

## The Truth Clinic

## The Passion Over "The Passion"

Page 3



## Anita Baker Returns to Music

Page 5



## Ranger the Frontier with Ford

Page 6

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# The Gazette

"North Dallas' Weekly Paper of Choice"

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



### On the Homefront:

The City of Plano is hosting an exhibit organized by Niki-Aryana Art House, featuring Iranian artists residing in Texas and an American guest artist. Exhibit includes eight pieces of art ranging from oil, watercolors, photography, mixed media and copper embossing. At Plano Centre (2000 E. Spring Creek Pkwy) during February and at the Courtyard Theater (1509 Avenue H) through March 15. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Plano Chamber 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 Loeffler, speaking on Motivation for Success. Reservations only. Call the chamber at 972.424.7547, no later than March 5th. \$20.00 members, \$25 for non-members and guests.

Arts and Crafts vendors are needed for Altrusa's Second Annual Bazaar, to be held March 27, 10 am - 3 pm at the Pace House, downtown Garland. All proceeds from the Bazaar will be used for Altrusa's community service projects. For vendor information email at [altrusa2004@yahoo.com](mailto:altrusa2004@yahoo.com)

City Animal Shelter will sponsor a remote pet adoption at Petco, 1500 Town East Blvd., March 13, 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. For information call 972.216.6283.

Express Yourself! Youth Etiquette Symposium is providing an opportunity for ages 10 and up to learn more about radio broadcasting, production and public speaking. Classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays through May 24, 2004. 6:00-8:00 p.m. To sign up or for more information, contact Earnestine Cole at 972.412.0884. Held at St. Phillip's School and Community Center, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. Dallas

Saturday, March 13, 2004 from 10am to 4pm - 94.9 KLTU's Woman's Expo 2004 - To enrich women emotionally, physically, and spiritually. A fun-filled day of exhibits, demonstrations, artist meet-n-greets, FREE mini-concert and more! Bring the kids too, to an event that's safe and fun for the whole family! Admission is FREE! For more information contact KLTU at 972.870.9949

## INSIDE

Home Front	1
Community Spotlight	2
Community Calendar	2
Truth Clinic	3
You & Your Government	3
Arts & Entertainment	5
Car Review	6
Career Opportunity	6
Sister Turpley Column	7
Church Happenings	7 & 8

## North Texas Job Corps Center Recognizes Student Body Leaders



Sitting: William Logan, vice president; Joseph Escobar, president  
Left to Right: Ashley Hadnot, lead team member; Monica Luna, lead team member; Kim Harris, sergeant of arms; Shawn Brewer, treasurer; Cassandra Vermillion, secretary; John Storton, lead team member

Students of the North Texas Job Corps Center recently elected new Student Government Association (SGA) officers. Officers include President Joseph Escobar, Vice President William Logan, Secretary Cassandra Vermillion, Treasurer

Shawn Brewer, Sgt of Arms Kim Harris, & Cultural Diversity Ambassador Cesar Jimenez.

The Student Government Association acts as student advocates representing the student body on center and in the community. SGA

community involvements have included food drives, Adopt-A-Family activities in conjunction with Old Settler's Park & Recreation Center and assistance with pet adoptions at the Plano Balloon festival to name a few.

The officers are assisted by the SGA Lead Team members Monica Luna, Ashley Hadnot, John Storton & Chris Jett. All officers and team members support the SGA motto of "integrity, compassion & service". Please join us in congratulating our newly installed student body representatives.

Job Corps is the nation's oldest, largest, and most comprehensive residential job training/career development program for at-risk youth ages 16 through 24. Established in 1964 and administered by the Department of Labor, the mission of this federally-funded program is to provide young adults the knowledge and skills needed to become responsible, employable and productive citizens. The North Texas Job Corps is operated by the Cube Corporation.

For more information, contact Business and Community Liaison, Renaldo Williams 972 547-7873 or [WillRen@jcdc.jobcorps.org](mailto:WillRen@jcdc.jobcorps.org).

## Honoring Garland's Distinguished African-American Educators

By Kimberly Roberts

The thought of teaching might not be ideal to some, but there is a select group of individuals in the community who embrace the responsibility of enlightening young minds. Some have been called angels, warriors and others saints.

The Garland Branch NAACP honored these often-unsung heroes at its Fourth Annual Winter Ball on last Friday at the Alexander Mansion in downtown Garland. This year's theme was "Celebrating the Year of the Educator," signifying the association's desire to recognize African-American educational professionals in the Garland Independent School District.

"This is our organization's

way of giving back to the community and spotlighting



Gwen Daniels, Co-chair, Garland NAACP 4th Annual Winter Ball

our local heroes which are so often overlooked, particularly

in the education arena. We wanted to accent and put emphasis on our own, our local heroes, who change the lives of our children everyday in a sometimes thankless job," said B.J. Williams president of the Garland Branch NAACP.

Gwen Daniels, Garland Branch NAACP Freedom Fund Coordinator co-chaired the annual event along with Graydyne Sneet also a member of the Garland branch. Ms. Daniels said the idea to have the annual event came from a desire to break away from the conventional Black History Month programs.

"Four years ago I went to the other members of the executive committee and told

Honoring Garland's Educators Page 3  
See Photos Page 2

## Firewheel Town Center a Reality for Garland

Garland City Officials and Simon Development Corporation broke ground for the new Fire Wheel Town Center recently.

On February 26, Officials from Simon Development Corp., Garland City Officials, City Employees from the City Managers office as well as the Planning Department, as well as adjacent property owners, participated in the official groundbreaking for Garland's "Firewheel Town Center".

The first phase of the Firewheel Town Center, scheduled to open in the fall of 2005, will include approximately 750,000 square feet of retail/entertainment uses and 75,000 square feet of high-end office space in an open-air main street center. Firewheel Town Center will be located on the northeast corner of State Highway 190 (President George Bush Turnpike) and State Highway 78 in North Garland.

Although the rains from the last couple days had left the site very muddy, it was still a great day for Garland. After the Official Ground Breaking took place, at the site where the Town Center will be built, everyone went to the Branding Iron Restaurant at Firewheel. The Community Relations Department for the City of Garland was responsible for all aspects of the Ground Breaking, as well as the Buffet dinner that was served. Congratulations to the Restaurant for a very delicious

Firewheel Town Center Page 4

## MISD Urges Public to Help Keep Robin Hood Tax Bill

By: Monica Thornton

"We believe that the next few months may be the most crucial time for our kids in the history of our schools," said Mesquite Independent School District (MISD) superintendent, Dr. James Terry.

Speaking recently at a meeting of the Mesquite Branch NAACP, Terry addressed the concerns of MISD regarding the issue of the Robin Hood system of funding Texas' public education. Under Robin Hood, a portion of tax dollars raised is taken from 'property-rich' school districts, and disbursed amongst 'property-poor' school districts, with about 900 of the state's 1045 schools benefiting from the system. There are more than 88% of Texas students living in property-poor school districts. State-wide, Robin Hood raises more than \$1 billion annually.

A special session on school financing is to be held this spring in the Texas legislature, and the Robin Hood system is under tight scrutiny, and may be abandoned.

MISD is considered a property-poor district, and is on the receiving end of Robin Hood. Terry said MISD MISD Robin Hood Tax Page 4

## Blackonomics

## The Blackonomics Million Dollar Club

By James Clingman

Brainstorms are not unfamiliar to me. Sometimes they are great and sometimes they are not so great. My latest one came when I was busy continuing my campaign asking everyone to send at least \$5 to the Piney Woods School in Mississippi. I wondered how we could sustain the tremendously positive response we've received from you, the readers of this column, and from others who learned about it on the Internet. The new brainstorm hit me, and I was at it once again, trying to do something that would bring us closer together and aid us in our quest for economic freedom. I would establish the Blackonomics Million Dollar Club (BMDC).

I can hear you lovingly saying, "All right, Jim, what are you trying to get us to do this time?" I say "lovingly" because you have responded that way to my articles on economic empowerment for more than 10 years now. I am truly blessed to have made so many friends throughout this country and in other parts of the world because of the articles I write. So, here's the deal.

I am looking for 200,000 dedicated individuals to commit to being members of the BMDC, which will simply mean that you will send \$5 to a worthwhile project, institution, or cause, when the call goes out. There will be no more than five calls per year, thus, the cost of being in the BMDC will be no more than \$25 per year. Of

course, we will increase our membership and the number of causes as we progress, but starting out we simply want to show, by doing of course, what can be accomplished by working together, regardless of class, status, or any other superficial barriers that lie between and among us.

Eventually, we will seek out those of you who have an interest in working with the BMDC to recommend beneficiaries of the \$1 million raised every time the call is issued and the 200,000 respond. As the BMDC grows, and it will grow, we will also expand our reach and our assistance to causes in Africa and in the Caribbean. There is much to do and much we can do if we work together, each one doing just a little, so that many of us can have a lot.

The BMDC will not be my organization, nor will any of the funds ever be sent to me. They will always be sent directly to the beneficiary, just as we are sending our \$5 to Piney Woods School. For instance, as I noted in the first mention of this idea, we could start a similar campaign for the other Black boarding schools (there are three others) in the country. We could assist Black colleges or help various communities such as Princeville, N.C. and Pembroke, Illinois. We could help purchase medical equipment in Africa or help build schools in African villages. The

Blackonomics Page 6

## OUR VIEW

Elections are looming over us, and not only the upcoming presidential primaries, but also local county elections. And while there are colorful flags and signs with candidate's names posted at almost every intersection in Plano and much of Collin County, the choice of candidates themselves seems to lack color.

Indeed, there is only one person of color running for an office that would encompass part of Plano, that being Chris Gilbert, Republican candidate for Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3-

Place 1. Unfortunately this is typical of the city, where there has been no African American representation since the late 1990's, when David Perry sat on the Plano City Council. **MON-The Gazette** believes it is time

for minority representation from our elected officials, and believes that Cris Gilbert is the best choice for JP, Precinct 3-Place 1.

Gilbert's credentials alone qualify her as the best candidate for this race. But when you consider the fact that the City of Plano has a minority population of just over 20%, Gilbert being elected goes from a good idea to

Our View Page 4

## Teens to Learn About Economic Empowerment at Annual Teen Summit

(Garland, TX) The annual Teen Summit/Lochin will be held Friday, March 5-6 at the Mt. Hebron Baptist Church, 901 Dairy Road, Garland, TX. The year's theme, "Celebrating Perspectives and Prescriptions", will involve the youth in looking back at the 1954 Brown v Board of Education decision and all the perspectives surrounding this case and the resulting impact that this decision has had on schools, the society, and youth. The keynote speaker, Attorney Consueles Edwards, will begin the Summit by challenging the youth to discover their confidence, purpose, and greatness.

Small group workshops will focus on economic empowerment issues, using a financial planning program developed by the National Endowment for Financial Education to explore business ownership, saving and investing, credit, and insurance. The youth will visit Africa and think about how they can contribute to addressing the AIDS epidemic there. Amidst all of these weighty topics will be

performances by the Wandering Mimes, midnight Apollo performances, movies, a fashion show (What's Hot and What's Not), and a dinner of southwestern cuisine.

Saturday morning, following breakfast, the youth will hear from Levi Winn who will share some of his college experiences. Winn is a sophomore at Texas A & M University. A panel of other recent graduates will be available for questions. The Summit will conclude by 10 am with a performance by TACT (Teenage Communication Theatre).

The Friday evening schedule consists of registration, 6:30pm-7pm; Dinner, 7:00 pm-7:30 pm.

The Summit is sponsored by the Garland NAACP Youth Council, Mt. Hebron Youth Ministry, and area churches. Registration is \$10.00. Youth who would like to display their talents during the Summit should contact Joyce Miller at 972-278-4621 for additional information.



## Celebrating the Year of the Educator

Garland NAACP President B. J. Williams Presents Awards to Area Educators



Brenda Haynes, Assistant Principal, Lister Elementary School



Glorious Crowder, Assistant Principal, Montclair Elementary School



Marisa Smith Devereaux, GUSD employee



Lathalia L. Trammel, kindergarten teacher, Beaver Technology Center



Pink Ivory Reese, GUSD retiree



Kimberly C. Jackson, Vocation Adjustment Transition Coordinator, GUSD Special Education Department



Meredith McGill, teacher, Coyle Middle School



Loyed E. Jones, Assistant Principal, O'Banion Middle School

## Elite News 29th Annual Awards Night Celebration



Front Row (left to right): Rev. S.L. Johnson, Ms. Ann Arnold, Rev. Derrick Wright, Ms. Manelle Taylor, and Ms. Rachel George. Middle Row (left to right): Ms. Carl T. January and Ms. Roberta Nicholson. Back Row (left to right): Dr. Roger Campbell, Rev. N.C. Sargent, Mr. Chauncey King, and Mr. John Beckwith, Jr.

Elite News 29th Annual Awards Page 3

## Are You Stressed Out?

- Unemployed Due to Car Accident or Work Injury
- Behind On House or Car Payments (May Stop Foreclosure or Auto Repossession)
- Owe the I.R.S. back Taxes
- Divorce Left You in Debt
- Credit Card Harassment
- Behind On Child Support Payments

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\* On Chapter 13 Bankruptcy Excluding Filing Fees  
Not certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization

## Around The Town

### On-going:

Collin County emergency preparedness hotline: 972.548.4114. You can also visit [www.collin.tx.us](http://www.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. - 6 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 meetings held by TeamNetworking Collin County. The nonprofit, business-to-business 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](http://www.teamnetworking.com).

### General Information

The American Red Cross has announced that all blood levels are low. O Negative and O Positive blood types are at a 4-hour level, other blood types are at less than one day supply - well below the two day optimal supply needed 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](http://www.givelife.org).

The International Library of 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](http://www.picture.com).

Allen Parks and Recreation Department offers membership drive specials in March with a free adult trial membership March 1-14. Don Rodenbaugh Natatorium, 110 E. Rivercrest, and the Joe Farmer Recreation Center, 1201 E. Bethany. Plus \$25 gift certificate for use toward class or service for current members enlisting a friend to sign up, March 15 to

31. Call 972.747.4150.

### 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 visit: [www.nashersculpturecenter.org](http://www.nashersculpturecenter.org).

### Through March 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.).

### 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](http://www.garlandsymphony.org).

### March 5 - 13

"The Diary of Anne Frank" is presented by the Mesquite Community Theatre. For tickets, 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.

### March 8 - 12

Spring Break Camp, for ages 6 -12. At Joe Farmer Recreation Center, 1201 E. Bethany. \$105. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. All campers must bring a sack lunch, swim suit, towel and sun block. Lunch provided Friday. Limited registration. For more information call 972.727.0152.

### March 13

94.9 KLTY's Celebrate Women 2004. All women are invited to enjoy a well-deserved day of fun, relaxation and education, at the Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Pkwy (at Jupiter Rd.). 10 a.m. - 6

p.m. Free. For more information call 972.870.9949, or visit <http://www.klty.com>

### March 16

Nutrition: For Women Only! Joe Farmer Recreation Center, 1201 E. Bethany Drive, 7 - 9 p.m. \$20. Find out about the nutritional support women's bodies need through the various phases of life. Call 972.727.0152.

### March 17

Lunch and Learn Program: How Aging Effects Sleep, 10:30 a.m. At the Interim Allen Senior Center, 105 S. Anna. Call 972.727.0155.

### March 18

PPLS LIBRARY ALIVE! Presents "Weathering the Weather". Steve McCauley, meteorologist from WFAA-TV and former captain of the Texas Tech Tornado Intercept Team will speak about North Texas weather; how destructive storms develop and the latest in tracking technology. For more information call 972.769.4250. Haggard Library, 2501 Coit Rd. 7 p.m.

### 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 3 - October 10, every 2nd & 4th Saturday, 9 a.m. - 12 noon, at Lover's Lane United Methodist Church. Call 972.590.1343, 972.897.9932, or visit: [www.trainingforexcellence.org](http://www.trainingforexcellence.org)

The Plano Animal Shelter needs 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.

## ride DART in March



One sweet ride deserves another.  
• March 3-7 at Dallas Convention Center  
• [dallasautoshow.org](http://dallasautoshow.org) • 214.637.0531  
Convention Center Station

### The fastest way to the hoop? DART Rail.

- March 9-14 at American Airlines Center (Men's) and Reunion Arena (Women's)
- [dallashostsports.org](http://dallashostsports.org) • 1.877.325.5272
- West End Station for American Airlines Center (then take the free shuttle to the center); Union Station for Reunion Arena



### Learn about women's health issues at Healthy Women, Healthy Lives.

- March 13 at the Fairmont Hotel, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- 1.800.477.3729 Akard Station

### DART over to Greenville Ave. for good luck!

- March 13, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Parade starts at Blackwell and travels southbound on Greenville to Yale Blvd.
- [dallasobserver.com/promotions/stpats](http://dallasobserver.com/promotions/stpats) Park Lane, Lovers Lane or Mockingbird Station

### Get downtown, Danny Boy!

- March 14 in downtown Dallas, beginning at 2 p.m.
- [irishparade.com](http://irishparade.com) • 972.680.7800 All downtown Dallas stations

### Reading and riding go hand in hand at the Plano Book Festival.

- March 20, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- [planobookfestival.com](http://planobookfestival.com) • 972.633.9603 Downtown Plano Station

### Walking a mile has never been so good for your heart.

- March 27 at the Woodall Plaza, beginning at 9 a.m.
- [marchforrespect.org](http://marchforrespect.org) • 214.634.9810 West End Station

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# THE TRUTH CLINIC

## The Passion Over "The Passion"

Mel Gibson's new movie "The Passion of the Christ" has struck a nerve in both the devout and not-so-devout as it put religion at the center stage of controversial media and public discussion. The debate has cast a wide net and caught up many who would ordinarily have thought it blasphemous to even think about the agony of the cross let alone talk about it in an open forum.

The film is a visceral bloody depiction of Jesus of Nazareth's final hours and crucifixion. Mr. Gibson has taken film gore and horror to a new level, using every technological trick to assault the brain with continuous images of man's willingness to wantonly dehumanize another human. The film does not deliver a message of Christ like peace and love but moves endlessly through scene after scene of stomach churning close ups made more excruciating by slow motion and gripping stereo music all designed to take the viewer to the edge of sensibility.

Critics, professionals and laymen, have done themselves proud as they searched for words to describe the scope and define the dimensions of this epic. Various writers and commentators have said it is alarming, stunning, brutal, shocking, gut-wrenching, sickening, unilluminating, agonizing, shameful, superficial, riveting, numbing and life changing. The debate rages across the lines of religious denominations.

The question has been raised. Is there a spiritual meaning to the movie providing one can get past the fixation on scourging, blood

spilling and flogging. The theologians will have to work overtime to deal with the faith related issues. Was the spotlight on Jesus because he was a political enemy or a religious revolutionary?

The standards of today cannot be arbitrarily imposed on yesterday's events. Rome was the powerhouse of that era and they had a special genius for brutality. They knew how to kill people in ways that are even unimaginable today. Crucifixion was the method of choice in executions for lower class non-Romans when a powerful message had to be sent to the masses.

As the Passover celebration approached and the crowds were descending on Jerusalem to celebrate the Israelites flight from Egypt the Roman and Jewish authorities were edgy and extra cautious to keep the peace.

Then Jesus shows up at the Temple, where the traditional activities of buying and selling the sacrificial animals are in full swing. He does not join in or just observe the festivities that are taking place in the temple. He literally turns the place out. Now the great religious thinkers will debate if this action by Jesus was a means of purifying the temple or some other act of rebellion. But in reality his actions impacted the pocketbooks of the people who were doing business in preparation for the Passover. Consider what would happen if someone charged into the Superbowl and began to chase all the vendors out?

One can imagine how fast the High Priests rushed to the Roman Prefect, Pontius Pilate, and demanded that he do something to stop the

disruptions and deal with this person who would dare cause problems at Passover.

It is easy to understand that in the time of Jesus the religious leaders were committed to preserving the system of Temple sacrifice at all costs. Their lives revolved around the Temple protocol and their livelihood depended on that protocol. Most of the people at that time were illiterate and depended on the religious leaders to teach them concerning religious matters and certain secular issues.

So the case was made that Jesus had to go. He was messing up the economy but as in most political cover-ups other factors and charges were brought up. Money will cause principle to go underground.

But after all the heart wrenching over the movie what is really happening? One thing for sure is that Mel Gibson has created a public relations dream scenario. No matter if the critiques are good or bad the movie has created enough buzz to make it a must see. The lines are forming everywhere, church groups are buying out the house, and the money just rolls in. And a multitude of Jesus artifacts are available for purchase. The moneychangers are back in the temple.

Somehow in the passions exploding from one man's depiction of the horrors and agony leading up to and culminating in the crucifixion what gets lost in the good movie-bad movie dialogue is that Jesus willingly died for our sins and the good news is we are saved by HIS grace.

James W. Breedlove  
Comments or opinions may be sent to the writer at: [www.truthclinic.com](mailto:www.truthclinic.com)

## You & Your Government

### City of Allen

The City of Allen Police Department is accepting applications for the Citizens Police Academy (CPA) that will begin on Thursday, March 11. Classes will be 6-9 p.m. every Thursday for 12 weeks at Police Headquarters, 205 W. McDermott Drive. The course is free, however, applicants must live or work in the city of Allen and be at least 18 years of age to qualify. The class is designed to give citizens an understanding of the duties, responsibilities, and processes associated with modern law enforcement. Graduates from the CPA then have the opportunity to volunteer in programs, including the Citizens on Patrol and Volunteers in Policing. Applications available at Police Headquarters, or send an email to Cpl. John Felty at: [feltyj@aol.com](mailto:feltyj@aol.com). For more information contact Cpl. Felty at 972.727.0200.

### City of Plano

For six months Plano drivers traveling south on Avenue K have been adapting to the removal of one lane of pavement. The removal of the far left is part of an ongoing effort to increase pedestrian safety in the downtown area. Today signs and markings work to relocate the lane drop was completed. Three signs in the median advise drivers of the lane drop. Additionally left lane turn-only signs have supplemental to read "At 18th Street." Immediately south of 18th Place, another left lane turn-only sign was installed and a left turn arrow was installed on the pavement.

Pavement markings were installed to direct southbound traffic in the left (median) lane north of 18th Street into the left turn lane at 18th Street, to close the

lane adjacent to the median south of 18th Street, to provide a lane into the southbound left turn lane at the median opening south of 18th Street, and to close the left (median) lane from the above median opening south to the u-turn lane north of the Municipal Center.

Plano City Council is expected to discuss making these modifications permanent, but an official date for the discussion has not been set.

For questions or concerns about this project, contact Lloyd Neal, Transportation Engineering Manager at 972-941-7151 or by email at [lloydne@plano.gov](mailto:lloydne@plano.gov).

### Ordinance Cited No Longer Exists

District Court Judge Kinkaid recently dismissed a lawsuit that Planet X had brought against the City of Garland. Planet X is an Adult Video Store that had located in Garland several months ago. They were contending that their last amendment rights had been violated by a City of Garland Ordinance and had filed suit against the City of Garland.

The Store, located next to the Garland Grill, had been the subject of much debate by Garland Grill owner Darren Luna. Many local residents and Pastors of local churches had protested outside the store on several occasions, by holding prayer services. There had also been numerous petitions circulated by local residents protesting Sexually Oriented Businesses from being located in the city.

When contacted about the decision of Judge Kinkaid, Garland Mayor, Bob Day said, "In his decision, Judge Kinkaid threw out the lawsuit Planet X had against the city because the ordinance they had cited no longer existed. The Council

and the Citizens have worked very hard to draft a new ordinance that has withstood the test in the courts. We used the findings from other communities to draft our ordinance. We used things that had been court tested. We are confident that we have an ordinance that will be most beneficial to everyone concerned, from Residents to business owners. My hope now is that we can now go forward and live our daily lives and conduct our businesses in the manner in which the people want."

The Store in question, Planet X, would be in violation of the new ordinance, in that the new ordinance states that the manager when standing at the front had to be able to see all of the inside of the store. Therefore, the viewing rooms that are located in the store, will have to be dismantled since currently you have to go through a door and down a hallway to get to the rooms. Each viewing room also has a door that can be shut. (The viewing rooms cannot be seen from the front register) Also, the store would have to discontinue selling the sex toys they now sell, because that is a violation of the new ordinance. They will however be able to continue selling the X-rated Videos.

Jackie Feagin, District 5 City Councilman said, "I thought all along the city would prevail. From the start we were not trying to shut down any business. We were trying to enforce the existing ordinance. We have an ordinance that has been worked on by our City Attorney's office, and we are confident that it is an ordinance that will be most beneficial to all citizens of Garland."

Elite News 29th Annual Awards Page 2

## Elite News 29th Annual Awards Night Celebration

Dr. S. C. Nash, Pastor of Mount Tabor Baptist Church and his congregation hosted the 29th Elite News Annual Awards Night Celebration that is held the last Friday in February each year.

It was a night to be remembered and cherished by the honorees, their family and friends.

Ms. Manelle Taylor, Senior Sales Representative for Indigenous Products over Texas Region, received the Mable Chandler Distinguished Award; Ms. Roberta Nicholson, dubbed "The Office" of Cornerstone Baptist Church of Christ, received the Pearl C.

Anderson Woman of The Year Award; Mr. Chauncey King, Executive Director of Student Transportation in the Dallas ISD, received the Raymond Hollie Sports Award; Ms. Rachel George, Principal of Julia C. Frazier Elementary School, received the H. I. Holland Education Award; Rev. S. L. Johnson, Senior Pastor of Greater Shiloh Baptist Church and his congregation received the Church of the Year Award; Rev. Nathan C. Sargent, Senior Pastor of Faithful Missionary Baptist Church received the Minister of the Year Award; Rev. Derrick Wright, Senior

Pastor of Hamilton Park United Methodist Church received the S. M. Wright Meritorious Award; Mr. John Beckwith, Jr., CEO of Golden Gate Funeral Homes, received the Business Award; Ms. Ann Arnold, General Manager of Gospel Radio KGGR 1040 AM, received the Communications Award; Mr. Carl T. January, Dallas District Manager of the United States Post Office, received the Trailblazer Award and Dr. Roger Campbell, Ph. D., Motivational Speaker & Businessman, received the Yvonne Davis Community Partners Award.

Honoring Garland's Educators Page 1

them we should try something different to celebrate Black History Month. I thought there was a need for something other than a traditional program," Daniels said.

The events started by paying tribute to African-Americans in Garland who were first in something, such as the first African-American elected to the school board and the first African-American in which a school named after. The themes then moved to Woman and Man of the year respectively and finally this year's observation of distinguished African-Americans in GISD.

As this year's black tie affair began, guests enjoyed light refreshments as they mingled and listened to soft music played by the Thom Brownlee Jazz Ensemble from Hamilton Park First Baptist Church.

While guests finished their refreshments, the honorees gathered on the second level of the mansion while they waited to be introduced by Ms. Sneed. Brief bios of each guest were read as the honorees made their way down a winding staircase escorted by spouses, family members and friends.

The honorees, in alphabetical order were Wallese Anthony a GISD teacher who returned to the field after nineteen years NEED school; V. Elizabeth Campbell, Eric Cockerham, a fourth grade teacher at Stephens Elementary School; Glorious (GiGi) Crowder an assistant principal at Montclair Elementary School; Charlene Gray, a GISD teacher since 1995; Brenda Haynes assistant principal at Lister Elementary School; Kimberly C. Jackson, Vocation Adjustment

McGill, a teacher at Coyle Middle school; Pink Ivory Reese, a retired GISD cafeteria cook; Sandra Reaves Office Technology Coordinator at Rowlett High School; Marisa Smith Devereaux, a GISD bus driver; Diana N. Tharpe, a teacher assistant at Davis Elementary School; Lathalia Trammel, a kindergarten teacher at Beaver Technology Center; Roy L. Williams Jr., and Vashunda Williams, a Biology teacher at Naaman Forest High School.

Charlene Gray has taught for thirty-one years and is now a Master Teacher whose creates videos that are used to train other teachers, says the most important traits that an educator should cultivate are dedication and responsibility.

"Working in predominantly White schools I always had to excel and do above and beyond. I always felt the challenge that because I was a black educator I had to always put forth my best, not just for myself but also for the children that I was teaching," said Gray.

Meredith McGill says she knew in the second grade that she would grow up and become a teacher. She says the most challenging aspect of being a teacher is trying to adapt lessons to accommodate children on different levels.

Not all teachers know from the beginning that they are going to choose education as their career path. Many have held other positions and it wasn't until later in life that they decided to change professions. For Assistant Principal Loyed E. Jones the decision to teach was made while working in advertising. "We have to be able to accept those who want to teach but come from different fields. We have to be willing to train and prepare them," Mr. Jones said. As a GISD bus driver,

Marisa Smith-Devereaux says she often finds herself wearing many hats other than bus driver. She said she has formed lasting relationships with many of her students and when changes occur many of the students don't take the news well.

"I remember one student who was offered a car and he turned down his car so he could ride on my bus and I had to tell him my route changed. He looked at me as if to say 'I gave up my car for you and now you changed routes?' I love all of the kids that ride my bus," Smith-Devereaux said.

City Manager Bill Dollar was on hand to support this year's event. Mr. Dollar said the tradition was set before him and he definitely wanted to continue the relationship that the city has with the Garland NAACP.

"We have a community leaders group that include members from the Garland Branch NAACP. They meet once a month with myself and the police chief. From that group, there are recommendations for the Police Advisory Council, which was formed by the police chief. This advisory council deals with issues such as recruiting standards and police regulations in an effort to try and get the community involved in what we do as a city government," Dollar said. Also in attendance were various members of the Garland City Council and John Washington, Assistant Superintendent of GISD, and Victor Leos of GISD.

After recognizing the honorees, President Williams saluted them with a champagne toast as the band began and guests were invited to dance and enjoy the rest of the evening.

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

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

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

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



meal. Mayor Bob Day gave the Invocation and led the pledge of allegiance. Mayor Day said, "This is the most exciting thing to happen in Garland since the completion of 190. The result of all of the activity going on along 190 is the kind of atmosphere of the things we want in Garland. The Mall has been a long time coming, but it is well worth the wait. Two Mayors' before me had a lot to do with this process, Mayor Jim Spence and Mayor Jamie Ratliff. I will be using a pen they used when they signed agreements with Simon. I keep it in the Mayor's office."

In his comments, Mayor Pro Tem, Michael Holden, said, "This is what we wanted to do when I was on the council the first time, when we did not even have 190. This development and the Bass Pro development along with the 190 extension to I30 are the sign of wonderful things happening in Garland. Everybody in this room who has been remotely involved with this project has worked very hard. Simon has been incredible. Garland is ready for a first class project like Firewheel Town Center."

Paul Mayer, President of the Garland Chamber of Commerce said, "Vision is an easy thing to have, but a hard thing to execute. In representing all the people who will be responsible for executing this process, I must say that I am extremely proud of everyone who has had anything to do with bringing this project to Garland. Martin Glenn has been a very important part of the development

of this project, as have a lot of other members of the staff for the city of Garland."

Garland City Manager, Bill Dollar, said, "I am very fortunate that I am the City Manager while this is happening. The people who have gone before me have worked very hard developing this project. Jeff Muzzy worked very hard on this when he was City Manager. I look

said, "I want to pay tribute and I want to thank a lot of people. First I must thank all of the city of Garland employees who have worked so very hard to make this day happen, especially Dorothy White, Cindy Vochastzer, Shelly Franklin and Bonnie Patrick. They have worked very hard putting together this whole event. Timing for an event such as this is everything. Firewheel

they will come to enjoy. It will have the look of an old downtown. But it will be on the cutting edge of Mall development, with the open air concept."

Attending the groundbreaking ceremonies were Mayor Day, as well as all of the members of the City Council.

The City of Garland and Simon Corporation invited many members of the community to the Ground breaking, including Plan Commission Members: B. J. Williams, Charlie Shearer and Robert Yen. Also there as invited guests were, former Mayor's Jamie Ratliff, along with Jim Spence and his wife Betty. Former City Council members Rueben Avelar and his wife Betty, as well as former council member Johnnie Beach were also in attendance, along with Bob Schwartz and Richard Fricks. Other special guests included: former City Councilwoman, Annie Dickson, GISD Superintendent Curtis Culwell, GISD School Board Trustees: Linda Griffin, Tommy Reed, Steve Hill, and Robert Clark. Representing the Economic Development Corporation was Greg Sims. Also in attendance was former Plan Commission Member, Linda Jaresh.

Rod Vosper, vice president of new development at Simon Property said, "We are very pleased to start construction at Firewheel with anchor stores such as, Dillards, Foley's and AMC Theaters. The project will also feature Barnes & Noble, Circuit City and Linens N'Things."

Could it be that Dallas is about to become a "Suburb of Garland"? You bet.



Chamber of Commerce Chairman, John Losh, Former City Councilwoman Annie Dickson, and Teri Dunn

forward to the next couple years and the completion of this project."

The Center is scheduled to open in the Fall of 2005. Simon Corporation has secured the services of Jeff Jones, a local man, who will be the construction Project Manager. In his opening remarks at the program that was held at the Branding Iron, shortly after the groundbreaking, Les Morris, who is the Public Relations Director for Simon,

Town Center will be a cutting edge Mall development."

Bill Hammer, Vice President of Development for Simon said, "This project has taken a couple years longer that we wanted. However with the events of 9/11, with the opening of another project we had going, we had to wait until the time was right for this development. This project will not be just another mall. It will have a small town flavor, where people will come to shop and

is a property-poor district because there is not a high percentage of business tax generated in Mesquite.

"When we drive in our neighborhoods we see houses. But when we go to Plano - a property rich district - we see businesses," he said. "That's what makes us property poor."

According to MISD, it is anticipated that the district will receive almost \$11 million from the state this year because of Robin Hood, an amount that the city will have to find if this system is cancelled. And MISD estimates that it spends less per student than the state average. Across Texas, public school districts spend an average of \$6,317 per student, whereas MISD spends \$5,866. Only \$168 per student is spent on central administration salaries in

MISD, compared to the state average of \$257.

If Robin Hood is abandoned, it is estimated that MISD would have to raise tax by 22 cents just to recoup its losses, a move that MISD is not willing to even consider. One of the main concerns raised at the NAACP meeting was that of the state's responsibility, under the Texas Constitution, to provide public education. Article VII, Section I reads, "It shall be the duty of the Legislature of the State to establish and make suitable provision for the support and maintenance of an efficient system of public free schools."

Figures also show that in 1947, the state provided 57% of funding for public schools, a figure that by 2004 has dropped to 38%. Terry said that unless the state can find a way of replacing Robin Hood with another system that would

ensure equity in education across the school districts, the system should stay.

Governor Perry has said he will support more funding for public schools, though not necessarily by keeping Robin Hood in place, during a special session this spring, but he wants the additional money spent on financial incentives for schools that improve student achievement and lower dropout rates. But Terry said under Perry's provision, not only will he be taking money from some districts, he is putting the money at the back end of the system and ignoring costs of maintenance and operations, hiring exemplary teaching staff, employee benefit costs and more.

Also forgotten is the rising cost of education, Terry added. "It takes about a billion dollars a year to educate school students. With the growing

population, and so many state and national accountability tests, many non-English speaking students and economically disadvantaged students," he said.

He added that ignoring the real cost of education will cause the future labor force to be less educated, less skilled, and to earn less money.

While consideration is being given to raising funding for public school education through raising cigarette tax by \$1 a pack, a video lottery at Texas racetracks, and even talk of a state income tax, one participant at the NAACP meeting suggested that it would be beneficial to find out where the lottery money promised for education is actually going.

Terry urged all present at the meeting to write to their senator and congressperson to keep Robin Hood in the State of Texas.

being essential for this city, and this part of Collin County. Twenty percent equates to the potential for every one in five persons appearing before a Justice of Peace in Plano being of a minority race.

The jurisdiction of the Justice of the Peace in Texas goes far beyond small claims and small cases. In Texas, the JP holds civil court and has criminal jurisdiction of bad check cases, truancy, can issue peace bonds, order arrests and issue search warrants, to relieve the caseload of the higher courts. Given the extent of that power, we don't believe it is realistic to think that minorities can be fairly represented by an all White Justice of the Peace system in this city.

Our candidate of choice is African American. Cris Gilbert has been a resident of Plano since 1971 (she is a Plano Senior High School graduate), and has seen the city grow economically and across racial divides. She is a national speaker on court-annexed mediation and cross-cultural issues, and has lectured at SMU in Dallas. Gilbert's experience includes course work in marriage, family and child counseling and organizational behavior. She has a BS in Business Management from LeTourneau University, and Master of Dispute Resolution from Pepperdine University School of Law.

She is also an adjunct lecturer at Dallas' El Centro Community College Dispute Resolution Certificate program, proving her ability to sit and judge fairly as JP. Gilbert has unsurpassed commitment to the community, being a board member of the Plano ISD Education Foundation, board member of Collin County Child Protective Services (appointed by Judge Ron Harris), is a docent at the Holocaust Museum, and a

volunteer at Hope's Door. Plus, she is a member of the American Bar Association, State Bar of Texas, Texas Association of Court Administrators, Local and National Association of Conflict Resolution, to name a few.

Gilbert's experience and education set her apart from incumbent, Judge Tom Kelly, and challenger John Lewis. Her expertise in dispute resolution stands her in excellent stead to fulfill the duties and obligations of this office to relieve the caseload of

the higher courts.

Judge Kelly has served this portion of Collin County and Plano well. But with the changing demographics and increase in minority population - 8 to 10% since 1990, minority representation in this part of the city, particularly at this level of government, is essential.

Our challenge to our readers is for you to demand fair representation from our elected officials by voting for this upstanding and outstanding

African American candidate. For too long we have wondered if minority representation is possible in our great city, yet have done nothing to accomplish that. **MON-The Gazette** believes that this is our chance to change the trend toward fair and equal representation. We urge you to exercise your right to vote on Tuesday, March 9, 2004, and to go one step further by exercising your right to equality by voting for Cris Gilbert, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3-Place 1.

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Open Rate ... \$30<sup>00</sup>  
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13 Week Rate ... \$25<sup>00</sup> (Per Insertion)  
2" x 3"

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# Arts & Entertainment

## Anita Baker Returns to Music

By NEKESA MUMBI MOODY  
AP Music Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — After 10 years in musical seclusion due to family turmoil, Anita Baker is returning to the spotlight.

The Grammy-winning R&B songstress has signed a deal with Blue Note Records to produce at least two albums, and expects to release her first project before the end of the year.

"I'm so excited," the singer told The Associated Press in an interview on Wednesday. "I do see that there is a demand for what I do, and my fans are still there."

With a deep, sensuous voice that recalled Sarah Vaughan and a classic soul sound, Baker became one of R&B's premier artists in the late '80s and early '90s with hits like "Sweet Love," "Rapture" and "Giving You the Best That I Got."

But she dropped off the music scene nearly a decade ago after releasing the album "Rhythm of Love" in 1994. At the time, Baker, who is married, had two young sons (now 10 and 11 years old); a mother suffering from Alzheimer's; and a father dying of bone cancer.

"I couldn't focus on the music at all. I tried, but each time I tried, that door was closed to me," she said. "My parents were dying, and I couldn't write."

So she took a break to take care of her family in Detroit, where she lives.

Baker never considered hiring anyone to take care of her family so she could continue her career.

"She took care of me, she didn't hand me off to someone else," Baker said of her mother. "I'm really happy in retrospect that I did it that way, because she breathed her last in my arms."

Baker's father died in 1998; her mother died in 2000. After her mother's death, she felt could pursue her career again.



"It was almost like I was given permission when she passed."

Baker had a deal a couple of years ago with Atlantic Records after being wooed by its legendary founder, Ahmet Ertegun, but an album never materialized. "I couldn't fulfill my obligations to him and I really regret that, because he's a wonderful man," she says.

Baker began touring, but she doubted whether people would buy CDs of her smooth, adult R&B in today's marketplace.

"For the past five years I had been channel surfing and

all you see is MTV and kids. The demographics became very very young. I figured I was relic and my time has passed. And I figured I had something to offer in the jazz arena," Baker said.

But when she contacted Bruce Lundvall, head of Blue Note Records, about recording a jazz album, he told her he'd be interested in an R&B album from her as well.

"She is one of the great artists, no question about it," Lundvall told the AP. "There's not another voice out there like hers, it's instantly recognizable."

Baker has already written songs for her new album, which she says "has the same elements of R&B, jazz and gospel influences throughout, because that's just me."

But Baker says she's interested in working with new artists, such as Alicia Keys or bluesy guitarist Robert Randolph, who wowed the Grammy audience last month with his performance.

Baker says she's not going to conform to today's musical scene: "Even at the height of my career, I was always not quite with it, I was always off doing my own thing."

And she says fan response to her recent concert performances show there's still an interest in her own style.

"I didn't know that anybody would give a hoot," she laughed. "I'm pleasantly surprised."

## Jazz Queen Norah Jones Rules the Charts Again

By Sue Zeidler

**LOS ANGELES (Reuters)** — Jazz chanteuse Norah Jones may be soft-spoken but her album, "Feels Like Home," roared again at cash registers, topping charts for a third week in a row, according to data released by Nielsen SoundScan on Wednesday.

The sultry singer's sophomore album sold about 281,000 units in the week ended Feb. 29, bringing her three-week total to 1.7 million, according to Nielsen SoundScan.

The album sold over a million copies in its first week of release ended Feb. 15, becoming the first to pass the 1 million mark in a debut week since 'N Sync's "Celebrity" sold nearly 1.9 million copies in July 2001, Nielsen SoundScan said.

Jones' follow-up to her Grammy-winning blockbuster debut "Come Away With Me" was also a big seller in the digital domain, with four tracks from the new disc selling in the top 200 digital tracks, according to Jones' Blue Note label, owned by EMI Group Plc.

New York-born, Texas-raised Jones, 24, daughter of Indian sitar master Ravi Shankar and former music promoter Sue Jones, has been boosting her album through heavy promotion and press appearances.

This weekend the dark-haired singer and pianist, who lends a country sound

to some of her music, is set to appear as the musical guest on NBC's "Saturday Night Live."

Jones' new album also gave

a big boost to her earlier "Come Away With Me," which remained in the U.S. top 30.

### Agent Cody Banks 2: Destination London



Frankie Muniz stars as Cody Banks, the teen spy who can't figure out how to talk to girls. He returns to Kamp Woody for more CIA training before moving to London as a foreign-exchange student. But as his new mentor (Anthony Anderson) informs him, he's really there for another assignment. Banks is assisted by a new female junior agent (Hannah Spearritt).

Starts March 12, 2004

### Secret Window



Mort Rainey (Johnny Depp), a successful writer trying to cope with a divorce, is staying in his rural home, when a stranger (John Turturro) turns up on his doorstep and accuses him of plagiarism.

Starts March 12, 2004

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## Prince Returns to the Stage



Prince performs during a news conference to kick off his 'Musicology' tour, Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2004, at the El Rey Theater in Los Angeles. The tour is to begin in Los Angeles, March 29, 2004, and continues throughout the spring and summer, hitting more than 38 cities. (AP Photo/The Lippin Group via WireImage, Michael Caulfield)

**LOS ANGELES** — Prince will return to arena stages for the first time in six years with a national tour featuring classic hits such as "When Doves Cry" and "Little Red Corvette."

"It's older music, but it's going to be played in a newer way," the typically reclusive performer said Tuesday in announcing the tour that begins March 29 in Los Angeles and will hit at least 38 cities.

Prince followed his announcement with a half-hour concert backed by his eight-piece group, the New Power Generation Band. He performed the title song from his upcoming new CD "Musicology" before answering questions from 200 fans and reporters.

The 45-year-old musician is in negotiations with various record labels to release his new disc. Since he parted with Warner Bros. in 1996 after a bitter feud, he has either released his albums on the Internet or through other labels or distribution deals.

His upcoming tour shows

the singer is ready to move back into pop music mainstream he dropped out of in the '90s. He kicked off this month's Grammy telecast with Beyonce joining him on his hit "Purple Rain"; this marks the 20th anniversary of the groundbreaking album and movie.



I want to take a break from all the stresses of kindergarten.

Rates from  
**\$49**  
per night



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WYNDHAM GARDEN HOTEL  
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972-480-3000

Request the "Weekend Getaway" promotion when booking reservation. Room rates may vary by property, room category and travel dates. Rates and rooms are subject to availability and do not include tax. Not applicable to groups or prior reservations. Weekend Getaway rates for Wyndham Garden Hotel Dallas Park Central valid from 2/15/04-4/15/04. Blackout dates and other restrictions apply.

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## RANGER THE FRONTIER WITH FORD

The Ranger comes with a choice of three engines, from a base four-cylinder, to the performance driver 4.0-liter V6, and has proved itself to be a good off-road vehicle. Couple that with The Ranger's safety numbers and Ford has come up with a wholesome vehicle for the Texas landscape.

The Ranger comes standard with four-wheel antilock brakes and a passenger airbag cutoff switch. Two-wheel-drive SuperCabs received four stars in NHTSA frontal and side-impact crash tests, and the regular cab models earned five-stars in side-impact rating.

The base engine is a 143-horsepower, 2.3-liter inline four, next is a 3.0-liter V6, 148 hp with 185 lb-ft of torque. But for that powerful truck feel, go straight to the top with the 4.0-liter overhead cam V6, 207 horsepower and 238 pound-feet of torque. Then you can tow what you want, with its towing capacity of 5,740 pounds. Transmission choices include a five-



opening rear access doors. There are various trim levels, beginning with the XL, Edge and Tremor, and XLT, which is available with several packages, including FX4. Air conditioning is optional on all Rangers; higher trims are eligible for bucket seats and leather upholstery. The XL is as basic as they come, with

cloth upholstery and an AM/FM radio being among the few standard amenities. The Edge and XLT get you to the power equipped range, with keyless entry and power windows, locks and mirrors. The Edge - designed with the younger driver in mind - has body-colored bumpers, while the XLT gets a more traditional chrome finish. Both have a CD player, but the Edge version is MP3-compatible. A Deluxe package is available with the Edge, and includes a CD changer and a 290-watt stereo. The Tremor offers a 510-watt Pioneer stereo and all the Edge Deluxe equipment. For the off-road enthusiast, look at the XLT FX4, with two versions - Off Road and Level II. The Off Road package includes heavy-duty shocks, skid plates, tow hooks, 16-inch all-terrain tires and a limited-slip rear axle. The Level II gets a Torsen limited-slip differential, Bilstein shocks, BF Goodrich all-terrain tires and Alcoa wheels.

### Blackonomics Page 1

possibilities are endless, but we must commit first - and then follow through on our commitment.

Members of the BMDC will probably know about causes and projects that could use a million dollars, and your input in that regard will be quite valuable. I have never claimed to know everything, but one thing I do know: If we work together in support of one another, we will win.

Also, if we use the instantaneous call-and-response of the Internet, there will be less need for protracted campaigns and advertising, no banquets necessary, and no begging corporations to give us the money. The BMDC will have formed a solid foundation that can immediately respond to a need; if someone or some other entity wants to jump on board, that's fine, but at least we will be making the first step and putting our own money on the table first.

With all of the past efforts to "show" others our presence on the Internet, to demonstrate how much we spend via "Black Out Days," and to make every attempt to convince others that we are valuable economic assets to this country, the BMDC will devote its resources to showing Black people our own value, and illustrating to our youth that we are indeed the remnant of those slaves who could not be killed, those who survived so that we could be free, those who put their nickels and dimes together to help one another.

Please don't start analyzing this effort yet. Don't get beset by the paralysis of analysis, with which we are quite familiar. Let's keep this as simple as possible. Don't start worrying about who will get your five dollars and who is going to keep tabs on the money. Don't immediately start trying to figure out how YOU can benefit from this effort. We get by giving, so

let's do this based on the very sound principles of Sowing and Reaping: You always reap what you sow; you always reap later than you sow; and you always reap more than you sow.

Here's a quote from a BMDC member: "Just a brief message to express how moved I am by this effort. A five-dollar contribution is such a small amount on an individual basis to push the economic growth of our people. Sign me up!"

Let's sow some seeds through the Blackonomics Million Dollar Club. All it takes is a commitment of \$5 to be a member. How do you join? Just send an e-mail saying, "Sign me up!"

to jclimgan@blackonomics.com. I will keep you informed of our progress. Or, mail or fax your name, address, and phone number to P.O. Box 6722, Cincinnati, Ohio 45206, or fax number 513-489-4132. Let's do this.

### Church Directory

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#### Our Services:

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Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.  
Midday Service: 11:00 a.m.

**Tuesday**  
Prayer Service: 7:00 p.m.  
Service: 7:30 p.m.

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### Hill Chapel

Christian Methodist Episcopal Church  
1113 E. 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:** 7:30 P.M.  
**Community Bible Class:**



Church Directory Page 7

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**NTTA**

NORTH TEXAS TOLLWAY AUTHORITY

## PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT

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.

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.

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Please leave a message!

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### Part-time

Community newspaper experience a plus  
Organizational skills a must  
Must be familiar with AP writing style.  
Must be able to interact with corresponding writers as well as staff writers.

Submit/Fax all resumes to  
**972 881-1646**

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### City of Lewisville

POLICE OFFICER (TCLEOSE Certification Preferred)

**Annual Salary:** \$39,015 increasing to \$40,996 after completion of the field training program increasing through a step pay plan to \$51,760. In addition, the City provides a full complement of benefits. Officers are also eligible for up to \$150/month for education/certification pay after successful completion of the training program.

**CLOSING DATE:** April 23, 2004 Minimum Qualifications: Be at least twenty-one (21) years of age at the time of the written entrance examination. Must be a US Citizen. Be a high school graduate or Have obtained a GED with 12 hours of college with a 2.0 GPA on a 4.0 GPA scale or 2 years of active duty military service with an honorable discharge. Be fingerprinted and subjected to a search of records to disclose a criminal record. Driving record in compliance with the City of Lewisville Driving Policy. Vision correctable to 20/20 binocular. Ability to distinguish between red, green, and yellow. Special Requirements: Must pass Written Exam. Successfully pass a validated physical agility test. Successfully pass a Video-based assessment (B-PAD). Successfully pass a background investigation. Successfully pass a post-offer physical, psychological, and drug test.

\*\*\*An application must be submitted to Human Resources prior to testing.

2004 Test Dates: February 27, 2004, March 26, 2004 and April 23, 2004.

APPLY: 161 W. CHURCH ST. LEWISVILLE TX 76057 972-219-5005 (FAX)

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[www.cityoflewisville.com](http://www.cityoflewisville.com)

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### REQUEST FOR SUBCONSULTANT SERVICES - ENVIRONMENTAL/ENGINEERING

URS Corporation, Dallas, requests letters of interest and qualifications from certified HUB firms with experience working at LPST sites for the provision of sub-consulting environmental/engineering services for the TCEQ PST Engineering Services Contract (FY 2005 - FY 2007). Services to be subcontracted include, but are not limited to: Analytical Testing; Geotechnical Testing; Data Review; UST Removal; Land Surveying; Waste Disposal; Pilot Tests for Design of Remediation Systems; and Operation and Maintenance of Remediation Systems. Letters of interest and qualifications should be sent to the attention of Ms. Janet Bowers, 3010 LBJ Freeway, Suite 1300, Dallas, Texas 75234. Please call Janet Bowers at (972) 406 6950 for further information.

### TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

#### NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

#### CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)

**District Four North**  
Contract 6311-29-001 for CONCRETE PAVEMENT REPAIR in TARRANT County will be opened on April 05, 2004 at 1:00 pm at the State Office for an estimate of \$577,832.78.  
Contract 6311-37-001 for CONCRETE PAVEMENT REPAIR in TARRANT County will be received on April 13, 2004 until 9:00 a.m. and opened on April 13, 2004 at 9:30 a.m. at the District Office for an estimate of \$293,247.88.

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 District Offices listed below. 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.tdot.state.tx.us](http://www.tdot.state.tx.us) and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.

BY O. 12545

State Office  
Constr. Maint. Division  
200 E. Riverside Dr.  
Austin, Texas 78704  
Phone: 512-460-2540

District Office(s)  
Fort Worth District  
District Engineer  
2501 Southwest LP#20  
Fort Worth, Texas 76135  
Phone: 817-370-6500

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 ground of race, color, sex, or national origin.

### MON-The Gazette

is looking for community writers and reporters. Pay on a contract basis or by the hour. Email your resume to [editor@monthegazette.com](mailto:editor@monthegazette.com) or fax to 972-516-4197. Leave a message at 972-881-1646.

#### 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

### CITY OF PLANO, TEXAS

**Plano**  
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(972) 941-7402  
24 HOUR  
CAREER INFORMATION HOTLINE  
(972) 941-7116  
Home Page: [www.plano.gov](http://www.plano.gov)  
FAX (972) 941-7239  
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Ready for a unique strategy to:  
-Reduce taxes  
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Independent Associate



## Sister Tarpley

While listening to radios and looking at television, we witness plenty of bad news and turmoil that is going on and not just in the United States

but also all over this world. Many people tend to become discouraged with a lot of bad news. However, if you are a believer in God you definitely have something that you can depend on. God said, "For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed." - Malachi 3:6.

Everything but God in this world is unsure and indefinite. Even world leaders are crying out with desperate words of uncertainty. But thanks be to God, He is a God that change not. He is the same yesterday, today and forever. God doesn't say

## GOD'S PEACE IN YOUR STORM

one thing today and something else tomorrow.

If you trust and have faith in God, you will have the stability in your life that you need to go through your trials and tribulations. With God, you can have His peace in any storm. You will have confidence when

that the water bill is higher." As Dr. Rickie G. Rush, Senior Pastor, The Inspiring Body of Christ Church (IBOC) says quite frequently, "You don't know their story!"

"God's Peace" means that you are trusting in God; that you believe His Word. It doesn't matter what is going on around you, God has the final Word and He will do just what He said He would. God keeps His promises no matter what your circumstances are; it doesn't matter what your problem is. You must remember that Satan is the "Father of Lies," do not trust the devil with his "smoke and mirror" lies.

Make up your mind today to "live by faith and not by sight." Be determined in your heart to trust God and you too can have, "God's Peace in Your Storm."

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 James, "Enlarge our territory to expand opportunities that may impact in such a way that we touch more lives for God's glory. Let us do more for Him."



**Sister Tarpley's picture of the week:**  
Elder Philip White is the pastor.  
Sis. Kathy McKnight, 1st Lady Elizabeth White, Sis. Stella Johnson and Sis. Tassie Jefferson.  
These ladies were dressed for the occasion as Love Chapel COGIC celebrated Black History Month.

others about you are confused. You will have God's peace when others are under the pressures of this life. God never said that you wouldn't have trials and tribulations; He said that He would be with you in your trials and tribulations. It is also good to remember that, "If the grass looks greener on the other side of the fence, you can be assured

## Church Happenings

**ALL NATIONS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
Through 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 been confirmed can participate in class and activities that will help them to claim their Christian faith for themselves.  
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:00 am  
Yoga Classes  
For more information concerning the above events, call 972-424-8500.

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

Christian Chapel CME Temple of Faith 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.  
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

**INSPIRING BODY OF CHRIST**  
March 6, 9:00 am - 4pm  
Blood Drive- Sponsored by Carter Blood Care  
Location- Gym  
March 6, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Home Buyer's Seminar  
Location- Movie Theatre  
For more information, call 972-572-IBOC (4262).

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

**KELLER SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH**  
March 27, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Home Buyer's Seminar- hosted by KSBC and Chase Mortgage  
Free and open to the public  
Please call (972) 735-8077 for more information.

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

Church Happenings Page 8

Don't miss the April 15 deadline!

Fund an IRA today!

Tax advantages, including new tax credits for some individuals, make an IRA one of the best ways to save for retirement.

Don't miss out on these important tax benefits! Call today to make your IRA contribution.



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## 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**  
Rev. Leslie W. Smith, Senior Pastor  
1020 South Sherman Street • Richardson, TX 75081  
www.ndcbf.com

**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

**Pastor Robert E. Price**

**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) • newmzb@aol.com (Email)

**GREENVILLE AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST**

1013 S. Greenville Avenue • Richardson, TX 75081  
972-644-2335 (Office) • 972-644-9347 (Fax)  
www.GreenvilleAvenueChurchOfChrist.org (Website)

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

**Sunday**  
- Early Morning Worship . . . . 7:45 am  
- Bible Class . . . . . 9:30 am  
- Morning Worship . . . . . 10:30 am  
- Evening Worship . . . . . 6:00 pm

**Wednesday**  
- Prayer Service . . . . . 7:00 pm  
- Bible Class . . . . . 7:30 pm

**Thursday**  
- Bible Class . . . . . 11:00 am

(Quality childcare available Daily in the Development Center affordable fee, call 972-644-0134 or 972-644-8719)

**MINISTER**  
S. T. W. Gibbs, III

**Associate Ministers**  
Ben Myers  
Patrick Worthey

**Elders**  
Ray Christopher • Harlee Glover  
Fred Green • Raymond Hart  
David Phillips, Jr. • Johnie V. Rodgers, Sr.

**St. John Baptist Church**

1701 W. Jefferson St., Grand Prairie, Texas 75051  
2805 Market Loop, Suite 300, Southlake, Texas 75092  
Denny D. Davis, Servant

**Our Church - Two Locations**  
Four Morning Worship Services  
7:00 A.M., 9:00 A.M., 10:30 A.M. and 11:45 A.M.

**Friendship Baptist Church**  
**Dr. C. Paul McBride, Pastor**

**Schedule of Services:**  
**Sunday**  
Early Morning Worship  
8:00 a.m.  
Sunday School Classes  
9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship  
11:00 a.m.  
Evening Worship (1st Sunday) 6:00 p.m.

**Tuesday**  
Early Bird Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

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

**4396 Main Street**  
**The Colony, Texas 75056**  
(972) 625-8186  
website: www.fbc-online.net

**"The Church with a Vision"**

**Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church**  
920 E. 14th Street Plano, TX  
Pastor Isaiah Joshua, Jr.

**FANNING THE FLAMES OF OUR FAITH**

**Sunday Worship Services 8AM & 11AM**

**Sunday** 9:45AM 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) 423-6695  
www.shilohbaptistchurch.org

**Mt. Olive Church of Plano**  
740 Avenue F, Suite 303  
Plano, TX 75074  
**A Non-denominational Church for all Nations**

**Pastor Sam Fenceroy** **Pastor Gloria Fenceroy**

**Schedule of Services**  
Sunday Morning Worship . . . . . 8:00 am & 11:00 am  
Sunday School . . . . . 9:45 am  
Men & Women Ministry . . . . . 1st & 3rd Mondays 7:30 pm  
Leadership Meeting . . . . . 2nd Mondays 7:30 pm  
Singles Ministry . . . . . 4th Mondays 7:30 pm  
Youth Bible Study . . . . . Wednesdays 7:30 pm  
Mid-Week Service . . . . . Wednesdays 7:15 pm  
**Mother's Day Out - Tuesday & Thursday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm**

**Servicios En Español**  
Domingos Noche . . . . . 6:30 pm  
Jueves Noche . . . . . 7:30 pm

**Phone: 972-633-5511**  
**Fax: 972-633-3728**  
**Email: mocop740@verizon.net**

**Pastors Pedro and Diana Santillan**

Radio Broadcast Station 1040 AM-KLUG  
10-Fc 10:15 am (Truth Made Simple In 5 Minutes)



## Doing Hard Time in Prison: Part II of an exclusive interview with Rev. Henry Lyons

By K. Chandler  
FORT LAUDERDALE (NNPA) – The following is the second segment of a 3-part, exclusive interview conducted recently with Rev. Henry Lyons, former head of the million-member National Baptist Convention.

(Continuing from last time, after 18 days in solitary confinement Henry Lyons was moved to a permanent prison camp following his conviction for swindling \$4 million from mortuary companies desiring to do business with Convention members. The story picks up from there.)

"I moved from Orlando to Marion County, Ocala, Florida. Ten miles north of Ocala there is a maximum-security prison that holds 1,500 men. They call the kind of prison time I did, hard time. I did hard time in prison."

"Once I got there I didn't know what to expect; didn't know what to think. I didn't know where to go. The first thing I learned was that out of 1,500 men, about 600 were in there for life. Now when you're in prison for life you have a whole 'nother mentality than someone who's in there for three or four years and

trying to get out, because there is hope [for that person]. But when you're in there for life and that's home for you and you're never going to leave and you know that. And there are no more chances for you in the courts. Then that kind of person is capable of doing anything. So what I'm trying to say here is that it didn't take me long to find out that death for me could be eminent. Just brush up against someone and they'd jump on you and beat you up or stab you with what they call in prison, a 'shank,' or illegal knife."

"You could just look at somebody wrong and they'd take offense to that. They'd take a serious negative attitude. If they just got out of the bed wrong that morning, or some guard said something to them. I learned that I had to walk real 'soft.' I also learned that if I saw trouble there, I'd go around it as much as I could to avoid it. I also learned to speak softly and basically avoid any eye contact because even eye contact could be taken the wrong way."

"After months of that kind of activity, I began, let's say, to feel my way around a little better. And then in prison you've got quite a strong Christian community, and so the Christian brothers came to

me and embraced me and kind of gave me some instructions as to how to maneuver around in prison. It was very, very welcomed believe you me. Because there you're in a dormitory situation, which is completely open with about 70 men in a space just like this room here. You see fights breaking out all the time. You see stabbings all the time; along with killings and folks committing suicide because they have no hope. They've lost all hope."

"And so the Christian brothers came to me and embraced me and I began to sort of be with them as much as I could, because in prison everybody works. Everybody works. Everyday you've got to get up and go to work. So the biggest [portion] of my work in prison was teaching folk to earn their GED, because I have a degree and so I was able to teach them. And so that was a real rewarding situation for me."

"The other thing was that the Christian witness in prison was pretty strong. Just like the Muslim experience in there. And I will never forget the time at Marion – I was allowed to conduct only one revival while there, but the Lord told me to put on a revival. And I just couldn't believe the Lord said

it, but He said it, so I set out to do it. I called the Christian brothers together and said, 'We want to do a revival.'"

"Well, to my surprise, most of them didn't have an idea of what a revival was. They had no idea. 'So what's that?' they asked. So I had to tell them what a revival is and how it's run. Of course I could not preach in the chapel. No inmate can. So you preach out on the field, in the yard. And that is like 10 or 15 acres – it's just that big. And so you get out there and you get in a circle. And the preacher gets in the middle and you preach. Well, for this revival we had a prayer meeting for a whole week, and the 3-day revival, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. I'll never forget this as long as I live."

"That Friday night when I preached there were about 75 men in that circle; it was so large. They'd never had a gathering that large – not for church. Until one of the officers – and by the way, this is no put down of officers because I have a lot of respect for prison officers and guards. They take their life in their own hands everyday they come in that gate to guard for eight hours. Now, they're all not good and they're all not bad. But they still are laying their lives on

the line for a minimal amount of money."

"Anyway, this officer came and said, 'If you hold this meeting again we're going to lock you up.' And when they tell you to put your hands behind your back, you've got to do that. There is no negotiation. You've just got to turn around and put your hands behind your back and they put the handcuffs on you right then, and you go back to solitary. Well, I never, ever wanted to go back there ever again in my life. So I didn't know what to do because the guard had said what she would do, and it was a lady."

"So that Saturday about 150 showed up for the second night of the revival. And I was so afraid! Well, she didn't come to work that night. So we had the second night. But I was still worried because it had grown so. And Sunday was the last night."

"That [Sunday] night I know there had to have been 300 men out there, 300 folks in that circle. It was all out of control and she was on the job! She came with the handcuffs in her hand. I was in the center of the circle getting ready to preach."

"Just as she broke through the circle and came with the handcuffs

to arrest me, from another direction came a lieutenant. Now prison is run military style. You've got officers, sergeants, lieutenants, captains, colonels, and [what you might call] generals. And they all have to obey orders."

"So this lieutenant came from [one] direction, and the sergeant came from [another] direction to arrest me. And he came, and this was such a blessing! He came with a basketball in his hand. He was just holding it down by his side, like that. And he took the basketball and put it out there, right by my feet. Put it right there, at my feet. And then he said to the sergeant, 'Now, are you satisfied? Because this is a bunch of Blacks out here and now that we have a basketball in their hands it makes them legitimate! It makes them legitimate!'"

"And she looked at the basketball and looked at all of those men; that sea of men; 300 men. And she put the handcuffs back up. The basketball made it all worthwhile. And so we went on and had a great revival that night. That was a high point!

Part 3: Life After Prison.

### Church Happenings Page 7

#### 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, Ext. 28.

#### 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

April 9, 7:00 pm

Seven preachers will speak on "The Seven Last Sayings of Christ"

April 11, 8:00 am & 11:00 am

"Where is Your Passion Leading You?"

For more information, call 972-633-5511.

Rev. Sam Fencero, Pastor

740 Avenue F  
Plano, TX 75075  
972-633-5511

#### NEW LIGHT CHURCH

March 13, 2004 @ 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Health Fair- "Educating Souls to be Healthy Souls"

Free blood pressure and prostate screening

For more information, call Cheryl Edwards at 972-329-5483.

New Light Church

Rev. Shaun Rabb, Pastor  
909 E. Gross Road, Suite 320  
Mesquite, TX 75150  
972-329-5483

#### NEW MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH OF DALLAS

City Wide Revival, March 7, 2004 through March 19, 2004, Theme: "The Renewal of The Nations," Ephesians 4:22-24

March 7 - 12, 2004, 7:00 pm nightly @ Good Street MBC in Dallas, Texas

Rev. Cedric Britt, Pastor of Mt. Gilead MBC, Ft. Worth, Texas will be the Guest Evangelist

March 13 - 19, 2004, 7:00 pm nightly @ Good Street MBC in Dallas, Texas

Rev. Melvin V. Wade, Sr., Pastor of Mt. Moriah BC, Los Angeles will be the Guest Evangelist

March 13 - 19, 2004, Noon Day Service @ Greater Shiloh Baptist Church

Rev. A. Wayne Johnson from Portland, Oregon will be the Guest Evangelist

March 27, 2004 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm in The Family Life Center

College Entrance 101 Seminar for students in Grades 7 through 11 and their parents or guardians. The seminar encourages middle and high school students to get an early start on preparing to go to college

For more information, call Bro. James McQuirter @ 214-460-0537 or visit www.ce101.com

March 28, 2004 @ 3:00 pm

Church Anniversary - Dr. Denny Davis will be the Guest Minister

New Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Dallas

Dr. Robert E. Price, Senior Pastor  
9550 Shepard Road  
Dallas, TX 75243  
214-341-6459

#### NORTH DALLAS BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

Thursdays, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Support Group-Healing Past Wounds

Held in Youth Library, Room D204

For more information, contact Tera McFarland at 972-437-3493, Ext. 111

Saturdays, 10:00 am - 11:30 am

A refresher course in Spanish- Bldg 1010, Room D218

For more information, contact Anita Jarrell at 214-364-0330.

North Dallas Community Bible Fellowship

Rev. Leslie W. Smith, Pastor

302 Centennial Blvd.

Richardson TX 75081-5057

972-437-3493

#### TEMPLE OF DELIVERANCE COGIC

March 5th and 6th, 2004 @ 7:00 pm

March 7, 2004, 11:00 am and 7:00 pm

A Prison to Praise! Service; Rev. Steve Partain shares his powerful testimony of how God saved and delivered him. FREE dinner after each service.

Temple of Deliverance COGIC

Rev. Craig Kelly, Pastor  
4017 Forest Lawn Drive (at Elam & Masters)

Balch Springs, TX 75180

972-913-1965

#### THE POTTER'S HOUSE

March 8-10, 2004 @ 7 pm

Spring Revival

The Potter's House

Bishop T.D. Jakes, Pastor

6777 W. Kiest Blvd.

Dallas, TX 75236

214-331-0954

Join us at one of our fun, relaxed and inspiring services.

**Agape Christian Fellowship**  
Senior Pastor - Terry Hornbuckle  
2350 E. Mayfield Road, Arlington, Texas 76014  
(817) 557-5811 or www.agapecf.org

Children & Youth Activities Provided for All Ages  
State-of-the-art Gymnasium  
New POWERhouse for Kids Featuring Games, Games & Cakes  
Loving & Friendly Atmosphere

Services Days & Times:  
Sun. 9:00 & 11:30am Services  
Wed. 7:00pm Bible Study  
4th Fri. 7:30pm Women's Ministry  
4th Sat. 8:00am Men's Ministry

**All Nations United Methodist Church**

Dr. Clara M. Reed, Senior Pastor  
Dr. Don Affleck, Hispanic Ministries

"Christian by Faith, Diverse by Design"

Sunday	8:45am	Lectern Bible Study
Sunday	8:45am	Sunday School
Sunday	8:45am	Estudio Biblico En Español
Sunday	10:00am	Worship Service
Tuesday	7:00pm	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.

**Sims Chapel Baptist Church**

The Fellowship of Love  
(Sharing Love, Saving Souls and Changing Lives)

**Sunday Services**  
Early Morning Worship: 8:00 am  
Sunday School: 10:30 am  
Mid-Morning Worship: 11:30 am  
Bible Study  
Wednesday Night Live @ 7:30 pm

317 Parker Drive • Garland, TX 75040  
Phone: 972-276-0014 • Fax: 972-276-2444  
Website: www.SimsChapel.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

Rev. A.K. Haynes, Sr., Senior Pastor  
6710 Webster Avenue • Dallas, TX 75209  
214-352-3552 (Phone) • 214-352-6793 (Fax)  
abethany@sbcglobal.net (Email)

**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 am.  
- Nursery Facilities Available -

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

Friendly Fellowship with A Family Focus  
For More Information Call  
972-542-6178  
www.saintmarkbc.com  
stmarkmissionary@aol.com

**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
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  
Reverend 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.

**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

Dr. Jerome E. McNeil, Jr., Pastor  
14120 Noel Road  
Dallas, TX 75254

972-239-1120 (Office) • 972-239-5925 (Fax)  
templeoffaith\_cme@sbcglobal.net (Email)

Healthy Beginnings Child Development Center  
972-404-1412