pm*
(Gospel & Jazz)
Dec. 31 • Watch Night
10 pm

**Jubilee UMC,
St. Paul UMC,
& Warren UMC**
Joint Service at
549 East Jefferson
Dec. 31 • Watch Night
9 pm Soul Food Meal
10 pm Worship at
Oak Cliff UMC
(Choir & Sacred Dancers
from 3 churches with a
combined Sermon)

DENISON

Haven Chapel UMC
500 West Walker
Dec. 31 • Watch Night
11 pm

PLANO

All Nations UMC
3415 E. 14th
Christmas Eve 6 pm*
Dec. 31 • Watch Night
6 pm

PONDER

Stony UMC
13911 Old Stony Rd.
Dec. 31 • Watch Night
7 pm

SEAGOVILLE

First UMC
101 S. Kaufman
Christmas Eve 7 pm*
Dec. 31 • Watch Night
7 pm

*Candlelight
Service

For information on additional
area churches visit: www.ntcumc.org

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HEY!
HEY!**

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DIRECTED BY JOEL ZWICK

STARTS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

Church Happenings

ALL NATIONS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Tomorrow,
December 24, 6:00 pm
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
December 31, 6:00 pm
New Year's Eve Worship Service

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

BETHANY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

December 31, 10:00 pm
Watch Night Service
For more information call
Michelle Tucker at 214-352-3552.

Bethany MBC
Rev. A. K. Haynes, Sr., Pastor
6710 Webster Avenue
Dallas, TX 75209
214-352-3552

BETHEL BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

December 31, 2004
Watch Night Service

Bethel Bible Fellowship
Dr. Terrance Woodson, Pastor
1944 Hebron Parkway
Carrollton, TX 75007
972-492-4300

CAMP WISDOM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 24, 7:00 pm
Hear Jazz Artist Roger Boykin perform the soothing and soulful sounds of Christmas during a Candlelight Worship Service, along with the Voices of Wisdom Choir. FREE and opened to the public.

For more information, contact Denise Johnson Stovall at 972-224-3087

January 2, 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm
Camp Wisdom UMC will host the Friendship Among Faiths 5th Winter Celebration. This is a program of the Thanks-Giving Square Interfaith Council. It's FREE admission and opened to the public. This year's theme for the interfaith program is "Gifts

We Share: Respect, Recognition, Reconciliation." There will be three speakers from the Abrahamic faiths: a Jewish Rabbi, a Christian Minister, and a Muslim Imam, they will address the theme from each one's religious perspective.

Camp Wisdom UMC
Rev. L. C. Stovall, Pastor
1300 W. Camp Wisdom Road
Dallas, TX 75232
972-224-4556

COALITION OF CHURCHES IN PRISON MINISTRY

Tonight, December 23, 2004
We will complete our work on our Christmas project, "Gifts to our Brothers in White."

On-Going Mentor Program

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

For more information, please call Ms. Carolyn Johnson @ 972-235-6432

Coalition of Churches in Prison Ministry
Rev. Isaac Johnson, Coordinator
P. O. Box 225863
Dallas, TX 75222-5863
972-235-6432 or 214-632-6519

Church Happenings Page 7

Legal Notices

Contact Marketing to advertise in our career opportunity section 972-509-9049 Fax or Email copy for quote: Fax: 972-509-9058; Email: opportunity@monthegazette.com

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TxDOT) CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/ BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Fort Worth
Contract 6114-02-001 for LOOP DETECTOR REPAIR AND/OR REPLACE in TARRANT County, etc will be received on January 26, 2005 until 9:00 am and opened on January 26, 2005 at 9:30 am at the District Office for an estimate of \$292,129.50.
Contract 6124-38-001 for ROADSIDE MOWING in TARRANT County will be received on January 26, 2005 until 9:00 am and opened on January 26, 2005 at 9:30 am at the District Office for an estimate of \$270,765.00.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

NPO: 15229

State Office
Const./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office(s)
Fort Worth District
District Engineer
2501 Southwest LP820
Ft Worth, Texas 76133
Phone: 817-370-6909

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

Car Review

2005 GMC Sierra

By: E. Dewayne Gibson Jr.

GMC introduces its Sierra extended Cab Pickup Truck in 9 models with four engine types ranging from a 4.3L V6 to a 6.0L V8.

A Sierra Hybrid retail model is available in several markets offering up to 10 percent improvement in fuel economy, while delivering the same horsepower and torque as other gasoline-only Vortec 5300-equipped Sierra pickups.

The premium model, Sierra Crew Cab Denali, features a distinctive front-end appearance,

including a chrome grille, projector-beam headlamps and unique front fascia with fog lamps. Supporting the Sierra

Post V8 is the Hydra-Matic 4L65-E electronically controlled four-speed automatic transmission. The



Sierra Crew Cab Denali also is equipped with an advanced vacuum-boost brake system, which provides excellent stopping power for high-deceleration stops and optimum anti-lock

Crew Cab Denali's professional grade capabilities is the powerful Vortec 6000 6.0L High Output v8 LQ9 engine.

Backing the Vortec 6000 High

performance requiring less maximum pedal force during high-deceleration.

Estimated Annual Fuel Cost: \$1501.

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Sealed proposals for contracts listed below will be received by TxDOT until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/ BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Dallas
Contract 0197-02-091 for WIDEN DIRECT CONN RAMP TO 2 LANES in DALLAS County will be opened on January 11, 2005 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.
Contract 1068-04-133 for RECONST FRWY & OVERPASS AT LOOP 12 in DALLAS County will be opened on January 11, 2005 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

NPO: 15182

State Office
Const./Maint. Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

Dist/Div Office(s)
Dallas District
District Engineer
4777 E. Hwy 80
Mesquite, Texas 75150-6643
Phone: 214-320-6100

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Please leave a message!

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(972) 941-7402
24 HOUR
CAREER INFORMATION HOTLINE
(972) 941-7116
Home Page: www.plano.gov
FAX (972) 941-7239
AA / EOE / ADA

F-T ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

KWRD-FM is looking for candidates who have been successful in outside sales. A commitment to the programming and the mission of KWRD is critical. Previous radio sales experience is not necessary.

If you're interested in this position with KWRD-FM, Please fax an introduction letter along with a resume to Easy Ezell at 214-561-9662.

NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE
KWRD-FM is a subsidiary of Salem Communications, an equal opportunity employer

Recent Journalism Graduate?

Trying to Get Your Foot in The Door?

Community Newspaper seeking Part Time Writer to cover Community Events. Must be familiar with AP style. Bilingual English/ Spanish a Plus.

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

SEEKING

An Energetic Telephone Sales Associate for Classified and Small Business Accounts. Must have: Experience, sales skills, good people skills, the ability to close. Part-time (approx. 20 hrs per week).

Hourly pay +commission + bonuses

Call: 972-606-3891 (ask for sales Manager)

Fax: 972-881-1646

Email: opportunity@monthegazette.com



Tarrant County Government

TECHNICAL OFFICER II

-(Sheriff's Department)

HS/GED and 6 months work experience. Supervises inmate movement within the facility, including inmate feeding and cleaning of the jail housing area. Must respond to emergency situations utilizing emergency equipment. Must be willing to work weekends, holidays, rotating shifts, and nights. \$14.30 hour. (OPEN)

Applications required. Applications available on www.tarrantcounty.com or issued/accepted M-F 7:00 a - 4:45 p. If outside Tarrant County, call (817) 884-1188 to request & listen to the Job Line for details on these & other position openings. Tarrant County Human Resources, 100 E. Weatherford, Ste#301, FW, TX 76196-0105. EOE/AA.

NTTA

NORTH TEXAS TOLLWAY AUTHORITY

PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT

The North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA) will receive sealed bids at 5900 W. Plano Pkwy. Suite 100, Plano, TX 75093, (214) 461-2061, until **Thursday, January 27, 2005 at 2:00 pm.**

Project DNT - 463. Construction of 1.81 miles of new 6-lane Dallas North Tollway from north of SH 121 to north of John Hickman Road, Section XI-S, including grading, drainage, structures, concrete pavement, retaining walls, illumination, sign structures, pavement markings, traffic signals, and ITS infrastructure. The project length is 1.70 miles roadway and 0.11 miles bridge. The engineer's estimate of probable construction cost is \$31,000,000. Non-refundable bid packet cost is **ONE HUNDRED AND NO/100 (\$100.00)** and will be available December 20, 2004. Contact Karen at 214-461-2061 for more information.

Project DNT - 501. Construction of 1.36 miles of new 3-lane President George Bush Turnpike service roads from SH 78 to Northeast Parkway, Section XXVIII, including grading, drainage, structures, concrete pavement, retaining walls, illumination, sign structures, pavement markings, and traffic signals. The project length is 0.61 miles roadway and 0.11 miles bridge. The engineer's estimate of probable construction cost is \$14,000,000. Non-refundable bid packet cost is **SEVENTY FIVE AND NO/100 (\$75.00)** and will be available December 30, 2004. Contact Karen at 214-461-2061 for more information.

The bid packet includes the Proposal book and Plans. Acceptable methods of payment include cashier's check, money order, company check, or personal check. **Cash will not be accepted.** Paper based bids and documents supporting electronic bids shall be submitted in sealed envelopes marked clearly with the project number, company's name, and bid opening date. **No oral, telephoned, or faxed bids** will be considered. Late bids will not be considered and will be returned unopened. All rights reserved.

The bid packet may be examined at the NTTA's main office, 5900 West Plano Parkway, Suite 100, Plano TX 75093, prior to purchase. Bid documents may also be examined and downloaded online, at no charge, under the **Business/View Opportunities** section of the NTTA's home page (<http://www.ntta.org>). If not previously registered with the NTTA, the bidder must register online prior to accessing the bid documents.

Electronic bids may be submitted through the NTTA's electronic bidding software. The NTTA is offering optional training on its electronic bidding process on January 6, 2005 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the NTTA's main office, 5900 West Plano Parkway, Suite 100, Plano TX 75093. Contact Laura at 214-461-2095 to register for this training.

Church News



Sister Tarpley

Floyd Erving, KHVN, Heaven 97 radio personality, reads an inspirational piece every morning around 8:25 am on the Joe Bagley Morning Show. I have also discovered that he reads short stories on his Saturday Morning Show that's on from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, around 1:15 pm. The following is one that he read recently. Furthermore, Floyd has two Short Stories CD's that I purchased; I have enjoyed listening to them while driving, and at home. Give Floyd a call @ 214-331-5486, Ext. 103, and don't forget to listen for him on the radio.

Will we be the "Country of Choice" and still be America if we continue to make the changes forced on America by some individuals from other countries that chose to come and live in America because it is the "Country of Choice?" Think about it.

I have to say this, "When will something be done about MY RIGHTS AS AN AMERICAN?" I proudly celebrate Christmas, but because it isn't celebrated by everyone, it isn't "politically correct" to say, "Merry Christmas." Now we are encouraged to say, "Season's Greetings." It's no longer a "Christmas Vacation" from school and the office; it's now a "Winter or Holiday Break." It's amazing how this "Winter or Holiday Break" ALWAYS occurs during America's traditional "Christmas Holidays?" We have gone so far the other way not to offend

GOD BLESS AMERICA

anyone, that now I am being offended. But it seems that no one has a problem with that. **The following says it all!**

After hearing that the State of Florida changed its opinion and let a Muslim woman have her picture on her driver's license with her face covered, this editorial by an American citizen, was published in a Tampa newspaper.

IMMIGRANTS, NOT AMERICANS, MUST ADAPT! I am tired of our nation worrying about

have our own culture, our own society, our own language, and our own lifestyle. Our culture developed over centuries of struggles, trials, and victories by millions of men and women who sought freedom.

We speak ENGLISH, not Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Russian, or any other language. Therefore, if you wish to become a part of America, learn ENGLISH!

"In God We Trust" is our national motto; this motto was adopted because of Christian men and women, based on Christian principles, founded this nation; this is clearly documented. It is appropriate to display it on the walls in our schools, and in our government buildings. If God offends you, then I suggest that you consider another part of the world as your new home, because God is a major and important part of our culture.

If Stars and Stripes offend you or you don't like Uncle Sam, then seriously consider a move to another part of world. We are happy with our culture and we have no desire to change. We don't care how you did things where you came from, if it was so good, why did you come here? This is OUR COUNTRY, our land, and our culture. **Our First Amendment** gives every citizen the right to express his/her opinion, and we allow every opportunity to do so. But once you are through complaining, whining, and griping about our flag, our pledge, our national motto, and/or our culture, I highly encourage you to take advantage of one other great American freedom, **THE RIGHT TO LEAVE!**

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."

Email: starpley@wt.net
Office: 972-516-4191
Voice Mail: 972-606-3878
Fax: 972-516-4197



Picture of the Week
Floyd Erving, KHVN, Heaven 97 Radio Personality and Sister Tarpley, Religious Editor, MON-The Gazette, the day she purchased copies of his Short Stories CD.

whether we are offending some individuals or their culture. After the terrorist attacks on 9/11, we experienced a surge in patriotism by many Americans. However, the dust from the attacks had barely settled when the "politically correct" crowd began complaining about the possibility that our patriotism was offending others. I am not against immigration; nor do I hold a grudge against anyone seeking a better life by coming to America. Our population is made up of descendants from immigrants. However, there are a few things that those who have recently come to our country, and apparently some that are born here, need to understand. This idea of America being too much of a multicultural community has served only to dilute our sovereignty and our national identity. Americans

Church Happenings

Church Happenings Page 6

CONCORD CHURCH
December 31, 10:00 pm
Watch Night Service

Concord Church
Rev. Bryan Carter, Pastor
6808 Boulder Drive
Dallas, TX 75237
214-331-8522

DALLAS OVERCOMERS CHURCH
Tomorrow
December 24, 7:00 pm

Christmas Eve Service - Celebrating Christ's Birthday, please join us for a great birthday party.

This Saturday, December 25, 10:00 am
We Open On Christmas Day! The birthday party continues with Christmas Day Service and a glorious time.

December 31, 9:00 pm
Celebrate the old year passing with a New Year's Concert, it's FREE and opened to the public. There will be great music and wonderful fellowship with Christian family and friends.

January 2, 2005, 10:00 am
Come celebrate a "New Beginning" with us. We welcome everyone.

Dallas Overcomers Church
Pastor Gabriel & Deaconess Maxine, Servants
9759 Forest Lane, Suite 450A
(On the 2nd Level) @ Audelia Road
Dallas, TX 75243
972-808-9300

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK
December 31, 6:00 pm
Watch Night Service

First Baptist Church of H.P.
Dr. Greg Foster, Senior Pastor and
Rev. Tony Foster, Associate Pastor
300 Phillip Street
Richardson, TX 75081
972-235-4235

GREENVILLE AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST
3rd Sunday of Each Month

We have a FREE blood pressure screening in the gym after evening services.

Each Sunday, 4:00 pm
Fall Worship Training Classes for all areas of worship performed during service in the main auditorium.

Greenville Avenue C of C
Minister S.T.W. Gibbs, III
1013 South Greenville Avenue
Richardson, TX 75081
972-644-2335

LITTLE FLOCK BAPTIST CHURCH
Sundays, 6:30 pm

We now have Sunday Evening Services, come worship with us.

December 31, 10:00 pm
Watch Night Service

Little Flock Baptist Church
Rev. Louis Laurent, Pastor
704 East Aimee Street
Forney, TX 75126
214-325-7021

MORSE STREET BAPTIST CHURCH
February 11 - 13, 2005

Our Jubilee 20th Church Anniversary; and we are looking for former church members, family and friends to join us in a celebration of Worship and Praise. Guest speaker will be Rev. Don Hayes.

Celebrations will be held at the church, and the Doral Tesoro Hotel and Golf Resort. For more information, please call 940-320-5364.

Morse Street Baptist Church
Rev. A. R. Stokes, Pastor
921 Morse Street
Denton, TX 76205
940-320-5364

Church Happenings Page 8

Feel Better Now.

KHVN
HEAVEN 97 AM

Uplifting, Inspirational Music

Church Directory



NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES:
8:00 AM • 9:30 AM • 11:30 AM

972-437-3493

Dr. Leslie W. Smith, Senior Pastor
1010-1020 South Sherman Street • Richardson, TX 75081
www.ndcbf.org

New Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Dallas

Sunday Service

Morning Worship
7:30 am & 10:30 am
9:00 am Sunday School

Wednesday Service

Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm
Brotherhood 7:00 pm
Missions 7:00 pm
Singles Group 7:00 pm
Bible Study 7:45 pm



Dr. Robert E. Price,
Senior Pastor

A Praying Church Family
"Watchmen on the Walls"

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

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

OVERCOMERS

Dallas Overcomers Church

"Where Christ Sets the Captives Free."



(By Forest Lane & Audelia in North Dallas)

9759 Forest Lane, Suite 450A
(2nd Floor) @ Audelia Road
Dallas, TX 75243
972-808-9300 (Phone)

Pastor Gabriel, Deaconess Maxine and all DOC members invite you to come for a life changing experience.

Regular Weekly Services

Sunday School @ 9:00 am for Men, Ladies and Youth
Sundays @ 10:00 am Worship Service
Wednesdays @ 6:00 pm Spiritual Growth

Christ's Birthday Celebration

Friday @ 7:30 pm Christmas Eve Service
Saturday @ 10:00 am Christmas Day Service

New Year Celebration

Friday, December 31 @ 9:00 pm New Year's Eve Concert
Sunday, January 2 @ 10:00 am Celebrate a New Beginning

We Open On Christmas Day.

Friendship Baptist Church

Dr. C. Paul McBride, Pastor



Schedule of Services:

Sunday

Early Morning Worship
8:00 a.m.

Sunday School Classes
9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship
11:00 a.m.

Evening Worship (1st Sunday) 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday

Early Bird Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday

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

Evening Bible Study

4396 Main Street

The Colony, Texas 75056

(972) 625-8186

website: www.fbc-online.net

"The Church with a Vision"

Visit Our Website At www.MONTheGazette.com

Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church

920 E. 14th Street Plano, TX

Pastor Isaiah Joshua, Jr.



FANNING THE FLAMES OF OUR FAITH



FANNING THE FLAMES OF OUR FAITH

Sunday Worship Services 8AM & 11AM

Sunday 9:45 AM Sunday School
Monday 7PM Youth, Brotherhood, Mission & Young Adult Ministries
Tuesday 7PM Bible Study & Men's Choir
Wednesday 7PM Mid-Week Service
Thursday 7PM Mass Choir

For more information call (972) 423-6895
www.shilohbaptistchurch.org

Mt. Olive Church of Plano

WWW.MOCOP.ORG

Serving the Plano Community for 11 Years

Sunday Worship
8 & 11 am

Wednesdays
7:15 pm



Pastors Sam & Gloria Fenceroy

*** CALL Pastor Sam!**

LIVE ON: "Vision and Truth"

Radio Broadcast: KWRD 100.7 FM Sunday 9pm-10PM

*** HEAR PASTOR SAM DAILY ON: "TRUTH MADE SIMPLE"**
KQGR 104.5 AM MONDAY - FRIDAY 10:25-11:30 AM



740 Avenue F Plano, TX 75074 972 633 5511

Shopping with the Enemy Page 1

more than 90 percent of their contributions to Democrats.

In the insurance category, Prudential Financial walked a line down the middle, giving 52 percent to Republicans and 48 percent to Democrats. Center Insurance Agency gave 98 percent to the GOP, American Financial Group donated 97 percent and State Farm Insurance contributed 81 percent to Republicans. Cigna Corp. directed 85 percent of its donations to the GOP, Northwestern Mutual donated 74 percent and AFLAC gave 63 percent.

Favoring Democrats were Torchmark Corp. and its subsidiaries - American Income Life Insurance, First United American Life, Globe Life and Accident, Liberty National Life, United American and United Investors - at 88 percent. National Indemnity favored Democrats 67 percent to 33 percent. Metropolitan Life, New York Life and General Reinsurance played it close to the middle, with Democrats getting the edge by 52 percent, 54 percent and 55 percent, respectively.

Among the major automakers, only Toyota favored Democrats, 74 percent to 26 percent. Ford gave Republicans 72 percent of its political donations, Chevrolet and GMC, 64 percent, Daimler

Chrysler, 63 percent and Nissan 57 percent.

Aloha Airlines (96 percent), Hawaiian Airlines (91 percent), Jet Blue Airways (89 percent), Net Jets (89 percent) and Alaska Airlines (56 percent) were the only airlines to give Democrats more than Republicans. North American Airlines, Ryan International and Skywest Airlines gave 100 percent of their political donations to Republicans. GWV Vacations gave 98 percent to Republicans and Papillon Airways gave 97 percent. AirTran donated 95 percent and America West Airlines, 87 percent. Southwest, Continental and ATA gave slightly more than 70 percent while United, USAirways, American and Delta each gave 60 to 65 percent of their donations to the GOP.

Among major hotel chains, only Loews (99 percent) and Hyatt (87 percent) donated more to Democrats. Omni Hotels gave 100 percent of its donations to Republicans. Drury Inns gave 98 percent and Extended Stay America, 82 percent. Among those giving more than 75 percent of their contributions to Republicans were: Ritz-Carlton, Marriott, Fairfield Inn, Holiday Inns, Renaissance Hotels and Residence Inn.

Of the major restaurant chains, only Hard Rock Café favored Democrats, donating 100 percent to them.

Restaurants donating more than 90 percent of their contributions to Republicans were Cracker Barrel, Hooters, Logan's Roadhouse, Olive Garden, Outback Steakhouse, Red Lobster, Macaroni Grill, Pizza Hut and Waffle House.

In banking, Chevy Chase Savings Bank donated 78 percent of its funds to Democrats while Bank of America and Citigroup stayed near the middle. Bank of America favored Republicans 51 percent to 49 percent while Citigroup favored Democrats 55 percent to 45 percent. AmSouth, BB&T, Advanta, Sun Trust, US Banco, Home Federal, Fifth Third Bancorp and Wachovia directed more than 70 percent of their contributions to the GOP.

Now that we can see where companies made their political donations, we need a similar analysis of how each company interacts economically with - or disengages from - Black America.

George E. Curry is editor-in-chief of the NNPA News Service and BlackPressUSA.com. His most recent book is "The Best of Emerge Magazine," an anthology published by Ballantine Books. Curry's weekly radio commentary is syndicated by Capitol Radio News Service (301/588-1993). He can be reached through his Web site, georgecurry.com.

Church Happenings

Church Happenings Page 7

MT. HEBRON BAPTIST CHURCH (THE MOUNT)

Wednesday Nights, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
FREE Tutorials. SAT packets are available, and with 1:1 help.

For more information about the above announcement, please call 972-276-5218

Mt. Hebron BC (The Mount)
Rev. Leonard Leach, Pastor
901 Dairy Road
Garland, TX 75040
972-276-5218

NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK

December 24, 7:30 pm
Christmas Eve Service.
Please join us as we celebrate the true meaning of Christmas.
For more information, contact the church @ 972-671-1097 or Ms. Natalie Waits @ 972-720-2570

New Life Fellowship Church of H.P.
Bishop Miller E. Johnson, Jr.
Senior Pastor
8219 Bunche Drive
Dallas, TX 75243
972-671-1097

NEW LIGHT CHURCH
December 31, 10:00 pm
A New Years Eve Celebration with musical guests: Level Ground and Benita Arterberry

New Light Church
Rev. Shaun Rabb, Pastor
9314 Elam Road in Dallas
Dallas, TX 75217
214-391-3430

NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

December 31, 2004
Watch Night Service

North Dallas Community BC
Dr. Leslie W. Smith, Pastor
1010 - 1020 South Sherman Street
Richardson, TX 75081
972-437-3493

PILGRIM REST BAPTIST CHURCH

December 31, 10:00 pm
Watch Night Service
For more information or directions, call 214-823-7308

Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church
Dr. Curtis Wallace, Pastor
1819 N. Washington Avenue
Dallas, TX 75204
214-823-7308

RESTORATION TRIUMPHANT CHURCH

December 26, 2004
Youth Day Explosion
December 31, 2004
Watch Night Service

Restoration Triumphant Church
Elder Mavis Adams, Pastor
1101 Stonewall Drive
Garland, TX 75043
972-202-8975

THE INSPIRING BODY OF CHRIST CHURCH (IBOC)

Sign Up Now
FREE Computer Training classes by Dominion Training & Support Center. For more information and registration, please call Rev. C. Greer @ 214-760-9575 or Email: Rnrag@aol.com.

Mondays, 7:00 pm
Monday School with Holy Spirit Bible Teachings.
December 27 - 31, 7:00 pm
Week of "Building The Kingdom of God." The public is welcomed to join us for these inspiring services.

January 1, 2005, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Premiere Book Signing for Pastor Rickie G. Rush's new book: "May I Have Your Order Please?" at Southwest Center Mall, 3662 W. Camp Wisdom Road # 1084 (Center Court), Dallas, TX 75232. Special guests include: Wandering Mims, Folk Loric and The Five Stars.

The Inspiring Body of Christ Church (IBOC)
Dr. Rickie G. Rush, Pastor
7710 South Westmoreland
Dallas, TX 75237
972-572-IBOC (4262)

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

MON-The Gazette

has a Special Promotion for business persons who want to get those profits moving in the right direction!
How would you feel if you had the opportunity to go for the "Gold" ... but you landed on the Silver?
Contact MON-The Gazette
Marketing Department at: Phone: 972-606-7498

DayStar Deliverance Ministries
Our Services:
Sunday: Sunday School: 10:00 a.m. Midday Service: 11:00 a.m.
Tuesday: Prayer Service: 7:00 p.m. Service: 7:30 p.m.
Sponsored by:
The Touch Ministry • Women in Transition (WIT)
Website: www.thetouchministry.com • Phone: 972-769-8826
Southfork Hotel • 1600 N. Central Expressway • Plano, TX

Hill Chapel
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
1113 I Ave. Plano, TX. 75074 (972) 423-4090
Rev. James E. Larry, Pastor
Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.
Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 A.M.
Wednesday Night-Community Bible Class: 7:30 P.M.

Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church
1308 Wilcox Street, McKinney TX
Pastor Charles S. Wattlely
Sunday
Education Ministries... 9:30 a.m.
Worship Celebration... 11:00 a.m.
- Nursery Facilities Available -
Wednesday
Family Ministries... 7:00 p.m.
Friendly Fellowship with A Family Focus
For More Information Call
972.542.6178
www.saintmarkbc.com
stmarkmissionary@aol.com

The Inspiring Body of Christ Church
7710 S. Westmoreland Rd., Dallas, Texas 75237
Phone: 972-572-4262 Fax: 972-709-3888
Sunday Services: 7:30 am, 10:00 am, 12:30pm
Monday School: 7pm
Men's Fellowship: Friday 7:00pm
Website: www.ibocjoy.org

BETHANY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
SUNDAY ACTIVITIES
8:30 am - Sunday School • 10:00 am - Worship Services
MONDAY
6:30 pm - Missions • 7:00 pm - Brotherhood
WEDNESDAY
6:00 pm - Teacher's Meeting
7:00 pm - Prayer & Midweek Lesson
SATURDAY
10:00 am thru 1:00 pm
Youth Activities
6710 Webster Avenue • Dallas, TX 75209
214-352-3552 (Phone) • 214-352-6793 (Fax)
bethany@sbglobal.net (Email)

Little Flock Baptist Church
Pastor Louis E. Laurent
Internet Broadcast: www.lrgm.com
(Mon - Fri @ 12 Noon)
A Place Where a "Taste of the Word" is Guaranteed
Sunday School..... 9:30 am
Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 am
Sunday Night Service 6:30 pm
Tuesday Night Brotherhood 7:00 pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting/Bible Study 7:00 pm
704 E. Aimee Street • P.O. Box 903 • Forney, Texas 75126
Phone: 214-325-7021
Fax: 214-371-8922 or 214-372-2135
Email: thewordcuts@yahoo.com

New Life Fellowship of Hamilton Park
8219 Bunche Drive • Dallas, TX 75243
972-671-1096
Bishop Miller E. Johnson Jr., Senior Pastor
A Place of New Beginnings... II Corinthians 5:17
Sunday Morning Bible School 9:15 a.m.
Morning Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship (Agape Hour) First Sunday 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting and Evening Bible Study 7:15 p.m.

All Nations United Methodist Church
Dr. Clara M. Reed Senior Pastor
Dr. Bart Affleck Hispanic Ministries
"Christian by Faith, Diverse by Design"
Sunday 8:45am Sunday School
Sunday 8:45am Estudio Bíblico En Español
Sunday 10:00am Worship Service
Wed. 6:15pm Prayer Meeting
3415 E. 14th St.
Plano, TX • 75074
972-424-8500
www.allnationsumc.org
(Free Nursery Provided For Ages 4 and Under)
Other ministries include: "English As A Second Language" and "Spanish As A Second Language" Classes.

Temple of Faith Christian Chapel C.M.E. Church
"Where Jesus is the Main Attraction"
Sunday Worship Experience
8:00 am & 10:45 am
Wednesday Bible Study
12:00 Noon & 7:00 pm
14120 Noel Road
Dallas, TX 75254
972-239-1120 (Office) • 972-239-5925 (Fax)
templeoffaith_cme@sbglobal.net (Email)
Healthy Beginnings Child Development Center
972-404-1412