

Learning from the Past Page 4

foundation.

impaigns are just that: Temp erary c Temporary. We must establish campaigns and efforts that are sustainable and permanent, especially when it comes to spending our dollars. Not only should we spend more in February and on other specific days we choose, but we must also be more serious about our economic empowerment and be more long term in our efforts to advance. So, my suggestion is that we make as many online purchases from Black-owned companies as possible. I would remind you again that there is a Black-owned and operated distribution network called MATAH, through which we can sustain an economic movement. Buying products from the MATAH Network, and other Black-owned

2005 we will really have something So what is my suggestion? to celebrate. In addition to

purchasing from Black businesses in February, Black History Month, to demonstrate our economic

20, discount for groups of ten or more. Call Yvonne Adams-Sales at 972.226.5093, or 463.363.9447. The Queen's Banquet Hall, 1311 Plaza Drive, Ste 220, Garland.

February 28, 4 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Chamber Plano of Commerce Women's Division Luncheon, March 10. Gleneagles Country Club, 5401 W. Park Blvd, 11:30 -1:00. Featuring author and motivational speaker, Bruce speaking Loeffler, on for Success. Motivation Reservations only. Call the chamber at 972.424.7547, no later than March 5th. \$20.00 members, \$25 for nonmembers and guests.

Texas North Central Workforce Centers of McKinney/Plano Job Fair, March 3, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Speak with local company representatives for employment opportunities. 20-25 employers with positions available. Free. For more information call 972.542.3381, 469.229.0099. VISIL www.texasworkforce.org. Held at the Plano Centre, Spring Creek and Jupiter Roads.

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presence online, and to support our own businesses in the process. While I agree that we must use every vehicle at our disposal to support our own, just as other groups do, I wrote a response recommending that we not only make more purchases in February but that we make more purchases throughout the year. Of course, I also sent in a few Black-owned Websites to support as well.

I remember a few years ago there was an effort afoot to sign a petition on the Internet to "prove" there were at least 1 million Black folks online. That campaign reminded me of the "Black Out" Days that some had proposed to prove how much we spend in this

Senator West to be Crowned 'King of

the Ball' at Annual Mardi Gras Ball

Benefiting Disadvantaged Children

hold its 2004 black-tie Mardi Gras Masked Ball

benefiting The Lift for Life Outreach Center and

Continental's Children Projects. The event will take

place at the Hilton Dallas Lincoln Center, 5410 LBJ

Freeway, Dallas, TX, on March 13, beginning at 7:00

Texas Senator Royce West, and wife, Carol, will be

crowned "King and Queen of the Ball". Guests will

enjoy an evening of Cajun-style dinner, dancing, live

music by VINJAC, casino, auction, and door prizes and

drawings. Guest will also have the opportunity to

The ball will include the traditions and flavor of Mardi

Gras while raising funds for children. Beads and other

Mardi Gras favors will be provided, and at the stroke of

midnight, King and Queen West will lead guests in a

Continental Societies, Inc.- Dallas Chapter is

committed to funding program initiatives that positively

and proactively impact the quality of life for

disadvantaged children in the community. The Lift for

Life Outreach Center, founded in 1998 by Clarence

Giddens, has been successfully fulfilling its mission of

lifting at-risk children and their families out of a life of

academic failure, crime, poverty, and hopelessness by

Tickets are \$60 per person, and sponsor tables are

available at Host, Silver, Gold, and Platinum levels. For

reservations or additional information, call 972-523-

providing a positive and nurturing environment.

7046 or email rwhite1117@aol.com.

participate in judging for the best mask at the ball.

rousing march in the true spirit of Mardi Gras.

The Continental Societies, Inc.- Dallas Chapter, will

brating our history during that month, we can start writing our history, being a part of our history, and determining the history that our children will be discussing in the coming years. We will no longer be at the mercy of McDonalds, Coca Cola, and others to tell us about our history. The MATAH Network and other Black Internet companies will tell us. Better still, they will show us by having created jobs for our people, by instilling pride in our people, and by growing even more in their ownership and control of incomeproducing assets.

I see all kinds of online purchasing being advocated by

Blackonomics Page 6

### **Presidential Candidates** Understate Extent of Poverty

#### By Hazel Trice Edney

NNPA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON (NNPA) - A U. S. Census statistic placing the number of impoverished Americans at 34.6 million is causing presidential candidates to understate the depth of the problem, says the president of one of the nation's largest anti-poverty organizations.

"I think by not suggesting that we have closer to 100 million Americans who live on the edges, on the fringes [of poverty], you don't create the kinds of necessary urgency to spotlight poverty that is needed," says Derrick L. Span, national president of the Washington, D.C.-based Community Action Partnership, a 32-year-old network of 1,000 community action agencies.

"So, the great danger is by saying 30-34 million in a nation of 300 million, that seems relatively low. Thirty-four million people living in poverty in the richest nation in the world is still shameful, but 100 million living around the circle of poverty is absolutely scandalous and I think by not recognizing that and saying that, then we let an opportunity pass to focus on poverty, spot-light it and treat it as the national urgency like we should,"

The most recent Census figures on poverty, released last fall, reported that the poverty rate had risen from 32.9 million in 2001 (11.7 percent) to 34.6 million in 2002 (12.1 percent).

Since that report, the candidates have repeatedly cited the 34.6 million figure, Span points out.

Nearly all, if not all, of the presidential candidates have used the statistic in some way. For example, Sen. John Edwards (D-N.C.) is quoted on **Understate** Extent "Ontheis ues.org," complaining, of Poverty Page 4

### Local Youth Club Honors Living Legends During Black History Month

### By Danyell Taylor

Club Generation Success (CGS) presented its annual

history books for all to see. To

all the everyday Black History

heroes who have contributed

**IEATRE** 

DEPA

Black History program celebrating the legends of heroes past and present on February 20, 2004 at Plano Senior High School. Not every

so much throughout the years with little or no recognition

> CGS salutes them by 'Celebrating the Past and Honoring the Future." G C S members used

song and dance to bring the past alive. The

hero has his own Francis Griffin Brown, founder program national holiday of CGS, speaks with guests featured or his name written in the tributes to national and local Black History heroes with portravals character

Living Legends Honored Page 5

### Black History Celebration Benefits Minority Student Scholarships at SMU Meadows School of Arts

DALLAS - American Airlines was a proud supporter of the Turtle Creek Chorale's (TCC) presentation of The Gershwins Porgy and BessSM, a onenight-only event held, February 15, at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center, in downtown Dallas. Over 1600 people attended the event. The concert, a celebration of Black History Month, benefited the Bruce Foote Memorial Scholarship Fund, which provides scholarships for minority students at Southern Methodist University's Meadows School of Arts. American Airlines employees who are members of the Turde Creek Chorale performed as chorus members and volunteers at the concert. The TCC hosted sixty students and parents from the St. Phillips School, a pre-K-6 South Dallas private school, at the event

"American Airlines says 'bravol' to the Turtle Creek Chorale for giving our community the opportunity to experience this time-honored musical masterpiece while also benefiting deserving students. American is a longtime supporter of this world-famous men's chorus - the Turde Creek Chorale is truly one of the great artistic treasures of the Metroplex," said Debra Hunter Johnson, American's vice president-Human Resources. "American has a long tradition of supporting worthy local programs and organizations in cities around the world. We congratulate all of our employees who volunteer in their communities and make a difference in the lives of others."

The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess is a timeless love story set in Charleston's Catfish Row and incorporates themes of pride, prejudice, pathos, and passion. The thrilling and heartwarming score is a perfect vebicle for honoring Black History Month. The concert features South African graduate students currently studying at SMU in the principal roles and the Turtle Creek Chorale's Chamber Choras performs as the one hundred-voice chorus. The South African graduate students will depart from Dallas on March 1 for a concert tour in South Africa.

Minority Opportunity News - The Gazette 6100 Ave K, Suite 105 (@Spring Creek Parkway) Plano, Texas 75074

### **Community Spotlight**

# **Plano's Sweethearts Ball**



Richard and Karen Johnson



Mazzie and Fred Moses. William and Ruth Richardson



Bernurd and Loretta Brechenridge



Connie Webb and Troslyn Mitchell



Myrtle Hightower, Plano Mayor Pat Evans, and John Hightower



Plano Community Forum President Barbara and husband, Earl Simpkins

Fred Moses, Brenda and George McDonald



Pyramids. At the event, guests also had the opportunity to make special tributes to their sweethearts. Special guests such as Plano Mayor Pat Evans and Tony B. of 94.5 KSOUL

attended the black-tie event in an effort to give back to the community. The net proceeds raised by the annual event will provide deserving college scholarships funded by Plano Community Forum, Omega Psi' Phi Fraternity and The Links, Inc.

bу

Evelyn and Don McKnight







The Pyramid Band

Daphne Raggio



Front Row: T.J. Johnson, Pat Humphress, Wendy Phynes, Alfleda Jennifer, Myrtle Hightower . Bach Row: Earl Simpkins, Arthur Young, Ernest Burke, Julius Chambers

### **Are You Stressed Out?**

• Unemployed Due to Car Accident or Work Injury the Behind On House or Car Payments M (May Stop Foreclosure or Auto Repossession) FREE " · Owe the I.R.S. back Taxes Consultation ≶ \$0 Money • Divorce Left You in Debt Down\* Credit Card Harassment W Behind On Child Support Payments T.R. Weaver & Associates Attorneys At Law Let Us Represent You Affordable Payment Options

> PRINCIPAL OFFICE: I Expwy. Suite 412 • Richards (Comerica Building + 75 & Spring Valley) • On Chapter 13 Hankruptcy Excluding Filing Fees Not certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specializatio

#### Dr. Jerri Warren und Walter Smith

The Plano Community hosted the 16th annual North Metroplex Chapter TX.

Forum, along with the Sweethearts Ball of Saturday, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity- "February 21 at" the South Alpha' lota lota Chapter, Fork Hotel, 1600 North and The Links, Inc.-Plano Central Expressway, Plano,

The Sweethearts Ball was a night full of sweet treats for sweethearts. Guests enjoyed dinner, dancing, door prizes, a silent auction and musical

### Around The Town



#### On-going

reparedness hotline: than one day supply - well below 72,548,4114,Y

Positive blood types are at a 4-hour Collin County emergency level, other blood types are at less an also visit the two day optimal supply needed

February 28 The City of Garland Parks and

March 2 St. Phillip's School announces

March 5 - 13 "The Diary of Anne Frank" is 4th Saturday, 9 a.m. - 12 noon, Recreation and Granville Arts 2004 Destiny Awards Winners to presented by the Mesquite at Lover's Lane United Center Advanced Acting Class will honor individuals and groups those Community Theatre. For tickets, Methodist Church. Call

# 3 - October 10, every 2nd &

vww.co.collin.tx.us.

Interactive Dallas Children's Museum at Valley View Center a hospital fantasyland, a miniature grocery store, a farm, a "Jungle Impressions" exhibit complete with rain forest, arts and crafts. Mon-Fri 9 a.m. - o p.m., Saturdays 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Sundays noon - 6 p.m. Children 2-10 years \$4/Adults \$3. Call 972.386.6555.

Interurban Railway Station Museum, 901 E. 15th Street, Plano, Historic Downtown. From 1908 to 1948, this was a station on the Texas Electric Railroads' Interurban Line. Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. For special tours call 972.941.2117.

Job seekers can attend weekly held meetings by TeamNetworking Collin County The nonprofit, business-to-pusiness group oversees several chapters, with the Collin County group meeting 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 at www.teamnetworking.com.

General Information The American Red Cross has announced that all blood levels are low. O Negative and O reservations and information.

Sponsored By:

to serve the community. The American Red Cross is urging people to schedule an appointment to give blood. Call 1-800-GIVE LIFE, or visit www.givelife.org.

Photography announces over \$60,000 in prizes will be awarded in the International Open Amateur Photography Contest. Deadline for entries is March 1, 2004. Open to everyone and free to enter. For information visit: www.picture.com.

#### Through February 28

The Dallas Center for Contemporary Art presents 'Piece Work: fiber & multiples', a survey of artists working in fiber, including embroidery, stitchery, weaving and fabric. Public opening January 16, 8 - 9 p.m. 2801 Swiss Ave, Dallas. Call 214.821.2522, or visit: www.thecontemporary.net.

#### **Through May 9**

Nasher Sculpture Center presents 'Picasso: The Cubist Portraits of Fernande Olivier,' as its first traveling exhibition. \$10 adults/\$7 seniors/\$5 students/free for children under 12. 2001 Flora Street, Dallas. 214.242.5100, or isit: V www.nashersculpturecenter.org.

### February 27 - 29

"The Diary of Anne Frank", presented hy the Mesquite Call Community Theatre. for tickets, 972.216.8126

perform The Wind In The Willows by Kenneth Grahame, February 28th at 2pm and 8pm at the Plaza Theatre, Downtown Garland (521 W. State Street). Free, appropriate The International Library of for all ages. For more information call Holford Recreation Center 972.205.2772.

Family 'Dive-in' Movie at Don Rodenbaugh Natatorium, 110 E. Rivercrest, \$7 - 15 and older/\$4 -14 and younger. Enjoy floating around and while watching the movie "Toy Story" on a big screen. Tubes or noodles available to rent for \$1 or bring your ownConcession items will be available for purchase. Doors open 6:30 p.m., movie starts 7 p.m. Call 972.747.4150.

#### February 29

Cake Decorating Contest to honor Dr. Suess's 100th birthday at the Allen Public Library, 301 Century Parkway. Entries are due at 2 p.m. Party begins at 2:30 p.m. All ages welcome, refreshments will be served. If you like, be a Sneetch, the Lorax or a cat in the hat.

#### March 1 - 29

AARP will provide free tax assistance for all citizens on a first come, first served basis, Mondays ONLY at the Mesquite Public Library, 300 W. Grubb Drive, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Bring a copy of last year's return and required paperwork (W-2 forms, 1099 forms, etc.).

who have made a difference in race relations. Keynote speaker - best selling author, noted journalist and national political correspondent Juan Williams. Funds raised from this event will support scholarships for educational and outreach services at the school and community center. For ticket information call La'Tayia Dean at 214.421.5221.

#### Tuesday, March 2, 2004 Doors open at 5:00 pm, Show begins at 7:00 pm

Taste of Home Cooking School, with Margaret McCutcheon, Enjoy a fun filled cooking demonstration teaching the finer points of cooking. Receive a free cook book and goodie bag. Door prizes given away throughout the show, \$8,00. For more information: Robyn Mead or Carolyn Nabors at 972.542.2631. At the Plano Centre, Spring Creek and Jupiter Roads.

#### March 5

The fourth concert of the Romancing the Tone 2003-2004 Season by the Garland Symphony Orchestra, "A Violin Serenade with Caitlin Tully," March 5, 8:00 p.m. at the Granville Arts Center, 300 N. Fifth Street, downtown Garland. Miss Tully, a gifted 15 year old violin virtuoso, will be performing Prokofiev Violin Concerto No. 2 in G Minor. Call 972.926.0611. Tickets \$19-\$45. For more information visit www.garlandsymphony.org.

reservations and times call 972.216.8126.

#### March 6 & 7

Garland Civic Theatre Children on Stage will present a fabulous journey into a world of complete illusion where you will meet all the fun, lovable and mysterious characters created by Lewis Carroll in his classic masterpiece. Granville Arts Center, 5th and Austin Streets, downtown Garland. March 6 - 7:30 p.m., March 6, 7 - 2:00 p.m. \$5 ages 18 and under/\$7 for adults. Tickets available at the Granville Arts Center or call 972.205.2790.

#### 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 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.

#### Volunteer opportunities

Training For Excellence, Inc., Teen Mentoring Leadership Development Program needs teens, mentors, sponsors and volunteers for their program April 972.590.1343, 972.897.9932, OF visit:

www.trainingforexcellence.org

The Plano Animal Shelter need volunteers over 16 years old to wash and walk the animals, help with clerical services and customer service. Foster homes are also needed while permanent homes are found for animals. Call 972.578.7510.

#### Sunday, February 29, 2004 from 12noon to 5pm

Generations Grandparenting Conference το help grandparents remain active & involved in the lives of their grandchildren. Information on health, retirement, vacations, education, finances & legal issues. Seminars, health screenings, demos, silent door auction, prizes. Grandparent Hall of Fame. Free, Call Nancy Laughlin at 972.941.7335 or email nlaughlin@mbgwc.org, or visit www.mbgwc.org. At the Plano Centre, Spring Creek and Jupiter Roads.

### Who Are the Women of God? Why is MDN-The Gazette Honoring Them On Mother's Day Weekend 2004? What Can Yeu Do To Be A Part Of The Momentous Occasion?

Go To www.monthcgazette.com (Click on Women Of God) or Contact Sister Tarpley At 972-606-3878 voice mail

**Proud To Be An Active** Partner In The Community

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### Editorial

### THE TRUTH CLINIC **Integrating Into A Burning House**

Some 35 years ago, shortly before he was assassinated, Dr. Marun Luther King, Jr. was reflecting on the continuing difficulties being encountered in the struggle for civil rights. He had no doubts that the movement would succeed but he expressed concern that in the quest for integration blacks may be integrating into a burning house. The burning house was a reference to the metaphor on America that noted author James Baldwin had coined in his writings describing the terrible consequences caused by a that denies democracy freedom and justice to many of its citizens.

Dr. King had slowly come to the realization that the battle for civil rights encompassed much more than equal rights. He was convinced there had to be a societal change that addressed America's growing government supported class division. Dr. King made this connection when he challenged his civil rights associates to continue in the struggle but to be possessed of a "divine dissatisfaction" that required them to be upset until "the tragic walls that separate the outer city of wealth and comfort and the inner city of poverty and despair shall be crushed by the battering rams of the forces of justice".

The American political system is gearing up for its premier quadrennial show commonly known as electing a president. Each year since the Great Debates between Nixon and Kennedy the presidential race has become more and more of a public relations circus. The focus is placed on visual contrasts and superficial trivia while substantive issues become secondary.

Without exception, the to bring about change. More amount of time spent by each candidate addressing issues and answering questions has decreased from election to election. Candidates now package their messages into pre-spliced sound bites ready for use in evening newscasts, on-the-spot interviews, political commercials, and poll driven feel good commentary.

Black America, having been apprised of Dr. king's burning house message, must see beyond the political entertainment and sugar coated promises being dispensed. Blacks must demand a forthright debate on the issues that impact their well-being. Blacks must not be swayed simply by a charismatic personality; the policies that will guide a candidate and who will be advising the eandidate are also important. Blacks must also get involved at all levels of the election cycle to ensure the integrity of the voting process. The mistakes of the 2000 election should not be repeated.

The black middle class has almost quadrupled since the death of Dr. King in 1968 but the black underclass has remained constant. The number of black children still living at or beneath the poverty line is still lingering at 40 percent. These and other issues such as Medicare, education, taxes, homeland security, the wars in the Middle East, the mass exportation of jobs and how to change a foreign policy that is breaking America's bank must be part of the debate.

As the media brings the candidates into our homes we have become more complacent. We are content to talk philosophically about the disparity between the haves and the have-nots but take no action

and more the black middle class feels it is instigating needed change by having a circle of multicultural friends, showing up at multicultural events and participating in an annual "racism" conference.

Much of this façade comes about because of the punitive attitude America has to honest debate, constructive criticism, or delivering the truth. The "repress any debate" of the Bush Administration is a travesty for a nation that is trying to impose democracy elsewhere in the world. As the terrible world problems continue to beg for solutions, the voices of reason with ideas and alternatives are callously silenced and not given the opportunity to be heard.

All of us have an obligation to rise up as citizens and insist upon our right to be heard and to put political, corporate and civic leaders on notice that governance that supports class division and unequal justice will not be tolerated.

America is the land of plenty. If we are to be a world leader then we need to lead by example with a sense of moral value and honest concern. We can feed the hungry, house the homeless, be compassionate to the poor, educate our children, take care of our elderly, and protect our environment. We have the opportunity to make choices that benefit mankind not just a select few. But in turn we must be held accountable because our deeds have not matched our words

Without a change we will be Integrating Into A Burning House.

James W. Breedlove Comments or opinions may be sent to the writer at: www.truthclinic.com

### **Sharpton Defends Right-wing Connections and Vows to Stay in Race**

By, Hazel Trice Edney NNPA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON (NNPA) -Democratic presidential candidate A) Sharpton asserts that he did nothing wrong by associating his presidential campaign with Roger Stone, a Right-wing conservative Republican operative.

"This is absurd. I have not used Stone as an adviser," the New York activist protested in an NNPA interview. "And I have no reason to discuss with anybody everybody that I talk to. I am going to talk to whomever I want, but I am going to make my own decisions. I always have. George Bush spoke at the Urban League Convention. Why do these rules only apply to me?"

Sharpton was strongly criticized by political pundits after the New York Times reported in January that Stone, a former adviser to Republican Presidents Richard M. Nixon, Ronald Reagan and George W. Bush, was advising the Sharpton campaign. The controversy escalated when the New York-based Village Voice subsequently reported that Sharpton not only accepted advice from the conservative Stone, but received enough money to help him qualify to federal campaign matching funds in some states. To get matching public funds, a candidate must raise in excess of

a total of at least \$100,000. Former Al Gore campaign

manager Donna Brazile said Sharpton needed to explain his Stone association to the Black community. But perhaps the biggest critic has been University of Maryland political scientist Ron Walters, who has supported the idea of a Sharpton presidential



candidacy but rejects his association with Right-wingers.

"It damaged his credibility in the eyes of a lot of people," Walters says of the Sharpton-Stone association. Walters says it appears that Sharpton is being used as a pawn by Republicans intent on disrupting a Democratic challenge to George W. Bush

Sharpton sharply disagrees.

"If the Republican Party was going to try to influence me, one, I wouldn't need any money. They would be putting up the money," he

\$5,000 in each of at least 20 states, says. "Two, they would be trying to get me to run as an independent because then I would be taking votes from the Democrats. Why would they want me to run in the Democratic committed primary, to supporting the winner if I don't win and helping to bring in new voters?"

Sharpton says Stone and his associates did write him campaign checks, but no more than four or five small contributions.

"He and some people wrote \$250 checks, yeah, but I raised \$400,000. For him and four or five other people to write \$250 checks, that's like someone tinkling in the Hudson River. How does that finance my campaign?" he says. "Black people have got the sense to know that \$250 ain't gonna buy Al Sharpton."

The latest Federal Election Commission

report shows that Sharpton has campaign debts of \$485,969, including \$55,000 owed former campaign manager Frank Watkins. As of Jan. 31, Sharpton's campaign had just \$1,039 in the bank, the FEC said.

Sharpton says his primary fundraisers have been Black media moguls, Cathy Hughes,

Sharpton Defends Page 4

### **Early Voting Information for March 9 Primary Election**

### **Collin County**

### Dates/Times

February 26, 8 am - 5 pm; February 27, 8 am - 5 pm; February 28, 7 am - 7 pm; February 29 1 pm to 6 pm; March 1, 7 am - 7 pm; March 2, 7 am - 7 pm; March 3, 7 am - 7 pm; March 4, 7 am - 7 pm; March 5, 7 am - 7 pm

### Locations

Collin County Elections (Main Early Voting Location); McKinney Courthouse; Collin County SubCourthouse; Allen City Hall; Carpenter Park Recreation Center; CCCCD-Preston Ridge Campus; CCCCD- Spring Creek Campus; Haggard Library; Harrington Library; PISD Administration Center; Parr Library; Renner Frankford Library; Wylie Municipal Building

For complete details, Call 972-633-3200 or visit www.co.collin.tx.us and click on "Upcoming Elections".

### **Dallas County**

### Dates/Times

February 26- 27, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm; February 28, 7:00 A.M. - 7:00 pm; February 29, 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm; March 1- March 5, 7:00 am - 7:00 pm

Last day to receive application for Ballot by Mail is Tuesday, March 2, 2004

### Locations

Barbara Bush Middle School; Carrollton City Hall; Dallas First Assembly of God; DeSoto Town Center Library; Duncanville Library; Dunford Recreation Center; Fretz Park Recreation Center; Garland City Hall; Grand Prairie Development Center; Grauwyler Park Recreation Center; Harry Stone Recreation Center; Highland Baptist Church; Irving City Hall

### Where Do You Want To Go Today?

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Website: www.MonTheGazette.com



### 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 date to expand your quest for economic parody 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 formally Minority Opportunity News, was founded July, 1991, by Jim Bochum and Thurman R. Jones For complete details, Call 214-819-3600 or visit www.dalcoelections.org.

### You & Your Government

### City of Plano

A March 26, 2004 registration deadline has been set for applicants interested in taking the Plano Police Recruit Civil Service Examination, April 19, 2004, 6:30 p.m., Plano Centre, Collinwood Hail, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway, Applicants must pre-register to take the exam. To obtain a registration packet,

applicants may register in person at the City of Plano Human Resources Department, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., 1520 Avenue K, or download packet information via the Internet at www.planopolice.org.

A Police Civil Service hotline number, 972-941-7299, provides eligibility and experience information, as well as other registration details.

The Plano Police Department is accredited through the Commission Accreditation for Law on Enforcement Agencies. Located just north of Dallas, with a population exceeding 240,000, Plano is a progressive equal opportunity employer. State and Local Civil Services Rules and Regulations regulate both Police and Fire Department employees.

Recruit officers receive a monthly salary while attending a 20-week Police Academy, with salary adjustment made upon certification.

City of Garland

The City of Garland Engineering Department in partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) will host a Flood Awareness Seminar on Wednesday, March 10 from 9:00

a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the City Hall of life through investment in Council Chamber (200) North Fifth Street).

presented for mortgage lenders, insurance agents and members of the general public. A registration fee of \$25.00 per person for lenders and \$45.00 per person for agents applies. Registration is free for members of the general public and can be made by calling the Engineering Department 20 972.205.2170.

The Flood Disaster Act of 1971 mandates that mortgage lenders require a flood insurance policy in certain amounts when the tollateral property is located in a Special Flood Hazard Area of a community participating in the program. This seminar address issues including how the NFIP works, terms and coverages, procedures, marketing;, rating elements and other related topics. All agency and company personnel are urged to attend.

#### City of Allen

The City of Allen is hosting a neighborhood meeting to launch the Quality Neighborhoods Initiative. This is to introduce the program to residents, discuss neighborhood issues, and get feedback on housing and public service needs.

Neighborhood, Windridge Thursday March 4, 7:30 pm, Boyd Elementary

Resident participation is essential to developing a successful program. The Quality Neighborhoods Initiative will seek to preserve the integrity of residential areas and provide a means to enhance quality

Allen's existing meighborhoods.

In 2003 the City Council A series of programs will be identified Neighborhood Integrity as an issue in their Strategic: Plan. Shordy after, a Neighborhood Task Force consisting of City staff was formed to begin focusing on the issue. This group identified the Hillside and Windridge neighborhoods as arges to focus first the neighborhood improvement efforts.

At the same time, the City of Allen has become an entitlement community for the federal Community Development Block Grant program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This program provides grants to local communities to operate housing, public service and improvement neighborhood programs. Contact: Lee Batule, Senior Planner. 972.727.7539. Ibattle a cityofallen.org

#### City of McKinney

The McKinney City Council recently decided to move forward with plans to ask voters for a new way of paying Ciry Council members. The proposal would lift the annual cap of \$2,500 and replace it with a \$50-per-meeting payment. Council members attend, on average, four to six meetings per month. At \$50 a meeting, that would equal \$(2,400) to \$3,600 a year. Hearing on pay for McKinney City Council members March 15, 2004, 5:30 p.m. McKinney City Council chambers, 222 N. Tennessee St.

• Who Are the Women of God? • Why is MON-The Gazette Honoring Them On Mother's Day Weekend 2004? • What Can You Do To Be A Part Of The Momentous Occasion? Go To www.monthegazette.com (Click on Women Of God) or Contact Sister Tarpley At 972-606-3878 voice mail

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, Visit Our Website At www.MONTheGazette.com

#### Understate Extent of Powerty Page 1

"There's been no discussion about 35 million Americans who live in poverty."

Span, former CEO and president of the Urban Leagues in Harrisburg, Paand Broome County, N.Y., explains: "Certainly they are giving the numbers that the census is reporting, and oncertainly they are not being disingenuous. The census report gathers up the chronically unemployed and the working poor. But, there is another face of poverty called the future face of poverty. These are the individuals who aren't represented m the Census report. They are the ones who are one or two or three paychecks away from slipping below the American dream, who are one mutry away or one sickness away."

Other poverty experts question liow powerty is calculated.

"The first thing I would do is revise. the poverty line. I think it's abourd,"

udvice

heady.

DOVERTS



at the Poverty & Race Research Action - considerations

president of the Washington, D.C.-based Community Action it take to keep a Partnership decent noof over your Photo Credit: NNPA

Right-wing

said Chester Hartman, research director lines, don't seem to reflect these

head? That varies enormously... If you live in Toledo, it's borderline of poverty says, Beth one thing. If you live in San Francisco and Washington and Boston and New York, it's another thing. And the powerty

people Shulman, author of "The Betraval of Work," a book that discusses now lowwaged jobs fail the poor.

and I said he was absolutely not

because I had been assured by Al

Watkins declined to comment on

the subsequent disclosure that

Stone was more involved with the

Sharpton campaign than he had

"I still like Rev. Sharpton. I think

he has made some positive

contributions to the Democratic

Party through the debates, through

his speeches and sermons in

churches," he says. "I'm not trying

to damage his campaign in any way.

Meanwhile, Sharpton is moving

"I expect to be put in nomination

At the beginning of this week,

Sharpton had only 16 of the 2,162

delegates needed to win the

Democratic nomination. Sen. John

Kerry (Mass.) had 613. John

Edwards (N.C.) had 192 and Rep.

more in the Super Tuesday

primaries, which will include 10

states on March 2, including

Sharpton says he expects to win

Dennis Kucinich (Ohio) had two.

ahead with his campaign, vowing to

stay in until the Democratic

because I have delegates," he says.

And I wish him all the best."

National Convention in July.

that he was not."

been aware.

four is impoverished if

it's living off of

\$18,392; a family of

three living off of

\$14,348, a family of

two living off of

\$11,756 and \$9,183

for individuals. Under

that calculation, Those

stats include 16

million (8 percent)

Whites living in

poverty and 8 million

Blacks (22.7 percent).

health care and sick

pay are also necessary

to enhance the lives of

013

THE

New policies on

"We need to say, 'Look, corporations, you can't compete on the basis of impoverishing workers. They need to be given paid sick leave so they're not choosing between having a job and forfeiting a day's pay and taking care of a sick child," Shulman says. "We need a new contract with working Americans. We have 30 million jobs that pay less than \$8,70 an hour. Many of those jobs don't have health benefits, sick leave, time off to be with one's family.. We set the rules in our society. And we need to set rules that insure healthy families and insure that we're provided the basics." Not since the Lyndon B. Johnson

administration in the 1960s has there been an all out effort to eradicate poverty in America, recalls Spanlohnson's "Great Society" was the

centerpiece legislation of his domestic agenda for Congress in 1965. It launched an "Economic Opportunity Act," which included his "War on

Understate Extent of Poverty Page 6

#### California and New York.

"You still have Illinois, You still have Texas. You still have Alabama. Three-quarters of Black America hasn't even voted yet," says Sharpton.

African-Americans made up almost half of the electorate in South Carolina yet Sharpton got only 18 percent of the Black vote there, according to exit polls.

"We had hoped to get all we could. We didn't get all we wanted, but we got a lot more than critics even thought we'd get," Sharpton savs.

"We're not comparing Kerry with Bush yet, we're comparing him to Sharpton," he says, referring to himself in the third person. "And the issue is, does Black America want to now say, 'We do not want leverage at the convention. We will go with whatever liberal we think is going to win?' And if we are saving that, then we will say we no longer believe in empowerment. We would be saying, we don't need a Black Caucus. We don't need nothing. Let's just let liberals run everything from now on. No one would stand up and distinguish our issues. No one would fight on our issues."



### **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.





Each Office is independently Owned And Operated E Dart One Deather

# When's The Last Time You

Sharpton Defends Page 3

Earl Graves and Bob Johnson, all three of whom were listed as sponsors of a Washington, D.C. reception for Shurpton in the early months of his campaign.

However, Sharpton also acknowledged that Stone had a hand in raising money through business associates for his separate non-profit organization, the National Action Network, Those amounts will become public when the organization files its annual report.

He argues that no one questions fundraising of other the candidates. "I guarantee you that [presidential candidates] John Edwards and John Kerry gets more Republican money than 1 could ever count. Certainly a lot more than \$250."

Walters scoffs that it's not different standards - just different constituencies.

"Forget about Kerry and Edwards. Al Sharpton pretends to represent the interests of the Black community," Walters says. "You can't do that in this kind of a ball game and not expect to be questioned on it. Either he doesn't

not get it." Walters adds there is a difference between taking Republican money or advice and taking money and

from

know where he is or he simply does

conservatives. "There are a lot of Republicans who don't have a spear out for the Democratic Party, Walters says "Roger Stone is part of the conservative movement. And he's a bona fide part of that movement. That movement is not good for Black people and he is trying to kill the Democratic Party through Al Sharpton."

Sharpton's former campaign manager, Frank Watkins, who quit the compaign after seven months, BETCES-

"Roger Stone's name came up only one time while I was there. And I indicated to Sharpton that I hope that he was not in any way involved in the campaign because he was basically an extreme Right-wing sleaze ball is what I said to him," Watkins recalls. "I can't remember whether it was before or after I had that conversation that I had one press inquiry asking the if Roger Stone was involved in the campaign

challenges ahead

with an emphasis

purpose.

been. African American should only

Board made

of it

on education to help build a stronger community. Using the past to build a vision and commitment to impact the future with unity and According to Washington, African Americans have to be vigilant.

Life does not A display showing a map of

the Akoben symbol meaning "war horn." It represents preparation for

> experience. Diversity is CCCC at McKinnev's vision.for, the future Brown vs. Education

possible to diversify classrooms across the nation.

Americans

Learning from the Past Page 1

meaning "except God", represents

God's greatness and reflects the power of God over all creation. This belief was carried in the hearts and minds of enslaved Africans who had to accept new form of religion



turn backwards to "fetch" the positive from

each learning African Committee Chairperson.

Black History month as a celebration of diversity.

American History

"The goal is to celebrate diversity

in general. Black History month is part of a yearlong concept of unity and the celebration of cultures," said Cathy Donald-Whitney, CCCC

new land Sankofa bird Faith in

God and the church brought African Americans through slavery and segregation. The African American church provided a spiritual haven for the second-class citizens of the early 20th century. The freedom to express ideas freely without fear existed only in the house of God.

Churches catered to the spirit as well as the mind. Leaders in the church knew education was the key to freedom. In order to provide quality education for the community, African Americans had to create their own educational institutions, Several churches were used as secondary schools. A majority of historically black colleges were founded with religious affiliations.

As more African Americans pursued higher education, the need arose for a self-identifying social unit to combat the social ills present on college campuses. Between 1901 and 1922 eight African American fraternities and sororities were organized. The Greek-letter organizations promoted education through scholarship, health education and job-training programs. They were major forces in promoting political reforms, particularly in areas of education and civil rights.

The passage doesn't end with Brown vs. Board of Education or the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Segregation had no valid purpose and was imposed to give blacks an inferior status, but desegregation is not the only thing to celebrate during Black History month.

This exhibit celebrates many things "first, we are man created by God. Second, we are black. Third, we are apart of a community. Fourth, we are American," said Henry Johnson of Ft. Worth, TX.

We no longer "need to talk about the injustice from others, but the injustice we have done ourselves," said Washington. African Americans must be like



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These games will close on April 1, 2004. You have until September 28, 2004 to redeem any winning tickets for these games.



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Game #374 (\$5) Twice As Grand \*Overall Odds are 1 in 3.43



Game #384 (\$1)



Game #394 (\$1) **Summer Sizzler** \*Overall Odds are 1 in 4.82

9's In A Line

Overall Odds are 1 in 4.68





"The odds listed here are the overall odds of winning any prize in a game, including break-even prizes. NOTICE: A Scratch Off game may continue to be sold even when all the top prizes have been claimed. For current information on prizes remaining in a Scratch Off game, call 1-800-37-LOTTO. Must be 18 years or older to purchase a ticket. @2004 Texas Lottery Commission. All Rights Reserved.

-TEXAS LATTERY

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Paul Po+ Der Tharman R. 7.

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### Janet Jackson Bows Out of Lena Horne TV Movie

#### By Steve Gorman

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) - A planned ABC television movie about the life of singing great Lena Horne has become the latest casualty of Janet Jackson's breast-baring Super Bowl performance.

Jackson bowed out of the TV movie, and executive producers Craig Zadan and Neil Meron quit in support of her, after Horne refused to go along with the project as long as Jackson remained cast to play her in the film, publicists for Jackson and the producers said on Tuesday.

"Janet is no longer part of the (project) because Lena didn't want her in it," Jackson spokesman Stephen Huvane told Reuters. "ABC and the producers were supporting Janet, and Janet realized this wasn't going to change, so she needed to bow out, and then the producers bowed out with her."

There was no comment about the flap from ABC, but a spokesman for the Walt Disney Co.-owned

TV movie was currently "in nudity was not planned. limbo."

Neither Horne, 86, nor her representatives break Hollywood

racial barriers in the 1940s and is best known for her hit "Stormy Weather," was widely reported to have been offended bv Jackson's duet with pop idol Justin Timberlake (news) during the Feb. 1 Super Bowl halftime show. Their performance

notoriously ended with Timberlake ripping open Jackson's costume to expose her right breast on live national TV.

CBS, which aired the Super Bowl telecast, and sister cable channel MTV, which produced the halftime show and promoted the event by promising a "shocking" moment. apologized for the incident,

Jackson, 37, later said the were minute idea on her part but Horne ultimately refused to immediately available for went further than she further cooperate with the comment. But the veteran intended. She subsequently movie unless lackson was entertainer, who helped was barred from the



Grammy Awards telecast, rebuffing CBS demands that she issue an on-air apology as a condition for appearing on that show.

The "Lena" project was seen as a key bid to reinvigorate the acting career of Jackson, whose previous credits include TV roles on the series "Good Times," "Diffrent Strokes" and "Fame." Her latest album,

network confirmed that the saying the brief flash of "Damita Jo," is due out March 30.

> A source close to the "costume reveal" was a last- situation told Reuters that replaced, but that ABC stood by Jackson.

The standoff ended when Jackson withdrew from the project, with Zadan and Meron, who also produced the controversial TV movie about former President Ronald Reagan, following suit.

In a separate development, ABC said on Tuesday that Timberlake had bowed out of plans to co-host the network's upcoming Motown 45th anniversary special due to a scheduling conflict posed by the production of his first motion picture.

A network spokeswoman acknowledged that Timberlake's decision coincided with growing protests over his participation in the show from a coalition of black organizations but his move was said precipitated strictly by his movie commitment.

### Starsky & Hutch



Based on the popular 1970s IV series, the story follows the titular pair of bachelor undercover cops (Ben Suller as Dave Starsky, Owen Wilson as Ken "Hutch" Hutchinson), focusing on how the duo met and teamed

up on their first big case: uncovering a cocaine operation run by a big-time drug dealer named Reese (Vince Vaughn). The two zoom around town in a red and white 1974 Ford Torino, solving crimes with the help of Huggy Bear (Snoop Dogg), their street informant, and annoying their boss, Capt. Dobey (Fred Williamson). Starts March 5, 2004





60303

In Twisted, a police detective named Jessica Shepard (Ashley Judd) tracks a serial killer who murders the men she dates. When Jessica begins blacking out before each murder takes place, her partner. Mike Delmarco (Andy Garcia).

and the police commissioner (Samuel L. Jackson) target her as the prime suspect. Starts February 17, 2004

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Living Legends Honored Page 1 highlighting their legacies.

The 'black gold' that made capitalism possible was



Mt. Zion Baptist Church Drill Team

carried in the hull of the first ship that transported "20 African cargo" to America. In that hull was Gwendolyn Brooks rhvining, Michael Jordan slam-dunking and all those who have paved the way for the future.

those who could not be killed.

Plano community. As national heroes Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and

followed their lead. Mrs. Annie Η. against the Branch ISD and won.

deserveration did not go unrecognized. In 1994, Annie History be"? H. Rainwater Elementary was

named in her honor. Other legends breaking down racial barriers were Mr. James L. Thomas, Plano's first African American fireman, "We are the children of George Allen, Sr., Dallas' first African American city councilmen, Arthur Young, Plano and Richardson's first African American postmaster and Ron Kirk, Dallas' Students hold a lighted torch representing first African American mayor.

his service to PISD and the McClelland, Plano East High School principal. "The developments and contributions African Rosa Parks fought for Americans have made to civil rights for the society should be celebrated nation; activist in North because with no sense of Dallas communities history students can't grasp the tomorrow. future."

The event concluded with a Rainwater filed a lawsuit roll call of living legends and the recognition of their Carrollton/Farmers descendants. The program not only answered the question Rainwater's efforts to "What is Black History"? It i m p l e m e n t raised the question, "What will your contribution to Black

"Educating youth about

Plano society," said Plano Mayor pro-tem Steve Stovall. As an expression of commitment to a better world, CGS passes the torch ro young, gifted and black students who are the role models of

CGS is the gateway to the future. The Club's mission is to enrich the lives and minds of young people through academic achievement and personal development, empowering them to achieve success in an environment that is positive and nurturing.

......

Those who led productive lives against mighty odds," said Natalie Jenkins, CGS member.

CGS members saluted national Black History heroes Sojourner Truth and Frederick Douglass with of their reenactments infamous speeches. These heroes spoke out against racial injustices in an attempt to light for freedom.

Many families headed to Plano in search of those same freedoms and liberties. The African American first families who helped to cultivate the North Dallas communities were businessmen, landowners, educators, postmasters, and councilmen philanthropists. The oral tradition of the past will continue to pass down the contributions of the legendary Thorton, Drake, Stimpson, McDonald, Mosley, Thomas and Anderson families who settled the Plano area.

Families began to settle in Kendricks Alley located between Ave K. and Ave J. on 16th street. Today it is known as the Douglass community. In 1886, Mrs. Dollie Thomas opened a one-roomsegregated school in this area. It was named the Plano Colored School. It quickly expanded while providing educational and athletic opportunities for the community.

Living legend Mr. John Hightower started out as a science teacher and coach at Plano Colored School before the integration of Plano Independent School District. Elementary Hightower opened in 1998 as a tribute to

"We are by no means where we should be," said Michael



future leaders of America

Black History gives them the foundation to realize their potential as contributors to



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#### Understate Extent of Priverty Page 4 Powerty legislation

At the time, Congress passed a string of new programs analysist at Medicate program that provided health services to the elderly through the 1935 Social Security Act, Loss that provided federal aid to elementate and secondary education and the cryation of the Department of Housing and Urban Development to assist with lowmenne nous ne

Bat transfing for the Victuani War sphoned off many of the programthat Johnson wanted to band

When Dr. Marnin Luther King I: was assessmented April 4, 1968, he was amidst his "Poor People". Compagn" that would have culminated us a marchon Washington demanding passage of a \$12 billion Economic Bill of Rightguaranteeing employment to everyoug able to work, incomes for those anable. and an end to housing discrimination, Spin recalls. The assassination spartied protests many visilent on at least 150. caties across the nation.

"As a result of that, the ranks of the country has turned very conservative. and started marching in another direction that was more individualistically dominated," he says

But, he believes there is hope. The Indiana native, who is the first Black person to head the Community Action

Parina dity performing a "No Room for Powerty raise for Sept. 1 on the Washington Lillipse, during which pre-idential candidates will have a chance to outline their anti-powerty

Span says mostatt is researching new anti-powerty policy options in anticipation of the rally. The goal will be to impress upon the next president to hold a "White House Conference on American Poverty" with a goal of adequate funding to collapse powerty in the L. S. he says. He describes overall local and state programs that, if carried out at the federal level, could impact powers across the U.S. They include:

- · Individual Development Accounts · Self-employment assistance
- progratus . Community Development Financial
- Institution Program
- · Tax break program-

Despute the highly charged politics of meet tall. Span says he is hoping the Sept. 1 demonstration will be genunely n-partisan. Unlike the Johnson era: President Bush has been criticized for policies that are huriful to the poor.

Hartman, the powerty researcher, sars, "Bush comes from this incredibly privileged background whereas Johnson. knew powerty in Texas and really was quite serious about civil rights and poverty and we've kind of lost that.

### **Car Review The Aviator Passes With Flying Colors**



The Aviator Passes With Flying Colors

Anyone wanting luxury and conventionality need look no further than the Lincoln Aviator. For a midsize luxury SUV with agility and power yes, this boasts 32-valve, 4.6liter V8 power, to give you 302 horsepower and 300 pound-teet of torque - Lincoln has given car buyers a reason to bypass any foreign competitors.

The Aviator is fitted with an upscale interior with plenty of real wood trim, metal accents, power-adjustable pedals and leather seating. Controls are illuminated at night by white LEDs, the steering wheel has controls for the audio and climate control systems, there is a choice of buckets or a benchfor the second row allowing up to seven passengers, plus, the Aviator has more third-seat legroom than some full size SUV's. Three rows of seating are standard for the Aviator. And Lincoln engineers know how comforting a quiet ride is, and thus equipped the Aviator with performance-glazed glass that absorbs noise and impacts much better than conventional tempered glass.

Two trim levels provide all you need in a versatile luxury SUV. The Luxury models come equipped

a CD player, leather upholstery, adjustable pedals and rear park assist, while the Ultimate models get HID headlamps, heated and cooled seats, an in-dash CD changer and 17-inch wheels. Moon roofs, a DVD entertainment system, DVD-based navigation system and a class III trailer hitch are options for both models.

Safety's not a problem for this vehicle, with antilock disc brakes, a tire-pressure monitoring system and side curtain airbags covering the first and second ire standard. Afraid of rollover? That's a thing of the past with the optional AdvanceTrac stability control system, featuring Roll Stability Control that intervenes following a panic maneuver. Plus, the Aviator has been named a "Best Pick" by the IIHS for frontal offset crash protection The Aviator picks up speed quickly, has tight steering and comfortable suspension over almost any surface. And with a maximum capacity of 7,300 pounds (7,100 pounds for AWD models), three-year/36,000 miles full-service maintenance, and Lincoln luxury, this midsize SUV is a serious contender in its class.

#### Blachonomics Page 1

Black people, we tre a definite presence in that particular market. However, most of what I see does not advocate purchasing from Black ouned communics, I hear brothers and sisters promoting everyone else's products while failing to even mention Black manufactured products or Black- owned Websites from which purchases can be made. If we continue in that vein, we will find ourselves even further behind than we are now. How can we take advantage of our online spending if we do not spend as much as we can with Black businesses?

The campaign to spend more in February is excellent - and we should do that. Then, when February is over, we should, no we must continue to support Black businesses with out online spending, not to prove anything to anyone else; but to build and maintain our own economic base. We are the most studied and documented consumers in the world because we "dispose" of most of our money in businesses other than our own; so there is no need to prove anything to anyone. They already know how much we spend. Our efforts must be for us no one else.

How about this? Let's make a commitment to increase and sustain our online purchasing, as well as our regular purchasing, throughout the year. We cannot just talk about economic empowerment, like many of our so-called leaders do, and not do the things it takes to gain economic enipowerment. Speaking of our "leaders," I wish they would do as Walter Lomax, a real leader, did recently. I wish they would not only speak about economic problems but promote real solutions to the

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as if they are alread to tell it like it is and afraid to speak in support of MATAH and other Black economicefforts much less purchase and use the products themselves

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problems as well Some of them act the address for MATAH is Cincinnati African American www.matah.com For everyone else. Chamber of Commerce. He hosts call 1-800-977 0282 and start making Black History.

James E. Chneman, an adjunct protessor at the University of Cincinnati's African-American Studies department, is former editor - He can be reached at (513) 489of the Cincinnati Herald Newspaper and founder of the Greater jelingman a blackonomics.com.

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radio the program. "Blackonomics," and is the author of the book. "Economic Empowerment or Economic Enslavement We have a Choice." 4132, or by e-mail at

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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. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be cligible 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: 12396

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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.

### **Church Directory**



Church Directory Page 7

### Sealed bids for Procurement of Prefabricated Toll Booths for Mainlane Plaza Nine (9) and Ramp Plazas along the President

George Bush Turnpike covered by Contract DNT-497 will be received at the offices of the North Texas Tollway Authority (the "NTTA"), 5900 W. Plano Parkway, Suite 100, Plano, Texas 75093, (214) 461-2061, until 2:00 p.m., March 25, 2004, and then will be publicly opened and read.

NORTH TEXAS TOLLWAY AUTHORITY

**PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT** 

Specifications may be seen for examination and for information at the offices of the NTTA, 5900 W. Plano Parkway, Suite 100, Plano, Texas 75093. Proposals may be obtained from the NTTA, address listed above, upon payment of Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars, which sum will not be refunded. The usual rights are reserved. Please direct any questions pertaining to the above project to NTTA Engineering Dept. at 214-461-2061.

Notices Legal

Contact Marketing to advertise in our career opportunity section 972-509-9049. East or Email copy for quote. Fax: 972-809-9058, Email: opportunity a monthegazette.com

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### **Church News**



NOTE: There are three men that I'll like to say, "Thank you for my love and knowledge of Black History." First my father, Mr. Lloyd David Demus, he often told his children that we have a lot to be proud of, our ancestors were brought over on a slave ship and only the strongest survived; and through all of the heartache and pain our

developed, ancestors created, and invented many items that changed the world. He would elaborate more but space will not permit a lot of details; but he spent "quality time" talking to his children. Dr. J.L. Patton, Jr., my high school principal is the second man. While toalking the hallways of Booker T. Washington High School, he often stopped and gave a brief but powerful lesson on Black History. As students, we were fascinated by his stories.

Dr. Patton helped my dad bring Black History alice and left me wanting more.

Mr. John Ross, the third man, taught me in three Black History Classes. He came with facts, figures, overhead projectors, books, video, film, pictures and documentations. He would start his class with something like this, "I will bring you the uncut information and it's up to you to either prove me torong (no one has); accept the truth, go out and education someone else, or reject the truth because for years you were not told the facts." Those that know John Ross, he has never "sugarcoated" anything! John would drive all the very to Carrollton, to teach a class for the school district and community, he would not accept a salary either!

How many industries vital to America's success have been profoundly influenced by the contributions of Black Inventors? Automobiles, railroads, trucking, communication, footwear,

Wednesday Service



agriculture produce, I am listing just a

few. We often don't think about things

that we use on a daily basis that make

our lives easier. We tend to take for

granted that what we are using for our

convenience, someone put a lot of

thought, sweat and perhaps tears into

the invention. As promised here are a

few more "Black Inventions" that

Granville T. Woods, the Auto Cut-Off

Switch in 1839, the Electro Mechanical

Break in 1887, the Automatic Air

changed the world.

Sister Tarpley's Picture of The Week Janet Rae Askins, of God's Gracious Gifts, is "Sharing SHOFAR Blessings." She is helping me salute Black Inventors in a special way.

> System in 1903; The Big Blimp Company should thank J.F. Pickering for the Air Ship in 1900. Every mother I know thanks W.H. Richardson for the Baby Buggy and Child's Carriage in 1899; O. Dorsey, the Doorknob & Doorstop in 1878; J.L. Love, the Pencil Sharpener in 1897; Lydia O. Newman, the Hair Brush in the 1800's. Sara Boone for the Ironing Board in 1887; F.J. Loudin, the Key Chain (small yet very useful) in 1894; and James Robinson, the Lunch Pail in 1887. My mother, Mrs. Cedella Baker

Demus, was extremely glad for A.L. Cralle, the Ice Cream Scooper in 1897; one of Mom's favorite dishes was ice cream. For some sports fans, be happy for the Horse Shoe, J. Ricks in 1885; T. Grant, the Golf Tee (Or was the caddy happier about the golf tee than the golfer?); L.R. Johnson, the

Bicycle Frame in 1899; and G. Cook, the Automatic Fishing Device in 1899.

**BLACK INVENTIONS CONTINUE** 

My moin loved a clean house, she was grateful to Thomas W. Stewart for the Mop in 1893; Lawrence P. Ray, the Dust Pan in 1897; she was also a "great" cook, I am thankful for T.A. Carrington, the Stove in 1876.

Both of my grandfathers, Mr. James Baker and Mr. David N. Demus and other ancestors appreciated Benjamin Banneker for the Almanac in 1791 for use on their farms; and they surely appreciated Michael C. Harvey for the Lantern in 1884. Jan Ernest Matzelinger, the Nailing Machine in 1896 and the Shoe Lasting Machine (attaching soles on shocs; his invention revolutionized the shoe industry.)

J. Wormley, a Life Saving Apparatus; Dr. William Hinton devised a test to determine syphilis; Harold D. West was the first person to synthesize the amino acid threenine in the laboratory; and Ernest E. Just, the first biologist to receive the Springarn Medal for his research on egg fertilization and the functioning of cells. Brody & Surgwar invented the Folding Chair in 1889; L.C. Bailey, the Folding Bed in 1889 and W.A. Lavalette, the Printing Press in 1878. We salute you, Black Inventors! Den't forget to go to your local library or surf the Internet for other Black inventions that changed the world.

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

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

Who Are the Women of God? Why is MON-The Gazette Honoring Them On Mother's Day Weekend 2004? What Can You Do To Be A Part Of The Momentous Occasion?

Go To www.monthegazette.com (Click on Women Of God) or Contact Sister Tarpley At 972-506-3878 voice mail

ALL NATIONS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH February 29, 8:00 am - 9:30 am

Pancake Breakfast - Join us for a fundraiser for Project Transformation ("Flip It"). (Funds will benefit summer camp for neighborhood children)

Tickets may be purchased at the door.

March 3- April 7, 6:15 pm - 7:00 pm Lenten Devotional Services - Each Wednesday evening during Lent, after Ash Wednesday. March 7- April 11

Confirmation Classes - Students, 6th grade and older, who have not heen confirmed can participate in class and activities that will help them to claim their Christian faith for themselves.

Tuesdaye & Thursdays, 10:00 and Yoga Classes For more information concerning

the above events, call 972-424-8500. All Nations UMC Dr. Glara Reed, Pastor

3415 E, 14th Street Plane, TX 75074 972-424-8500

CHRISTIAN CHAPEL CME TEMPLE OF FAITH CHURCH Mondays, 6:00 am - 7:00 am House of Prayer

Christian Ghapel GME Temple of Paith Church Dr. Jerome E. McNeil, Jr., Pastor 14120 Noel Road Dallas, TX 75240 972-239-1120

GREENVILLE AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST 3rd Sunday of Each Month Free blood pressure screening in the gym after evening services For more information on times & room number, call 972-644-2335. Sundays After Evening Services in the Auditorium

Achievers are Successful Tutoring Program, the TAKS test and how to become a TUTOR. Tutoring for grades K-12

**Church Happenings** 

For more information, call 972-644-2335.

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

HAMILTON PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH March 22 - 24, 2004,

7:00 pm each night Spring Revival with Dr. Denny Davis, Senior Pastor of St. John Baptist Church (One Church, Three Locations) as the guest speaker. All are welcome. Childcare will be available. For more information and directions, call 972-235-4633

Hamilton Park UMC Rev. Derrick R. Wright, Senior Pastor 11881 Schroeder Road

Dallas, TX 75243 972-235-4633

KELLER SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH February 29, 2004 @ 3:30 pm Black History Celebration, "If anybody ask you who I am ... tell them I'm a child of God"

Keller Springs Baptist Church Rev. Larry Sanders, Sr., Pastor 3227 Keller Springs Road Carrollton, TX 75006 972-735-8077

#### MESQUITE FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

2nd & 4th Sundays Blood pressure screenings available after 11:00 am service Spring 2004 enrollment for the Institute for Christian Growth is underway. Contact Rev. Leon Moore

for details @ 972-329-5030, Est. 28. February 28, 2004, 9:30 am to 2:30 pm A FREE Marriage Seminar with Postor Eddie Lane of the Bibleway Bible Church as the guest speaker Donation: \$5.00 per person for lunch

For more information, call Rev. Leon Moore @ 972-329-5030, Ext.

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

MOUNT HEBRON MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

In Session Now! Divorce Recovery- 13-week process for those divorced, going through a divorce, or recently separated. Free Child Care We will follow Garland's school schedule and will be out for spring break. To sign up, please call the church at 972-276-5218 or 972-412-8325.

Mount Hebron MBC Pastor Leonard Leach 901 Dairy Road Garland, TX 75040 972-276-5218

> MOUNT OLIVE CHURCH OF PLANO There are now two Sunday

Morning Services! Early Morning Worship Service @ 8:00 am and regular Sunday Morning Worship @ 11:00 am February 27-29, 2004 MOCOP's MEN'S RETREAT, "Connecting God & Men" For more information call Elder

Lloyd Spence @ 972-633-5511 February 28, 2004, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Testimonial Tea by Pastor Gloria Fenceroy and the MOCOP's Plano Women of the Word Ministry will feature Melba Spears to ignite your spirit.

Mt. Olive Church of Plano Rev. Sam Fenceroy, Pastor 740 Avenue F Plano, TX 75075 972-633-5511

Church Happenings Page 8

Feel Better Now. HEAVEN. 97 Uplifting, Inspirational Music New Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Dallas **Sunday Service** Morning Worship 7:30 am & 10:30 am 9:00 am Sunday School



Morning Worship ..... 10:30 am

**Church Directory** 





D.

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## Rev. Henry Lyons: 'Greed' and 'Ego' Got the Best of Me

By. K. Chandler

Special to the NNPA from The Westside Gazette Part 1

Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (NNPA) - "It was so traumatic; it was so negative. It was such a horrible experience. They put me into a cell. It was just a little 7 by 7 cell. Just 7 by 7 feet. I thought I would be in that cell for the next 51/2 years. I had no idea. And I finally found out through inmates on the left of me and on the right of me that I could not see because I was walled up, that I was in solitary. I was in solitary confinement. I later found out that the door, that iron door that had slammed in my face that kept me in that little cell room in solitary confinement - that door would not open. When they would give me my food they would slide it bottom of the door. This door was not to ever open again. And there I was with a little bunk and a stool to take care of my bodily needs and a small sink, and just a little iron cot. Solid iron with a paper-thin, postagestamp-thick, fake mattress to lay on with a hard pillow. That's what I faced.

"I firmly believe my stay in prison was the will of God." With these words Rev. Henry Lyons, 61, former head of the National million-member Baptist Convention, launched into a poignant narrative of his meteoric rise to fame and fortune in the mid-90s.

Scarcely four years later, Lyon's spectacular success would be marred by scandal and a cataclysmic fall from grace after he was convicted in 1999 of swindling \$4 million

through a little slat down at the from insurance and mortuary to me. But what happened to believe that I somehow lost firms desiring to do business with the Baptist Convention membership.

> In an exclusive interview with Gazette Westside The Newspaper, Lyons talked about what led up to his tragic fall, how he coped while in prison, and what his future plans are now that he is once again a free man.

"Let me say first of all that I have taken full responsibility for my actions. As I have thought about it and prayed about it for some five years now, I've had time to reflect on what could have happened to me to have worked so hard to ascend to where I had ascended to, to rise to that point and then to experience such a dramatic and drastic fall. I had to ask myself, "What happened to me?" Not, who did something Henry Lyons?

"As I think about the many wonderful and admirable programs that the National Baptist Convention fostered, I also knew as its president I had to be its chief fundraiser. I had to actually 'churn the butter' in terms of funding those programs. Our convention, big as it was, didn't quite have all the funds to do all that it wanted to do. I had a staff of 16 full-time workers, which the convention hadn't had up to that point. I could devote more of my time to fundraising, and fundraising in the corporate community.

"And as I think about it, as I reflect on it, and as I pray on it, I firmly believe at some point along the way, greed actually set in. I believe greed; I believe the ego got the best of me. I

sight on my whole purpose, and started focusing too much on raising money; on acquiring money and building programs, until I honestly think that greed set in so strong, and I'm not being fully cognizant or fully aware of what was happening to me. I was 'out there' and didn't really know it, didn't really realize it.

"At the beginning my intentions were ever so noble, ever so good. But along the way success got in the way. Greed got in the way. A good life for which I'd been accustomed to almost all my life - that got in the way. I firmly believe my stay in prison was the will of God.

Admonishing others to refrain from walking in his path, Lyons said, 'The one thing I want said, and I want understood, is that if you don't

remember anything else, 'Prison sucks!' It's nowhere to be. You don't ever want to go to prison. I wouldn't wish prison on my worst enemy. I would not do that.

"First of all, to go to prison at age 57, after never having been in trouble in my life. Never been arrested in my life. Never been near a police station other than to go in there to pray for someone. To go in and be remanded to prison after 57 years; to go to a life of lock down and locked up, and to a life where every day is humiliating and degrading; where every day is a humbling experience. And then to not know anything as to where I was going and what I was going to be doing there -I just had no idea, no clue.

(Next week: Doing Hard Time in Prison)





be Healthy Souls"

New Light Church Rev. Shaun Rabb, Pastor Mesquite, TX 75150

Bethlehem; for more information, call Sis. D. Hicks @ 972-234-2707

Nations." Ephesians 4:22-24 March 7-12, 2004, 7:00 pm nightly



Minority Opportunity News - The Gazette 6100 Ave K, Suite 105 (@Spring Creek Parkway) Plano, Texas 75074 Fax: 972.509.9058 Email: Editor@monthegazette.com Phone: 972.516.2992

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