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People In The News



Lynn Markovich-Byrant has felt the sting of racism up close and very personally. Her white mother, who had four children, married a black man with six children of his own. Their marriage produced four more children.

After being rejected by many whites because of her multi-racial family, Ms. Markovich-Byrant chose to live in the black community and take their culture as her own.

Ms. Markovich-Byrant, author of "I'm Black and I'm Proud: Wished The White Girl," will be in Dallas during a Juneteenth Celebration to tell how she navigated two cultures while growing up in the turbulent 1960s and how her Baha'i faith helped her overcome the challenges of racism and discrimination.

Ms. Markovich-Byrant will speak on June 17 at the Performance Hall of Mountain View Community College. The Juneteenth Celebration will be held from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m.

Juneteenth commemorates the ending of slavery in the United States. The free celebration sponsored by the Dallas Baha'is will have a variety of activities, including prayers, African drumming and dancing, children and adult games and other entertainment. Food will be served.

The City of Denton Fire Department recently hired Quentin C. Brown to the position of recruiting management analyst, which is the civilian equivalent of a Civil Service Fire Captain. He is the first African American to serve as a manager in the Denton Fire Department.

Mr. Brown had been serving as Fire Captain, 2nd Platoon, Engine 21, for the New Orleans Fire Department (NOFD). He had been employed with NOFD for more than 13 years and had held numerous positions including: fire safety officer, public information officer, recruiter, and apparatus operator.

As NOFD's recruiter, Mr. Brown created the first recruitment program design to target minority and female applicants. During his tenure, he was successful in recruiting ten women and over 150 African Americans to join the New Orleans Fire Department.

"I would like to concentrate on the minority community in Denton, and those groups that are under represented or not represented at all in the fire department," said Brown. "I believe that I can make a difference here, and my goal is to give young people an option that maybe they never thought they had in the past by joining the fire service."



El Centro's president Dr. Wright Lassiter received the 2006 Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction from the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society of the Two-Year College in Seattle, Washington.

Dr. Lassiter was recognized for his support of the Phi Theta Kappa chapter at El Centro College and his commitment to promote the society statewide and internationally.

Never missing an induction ceremony in more than 20 years, Dr. Lassiter participates in the chapter's orientation, writes letters to potential members and provides financial support to assist eligible students who cannot pay their membership fees.

Phi Theta Kappa is the oldest and largest honor society serving two-year and community colleges in all United States, Canada, Germany, U.S. territorial possessions, the British Virgin Islands and the Republic of Palau. More than 100,000 students are inducted annually in the society's 1,200 chapters.

Mr. Lassiter has received a number of honors and awards, including his election to the inaugural class of the African American Educators Hall of Fame in Dallas. In 2005, he was one of 47 international educators who were selected to participate in the Oxford Round Table at Oxford University.

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Douglass Community Celebrates Dedication Of Art Wall - Three Events Mark Culmination of Community Project



The Douglass Community Arts Advisory Committee invites the public to join them in celebrating the completion of *Tracks of Our Past and Future*, a mural depicting the rich history of this neighborhood on the east side of Plano. The celebration will consist of three events to be held, appropriately, on "Juneteenth" weekend. Juneteenth is a tradition unique to Texas, in that it commemorates the day (June 19, 1865) when word of the Emancipation Proclamation finally arrived in our state.

The first event will be a Juneteenth Pageant/Competition, to be held Thursday, June 15, 2006 at the Douglass Community Center. The theme of the competition is

"Knowledge is the key to success."

A reception event entitled, "A Night of Recognition and Unity" will be held from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Friday, June 16, 2006 at the ArtCentre of Plano. Guest of honor for the reception will be Stephanie Ward, owner of the Stephanie Ward Gallery in Dallas.

The evening will consist of a wine and cheese and desert reception with musical entertainment.

Douglas Mural Page 8

Plano's Picnic In The Park - On The Road Concert Series

Whether you like rock & roll, jazz, Motown, oldies, rhythm & blues or traditional music from the Andes, Plano's Picnic in the Park-On the Road has a concert for you!

The 2006 summer concert series, brought to you by the City of Plano Parks and Recreation Department, offers a diverse and spectacular collection of musical entertainment:

- Inka Wayra playing the music spanning the 60's to the 80's, plus sounds of the Andes on Thursday, June 1 at Arbor Hills Nature Preserve, located at 6701 West Parker Road.

- Brian Burns performing on June 8 with his country style of folk, pop and Celtic music at Hoblitzelle Park located at 7500 Red River Drive.

- King Creole offering up the last performance of the season on June 15 playing a "Mardi Gras of classic party music" at Plano's new Amphitheater at Oak Point Park, located at 2801 East Spring Creek Parkway.

All Picnic in the Park concerts begin at 7:00 pm each Thursday. Admission and parking are free.

For more information please call 972-941-PARK (7275) or visit Plano Parks Department's website at www.planoparks.org.

Star Spangled Fourth Seeks Artists, Performers To Showcase Garland's Diversity



Garland's Star Spangled Fourth 2006 welcomes the return of the Mosaic Multicultural Festival of Art, Dance and Music to this year's Independence Day event. The City of Garland's Community Multicultural Commission will stage this event on Saturday, July 1 from 1 to 7 p.m. in the Plaza Theatre, 520 W. State Street, in historic downtown Garland.

The CMC's event will feature performing

artists, representing various cultures such as Hawaiian, Nigerian, Mexican, American Appalachian Mountain folk dance, African American, Indian, Italian, and Panamanian. Artwork, clothing, pottery

and many more items will be displayed in the Plaza lobby.

Event chairperson, Adriana Sanchez-Liberto is seeking music and dance groups to perform during the Mosaic Multicultural Festival. Anyone who is interested should contact her at 972-270-7512 or sal_liberto@sbcglobal.net.

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson Delivers Weekly CBC "Message To America"

Recently, Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson delivered the weekly Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) "Message to America" radio address where she discussed the atrocities and genocide occurring in the Darfur region of Sudan. The CBC "Message to America" is distributed nationwide to the American Urban Radio Network's (AURN) affiliate stations.

"The ongoing atrocities and genocide occurring in the Darfur region of Sudan is one of the greatest human rights violations of this generation. Recently, I stood outside the Sudanese embassy to peacefully protest the Darfur genocide along with my fellow CBC Members: Chairman Mel Watt, Barbara Lee, Al Green, John Lewis, Gwen Moore, and Eleanor Holmes Norton. Peaceful protests



Message To America Page 8

Leviathan Winn: Initiating Positive Change Through Financial Education

By: Erin Evans
Photos By: PJ Johnson

For most recent college graduates, getting the perfect job after graduation is a top priority. In a few months, loan officers will be knocking down their doors for their first payments. Although college is a mere memory, financing the bill is still a reality.

But, for one 22-year-old Garland resident, priorities are focused toward financial education for a younger class of graduates.

Leviathan Winn, a finance major who graduated from Texas A&M University, launched the Inspiring Positive Change Initiative (IPCI) last January.

"My vision is to ensure that each African American student is cultivated and developed through leadership and financial education before embracing the high school and collegiate worlds," Winn said.

IPCI awarded their first annu-



Leviathan Winn, Founder of Inspiring Positive Change Initiative

al scholarship to a Booker T. Washington High School student on Friday, May 19.

Senior Tajah Ross, who will attend Boston University in the fall majoring in vocal performance, won the Future African-American Leaders of Economic

Leviathan Winn Page 6

Black Caucus Angered By Treatment Of Jefferson

Members question Pelosi's urging embattled lawmaker to resign panel post

When House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi urged scandal-plagued Rep. William Jefferson to quit his

post on a powerful committee, she not only made Jefferson angry but many of his fellow black lawmakers as well.

"There's no precedent for removing a member who has not been indicted from his committee," said Rep. Al Wynn, D-Md., a member of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Pelosi's move is not without risk. The 43-member Congressional Black Caucus comprises the largest single bloc of House Democrats, and they'll wield considerable clout if the party wins control of the House on Election Day.

The Black Caucus is a some-



Congressman William Jefferson (D-LA) speaks to members of the press on Capitol Hill in Washington, District of Columbia on Monday, 22 May 2006. Jefferson spoke publicly after his office was searched over the weekend, and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) alleged that agents videotaped him taking a \$100,000 USD bribe from an FBI informant

times fractious group, and they're not of a single mind on Jefferson, D-La., who's the subject of a corruption probe.

Still, in a meeting Wednesday, prominent black lawmakers such as Black Caucus Chairman Mel Watt, D-N.C., let Pelosi know in no uncertain terms that they thought it unfair to seek Jefferson's resignation from the powerful Ways and Means

Black Caucus Angered Page 6

Jury Convicts Muhammad In Sniper Trial

John Allen Muhammad's conviction for six more murders in the Washington, D.C.-area sniper spree gives prosecutors the insurance they sought - that there is little chance he will leave prison alive.

Muhammad, 45, was convicted Tuesday after a monthlong trial in which he acted as his own attorney. The verdict adds to the death sentence Muhammad previously received for a sniper shooting in Manassas, Va. He faces a likely term of life in prison without parole when he is



Sniper Trial Page 9

21st Texas Black Invitational Rodeo



(Left to Right) Helena Linwood, Ashley Briscoe, Stephanie Briscoe and Andreshia Wilborn



Cowgirl performing barrel racing event



Cowboy trying to get the eight seconds at the 21st Texas Black Invitational Rodeo



Cowboys waiting to run their heat at the 21st Texas Black Invitational Rodeo

Photos By: Ronald Coleman
The African American Museum celebrated the 21st Texas Black Invitational Rodeo on May 27th at the State Fair Coliseum in Historic Fair Park.

More than 300 Cowboys and Cowgirls performed. Rodeo Camp 101 was held for novice riders. Serving as Rodeo Grand Marshal was Reverend Rickie G. Rush, Pastor of The Inspiring Body

of Christ Church. The presenting sponsors for the Rodeo was AT&T, supporting sponsors were WFAA-TV, Coca Cola, Wells Fargo, Texas Parks and Wildlife, TXU Energy and Radio One.

CREW And JPMorgan Chase Build Habitat For Humanity Home

Instead of Sunday brunch or enjoying a well-deserved day off, volunteers from CREW (Commercial Real Estate Women) Dallas and JPMorgan Chase spent Mother's Day weekend building one of 20 homes in seven days for the Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity's Boot Stompin' Blitz 2006, May 13-20.

Volunteers and VIPs from Commercial Real Estate

Women (Dallas) and JP Morgan Chase welcome Shanté Smith, a 28-year-old mother of two, to her newly built home in the Joppa historical neighborhood. During Mother's Day weekend, Smith worked alongside CREW and JPMorgan Chase volunteers to build her new home as part of the Dallas Area Habitat for Humanity's Building Blitz 2006, which concluded with a community dedication ceremony on May 20.



CREW and JPMorgan members hard at work during Habitat for Humanity's Boot Stompin' Blitz 2006



Norm Bagwell, JPMorgan Chase, his son Nolan, (both center), and Diane Butler, Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) Dallas (right), join Shanté Smith with her son Jonathon, (both left), as they admire the front yard of the Smith's newly built home in the historical Joppa neighborhood.



Congratulating Smith, and her son Jonathon, (center) on their new home from left are: Alison Amis (CREW Dallas Managing Director), Haley Erhart, Barbara Erhart (CREW CFO), Diane Butler (CREW Dallas President), Amy Ananiam and Regina Bruce.

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Around The Town

Ongoing
Chase Presents Jazz Under the Stars Summer nights sizzle with cool jazz under the stars! Bring a picnic and a blanket and enjoy some of the finest artists on the jazz scene. Every Thursday, May 11-June 15th. Ross Avenue Plaza at the DMA, 8pm FREE
hmorgan@DallasMuseumofArt.org 214-922-1200

Sankofa Unplugged! Come experience the nation's best Open Mic Experience. Musicians, Poets, Actors, be ready to "Bring the heat" to the Sankofa stage/Sankofa Arts Cafe & Bar 1906-1908 Martin L. King, Jr. Blvd Dallas. Every Saturday 9:00 p.m.
214-421-0013, www.myspace.com/sankofakre

The Collin County Chapter of the American Business Women's Association meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at Eldorado Country Club, 2604 Country Club Drive in McKinney
Drums Not Guns will hold drumming sessions from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. the second and fourth Saturdays of the month thru mid-May at Old Settlers Park Recreation Center, 1201 E. Louisiana St. Call 214-641-0782 for information.

Free Tenant Legal Workshops are at 6 p.m. Tuesdays at Douglass Community Center, 1111 Ave. H in Plano. Call 972-941-7174.

Alpha Beta Chapter of

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

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

"EVOLVE," a social networking opportunity for women, meets from 7:30 to 9 p.m. the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at the northwest corner of Park Boulevard and Coit Road, Suite 202. Call 972-267-4452.

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

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

Movie Under the Stars: A New Cinema Experience. Remember the fun you had at the "drive-in movie"? Well it's back, but without the drive-in part. So grab a blanket or low-back chair and come watch a classic family movie under the stars at the Amphitheater at Oak Point Park, 2801 East Spring Creek Pkwy, Plano. For more information call 972-941-7250.

June 1
The Roots, Blackalicious, Miri Ben-Ari, Gypsy Tea Room, 2548 Elm St., Dallas. Call 214-744-9779 or Front Gate Tickets at 888-512-7469 or visit www.frontgatetickets.com

City of Plano Senior Citizen's Advisory Board, Regular Session, 6:30p.m.
Plano Senior Center, 401 W. 16th Street

FREE Home Buyer Education Seminar - "Wealth Building Valued through Home Ownership, 3333 Golfing Green Dr. Dallas, (Near Marsh & Brookhaven Club Dr.) (972) 243-6151

32nd Annual Urban Financial Services Coalition Conference, thru June 4. Hotel Intercontinental, Addison. Call Lynette Fletcher 877-692-6005.

June 2
AT&T Out to Lunch Concert Series, thru June 23. Free. Pegasus Plaza, Main Street, Dallas. Downtown Dallas presents live music by local and regional acts during lunch. June 2: Tommye Young-West, gospel artist, June 9: Vicho Vicencio, South American jazz orchestra, June 16: Celena Rae, American Idol semifinalist, a little bit country. Call 214-744-4819

NPC Lone Star Bodybuilding and Fitness/Figure Classic- This event includes bodybuilding, women's fitness and figure as well as IFBB bodybuilding and fitness pros. Thru Sat. Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway. Contact Prince M. Harrison at 972-247-1539 or email: prince@texasbodybuilding.com or visit www.texasbodybuilding.com

Paul Quinn College Summer Entrepreneur Institute, June 1-22, 9 am-2 pm. Call 214-302-3654

Innecity Solutions Youth Scholarship Fund Gala, Wyndham Dallas Market Hotel, Call 214-757-2911

June 3
Komen North Texas Race for the Cure, The Shops at Legacy, 7200 Bishop Road, Plano, 8-11 am. The annual event, expected to draw about 12,000 participants, is set to flex its muscles this weekend in the fight against breast cancer. A 1-mile family fun run-walk and a co-ed 5K run-walk are the highlights of the fundraiser, presented by the North Texas Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

Medical Center of Plano's First Annual Community Safety Fair with interactive family activities showing new ways to stay safe and healthy - covering pool safety and skin protection, child car seat inspections, home emergency escapes, school bus safety, the Teddy Bear Clinic with nurses bandaging hurt teddies to show that hospital visits don't have to be scary, and more. Plus enjoy face painting, balloon artists and clowns for the kids! For more info call 972-596-6800, or visit medicalcenterofplano.com.

June 4
Sanctuary of Praise Fellowship of Allen-One Night Revival: A Night of Inner Healing and Renewal with Pastor Marquis Ellis of Dover, Delaware. Services begin at 8:00 p.m. 100 E. Main Street in Allen, east of 75 and one block north of McDermott. For more information please contact Pastor Wilson at 469-853-2380.

June 5
The Dallas Black Chamber Of Commerce 17th Annual Golf Tournament. Held at Cedar Crest Golf Course, 1800 Southerland, Dallas. The Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce Annual Golf Tournament

benefits students participating in the DBCC Excellence in Education Scholarship Initiative. To register call 214) 421-5200 or log onto www.dbcc.org.

June 9
3rd Annual CityArts Celebration Festival, Dallas Arts District, 325 North St. Paul, Dallas, Thru Sunday

Ham-Com 2006-The largest Amateur Radio gathering in Texas. Commercial exhibitors and vendors will exhibit the latest equipment available for local, regional and world-wide communications. Thur Sat. Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway. Contact: Barry A. Goldblatt 972.596.4669 or email office@ham-com.org or visit www.hamcom.org.

June 13
Job Fair hosted by Employment News
Meet face to face with top companies from the Metroplex in one day, saving weeks of research and interviewing. Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway.
Free admission For more information call 972-280-0087 or visit www.dallasemploymentnews.com

June 14
Tax Alliance Conference Tax seminar for EAs, CAPs and attorneys on how to represent clients before the IRS. Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway. Admission: \$300 for Conference only; \$85 for Bootcamp For more information contact Larry Jones at 214-696-2661 or visit www.taxalliance.org.

June 15
Plano Juneteenth Celebration, Douglass Community Center, 1111 Avenue H, Thursday -Sunday. Join in Plano's

2006 Juneteenth Celebration for three days of family fun, sports, live music, games and plenty of food! Thurs. 7p, Mr./Miss Juneteenth Contest/ Pageant - 12th graders, Friday 7-9p Family Fun Fest - games, trivia and prizes, 9-11p Blue Print - great live music with an "old-school" band, 11p-1a Dancing & Music - with a DJ, Sat. 2-3p Youth Challenge-relays and games, 3:30-5p, 3-on-3 Basketball Contest for ages 11 to 17 years, 7-9p, 6th Annual Old-School/New-School Basketball Game

Pageant contact person is Charlotte.Green@comcast.net and or call 214-227-8599. For more details, contact Alex Alexander at 972-941-7174.

Adoptions Information Seminar This seminar is for anyone interested in international adoption. We will be giving details about our programs in Vietnam, Guatemala, Russia and Kazakhstan. Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway. Admission is Free.

For more information and to RSVP call 214.342.8388 or email info@adoptmeinternational.org or visit www.adoptmeinternational.org

June 17
Plano Police Department Civil Service Entrance Exam is scheduled at 8 a.m. June 17 at Plano West Senior High School, 5601 W. Parker Road. Preregistration required by Thursday. Visit www.planopolice.org.

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Proud To Be An Active Partner In The Community



Paul Hailey

Forget a pimp; it's hard out here in America for all black folks. As a black man in the U.S., I am frequently reminded that I am a member of a minority group that historically has not been liked very much or treated very well by our society; a condition which still exists today. This makes it tempting as an individual to take the easy way out and become negative and bitter, as opposed to positive and productive. That is the challenge. But how? Most African Americans I know have found themselves at some point asking questions like "what is happening to us as a people?", and "what can we do about it?"

These are the questions author, talk show host and activist Tavis Smiley had in mind when he started his State of Black America panel series seven years ago to discuss issues in the community. In 2004, Smiley decided to publish a book outlining some of the ideas that came out of the State of Black America symposiums, hoping it would start a movement. The result is the book "The Covenant with Black America".

Since its release in February, the book has hit the No. 1 spot on the New York Times Bestseller list and was a top seller on Amazon.com and BarnesandNobles.com within days of its release. It's the first book on the bestseller list produced by an all black publisher-Third World Press, the nation's oldest independent African American book publisher. In keeping with the spirit of "The Covenant", all profits from the book go to Third World Press.

And the spirit of the book is uplifting. Each chapter starts with an essay by a scholar on one of the 10 covenants, fol-

Why Haven't You Read The Covenant With Black America?

lowed by a table of statistics regarding the problem, and finally a series of practical solutions with headings such as "What the Community Can Do", "What Every Individual Can Do", "What Works Now", and "What Every Leader and Elected Official Can Do." There are also examples of community efforts or individuals who made some type of change in their community or abroad.

The 10 "covenants" outlined are: Covenant I: Securing the right to health care and well-being; Covenant II: Establishing a system of public education in which all children achieve at high levels and reach their full potential; Covenant III: Correcting the system of unequal justice; Covenant IV: Fostering accountable community-centered policing; Covenant V: Ensuring broad access to affordable neighborhoods that connect to opportunity; Covenant VI: Claiming our democracy; Covenant VII: Strengthening our rural roots; Covenant VIII: Accessing good jobs, wealth and economic prosperity; Covenant IX: Assuring environmental justice for all; and Covenant X: Closing the racial digital divide.

The beauty of the "The Covenant" is that it places the responsibility for change squarely on the shoulders of every black American, and then gives them realistic, workable ways to make a difference.

One of the biggest perceived issues facing African Americans is the apparent lack of leaders to guide us as a people into the 21st century. The book speaks to the reality that we are all leaders and that individual commitment creates community leaders. Several activists tend to agree.

"We don't necessarily need a charismatic leader at the top," said Barbara Arnwine, executive director of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law in Washington.

"An idea is at the core of all movements," Arnwine said. "The days of the Rosa Parks and Martin Luther Kings may no longer be here, but the power of an idea always generates such beings. A movement is a sort of university for new leaders."

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Taylor Branch agrees. An authority on the American civil rights movement, Branch says any movement must draw people together with a central concern.

"People don't even vote anymore, and being in a movement is a full-time duty," Branch said. "The roots of the movement in the 1960s lay in individuals' decisions to take a stand. People were asking questions and taking citizenship seriously. They were refusing to be intimidated. We can't assume there will be another MLK, and if there is, he may not be a man, a black man or a preacher."

We are the people, we are the leaders, and any real change starts with us. As a people, we can no longer afford to wait around for the next Dr. Martin Luther King to rise up and tell us how to take our communities back. No one is going to appear on television telling us the best way to improve education or how to change the health care system. We must create the change, we must be the change agents. "The Covenant" provides us with the rationale and the method to do so.

It is one thing to complain about the plight of black America, it is another thing altogether to "shift the conversation from talking about our pain to talking about our plan".

10 covenants; 254 pages; 12 bucks. A treatise that tells you what you can personally do to uplift our people in this country. So why haven't you read it yet?

Paul Hailey can be reached at editor@MonTheGazette.com

~ Tar Baby ~

By: Margaret Kimberley
Fox News is the television news mouthpiece for the Bush administration. When the White House recently announced the departure of press secretary Scott McClellan rumors immediately surfaced that his replacement would be Tony Snow of none other than Fox News. The rumors were true and now it is official, Fox News speaks for Bush.

At his first press briefing Snow was asked about the NSA program that has allowed the federal government to spy on thousands of Americans. In his response Snow couldn't resist throwing in references to white supremacy fantasy in order to defend government supremacy over our lives.

"I don't want to hug the tar baby of trying to comment on the program - the alleged program - the existence of which I can neither confirm nor deny."

You can take the man out of Fox, but you can't take Fox out of the man. Like his former colleagues at that network Snow doesn't pass up an opportunity to openly espouse racist doctrine.

Fox correspondent John Gibson recently exhorted viewers to make babies, and quickly. Gibson is worried that Hispanics are having all the kids.

"To put it bluntly: We need more babies. Forget that zero population growth stuff of my poor, misled generation. Why is this important? Because civilizations need populations to survive. So far we're doing our part here in America, but Hispanics can't carry the whole load. The rest of you: Get busy. Make babies."

After being criticized for saying that Hispanic babies are not part of civilization, Gibson took umbrage but again proved his critics right.

"My concern was simply that I didn't want America to become Europe, where the birthrate is so low the continent is quickly being populated by immigrants - mainly from Muslim countries - whose

birthrate is very high."

Bill O'Reilly doesn't want to be left out of the white supremacy band wagon either. He complained about efforts to destroy "the white power structure."

"... many far-left thinkers believe the white power structure that controls America is bad, so a drastic change is needed."

"According to the lefty zealots, the white Christians who hold power must be swept out by a new multicultural tide, a rainbow coalition, if you will."

Perhaps we should thank O'Reilly for confirming that there is a white power structure in existence. The world should be so lucky to have it swept away.

Snow's explanation for his insult was equally insulting. He whined about being picked on and pointed out what everyone already knows, that the term tar baby came from the Uncle Remus stories.

The words tar baby are a slur, period. They are used to hurt, to anger and to offend. The fact that they first appeared in the Uncle Remus stories doesn't let Snow off the hook. The Uncle Remus stories were part of a carefully orchestrated effort to make plantation life appear benevolent instead of horrific.

The Uncle Remus character gave his young white master child was able to refer to an unrelated elderly man as uncle and not Sir or Mr. as he should have. The Uncle Remus excuse is more than just lame. It proves that Snow fantasizes about the good old days of plantation life and how wonderful they would have been, for him that is.

He said he wouldn't use the term again, not because he admitted wrong doing, but because, "I've decided, though, because it's a classic case of, I think, somebody trying to sort of pick a fight. I'll probably take that out of my tool chest of rhetorical devices, rather than having to explain a hundred and fifty years of American culture."

Snow's comments were disgraceful, but the usual black suspects were waiting in the wings to keep him from catching too much flack. The media give prominence to black commentators who toe the line. They must criticize other black people who speak truth to power and also let white racists off the hook.

Enter DeWayne Wickham. The USA Today columnist followed the rules laid down by the corporate media and declared that Snow just mis-spoke and we should all just shut up about it.

"It's obvious to me that Snow had no racial reference in mind when he uttered those words. Like others who use the term 'tar baby' in describing a sticky situation, Snow was probably unmindful of its more insidious usage."

DeWayne Wickham is a mind reader. Who knew? Perhaps he can give us more insights and tell us what else Snow does and doesn't believe. Wickham's defense of Snow is as disgraceful as the original comment. He should use his powers of clairvoyance to tell us why Snow didn't just use the words sticky situation instead of channeling tales of the old South.

It is all terribly insidious. The White House has a favorite network that is openly racist and even black people who want a seat at the table have to say that it is all okay. On his very first day on the job the new press secretary makes the agenda clear to anyone who wasn't paying attention. Yes, you will be spied upon and yes, we white people are the boss, and no, you won't stand in our way. Where is Uncle Remus and his wisdom when you need him?

Ms. Kimberley is a freelance writer living in New York City. She can be reached via e-mail at margaret.kimberley@blackcommentator.com. You can read more of Ms. Kimberley's writings at freedomrider.blogspot.com.

The Catastrophe Wasn't Katrina

By: Eugene Robinson
The evidence, by now, is overwhelming: Beautiful, decadent New Orleans wasn't doomed by Hurricane Katrina but by decades of human incompetence and neglect. As far as the drowned city is concerned, the greatest natural disaster in the nation's history would have been just a messy inconvenience if not for the fumbling hand of man.

The mortal threat to New Orleans, as Katrina plowed into the Gulf Coast, was not the powerful winds - Mississippi took the brunt of those - but the massive storm surge the hurricane generated. We now know that the levees, floodwalls and other barriers protecting the city were, for the most part, plenty tall enough and theoretically strong enough to keep the waters at bay. On paper, New Orleans should have ended up wet and wounded, but basically intact.

What happened instead was "the single most costly catastrophic failure of an engineered system in history," according to a report issued last week by the Independent Levee Investigation Team, a blue-ribbon panel led by experts from the University of California at Berkeley and funded by the National Science Foundation.

Some of the flood barriers were built using inadequate materials, the report says. Others were designed so poorly that they provided weak spots for the waters to exploit. Still others were left unfinished for lack of funds.

The Army Corps of Engineers, which was responsible for building the levees that failed, has not yet issued its own final report on the flood and likely will dispute some of the

independent team's conclusions. But Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Chertoff remarked last week that "had it not been for what appear to be structural problems in the building of the levees, Katrina would have been a bad hurricane" but not an unparalleled catastrophe.

The report of the independent team, which was led by UC Berkeley engineering professor Raymond B. Seed, cites these examples of cause and effect:

Earthen levees stretching east from the city were built with "highly erodible sand" and other "lightweight" materials that could be found locally, rather than more "cohesive" clay soils that would have had to be trucked in. "When the storm surge arrived, massive portions of these levees eroded catastrophically," the report says. "The resulting carnage in St. Bernard Parish was devastating," with a "wall of water... pushing homes laterally, flipping cars like toys and leaving them leaning against buildings, and driving large shrimp boats deep into the heart of residential neighborhoods."

Floodwalls lining the east side of the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal, known to locals as the Industrial Canal, were not engineered to keep water from seeping beneath and undermining them. "The result was two massive breaches that devastated the adjacent Ninth Ward neighborhood, and then pushed east to meet with the floodwaters already rapidly approaching from the east from St. Bernard Parish."

Surging water pushed by the hurricane's winds from Lake Pontchartrain into the 17th Street and London Avenue drainage canals remained "well

below the design levels, and well below the tops of the floodwalls." Nonetheless, the floodwalls suffered "catastrophic" failures; the designers apparently had not fully understood the weakness of the foundation soils on which the walls were built. So even though little if any water lapped over the walls, sudden breaches inundated central New Orleans - residential neighborhoods, business districts, the streets around the Superdome.

The most chilling sentence in the report is this one:

"A number of these same problems appear to be somewhat pervasive, and call into question the integrity and reliability of other sections of the flood protection system that did not fail during the event."

In other words, there are many miles of levees around New Orleans that were built with the same questionable design principles and materials that were used in the barriers that gave way. The Corps has patched the levee system so that it could probably prevent the last flood, but what about the next one?

Chertoff worries about a storm hitting next-door Jefferson Parish, which has seen its population swell with evacuees and reconstruction workers. He worries that with so many people living in flimsy trailers, even an approaching tropical storm might necessitate an evacuation. With New Orleans still crippled and the jury not yet back on whether it can ever fully recover from Katrina, no one wants to flip the calendar. Hurricane season officially begins on Thursday.

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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



Omega Psi Phi Youth Group Meets Legendary Astronaut



Terrence Forest (right), Omega Sparks Youth Organization Vice President, presents plaque to retired astronaut and NASA Deputy Administrator Col. (ret.) Frederick Gregory following his remarks at the Frontiers of Flight Museum.

Outer space seems a little closer to members of the Omega Sparks after spending time recently in a private reception with NASA astronaut Col. (ret.) Frederick D. Gregory.

Gregory, who recently retired as Deputy Administrator of NASA, was in town to commemorate completion of the NASA exhibit at the Frontiers of Flight Museum at Love Field. He fascinated the audience as he recalled key moments in his career, covering over 500 missions in Viet Nam piloting helicopter rescues, switching to fixed wing craft to become a fighter pilot and subsequent deployment as an Air Force test pilot. But what everyone came to hear about were the three times Gregory commanded NASA shuttle missions, piloting Challenger in 1985, Discovery in 1989, and Atlantis in 1991.

Terrence Forest, Vice President, Omega Sparks Youth Organization and a student/athlete at DeSoto High School, had the opportunity to present Col. Gregory with a plaque commemorating his visit to Dallas. Forest was obviously in awe of the accomplishments of

the space legend.

"I learned a lot from Col. Gregory, especially the way he went from being a Helicopter Pilot to a Space Shuttle astronaut and later becoming the Deputy Administrator of NASA. I was really impressed with his views of NASA's space programs and what he believe the future of the programs will become."

"Hearing his life story and his accomplishments really puts in perspective how important education is," said Naaman-Forest senior Dominic Smith, one of the eighteen Sparks members in attendance. "We (young people) have a tremendous responsibility to make the kind of positive impact that Col. Gregory has made. It's a real eye-opener."

The Omega Sparks organization is the three-year-old mentoring effort of the Theta Alpha chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Area middle to high school aged young men are immersed in sessions on educational achievement, personal responsibility, public speaking,

workplace performance, civic duty, and are treated to camping outings, sporting and cultural events, among other activities. Special treats are opportunities to meet notable members of Omega Psi Phi like Col. Gregory.

"We've attempted to keep positive examples in front of our young men," said Terry Forest, who — along with Royle King and Curtis Pruitt — keeps the Sparks program running. "The one-on-one time spent with Bro. Gregory will definitely ignite something inside the Sparks. Who knows? We may get a future astronaut out of this group as a result of this meeting."

The Sparks weren't the only ones impressed by Col. Gregory's accomplishments. Theta Alpha chapter Basileus (president) Patrick Smith was clearly moved by what he heard.

"It's just like being an eye-witness to history," said Smith. "Here's a man (Col. Gregory), the son of school teachers who became an astronaut — a real space explorer. But to hear that



Omega Sparks and members of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity were hosted to a private reception with Col. Frederick D. Gregory (center), retired NASA Deputy Administrator. Gregory, who piloted three space shuttle missions, is a member of Omega Psi Phi.

he was urged to enter astronaut training at the insistence of General Benjamin O. Davis in a personal phone call. Wow! If that's not enough, he's the nephew of Dr. Charles Drew, another of our notable fraternity members... it's straight out of the pages of history! Just a great, great opportunity for our young men."

For more information about the Omega Sparks or other Omega Psi Phi Fraternity activities, visit their website at www.thetaalpha.com or mail request to Theta Alpha Chapter-Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Attn: Omega Sparks Youth Organization, P.O. Box 227083, Dallas, TX 75222-7083.

Collin Honors Its Donors At President's Circle Event



The honorees of the President's Circle were recognized May 24, for their generous giving and support of Collin County Community College District.

Collin County Community College District (Collin) recently announced its second annual President's Circle honoring businesses and individuals who have generously supported the college.

The prestigious President's Circle were recognized at a dinner hosted by Larry Egan, chair of the college's foundation, Dr. J. Robert Collins, chair of the college's board of trustees, and Cary A. Israel, college president.

"It is very important to the Foundation that we honor individuals and companies that so generously support the college and its students," Egan said. "The President's Circle Dinner is a great way to show appreciation to the growing number of major donors."

The President's Circle is made up of President's Council, Legacy Guild Silver and Legacy Guild Gold.

The President's Council members are: Richard and Jill

Abernathy, Harry and Cindy Bauge, Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano, Charles and Patricia Beck, Norman Brinker and Cindy Brinker-Simmons, Chartwells, EDS, Emerson Process Management-Fisher Regulator Division, Ericsson, Exide Technologies, Hall Financial Group, Mac and Sherry Hendricks, Hillcrest Foundation, Intel, JCPenney Co. Inc., Steve and Libby Maus, Medical Center of Plano, MCI, Fred and Mazzie Moses, Morte, Robert and Paula Ouellette, Raytheon, Sam and Anita Roach, Gregory and Florence Simpson, TXU Electric Delivery and Stan and Judy Woodward.

Legacy Guild Silver members are: Milton and Mary Kate Buschbom, Collin County Fireman's Association, Collin County Healthcare Foundation/Shoap Foundation, Smokey and Vivian Commons Estate, The Richard R. Dickinson Family, Richard and Diane Dill, Hoblitzelle

Foundation and Emma Lou Lancaster Estate.

The Legacy Guild Gold member is Texas Instruments and Royden Lebrecht Estate.

The theme for this year's event was "Generous giving, promising futures."

"We applaud these community leaders for their foresight and commitment," Dr. Collins said. "Their generosity means that we will continue to have a positive impact on the quality of life in our community for years to come."

"We truly appreciate the sup-

port these donors have given us throughout the year," Israel said. "It is priority for Collin to maintain affordability in the arena of higher education. More and more students depend on scholarships and other forms of financial aid to complete their degree. The scholarships ensure that our community will have stellar nurses, respiratory therapists, firefighters, engineers and other needed professionals."

For more information about the newly established

President's Circle, call the CCCCD Foundation, Inc. at 972.881.5611.

Collin County Community College District (Collin) serves more than 40,000 credit and continuing education students annually and offers more than 100 degree and certificate programs. The only public college in the county, Collin is a partner to business, government and industry, providing customized training and work force development.

KIPP TRUTH Academy Recruiting 5th Graders For Handful Of Remaining Slots

While most kids are counting down the minutes till summer vacation, the students at KIPP TRUTH Academy in South Dallas will only take a short two-week break — and then head back to the classroom on June 8 for an intense, mandatory three-week summer session from 7:30 a.m. — 2:30 p.m. five days a week! KIPP TRUTH Academy (www.kipptruth.org) requires students to start school two months earlier than their peers in traditional public schools.

KIPP TRUTH Academy (www.kipptruth.org), located at the corner of Lancaster and Kiest, has a few remaining spots available for the fifth-grade program. Priority enrollment is given to any student living south of IH-30 and inside Loop 12 (with second priority given to DISD students living outside these boundaries).

Summer School begins Thurs., June 8 for all new students and Monday, June 12 for

returning students.

Free of charge for students, the school operates with the belief that every child should have a superior education and have the opportunity to pursue college. Last year, more than 80 percent of KIPP alumni nationwide earned acceptances to four-year colleges.

KIPP TRUTH Academy offers a safe, structured learning environment and a small school population. KIPP forms a unique partnership where teachers have the freedom to innovate, parents are encouraged to be involved, and students have the opportunity to learn. Students attend school weekdays from 7:30 a.m. — 5 p.m. (with Friday release at 3 p.m.) and go to REQUIRED Saturday morning school twice a month and a three-week Summer School in June. Uniforms are required.

KIPP TRUTH Academy opened its doors in fall 2003 when Broadcast.com co-founder and philanthropist

Todd Wagner of Dallas provided the initial funding to rent and equip the school facility. The free public school currently serves fifth through eighth graders. Total enrollment currently is 122 with 54 5th graders, 31 6th graders and 37 7th graders. Fifty-four (54) 5th graders are registered to enroll for the 2006-07 school year. 98 percent of KIPP TRUTH students are African American or Latino, and 75 percent qualify for the federally subsidized meal program.

"One of the missions of the Todd Wagner Foundation is to improve the lives of inner-city residents by increasing access to education, and KIPP TRUTH Academy does just that," explains Todd Wagner. "Through dedicated teachers and a safe and structured learning environment, KIPP is proving that all students will learn."

Anyone interested should call the school at 214-375-8326 to obtain more information.

Registration Open For Summer Classes At Richland College

Get ahead this summer by taking classes for transferable college credit or continuing education at Richland College. Register through June 2 for Summer I (June 5 through July 6) and through July 11 for Summer II (July 12 through Aug. 10).

Richland has credit courses in subjects from art to math to speech communication. Richland also offers an array of

non-credit or continuing education courses. Subjects include health professions, computer skills, alternative teacher certification and horticulture. To see the class schedules for Summer I and II, visit www.richlandcollege.edu/schedule/htm.

For more information about Richland College, visit www.richlandcollege.edu or call 972-238-6106.

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Verizon Named To Working Mother Magazine's 2006 Best Companies For Women Of Color

Verizon Communications has been named to Working Mother Magazine's 2006 Best Companies for Women of Color, a list of 12 companies with cutting-edge policies and practices that support African-American, Asian-American, Latina and Native-American Women in the workplace. Verizon is the only telecommunications company on this year's list.

This year, Working Mother placed added emphasis on company culture by giving more weight to programs that help women of color and policies that hold managers accountable for advancing them. Among the criteria, Working Mother looked for companies with an active task-force committee specifically for women of color; mentoring opportunities; management and leadership training; support and networking groups; an annual conference to encourage the advancement of women of color; and formalized executive succession planning.

Verizon Communications and Verizon Wireless, the corporation's wireless arm, filed a joint entry. The survey reviewed the company's demographics, policies and procedures in place in 2005.

"We're honored to be on the Working Mother list, particularly because this year's survey placed a great emphasis on our corporate culture," said Magda Yrizarry, vice president of diversity, workplace culture, diversity and compliance, Verizon. "We strive to create and preserve a culture where an individual's differences and unique experiences and skills are not only respected but

developed and leveraged to both the company's and the employee's benefit."

In addition, Verizon Wireless last year implemented a series of innovative programs based on employee feedback provided in companywide surveys. The programs include an emergency backup dependent-care benefit for all employees, a diversity leadership development workshop, and a variety of new training and development initiatives.

In 2006, Verizon Communications was ranked No. 1 on DiversityInc Magazine's Top 50 Companies for Diversity list, a list on which Verizon has earned a Top 10 ranking each of the last three years. Also this year, Verizon

was honored by the Women's Business Enterprise National Council, which named Verizon among the top American corporations for women's business enterprises. Verizon's goal is to increase year-over-year spend-

ing with minority, women and disabled-veteran-owned business enterprises, which did \$2.17 billion worth of business with Verizon in 2005.

Also this year, Black MBA

Verizon Page 8

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Black Writers Reunion & Conference Returns To Dallas In July 2006



Dr. Venise Berry

African-American writers from all over the nation will converge in Dallas, Texas, to teach, learn and exchange information about their craft and the business of writing and publishing. The Black Writers Reunion & Conference will host a wide range of attendees—from beginning writers and aspiring novelists to award winners and celebrated veterans—this July 15-16, 2006 in Dallas, Texas, with pre-conference activities

on July 14.

"We're very pleased to launch the 2006 program schedule, offering workshops covering topics from the basics of writing to advanced techniques for polishing and selling your fiction, nonfiction, and plays," said Tia Shabazz, conference director.

Back after a five-year hiatus, the Black Writers Reunion & Conference also features pitching sessions, where authors can submit ideas and manuscripts to editors, as well as critiquing sessions. The conference includes workshops led by African-American literary luminaries such as popular and best-selling authors Dr. Venise Berry (Colored Sugar Water, So Good), Tonya Marie Evans, Esq. (Literary Law Guide), Anita Bunkley (Black Gold, Steppin' Out With Attitude), Evelyn Palfrey (The Price of Passion), Gwynne Forster (Fools Rush In), ReShonda Tate Billingsley (My Brother's Keeper), Vincent Alexandria

(Postal Blues), award-winning playwright and poet Cherryl Floyd-Miller, literary agent Mondella Jones (Keith Boykin), self-publishing gurus Mack and Sara Smith (How to Self-Publish & Market Your Own Book), and web maven Pamela Walker-Williams, among others.

Selected workshop titles include Fiction Writing Essentials, Writing the Popular Novel, Screenplay Basics, Poor Man's Copyright, Agents 101, Reader Relations, Promoting & Marketing Your Books Online, Getting Into Bookstores & Staying In, Tapping the Hidden Short Story Market, Crafting the Synopsis, Writing the Stage Play and many others.

Those interested in attending should visit the Black Writers Reunion & Conference website at www.blackwriters.org for registration, workshop schedules, travel and other information. Pre-registration is required for all activities.

Medical City Earns Prestigious 2006 Texas Award for Performance Excellence

Dallas-based hospital Medical City has been awarded the 2006 Texas Award for Performance Excellence, the state's highest honor for quality and organizational performance presented each year by the Quality Texas Foundation.

Patterned after the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award criteria and process, the Texas Award for Performance Excellence (T.A.P.E.) was established in 1994 as an annual recognition of Texas organizations that have achieved performance excellence and applied outstanding quality principles in their day-to-day operations. The award is presented to manufacturers, service companies, education organizations, small businesses, health care organizations, and public organizations that serve as role models for quality, customer satisfaction, and performance excellence in the state

of Texas.

"This is a day we will always remember," said Britt Berrett, president and chief executive officer of Medical City. "The hard work and dedication of our leadership team plus the individual efforts of each person throughout our hospital add up to create an extraordinary environment for employees and patients alike."

The three other 2006 recipients are: Aldine Independent School District, Houston, TX (Education); Goodwill Industries of San Antonio, San Antonio, TX (Public); and Sanden International (U.S.A.), Inc., Wylie, TX (Manufacturing).

The 2006 awards will be pre-

sented during the Texas Award Ceremony scheduled for the evening of June 15 at the Renaissance Dallas-Richardson Hotel and the Eisemann Center in Richardson, Texas. The Texas Quest for Excellence Conference, to be held the following day, June 16, will feature all four recipients, as well as world-class Baldrige recipients from a variety of industries.

For more information about the Texas Award for Performance Excellence, or to register for the upcoming events, visit their website at <http://www.texas-quality.org/> or call the Quality Texas Foundation office at 214-565-8550.

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Leviathan Winn Page 1



Leviathan Winn and Tajah Ross, winner of the Future African American Leaders of Economics Influence Award

Influence Financial Education Scholarship (FAA-LED).

Eleven students in the Dallas area submitted their applications for the one-time \$1,000 scholarship. Funding was received from various community organizations and through individual donations.

Brenda Haynes, who is the treasurer of IPCI's board of directors and also Winn's mother, took part in the judging of the essays.

The applicants had to respond to an essay prompt geared toward financial education and its impact

on the African American community and also a short essay on leadership experiences.

IPCI is focused on scholarship, leadership development and financial education for African American youth.

"This program will provide an opportunity to invest at an early age, get the knowledge, and look into some different vehicles for being financially secure," Haynes, assistant principal at Lister Elementary in Garland, said.

The five-month-old program is concentrated in the Dallas area, but hopes to expand across the United States, according to Haynes.

"We don't have a physical presence in schools yet, but we will span into financial education seminars," Winn said. "We are still in the process of building, so right now we are concentrating

on getting a solid presence in Dallas County.

Currently, Winn and his board of directors are working on their Students Excelling Exceptionally in Knowledge (SEEK) Initiative. The SEEK Initiative aims to subsidize SAT prep costs and provide help with college entrance essays and preparation.

"We are trying to develop students with a resource base for going to college through education and mentorship," Winn said.

Winn says that after experiencing the trials of paying for college while in college, he hopes that IPCI will teach African Americans new avenues to foot the bill.

"Through financial education, I want to help teach students the stock market, learn about credit and wealth distribution," he said. "I want them to realize that investing is good and through it, you can make a difference."

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Black Caucus Angered Page 1

Committee, which has jurisdiction over taxes, trade and Social Security.

But regardless of the consequences for internal House Democratic politics, Pelosi, D-Calif., decided it was important to "uphold a high ethical standard that we have in our House Democratic Caucus."

Privately, aides to Pelosi say black lawmakers are beginning to cool off. Jefferson's legal problems are so profound — the FBI says it caught him on tape accepting a \$100,000 bribe from an informant — that it's difficult to muster a lot of enthusiasm in defending him.

Black Democrats of two minds

Rep. Bennie Thompson, D-Miss., said black lawmakers are of two minds: those who are upset that Jefferson is being treated differently and those who believe the overarching goal of taking back the House is more important. It is difficult for Democrats to gain political traction on ethics issues if they protect Jefferson.

Politics was the subject of a separate meeting Thursday as Black Caucus members met with Pelosi about Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee Chairman Rahm Emanuel, D-Ill. Some lawmakers complain that he has a heavy-handed style and has pressured them to do more fundraising for the party.

Rep. Barney Frank, a white Democrat from Massachusetts and a Pelosi confidant, said Pelosi was doing a good job handling a difficult situation.

"She speaks for most Democrats in asking him to step aside," Frank said.

"Heaven For A Gee" Debuts In Dallas

The riveting new stage play by Dallas playwright Willie Holmes "Heaven for a Gee" kicks off its twenty city national tour at the Naomi Bruton Theatre on June 5th and June 6th. The production stars Keisha Knight-Pulliam (The Cosby Show), R&B songstress Cherrelle, hip-hop artist turned actor Lil' Zane, and John "Ecstasy" Fletcher, founding member of 80's rap group icon Whodini ("The Freaks Come Out at Night").

"Heaven for a Gee" centers on a rebellious teenager and his father's battle to save him from self-destruction. Gabriel, a misguided youth known as Gee by his friends, is seduced by the bling. He doesn't know whether to chase his dream of being a rapper or the big money floating around the drug game.

This is a classic tale of good versus evil with a hip-hop groove. "Heaven for a Gee" is a mythical adventure of a man's battle with evil for control of his family, an inspirational parable that addresses salient issues in society such as money, drugs, sex, and racism.

Playwright Willie Holmes is an author who captures the

essence of contemporary African-American life by romancing the drama of every day struggles. Holmes is the founder and executive director of the Blacken Blues Theater of African-



Keisha Knight-Pulliam

American life in Dallas, Texas. He is an educator in the Dallas Public School system and a native of Birmingham, Alabama. Holmes first goal in life is to save the children by any means necessary. His second is to share the beauty and complexity of African-American life through his work.

Holmes has written and produced several plays in the Dallas / Fort Worth Metropolitan area. His works include: "The Wounded" (South Dallas Cultural Center, Dallas); "Rhaka's Redemption" (Trinity River Art Center, Dallas; and Longview Auditorium, Longview); "Daddy's Girl" (Trinity River Arts Center, Dallas; Scott Theater, Fort Worth; and Irving Black Arts Council, Irving); "The Corporate Plantation" (Dallas Convention Center: Muse Café Theater, Dallas); "Suspects in America" (African-American Museum Theater, Dallas) and "E-Love" (African-American Museum Theater, Dallas; and Irving Black Arts Council, Irving). His works are regularly presented at the National Black Theater Festival's Readers Theater in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

"Heaven for a Gee" opens in Dallas on Monday, June 5th at the Naomi Bruton Theatre. Tickets are priced at \$26.50 and are on sale at all Ticketmaster Outlets including Foley's, Fiesta and Warehouse Music store locations. Order tickets online at www.ticketmaster.com or by calling 214.373.8000.

X-Men The Last Stand

By: Kam Williams

The initial installment of X-Men (2000) was a character-driven affair which elicited sympathy for the mutants attending Professor Charles Xavier's (Patrick Stewart) School for Gifted Students by establishing them not as superficial superheroes but as vulnerable outcasts struggling to find their way to fit into a world which would ostracize them as freaks.

The second episode (2003) further developed this theme, focusing also on the relationships among this motley crew of misfits, while upping the ante in terms of action and special effects.

Both of those adaptations of the popular Marvel Comic book series faithfully reflected the source material's underlying socially-conscious theme, subtly suggesting that we'd all be better off if we learned to tolerate one another's differences. But for some reason, 20th Century Fox opted to ditch director Bryan Singer in favor of Brett Ratner, who is best known for making Rush Hour 1 & 2, the buddy

comedies co-starring Chris Tucker and Jackie Chan.

The upshot is that X-Men: The Last Stand lacks the cerebral edge of the earlier adventures, though it certainly holds its own when it comes to action sequences.



The plot's hook this go-round is actually ever so intriguing, as scientists have come up with a universal cure guaranteed to transform any mutant who submits to an inoculation into a so-called normal human being. This triggers a flood of identity crises within the community, as each must decide whether to surrender his or her powers and join humanity or to retain their genetic anomalies but remain alienated.

The good mutants are again led by Professor X, an amenable advocate of peaceful co-existence, while the evil ones abide by the marching orders of the diabolical Magneto (Ian McKellen), a megalomaniac who opposes the government's proposed genetic engineering as a form of ethnic cleansing.

Besides the aforementioned superheroes, reprising their roles are Anna Paquin as Rogue, James Marsden as Cyclops, Rebecca Romijn as Mystique, Shawn Ashmore as Iceman, Aaron Stanford as Pyro and Famke Janssen as Phoenix.

As you might imagine, with so many characters vying for face time, it's best to forget about subtlety and substance. Nonetheless, X-Men 3 is set to be a surefire kiddie crowd-pleaser, given the teeny-bop penchant for over-stimulating computer game warfare. PPS: Stick around clear through the credits, for a hint about whether X-Men 4 might be in the works, despite this one's being referred to as "The Last Stand."

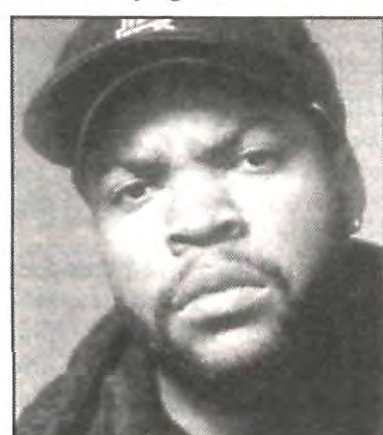
Ice Cube Sounds Off Against Oprah

Producers for "The Oprah Winfrey Show" may want to pitch the idea of having September's season premiere feature guests Ludacris, 50 Cent and Ice Cube so that the four can discuss their opposing points of view on a very topical issue - hip hop lyrics.

Cube, born O'Shea Jackson, has now joined Luda and 50 in speaking out against the TV mogul and her unwillingness to feature rappers whose lyrics are riddled with the N-word and derogatory terms for women.

"I've been involved in three projects pitched to her, but I've never been asked to participate," the rapper-actor tells FHM magazine in its July issue, on newsstands June 6. "For 'Barbershop,' she had Cedric the Entertainer and Eve on, but

I wasn't invited. Maybe she's got a problem with hip-hop. ... She's had damn rapists, child molesters and lying authors on her



show. And if I'm not a rags-to-riches story for her, who is?"

Last month, 50 voiced his frustration with Winfrey's anti-rap stance, stating: "I think she caters to older white women."

Ludacris, whose real name is Chris Bridges, told GQ magazine that she was "unfair" to him during a show he appeared on last October with co-stars from best picture Oscar winner "Crash."

Earlier this month, Winfrey appeared on Power 105.1 in New York to address the issue.

"I listen to some hip-hop," she told DJ Ed Lover. "You know, I've been accused of not liking hip-hop and that's just not true. I got a little 50 (Cent) on my iPod. I really do. Love 'In Da Club.' ... Love that, and you know, love Jay-Z, love Kanye (West), love Mary J. (Blige)."

Ice Cube's article in FHM is to promote his new album "Laugh Now, Cry Later," due June 6.

Keyshia Cole Makes Fashion Debut As New Face Of Akademiks

Hot off the heels of wrapping her first national headlining tour, Keyshia Cole has signed on to be the face of the new Akademiks Ladies 2006 Fall/Holiday advertising campaign. The year-long campaign marks an unprecedented move for Akademiks - Keyshia Cole is the first celebrity they have selected to feature in their campaigns, which will begin to run in August 2006 in publications such as Vibe, Teen Vogue, Essence and Latina, among others.

"I'm really excited about being apart of the new

Akademiks campaign," says Keyshia Cole. "Akademiks has been very supportive of my career and I respect their vision and cutting edge creativity. They are definitely taking it to the next level."

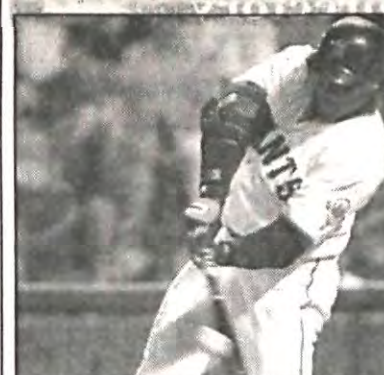
Keyshia Cole has achieved amazing success with her platinum debut album The Way It Is. Her album and live show performances have received critical acclaim worldwide. The New York Times proclaimed "... one of the year's best albums, which seems ever more like an important moment in the recent history of R&B." The album spawned

the smash hits "I Should Have Cheated," which was the #1 song at urban radio for weeks, "I Changed My Mind," "I Just Want It To Be Over," and "Love."



Bonds Moves Past Babe Ruth On Home Run List

It finally happened in his own back yard. Barry Bonds hit the 715th homer of his career on



Sunday, sending the ball from Colorado Rockies pitcher Byung-Hyun Kim 445 feet over the wall and the athlete ahead of Babe Ruth on the all time home

run list.

"For the fans of San Francisco, it can't get any better than this - even though I made them wait longer than I have in the past," Bonds said, wearing a new 715 shirt and cap. "Age ain't catching up with me."

Next stop, Hank Aaron - who holds the record of 755 home runs.

"If you keep playing long enough anything is possible," said the 41-year-old slugger, who was 10-years-old when he watched Aaron hit his 715th home run.

Bonds' seventh homer of the

season came at 2:14 p.m. Sunday, eight days after he

After the homer, the Giants unfurled two banners from the light towers on either side of the main scoreboard in center field: one of Bonds on the left side and the other of Hammerin' Hank's 755.

Thousands of fans remained in the stadium to watch Bonds' news conference, which was broadcast on the big screen.

"It's a great honor," Bonds told reporters. "It's a wonderful honor. Hank Aaron is the home run king and I won't disrespect that ever. ... I have a lot of respect for Babe Ruth and what he's done."

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Through its philanthropic arm, the Verizon Foundation, Verizon contributed more than \$27 million in 2005 to charitable causes and organizations that serve minority communities across the country.

Message To America Page 1

are necessary and important in order to raise worldwide awareness against injustices. Because protesting outside an embassy is an arrestable offence, my fellow CBC colleagues and myself were arrested and charged with disorderly conduct and unlawful assembly. I felt that this arrest was a small price to pay for the attention brought to the genocide in Darfur."

"The genocide occurring in Darfur Sudan is real and actual atrocities committed against human life. Recently, the House and Senate have both passed Concurrent Resolutions recognizing these violations and atrocities as genocide. For those of you who may not be familiar with situation in Sudan, Darfur is an under developed region, located in western Sudan, and consisting mainly of black Muslims. Out of the approximate 7 million people that live in Darfur, 450-thousand have died; more than 2.5 million people have been displaced; at least 200-thousand have fled to Chad; and 3 million people are surviving on emergency food assistance."

"The political situation in Darfur is deteriorating rapidly. Bombings of villages by the military have occurred several times over the last few weeks. Despite a May 5th ceasefire, a recent attack against civilians by government and Janjaweed militia was launched on May 8th."

"On behalf of the displaced and the refugees, the Congressional Black Caucus has demanded the deployment of a UN peacekeeping mission to aid the African Union's mission in

Darfur. The Congressional Black Caucus has called upon the Administration to pressure the Sudanese government to exhaust all efforts to help displaced refugees return to their homes. The Congressional Black Caucus has demanded that government officials and Janjaweed militia are held accountable for their crimes against humanity."

"We have also asked President Bush to urge the Sudanese government to release its grain reserves needed to feed the starving people of Darfur. The crisis in Darfur is an actual genocide against human life.

The world must raise a collective objection and pressure the Sudanese government to cease the unconscionable acts of violence they have allowed to take place. Each day thousands of men, women and children are killed, raped, starved and left homeless without a solitary objection from the world community. The lives of millions of innocent people are at stake. Along with the Congressional Black Caucus, I will continue to urge the United Nations to take strong and meaningful action and stop the atrocities being committed to human lives."

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

**CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE/
BUILDING FACILITIES CONTRACT(S)**

Dist/Div: Fort Worth

Contract 6144-75-001 for PREFABRICATED PAVEMENT MARKINGS in TARRANT County will be opened on July 06, 2006 at 1:00 pm at the State Office for an estimate of \$479,439.22.

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

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Dist/Div Office(s)
Fort Worth District
District Engineer
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Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

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Douglas Mural Page 1

tainment. The committee will recognize and honor the artists and donors of the project. There will also be a special award for Mr. Joe Hill, as a Legacy Builder, for his work in preserving the history of this community through his many photographs.

The dedication of the mural will occur at 10:00 am on Saturday, June 17, 2006 at 12th Street and Avenue I in Plano. The mural consists of a mosaic of Italian tile made in the images of people and places that have made the Douglass Community and the city great. The mural was designed and created by Tesserae Mosaic Studio, a Plano-based art firm owned by Shug Jones and Lynne Chinn. Following the ceremony, patrons are invited to move to the Douglass Community Center for the annual Juneteenth celebration.

Along the way, local churches will have displays of historic interest and items available for sale. There will be musical and theatrical performances, as well. The Douglass Community Center will have games and prizes for the children to enjoy. There will also be face painting, bounce houses and other entertainment. There will be a variety of foods available, also such favorites as kettle corn and snow-cones will be available for purchase. This event is open to the public.

The mural was made possible, in part, by grants from the City of Plano (through the Heritage Commission) and by private donations.

Additional donations are needed for the ongoing maintenance of the mural; and Friday evening's event is intended as a fundraiser for that purpose. Businesses or individuals wishing to participate, either as donors or as vendors for the Saturday event should visit the ArtCentre of Plano's website for booth rental forms or you may contact Dollie Thomas (214-789-4461) or Danica Tucker (214-679-5626.).

Church News

Scriptures For June 2006



Sister Tarpley

From the monthly calendar of Full Gospel Holy Temple, Apostle Lobias Murray, Founder/Pastor: Salvation is like a parachute—there is no substitute. (John 14:6) Accepting God's gift of His Son makes us strong; (Ephesians 6:10) The poor man is often happier than the rich man. (Psalm 37:16)

Temptations are sure to rap at your door, but it's your fault if you let them in! (2 Peter 2:9; Matthew 6:13 and 26:41.) Sanctification is like riding a bicycle: You either keep moving or you fall down! (2 Peter 3:18; 1 Thessalonians 5:23) Death brings about total integration; all are equal. (Romans 5:12) To know God's Will is man's greatest treasure; to do His Will is life's greatest privilege. (Mark 3:35; 1 John 2:15-17) A word of encouragement can change a person's life. (1 Samuel 30:6) True courage is like a kite, a contrary wind raises it higher. (Joshua 1:9) Christ can help you to speak the right word to the right person at the right time. (Proverbs 25:11)

Where there is life there is hope. (Psalm 65) You quickly lose interest in the church if you have nothing invested. (Hebrews 10:25) Spend your time counting your blessings, not airing your complaints! (Psalm 103:2) Fear is a hindrance to all virtue. (2 Timothy 1:7) Christians are like tea; it takes not water to bring out their strength. (1 Peter 5:8-10) Patience is bitter, but its fruit is sweet. (Galatians 6:9) It is bet-



Picture of The Week

Sister Tarpley and newspaper columnist, Norma Wade, attending a Girl's Inc. Luncheon.

(Ephesians 6:4) Through your prayer we not only worship God; we witnessed to men. (1 Thessalonians 5:17) If you will not have God with you now, He will not have you in eternity. (Isiah 55:6-7; 2 Chronicles 15:2; Psalm 116:8) Delay not until tomorrow to be wise, for tomorrow's sun may never rise. (Proverbs 3:13-14)

Great answers to prayer often come in small packages. (Psalm 36:7) The Christian home should

be earth's Heaven. (Mark 5:19; Luke 15:6) Room for improvement is the largest room in the world. (Hebrews 6:11) Safety does not consist in the absence of danger but in the presence of God! (Psalm 40:2-3) Those who have a second birth will never experience a second death. (1 John 3:6) Those who walk the closest and work the hardest will watch for Christ's return. (Luke 12:37; Hebrews 5:28)

My Son, Jarrell Edwin Tarpley, who likes to write poetry and poems, said this to me one day; since there is nothing new under the sun; I have heard the meaning behind these words stated in different forms; however, I found comfort and joy in his words; I believe it's worth repeating at this time: God created you—every detail about you. He gave you life and special gifts to fulfill a unique purpose in this world; a mission He planned just for you. God knows you better and loves you more than anyone ever could. He is a wise Father and faithful friend; He takes joy in you. While I celebrate you because you are my mother, God celebrates you every day. He loved you first. Thank you for showing me and Sheila love throughout the years. One of your purposes was to birth us; our "Special Gift" is having a loving and caring mother.

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

James L. "Sonny" Buchanan, was killed while mowing grass near a suburban mall.

The jury took about 4 1/2 hours to reach a verdict about the murders of James Martin, Premkumar Walekar, James "Sonny" Buchanan, Sarah Ramos, Lori Lewis Rivera and Conrad Johnson. In all, 10 people died and three were wounded during the three-week spree.

jurors that Muhammad's original plan included far more bloodshed — and plans to bomb children.

"We may never know the whole truth, but we do know without a doubt, 100 percent, that Lee Boyd Malvo and John Allen Muhammad are the ones who committed the murders," said Vicki Snider, whose brother,

Sniper Trial Page 1 sentenced Thursday.

The trial also gave family members an explanation, however twisted, for the 2002 rampage in which Muhammad and his one-time protege, Lee Boyd Malvo, took aim at random people. Malvo, testifying for the first time against Muhammad, told

Church Directory

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Church Happenings

Our new church home and land!
Sunday, June 4, 9:00 am

We invite you to join us in our "First Services" in our new church edifice; at our "Sunday Life Bible School @ 9:30 am;" our "Sunday Life Celebration Worship Service @ 10:45 am;" and our "Ingredients for Life @ 6 pm."

June 11, 5 pm
Come and enjoy our "First Celebration Entrance Service" with our anointed guest speaker, Pastor M. A. Johnson, Sr. from Greater Zion Baptist Church in Dallas and a host of other guest churches and their members.

June 22, 11:30 am
Please join us for our 11:30 am "Ribbon Cutting Ceremony" hosted by Rowlett Chamber of Commerce.

June 25, 4:30 pm
You don't want to miss the conclusion to our month-long celebration at our "Celebration Entrance & Homecoming Services" with the World Renowned Apostle Cornell Hamilton, Pastor of "From Bondage to Freedom Interdenominational Church in Shreveport, LA.

For more information about the above events, please call 972-463-4964

New Life Fellowship Church
Of Rowlett
Bishop Miller E. Johnson, Jr.
Senior Pastor
7401 Miller Road
Rowlett, TX 75088
972-463-4964

NEW MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH, DALLAS

This Saturday, June 3, 11 am - 3 pm
New Mt. Zion will host, and the North Dallas, Denton & Collin Counties (NDDC) Prairie View University Alumni Chapter will sponsor a Fish Fry @ the church as a fundraiser for scholarships to benefit students desiring to attend PVU. We will have Catfish plates @ \$7 each, and a combination plate (catfish & shrimp) @ \$10 each. All plates are served with potato salad, coleslaw and hush puppies; and with your choice of spicy Cajun or regular flavored fish

For more information, contact Bill Heath @ 972-669-0261 or Walter Gerard @ 214-375-9700. See you at the Fish Fry!

New Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Dallas
Dr. Robert E. Price, Senior Pastor
9550 Shepard Road
Dallas, TX 75243
214-341-6459

OASIS INTERNATIONAL CHURCH
June 3, 2006

Our Women's International Network (WIN) will host our quarterly breakfast Meeting @ The Contemporary Homewood Suites, 2601 West George Bush Turnpike, Plano, TX. Special speaker will be Dr. Rocinda Barnor from Fountain of Life International Church in Plano, TX. Donations for our Africa Missions project will be accepted. Call Dr.

Vera Hughes @ 214-289-4802 for more details.

June 10, 2006
Please join our Men's International Network of Dallas (MIND) at our quarterly breakfast meeting with guest speaker Dr. Richard Barnor from Fountain of Life International Church in Plano, TX. For more information, please call 214-924-6546.

Oasis International Church, Plano
Doctors Charles & Vera Hughes
Founders and Pastors
P.O. Box 941192
Plano, TX 75094
469-467-6797

OPEN BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH (OBF)

Saturday, June 3, 10 am to 2 pm
Please join us for a "March For Jesus" from OBF to Bob Woodruff Park @ 2601 San Gabriel in Plano. Banners and Balloons are welcome. Call 972-422-4248 for more information on Wednesdays after 6:30 pm or Sunday's after 9:30 pm.

Open Bible Fellowship Church,
Rev. Don Bright, Pastor
2701 Briarwood Drive
Plano, TX 75041
972-422-4248

SANCTUARY OF PRAISE FELLOWSHIP OF ALLEN

June 4, 2006, 8 pm
We cordially invite you to attend a "One Night Revival- A Night of Inner Healing and Renewal" with Pastor Marquis Ellis of Dover, Delaware.

June 23 & 25, 2006
Please join us for "WOW 2006—Women of Wisdom" Conference. Our theme is Mind, Body and Spirit. Guest speakers include: Evangelist Rachel J. Baxter of Philadelphia, PA; First Lady Paula Coleman of Kingdom Harvest C.O.G.I.C in Dallas, Co-Pastor Roberta Smith, and Ja-Ra and Lineage of Trinity Heights Church in Dallas. Come expecting a miracle!!!

For more information, please contact Pastor Wilson at 469-853-2380.

Sanctuary of Praise Fellowship of Allen
Rev. J. Wilson, Pastor
100 E. Main Street
Allen, TX 75002
469-853-2380

SPIRIT & TRUTH MINISTRIES

Tomorrow, June 2, 7 pm
Please join us as we gather to discuss The Da Vinci Code "Exploring the Issues Raised by the Book and the Movie"

Spirit & Truth Ministries
Minister Adrian McConnell
Executive VP of Church Business
2220 Gus Thomasson Road
Bldg. A, Suite A
Mesquite, TX 75150
972-279-1559

Fresh Manna Ministries, Inc. (FMM)
Apostle Sonia C. & Pastor John Blackwell, Visionaries

fmmkingshart@aol.com (Email)
www.orgsites.com/tx/fmmkingdom/ (Web Site)
972-624-8669

Sunday Worship: 9:00 am
Tuesday Lay Discipleship Training: 7:00 pm
@ 4721 Chowning Circle, The Colony, 75056-1123

Join us June 14 - 17, 2006 for "Guards of God Prophetic Summit. Theme: Not Shaken, But Stirred Up." Register now: Individual, Couples, & Group Rates. Contributions accepted.

KINGDOM OF GOD MINISTRIES

"Building the People of God, For the Kingdom of God"

Sunday Worship Service Time: 10 AM

701 N. Highway 78, Suite H
Wylie, TX 75098

For More Information: 972-238-7927
www.enterthekingdom.org

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.

Living Above See Level: Nationwide Relationship Conference Helps Singles Drowning In Sea Of Faithlessness



Rev. Eric Copeland
of San Antonio, Texas.

While we do not look at the things which are seen but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary but the things that are not seen are eternal." - 2 Corinthians 4:18

The Living Above See Level:

6th Annual National Get Over Your Love Hangover Relationship Conference will be held on Friday, June 23rd through Saturday, June 24, 2006. Times are 7:30 p.m. on Friday, June 23rd, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 24th at the Hilton Suites - Dallas North, 13402 Noel Rd., Dallas.

This year's conference theme is "Living Above 'See' Level." Attendees will learn how to use faith that goes beyond what they can see to build and maintain their relationships. According to conference host and founder Shewanda Riley, "Like our natural vision, the faith or vision that have we for our lives directly affect our decisions and the direction of our lives. This conference is designed to help singles who want to sharpen their

faith vision and improve their relationships." Guest speakers include Rev. Eric Copeland of San Antonio, Texas. Other guests and speakers include best-selling author Michelle Stimpson, Min. Jacqui Copeland, motivational speaker and author Teri Werner, Min. Yvette Wade, and conference founder Shewanda Riley.

Selected Workshop Topics

- Restoring Lost Vision - Have you survived a loss...but lost your faith in the process? Learn how to restore your faith and trust in God.

- Strengthening Your Vision - Have your faith been weakened or challenged by the daily burdens of life? Learn how to work and strengthen your faith muscles.

- Correcting Blurred Vision -

Have you ever made the mistake of putting your faith in the wrong people or things? Learn how to take the right steps to correct misdirected steps of faith.

- Maintaining 20/20 Vision - Have you been blessed with the ability to stay focused on God no matter what? Learn how to keep or develop your "20/20" vision.

- Double Vision: Worship in the Night - Ever have a dream or series of dreams that you can't quite figure out? Learn how God speaks to us through our dreams and how dreams can enhance our spiritual and natural vision.

- Seeing Clearly After the Storm - Shocked, dazed and confused by the damage after the storms in your life? Learn how to effectively see and hear



Conference founder, author
Shewanda Riley

God beyond your circumstances.

The National Get Over Your Love Hangover Week and Conference was founded by author Shewanda Riley (Love Hangover: Moving From Pain to Purpose After a Relationship Ends) in 2000. It is held annually the 3rd week of June and is designed to provide practical

tools for building and maintaining strong relationships. Both the conference and book have been featured in JET Magazine. The book, Love Hangover, is also an Essence Magazine best-seller. This year's conference is hosted by True Image Singles Ministry of Christian Chapel Temple of Faith CME Church.

Sponsors for this years conference include:

- Texas Instruments
- Dallas Cowboys
- Dallas Mavericks
- Dallas Fire and Rescue
- Fox 4 - KDFW TV
- Whirlwind Communications

Additional information can be found at the conference website www.livingaboveseelevel.com

Men's International Network Of Dallas (MIND) Quarterly Breakfast Meeting In Plano



Pastor Richard Barnor

Men - you are invited to join us at our MIND Quarterly Networking Breakfast Meeting! Our special speaker is Pastor Richard Barnor of Fountain of Life International Church located in Plano, Texas a growing multi-diverse and international ministry. Pastor Richard is truly an inspirational and motivational speaker who will inspire you to fulfill

fill your destiny and purpose. Richard was born in Ghana, West Africa but has been in the U.S. for over 20 years. He is an author, business owner, and fast becoming one of America's top influential persons. Get ready to receive insight and tools on how to be successful in business and fulfill your destiny and purpose.

Pastor Richard Barnor is an author and speaker and counted among the company of an emerging group of Apostolic teachers that God is raising up around the world. He serves as President of River of Life Missions, Inc., International, which he co-founded with his wife Rocinda for the purpose of raising and training Christian leaders in developing nations. Pastor Richard attended Fountain Gate College in Texas and holds a Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from Christian Life School of Theology in Columbus, Georgia. He is the Senior Pastor and

Founder of the Fountain of Life International Church along with his wife, Rocinda. He also serves on the advisory board of the Plano/Richardson Women's Aglow Chapter. God's ministry through his life has taken him across Africa, Europe and North America. He recently completed his first book, "Divine Intimacy: An Invitation to Passionate Love."

The vision and assignment of MIND is to help men: young and old, to cope with the challenges we all face in the world today. We are planning to have empowerment sessions, where businessmen will have the opportunity to network and promote their gifts and talents to other men. We will meet to share experiences; how to deal with the issues we are confronted with daily, and possible plans of attack that bring the kind of positive results we all desire. Each man will have the opportunity to participate in these sessions as much or as little as they feel

comfortable. There will be opportunities for each of us to experience new avenues of sports and other activities of interest to men. In essence, we will grow physically, spiritually, financially and in every other way, as we come together and share life's challenges, joys and victories.

While MIND is a Christian-based organization, these sessions won't be just another church meeting. We will have men successful in the fields of business, medicine, finance and other areas of concern, as well as spiritual, to come in to share with us strategies for success to propel us beyond where we are to heights we have only dreamed of reaching.

Don't forget to bring your calendars, planners, business cards, sample of the products and services you offer! Everyone present will have a chance to introduce yourself and tell us about the great things you are

doing!

Included is also a full breakfast buffet and chance to win great prizes!

The meeting will be held at Homewood Suites, 2601 E.

George Bush Turnpike, Plano, TX. 972-881-3339. For more details, visit the website at: www.forministry.com/ustxindptcoi or call 214-924-6546.

Thank You Dallas Ft. Worth Metroplex

We would like to express to the 135 families that we have service in excellence, this our first year we would like say THANK YOU!

It is our sincere hope and prayer that we can continue to service our community, churches and families in the Garland, DFW, East TX, South TX, Plano, Arizona, and The East Coast communities. If you need Professional & Excellence Service, please do not hesitate to call (866)979-2121

Heavenly Gate Funeral Services

Tim Jefferson, Rev. Derrick Bowman, Sr., and Rev. Anthony Wilson
Garland, TX

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

PEOPLE OF FAITH WITH A MIND TO WORK

The Inspiring Body of Christ Church

7710 S. Westmoreland Rd.
Dallas Texas 75237
Phone: 972-572-4262 Fax: 972-709-3888

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

Website: www.ibocjoy.org

Ben Washington Baptist Church, Inc.
3901 Frisco Avenue
Irving, TX 75061
Church 972-790-8421 Fax 972-986-6590

Email: church@bwbicirving.org
Web: bwbicirving.org

Dr. Joseph R. Sheppard, Pastor

"THE CHURCH WITH AN OPEN BIBLE"

Sunday Worship Services 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 6:00 p.m. Baptist Training Union	Wednesday 12:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Prayer Hour 7:30 p.m. Bible Study
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THE LOVE CHURCH

Living Obediently Victoriously Expectantly

A. Louis Patterson, III • Pastor

Service Times:
Church Unusual
Sundays @ 9:30AM
TNLI ~ Tuesday Night Live
Tuesdays @ 7:30PM

Worship Location:
Ivy Education Center
903 W. Parker Road
Plano, Texas 75023
(NE Corner of W. Parker Rd and Alma Rd)

Mailing Address:
1409 S. Lamar Street • Ste. 257
Dallas, Texas 75215
(214) 761-1175 off.
www.thelovechurch.com

"Loving The World With The Word!"

EBENEZER WORSHIP CENTER

"We are Living Stones in God's Temple"

SUNDAY
10:00 am: Sunday School
11:00 am: Morning Worship

MONDAY
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm: Men of Power and Women of Power

TUESDAY
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm: Bible Study & Worship Service

14000 Preston Road • Dallas, TX 75254 • 972-980-0977 (Church Phone)

THE MOVE OF GILEAD

Jesus Christ, Chief Overseer
Overseer Craig L. Cobb (First Lady - Meikel Cobb)
Pastor Mancil Carroll, II (First Lady - Maxine Carroll)

Sunday School - 9:30 am
Morning Worship - 11:15 am
Wednesday Night Bible Study - 7:30 pm

1016 Pioneer Road • Mesquite, TX 75149
972-289-1200 • 972-289-1206 - fax
www.TheMoveOfGilead.org

There Are No Limitations To Our Expectations In God

New Life Fellowship Church

New Worship Home:
7401 Miller Road • Rowlett, TX 75088
972-463-5741

A Place of New Beginnings... II Corinthians 5:17

Sunday Life Bible School: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Life Celebration Worship Service: 10:45 a.m.
First Sunday: The Lord's Supper: 6:00 p.m.
Life In The Word Prayer and Bible Study (Wednesdays): 7:00 p.m.

Friendship Baptist Church

Dr. C. Paul McBride, Pastor

Schedule of Services:

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

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

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

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

"The Church with a Vision"