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The Gazette

Volume XV, Number XIV

April 13 - April 19, 2006

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People In The News

Mr. Billy J. ("B.J.") Williams has announced his candidacy for the Garland City Council District 4 seat. Early voting for the Garland City election takes place on May 31st through June, 13th, election day is June 17th.

Mr. Williams is the current president of the award-winning NAACP Garland, Texas Branch and a native of Bossier City, Louisiana.

Mr. Williams is a graduate of Wiley College, Marshall, Texas (B.S.) and Amberton University (Masters Degree, Human Relations and Business). He is a career employee of the Social Security Administration, currently holding the position of Resources Manager. B. J. also has an extensive community profile. He served as past Chairperson and Member, Garland ISD Multi-Ethnic Committee, Commissioner, City of Garland Plan Commission (Vice Chairman), former member of the City of Garland Housing Standards Board, along with a host of other appointments and positions.

He and his wife Dorothy have one adult daughter, Chonda.

Your support and contributions are greatly appreciated at: Campaign to Elect B. J. Williams, P. O. Box 460958, Garland, Texas 75046, Tony Torres, Treasurer.

Actor, singer, talk show host, author and minister Della Reese will appear in Plano on April 28th as a speaker at the Annual Southwest Forum. This annual one-day event is a thought-provoking business conference in which world leaders and top intellectuals speak to today's issues and concerns.

Della Reese has done it all. In her half-century in the spotlight, she has enjoyed a successful singing career and has made television history — as the first woman to guest-host "The Tonight Show," and as the first African-American woman to host her own talk show.

Veteran of countless television shows and movies, Ms.Reese is now best known as Touched By An Angel's Tess, the gruff but good-hearted supervisor angel who steers both her trainees and their human "assignments" back on the right path.

A well-known, ordained minister with an active congregation in Los Angeles, Reese's real-life perspective on the series often parallels that of the character she portrays.

"The humans we touch have to churn their own butter," she states. "If people see the hope, see that life is not all about oppression, depression and suppression, and have their eyes opened, they can become their own miracle." Call 972.422.6813 for more info

Reverend Joseph . Lowery will deliver the Easter Sunday service at Camp Casey outside President Bush's Crawford ranch to a diverse group of attendees, including veterans, consumer, peace and civil rights advocates. Following the Easter morning worship, Dr. Lowery will officiate the third anniversary celebration of the Crawford Peace House .

Reverend Peter Johnson, one of the organizers of the march said, "There is something wrong with our nation's soul when rich cities such as Dallas, home to large multinational corporations like Exxon Mobil register record profits while people still live under bridges. Christ told us to feed the hungry, house the homeless and clothe the naked. That's why we must march to the Western White House during resurrection week and redeem the soul of America."

The Rev. Joseph Lowery elped found the Southern Christian Leadership Conference with Martin Luther King in 1957 and led the organization for 20 years, After serving his community for more than forty-five years, Lowery retired from the pulpit in 1997. He also retired in January of 1998 from the SCLC as president and CEO. Despite his retirement, Lowery still remains active.

For more information visit www.crawfordpeacehouse.org or call 254-486-0099.

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Thousands Rally In Dallas For Immigrant Rights

AP

Tens of thousands of people banged drums, waved U.S. flags and marched in a protest in Dallas Sunday urging federal lawmakers to pass immigration reform that would legalize an estimated 11 million undocumented workers.

Shouting "Si Se Puede!" _ Spanish for "Yes, we can!" _ the marchers crammed into the downtown streets. They included families pushing strollers with their children and ice cream vendors who placed American flags on their carts. Many wore white clothing to symbolize peace.

Police estimated the crowd in Dallas at 350,000 to 500,000. There were no reports of violence.

It was among several demonstrations that drew thousands of protesters Sunday in New Mexico, Minnesota, Michigan, Alabama, Utah, Oregon, Idaho and California.

"If we don't protest they'll never hear us," said Oscar Cruz, 23, a construction worker who marched among the estimated 50,000 in San Diego. Cruz, who came illegally to the U.S. in

Thousands Rally In Dallas Page 6

McKinney Tells Colleagues She's Sorry For Scuffle

By: Bob Kemper

With her support among black lawmakers and Democrats eroding and a grand jury weighing whether to charge her with a crime, Rep. Cynthia McKinney of Georgia went on the House floor Thursday and apologized for her role in a scuffle with a Capitol Police officer last week.

"There should not have been any physical contact in this incident," said McKinney, surrounded by a handful of lawmakers.

"I am sorry this misunderstanding happened at all and I regret its escalation and I apologize."

After a week of claiming she was the victim of racial profiling, McKinney abruptly shifted course and apologized. Members of the Congressional Black Caucus told McKinney in a private

McKinney Says Sorry Page 5

Hope's Door Of Plano Welcomes Anita Perry

Sister Tarpley, Religious Editor for MON-The Gazette; Anita Perry, First Lady of TX; and The Honorable Florence Shapiro, TX Senator, District 8.

Anita Perry, First Lady of Texas was the guest of honor at a Wine & Cheese Reception given by Hope's Door; an organization helping families affected by domestic abuse.

On Friday, April 6, there was standing room only at the home of the Honorable Senator Florence and Mr. Howard Shapiro of Plano as they hosted the reception to benefit Hope's Door, organ-

Hope's Door Page 5

Captain Ed Drain Among Plano Police Department Honorees

By: Paul Hailey

Supervisor of the Year Captain Ed Drain is congratulated by his wife Linda Wynn Drain, Melissa Knowles, Mayor Pat Evans and City Council member Sally Magnuson.

Plano recently honored outstanding police department employees and officers at the 31st annual Plano Police Department Award Banquet held at the Perot Systems Headquarters. Attendees included members of the Plano City Council, Mayor Pat Evans, members of the Plano Police Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association and other dignitaries. Six major awards were presented to 16 officers for exemplary performance and service during 2005.. Newly promoted Captain Ed Drain was named Supervisor of the Year.

Captain Drain was promoted to the rank of captain earlier this year and is responsible for the command of

Captain Ed Drain Page 6

Providing An Oasis In The Desert: New Church In Garland Assists The Formerly Incarcerated

(Left to Right) Pastor Chris Pipkin, Pastor Sie Davis-Church of The Called Out One, Simon Pipkin, Pastor Leonard Leach-Mt. Hebron Baptist Church and Michael Lee-Exec. Dir. Operation Oasis

By: Paul Hailey

The sin for which you repent is the father of virtue-African Proverb

Reverend Christopher Pipkin knows a thing or two about repentance and virtue. Now Pastor of the Oasis On the Mount Church in Garland, Pastor Pipkin's life has been a very real embodiment of redemption and salvation. Another chapter in that redemption was realized with the official opening of the Oasis On the Mount church on last Saturday.

Oasis On the Mount is a transition church for the

Providing An Oasis Page 10

Senator Royce West Named President Pro Tem Of Texas Senate

State Senator Royce West (D-Dallas) has been chosen by his fellow state senators to serve as President Pro Tempore of the Texas Senate. As President Pro Tempore, Senator West is second in the line of succession to be Governor of Texas. In instances when Texas Gov. Rick Perry and Texas Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst are out of the state, Senator West assumes the state's top governmental office. The ceremony installing Senator West as president pro tem will take place Monday, April 17, 2006, the first day of the Special Session called by Gov. Perry on public school finance.

"I am both ecstatic and honored to be selected president pro tem by my senate colleagues," said Senator West. "This recognition marks a new phase of leadership in my political career. As always, I hope to leverage the tools given me to better benefit the citizens of Texas."

Senator West was notified of his selection in late March. The selection is based on seniority, a nomination and vote by Senate members. Senator West has served in the Texas Senate for nearly 13 years since first being elected to represent the citizens of Dallas County in 1993. He has been re-elected four times. Later this year, Senator West will be honored during a "Governor for a Day Ceremony" at the Texas

Senator Royce West Page 8

Powell: U.S. Mistakes Hurting Iraq Now

U.S. mistakes in the invasion of Iraq led to the current insurgency and sectarian fighting, former U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell says.

"We made some serious mistakes in the immediate aftermath of the fall of Baghdad," Powell told the National School Board Association's annual conference in Chicago. "We didn't have enough troops on the ground. We didn't impose our will. And as a result, an insurgency got started, and ... it got out of control."

The retired general said as a

U.S. Mistakes Hurting Page 5

Pantene Total You Tour Comes To Dallas

Photos By: Ronald Coleman

The Pantene Total You Tour was in Dallas, Texas at Dallas Fair Park in the Automobile Building on Saturday, April 9th.The Pantene Total You Tour is a nine city nationwide tour dedicated to helping African-American women realize their holistic beauty, through positive transformation of the mind, body and spirit, in an uplifting and entertaining environment.

America's Next Top Model winner Eva Pigford

Girlfriends cast member and Dallas native Jil Marie Jones

Essence Magazine Editorial Diractor Susan L. Taylor

The day-long event included the Pantene Total You Tour forum where celebrity panelists including Donna Richardson Joyner, Myra J., and, Susan L. Taylor and other renowned African-American women give personal anecdotes and advice related to women's health - mind, body and spirit.

Attendees were pampered during the wellness expo which features hair color consultations, makeovers, manicures, product demonstrations and sample giveaways.

Some women received hair color consultations

Attendees were treated to makeovers during the Wellness Expo

Ladies received manicures as part of the event

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***MON* The Gazette, The Dallas Mavericks and Crustaceans Restaurant are bringing you a night out you won't forget!**

Enter to win a pair of tickets to see the Dallas Mavericks on Wednesday, April 19th at American Airlines Center when they take on The Los Angeles Clippers!

You'll get two tickets to the big game and a discount dinner certificate from Crustaceans Restaurant featuring the finest in Authentic New Orleans Cajun & Creole Cuisine located at 2711 Elm Street in Deep Ellum.

To enter send us an email at mavstickets@monthegazette.com or mail us a postcard to MON Gazette, 6100 Ave. K, Suite 105, Plano, TX 75074. To purchase great seats to upcoming Mavericks games log onto www.dallasmavericks.com

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Mesquite Community Theatre presents "Housekeeper". This play has biting humor and wit. Directed by Rick Tuma. For reservations or information 972-216-8126.

March 31-April 15

A Slave Ship Speaks: The Wreck of the Henrietta Marie, temporary exhibit at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum. Call 512-936-8746 for information. Through April 15

Teen Reaching Teens, Inc. and Teen Graffiti Magazine presents free computer training. Courses offered Wednesday and Friday, 4:30-5:30 p.m. and Saturday 12:30-3:30 p.m. Call 972-496-9457. Through April 30.

Drums Not Guns will hold drumming sessions from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. the second and fourth Saturdays of the month thru mid-May at Old Settlers Park Recreation Center, 1201 E. Louisiana St. Call 214-641-0782 for information.

Alpha Beta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi a social service cultural sorority meets the second Monday of each month in members home in Frisco, McKinney, and the Plano area. Call 972-473-9089.

Assistance League of Greater Collin County meets the third Wednesday of each month. Visit www.assistance-league-gcc.org.

Allen Symphony Chorus is recruiting singers for its April 29 performance. Rehearsals are from 7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m., Thursdays, Choir Room Ereckson Middle School, 450 Tatum Dr. For information cal 972-359-0656.

A free legal clinic is offered for residents who meet low income guidelines, 6:00 p.m., second Thursday of each month, First United Methodist Church, 601 S. Greenville Ave. Applicants must be Collin County residents and income eligible. Call 1-800-906-3045.

The Frisco Housing Authority is offering tenant-based rental assistance to 22 eligible families and individuals for rental housing in Frisco. Call 972-377-3031 for information.

The Women's Museum shows "Apron Chronicles: A Patchwork of American Recollections. Features storytelling, photography and vintage fashion. Call 214-915-0871 for information. Exhibit runs thru May 14

Diaries of a Barfoot Diva: And Other Tales and Stories from the Ghetto a New Musical Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main Street in Fort Worth, 8 pm $12 - $25, 817-338-4411 Through April 23.

Forum 2006, 23rd Annual Conference, "Building Coalitions and Connecting Cultures, Fort Worth Convention Center. Presented by the National Forum for Black Public Administrators, North Texas Chapter, www.northtexas nfbpa.org. April 8-12

Paul Quinn College celebrates 134 years of scholastic excellence. April 1-8, visit www.pqc.edu for more info.

April 14

The Dallas Association of Real Estate Brokers will celebrate their 50th anniversary with a banquet at the Renaissance Dallas Hotel, 2222 Stemmons Freeway in Dallas. The Cocktail Hour will start at 6:30 p.m. and the banquet will begin at 7:00 p.m. The theme of this event is "Taking Care of Home Through Partnership. For ticket information call Dennis Brooks at (972) 223-6900.

April 15

Eggs Over Easy Easter EGG HUNT. Hop over to the swimming pool for a one of a kind hunt with the Easter Bunny and PAR D. Duck as they lay eggs in the waster for your child to collect. Participants should be comfortable in the water. This annual event is presented by the Plano Parks and Recreation Department. Call 972-941-7250 for more details, or visit www.planoparks

The Christian Chamber of Commerce Association is hosting a workshop: "Communitywide Funding Strategies Workshops for Non-profits and Businesses", Hollman Las Colinas Business Center, Irving from 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. Call 972-556-0522 for more info.

Jackie Townsell African Dance & Drumming 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd. in Irving

Irving Black Arts Council 10am-12pm 214-993-8444.

April 19

Girls Inc. 18th Annual She Knows Where She Is Going Awards Girls Inc. to honor performer Erica Badu and philanthropist Aleta Stampley. The luncheon will take place at the Wyndam Anatole Hotel, 12 Noon. 214-654-4530, www.girlsincdallas.org

April 20

Comedian Tommy Davidson, April 20-23. Addison Improv, 4980 Beltline Rd., Addison. Call 972-404-8501

April 21

Urban Arts Festival, April 21-23 The festival is the first of its kind for the Dallas and will showcase contemporary visual and performing arts. Dallas native Erykah Badu is serving as the festival's honorary chair. Visit www.urbanartsfest.com or call (214) 485-7012.

BET's Comicview/Def Comedy Jam comedian, Hope Flood, is hosting LOVE WITHOUT A LIMIT from 10:00 PM to 2:00 AM at Club Aqua, 4140 Lemmon Avenue, Dallas. LOVE WITHOUT A LIMIT is a "meet and greet" to support and encourage women and men who have a loved-one on lockdown, by bringing them together to share their similar circumstances with each other.

The Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce invites you to attend the Ninth Annual Excellence in Education Scholarship Luncheon Recognizing Outstanding Performance in Education. Registration: 11:00am / Program & Luncheon: 12:00 noon,Dallas Convention Center, 650 South Griffin Street, Dallas. Call (214) 421-5200 or visit www.dbcc.org

April 22

Plano Police Department's Super Safety Saturday. Plano Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit will be joined Fire and Public Safety Communications (911) personnel. In addition to the safety information displays, PPD will perform VIN etching & HEAT registration on vehicles, pass out gun locks, and offer child fingerprinting and identifications. Target Retail Store, at Park and the Tollway, 11 a.m- 3 p.m. Call 972-941-2431.

April 23

Mesquite NAACP ACT-SO presents "Sounds of Flavor" benefit concert . The concert will be held at the Granville Arts Center, 300 N. Fifth St., Garland, 6:30 p.m. The concert will feature local artist Angela Blair and proceeds will go toward sending ACT-SO Competition winners to the National Competition in Washington, DC this summer. ACT-SO is a year-long enrichment program designed to recruit, stimulate, improve and encourage high academic and cultural achievement among African-American high school students. Call 972-288-0281 or visit www.mesquitenaacp.org.

April 25

Volunteer of the Year Awards Luncheon. A celebration of all the outstanding volunteers from throughout Collin County. Plano Centre, 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway, 11:30-1 p.m. For more information contact the Volunteer Center of North Texas at 214-826-6767 or visit www.volunteernorth texas.org.

April 27

Estate Planning Seminar Free 90-minute program will be presented by Dallas Estate Planning Attorney, Richard P. Johnson who is Board Certified in Estate Planning and Probate Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.Admissions is FREE

For reservations call: Karen at (972) 497-1010 or email Karen@RichardJohnson Law.com

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Paul Hailey

Why Are Gas Prices So High?

Like just about everyone I know, I've been doing double takes when looking at the gas pump when filling my car lately. This week, the Energy Department warned that gas prices will be 11% higher this summer than last summer. According to a report issued by the American Automobile Association of Texas this week, drivers in Dallas are paying $2.80 per gallon for regular self serve. This is up from $2.32 in March and $2.18 a year ago. That's 48 cents more per gallon-in a month.

Given that 48 cents per gallon is just about the price I paid for my first gallon of gas in 1978 or so, I found myself struck by two questions. Why are gas prices so high right now and where does $3.00 per gallon gasoline rank historically?

Gas prices normally peak during this time of year due to reformulation. Basically, automakers have to add chemicals to gasoline in order to meet summer clean air regulations. That results in minor increases in production costs and higher prices for us.

Then there are the lingering effects of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The country's third largest refinery is in Texas City, Texas and it just began production again in early April. The hurricanes also damaged over 100 oil platforms that's created about a 700,000 barrels a day gap in production.

But the biggest reason for the price increase is the price of crude oil. Speculation by commodity traders, increased demand by developing nations like China, and unrest in the Middle East have all driven the price of a barrel of crude oil from $53.00 per barrel last year to almost $69.00 per barrel this week. The price of crude is also heavily influenced by production. The world produces about 86 million barrels of oil a day, (the United States uses about 10% of that total), but it consumes about 85 millions barrels per day. Not a wide margin for error.

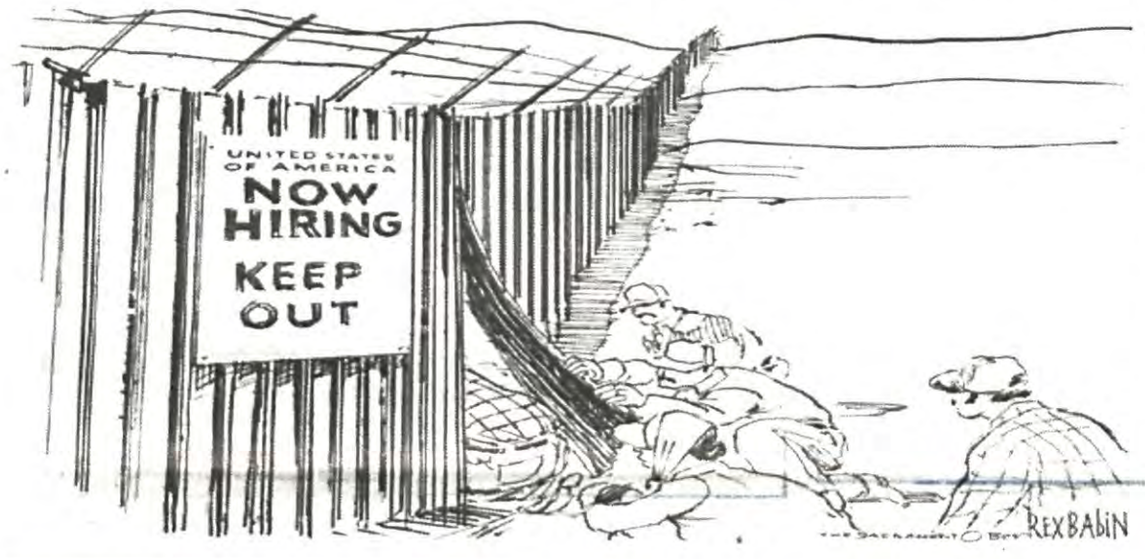
All of which makes me wonder why our country has no comprehensive energy policy. Or why the Bush Administration can't come up with an energy solution beyond "open drilling exploration in Alaska". We were talking about alternative forms of energy after the energy crisis of the 70's but nothing has happened. The automakers keep turning out gas guzzling SUV's, (which are doing a number on the ozone as well), the public keeps buying them and paying at the pump. And we wonder why the rest of the world hates us.

Despite my own 'good old days" syndrome, gas prices are not at their historical high. When adjusted for inflation and increases in real income, gas prices peaked in 1981 at over $3.00 per gallon. As a percentage of minutes worked on the job to pay for a gallon of gas, Americans are paying about the same today as in the 1970's. If that is too hard to grasp conceptually, we are still paying a lot less than the $5-$7 per gallon Europeans are paying. For now.

We need to change our behavior-quick. Exxon Mobil reported a record profit of 36 billion in January, they'd be fools to change anything they're doing. We won't change what the automakers produce until we change what we buy. They don't have any desire to produce more fuel efficient and hybrid vehicles, they claim the costs are too high. But they didn't want to install seat belts either.

We live in the richest country in the world and most of us are blessed to keep paying whatever we must to fill our vehicles. But if we don't start changing our ways, the good old days of cheap gas in the US, inflation adjusted or not-will be history.

Paul Hailey can be reached at editor@MonTheGazette.com



Can You Say, 'Bienvenidos'?

By: Eugene Robinson

White Americans, and black Americans too, are going to have to get used to sharing this country -- sharing it fully -- with brown Americans. Things are going to be different. Deal with it.

The most important legacy of the histrionic debate over immigration reform will not be any piece of legislation, whether enlightened or medieval. It will be the big demonstrations held in cities throughout the country over the past few weeks -- mass protests staged by and for a minority whose political ambition is finally catching up with its burgeoning size. In the metaphorical sense, Latinos have arrived.

In the physical sense, of course, Latinos have been arriving for many years, and in huge numbers. In some cities they have sought and achieved political power -- if there were such a thing as "the capital of Latin America," arguably it would be Miami. As a presence in national politics, however, Latinos have been much less influential than their weight in the population would suggest.

That just began to change.

Half a million people marched in Los Angeles, another half-million in Dallas, and hundreds of thousands elsewhere yesterday. The fact that so many undocumented immigrants came out of the shadows, giving up their anonymity to denounce legislation threatening their interests, wasn't the most remarkable thing. More significant was that so many fully enfranchised Latino citizens joined them.

What happens next won't look like the civil rights struggle that African Americans waged -- the nation's two biggest minorities have different histories and face different issues, and anyway it's a different era. I doubt that any single Latino leader will emerge, or even any single leadership group. And the advance won't be linear or continuous, because much of the Latino population lacks full citizenship and thus can't vote.

When I was in Phoenix last week, I talked to advocates of a round-'em-up, kick-'em-out policy on illegal immigration who predicted the protests would spark an Anglo backlash. Maybe it will, but everyone should remember that demography is destiny: Given the youthfulness of the Latino population, xenophobes could construct an Adobe Curtain along the length of the Mexican border next week (they'd probably use Mexican labor) and the political strength of Latinos in the United States would still continue to grow.

There are economists, I realize, who argue that illegal immigration -- mostly from Mexico -- has depressed wages for unskilled labor, to the detriment of low-income, native-born African Americans and whites.

Other economists disagree, and in any case the effect is somewhere between negligible and small. There's no reason employers can't be required to pay a living wage to every janitor, whether his name is John or Juan.

But I don't think the immigration debate is about economics anyway. It's about culture and it's about fear.

Among other things, it's about this voice-mail message: " Para continuar en espa_ol, oprima el numero 2 . To continue in Spanish, press 2."

Many Anglos in Phoenix and elsewhere were surprised by the size of the protests two weeks ago, but the demonstrations were coordinated and publicized in the open, on Spanish-language radio. Latino immigrants in this recent wave, whether they intend to stay permanently or just work for a while and go home, are learning English but also keeping their Spanish -- and the fact is the United States now has a de facto second language. That seems to frighten a lot of people.

Some academics, such as the Harvard University political scientist Samuel P. Huntington, have warned that unchecked Latino immigration is bringing with it alien cultural values -- that somehow the Anglo-Saxon-ness of the country is threatened. But that ignores the fact that America has been shaped by successive waves of immigration going all the way back to the Pilgrims, and to the first African slaves. The country has proved that inclusiveness, adaptability and change are the keys to unparalleled success. Why on earth pull up the drawbridge now?

Maybe the real fear is more visceral than that. Maybe it's that you don't have to extrapolate immigration and fertility rates very far into the future to see an America in which minorities -- Hispanic, African and Asian Americans -- are a majority. To put it another way: an America in which whites join the rest of us as just another minority. That's already the case in our two most populous states, California and Texas, according to the Census Bureau, with others including New York, Arizona and Florida likely to follow soon.

Don't freak out, folks. It's not the end of the world. You might ask your black neighbors for advice on how to cope.

Legislating While Black

By: Ruth Marcus

In the matter of Cynthia McKinney v. U.S. Capitol Police -- or, as it's shaping up , U.S. Capitol Police v. Cynthia McKinney -- I have no brief for the not-so-gentlelady from Georgia. But you don't have to like McKinney or condone her behavior to think that this episode goes deeper than "much ado about a hairdo," as McKinney seeks to dismiss it in her latest spin, referring to her new, unbraided look.

The McKinney Incident implicates unpleasant, and for that reason generally unspoken, issues of race and gender; it is not so much about deliberate bias as far more subtle and unconscious forces. All this doesn't excuse McKinney, but it does suggest there is something more complex involved here than is evident from the, well, black-and-white terms in which it's been portrayed by both sides.

Even before the latest altercation, McKinney was known -- accurately -- as a hotheaded conspiracy theorist inclined to play the race card at the drop of a congressional ID pin. The details of McKinney's run-in with an officer who stopped her as she walked around a security checkpoint aren't yet known, but it's already obvious that McKinney needs to read "All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten: Congressional Edition," with a focus on: Let's use our words. Or, we don't hit. Especially not with our cellphones. Especially not police officers.

McKinney's response, flinging accusations of "racial profiling" and "inappropriate touching," with its smarmy sexual overtones, was as outrageous as it was predictable. She was, her lawyer said, yet another "victim of the excessive use of force by law enforcement officials because of how she looks and the color of her skin." Please, this is not Rodney King Goes to Washington.

And yet, race and, to a lesser extent, gender are unavoidably entwined with the incident. Few of us consider ourselves racist or sexist, but few, if any, of us are immune from seeing things through the prism of race and sex. If McKinney looked like Congressman Bob Forehead -- tall white man with dark suit and helmet hair -- would the officer have been more likely to wave her through -- and less likely to forcibly stop her? Would he have been more likely to recognize her in the first place? To suggest that his reaction might well have been different is not to accuse him of bad motives but to recognize the deeply embedded role that race and gender play in perception and judgment.

Just-retired Capitol Police chief Terrance Gainer dismissed any such possibility, saying that "sometimes in the crush of business it doesn't immediately register in the mind-computer that this person is who this is." But Gainer's point reinforces the prospect that McKinney was treated differently: the "mind-computer" isn't pre-programmed to see "black woman" and think "lawmaker." It isn't well-equipped to take "black woman with neat, nice-girl braids" and translate that to "black woman with Jimi Hendrix hair."

In an otherwise critical column about her local congresswoman, Atlanta Journal-Constitution Editorial Page Editor Cynthia Tucker noted that "more times than I can count, I've been mistaken for McKinney, criticized for things she said or given advice about my braids" -- a hairdo Tucker hasn't had since sixth grade. I witnessed a similar episode at The Post when a local politician -- a liberal Democrat, as it happened -- called one African American female reporter by the name of another African American reporter. These were two women who, other than sharing a skin tone, looked nothing alike.

This could get tiresome -- which helps explain, if not excuse, McKinney's angry response to the incident. She responds to the merest hint of differential treatment by perceiving insults at every turn, and reacting, loudly. She is, as a 2002 Slate piece put it, "The Girl Who Cried Racism," which suggests, correctly, both overuse of the term and occasions when the wolf really is present.

By contrast, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice is the anti-McKinney, with her relentless composure and what Post writer Robin Givhan describes as her "smooth, controlled cap of hair." Rice prefers to ignore the slights that incite McKinney; she'd rather deal with racism by proving it wrong -- "twice as good," was the unofficial motto of her Birmingham childhood -- than by confronting it head-on.

Most of the time. As she described one contrary incident in a 2002 interview with Essence magazine, "I was looking at the jewelry, and I asked to see the gold earrings. But the salesclerk kept showing me the costume jewelry. So I said, 'No, I really want to see the nicer jewelry.' " When the clerk muttered something rude, Rice said, "I said, 'Let's get one thing clear. If you could afford anything in here, you wouldn't be behind this counter. So I strongly suggest you do your job.' It's something that has probably happened to every black person at some point in time." Lesson: The credit card is mightier than the cellphone, but, as Rice has said, "The fact of the matter is, race matters in America."

Gender, too. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld dismisses Rice's acknowledgement of tactical mistakes in Iraq as reflecting "a lack of understanding . . . of what warfare is about." Throw-weights, anyone? I doubt he'd be so condescending about a male secretary of state.

McKinney is a flawed messenger of uncomfortable truths. It's worth taking a break from denouncing her behavior to talk about them openly for a change

Where Do You Want To Go Today?

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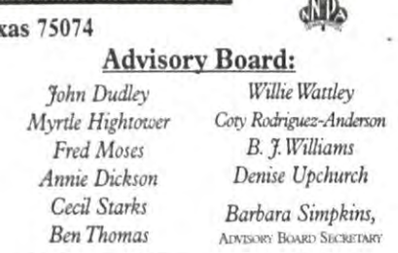
Is the sky clearest on the day it is most blue?

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

Texas Black Press Association Celebrates 20 Years Of Service

By: Akwasi Evans

Back in 1986, several of Texas' leading African American newspaper publishers decided to create a statewide organization to represent the Black Press of the

Slef-made millionaire Farrah Gray

Lone Star State. They named the organization the Texas Publishers Association (TPA). Tommy Wyatt of The Villager newspaper in Austin was elected as TPA's first president. Two decades later, the organization returned to Austin to celebrate its 20th anniversary, with Wyatt serving as convention coordinator.

Conventioneers faced their first controversy shortly before convening for lunch, when several wheelchair activists from ADAPT attempted to protest the presence of Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Alphonso Jackson.

At the luncheon Jackson told the publishers that under his watch the Black Press of America has received over $10 million in advertising revenue from HUD. He then announced that he had just recently allocated an additional $15 million. The secretary said he was proud to be a Republican, but also realizes every morning when he wakes up that he is still a Black person. He said his task is to be the secretary for all of the people throughout the country.

"I am glad to work for this president," Jackson proudly proclaimed. He said President [George W.] Bush believes he should have the best people around him to do the job and that the president has had more competent African Americans in his cabinet than any of his predecessors. He cited the presence of former Secretary of State Colin Powell, current Secretary of State and former national security advisor Condoleezza Rice, Secretary of Education Rod Paige and himself as examples of the president's inclusive agenda. "You don't have to endorse the president, just be fair," Jackson requested.

Texas Secretary of State, Roger Williams, followed Secretary Jackson. Secretary Williams said that small business is big business in Texas. He said that 1.7 million small businesses generate over 125 billion dollars in revenue. Williams said that in the past 10 years African American entrepreneurship is up by 26 percent in Texas and that four out of every 10 Texas entrepreneurs are women. "We need to insure that small business drives the process," Williams asserted. He said we also need to insure that more citizens take part in the political process.

Everyone in attendance was treated to a powerful voice when TPA staged their "Youth Leadership Luncheon". Several dozen teenagers and young adults piled into the lower lobby ballroom to hear the luncheon speaker, Farrah Gray. What they heard will stay with some of them for a lifetime, just as their meeting and taking pictures with this rising star.

Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn

Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Alphonso Jackson

The self-made millionaire told his peers that he was more industrious than exceptional. Gray, who made his first million at the age of 15, talked about growing up in poverty and being told by his grandmother that he could achieve anything he sat his mind to. As a young child Gray began painting rocks and selling them door to door as paperweights and doorstops. He next ventured into selling body lotion by rebottling the leftover residue of unused bottles of lotion he gathered from the bathroom. Gray said that any Black child could find similar success by finding their calling. "Everybody can't be a singer, actor or entertainer, but everybody has something special that God sent them hear to do and their objective is to find out what that calling is," he told them.

The TPA annual board meeting officially began, following lunch, when board elections where held. President Willie Hobdy, secretary Mollie Belt, treasurer Maxine Sessions and Parliamentarian Hattie Kelly where all re-elected by acclamation, while Dairy Johnson replaced outgoing Vice President Akwasi Evans.

"American Airlines understands the great role media outlets play in the communities they serve. American values the relationship it has established with the Texas Publisher's Association, states, Roger Frizzell, VP, Corporate Communications and Advertising.

TPA President Will Hobdy, HUD Secretary Alphonso Jackson, Dallas Examiner Publisher Mollie Belt

Church Directory

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Wednesday Night Prayer & Bible Study 7PM
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Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
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Rev. Clarence J. Ford, Jr., Pastor

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Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 A.M.
Wednesday Night-Community Bible Class: 7:30 P.M.

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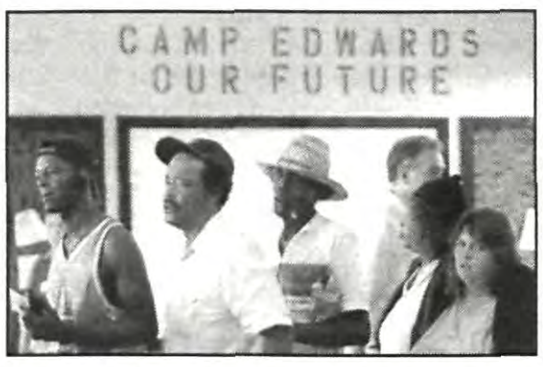
Jobless Rate Jumps For Katrina Evacuees

More than a third of Hurricane Katrina evacuees still out of their homes were unemployed in March, a sharp jump from February, the federal Labor Department reported Friday.

In addition, the civilian labor force figure that includes evacuees still out of state and those who have returned home was down, an indication that many stopped looking actively for work or saw their jobless benefits end.

The report on Katrina evacuees came the same day that the federal government reported a national payroll boost of 211,000 jobs in March that pushed the national unemployment rate down to 4.7 percent.

The jobless rate for storm victims who had not returned home hit 34.7 percent last month, compared with 22.6 percent in February, the Labor Department said. The unemployment rate for those who had returned home also rose a bit _ from 4.8 percent in February to 5.3 percent in March.



The report for both months was based upon about 1 million evacuees and former evacuees at least 16 years old. In total, about 55 percent of the group was unemployed in March, compared with 49 percent in February.

Over March, the number of evacuees and former evacuees in the civilian labor force also dropped to 54 percent from 58 percent in February.

Based on a survey of 1.2 million people in January, the jobless rate was 2.9 percent for returned evacuees and 26.3 percent for those who had not returned.

The Labor Department said the report did not cover the entire evacuee population because it did not include people living in shelters, hotels and churches.

D-FW Pump Prices Up 48 Cents Over Last Month

Dallas motorists are paying 48 cents more a gallon for gas now than they were a month ago, according to monthly report from AAA Texas.

Dallas drivers are paying the most on average for gas this month at $2.80 per gallon of regular self serve. This is up from $2.32 in March and $2.18 a year ago.

Fort Worth drivers are paying an average of $2.79 a gallon -- also up 48 cents from $2.31 a gallon. Pump prices in Fort Worth have risen 62 cents from last April's average of $2.17 a gallon.

Statewide, drivers are paying $2.66 a gallon for gasoline, up 38 cents from March.

The cheapest monthly average in Texas is in Longview at $2.60 a gallon.

The AAA Texas Fuel Gauge Report is based on data from the Oil Price Information Service.

Although gas prices always rise in the spring, the escalating cost of crude oil is adding to that pressure, said AAA spokeswoman Rose Rougeau.

John Sharp To Keynote Richardson Chamber April Luncheon

The Richardson Chamber of Commerce's monthly Signature Luncheon on April 13 will feature remarks by John Sharp, former Texas comptroller, on "Reform of Public School Finance." Sharp was appointed in September 2005 to chair the Texas Tax Reform Commission by Gov. Rick Perry, and he is currently a principal at Ryan & Company, a Dallas-based tax consulting firm.

The Texas Tax Reform Commission is a bipartisan group of 24 Texans who will develop proposals to modernize the state tax system and provide long-term property tax relief as well as sound financing for public schools.

The luncheon will be held at The Richardson Hotel, 701 E. Campbell Road in Richardson, from 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. Check-in and networking begin at 11:15 a.m.

Still Haven't Filed Your Taxes? Don't Panic

Maybe you're among the 35 million taxpayers who put off doing their 2005 tax returns until this weekend. Maybe you procrastinated because you owe and aren't getting this year's average $2,314 refund.

Whatever your situation, file by next week's deadline or request an automatic six-month extension under this year's Internal Revenue Service deadlines, says IRS Commissioner Mark Everson.

Keep in mind that:

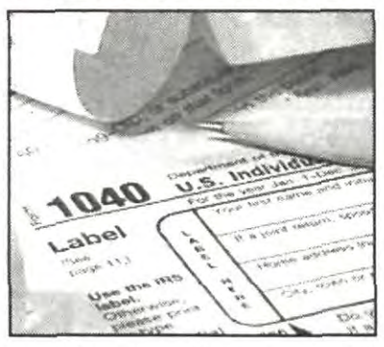
The IRS gives most taxpayers until Monday, April 17, to file their 2005 taxes because April 15 falls on a Saturday this year. Taxpayers in Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Vermont and the District of Columbia get until April 18. That's because the IRS center that processes claims from those jurisdictions is in Andover, Mass., and will be closed April 17 for Patriots Day, a state holiday.

Taxpayers who cannot file by next week's deadlines can ask for an automatic extension, which is now six months instead of the old four-month grace period. You now get until mid-October without having to get IRS permission for extra time.

"For people who haven't prepared their taxes yet, don't panic," Everson advises. "If you don't have all your documentation together or haven't gone to your preparer or started preparing yourself, ask for an extension." And don't make a panicked visit to a tax preparer you don't know who promises to get you out of paying tax, he says.

But note: The extension is only good for time to file your return. Payment is due in full on the April deadline if you owe, along with Form 4868, the "Application for Automatic Extension of Time to File."

The IRS makes it easy to file a Form 4868: Download it at



www.irs.gov to file by paper and regular mail. You can also file electronically by computer tax-preparation software or through a tax professional. However, the toll-free telephone hotline that was for IRS Telefile extension requests -- 1-888-796-1074 -- is no longer available.

Be sure to keep a copy of your application and confirmation information.

However you file, you must estimate what you owe and pay the amount due by the April filing deadline. If you don't, you'll owe interest and penalties atop taxes due.

Hope's Door Page 1

ized by Ms. Lissa Smith.

Since 1986, Hope's Door has assisted battered women in finding a safe and confidential shelter in emergencies, provided individual and group counseling, battering intervention and prevention programs and educational programs related to domestic abuse. Hope's Door also provides 24 hour hotline services that includes crisis counseling, resource referrals and shelter admission.

Hope's Door's mission is to offer intervention and prevention services to individuals and families impacted by domestic abuse, and to provide educational programs that enhance the community's capacity to respond

Ms. Perry, a strong advocate of Hope's Door and other organizations that aide abused families said she was happy to be in Plano and to lend her support for this great cause. She also thanked Hope's Door for inviting her, the Shapiro's for hosting the affair at their home, and all of those that came out to visit with her and other leaders in the area.

This event was heavily supported by Republican Women Clubs and the business community from Plano, Richardson, Allen, McKinney, Farmers Branch, and other surrounding cities.

The hotline number for Hope's Door is 972-422-SAFE (972-422-7233).

U.S. Mistakes Hurting Page 1

result, the United States is morally obliged to "stick with the people of Iraq" for as long as it takes to restore order, the Chicago Sun-Times reported.

Powell said Saturday he believes the United States made visa requirements too strict for foreign students after the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks when it was discovered one of the hijackers entered the country on a student visa.

He said the country lost many of the world's brightest international students to universities in Canada, Europe and Asia after the students decided it would be too difficult to get a U.S. visa.

McKinney Says Sorry Page 1

meeting Wednesday night that she had to defuse the escalating incident, according to a person familiar with the meeting. Democratic leaders complained she was overshadowing other important matters in Congress, including the resignation of former House Majority Leader Tom DeLay (R-Texas).

Yet, even as the six-term congresswoman was walking into the Capitol to apologize, an aide acting as her bodyguard stirred new furor when he threatened a reporter who was trying to interview McKinney, saying at one point, "I'm a police officer."

The man said on a videotape of the incident that he was not a Capitol Hill police officer. Off camera, he said he worked for McKinney.

The House sergeant-at-arms was investigating whether the man was a police officer amid reports that he was actually a former cop. Claiming to be a police officer is a felony.

The union representing Capitol Hill police immediately expressed concerns about whether McKinney's aide was carrying a weapon.

"Anybody who has a weapon as a police officer must check that weapon with Capitol police," said Andy Maybo, head of the Fraternal Order of Police on Capitol Hill.

McKinney's office did not return repeated phone calls and e-mails seeking comment.

McKinney appeared on the House floor surrounded by a handful of supporters to offer her apology.

To demonstrate her "gratitude and appreciation" for Capitol police, McKinney said she would vote for a House resolution praising the police that was originally introduced by Republicans who wanted to use it to symbolically chastise her.

Republicans declared themselves unsatisfied with her statement, saying it wasn't even clear what she was apologizing for.

"Is she making a personal apology to the police officer she punched or to the Democrats for mixing up their national security message?" Ron Bonjean, spokesman for House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.), said in a statement.

McKinney took the House floor around midday just as a federal grand jury was preparing to hear testimony from subpoenaed congressional aides who witnessed her confrontation with the Capitol Hill police officer.

Lisa Subrize, executive assistant to Rep. Thaddeus McCotter (R-Mich.), and Troy Phillips, senior legislative assistant to Rep. Sam Farr (D-Calif.), formally notified Hastert late Wednesday that they were testifying before the grand jury.

An officer, who didn't recognize McKinney, tried to stop her from going around a security checkpoint in a House office building as members of Congress and their staffs are allowed to do.

The officer called to the DeKalb County Democrat to stop and, when she didn't, put his hand on her, prompting McKinney to spin around and strike the officer.

The federal prosecutor in Washington turned the case over to the grand jury to determine whether charges should be filed against McKinney.

The charge can range from assault on a police officer, a felony, to simple assault, a misdemeanor. The grand jury and prosecutor also could just drop charges.

McKinney has been keeping a high profile since the incident occurred, asserting in press conferences and television interviews that she was the victim of racial profiling. The officer who stopped McKinney, an African-American, was white.

McKinney made no reference to those charges in her statement on the floor of the House.

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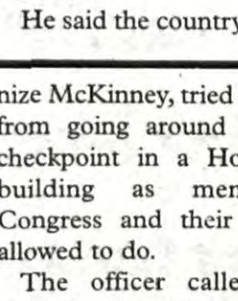
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Maya Angelou Presents Scholarships To 10 Students

Poet and novelist Maya Angelou, who grew up in the small town of Stamps, told 10 young scholarship winners they were "the hope for their families...the world" as she presented their awards to them.

Wearing a Clinton Presidential Center neck scarf emblazoned with the word "Hope," Angelou told the students at a ceremony at the center "you can achieve more than you can imagine because you have rainbows in your clouds."

The college students each won $4,000 in an essay contest, sponsored by Little Rock-based Alltel Corp. The contest asked students at historically black colleges and universities to answer the question: "What words of wisdom will you pass on to those who come after you?"

Angelou said she read each of the winning essays five times.

"I know you very well, and I know you need a good English teacher," she told the winners, drawing laughs from the audience.

In seriousness, she told them they were "the hope for their families, neighborhoods, cities and towns, their states, country and the world."

Student Antoine Marshall, who attends Claflin University in Orangeburg, S.C., wrote in his essay that people must always remember where they come from.

"That severed line to the past is a problem that plagues the youth of many African-American communities," Marshall wrote. "The knowledge that someone gave

their life so that I could have things they never had keeps me from taking for granted those experiences, be it a drink from a water fountain or a chance to go to college."

The contest drew 460 entries from students throughout the country, and was judged by educators, Alltel officials and other business representatives.

Ashley Jackson, a student at Tougaloo College in Jackson, Miss., wrote about the death of her mother, who was killed by Jackson's father.

"My purpose in life is to live and be an example for others that no matter how bad things in life may seem, there will always be a brighter side to every situation."

Other winners and their schools were: Karah Bailey, Florida A&M University in Tallahassee; Deirdra Beatty, Fayetteville State University in North Carolina; Britani Childs, Hampton University in Virginia; Shondolyn Galloway, North Carolina Central University in Durham, N.C.; Dionne Gilchrist, Norfolk State University in Virginia; Lawrence Henry, Xavier University in New Orleans; Tiffany Henry, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff; and Candace Moore, Virginia Union University in Richmond.

The students also received an autographed copy of the poet's book, "Amazing Peace." At Clinton's 1993 nationally televised inaugural ceremony, Angelou recited a poem she wrote for the occasion. Clinton also is from Arkansas.

In addition, Alltel sponsored a contest for its employees. Workers participated in a 160-character text-message essay competition. Among the five winners was Angela Watson of Little Rock, who wrote: "Remember to learn something everywhere you go, even if it's just not to go there again."

Summer Registration Going On At Eastfield

Summer 2006 Registration at Eastfield College will begin April 18 for returning students; students who have never taken classes at Eastfield College (or at any other Dallas County Community College District college) can begin registering for classes on April 24.

Returning students may register one of the following ways: On campus with an advisor or program specialist or online through www.eConnect.dcccd.edu. New students must register in person by seeing an advisor.

All currently enrolled students who plan to register for the first Summer Session 2006 are urged to do so during the first week of registration! Summer classes begin June 5.

For more information contact the Admissions Office at 972-860-7100.

Eastfield College, one of the seven Dallas County Community Colleges, is located at 3737 Motley Drive in Mesquite, just north of I-30.

Parent Town Hall Meeting With Attorney General Greg Abbott

MySpace, Xanga, chatrooms, blogs – to some parents, new technology is like a foreign language. Unfortunately, the advances in technology that are entertaining your children are also making it easier for child predators to reach out to them. A national study found that one in five children will be solicited for sex while online.

What can parents do? Parents need to close the information gap and be armed with real information about the real risks posed online.

This presentation will include straight talk about the issue and some discussions will include mature content. Parents of children all ages and high school students are strongly encouraged to attend. Students in middle school should attend at their parents' discretion.

Thursday, April 20 @ 6:30 p.m.

Plano West Senior High Auditorium

5601 W. Parker Road, Plano, TX 75093

For more information contact the Texas Attorney General's Office at 800.252.8011.

Plano ISD Key Communicators Holds Candidate Forum

The Plano ISD Key Communicators will conduct a school board candidate forum from 7 to 8:30 p.m. April 17 at the district administration building, 2700 W. 15th Street.

Participants will be Place 6 candidates Robert Canright and Melody Timinsky, and Place 7 hopefuls M. Nathan Barbera and Missy Bender. They will vie in the May 13 election.

"The Key Communicators was formed to help keep parents informed about the happening in the school district," said organization chairperson Sharon Goldblatt.

Goldblatt has been the chairperson for eight years.

The organization comprises three parents from each school in the district who are selected by school principals for one-year terms. They meet four times a year, but only the candidate forum is open to the public.

"We average about 75 to 100 people at each of our meetings," Goldblatt said.

Goldblatt said that during each meeting, the group is informed about "hot topics" or key issues that they need to understand and then return to the schools they represent and discuss those issues with other parents. At the first, meeting the parents are introduced to the superintendent's cabinet and they are told who to contact for issues that may arise during the year.

"The fourth meeting of the year is always the candidate forum," Goldblatt said. "We invite the incumbents who are being challenged and their challengers."

Goldblatt said the forum is open to the public. The forum begins with an opening statement by each candidate followed by questions from cards that have been filled in by those attending. The forum closes with a closing statement by the candidates.

The Key Communicators have been around for at least 15 years," said Plano ISD communication specialist Nancy Long. "It is another communication tool to keep a continuing dialogue with the school communities."

The organization has also been involved with voter registration drives, and writing letters to legislators regarding various educational issues.

Captain Ed Drain Page 1

the Support Services Division, which encompasses the Police Training Academy, School Liason Program, Crime Prevention Unit, Neighborhood Police Officers Unit, Warrant and Court officers, Traffic Unit, Emergency Services Unit and Homeland Security. An 11-year veteran of the Plano Police Department, Captain Drain is also holds the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve. Captain Drain is the first African-American to serve as captain in the Plano Police Department.

Neighborhood Police Officer Unit Supervisor Sgt. Frank McElligott and Traffic Unit Supervisor Sgt. Chris Curd were finalist for the Supervisor of the Year Award.

Officer Michael James was awarded the 2005 Officer of the Year for his performance in the community. Public Safety Officer Jeff Smith of the professional standards unit was named Civilian of the Year for his contributions in the human resources area of the department. 4th Watch Team Officer Courtney Noel was awarded Rookie of the Year. Officer Noel joined the Plano Department in 2004, and graduated at the top of her class at the Regional Police Academy. As a result of his work at a June 2005 vehicle crash at the intersection of Custer Road and State Highway 121, Officer Richard Smith was presented the Excellence in Problem Solving Award.

The department also recognized 11 officers for their efforts in the Plano Christmas Cops program. The program has been in operation for 12 years. Officers recognized for their work were Heather Bowden, Jennifer Schrier, Aaron Benzick, Collin Armistead, Michele Smith, Alicia Nors, Courtney Pero, Harry Manning, Kevin Lemon, Karen Richmond and Bill Hiney.

He Plano Police Department is made up of 345 sworn officers, 154 non-sworn employees (authorized), and 78 non-sworn part time employees who are dedicated professionals. The department is divided into five divisons: Chief's Office, Patrol Services Division, Criminal Investigative Services Division, Support Services Division and Administrative Services Bureau. The Department offers traditional law enforcement services to our community as well as innovative approaches to community problems. The Plano Police Department has been a nationally accredited law enforcement agency since 1992.

Thousands Rally In Dallas Page 1

2003, said he had feared a crackdown but felt emboldened by the large marches across the country in recent weeks.

Organizers in St. Paul, Minn., were surprised by the crowd calling for change at a rally at the state Capitol. Police estimated the crowd at 30,000.

The rallies also drew counter-demonstrators.

Activists say the Senate's decision last week not to push a bill that would have given many illegal immigrants a chance at citizenship is neither a cause for celebration nor a lost opportunity _ it's a chance to regroup.

Many groups had been preparing to rally since December, when the House passed a bill to build more walls along the U.S.-Mexico border; make criminals of people who helped undocumented immigrants; and make it a felony, rather than a civil infraction, to be in the country illegally.

Those mostly local and regional efforts, supported by popular Spanish-language disc jockeys, quickly converted into national plans after hundreds of thousands of people demonstrated in dozens of cities last month, culminating March 25 with a 500,000-person rally in Los Angeles.

Different organizers have different agendas, but they do agree on the need to convert energy from protests into massive voter registration drives.

Voter registration and citizenship education initiatives are set to begin in several states after a "Day Without An Immigrant" campaign planned for May 1, an event that asks immigrants nationwide to stay home from work and school, and refrain from buying U.S. products.

Arts & Entertainment

Email Entertainment News And Events to
Entertainment@MonTheGazette.com

Gabrielle Union Fights To Keep Rapist In Jail

Actress Gabrielle Union visited Congress last week to speak about the issue of sexual assault.

The victim of rape herself at age 19, her testimony was part of the 7th Annual National Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Legislative Action Days, sponsored by the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence, the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Lifetime Television.

While on summer break from college, Union was working the late shift at a shoe store in Pleasanton, California when a former employee with a gun came in and forced her and a co-worker to the backroom, where she was raped at gunpoint.

Concerned he would eventually kill her, Union says she immediately thought of an episode of the "Oprah Winfrey Show" that outlined steps to follow if caught in such an ordeal.

"Thank God for Oprah, because literally, her words helped me live," Gabrielle tells "Entertainment Tonight." "Oprah had a show about what to do in case you're a victim of a violent crime, and immediately I went on auto pilot; it was like Oprah was in my ear telling me what to do to stay alive."

"We gave him the money, and he said, 'I want to take you guys to the store room,'" explains Union, "and Oprah always said, 'Don't let them take you to a second location,' and I'm like, 'Great, this is the second location. I'm gonna die. He's gonna

kill us.'"

"He took me out of the [front] room and proceeded to rape me at gunpoint," she reveals, adding that she was only able to get through the assault by spiritually leaving her body.

In a 2003 interview with Teen People, she said: "As he was raping me, I felt as though I was floating over myself, thinking, 'This isn't happening, ' and 'I'm perfect, I'm a good person, I'm a good student."

Union says she was able to calm him down with her words and eventually get him to put down the gun. She grabbed it and attempted to shoot him.

"He calmly asked me to hand him the gun, and at that point I was like, 'It's me or you, and it ain't gonna be me today. I'm about to kill you,'" she tells ET. "And I spun around and did the best I could trying to kill him ... I missed, and we ended up having a fight for the gun, and I was beaten, literally, beyond recognition."

The actress says her attacker finally snatched the gun away from her and decided just to take off. He then robbed another store and raped another girl before he finally turned himself in.

"He took a plea bargain and got 33 years but he's up for parole this year and I will be testifying to make sure he stays where he needs to be -- in prison," Union says, adding that her decision to go public with her story is in hopes that it will save lives.

"I can talk about who's a better kisser – Will Smith or LL Cool J -- until I'm blue in the face, but I would much rather use my voice and my position to help people," she says. "When Teri Hatcher came out [about her own molestation experience], you have no idea how many people are like, 'If she's strong enough to do it and still be a successful person, if she can live through this, so can I; same with Fran Drescher. When I speak, hopefully I'm doing the same thing. I will continue to speak until my voice is no longer needed."

June Pointer Of The Pointer Sisters Dies At 52

June Pointer, the youngest of the Pointer Sisters – known for the '70s and '80s hits "I'm So Excited," "Fire" and "Slow Hand" – has died of cancer, her family said Wednesday. She was 52.

Pointer died Tuesday at Santa Monica University of California, Los Angeles, Medical Center, the family said in a statement. She had been hospitalized since late February. The type of cancer was not disclosed.

She died "in the arms of her sisters, Ruth and Anita and her brothers, Aaron and Fritz, by her side," the statement said. "Although her sister, Bonnie, was unable to be present, she was with her in spirit."

The four sisters grew up singing in the choir of an Oakland, California, church where their parents were ministers. Bonnie and June formed a singing duo and began performing in clubs around the San Francisco Bay area. Anita and Ruth later joined the group, which sang backup for artists such as Taj Mahal, Boz Scaggs and Elvin Bishop.

Their self-titled debut album was released in 1973, and the song "Yes We Can Can" became their first hit. They followed up with "That's A Plenty," which featured an eclectic mix of musical styles ranging from jazz to country and pop. They won a Grammy Award in 1974 for best country vocal performance by a group for the song "Fairytale."

Bonnie Pointer left the group in 1977 for a solo career.

The Pointer Sisters recorded several more albums, including 1984's "Break Out," which won two Grammys for "Automatic" and "Jump (for My Love)." The album's other hit song, "Neutron Dance," was prominently featured in the movie "Beverly Hills Cop."

June recorded two solo albums, and later left the trio.

India Arie To Release First New Album In Four Years

One of music's most honest and inspirational singer/songwriters, 12-time Grammy nominated India.Arie will release her new album, Testimony: Vol. 1, Life & Relationship, on June 27. Her third studio album, and her first since 2002's acclaimed Voyage To India, which reached #6 on the Billboard Top Albums chart, the new disc was produced by longtime collaborators Shannon Sanders and Mark Batson (Seal, Beyonce), among others. The album's first single, "I Am Not My Hair," featuring searing remix collaborations with Akon, Swizz Beatz, and Jazze Pha, marks the first time India.Arie has agreed to let other artists remix her work.

Known for her soulful pursuit of unvarnished musical perfection, the new album is a more personal expression containing more intimate songscapes from the artist, duly recognized through the years for her keen insights about the world at large.

India.Arie embarks this month on a heavy promotional schedule for the new disc, including a performance at the National Black Mayors Conference in Memphis, TN on April 29.

The video for "I Am Not My Hair," helmed by noted director

Barnaby Roper (Moby, Razorlight), premiered on Yahoo.com last week, and has been embraced by other major video outlets including BET and MTV.

India.Arie emerged onto the music scene in 2001 with her platinum plus debut Acoustic Soul. A masterful meditation on self-acceptance and womanhood, she was dubbed the new "neo-soulstress" by no less than Newsweek Magazine, praising her as "one of the freshest talents to come out of 2001," the emotive singer went on to be nominated for seven Grammys for her debut album, and subsequently has won a host of awards including 2 Grammys, 3 NAACP Awards, as well as being recognized by BET, Billboard Magazine, MTV, VH1 and Essence Magazine, among others.

India.Arie is also a U.S. ambassador for UNICEF and universally recognized as a tireless champion of social and humanitarian causes around the world. She recently returned from a trip to South Africa where she observed and assisted humanitarian efforts taking place in the epicenter of the global AIDS crisis

Black Channel TV One Scores Sitcom, Movie Rights

TV One, a cable channel that targets black viewers, said Monday that it has acquired rerun rights to a slew of movies and TV series, including such films as "The Color Purple" and "Malcolm X," and UPN sitcoms "All of Us" and "Eve."

The multiyear deal, with Warner Bros. Domestic Cable Distribution, marks the biggest programming acquisition for the network in its two-year history.

TV One said the agreement marks the first time it has obtained off-network rights to sitcoms currently airing on a broadcast network. It can begin airing "All of Us" and "Eve" in the fall, which will mark their off-network premieres. Both shows are now in their third seasons, but face an uncertain future. The CW, the new network launching in the fall with the merger of WB Network and UPN, hasn't yet announced whether either show will be on its schedule for the 2006-07 season.

The deal also includes rights to such series as "Living Single," "For Your Love," "Hangin' With Mr. Cooper," "The Parent 'Hood," "Wanda at Large," "All About the Andersons," "Fastlane" and "A Man Called Hawk" as well as recent episodes of "Showtime at the Apollo." Through the agreement, TV One also is renewing rights to air the comedies "Roc" and "Martin."

Other movie titles on the slate include windows on such films as "Lean on Me," "New Jack City," "Purple Rain," "Shaft" "Superfly," "Round Midnight," "Rosewood," "Boiling Point," "Uptown Saturday Night," "Strictly Business," "Cabin in the Sky," "Krush Groove" and "Sparkle."

TV One and Warner Bros. declined comment on the financial terms of the deal. TV One, which launched in January 2004, serves more than 28.4 million households.

Hendrix, Wonder, Cole Songs Preserved In Library Of Congress National Recording Registry

Works from Jimi Hendrix, Stevie Wonder and Nat "King" Cole were among the 2006 selections chosen by The Library of Congress for its National Recording Registry, which preserves audio events that are culturally, historically or aesthetically important.

Hendrix's 1967 classic "Are You Experienced" made the cut, as did Wonder's 1976 masterpiece "Songs in the Key of Life" and Cole's "Straighten Up and Fly Right."

The Library of Congress has registered recordings since the year 2000. Other works among the 50 chosen this year include:

- "Blueberry Hill," Fats Domino, 1956
- "Show Boat," Helen Morgan, Paul Robeson, James Melton and others; Victor Young, conductor; Louis Alter, piano, 1932
- "One O'clock Jump," Count Basie and his Orchestra, 1937
- "Straighten Up and Fly Right," Nat "King" Cole, 1943
- "Move on up a Little Higher," Mahalia Jackson, 1948
- "Crazy Blues," Mamie Smith, 1920
- Joe Louis-Max Schmeling fight, Clem McCarthy, announcer, June 22, 1938
- "Dancing in the Street," Martha and the Vandellas, 1964
- "Live at the Regal," B.B. King, 1965
- "Are You Experienced?" Jimi Hendrix Experience, 1967
- "Oh Happy Day," Edwin Hawkins Singers, 1969
- "The Revolution Will Not Be Televised," Gil Scott-Heron, 1970
- "Songs in the Key of Life," Stevie Wonder, 1976

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Capitol.

"The legendary Barbara Jordan - a heroic figure among minority politicians in this country - was the first African American and second ever female to serve as President of the Texas Senate. This honor links me with some of the historic names to have served in leadership of this state. As such, I feel blessed," Senator West said.

Senator West is the fourth African American to be chosen President Pro Tempore and the 11th minority selected in the Senate's 160-year history. Senator West currently chairs the Senate Subcommittee on Higher Education and is vice-chair of the Senate Education Committee. He is a member of the Senate Select Committee on Education Reform and Public School Finance, the Senate Jurisprudence Committee, the Senate Finance Committee and the Senate Health and Human Services Committee.

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

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

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/ BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)

Dist/Div: Dallas
Contract 2374-07-053 for CONSTRUCT WESTBOUND FRONTAGE RD AND RAMP REVERSALS in DALLAS County will be opened on May 10, 2006 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or Dist/Div Offices listed below. If applicable, bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor.
NPO: 19824

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

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

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

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Please call 972-606-3891 and leave a message or email editor@MonTheGazette.com

Director of Worship Ministry

The Springs
3227 Keller Springs Road
Carrollton, TX 75287

The Springs, a fast growing far North Dallas Church (Carrollton), seeks a people-oriented, faith-based individual to serve as the Director of Worship & Fine Arts. We are an expanding, diverse, and multi-generational ministry with 600+ members, honoring God and embracing the community at large.

This position requires the ability to lead and develop the musical and non-musical worship ministries which includes music, audio/visual, drama and dance. Qualified applicants would possess skills that would utilize a wide range of musical styles including traditional and contemporary gospel, contemporary Christian, hymns, anthems, and more. Job responsibilities include planning and leading two Sunday worship services, one midweek service and multiple special programs throughout the year.

Applicants should have 5+ years experience in leading a worship ministry, proven skills in teaching voice, excellent leadership and instrumental skills. Applicants must be passionate about growing and developing youth/children's choirs as well as a proven track record in organizing praise teams and worship ensembles. Most importantly, the ideal candidate will be passionate about a life of service and focused on glorifying God.

Complete job description available at www.kellersprings.org.

Denomination: Baptist
Worship Style: Gospel
Church Size: 351 - 600
Job Status: Full Time

Send Resume to jobs@kellersprings.org or fax to 1.866.536.3192
Closing Date: 04/26/06
No Phone Calls Please!

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- **Organizational Skills**
- **Ability To Manage Sales Personnel**

Send Resume to: Publisher@MontheGazette.com or fax to 972-881-1646, leave message at 972-606-3891.

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Store Management Opportunities

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AA / EOE /ADA

Temporary Warehouse Positions

Harcourt, Inc., a major international publisher, has immediate openings for temporary warehouse persons at its Lewisville, TX Distribution Center.

Responsibilities: Responsible for the physical & parts of the clerical receipt, storage, picking & shipping of product, done in an accurate (quality), safe & timely manner. Must be willing to work in various departments; cross-train; assist where needed.

Experience: Must be able to communicate, do a wide variety of physical tasks such as stand & walk for long periods, handle & move boxes up-to 45 lbs., operate a variety of powered industrial vehicles, work with moving machinery, exercise caution in working with such vehicles & machinery. Must also be able to read and interpret replenishment labels, picking labels, safety signs, do basic math (match numbers, count, etc.) & other related paperwork.

Applications accepted M-F between 8-3 at:

Harcourt, Inc.
1175 N. Stemmons Freeway
Lewisville, TX 75067
972-459-6000

EOE / M / F / D / V / AA

Closing Date: 04/21/06

Maintenance Assistant Position

Harcourt, Inc., a major international publisher, has immediate openings for a fulltime, regular Maintenance Assistant at its Lewisville, TX Distribution Center. Excellent benefits included.

Responsibilities:
Maintain batteries and equipment in the battery charging area. Repair and maintain electric personnel carriers and pallet jacks. Perform building maintenance tasks as required. This includes re-lamping, furniture moves, minor plumbing repairs, and filter changes. Develop electro mechanical skills. Learn the fundamentals of electricity, HVAC and machine mechanics. Perform maintenance repairs as directed by the Maintenance Staff.

Experience:
Must have two years or more experience of varied mechanical and carpentry duties.

Skills:
Must have some knowledge of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems. Knowledge of conveyor mechanics is a plus.

Education:
High school or equivalent required. Two or more years of advanced training *(after high school)* in electronics, mechanical, plumbing or electrical systems are preferred.

Pre-employment screening required. Send resume to: nharris@harcourt.com or fax to: 972-459-6002. Applications accepted M-F between 8-3 at:

Harcourt, Inc.
1175 N. Stemmons Freeway
Lewisville, TX 75067
972-459-6000

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Position
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The Word 100.7 FM located in Irving TX is looking for a Production Assistant to work 30 hours per week for in Production Department. Candidate should be able to handle daily spot production and editing with quick turnaround, run live satellite programs and board operation for 2 stations, possible evening fill-in news anchor, available to work evenings and be extremely detail oriented.

Benefits package includes medical, dental, vision, life insurance, 401(k), paid vacation and sick leave. Please fax cover letter and resume to David Darling, Operations Manager at 214-561-9662 or email to ddarling@ksky.com

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Posted on 4/5/05

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www.ci.irving.tx.us

Church News

Sister Tarpley

Take My Son! (Part 1)

Perhaps you have read or heard this before. I have had this for a number of years; now that Easter is this Sunday, I thought that this is worth thinking about. It is food for your soul.

A very wealthy man and his only son loved to collect great works of art, especially rare paintings. They had everything in their collection, from Picasso to Raphael. They would often sit together and admire their rare and priceless art.

When the conflict broke out, the son went to war. He was very courageous and died in battle while rescuing another soldier.

The father was notified and grieved deeply for his only son (I can imagine how he felt; I too would grieve deeply if something happened to Jarrell, my only son.)

About a month later, there was a knock at the door. A young man stood at the door with a large package in his hand. He said, "Sir, you don't know me, but I am the soldier for whom your son gave his life. He saved many lives that day, and he was carrying me to safety when a bullet struck him; he died instantly. He often talked about you, and your deep love for rare and priceless art." The young man held out this package. "I know this isn't much. I'm not really a great artist, but I think your son would have wanted you to have this."

The father opened the package. It was a portrait of his only son, painted by the young man. He stared in awe at the way the soldier had captured the personality of his son in the painting. The father was so drawn to the eyes that his own eyes welled up with tears. He really cried!

He thanked the young man and offered to pay him for the picture of his only son, perhaps it was the last picture taken of his son. The young man said, "Oh, no sir, I could never repay you for what your son did for me, he saved me! It's a gift."

The father proudly hung the portrait over his mantle. Every time visitors came to his home to look at his priceless works of art, he took them to see his most valuable possession, the portrait of his son, before he showed them any of the other great and rare works of art that he had collected.

The man died a few months later. There was to be an auction of his rare and priceless paintings. Many influential people from around the world gathered; they were very excited over seeing the great paintings and joyful at having an opportunity to purchase one for their own collection.

On the platform set the painting of the son. The auctioneer pounded his gavel. "We will start the bidding with this picture of the son. Who will bid for this picture?" There was dead silence; you could hear a pin drop on cotton.

Then a voice in the back of the room shouted, "We want to see the famous and priceless paintings. Skip this one." But the auctioneer persisted. "Will someone bid for this painting? Who will start the bidding? A $200 bid? Perhaps $100 as a starting bid for the son? Another voice shouted angrily. "We didn't come to see this painting. We came to see the Van Goghs, the Rembrandts. Get on with the real bids!"

But the auctioneer continued. "The son! The son! Who'll take the son?" **Next Week, the conclusion.**

Happy Easter Everyone!

Email: religion@monthegazette.com
Office: 972-516-4191
Voice Mail: 972-606-3878
Fax: 972-516-4197

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

Picture of The Week

Pastor Derrick Bowman, Faithway Fellowship B.C. of Hamilton Park and Rev. Kenneth Allen during a Morning Service at the church.

UT Dallas Gets $1.5M Texas Instruments Donation

Texas Instruments Inc. has pledged $1.5 million to the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Texas at Dallas to establish a chair and graduate fellowships.

The money will fund the creation of the Texas Instruments Distinguished Chair and the Texas Instruments Diversity Graduate Fellowship Endowment.

The TI distinguished chair endowment will support research and scholarly activities of the chair holder as directed by the dean of the Jonsson School, Dr. Bob Helms.

The graduate fellowship endowment will provide scholarships to students enrolled in the Jonsson School.

Dallas-based Texas Instruments (NYSE:TXN) has been a long-time supporter of UT Dallas, which was founded by Texas Instruments founders Erik Jonsson, Cecil Green and Eugene McDermott.

Church Happenings

ALL NATIONS UMC, PLANO

April 14, 7:00 pm

The public is invited to our Good Friday Service, our theme, "He Chose The Nails," is based on material from the book by Max Lucado.

April 16, 10:00 am

Please join us for our Easter Service. You will not regret it!

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

COALITION OF CHURCHES IN PRISON MINISTRY

On-Going Mentor Program

Our host church, True Lee Baptist Church, 3907 Bertrand Avenue, Dallas, TX 75210, 214-421-9435 where Rev. Donald Parish is the Pastor, is working with a mentor program for children of parents that are incarcerated. Come or call to find out how to get involved. For more information, please call Carolyn Johnson @ 972-235-6432.

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

COMMUNITY INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH MINISTRY

April 20, 7:30 pm

Pastor Lisa will be the guest speaker at the Fellowship of Believers International Church Association's National Women of Character Conference 2006. The conference is being held at the Comfort Suites Hotel, 2287 W. Northwest Hwy off of I-35 (behind the Waffle House), Dallas, TX 75220, the hotel phone number is 214-350-4408. Please join us for this Holy Spirit evening of worship and praise.

Community International
Outreach Ministry
Pastor Lisa Tarpley, Overseer
526 Compton Avenue
Irving, TX 75061
972-986-5552

CONCORD BAPTIST CHURCH

Tomorrow, April 14, 6:00 pm

Please join us for the opening of "Connection at Concord" book store for our members, friends, and the general public. We have filled our shelves with world renowned Christian authors, famous singers, Bibles, books, CD's, DVD's, preaching series tapes, spiritual growth items and more. For more information, please call 214-467-6741.

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

EARTH'S HEAVENLY WORD MINISTRY

April 20 – 21, 7:00 pm

We proudly present our 3rd Annual Conference, "Putting On The Whole Armor of God, Ephesians 6:10-18, to be held at Church of The Disciples, 220 S. Cockrell Hill Road, DeSoto, TX 75115. We are asking, Who's Playing Dress Up? Our conference starts with the renowned Dr. Shirley K. Clark of the Jabez Prayer Network Ministry, Dallas, TX on Thursday and Pastor Leeora Dove, The Church Within Christian Ministry, Austin, TX on Friday night.

April 22, 9:00 am & 6:30 pm

Please join us for the conclusion of "Putting On The Whole Armor of God" with Bridgette Johnson, Founder/President of Stand In The Gap Intercessory Prayer Ministries, Inc. in Westbury, NY for the morning session and Elder Evelyn Wilson, Founder of EHW International Deliverance Ministry in Desoto, TX.

For more information, registration fee and directions to Church of The Disciples, please call 214-908-8408.

Earth's Heavenly Word Ministry
A Division of Evelyn Wilson Ministries
P. O. Box 2079
Desoto, TX 75123
214-908-8408

FAITHWAY FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMILTON PARK

April 23 and 30, 2006

Please join us in honoring Pastor Derrick & First Lady Diane Bowman, Sr. for a job well done @ their 4th Annual Pastor's and wife's Anniversary Service. We will celebrate four great years of Ministry at Faithway with our theme: Chosen, Equipped & Committed.

God is blessing us with some anointed preaching and spirit-filled worship and praise services. Our special guest pastors, Dr. Gregg Foster and Pastor Anthony Foster will be accompanied by their members at First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park in Richardson, TX on Sunday April 23, 2006 @ 3:30 pm.

One week later, on Sunday April 30, 2006 @ 4:00 pm our special guests will be Pastor Larry D. Pruitt from Christian Faith Baptist Church in Ft. Worth, TX; Pastor J. E. Curtis from New Jerusalem Baptist church in Tyler, TX; and Pastor E.A. Anderson from Mr. Zion Baptist Church in Fairfield, TX and their congregations. Come and enjoy the great fellowship. We will be looking for you!

For additional information, please call 972-792-0239 or 972-792-0240.

Faithway Fellowship Baptist
Church Of Hamilton Park
Rev. Derrick Bowman, Sr.
Senior Pastor
8219 Bunche Drive
Dallas, TX 75243
972-792-0239

FELLOWSHIP OF BELIEVERS MINISTRIES

April 20 – 21, 7:30 pm

The public is invited to join us for our National Women of Character Conference 2006. Our theme is, "He's My Father and I'm His Little Girl." Guest speakers include Pastor and Overseer Lisa Tarpley of Community International Outreach Ministries in Irving, TX on Thursday night, and Pastor Quavelyn Owens from Turning Point Deliverance Ministries in Dallas, TX on Friday night.

April 22, 10:30 am – 4:30 pm

Please join us for our Saturday's seminars with guest speakers Evangelist Sondra Hailey, Mesquite, TX; Pastor D. Jackson, Fellowship of Believers Ministries, Dallas, TX; Co-Pastor Viola Rouwtt, Grace & Mercy Fellowship Church, Dallas, TX; and Evangelist V. Burris, God's Women of Revelation Deliverance. Saturday's lunch is included with the registration fee. Vendors are welcomed.

The three-day conference is being held at the Comfort Suites Hotel, 2287 W. Northwest Hwy off of I-35 (behind the Waffle House), Dallas, TX 75220, the hotel phone number is 214-350-4408.

For further information about the above events, contact Minister Dana Blair, Church Secretary @ 214-575-8224

Fellowship of Believers Ministries
Bishop Gregory Crawford
Founder and Senior Pastor
3911 S. Lancaster Road
Dallas, TX 75216
214-372-3624

Church Happenings Page 10

KINGDOM OF GOD MINISTRIES
"Building the People of God, For the Kingdom of God"
Sunday Worship Service Time: 10 AM
701 N. Highway 78, Suite H
Wylie, TX 75098

Pastor Myron T. Wilson
For More Information: 972-238-7927
www.enterthekingdom.org

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(Keller Springs Baptist Church)
Pastor Larry J. Sanders, Sr.
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Powerful Music
Thought-provoking Drama
and an
Inspirational Message
Our Easter Activities At The Springs!
Easter Services
Sunday, April 16, 2006
8 & 11 am
3227 Keller Springs Road
Carrollton, TX 75006
972-735-8077

Church Directory

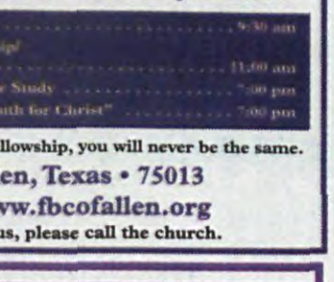
Temple of Faith Christian Chapel C.M.E. Church

Dr. Jerome E. McNeil, Jr., Pastor
"Where Jesus is the Main Attraction"
Sunday Worship Experience - 8:00 am & 10:45 am
Wednesday Bible Study - 12:00 Noon & 7:00 pm
14120 Noel Road • Dallas, TX 75254
972-239-1120 (Office) • 972-239-5925 (Fax)
templeoffaith_cme@sbcglobal.net (Email)
Healthy Beginnings Child Development Center - 972-404-1412

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN

Pastor W.L. Stafford Sr., M.Div
"A Ministry that is on the Move for Christ"
Sunday School ..... 9:30 am
Sunday Morning Worship/ Children's Church ..... 11:00 am
Wednesday Prayer/Bible Study ..... 7:00 pm
2nd & 4th Monday /"Youth for Christ" ..... 7:00 pm
Come experience the Worship Atmosphere at Fellowship, you will never be the same.
200 Belmont Drive • Allen, Texas • 75013
Phone 972-359-9956 • www.fbcofallen.org
*If you need a ride to worship with us, please call the church.

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

New Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Dallas
Sunday Service
Morning Worship
7:30 am & 10:30 am
9:00 am Sunday School
Wednesday Service
Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm
Brotherhood 7:00 pm
Missions 7:00 pm
Singles Group 7:00 pm
Bible Study 7:45 pm

Dr. Robert E. Price, Senior Pastor
A Praying Church Family
"Watchmen on the Walls"
214-341-6459 (Phone) • 214-342-8403 (Fax)
9550 Shepard Road
Dallas, TX 75243
www.nmzb.org (Website) • newmzbc@aol.com (Email)

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• Food • Fun • Entertainment • Bounce House
• Kids Games • Easter Egg Hunt
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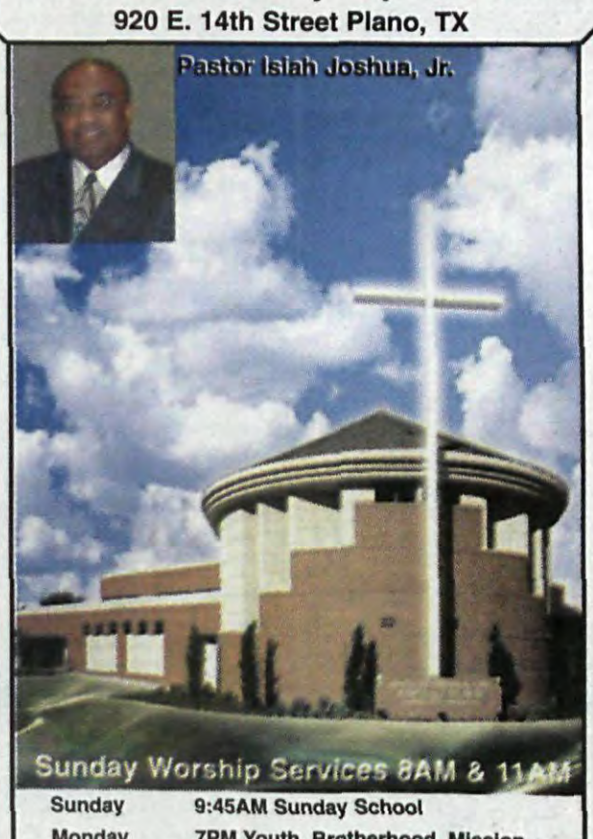
PASTORS SAM & GLORIA FENCEROY

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

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2305 Market Loop, Suite 300, Southlake, Texas 76092
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Charges Dropped For Man Beaten By NOPD

Prosecutors have dropped charges against a retired teacher who was beaten by New Orleans police during an arrest caught on videotape shortly after Hurricane Katrina, he and his lawyer said Monday.

Robert Davis, 64, had been charged with public intoxication, resisting arrest and battery on a police officer.

City prosecutors did not immediately return a call for comment.

The Oct. 8 beating by three police officers was captured on video by an Associated Press Television News crew covering the aftermath of the hurricane.

Davis had returned to New Orleans to check his property following the Aug. 29 storm. He said he was looking for a place to buy cigarettes in the French Quarter when police grabbed him.

"I haven't had a drink in 25 years," Davis said Monday. "I still don't know what started it or why it happened."

New Orleans resident Robert Davis after Oct. 8th beating by New Orleans Police

Two fired officers and one current officer have been charged in the beating.

Providing An Oasis Page 1

formerly incarcerated. Supported by Mount Hebron Baptist Church of Garland (Pastor Leonard Leach), it is part of Operation Oasis, a prison aftercare program founded by the North Dallas Bible Community Fellowship Church in Richardson (Pastor Leslie Smith). Oasis on the Mount is a ministry designed to assist the formerly incarcerated transition from prison church into mainstream church once they are released.

"This program came into being after we saw a need," said Pastor Pipkin. "There are a number of churches going into prisons to minister to inmates, but nobody wants to minister to those inmates once they get out."

Pipkin knows all too well the realities of trying to live a Christian life after prison. He was convicted in 1987 of aggravated robbery and sentenced to 15 years in prison. After serving five years Pastor Pipkin was released on parole.

"I didn't have a support system to hold me accountable when I came home," he says. "I started doing the same things I did before I went to prison and violated my parole by moving to Houston."

The turning point for Pastor Pipkin came when he decided to turn himself in for his parole violation and go back to jail for 90 days. While incarcerated, he became involved with Inner Change Freedom Initiative, a faith based prison ministry. Pipkin voluntary completed the 18 month program, and became a licensed minister in 2005.

Pastor Pipkin decided that he needed to give back and help other former prisoners when he got out. One of the first things he noticed were some of the areas mainstream ministries miss when dealing with former prisoners.

"Former prisoners who have become Christians usually don't make it because their needs aren't being directly ministered to in the church they attend on the outside. It's not the fault of the churches; pastors have to minister to the needs of their congregations."

The mission of Oasis On the Mount is to minister to the unique needs of former prisoners.

"Former prisoners feel intimidation when they attend most churches on the outside. They have a feeling like everybody knows what they have done," Pipkin said. "They are used to being very active in a small church in prison, once they get out ministries tend to sit them down and make them prove themselves. They are used to worshipping in an integrated environment; most churches on the outside are still segregated. They don't have any idea about tithes and offering because it's a non-issue in prison. We help them make the transition to mainstream church."

The uniqueness of the ministry is further displayed in their approach with former prisoners.

Charles Dillon, an Operation Oasis mentor who is integrally involved with the church commented: "This ministry is not trying to take former prisoners from their home ministries; we prepare them to grow in their own home ministry. That is why we have our services on Saturday, so they can attend their home church on Sunday."

Mr. Dillon, a former parole and probation officer, also gave insight into funding for the program.

"Last year, 96 men participated in the Operation Oasis program. Initial funding came from North Dallas Community Bible Fellowship Church- $200,000 for the first three years of the program. Current funding comes from fund raising, private donations and grant funding."

Pastor Pipkin recognizes the divine influence over the birth of the Oasis On the Mount church.

"This has all happened according to God's order. We are looking to help the same kind of people Jesus would have helped," he said.

That type of attitude is the beginning of true virtue.

Oasis on the Mount is located at 209 E. Ave D, Garland, Texas 75040. Services are held on Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. Visit www.operation-oasis.org or call 972-437-3801 for more info.

Church Happenings

Church Happenings Page 9

GREATER MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH IN IRVING
April 21 & 22, 7:00 pm

Co-Pastor Sherry Hanchett and our Women of Destiny Ministry will sponsor a Revival with Prophetess, Evangelist and Psalmist Sharon Seay Eiland, member of Revival Center C.O.G.I.C. in Tullahoma, TN. The Revival is being held @ the Dayspring Family Church, 618 N. Beltline Road in Irving, TX.

April 23, 3:00 pm

Please join us for the conclusion of an anointed revival with Prophetess Sharon Seay Eiland; she is a mighty vessel being used by God to help the brokenhearted, the rejected, those that are depressed, and the downtrodden.

For more information about the above events, and directions to Dayspring Family Church where the revival will be held, please call the church @ 972-790-6630.

Greater Mt. Olive B. C. in Irving
Rev. Joshua Hanchett, Pastor
1120 Luke Street
Irving, TX 75061
972-790-6630

GREENVILLE AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST
May 6, 8:00 am – 1:30 pm

We are hosting our 21st Annual 2006 Adolescent and Ladies Symposium and all preteens and ladies, ages 9 and up are invited, and encouraged to attend. The purpose of the Symposium is to help participants increase their skills in dealing effectively with the issues of today's society from a Biblical perspective

For more information, please call the church @ 972-644-2335 or FayLisa Jones @ 214-649-0358 (day time) or 469-366-8563 (evenings).

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

HOPEWELL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
April 18 – 20, 7:00 pm

Please join us for our 2006 Spring Revival with Evangelist H. L. Smith, Pastor of St. Stephen Community Church. Our theme is, "Living a Purposeful Christian Life" found in Ephesians 1:6-12

Hopewell MBC
Rev. Michael R. Hubbard, Sr.
Senior Pastor
5144 Dolphin Road
Dallas, TX 75223
214-823-1018

KELLER SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH
April 16, 8:00 am & 11:00 am

You are cordially invited to enjoy a Holy-Spirited Easter Service with us as we praise and worship the Lord.

For more information call 972-735-8077.

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

NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP IN RICHARDSON
On-Going Mentor Program

Operation Oasis sponsors a program that assists youth that are at-risk, and ex-offenders returning to society. The program's goals are to change lives of the formerly incarcerated person, to increase safety, and to spiritually fortify our communities.

For more details about this wonderful project, please contact Juanita Lee, Administrative Assistant at 972-437-3801 or call Toll Free at 1-800-37Oasis (376-2747)

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

ST. LUKE "COMMUNITY" UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
April 29, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Please join us for the 15th Annual SOKO African Marketplace. This is a unique opportunity to support Black businesses and to "teach our dollars some sense!" This will be a festive and fun-filled day for the whole family. There will be a numerous vendors selling a wide variety of items including clothing, jewelry, cultural items, delicious food, arts and crafts, face painting, and prize giveaways.

For detail information, please call the church @ 214-821-2970. Rain location will be in the Zan W. Holmes Community Life Center, 6211 E. Grand Avenue, Dallas, TX 75223

St. Luke "Community" UMC
Rev. Tyrone Gordon, Senior Pastor
5710 E. R. L. Thornton Freeway
Dallas, TX 75223
214-821-2970

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Mondays, 7:00 pm

Monday School with Holy Spirit Bible Teachings

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

THESE ARE THEY COMMUNITY CHURCH (TAT) OF DESOTO
This Weekend, April 14 & 15, 7:00 pm

The public is welcome to our spectator and FREE Easter Play; "The Trial" which was written and will be directed by Talitha Bolden; it suggests that Jesus was actually given a fair trial before being executed. Proceeds from both performances are to benefit a much needed community center in the area. The performances are FREE, however, donations are welcomed and encouraged to help us raise funds for this Community Center.

For more information, please contact Tonya English @ 972-227-4545; 214-375-3226; or Talitha Bolden @ 214-674-8032.

These Are They Community Church (TAT)
Rev. Willie J. Bolden, Pastor
200 S. Polk Street
DeSoto, TX 75115
972-274-9400

TRINITY PRAYER CHAPEL
Sign Up Now

Reynolds Wood Ministries is now conducting FREE GED and ESL Classes, Mentoring Program, and Dance/Ballet/Karate Classes (scholarships are available.)

For more information and registration, please call 214-544-1886.

Trinity Prayer Chapel
Dr. Reynolds Wood, Senior Pastor
P. O. Box 650
Dallas, TX 75251
Service Location is:
406 N. Tennessee
McKinney, TX 75069
214-544-1886

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972-240-2121, phone 24hrs
972-240-3131, Fax

Faithway Fellowship Baptist Church
Of Hamilton Park
8219 Bunche Dr. Dallas, TX 75243
Church Office: (972) 792-0239
Pastor's Office: (972) 792-0240
Service Times
Sunday School:.....9:45AM
Morning Worship 11:00AM
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00PM
Pastor Derrick L. Bowman, Sr.
PEOPLE OF FAITH WITH A MIND TO WORK

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

Ben Washington Baptist Church, Inc.
3901 Frisco Avenue
Irving, TX 75061
Church 972-790-8421 Fax 972-986-6590
Email: church@bwbeirving.org
Web: bwbeirving.org
Dr. Joseph R. Sheppard, Pastor
"THE CHURCH WITH AN OPEN BIBLE"
Sunday Worship Services: 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. | 9:45 a.m. Sunday School | 6:00 p.m. Baptist Training Union
Wednesday: 12:00 p.m. Bible Study | 7:00 p.m. Prayer Hour | 7:30 p.m. Bible Study

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Living Obediently Victoriously Expectantly
A. Louis Patterson, III • Pastor
Service Times:
Church Unusual
Sundays @ 9:30AM
TNL! ~ Tuesday Night Live
Tuesdays @ 7:30PM
Worship Location:
Ivy Education Center
903 W. Parker Road
Plano, Texas 75023
(NE Corner of W. Parker Rd and Alma Rd)
Mailing Address:
1409 S. Lamar Street • Ste. 257
Dallas, Texas 75215
(214) 761-1175 off.
www.thelovechurch.com
"Loving The World With The Word!"

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Rev. Cecil T. Smith, II Senior Pastor
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SUNDAY
10:00 am: Sunday School
11:00 am: Morning Worship
MONDAY
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm: Men of Power and Women of Power
TUESDAY
7:00 pm- 8:00 pm: Bible Study & Worship Service
14000 Preston Road • Dallas, TX 75254 • 972-980-0977 (Church Phone)

THE MOVE OF GILEAD
Jesus Christ, Chief Overseer
Overseer Craig L. Cobb (First Lady - Meikel Cobb)
Pastor Mancil Carroll, II (First Lady - Maxine Carroll)
Sunday School - 9:30 am
Morning Worship - 11:15 am
Wednesday Night Bible Study - 7:30 pm
1016 Pioneer Road • Mesquite, Tx 75149
972-289-1200 • 972-289-1206 - fax
www.TheMoveOfGilead.org
There Are No Limitations To Our Expectations In God

New Life Fellowship Church
New Worship Location:
Wyndham Garden Hotel-Park Central
8051 LBJ Freeway • Dallas, TX 75251
Bishop Miller E. Johnson Jr., Senior Pastor
Mailing Address:
P. O. Box 940466 • Plano, TX 75094-0466
972-671-1096 (Church)
A Place of New Beginnings. . . II Corinthians 5:17
Sunday Life Bible School ..... 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Life Worship Service ..... 10:00 a.m.
Life In The Word Prayer and Bible Study (Wednesdays) ..... 7:00 p.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"