

## The Truth Clinic

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Fifty Cents

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# The Gazette

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## People In The News



The Mesquite NAACP is proud to announce the winner of a full tuition scholarship in Cosmetology, donated by Billie Culver Owner/ Director of Metroplex Beauty School in Mesquite, to Mahogany Smith a 2003 graduate of Mesquite High School. Ms. Smith (on the right), is pictured with Metroplex instructor Ms. Aaron.

The recipient of the scholarship was chosen by an essay contest and qualifications. The essay was entitled, "How Cosmetology has benefited African Americans through the years and why it is your career choice."

On January 3, 2006 Ms. Smith graced the doors of Metroplex Beauty School in Mesquite and is now a full time student.

Mahogany expressed she had been wanting to pursue a career in cosmetology since she was a little girl. "I had to realize that God does His work in His time not ours. My first day of school has been great and a true blessing," she said.

Mahogany's mother, Ruby Smith was also grateful. "What a blessing. Thank you so much. While Mahogany and I both know that this scholarship was a gift from God, we are thankful that God worked through you and the Mesquite NAACP," she said.

"Mahogany's prayers have been answered", said Denise Upchurch of the Mesquite NAACP.

Plano Fire Chief, William Peterson has received a Presidential FEMA appointment and will retire from the Plano Fire Department.

"It is with mixed emotions that I announce the retirement of William E. Peterson as Plano's Fire Chief," stated City Manager Thomas H. Muehlenbeck. "Since October, 1982, Bill has done an outstanding job for the City of Plano. It is also my pleasure to announce that Bill has been offered, and has accepted, a White House Presidential appointment as the Director of Region VI of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. His retirement is effective January 31, 2006."

Chief Peterson is credited with developing a progressive fire service organization delivering a wide range of fire protection and emergency medical services to our community, which has grown rapidly, since he started in 1982.

"I believe the Fire Department will be left in good hands to continue to deliver the highest level of service possible," stated Peterson. "The Plano Fire Department is the best in the country. I know the men and women of the Department will continue to make Plano's Department a progressive fire service organization. I will miss each and every one of them."



Lynn Swann, the former Pittsburgh Steelers star and veteran football commentator for ABC Sports, announced last week in Pittsburgh that he's running for governor of Pennsylvania.

Swann, 53, will face three other candidates for the Republican nomination in the May 16 primary. The winner likely will face Democratic Gov. Ed Rendell, who is expected to seek

a second four-year term. If elected, Swann said he would not resume his ABC broadcasting career even on a part-time basis. Rendell moonlights as a Philadelphia Eagles post-game analyst for Comcast SportsNet in Philadelphia.

"I think the people of Pennsylvania would rather have a governor who is committed to being there," Swann said. Swann - who would be the state's first black governor - told the Associated Press that he hopes to convince blacks that he is a better candidate than Rendell, the former Philadelphia mayor.

The Democratic Party has "taken the African-American vote for granted," Swann said.

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## Coretta Scott King Joins Celebration Of Slain Husband's Life



By: S.A. Reid

About 1,500 King Center supporters joined the family of Martin Luther King Jr. Saturday night in celebrating the slain civil rights leader's life and legacy during the annual Salute to Greatness dinner at the Hyatt Regency.

His widow, Coretta Scott King, who suffered a stroke and heart attack last August, made a surprise appearance late in the evening, joining two of her children, Dexter

and Yolanda King, who served as emcee for the evening.

The event was "electrified" by the appearance of Mrs. King, said Rainbow/PUSH Coalition Southeastern Region Director Joe Beasley. "She looks wonderful. There was a kind of a buzz. I knew something was happening. She looks just as s tately as ever. Very alert. Everybody is absolutely thrilled. This is a special night made even more special."

Isaac Farris Jr., King's nephew, took the opportunity to offer assurances that the mission and work of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Non-Violent Social Change remains strong. The center, founded by Mrs. King, will

Coretta Scott King Page 3

## Fearing Land Takeover, New Orleans Residents Blast Rebuilding Plan



By: Cain Burdeau

Angry residents expressed frustration Wednesday at the debut of rebuilding proposals for New Orleans, taking aim at a suggested four-month moratorium on new building permits in areas heavily flooded by Hurricane Katrina.

"Our neighborhood is ready to come home," said property owner Jeb Bruneau of Lakeview, which borders Lake Pontchartrain. "Don't get in our way and prevent us from doing that. Help us cut the red tape."

The Bring New Orleans Back Commission, appointed by Mayor Ray Nagin, released its initial recommendations to a packed crowd of local residents. The plans could become part of a blueprint for rebuilding New Orleans - a task unparalleled in

Land Takeover Page 8

## Let's Get Rid Of Congress

By: James Clingman

Why not? What good is it? What power does it have? For whom does it work? Considering the things that have taken place just over the past few months, it is obvious our Congress cannot do anything to stop the thievery, the cronyism, and the absolute power of King George and his band of miscreants, so we may as well call it day for Congress. We are just wasting our money paying their salaries; I'm sure Cheney and the gang can put it to better use. So let's try it, at least for a while, and maybe our Congress will finally realize they work for us - not George Bush and company.

Isn't Congress there for checking and balancing? Aren't they in Washington to legislate on behalf of "the people"? Didn't you elect them to protect your interests? Aren't they getting paid six figures, with the best retirement plans on earth to boot? Are they doing their jobs? The answers are obvious, so let's kick 'em out in

November 2006.

Dubya recently called a meeting of political "O.G.s," which also included his two Black tokens, Condi and Colin; Bush did his fake mea culpa, we're all-in-this-together charade, and his photo-op, to get us to believe he is sincerely interested in what we think. That was just after he went back into his bag of tricks and made another recess appointment of one of his gals, Julie Myers, a no-experience, neophyte who is now responsible for a \$4 billion budget and 20,000 employees at the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency no less. Bush is definitely a Playa. 1

Blackonomics Page 5

## Preservation Of Historical Mesquite Cemetery Designed To Unite Community



By: Paul Hailey

Tucked away in a remote area of the City of Mesquite is an abandoned cemetery that represents a significant chapter of the city's history, and is expected to help unite community

groups in the city's future.

The Brickyard Cemetery is the place of burial for many African American laborers who worked at the local brick factory at the turn of the century.

Preservation Of Cemetery Page 5

## Liberian President Unveils Cabinet Picks

President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf on Tuesday unveiled her first nominations for Cabinet-level positions in Liberia's postwar elected government, tapping a female international banker to be her economy minister.

On her first full day in office, Africa's first elected female head of state also met foreign dignitaries and addressed a group of traditional leaders, calling on the war-ravaged country's elders to educate their young.

"Don't let your children go in the market, don't let them on the farm let them go to school," she told the tribal leaders from across Liberia.

State radio read out the first nominations for 22 Cabinet positions in Liberia's first democratically elected government since the end of the most recent in a series of civil wars between 1989-2003.

Antoinette Saydee, who has held posts as World Bank



New Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf Unveils First Nominations for Cabinet-Level Positions

country chief for various West African nations, is the economics minister-designate.

Johnson Sirleaf also tapped a one-time national police chief, Brownie Samaki, as defense minister. Both nominees must be approved by the Senate.

Johnson Sirleaf, a 67-year-old holder of an advanced degree from Harvard University, took the oath of office Monday. Scores of for-

Liberian President Page 8

## A New Home for Your Old Technology

City Offers Computer Recycling 3rd Saturdays

Laptops, handhelds, and new PCs were at the top of many holiday lists this season, but before settling into enjoying these new gadgets, the City of Plano's Household Chemical Collection Program asks persons to consider what will happen to the technology they're replacing.

In an effort to recover electronic equipment before it reaches the landfill, and salvage any reusable valuable materials, the City of Plano's Household Chemical Collection Program offers a monthly residential electronic recycling collection every third Saturday of every

month. The collection is held at the Parkway Service Center at 4120 W. Plano Parkway between 9am and 11am, with January 21 designated as the first Saturday of the new year for electronic recycling collection. View items accepted at [www.planoenvironmentalwaste.com/electronicsrecycling.htm](http://www.planoenvironmentalwaste.com/electronicsrecycling.htm).

Most electronic equipment contains hazardous materials such as lead, cadmium, and mercury that could potentially be released into the environment when tossed in the landfill. In fact, an average PC monitor alone contains 4-6 pounds of lead. "As PCs, third Saturday of every

Computer Recycling Page 9

## Kweisi Mfume Speaks at MLK Awards, Councilman Chaney Criticizes Fee

By: Gwen Elder

Over 300 people gathered Saturday, January 14, at The Dallas Apparel Mart to hear former NAACP President and former U.S. Congressman Kweisi Mfume speak as part of the 25th Annual MLK Awards Banquet.

The banquet was sponsored by the MLK Community Center and the City of Dallas, Environmental & Health Services Department. The event was not without criticism, as District 7 City Councilman Leo Chaney questioned the wisdom of spending \$25,000 for Mr. Mfume to speak at a fund-



Kweisi Mfume Speaks Page 4



## Plano Community Forum Officer Installation



(Front Row Left to Right) Fred Moses, Patricia Humphress, Brenda McDonald, Dr. Myrtle Hightower, Rev. Clara Reed, Charles Harris, (Back Row Left to Right) Herb Miller, Julius Chambers, Arthur Young, George McDonald, Earl Simpkins

By: Paul Hailey  
The Plano Community Forum recently installed its 2006 officers at a recent meeting.

The Plano Community Forum is a community-based organization that provides opportunities for minority students graduating from Plano high schools.

The forum also promotes cultural enrichment and community involvement.

### The 2006 officers are:

President - Brenda McDonald  
VP Programs - Charles Harris  
VP Activities - Patricia Humphress  
VP Membership - Earl Simpkins  
VP Public Relations/Historian - Herb Miller  
VP Civic Affairs - Dr. Myrtle Hightower  
Corresponding/Recording Secretary - Julius Chambers  
Financial Secretary - Mazzie Moses  
Treasurer - Arthur Young

Parliamentarian - George McDonald  
Chaplain - Rev. Clara Reed  
Upcoming events for the Plano Community Forum include the Annual Sweethearts

Ball on February 11, 2006, Annual Golf Tournament, Annual Scholarship Reception, and the 25th Anniversary Awards Banquet in October 2006.

## Hibernia Opens New Plano Branch



Hibernia Bank (Los Rios and 14th Street)



Cassandra Faulkner, Deanna Coberly, Melissa McKenzie



Hibernia Hummer



Games for Kids



Games for Kids

Photos By: E. DeWayne Gibson, Jr.  
Hibernia Bank recently celebrated the grand opening of a new

branch in Plano located at 4024 14th Street. The Los Rios branch is now the fourth Hibernia location in

the city of Plano. The grand opening featured promotions, activities and fun for children.

### Around The Town

#### Ongoing

**A Ballroom Dance** with a live band at the McKinney Senior Recreation Center and Indoor Pool, 1400 S. College St., Thursdays, 6:00 p.m. Call 972-547-7491 for information.

**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 Dallas Symphony Orchestra** featuring pianist Andre Watts will perform 8:00 p.m. Call 214-692-0203 for information. January 19-22.

**A New Way to Look at Texas**, "African American Museum: Souvenir's From the Earth: Cultures of Soil". December 16 - March 12, 2006. Call 214-565-9026 for information.

**"Something All Our Own"** Grant Hill art collection of 46 pieces by African American artists is on display at the Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 N. Harwood St. For more information call 214-922-1200. January 6-April 17.

**The Collin County Historical Society** and History Museum presents the Civil War Exhibit, 105 North Chestnut St. @ Virginia. (McKinney) Call 972-542-9457. Exhibit

runs January 15-April 30, 2006.

**The First Baptist Church** is again offering "DivorceCare" beginning January 15 and running for 13 weeks. Call 972-727-8241 for information.

**The RISD** collecting used books new and used videos, CD's for the PTAs' Used Book Fair. January 17-27.

**"Parenting Our Parents,"** a course discussing issues adults face as their parents age will begin at 7:00 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 7659 Preston Rd. January 18-February 15.

**Pan American Art Gallery** opens exhibit entitled "Painted Words", January 19 through February 18, 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. The exhibit features works by Wosne Kasorf of Ethiopia and Andres Waissman of Argentina, 3303 Lee Parkway, Ste. 101. Call 214-522-3303.

**Free classes available** on how to repair credit and prepare to buy a home will be offered from 9:00-3:00 p.m. each second Saturday of the month. The meetings will be held at the Jeffries Street Learning Center, 3001 Grand Ave. in South Dallas. Call 214-426-1834.

**Collin County Health Care Services** will offer flu shots at a reduced cost beginning December 26. Flu vaccinations are given Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m., 825 N. McDonald Street in McKinney. Call 972-548-5578 for information.

#### The Women's Museum

**Premieres "Artist Among Us"**, featuring 10 local women artists' perspective on how art is found in daily life and how communities are affected in which they work., Tuesday- Sunday, Noon to 5:00 p.m. Call 214-915-0871 for information. November 17-January 29, 2006

**The Richardson Optimist Club** is selling mixed nuts, fudge, etc to raise funds for its youth activities. Contact any Optimist Club member or call 972-233-9597.

**At Risk African American, Latino and Asian women** who wish to participate in a study to find ways to increase breast cancer survival are ask to call Kirsten Shelby, 214-648-1919 for information. November 16-

**A Free Legal Clinic** is offered at 6:00 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at First

**United Methodist Church**, 601 S. Greenville Ave. Applicants must be Collin County residents and income eligible. Call 1-800-906-3045.

**Blue Horizon Chorus**, a volunteer chorus seeks seniors to sign at retirement and nursing homes. It meets from 10 a.m.-Noon, Wednesdays at the Mesquite Arts Center, 1572 N. Galloway Ave. Call 214-566-8459.

**Assistance League of Greater Collin County** meets the third Wednesday of each month. Visit [www.assistance-league-gcc.org](http://www.assistance-league-gcc.org).

**Collin County Health Care**

**Services** continues offering flu shots from 8:00-11:00 a.m., Monday- Friday at 825 N. McDonald St., McKinney. Call 972-548-5532 for information.

**Spirit of Praise Community and Youth Choir** now forming. Participants are needed who sing and play instruments. Practices begin on the 2nd and 4th Sunday. For information call 817-626-7342.

**Allen Public Library's Genre Book Club** meets at 7:00 p.m. every third Monday in the Library Board Rm., 300 N. Allen Drive. Call 214-509-4906 for information.

**Alcoholics Anonymous:** Garland Clean Air, a local Alcoholics Anonymous Chapter, has extended its hours. The group meets at noon Mondays thru Fridays, 11:00 a.m. Saturdays and 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, First Christian Church, 115 S. Glenbrook Drive. Call 972-994-7879.

#### January 19

**The Denton Black Chamber of Commerce Presents, "Who You Gonna Blame Now?"**, a seminar on wills, retirement and long term care, 5:30 p.m., American Legion Hall, 629 Lakey St. For more information call 940-349-8298 or 940-565-9015.

#### January 21

**The Literary Voices Roundtable Writer's Breakfast** will be held from 10:00 a.m. in Rm. T-203 at the

Black Academy of Arts and Letters, 650 S. Griffin. For information call 214-743-2440.

#### January 22

**Path Way to Purpose Program** for men and women, The Church in Dallas at Hutchins, 107 North Crockett Rd. Call 1-888-418-0957 for information.

**The Mesquite Symphony Orchestra** performs Pops and Jazz Concert, 7:30 p.m., Concert Hall at the Mesquite Arts Center, 1527 N. Galloway Ave. Call 972-216-8127.

**Final day** to submit your original poem(s) to the Dallas Public Library's Youth Poetry Competition called "Express Yourself." Call 214-670-1671 for information.

**African American Wine Tasting Society** hosts a Wine and Chocolate Tasting 6:30., 3803 Robinson Rd., The Winery in Grand Prairie. Call 214-255-0124.

**The Career and Employment Services** at the Tarrant County College Southeast Campus is sponsoring a Back-to-School/Back to Work, 9:00a.m., Tarrant County College Southeast Campus in Arlington, Main Commons. Call 817-515-3592.

#### January 28

**Methodist Health System** will offer free prostate cancer screenings (PSA blood test) 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. at the Wal-Mart in Grand Prairie located at 2225 W. I-20. For dates,

times and screening locations call 214-947-4649.

**The Texas College Concert Choir** and other Dallas Choirs will perform 6:00p.m., Kirkwood Temple CME Church, 1440 Sunny Glen Drive. Call 214-375-8685 or 214-212-6737.

#### February Ongoing

**The 7th bicentennial of African American Legislative Summit** will take place at the State Capital building in Austin, Texas. For information call 214-467-0123 or 512-463-0123. February 9-11

#### February 4

**New Next Generation** requests the pleasure of your company to attend the play "Oh, My Child", 3:00 p.m., St. Luke Life Center, 5710 R L Thornton Rd. Call 972-733-0469 for information.

#### February 17

**National Woman's Heart Day Healthy Fair**, 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., American Airlines Center, The Concourse, 2500 Victory Ave. Free and open to the public. Call 214-871-3029 for information.

#### March 25

**The Frisco High School Booster Club** is sponsoring its Spring Shopping Fair, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Frisco High School. Call 214-387-0260 for information.

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# Proud To Be An Active Partner In The Community



## THE TRUTH CLINIC Dr. King - We Need You Now!!

By: James W. Breedlove

Dr. King, we need you now more than ever.

On January 16, 2006 America paused once again to celebrate the national holiday commemorating your birthday.

While the parades, prayers, musicals, dinners, and speeches pay homage to your legacy they do not realistically honor either your dream or your vision. You preached non-violence but the life template you left us was filled with purposeful and planned direct action. We all know you were a fighter for civil and racial justice in America.

But you also articulated a far broader vision that encompassed both a revealing analysis and severe criticism of the role of the United States in the world and the duplicitous nature of our moral authority.

This vision was powerfully articulated in your "Beyond Vietnam" speech delivered at Riverside Church in New York City on April 4, 1967.

While you were focused on Vietnam the words resonate as clearly today and are applicable to America's current involvement in the Iraq war and the war against terrorism.

We are now facing many of the same issues that you confronted. America is waging another unjust war for reasons so transparent they make the Vietnam War seem just. Yet those that would be Drum Majors for justice have tepid tongues that vacillate depending on the mood of the prevailing poll. They talk loudly and endlessly about the need to do something about homelessness, affordable medical care, the environment, the justice system, election reform, the education system, and peace in the Middle East. Yet they pervert your Drum Major values into selfish exploitation of those they should be serving.

Dr. King, we live in the same misguided world that you described almost 40 years ago. The nations of the world are still engaged in a bitter contest for

supremacy and America is in the forefront of trying to rule the world. If something doesn't happen to stop this suicidal trend, none of us are going to be around, because someone is going to make a senseless and irrevocable mistake that unleashes the real weapons of mass destruction.

What you warned of then is just as valid today. You said that God has a way of breaking the backbone of decadent powerful nations. And it can happen to America because God didn't call America to do what she's now doing - to engage in a pre-fabricated war in which we are killing thousands of innocents.

Our addiction to the 20th century values of greed, selfishness, hypocrisy, and materialism has carried over into the 21st century. We talk peace but deliver war and more arms. Our leaders make speeches and pronouncements proclaiming high moral values but rarely do we see those values practiced by our politicians, corporate heads, civic leaders and, increasingly, religious leaders.

You predicted that our failure to change our ways from self-serving deception would lead to more self-serving wars. You cautioned that, "The war in Vietnam is but a symptom of a far deeper malady within the American spirit, and if we ignore this sobering reality we will find ourselves organizing concerned clergy and laymen committees for the next generation."

With a veritable army of new black civil rights leaders, elected officials, civic leaders and clergy it is a tragedy that none of these national figures display even a smidgen of your vision and commitment. You stated in your Nobel acceptance speech that no matter the obstacles you would remain committed to the "twenty-two million Negroes of the United States of America engaged in a creative battle to end the long night of racial injustice."

In your challenge to the Administration's misdeeds there was always the fear of alienating President Lyndon Johnson. However, after Johnson announced plans to divert funds

from the War on Poverty to Vietnam in December of 1966, you shifted into high gear and placed greater emphasis on criticizing the injustice and inequity of the Vietnam War.

These new impostor leaders have so coveted holding grandiose titles, donning the royal regalia, exercising the mantles of power, and associating with the rich and powerful that they neglect to serve the people's interests. They approach the Iraq War with wariness and reticence for fear of antagonizing the Bush Administration and incurring its wrath.

Today's false Drum Majors get great satisfaction from their snobishness, elitism and status symbols which gives a sense of superiority and builds walls that separate us into racial, religious, political and economic classes instead of uniting us against our common foes of poverty, ignorance, homelessness, and sickness. Since you have been gone many have tried to wear your mantle but the challenge of, "He who would be the greatest among you shall be your servant" has been too great a sacrifice.

The powers that be could tolerate a preacher fighting for civil rights. But they could not allow as famous and powerful a figure as you to morally challenge America's dominion over the rest of the world. To claim common ground between the struggles of African Americans and those of oppressed people abroad was unacceptable. And because you stood firm in the midst of overwhelming personal and organizational attacks those same power brokers elected to take your life.

Dr. King we still wonder if it was just a strange coincidence that you were assassinated precisely one year to the day after you delivered your enlightening dissertation "Beyond Vietnam: A Time To Break Silence".

We need one with your spiritual faith to again break the silence and clearly show us the evil that lies, "Beyond Iraq".

Email Comments to  
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Paul  
Hailey

The 4400 is a television show on the USA network where 4400 people that have been presumed dead and missing for years simply return looking the same as they did when they disappeared.

There are families all over Louisiana and Mississippi wishing the 4400 was a reality show.

According to National Center for Missing Adults, there are 6644 people still missing in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. According to the Center for Missing and Exploited Children, as of December 4, there are 1300 children missing. If you can stand to look, the Center has posted pictures of all the missing children on their website.

Take a minute and let that sink in. 8000 people that have simply vanished, and the federal government seems to be doing nothing to speed up the process to find them.

Nearly four months after Hurricane Katrina, we cannot account for almost 8000 people. That's nearly triple the number of people that died in New York on 9/11. Four times the official death count of U.S. servicemen that have died in Iraq.

Why is it taking so long to account for the missing?

A central part of the problem is fragmentation; there is no single, complete list of missing people within the government. The Department of Homeland Security's own website: "What

## There Is No Excuse

the government is doing", is a nightmare. The FEMA site for finding the missing is a joke. (www.firstgov.gov/Citizen/Topic/s/PublicSafety/Hurricane\_Katrina\_Recovery.shtml) The site is a jumbled mess of no less than 10 different web sites of public and private organizations providing information on the missing.

Is that the extent of what our government is doing? Simply referring families of the missing to a series of websites?

Another problem in accounting for the missing is the very way people were evacuated by FEMA after the hurricane. In their rush to evacuate the area in the midst of the horrifying images of the trapped victims being shown on television, FEMA dispersed families across all 48 contiguous states. In the course of evacuations, officials separated families and forced people onto buses, planes and helicopters that went in different directions.

Bob O'Brien, director of the National Center for Missing Adults missing children's division believes the majority of the children will eventually be accounted for.

"Most of the children probably are safe but separated from relatives or guardians, who because of the haphazard evacuation cannot find them," he said.

"They might be in foster care or staying with friends or Good Samaritans. But no one can be sure until they are found, and accomplishing that has become more difficult as shelters close and as those searching, or being

sought for, shift locations."

This problem will worsen when FEMA stops paying for hotel rooms for the evacuated in February, forcing people to move yet again. The current cutoff date is February 7th, pending the result of pending class-action litigation.

Republicans and Democrats agree on few things, but they do agree on one central point. The duty of government in the time of crisis is to come to the aid of its people. Mayor Ray Nagin recently released the proposed plan for rebuilding New Orleans; congressional hearings are currently examining the reasons for the delay in the government response to Katrina. However, the most crucial question is being lost in all the rhetoric: Where are the missing people? Where are the missing children?

That those questions can't be answered is sad and distressing. That no one at FEMA seems to be doing anything about it is a travesty.

The missing are mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters and children. Excuses have been made for the delays in response and the incredible incompetence at FEMA. Our government has an obligation to do a much better job in accounting for the missing whether dead or alive. When that obligation concerns missing Americans, there are no excuses.

For the families of the missing that's not part of a TV show, that is reality.

## Thug Culture Is Dangerous Threat To Black America

By: Cynthia Tucker

BET, plans to air a new unscripted show celebrating Kimberly Jones -- aka Lil' Kim -- for her crimes. Promotional ads for the show, "Countdown to Lockdown," declare that Jones entered prison with her "mouth shut, head held high, as she refuses to snitch."

Jones, a rap star, recently began serving a year and a day for lying to a grand jury investigating a 2001 shootout between her entourage and a rival rap crew.

One executive, Reginald Hudlin, declared that "Countdown" -- six episodes filmed during Jones' final two weeks of freedom -- will reveal the "consequences of (Jones') choices." But Tracey Edmonds, executive director of "Countdown," was less restrained in her enthusiasm for those choices, saying she would "have to support" Jones.

"... Even though it was against the law, she was under a lot of pressure. ... She was taught from day one that you do not snitch," Edmonds said.

Is this why the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. made the ultimate sacrifice? Is this why Rosa Parks refused to yield her seat? Did countless civil rights veterans put everything on the line so that, someday, a handful of black men and women could make a fortune encouraging young blacks to lawlessness?

The popularity of thug culture is among the most serious of modern-day threats to black

America, far more dangerous than any lingering institutional racism. Its mores mimic prison culture: the ubiquitous droopy-pants-look drew its inspiration from jail procedures, where men are stripped of their belts upon arrest. It romanticizes casual violence, helping to ensure that black fratricide will go unabated.

According to the FBI's Uniform Crime Report, black men are the likely perpetrators in more than 40 percent of the homicides in which a suspect has been identified. That's staggering -- given that black men account for only about 6 percent of the population. But black men are their own worst enemies: They also account for about 40 percent of the nation's homicide victims.

No drumbeat or rhyme ever put a gun in anyone's hand. But some rap lyrics do make violence seem an assurance of manliness. Not only does much rap music (and I use the word "music" advisedly) glorify men who carry guns and intimidate or kill their foes, but some rap artists have engaged in actual violence. Some have gone to prison. Some are dead. Apparently, their close association with criminal activity gives them "street creds," making them more popular.

Not only have a handful of black artists and producers become very wealthy, but so have many whites. Indeed, raunchy rap music sells well in affluent white suburbs, where

teens may enjoy the vicarious thrill but are insulated from the real-life risks.

So, for that matter, are affluent blacks such as Hudlin, a Harvard grad, or Edmonds, a successful Hollywood executive recently separated from wealthy music producer Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds. They can afford to live in high-walled seclusion, away from the casual violence they pimp to others. Even Lil' Kim is likely to survive her incarceration with her bank account intact. In fact, with her BET deal, Jones must have become more valuable the closer she got to prison.

The victims of thug culture are more likely to be young black men such as Lonnell Wade, 20, shot to death in November 2004 as he walked home from work in a run-down suburban Atlanta neighborhood. His killer, Alvin High, 18, told friends he shot Wade to test a gun he had stolen.

In their confession to police, High and his friends said they had been cruising the streets listening to music by a group called "Crime Mob." Its lyrics include the following:

"Pop wit a glock and I stay wit a K (AK47)

"If you come my way I'm act a fool."

Indeed.

Cynthia Tucker is editorial page editor for The Atlanta Journal-Constitution. She can be reached by e-mail: cynthia@ajc.com.

### Where Do You Want To Go Today?

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## MON The Gazette

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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



## The First Semester "A Time to Review"

By: David Tyson, Jr.

By the time the semester holidays break was upon North Dallas County and Collin County school districts a plethora of events were occurring. None carried a greater impact than the Texas Supreme Court ruling in Neeley, et al. v. West Orange-Cove Consolidated Independent School District. Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst announced the formation of a Senate Select Committee on Education Reform and Public School Finance. Senator Florence Shapiro (Plano) was named chair of the committee. Senator Royce West (Dallas) is also a member of the committee. The committee will make recommendations to the Texas Senate on legislation that ensures compliance with the Supreme Court's decision, improves public schools, and reduces school property taxes. A special session is expected this spring.

Meanwhile, back on the school campuses, Richardson ISD received visits from two high profile alumni, Everson Walls — Richardson Berkner graduate, and Marshawn Evans — Richardson High graduate. Mr. Walls made an appearance at the playoff game between Berkner and Skyline. After the game, he spoke to his former Berkner team congrat-

ulating them on their victory. Mr. Walls spent 14 years in the NFL and continues to give back to the community where he was raised.

If the name Marshawn Evans doesn't ring your bell, just ask Donald Trump. Ms. Evans spent 10 expositions on The Apprentice, and was called back



to assist with the final expose. In town visiting family, Ms. Evans came by the administration building for a visit with the RISD board of trustees.

I also want to take a moment to congratulate the coaches of Richardson Berkner High School and Lake Highlands High School for taking their football teams into the third and second round of the 5A district play-offs. Coaches, great job on and off the field! Katrina

evacee students are settling into the changes of our public school systems, and many have decided to make North Dallas County their home, at least until the end of the 2006 school year.

Efforts continue to close the achievement gap, but our school districts cannot do this alone. An article in the American School Board Journal, "Building a positive future for black boys", addresses the need to move from words to deeds and work to save our most vulnerable population. It is as much the responsibility of parents, the faith community and social organizations in which these students live to nurture and mentor. Schools in RISD, GISD, and PISD need volunteers from diverse backgrounds to help us continue to make progress. Take time to give back, volunteer!

Until the next six weeks, let's make a difference; there are some "Smart A kids", waiting on you.

David Tyson is a member of the Richardson Independent School District Board of Trustees. If you are interested in being a school volunteer contact your local school district office or their web site. If you are not sure about your school district you may e-mail, "North Dallas Responds" at mentoring@northdallasresponds.net

Kweisi Mfume Speaks Page 1

raising event.

**MON-The Gazette** attempted to contact officials from the MLK Community Center to get their response regarding Chaney's concern, but at press time the call was not returned.

Despite the criticism, Mr. Mfume's speech was thoughtful and reflective as he put the significance of King's contributions to Civil Rights in perspective. He stressed that

King was a young man when thrust into the world spotlight and into a course of events that would change this nation and indeed, the world. Mr. Mfume recounted that Dr. King was 26 years old when he led the Montgomery bus boycott; in his 30's when he received the Nobel Peace Prize; and 39 years old when he was assassinated. "King was a stalwart in the storm. He was competent, capable, qualified and prepared," Mr.

Mfume emphasized."

In addressing the question that was frequently asked during the King celebrations—whether or not the dream has been achieved—Mr. Mfume stressed, "It is not a matter of coming a long way, but still having a long way to go. We need men and women who will stand up and speak out. Because, it is what we do today as benefactors of King's and others legacy, that determines what happens in the future."



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## Black Enterprise Announces List Of 50 Most Powerful Women In Business

Black Enterprise President & CEO Earl "Butch" Graves Jr. today announced the publication's list of the 50 Most Powerful Women in Business, as featured in the magazine's February 2006 cover story. The list includes two chairwomen, 11 CEOs and 13 presidents, representing the top echelon of women in business. The final tally was culled from hundreds of potential candidates across numerous industries-including the finance, food/beverage, media, entertainment, communications, and government sectors. The final 50 have authority over budgets totaling billions of dollars and control subsidiaries, divisions, or departments that affect the fiscal health and direction of their businesses. They range from senior managers of multinational corporations to founders of some of the nation's largest black-owned businesses.

### The Top 20 Most Powerful Black Women in Business are:

**Adrian E. Bracy**, VP Finance, St. Louis Rams  
**Janice Bryant Howroyd**, CEO, Act 1 Group  
**Ursula M. Burns**, President, Business Group Operations/Corporate SVP, Xerox Corp.  
**Susan Chapman**, Global Head of Operations, Citigroup Realty Services  
**Edith W. Cooper**, Head of North American Hedge Fund Distribution, Fixed Income, Currencies & Commodities, Goldman Sachs  
**Jerri DeVard**, Senior VP, Brand Management & Marketing, Verizon  
**Amy Ellis-Simon**, Managing Director, Head of Multiproduct Sales, Merrill Lynch  
**Diana S. Ferguson**, SVP of Strategy & Corporate Development, Sara Lee Corp.  
**Ann Fudge**, Chairman &

CEO, Y&R and Young & Rubicam Brands



Featured are Starcom MediaVest Group CEO Renetta McCann; Verizon Senior VP Jerri DeVard; and BET Chairwoman, President and CEO Debra L. Lee.

**Vicki L. Fuller**, SVP & Senior Portfolio Manager, Alliance Capital Management Corp.  
**Linda Gooden**, President, Information Technology,

Lockheed Martin

**Glenda Goodly McNeal**, SVP & General Manager, Retail & Emerging Industries, Establishment Services, North America, American Express  
**Kim Green**, Executive VP, Willis Global Risk Solutions  
**Carla A. Harris**, Managing Director, Global Capital Markets, Morgan Stanley  
**Bridgette Heller**, Global President, Baby, Kids & Wound Care Franchise, Johnson & Johnson Consumer Products Co.  
**Melody Hobson**, President, Ariel Capital Management L.L.C.

**Cathy L. Hughes**, Founder & Chairman, Radio One Inc.

**Donna A. James**, President, Nationwide Strategic Investments, Nationwide Mutual Insurance Co.

**Melissa James**, Managing Director, Morgan Stanley

**Sheila C. Johnson**, CEO, Salamander Hospitality L.L.C.

## Law Imposes New ID-Theft Requirements On Texas Retailers

All receipts for goods or services bought in Texas now must conceal all but the final four digits of the debit or credit card number.

Dec. 31 was the deadline for all Texas retailers to comply with a state law, enacted in 2003, to reduce identity theft by requiring retailers to print no more than the last four

numbers of a debit or credit card or to print the card's expiration date on receipts.

"Identity theft is a problem that threatens every Texas consumer, and this common-sense measure helps reduce that threat," Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott said. "I urge consumers to check their receipts and notify my office if they see noncompliance."

The attorney general and local prosecutors are responsible for enforcing the law.

Consumers who notice that a receipt generated after Dec. 31 contains more than the last four digits of a card number are urged to file complaints with the attorney general. Violators are liable for a civil penalty of up to \$500 for each calendar month

of violations.

The law also requires companies that lease or sell cash registers or other receipt-printing machines to notify their lessees or buyers of the new requirements.

Retailers with cash registers or other types of receipt-printing machines installed before Aug. 31, 2003, were required to comply by Aug. 31, 2004.

## EDS Lands Outsourcing Deal With United Airlines

Electronic Data Systems Corp. has signed a 10-year information-technology service contract with United Airlines to upgrade United's technology base, reducing its operating costs.

Financial terms of the agreement were not disclosed Tuesday. Under the deal, the Plano-based technology com-

pany will manage more than 36,000 desktop computers for United and provide help-desk services for United employees in about 320 locations worldwide. EDS (NYSE: EDS) also will upgrade all aspects of United's end-user communications and computing environments in reservations, offices and airports.

In addition, EDS says it will be responsible for related asset management, procurement and third-party provider relationships.

EDS has provided business process outsourcing services, such as passenger reservations, back-office support and cargo booking, for United for the last three years. The company said

in a news release that it is the largest provider of global information technology infrastructure services to the airline industry.

United, based in Elk Grove Township, Ill., is the world's second-largest airline. The company filed for bankruptcy protection in 2002 and is currently undergoing reorganization.

### Preservation Of Cemetery Page 1

The Dallas Pressed Brick Company was started by Schuyler Marshall, Sr. in 1904, just to the west of the town of Mesquite. The factory was the first industrial business in the area, and Mr. Marshall donated several acres of the company property to the African American workers for homes, a school (Carver Elementary) which also doubled as a church, and land for burials. The land was never formally dedicated as a cemetery, when the brick factory closed in 1950's, the cemetery was abandoned.

The Mesquite Chapter of NAACP is partnering with the City of Mesquite, Historic Mesquite, Inc., the Mesquite Chamber of Commerce and various community leaders in promoting the Brickyard

Cemetery Preservation Project. The project is designed to memorialize the Brickyard Cemetery and preserve the eighty graves that have been identified on the three acre tract. Consulting on the project is Brooks Fitch, who previously consulted in the construction of the Freedmen's Memorial in Dallas.

"We are responsible for the legacy we leave," he commented. "This project will be a physical memorial to the African Americans buried there, but will be an intellectual memorial to all members of the Mesquite community."

The townspeople of Mesquite were not open to the workers moving into the town, so the workers moved from the property. The homes and school were torn down. For a number of

years, the land simply sat unoccupied. In 1996, Historic Mesquite began research on the history of the land, located just east of Peachtree Road and west of Interstate 635. A visit from an archeological steward sent by the Texas Historical Commission uncovered eighty burial sites. The City of Mesquite purchased land in 2002, and began working with the Mesquite NAACP and Historic Mesquite to preserve the site.

Mr. Fitch emphasized the significance of the memorial for the future of all of Mesquite, not just African Americans.

"It is important that people realize this is the foundation for the future of the City of Mesquite. Through the participation of the City of Mesquite, the Mesquite Chamber of Commerce and various commu-

nity groups and corporations, the entire city will be represented. That includes the Anglo, Hispanic and Black communities."

The Mesquite NAACP is overseeing the erection of the memorial and is currently raising funds for its construction. The memorial will be made of brick, iron and stone and will list the names of those believed to have been buried in the cemetery, as recovered from historical records. A Texas historical marker will also be incorporated into the memorial.

Parties interested in making donations to the Brickyard Cemetery Preservation Project should do so by contacting the Mesquite NAACP, P.O. Box 851043, Mesquite, TX, 75185, 972-288-0281, or visit [www.mesquitenaacp.org](http://www.mesquitenaacp.org).

### Blackonomics Page 1

might start calling him, "Goldie! Goldie!"

Congress meets and speaks and meets and speaks, ad nauseam, only to disappear when George starts to pimp "the people," which is virtually 24/7/365. You can't find them with a search warrant in the Capitol Building when you really need them to stand up for us. Are they afraid of the diabolical "Darth Vader Cheney" and the evil villain "Simon LaGree Rumsfeld?"

Why do we need a Congress when we have a King and his court? Or, should I say court jesters? It looks like most of them will be busy for a while anyway, either in court or in prison, after taking bribes from Jack "Rip-em-off" Abramoff. (Did Jack give any of his "jack" to CBC members? I didn't see any Black folks on his list.)

Congress doesn't have time to stop Bush's budget cuts in agencies that help poor people. They don't have time to look into what Bush knew prior to the mine tragedy in

Tallmansville, W. Va., just as they didn't have time to hold him accountable for the information he had before the levies broke in New Orleans. Should I also mention the information Bush had prior to the World Trade Center disappearing act? David Copperfield couldn't top that illusion.

I'm telling you, we don't need Congress. Those folks are doing a lot to us but very little for us? Are they really representin' you? They voted for a bankruptcy bill that allows big corporations to continue to file but prevents poor people from doing so. They voted for a raid on Iraq's natural resources, disguised as a "war on terror," in which thousands have been slaughtered. They allow King George to lock-up U.S. citizens without due process, tap our phones, and check our records. What's next? Internment camps? Or worse? Watch out for those new televisions you are so eager to buy, especially you "gangstas" out there. As Jill Scott says, "Am I watching it or is it watching me?"

Let's throw the Congress out. Based on what it is doing now, we don't need it. Brothas, let's get out our platform goldfish-heeled shoes, our pink and mustard-colored crushed velvet, elephant-ear bellbottomed suits, and our wide-brimmed hats with the feathers on the sides, and let's kick it like George.

Sistahs, like Johnny Gill sang, "Put on your red dress," break out your spiked heels, and maybe a feather boa to accent it all. Cowboy King George is comin' to a street near you looking to add to his stable. If you ain't quite up on your game, maybe he'll let Condi give you a refresher course on how to "get over."

Heck, we don't need no stinkin' Congress. We can get paid without them; George and his buddies. Let's see if they'll let us roll with them, 'cause George and his homies prove it really is all about the Benjamins. Aw-aigh?

What good is Congress if it cannot or will not impeach this Commander-of-Thieves? After all, they impeached the real Playa, the original Pimp, Bill

Clinton, for gettin' it on with just one of his ladies. George Bush has been doin' it to most of the country and a brothas can't even get a hearing on Bush's high crimes and misdemeanors, John Conyers' efforts notwithstanding.

A long time ago, 56 men signed a document declaring they were not going to take it anymore. They told King George they were fed up. They put their lives, their families, and their fortunes on the line. I guess they were just tired of the nonsense, and they decided to at least act like a Congress and do something about their mistreatment by someone they called, "A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant..." They went on to say that this man "is unfit to be the ruler of a free people."

Hey Congress! Hello! Are you listening? Stop pimpin' us; and hollaatchaboy, George about pimpin' us, too. If you ain't down for that and don't wanna represent for "yo peeps" then let the doorknob hitcha where the good Lord splitcha. I'm out!

## Free Youth Computer Training Classes

Teens Reaching Teens, Inc. and Teen Graffiti magazine have partnered with SJS Graphic Arts, a graphic design and printing company located in Garland, Texas, to offer a variety of computer training classes for youth ages 8-18. The goal of this program is to provide students hands-on technical, business and computer skills that will enable them to become better students while enhancing their business and professional skills.

Trained professionals provide instruction in desktop publishing, computer graphics and web page design at Teens Reaching Teens' state-of-the-art computer lab located in Garland. For a

limited time, FREE, individualized instruction will begin February 2006 through April 2006 in the following courses: Microsoft Word, Photoshoph, InDesign, QuarkXpress, Illustrator, Pagemaker, Freehand, Flash and many more.

Courses are offered Wednesday and Friday 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.; Thursday 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.; and Saturday 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Space is limited! For more information or to register for classes call 972-496-9457 or email [info@teensreachingteens.org](mailto:info@teensreachingteens.org).

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## Young Texans Compete in Gardere's Annual MLK Oratory Competitions



(L-R) Clarice Tinsley, KDFW anchor, Sedrick Kinner of Clara Oliver Elementary, Bre'Ana Offord of H.S. Thompson Learning Center, Ernest James of Robert L. Thornton Elementary, and Steve Good, Gardere Wynne Sewell Managing Partner.

Photo By: Ronald Coleman

Inspiring young speakers in these cities competed in the finals of the annual Martin Luther King Jr. Oratory Competition, sponsored by the law firm of Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP on January 12th.

Bre'Ana Offord of H.S. Thompson Learning Center placed first in the Dallas

Gardere MLK Oratory Competition for the second consecutive year. The 12-year-old once again dazzled the judges, this year with a speech about dreams fulfilled and the importance of continuing to dream. "Dream on! Your dreams are your future not realized. Your desire is your master," she told the audience.

This year's topic of 'If Dr. King were alive today, what would he say about where we are?' afforded students an opportunity to reflect on the principles of Dr. King as well as the need to continue to promote his mission of love and respect among all men," says Claude Treece, Gardere's operating partner. "Our goal is to help the students see the possibilities for their own lives and how everyone can make a difference, no matter the color of their skin."

Fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grade students from participating schools in Austin, Dallas and Houston presented personally written speeches commemorating Dr. King's vision of peace and unity based on this year's theme. In order to qualify for their city's final competition, students competed in a preliminary round at each participating school before advancing to the finals. The young speakers are judged on the context of their speech, memorization, and their overall performance. All finalists will receive college savings bonds.

## MLK Candlelight Ceremony

Photos By: LaQuisha Hosley



(Left to Right) Dallas Mayor Pro Tem, Donald Hill, Past President of the Panhellenic Council, Cassandra Black, Stephanie Carter, and Pastor Bryan Carter, Concord BC.



Members of Alpha Phi Alpha sing in honor fellow fraternity member Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Dallas City Councilman Leo Chaney addresses crowd

## Plano MLK Parade

Photos By: E. DeWayne Gibson, Jr.



New Mt. Zion Baptist Church Drill Team



Members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority



South Oak Cliff High School Marching Band



Members of Omega Phi Psi Fraternity

## Garland MLK Parade

Photos By: LaQuisha Hosley



Parade marchers from Mt. Hebron Baptist Church



Members of Garland NAACP



Mt. Hebron Baptist Church Order of the Eastern Star participants



Garland ISD board member Linda Griffin, escorted by Wendy Williams



South Garland High Marching Band



Naaman Forest High Booster Club

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NAVY



## Gospel Legend Karen Clark-Sheard Kicks New Year Off With New CD It's Not Over

The woman, who has influenced hip-hop artists ranging from Faith Evans and Mariah Carey to Missy Elliott and Kelly Price, is back on the scene with her first new CD in almost three years. On January 24, 2006, Karen Clark-Sheard, will release her latest project, *It's Not Over* (Word/Curb/Warner Bros). Her first project on the Word label, the collection features production work by gold-selling artist Israel Houghton & Aaron Lindsey, PAJAM and Sheard's son, J.Drew. The project is so fresh and funky that Sheard has already taped an upcoming episode of the syndicated "Soul Train" TV series.

The compelling ballad, *Favor*, is now getting airplay at gospel radio and reminding Sheard's fans of her traditional gospel music roots. As the youngest member of the legendary Clark Sisters, and

daughter of Gospel pioneer Dr. Mattie Moss Clark, Karen hails from one of the most popular and defining Gospel music families of the last three decades.



She and her sisters began recording in 1973 and hit pay dirt when their conga-themed funk number "You Brought The Sunshine" peaked at #16 on the

Billboard R&B singles chart in the summer of 1983.

Over the years, the sisters created enduring gospel favorites such as *My Redeemer Liveth* and *Is My Living in Vain?* In 1997, Clark-Sheard launched a solo career with the award-winning project, *Finally Karen* on Island/Def Jam that featured a duet with Clark fan, Faith Evans. An out-of-the gate smash, it sold nearly half a million copies, garnered four Stellar Awards and a Grammy nomination. She's recorded two further hit CDs - *The Heavens Are Telling* (2003) and *2nd Chance* (2002) for Elektra Records.

Karen's powerful soprano and multi-textured vocal runs and riffs have become signatures of her singular vocal style, and her talents have given inspiration to legions of followers, including mainstream R&B and pop stars alike.

## Various Rappers, Celebrities Featured In 'THE N-WORD' Documentary

Various rappers and celebrities are featured in the upcoming documentary, "THE N-WORD," a straight-to-DVD film exploring the use of the controversial word.

Russell Simmons, Chuck D., Quincy Jones, Whoopi Goldberg and other celebrities share their personal experiences surrounding the word.

The 85 minute documentary is executive produced by best-selling author Nelson George, produced by Helena Echegoyen and was written and

directed by Todd Larkins.

"It's a word that's been seared into the American psyche,"



Chuck D.

Larkins said. "It's used to insult, enrage, demean, and oddly enough

endear. It was a subject that begged for deeper examination."

The documentary examines the generational differences regarding the usage of the word.

Opinions differ in the documentary. For instance, Quincy Jones believes the word shouldn't be used at all, while Russell Simmons states that the word has evolved into a non-racial term of endearment.

"The N-Word" hits stores nationwide on Jan. 24 via UrbanWorks Entertainment.

## Isaac Hayes Hospitalized For Exhaustion

Isaac Hayes was being treated at a Memphis hospital Tuesday for exhaustion, his longtime songwriting partner said.

"He's just overworked and had been in Atlantic City performing, the D.C. area performing, and in Tunica (Miss.) a couple of nights ago. He was just overworked," David Porter told The Commercial Appeal newspaper.

"He's doing much better," Porter added.

It was not immediately known which hospital the soul

singer had checked into. Calls to his agents were not returned.

Hayes, 63, is best known for his 1971 No. 1 hit "Theme From Shaft," from the Richard Roundtree film. The soundtrack won the Oscar for best musical score.

More recently, he was the voice of the character Chef on the TV show "South Park."

During his time as a backup artist at Stax Records in Memphis, he established a songwriting partnership with Porter, and in the 1960s they wrote such hits for Sam and Dave as

"Hold On, I'm Coming" and "Soul Man."



## Alicia Keys Takes Personal Story To Upn

Alicia Keys is seemingly committed to her new Hollywood career. The Grammy-winning songstress is currently in development with a television network to create a drama series loosely based on her childhood, according to the Hollywood Reporter.

The series will follow a girl who, like Keys, grows up in a biracial family in New York's grimy Hell's Kitchen neighborhood. At age six, she learns classical piano and as she gets older,

she sets out to explore her New York surroundings, particularly Harlem.

Keys, born to a White mother and a Black father, serves as an executive producer on the yet-to-be titled show which will be written by Felicia Henderson of "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air," "Moesha," and "Soul Food" fame.

Recently, BET.com reported that Keys will be appearing in her first feature film, *Smokin' Aces*, in which she plays an

assassin hired to eliminate.



## Angela Bofill Suffers Stroke, Benefit Organized To Pay Insurance.

The "Angel of the Night," singer Angela Bofill is paralyzed on her left side following a stroke suffered on Jan. 10, her manager Rich Engel told us. Bofill is convalescing in at Sutter Hospital in Santa Rosa, CA.

Bofill, 51, was released from intensive care on Sunday (Jan. 15) and will require speech and physical therapy, Engel said.

A benefit concert has been organized to pay her hospital bills, as Bofill did not carry health insurance. The show, planned by Engel along with N.Y. radio stations Kiss FM,

and CD 101.9, will be held on March 11th at the Bergen Performing Arts Center in



Englewood, N.J. Similar events are being planned for Detroit and Los Angeles, Engel said.

According to David Nathan of the R&B Foundation, Bofill may just qualify for sorely need aid from the organization. He says that the wheels are grinding and if all goes well, she will receive assistance with medical bills ASAP.

Meanwhile, well wishes and donations from fans should be sent to Live At Night, P.O. Box 1140, Maplewood, N.J. 07040. Engel asks that checks be made payable directly to Angela Bofill.

For more information, visit [www.soulmusic.com](http://www.soulmusic.com).

## Eyes On The Prize, Produced By Blackside, Returns To PBS American Experience First Airing Of Acclaimed Civil Rights Documentary Series Since 1993

PBS, American Experience, and Blackside today announced the return of the award-winning *Eyes on the Prize*, a landmark series documenting the history of the civil rights movement. Originally broadcast on PBS in 1987, *Eyes on the Prize* will air on American Experience in fall 2006 as part of the series' 19th season. Three, two-hour programs will be presented this fall, with an additional eight hours made available at a later date.

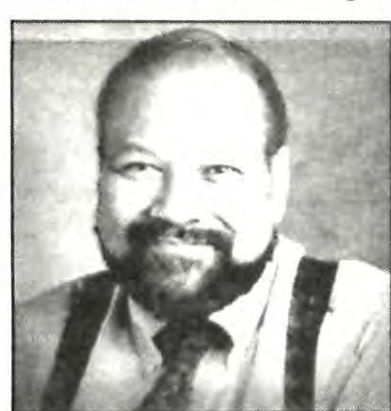
"American Experience is committed to telling challenging stories about the diverse communities that make up this nation," said Mark Samels, executive producer. "We are honored to present this groundbreaking work."

Through contemporary interviews and historical footage *Eyes on the Prize* traces the civil rights movement from the Montgomery bus boycott in 1954 to the Voting Rights Act in 1965; from early acts of individual courage through the flowering of a mass movement and its eventual split into factions. Julian Bond narrates.

*Eyes on the Prize* tells human stories of the movement for social change in the words of both famous and less-known participants. Since the documentary was completed, a number of key figures who appear in the films (including George Wallace, Ralph Abernathy, and Kwame Ture, also known as Stokely Carmichael) have died, making this record of their testimony all the more valuable.

The driving force behind *Eyes on the Prize* was Henry Hampton. A participant in many civil rights landmark events — including the

1965 march from Selma to Montgomery — Hampton set out to share his vision of what he called "the remarkable human drama that was the civil rights



Henry Hampton

movement" through the *Eyes on the Prize* documentary and a book of the same title by Juan Williams.

After Hampton's death in 1998, his sisters, Judi Hampton

and Veva Zimmerman, assumed control of Blackside, Inc., his production company. "So many people have contributed to the making of 'Eyes on the Prize' and so many lives have been impacted by its message," said Judi Hampton. "We are very grateful to The Ford Foundation and The Gilder Foundation whose generosity made it possible to bring this important series back to public television."

When *Eyes on the Prize* premiered in 1987, The New York Times called it "the most ambitious documentary undertaken by black filmmakers, and one of the largest television series ever undertaken by a black-owned company." The series went on to win six Emmys and numerous other awards.

## Aretha Franklin To Sing At Super Bowl

Aretha Franklin will join New Orleans singer Aaron Neville in performing the national anthem at next



month's Super Bowl. They will be accompanied by another veteran New Orleans musi-

cian, pianist Dr. John.

"The combination of all three should present a very memorable performance," NFL spokesman Brian McCarthy told the Detroit Free Press.

Franklin, Neville and a 150-person backing choir will sing to a taped vocal track to be recorded in Detroit several days before the Feb. 5 game at Detroit's Ford Field, the Free Press reported on its website.

In addition, John Legend and Joss Stone will join Motown star Stevie Wonder in performing Wonder's hits as part of the Super Bowl pre-game show, which will be broadcast live on ABC.

The NFL's selection of the

Rolling Stones for the halftime show prompted demands that the Detroit area's musical legacy be recognized. That led to the booking of Wonder and then Franklin, who was 2 when her family moved from Memphis, to Detroit in 1944.

The NFL selected Neville, whose home was damaged by Hurricane Katrina, in part to honor the singer's hometown of New Orleans. Neville also performed the national anthem at the 1990 Super Bowl in New Orleans.

Past Super Bowl national anthem singers include Diana Ross, Barry Manilow, Whitney Houston, Garth Brooks, Jewel and Beyonce.

## Blige's 'Breakthrough' Returns To No. 1

R&B singer Mary J. Blige returned to the top of the U.S. albums chart Wednesday after yielding the crown to actor Jamie Foxx for two weeks.

Blige's "The Breakthrough" sold 118,000 copies in the week ended January 15, according to Nielsen SoundScan. After four weeks, it has sold 1.16 million copies, her Geffen Records label said.

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# Students Return to New Orleans Colleges

By: Justin Pope

Hurricane Katrina closed several major New Orleans colleges last semester, but the start of classes Tuesday at Tulane, Xavier and Southern Universities marked a welcome return to routine.

"I don't think I've ever been so excited about the first day of school. I'm so happy just to be back," said Alissa Bigger, a Tulane sophomore. "It's proving there's hope for the city. If the school can run, we can go back to doing normal things."

None of the colleges are fully up to speed, and it could be years if ever before all are back to their former size. But with their energy, optimism and free-spending ways, college students could be just what this struggling city needs right now.

"Most of you have returned at a time when many would have stayed away," jazz trumpeter Wynton Marsalis said Monday night at an event on Tulane's campus welcoming back the city's students, before playing a set with a band that included his pianist father, Ellis.

"And now that you are here, you have the opportunity to set a new tone, not only a new tone for New Orleans, but ... a new tone

for our nation."

Gov. Kathleen Blanco told the students their return was a boost for the city, and asked them to commit their summers to helping rebuild the state.

"Your state needs you," she said. "We need your minds, your good ideas, your contagious energy, your spirit, to rebuild."

The half-dozen or so major colleges in the city have plenty of problems of their own. Many classes will be held in trailers and hotel conference rooms while they continue to repair of hundreds of millions of dollars of campus damage, and overall enrollment is considerably lower than before the storm. They have laid off hundreds of faculty and staff to try to meet budgets.

Tulane senior Clay Kirby, a mechanical engineering major, will be able to graduate but was set to protest cuts in his university's engineering program. "I love Tulane, and this decision is going to hurt Tulane," said Kirby, whose family has sent four generations of students to the school.

Still, more students have returned than initially feared including 88 percent at Tulane

offering New Orleans the prospect of both an immediate economic boost and, down the road, an educated work force to rebuild the city.

An estimated 65,000 students attended New Orleans colleges before the storm, and about 40,000 lived in the city, according to the 2000 census.

Not only is Tulane the city's largest employer, but the reopen-

ing and thriving without having universities," said Tim Ryan, an economist and chancellor of the University of New Orleans. "They will really give a breath of new life to the city."

Some neighborhoods around Tulane and Loyola are relatively vibrant, but Xavier, the country's only historically black and Roman Catholic college, is in an area of mostly abandoned homes and stores. Dillard, near the London Avenue Canal breach, was so badly damaged that it will not reopen there until at least next fall. Even then, it will almost certainly be an island of life in a sea of empty neighborhoods.

Marsalis, co-chairman of the mayoral arts commission that was announcing recommendations Tuesday for preserving the city's cultural heritage after Katrina, urged students to commit themselves to rebuilding the city.

But he also had sharp words for the region's politicians, urging to "realize the importance of holding your elders and your peers accountable when it comes to rebuilding the city of New Orleans."

"Our challenges is to rebuild a great city in these times of unbelievable political callowness and corruption," he said.



ing of the school will boost New Orleans' population 20 percent, President Scott Cowen said. Before Katrina, Tulane had 13,214 students 7,976 undergraduate and 5,238 in graduate schools.

In the short run, businesses from bars to bookstores should see a much-needed revenue boost. In the long run, the city hopes they will stay after graduation as a skilled work force.

"It's hard to imagine a major city

## Land Takeover Page 1

American history.

The idea behind the moratorium is to ensure that enough people would move back to a neighborhood to avoid large expanses with isolated houses.

But that didn't sit well with residents from the hard-hit Ninth Ward, Lakeview and east New Orleans. Several lashed out at commission members, such as prominent New Orleans developer Joseph Canizaro.

"I don't know you, but Mr. Canizaro, I hate you," Harvey Bender of the Lower Ninth Ward said as he pointed his finger. "You've been in the background scheming to take our land."

After the meeting, Canizaro met with Bender and promised to explain the commission's recommendations in greater detail.

"I told him I want to do everything I can to help this city. I'm not going to make a dime off this," Canizaro said. Commission members have pledged not to profit from their positions on the panel.

Another resident, Carolyn Parker, said: "I don't think it's right that you take our properties. Over my dead body."

Others vowing to fight the plan include City Council members, the New Orleans chapter of the NAACP and former mayor and National Urban League president Marc Morial.

The NAACP said it would be unfair not to allow residents to rebuild and questioned suggestions that some areas of the city should not be rebuilt because they are not "sustainable."

The commission will unveil more rebuilding plans in the coming days, and it hopes to

form a clearer picture of what areas would be rebuilt by the end of the year. Besides home and neighborhood reconstruction, the proposals will cover schools, transportation, entertainment and other topics.

But the most contentious issues have to do with how flooded neighborhoods should be rebuilt.

Nagin is expected to have all proposals in hand on Jan. 20. He then can approve or reject the recommendations. The plan is expected, though, to be presented to President Bush, who asked early on that Orleansians come up with a vision for rebuilding the city.

The commission offered a phased-in approach for rebuilding. It said each of the city's 13 neighborhood development districts should come up with a rebuilding plan by May 20, and that a city-wide picture should be formed by June 20.

The neighborhood groups would need to figure out if and how their sections of the city could be built. The commission envisions setting up a federally funded land bank that would have the power to buy homes and land that residents choose to abandon.

Nagin sought to assuage residents' fears that the recommendations are the final word on rebuilding.

"This is a process," he said. "This is a journey."

Meanwhile, a commission established by Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour unveiled a blueprint to rebuild that state's coastal areas.

The report recommended safe, affordable housing that can be easily financed. There is an immediate need for 10,000 homes, and

50,000 more over five years, the report said.

The report by the panel led by former Netscape CEO Jim Barksdale also suggested free public transportation for two years to help those who lost vehicles during

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## American Red Cross, Mavericks Hold Blood Drive

The American Red Cross, Dallas Mavericks, Univision Media and Carnival Stores would like to invite the public to a community blood drive on Saturday, January 21. The blood drive will be held from noon to 5 p.m. at the Carnival Store located at 3460 Webb Chapel in Dallas.

This event is the fourth community blood drive where the Red

Cross will partner with major businesses in the DFW metroplex. Other local businesses contributing to the community drive include TXU Energy, AMERIGROUP Texas, Inc., the U.S. Army, Mercado Bilingue, Mission Foods, UPN 21 - KTXA and Southwest Airlines.

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The City of Plano Civil Service Entrance Examination will occur on Saturday, February 25, 2006 at 8:00 AM. You must pre-register to take the exam. Call the hotline anytime at 972-941-7299 for information. You can also go to: [www.planopolice.org](http://www.planopolice.org) for more information regarding eligibility and requirements and to download a registration packet. Registration forms must be received prior to 5:00 PM on Friday, February 10, 2006.

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## Liberian President Page 8

eight dignitaries including first lady Laura Bush and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice watched as she took power in one of the world's poorest, least-developed nations.

Founded by freed American slaves in 1847, Liberia was prosperous and peaceful for more than a century, bolstered by its timber and diamond wealth. But two civil wars brought the country to its knees, killing 200,000 people and displacing half of its population of 3 million.

Today, not even the capital has running water or electricity. The rich rely on generators, the poor on candles.

Ensuring that Liberia remains peaceful will be Johnson Sirleaf's most pressing and perhaps most difficult task.

George Weah, the soccer star who lost the November runoff election, was backed by most of Liberia's top warlords and

faction leaders. Weah grudgingly accepted defeat and attended the inauguration.

Several lawmakers in the new legislature, including the new House speaker, are under a U.N. travel ban and assets freeze for constituting a threat to peace. One newly appointed senator ordered his troops to hack off the ears of a captured president in 1990. Others are allies of Charles Taylor, the former warlord and president who was forced from power in 2003 as rebels shelled the capital.

Taylor is wanted by a U.N.-backed war-crimes court in Sierra Leone for his role in fueling that country's civil war. But Nigeria has refused to hand him over, saying it must fulfill obligations it made as it brokered peace in Liberia.

Another crucial task will be to assure the future of 100,000 former combatants who laid down their arms last year. Many of them are unemployed and prowl the streets.



## Church News



**Sister Tarpley**

*Thanks Bobbi, college Alumni & friend, for sharing this:*

*An Angel says, "Never borrow from the future. If you worry about what may happen tomorrow, and it doesn't happen, you have worried in vain. If it does happen, you have to worry twice."*

1) Pray everyday. 2) Go to bed on time; get plenty of rest. 3) Get up on time; start the day unrushed. 4) Say 'No' to projects that won't fit into your schedule, or that will compromise your mental health. 5) Delegate tasks to capable others. 6) Simplify and unclutter your life. 7) At times, less is more (one is often not enough, but two are often too many.) 8) Allow extra time to do things; and get to places, so you won't feel hurried. 9) Pace yourself (spread out big changes and difficult projects over time, don't lump the hard things all together.)

10) Take one day, and one step at a time. 11) Separate 'worries' from 'concerns.' If a situation is a concern, find out what God would have you do, then let go of the anxiety. If you can't do anything about a situation, forget it. 12) Live within your budget; don't use credit cards for ordinary purchases. 13) Have backups; an extra car key in your wallet, an extra house key buried in the garden, extra stamps, etc. 14) Learn the power in K.M.S.

## Christian Ways To Reduce Stress

(Keeping Mouth Shut) this can prevent an enormous amount of trouble. 15) Do something for the "Kid Spirit" in you everyday. 16) Carry your Bible to read while waiting in line or for someone. 17) Eat right.

18) Get organized so that everything has its place. 19) Listen to a spiritual tape or Christian radio show while driving to help



**Picture of The Week**  
(L to R) Dr. Jacqueline Lawrence, Author of "Single and Waiting" and Guest Speaker @ Mt. Olive Church of Plano's Testimonial Tea; and Pastor Gloria Fenceroy

improve your quality of life. 20) Take time to write down thoughts and inspirations; keep folder of favorite scriptures on hand. 21) Everyday, find time to be alone with your thoughts. 22) If you are having problems, talk to God on the spot. Nip small problems in the bud. Don't wait until it's time to go to bed to pray about them. 23) Make friends with "Godly" people. 24) Remember that the shortest bridge between despair and hope is one good,

"Thank You Jesus." 25) Laugh often.

26) Take your work seriously, but not yourself. 27) Develop a forgiving attitude; most people are doing the best that they can. 28) Be kind to 'unkind' people, they probably need it the most. 29) Sit on your ego. 30) God gave you two ears and one mouth; talk less; listen more. 31) Slow down; enjoy God's beauty on this earth. 32) Remind yourself that you are not the general manager of the universe. 33) Every night before going to bed, think of one thing that you're grateful for that you've never been grateful for before. **GOD HAS A WAY OF TURNING THINGS AROUND FOR YOU.** "If God is for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31)

**Thanks Cousin Sherry for sending us this:**

2006 Wishes: May Peace breaks into your house; may thieves come to steal your debts. May your pockets and your purses become magnets for \$100 bills. May love stick to your face like Vaseline and may laughter assault your lips! May your clothes smell of success; may happiness slap you across the face. May your tears be that of joy; may the problems be that you have forgotten your home address! In simple words, may 2006 be the best year of your life!

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says Shannon Unruh, the City of Plano's Household Chemical Educator.

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2, any weekday from 9 am - 3 pm. When taking acceptable items to either location, a driver's license is required and must reflect a Plano or Allen address. For more information, please call 972-769-4132.

## Church Happenings

### CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

January 29 - February 12, 2006

We will host "Live Action Revival Ministries" a ministry dedicated to living and teaching practical and daily application of the Word of God. Included in this two-week crusade are nightly musical presentations by the nationally recognized Life Action Singers; family seminars; young adult seminars; an informal discussion time for teenagers; a youth seminar called "Evolution;" Dynamite Club for boys and girls in grades 2-6; and Happiness Club, a sparkly group of 4 and 5 year olds and first graders. For more information please contact Veronica Griffith @ 817-468-0083.

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January 23, 30, 2006 @ 7:30 pm each Monday

Jabez Prayer Network will have a "Spiritual Warfare Boot Camp Workshop" sponsored by Dr. Shirley Clark; the public is welcomed to join us. For additional information, please call 972-285-2331.

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### FELLOWSHIP OF BELIEVERS MINISTRIES

January 18-21, 2006 @ 7:30 pm Nightly

We cordially invite you to a "West Dallas in Revival" @ Holiness COGIC, 2026 Calypso Street, in West Dallas, Elder Danny Choice, Pastor, 214-747-0193. Our speakers will be Pastor Deborah N. Jackson, Fellowship of Believers Ministries; Pastor Michael L. Hodge, The Way of Truth Church; Pastor Danny Choice, Holiness COGIC; and Bishop Gregory D. Crawford, Fellowship of Believers Ministries.

February 10-11, 2006

"Hell in My House, Heaven in My Heart" Marriage Conference 2006 hosted by Fellowship of Believers International Church Association. Speakers will be Pastor Lorenzo Price, Mount Olive Baptist Church, Galion, LA; Pastor James Steed, Faith Tabernacle of the Holy Spirit, Atlanta, GA; and Host Conference Speaker, Bishop Gregory D. Crawford, Fellowship of Believers Ministries, Dallas, TX.

For more 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

### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

February 18, 7:00 pm

You are invited to participate in South Collin County's 2006 Building Foundations/Building Lives Gala @ the Marriott at Legacy Town Center. We will have a live auction and a silent auction followed by dinner and dancing to the music of the Rodney Booth Band. Auction items include: Exciting trips to Hawaii, England and California; Air travel via a balloon or "Move About The Country" with Southwest Airlines; a 4-night stay at the acclaimed Kona Village Resort in Hawaii; a venture to London for a weekend at the world-famous Lanesborough Hotel; local restaurant experiences; sports memorabilia, celebrity items and more. For detail information and ticket prices, please call Scott Blair @ 214-405-3134

### Habitat for Humanity -

South Collin County  
Scott Blair, Development  
Committee Chairman  
P. O. Box 868117  
Plano, TX 75086-8117  
214-405-3134

### HOPEWELL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

January 22, 10:45 am

You are cordially invited to our Annual Friends and Family Day activities. Please join us; we hope to see you there!

**Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church**  
Rev. Michael R. Hubbard, Sr., Pastor  
5144 Dolphin Road  
Dallas, TX 75223  
214-823-1018

### KELLER SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

January 18, 2006 and each Wednesday @ 7:00 pm

Join us for our Prayer and Praise Service followed by our Corporate Bible

Study night that is lead by Pastor Sanders. There are special classes for the youth and children.

Starting January 16, 2006, 9:30 am - 10:45 am

Feeling disconnected? Plug into an Adult Bible Fellowship group; please join us on Sunday morning starting January 16th. For more information please call the church @ 972-735-8077

### Keller Springs Baptist Church

Rev. Larry Sanders, Pastor  
3227 Keller Springs Road  
Carrollton, TX 75006  
972-735-8122

### LOVE CHAPEL CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

February 5, 4:00 pm

Please join us for our District Musical that will kick-off Starlight District's Winter Budget Conference @ Greater Holmes Street COGIC, 2505 East Ledbetter Drive, Dallas, TX 75216, 214-372-9401, Elder James Runnels, Pastor, and Elder Nathiel Wells, District Superintendent.

February 7 - 9, @ 7:00 pm

Our Winter Budget Conference will continue @ Greater Holmes Street COGIC; Elder James Runnels is the pastor. The public is invited to join us for these Spirit-Filled Services. This is a Conference that you don't want to miss.

**Love Chapel COGIC**  
Elder Philip White, Pastor  
and Starlight District Member  
2003 Morris Street  
Dallas, TX 75212  
214-638-1857

### NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Join Us at Our New Worship Location: "New Service Times"

Sunday Life Bible School - Sundays @ 9:00 am

Sunday Life Worship Service - Sundays @ 10:00 am

Life In The Word Prayer & Bible Study - Wednesdays @ 7:00 pm

For more information, please call 972-671-1096

**New Life Fellowship Church**  
Bishop Miller E. Johnson, Jr.  
Senior Pastor

**New Worship Location:**  
Wyndham Garden Hotel-Park Central  
8051 LBJ Freeway  
Dallas, TX 75251  
972-671-1096

Mailing Address:  
P. O. Box 940466  
Plano, TX 75094-0466  
972-671-1096

## Church Directory

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

"Where Jesus is the Main Attraction"

Sunday Worship Experience - 8:00 am & 10:45 am  
Wednesday Bible Study - 12:00 Noon & 7:00 pm

14120 Noel Road • Dallas, TX 75254

972-239-1120 (Office) • 972-239-5925 (Fax)

templeoffaith\_cme@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.fbcfallen.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

### 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)

### Ben Washington Baptist Church, Inc.

3901 Frisco Avenue

Irving, TX 75061

Church 972-790-8421 Fax 972-986-6590

Email: church@bwbccirving.org  
Web: bwbccirving.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

### Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church

920 E. 14th Street Plano, TX

Pastor Isiah Joshua, Jr.

FANNING THE FLAMES OF OUR FAITH



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 South Business Hwy 121, Suite 138  
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Wednesday - Thursday 10:00 am - 7:00 pm

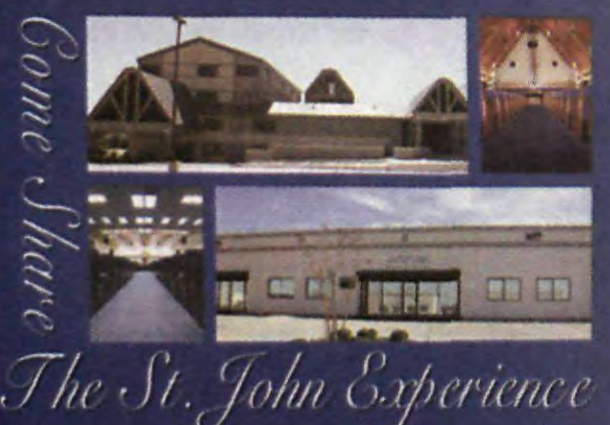
Friday - Saturday: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Call for Holiday Hours

For more information call 972-956-0030

Or visit our website at:

www.firstlady-fashions.com



### St. John Baptist Church

1701 W. Jefferson St., Grand Prairie, Texas 75051

2805 Market Loop, Suite 300, Southlake, Texas 76092

Denny D. Davis, Servant

One Church - Two Locations

Four Morning Worship Services

7:00 A.M. • 9:00 A.M. • 10:00 A.M. and 11:15 A.M.



## Recording the Former Slaves' Emancipation National Archives Opens Freedmen's Bureau Papers

By: Jacqueline Trescott

In the late 1860s James Kelley, a man living in Chicot County, Ark., wrote to the Freedmen's Bureau asking for help in finding his children. Like thousands of black families, they had been separated during the Civil War. The bureau found them on a plantation near Waco, Tex.

The record of the Kelley family reunion and those of thousands of others can now be examined by scholars, amateur historians and descendants in the records of the Freedmen's Bureau at the National Archives and Records Administration. Those papers — which had not been available for widespread study — can be seen on microfilm by the public thanks to a five-year effort to preserve the bureau's original records, the National Archives announced yesterday.

The Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, known as the Freedmen's Bureau, was established by the federal government in March 1865 as the Civil War was coming to a close, to help the almost 4 million former slaves begin their new lives. Its mandate was sprawling, including providing food, clothing and health care to former slaves, negotiating employment contracts and establishing schools. The agency was formally disbanded in June 1872. Its successes and failures have been debated ever since. Some saw it as a noble effort to help newly freed blacks. Others saw it as corrupt and flawed. President Andrew Johnson tried to eliminate it after its first year, but was thwarted by Congress. The paperwork provides an unfiltered look at what the

bureau did.

The records are "a unique opportunity to gain insight into the black experience before and after the Civil War" and the federal government's role in that transition, said Reginald Washington, an African American genealogy specialist at the Archives. The project was undertaken by a multidisciplinary team within the Archives, coordinated by the agency's Civil War Conservation Corps. Congress provided \$3 million.

Interest in all aspects of the Civil War continues, but the



bureau's records have been accessible only to scholars and a few others since the Archives received them in the 1940s. The papers, gathered from dozens of local offices of the bureau, were disorganized. And some were just too fragile to handle.

The room where examples were shown yesterday on an old-fashioned screen overflowed, with people lined up in the adjacent hall. The Archives sponsored two panel discussions on the bureau and the preservation yesterday, dealing with the bureau's history, its significance and specific infor-

mation about various states.

Historians praised the effort. "In some ways the Freedmen's Bureau papers are the last great treasure trove of African American history that the public didn't have access to," said Lonnie Bunch, the director of the National Museum of African American History and Culture. "There are rich stories that will help families understand their own history and 19th-century American history."

The papers have the kind of sharp and personal details that are found in diaries or tax records, such as the complete names of the slaves and freedmen, their owners' names and locations. Some of the records tell a bleak, often violent, story. Hospital files describe disease, poverty and death. The letters looking for family members underscore the brutal impact of slavery on the black family. There are bright elements. The appeal for schools and funds show how education was viewed as an essential way for self-improvement.

One of the bureau's tasks was issuing marriage certificates for couples. For example, John and Emily Pointer asked the bureau for a certificate in 1866 to show they were legally married. They had been living together as spouses since 1844 and the paper listed their eight children. Nellie, Robert Amos, Malinda, Elyza, John, Richard, Robert and Emma have their place.

With the Archives displaying more of its rare materials in recent years, especially with the opening of a permanent exhibition called "Public Vaults," the agency is helping to demystify the people and events of American history.

## Church Happenings

Church Happenings Page 9

### NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP IN RICHARDSON

On-Going Mentor Program

Operation Oasis sponsors a program that assists youth that are at-risk, and 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 1-800-370-Oasis (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

### RHONDA HALE MINISTRIES

January 27-29, 2006

Winter Retreat 2006 @ The Hawthorn Suites in Irving, TX. You are invited to attend this retreat and allow God to minister to you and to help you cope, and live a victorious Christian life at home, work, or wherever Christ needs to be exemplified. Our theme is: "His Finishing Touch," Philippians 1:6. Speakers will be Ministers Dynna Wilson, Rhonda Hale, and Sonya Wells; Elders Lisa Watkins, Tiffany Harrison, and Timothy Charles Ross. Minister of Music will be William A. Phillips from Indianapolis, IN. Also included will be Team Building Activities, Manicures, Pedicures, Massages, Prayer, Praise and Worship, and Delicious Home Cooking. For more information about topics, registration deadline, fees, and directions, please call 972-293-6716.

Rhonda Hale Ministries  
Rhonda Hale, Founder  
P.O. Box 2333  
Cedar Hill, TX 75106  
972-293-6716

SHIRLEY CLARK  
INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES  
January 23, 30, 2006 @  
7:30 pm each Monday  
Jabez Prayer Network will have a  
"Spiritual Warfare Boot Camp

Workshop" sponsored by Dr. Shirley Clark; the public is welcomed to join us. For additional information, please call 972-285-2331.

Shirley Clark International Ministries  
Dr. Shirley K. Clark, CEO  
P.O. Box 860794  
Plano, TX 75086-0794  
972-424-2074

### STARLIGHT DISTRICT CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

February 5, 4:00 pm

Please join us for our District Musical that will kick-off Starlight District's Winter Budget Conference @ Greater Holmes Street COGIC, 2505 East Ledbetter Drive, Dallas, TX 75216, 214-372-9401, Elder James Runnels, Pastor.

February 7-9, @ 7:00 pm

Our Winter Budget Conference will continue @ Greater Holmes Street COGIC; Elder James Runnels is the pastor. The public is invited to join us for these Spirit-Filled Services. This is a Conference that you don't want to miss.

Starlight District  
Elder Nathiel Wells,  
District Superintendent  
135 Pemberton Hill Road  
Dallas, TX 75217  
214-398-4166

### STRONG ARMS CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

February 5, 4:00 pm

Please join us for our District Musical that will kick-off Starlight District's Winter Budget Conference @ Greater Holmes Street COGIC, 2505 East Ledbetter Drive, Dallas, TX 75216, 214-372-9401, Elder James Runnels, Pastor.

February 7-9, @ 7:00 pm

Our Winter Budget Conference will continue @ Greater Holmes Street

COGIC; Elder James Runnels is the pastor. The public is invited to join us for these Spirit-Filled Services. This is a Conference that you don't want to miss.

Strong Arms COGIC  
Supt. Nathiel Wells, Pastor  
135 Pemberton Hill Road  
Dallas, TX 75217  
214-398-4166

### THE INSPIRING BODY OF CHRIST CHURCH (IBOC)

Sign Up Now

FREE Computer Training classes by Christian Business Services. For more information and registration, please call Rev. C. Greer @ 214-796-1294 or Email: ccgreer@sbcglobal.net

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)

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

**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

**Hill Chapel**  
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church  
1113 Ave. I, Plano, TX 75074 (972) 423-4090  
Rev. Clarence J. Ford, Jr., Pastor

**Sunday School: 9:30 A.M.**  
**Sunday Worship Service: 11:00 A.M.**  
**Wednesday Night-Community Bible Class: 7:30 P.M.**

**Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church**  
1308 Wilcox Street, McKinney TX  
Pastor Charles S. Wattley

**Sunday**  
Education Ministries... 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Celebration... 11:00 a.m.  
- Nursery Facilities Available -

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

**Friendly Fellowship with A Family Focus**  
For More Information Call  
972.542.6178  
www.saintmarkbc.com  
stmarkmissionary@aol.com

**The Inspiring Body of Christ Church**  
7710 S. Westmoreland Rd.  
Dallas Texas 75237  
Phone: 972-572-4262 Fax: 972-709-3888

**Sunday Services: 7:30 am, 10:00 am, 12:30pm.**  
**Monday School: 7pm**  
**Men's Fellowship: Friday 7:00pm**

*Pastor Rickie G. Rush*

Website: www.ibocjoy.org

**St. Luke A.M.E. Church (aka - SLAME)**  
"Where we slam dunk the devil and serve up Jesus"  
521 W. Avenue E Garland, TX 75040 972.487.9703  
Email: slamechurch@aol.com

**Sunday**  
8:45 a.m. Church School  
9:45 a.m. Praise & Worship  
10:15 a.m. Worship Experience

**Tuesday**  
7:15 p.m. Bible Study

**Wednesday**  
6:30 p.m. Prayer Service  
7:00 p.m. Church School

**Thursday**  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

*Reverend Charles E. Franklin, Pastor*

**Word of Life Church \* Pastor Morris Dewayne Jackson**  
4321 N. Beltline Rd. Ste. 100 \* Mesquite, TX 75150 \* (972) 226-0019  
Worship 8am \* Sunday School 9:30am \* Worship 11am  
Wednesday Night Prayer & Bible Study 7PM  
"Where Jesus Is Lord and You are always #1"

**Gilead On The Mount • Pastor Mancil and First Lady Carroll**  
1016 Pioneer Road • Mesquite, Tx 75149 972-288-9632  
Sunday School 9:30 am • Morning Worship 11:00 am  
Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:30 pm  
www.gileadonthemount.org  
"Apply the BALM of Gilead to the hearts of men."

**Little Flock Baptist Church**  
704 E. Aimee Street • P.O. Box 903 • Forney, Texas 75126  
Phone: 214-325-7021  
Fax: 214-371-8922 or 214-372-2135

**Sunday School** 9:30 am  
**Sunday Morning Worship** 10:45 am  
**Sunday Night Service** 6:30 pm  
**Tuesday Night Brotherhood** 7:00 pm  
**Wednesday Prayer Meeting/Bible Study** 7:00 pm

*Pastor Louis E. Laurent*

Internet Broadcast: www.krgm.com (Mon - Fri @ 12 Noon)  
A Place Where a "Taste of the Word" is Guaranteed  
Email: thewordcuts@yahoo.com

**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  
972-611-1096 (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.

**Mt. Olive Church of Plano**  
740 Avenue F Plano, TX 75074 972 633 5511  
WWW.MOCOP.ORG

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**Sunday Worship .... 8 am & 11 am**  
**Wednesday Night .... 7:15 pm**

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**HEAR PASTOR SAM DAILY ON: "TRUTH MADE SIMPLE"**  
KGGR 1040AM MONDAY - FRIDAY 10:25-10:30 AM

**OPEN BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH**

**Sunday Services**  
9:00 am - Prayer Ministry  
9:30 am - Sunday School  
10:45 am - Morning Worship & Children's Church

**Tuesday Service**  
7:00 pm - Bible Study

**Our Hearts, Our Arms and Our Doors Are Always Open to YOU!**

**2701 Briarwood Drive • Plano, TX 75074**  
**972-422-4248**

**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"**