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American **Airlines Teams** With UNCF

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# People In The News



The USA National Junior Olympics took place in Baltimore, Maryland from July 25-31. The Elite of Mesquite Track Team had five members to qualify and represent Texas.

Davontae Harris came in sixth place in the Midget Boys division in the long jump.

Harris, who jumped 4.94 meters, was one of five members of the Elite of Mesquite track

team. Other members, Blayde Moore, Trae Hart, Carlos Stricklin and Lincoln Warren competed in the 4x100 relay, coming in sixth place at 54.73 sec-

Out of the 100 kids that run track for the Elite of Mesquite, Blayde Moore (pictured on right) was the only one to qualify in two events, the long jump-where he received tenth place, and the 4x100 relay.

The Bantam division includes boys ages 9-10. The Midget division includes boys ages 11-12.

The Athletics Congress/USA was founded in 1979. In 1992, they changed the name to USA Track & Field (USATF) to receive notable recognition for the organization

Next year, the Junior Olympics will be held in Los Angeles,

Victoria Christopher Murray will be signing her new book, A Sin and A Shame at Black Images Book Bazaar on Friday, August 11

Originally from Queens, New York, Murray has authored six Christian fiction novels.

She graduated from Hampton University in Virginia and majored in communication disorders, and later received her Master of Business Administration from New York University.

Murray spent several years in orporate America before she wrote her first book, Temptation in 1997. Three years later, her book was published by Walk Worthy Press/Warner Books. It made several best seller lists including Emerge, Essence and The Dallas Morning News. In 2001, Temptation was nominated for the NAACP Image

Award in Outstanding Literature. In 2002, her second book, Joy, won the Gold Pen Award for Best Inspirational Fiction.

Currently, Murray lives in Long Beach, California and is a regional editor for Black Issues Book Review and contributor to Quarterly Press Review.

A Sin and A Shame continues the story of Jasmine who finally seems to get her life going in the right direction until another man from her past threatens to ruin her perfect rela-



Dr. Kevin Stephens, director of New Orleans Health Department was one of the panelists at the Mazique Symposium this week at National Medical Association's 104th Annual Convention in Dallas.

Stephens worked in the trenches after Hurricane Katrina and shared many of his experiences providing medical assistance to the distressed in the aftermath.

Stephens, a board certified obstetrician and gynecologist, has been in practice for 14 years in New Orleans. He is on the clinical faculty of Xavier University, Dillard University,

Louisiana State University(LSU) Medical School and Tulane Medical School. Before becoming director of the health department, he served as the Women's Health Medical Director for the Office

of Public Health in the Department of Health and Hospitals for the State of Louisiana. Also a member of the Louisiana bar, Stephens has worked as a consultant for several local, state and national agencies. He is also dedicated to educating others on medical issues

through lectures and speeches across the nation. Stephens holds a bachelor of science degree in physics from Southern University, his master's from LSU, residency from Tulane University and a juris doctorate from Loyola

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## **Motorist Caution! School In Plano** Begins Wednesday, August 9

There's no denying the first days of school are special ones! Students are intent on finding new classrooms, locating friends in a maze of people and traffic or finding the bus or car for the ride home. Parents are intent on getting to work on time, locating drop-off points, finding on-site parking and entrances and exits to driveways.

The adrenalin for both motorists and pedestrians is running high and attention to surroundings is running low.

While pedestrian traffic is always a major concern at schools, the first few weeks of school are particularly important ones for motorists to observe extreme caution near schools, as the students' uncertainties and excitements of beginning classes often take precedence over their vehicle traffic awareness.

The Plano Police Department offers the following reminders for safe motoring throughout the school year:

Drive no more than 20 MPH in designated school zones. Even at 20 MPH, a collision with a child can be deadly! Speed zones. have been created to alert motorists the possibility of a pedestrian student appearing out of nowhere is very high. Watching your speedometer won't give you the time you need to react. Peripheral awareness is paramount.

Watch for and obey crossing guards. They are there for both vehicle and pedestrian traffic protection.

Learn to navigate the carpool process.



Observe the traffic flow for carpool/drop-off lanes. Do not go against the flow, which creates confusion and delay for everyone. Know where you should turn into the school drop-off entrance and do not hold up traffic by trying to turn in from the opposite direction.

Remember drop-off/pickup time requirements. Know and remember how long the drop-off process takes. Allowing yourself plenty of time will prevent rushing and carelessness.

Drop children only at school-designated locations. Dropping children at random points along the way to school may save time but it may not save a life. Children

School Begins Page 4

### The Links Inc. Hosts "A Knock-Out Affair": Black Tie Boxing, Round XIV

Mid Cities-Texas Chapter, The Links, Senior Vice President /District Incorporated will host its annual fundraiser "A Knock-Out Affair": Black Tie Boxing, Round XIV on Saturday, August 19, 2006 at the Fairmont Hotel at 6:00 p.m. The evening includes entertainment, dancing, dinner, an auction, as well as the main event, live professional boxing.

Honorary Chairpersons for this prestigious event are Rayfield Wright, Pro Football Hall of Fame member and former Dallas Cowboy; Dorothy Mason, Vice President of Texas Markets, Tiffany & Co.; Bill Bowens, Founder, The Bill Bowens Foundation; and Mark Cooks,

Manager, Wells Fargo Bank.

Proceeds form the event will benefit Mid-Cities Texas Chapter's award winning Senior Prescription Assistance Program coordinated through community partners in Irving, Arlington and Grand Prairie to assist mature adults in securing their prescription medicine, the Sallye Moore Scholarship Fund, the Boys and Girls Club of Grand

Links Page 9

# Jeffery Osborne To Perform At **Urban League Annual Gala**

Jeffrey Osborne, legendary singer and songwriter whose hits include "You Should Be Mine", "Love Ballad, "On the Wings of Love" and "Congratulations" will be the featured entertainment at the 2006 Urban League Annual Gala on Saturday, August 12 at the Anatole Hilton Hotel, 2201 Stemmons Freeway at 7:00 p.m.

Former Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk, Dr. Vonciel Jones Hill and Countrywide Banking will also be honored at the event with the Whitney M. Young and President's award, respectively.

"The honorees embody these words by the late Whitney M. Young Jr., Executive Director of the National Urban League from 1961 to 1971," said Dr. Beverly Mitchell Brooks, President and CEO of the Urban League, "that this nation has always had the music of harmony, the song of equality, running through its dreams...it never played that melody because it wanted to use only the white keys...it's time for it to start using the full keyboard of human resources to bring peace, harmony and justice



to this divided land."

Countrywide Financial Corporation will receive the Buddy J. Minyard Award for their outstanding corporate partnership and support of the Urban League. They support Urban League programs that benefit low-to-moderate income individuals and families and help revitalize economically distressed areas

Urban League Gala Page 5

## Dallas Black Firefighters Sue Over Alleged Discrimination

The Dallas Black Fire Fighters Association has sued the city of Dallas claiming that fire department policies are tainted by discrimination against minorities and women.

The lawsuit accuses Dallas Fire-Rescue of discrimination in hiring, training, transfers, promotions and disci-

The lawsuit, which was filed in state district court last month, seeks a permanent injunction stopping "unfair discriminatory employment policies" and demands more than \$75,000 in damages for each person.

"These people are being discriminated against," said Grover Hankins, a Houston lawyer representing the association. "There are some very hard-core discriminatory practices that are going on in that department."



The city attorney and fire officials declined to comment on the lawsuit.

Blacks make up about 21 percent of the city's 1,600 firefighters, with whites making up 62 percent and Hispanics 14

Among numerous allegations, the lawsuit accuses the fire department of "discriminatory hiring practices against qualified African-American candidates that make application for employment."

Shawn Gary, president of

Black Firefighters Page 3

## Out Of Africa

By Erin Evans

Four major international humanitarian agencies have recently reported that July was the most dangerous month for escalation in the Darfur conflict over the last three years.

Eight Sudanese humanitari an aids were killed during the month. Humanitarian aid and support has waned due to the insecurity of the Sudanese region. According to reports by the World Food Program, the United Nations and the Coalition for International Justice, 3.5 million people are now hungry, 2.5 million have been displaced due to violence, and 400,000 people have died in Darfur thus far.

In the wide array of the issue, internationally, there is a failure to provide support for civilians and even more so, failure to force the Sudanese government to step in and take control.

Several negative effects have



taken a large toll upon the victims of Darfur including failing security measures, increasing civilian casualties, an ineffective ceasefire, tensions between Sudan and Chad, threat of famine and the new appearance of armed movements in Darfur and neighboring states.

In many ways, I relate the Darfur conflict with the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Out Of Africa Page 6

### The High Cost Of Being Poor



By: Lorinda M. Bullock NNPA National Correspondent

It seemed as if Angela and Edward Johnson's dream of owning their own home would only remain just that-a dream.

When the child care professional and retired auto mechanic went house-hunting with a real estate broker, he took one look at their poor credit scores and flatly predicted they'd never be approved for a loan. He even suggested the Johnsons find someone else to apply for the loan on their behalf.

It also didn't help when homeowner friends often com-

plained to the Johnsons of back-breaking interest rates on their mortgages.

So when the Johnson's finally moved into their new Suitland, Md. home outside just Washington, D.C. in May, Angela Johnson was downright giddy when they ran into that broker

"I saw him. And you know I was so proud to tell him, 'You know we bought a house and let me tell you what the interest rate is," she said.

She's got a reason to beam with pride. The Johnsons beat the odds that are statistically stacked against low-income Black Americans.

The Washington-based Brookings Institution's recent report, "From Poverty, Opportunity," shows that on average, lower income home-

Being Poor Page 8

# UniverSoul Circus Wraps Up Dallas Run

Photos By: Ronald Coleman Leave it to those with soul to stay cool in the summer

heat. That's UniverSoul, a circus of urban culture, theater with a new ice skating act, which completed its Dallas run under the big-top at Redbird

Founded in 1994 by ringmaster Calvin "Casual Cal" Dupree, the Universoul Circus injects extra flavor and

Mall on August 6th.

funk into the circus tradition. Picking up where the first African-American owned and operated circus left off (it closed up shop in 1902), Universoul mixes culturally based call and response traditions, music and language as a way of exposing children of all ages (and races) to the roots of the African-American experience.

Nicknamed "Hip-Hop under the Big Top," the UniverSoul Circus features traditional cir-

cus acts; and lively, urbaninspired music. The troupe includes performers from all over the world, from South African trapeze artists to stiltwalking shamans from the Virgin Islands.

New this year is comedian Anthony Luewellyn, a.k.a. "Tony Tone," as ringmaster, as well as professional skaters Jermel Garland and Eugene Homes, who will perform "Soul on Ice.'



Motorcycle stunt act during UniverSoul Circus



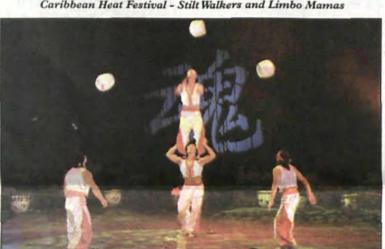
Diva and the Lion's Den performs a dangerous feat at UniverSoul Circus



The Statue Act



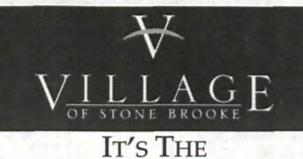
Caribbean Heat Festival - Stilt Walkers and Limbo Mamas



Vase jugglers take center stage at UniverSoul Circus



Gabonese Acrobatic Troupe in action



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Collin

County

The

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

Tenant Legal Free 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.

Free HIV Testing offered by the LaSima Foundation from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. every Thursday at two different locations. For locations and more information, call 214-928-9303. 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.

Family Film at the Library at Haggard Library. 2501 Coit Road. Every Friday at 11:30 a.m. Bring out the family for fun and relaxation. For more information call 972-208-8000.

Kumaasi African Ensemble Dance Classes from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. West African dance classes held every Saturday at the South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh Ave. Contact S-Ankh Rasa at 214-298-5858 for more informa-

PHASE, The Potters House Singles Ministry would like to invite all singles to join us for our Soul Food events held every 1st & 3rd Friday in the Youth Sanctuary. For more information, contact the PHASE information line at 214-331-0954 x.1954.

Gallery Exhibition Opening: "Rhythms, Reflections, Relations: The Works of Evita Tezeno" through August 26. Tuesday through Friday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the James E. Kemp Gallery at TBAAL. For more information call 214-743-2440.

Swing Time Magazine presents Friday Night Swing hosted by 94.5's First Lady of Radio Lynne Haze every first Friday at the Castleview Ballroom at the Sterling Hotel in 1055 Regal Road and HWY 183 in Dallas. Admission \$10. Call 972-225-6487 for more information. Swing elegance attire..

### August 10

Back To School Rally at Concord Baptist Church. Panel discussion with area principals and education leaders at 7 p.m.

Boitlumelo: Songs and Legends from South Africa. Zulu folk songs about insects and animals at Forest Green Library at 9015 Forest Lane at 3:30 p.m. Call 214-670-1335 for more information.

### August 11

Victoria Christopher Murray autographs A Sin and A Shame at 6:00 p.m. at Black Images.

Mary J. Blige in concert at Smirnoff Music Center at 8:00 p.m. Featuring Jaheim and Letoya. Tickets available through Ticketmaster.

### August 12

Free vaccines for students at Concord Baptist Church from 12 pm to 3 pm. Kids Blitz Live Entertainment at 5:00 p.m. for \$5. 6806 Pastor Bailey Drive, Dallas. Bring shot records!

Free immunizations and free

school supplies for first 300 who get their shots at Irving Mall from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information call 972-742-5982.

No Limit Women's Expo features exhibitors with products, services, and business opportunities for women. 2000 E. Spring Creek Pkwy in Plano from 10am - 6pm FREE. Call 972-898-5882.

Celebrity Basketball Tournament at Reunion Arena at 5:30 p.m. Call 214-779-5221 for more informa-

Girls Rule for Back To School presented by North Park Mall to benefit Girls Incorporated of Metropolitan Dallas. Fashion show at 2 p.m. at North Park. Free admis-

Rising from the Rails. A movie chronicling the life of Pullman Porters, African American men who worked on luxury rail cars post Civil War to the end of the Civil Rights Movement based on the book by Larry Tye. Dallas Humphrey Theatre at 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. Call 214-428-8700 for more information.

Gospel Music Workshop of America Convention will convene through August 18 at the Dallas Convention Center. It is the largest international music convention of its kind. Nightly musicals. Visit http://www.gmwanational.org for more information.

Dallas Music Festival with Earth, Wind and Fire at Smirnoff Centre at 7 p.m. Call 214-373-8000. August 13

Richardson Community Band summer concert series at Richardson Civic Center at 7:00 p.m. Call 972-673-8256. Free! Bring lawn chairs and picnics. 411 W. Arapaho Road.

8th Annual Back To School Fade Out. Holy Hands Barbershop will give free haircuts to children ages 5-14 from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. 2910 Centerville Road, Dallas.

### August 18

Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship Friday Night Live at 7:09 p.m. A singles event. 1808 W. Camp Wisdom Road. Call 972-228-1281.

Sommore, BET's first female Comic View host will be at the Addison Improv through August 20. Friday at 8:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Saturday at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Sunday at 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. 4980 Belt Line Road #250, Addison 75240. 972-404-8501.

### August 19

The International Bazaar at the Potter's House from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. 6777 W. Kiest Blvd. 972-291-8607. Celebrating diverse cultures in Dallas/Fort Worth.

College Fair for high school students at Concord Church from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Representatives will be available from colleges, universities, vocational/trade schools and the military.

### August 24

The City of Plano City Council will hold a Neighborhood Roundtable at 7 p.m. at W.O. Haggard Library. 2501 Coit Road in Plano. The meeting will focus on neighborhood concerns in District 4: North - Spring Creek; South -City's Limit; East - Alma; and to the West, Coit (from Spring Creek to Parker) and Ohio (from Parker to southern City's Limit).

August 25

Dallas Regional Minority Enterprise Development Week at the Hyatt Regency. "Mastering the Supply Chain." For details contact Mcompany at 1-866-280-6826.

Tulisoma: South Dallas Book Fair and Arts Festival featuring Walter Mosley, Alice Randall, Omar Tyree, Rebecca Walker, Alexus Rhone, Kadir Nelson at the African American Museum. Friday to Sunday. More information at www.tulisoma.com about event times.

August 26 United Nations Association Dallas Chapter pres-

ents a social program on Darfur at 165 Inwood Village, Lovers Lane at 6 p.m. Call 972-480-5236 for more information.

17th Annual VISIONS: The Women's Expo at Dallas Market Hall from 10 am to 6 pm. on Saturday and Sunday. Benefits Dallas Habitat for Humanity Women Build Program. Special appearance by Naomi Judd. For more information call 972-504-6358 or visit www.visionsexpo.com.

### September 4

National Baptist Convention at the Dallas Convention Center through Friday. For more information call 1-866-531-3054 or long onto www.nationalbaptist.org.

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### Paul Hailey

"Corruption we can see from space."-Chris Bell, democratic candidate for governor.

"He (Governor Rick Perry) calls it Trans Texas Corridor. We call it Trans Texas Catastrophe." -Carole Keeton Strayhorn, State Comptroller and independent candidate for governor.

Two weeks ago I had no idea what the Trans Texas Corridor was and no idea whether I was for or against its construction. However, as part of my never ending pursuit of truth, justice and the American way (along with just generally being a good guy), I took it upon myself to read all I could on the topic. Yes, I took the proverbial "one for the team" so I could inform you, dear reader, about a Texas sized monstrosity that is quietly being pimped to the public by Texas Republicans, Governor Rick Perry and the Texas Department of Transportation.

So what exactly is the Trans Texas Corridor? The Trans Texas Corridor is an all-Texas superhighway that is planned to include tollways for passenger vehicles and trucks, passenger bullet trains, commuter trains, high-speed freight trains, pipelines of all types, and electrical transmission towers. Plans also include gas stations, garages, restaurants, hotels, stores, billboards, warehouses, freight interchange, intermodal transfer areas, passenger train stations, bus stations, parking facilities, dispatch control centers, maintenance facilities, pipeline pumping stations, and (big surprise), toll booths.

The 4,000 mile, \$184 billion route will connect eastern and central Texas, connecting Laredo to Oklahoma and Arkansas. Each corridor could contain up to four trucker lanes, six vehicle lanes six rail

## The Biggest Mess In Texas You've Never Heard Of

lines and a 200-foot utility path. \$35,000. At its largest size, each TTC could be 1,200 feet wide and consume up to 9, 000 square miles of land. The project will be the largest engineering project ever undertaken in Texas.

My first question after filtering all of that data was what's wrong a plan that connects the state from Mexico to Oklahoma and El Paso to Louisiana?

With all things governmental, it's always a good start to follow the money. I quickly discovered that as usual, the deception is in the details.

The initial problem with the TTC is the contractors involved with the project have made large contributions to the campaigns of several key Texas politicians, including Governor Rick Perry.

Terri Hall is the director of a taxpayers' group called the San Antonio Toll party who summed up the lobbying involved in of land from local tax rolls of TTC contracts.

"There is not a single politician in our entire Bexar County delegation that has not taken a management company based money from H.B. Zachry, Jr.", Hall said.

Zachry Construction Corporation is one of the largest contractors doing business with the Texas Department of Transportation. Headquartered in San Antonio, Zachry has formed a limited partnership for TTC construction with Cintra, a consortium based in of all places, Spain.

"The politicians in Austin are listening to the highway lobby rather than the citizens who put them in office," Hall continued. "You will not understand the politics of the TTC until you track down Zachry, who has a long and distinguished money trail to offices of our state politicians."

In fact, Zachry contributed \$112,000 in campaign contributions-92% to Republicans. The largest contributions went to Governor Perry, for a total of

There will be fewer on ramps for the TTC, which has a negative effect on commerce.

Cintra Zachry will own all the land surrounding the TTC, so instead of normal commerce providing local revenue, there will only be concession income to the management company.

If the money trail isn't enough for reservations about TTC. consider that the project at full development will require the removal of 584,000 of farm and ranch land. The state is projecting that TTC will take u to 146 acres of land for ever land mile. Up to 1 million people could be displaced using the laws of eminent domain passed by the U.S. Supreme Court last year.

Let me see if I get this right: the TTC reduces local revenue from commerce, eliminates hundreds of thousands of acres counties, school districts, rural hospital districts and utility districts-and its all being headed by in Spain?

No wonder 186 of the 254 counties in Texas have already filed protests to the plan with the Texas Department of Transportation.

Of course, I haven't got the space to talk about environmental issues regarding pollution from such an enormous undertaking, the fact that its hard to ease traffic when the planned routes are outside of the major metropolitan areas, or the impact the TTC is going to have on illegal immigration. Let's just say it is a big mess.

Nearly everyone is familiar with the "Don't Mess With Texas" slogan against littering. It is sad that the state leadership is laying the groundwork to creating a huge mess right under

Paul Hailey can be reached at editor@MonTheGazette.com

# Republicans 33 - Democrats 0

Tell me if you have heard the following statement? It doesn't matter who I vote for or even if I vote because nothing is going to change. OK try this one the Republicans and Democrats are bought and paid for by the same people. Statements like these have been repeated so often that they have created their own belief system. They are the rationale for not voting and not caring about what happens when people do not vote. This belief, like so many others, has become its own reward because a low voter turnout means that nothing else is going to change.

This mentality is multi-faceted and therefore is subject to manifest itself in various ways. One of those ways is the concept that black people should look at both parties and see what each one has to offer. The father of Congressman J.C. Watts (the only black republican at the time and the former House G.O.P. Conference Chairman) said it best when he said that "A black person voting for a republican was like a chicken voting for Colonial Sanders".

I agree with that one wholeheartedly except for one point the chickens brain is about the size of a marble. What's your excuse? When you think about it the KFC relationship with the chicken is actually very similar to the republican relationship with black America. A chicken can be consumed after it has been baked, broiled, boiled, etc. Blacks are being consumed by racial profiling, a minimum wage that does not rise as inflation rises, artificial housing shortages that were generated by the broken, false promises of the 1960s and 1970s Urban Renewal Programs that initiated the wholesale destruction of housing in hundreds of black neighborhoods across the country, and overall too little too late

Katrinacide of Black America. With so much going on in our

country it is not less important that we vote - to the contrary! - It is more important that we vote! It is equally important that we understand that we must vote for those that vote for us.

On July 13th, 2006 the U.S. House of Representatives renewed the 1965 Voting Rights Act by a vote of 390 to 33. The 33 opposed votes came from the Republican party. If you are at all shocked by this you need to wake up and smell more than just coffee. I watched part of the proceedings on C-Span and once again white politicians from the south stood and gave their reasons for America to not have a Voting Rights Act.

The faces from the 1960s may have changed but the rhetoric remained the same. There was however one particular change in the faces that I saw that I found quite reassuring. And that was the fact that this time the Voting Rights Act was also being championed by a sizeable number of black politicians under the umbrella of the Congressional Black Caucus.

The Congressional Black Caucus is approximately 10% of the House of Representatives and it is for this reason (open among others) that I felt very privileged to be able to speak to Congressman Mel Watt. He is the current chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus and he widened my views about democrats and black America. He pointed out that the Voting Rights Act was just one of the many good examples of the differences between the two parties. The Congress spends money through Appropriations Bills. He named education, health care, housing and Medicaid. He said "It's about spending priorities".

We also talked about the priorities of the Executive Branch. His comment on that was "Look at the eight years of spending with Clinton". He lamented the fact that republicans couldn't find the money for things like health care and housing but Bush could lead the fight for tax breaks for the rich. This was being done as the deficit skyrocketed. His expert opinion and my common sense both agreed that "Our deficit spending can't be sustained over time".

I should interject at this point that my father was the first person to point out to me that the difference between the two parties was that the republicans spend our money from the top down, and the democrats spend our nation's money from the bottom up.

President Reagan confirmed my father's wisdom, many years later, by what he called "the trickle-down effect". Interestingly enough people like Ronald Reagan, Jesse Helms and Strom Thurmond were all democrats at one time.

They, like so many dozens, of other prominent white democrats left the party as the Civil Rights Movement progressed. Over and over again whether we are talking about spending priorities, civil liberties - like pulled over while driving while black - or the fact that not one democrat voted against the Voting Rights Act. The choice seems to be so crystal clear.

I had the opportunity to speak to Howard Gancman who is the Press Secretary for Diane Feinstein about her statement on the Senate floor favoring the renewal of the Voting Rights Act. And he said "that the Voting Rights Act is an extremely monumental piece of legislation for our nation. It is very important that it moves forward and our president finds it".

I couldn't have said it better myself!

Samuel Justiss Vance is a columnist for BlackNews.com and is the C.E.O. of Talkinggreen.com which produces the syndicated radio segment - A Positive Moment.

## Where Do You Want To Go Today?

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Phone: (972) 516-2992 Fax: (972) 516-4197 Email: editor@monthegazette.com

**Entertainment Department:** Phone: (972) 509-9049

Email: entertainment@monthegazette.com

Website: www.MonTheGazette.com

# What I've Learned

Garland native and Howard ly enough any more. University Journalism student Erin Evans has spent the summer as an intern in the Editorial Department at MON-The Gazette. This is her last issue with MON before returning to Howard for her Junior year. We asked Erin for her thoughts on what she's learned during her internship, her reflections on her experience are found in the following column.

By: Erin Evans

As I head back to the east coast, a couple weeks early for staff training for Howard University's campus newspaper, The Hilltop, I can only appreciate the experience that I received this summer.

I am heading back to a different reality at school; I have to throw relaxation and lazy days out the window. But, I am embracing it with open arms. Since in fact, I have been counting down the days until I can get back to college life.

At the same time, this summer and my experience at MON-The Gazette has been invaluable to me. Experience in your field is the most vital asset to a resume because a college degree is hard-

But, of course, to college students, the mighty dollar often takes precedence over experi-



Interning, especially in journalism, is not the most lucrative opportunity. Most internships are unpaid.

But, the most important piece of advice that I have read in a while was, "Experience for the long run is more valuable for your future than getting paid now."

So, I took that and ran with this internship opportunity.

cials said five black women have

been hired as firefighters in the

One thing I learned here is that journalism truly is a labor of love. Having a passion for the work I do helps get the job done. Through journalism, I can see the fruit of my labor. The tangible evidence of progress in an article with my by-line is result enough for the success of a productive sum-

My productivity is also evident through the countless responses of friends and family. In turn, gratitude is given out to all those who continually support me.

All in all, being an informant, especially for the black community, has been interesting and most of all, an eyeopener. I encourage other aspiring writers, entrepreneurs, doctors, lawyers and everything in between to explore their field. Learn whether you love what you do, so that you'll never work a day in your life.

I leave you with a personal quote, "In trying to become the epitome of success, realize that you will always be a work in progress."

Stay tuned.

Black Firefighters Page 1

the black firefighters association, said placing minorities in recruitment positions isn't

"You've got to have policies that allow you to recruit these people," he said.

The lawsuit also accuses the department of giving predominantly white fire stations preferred overtime assignments.

The lawsuit claims that Dallas-Fire Rescue hasn't hired a black female firefighter in about 15 years. Lavender said that it's actually

been about 11 years. Fire offi-

Editors Note- In our July 20

story

entitled

issue, MON-The Gazette pub-

"Foreclosures Continue to Soar in

lished

past 15 years, including three who remain with the department. There have been 13 black women hired as fire prevention officers. With women making up 4

percent of the department's firefighting personnel, Lavender said the department lags in hiring enough women because it's difficult to attract them into the fire service.

Dallas-Fire Rescue has been the subject of other lawsuits in the past two decades.

White firefighters sued in the

Collin County" with a byline for Jim Kilpatrick. The byline should have also included attribution for the story to the Plano Star Courier mid-1990s claiming women and minorities who scored lower on civil service tests were promoted ahead of them. The U.S. Supreme Court found that part of the city's affirmative action plan violated the rights of white male firefighters.

Eddie Burns became Dallas' first black chief in April.

Gary said a new chief doesn't solve the problems.

"We tried to mediate with the city," he said. "They chose not to respond, and this is just the next step. Are we supposed to ignore that?"

Newspaper. MON apologizes to our readers and the Plano Star Courier for any confusion caused by this oversight

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Published By Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

Office Manager

Production

Robert Booker Assistant Vice-President Marketing

Edward Dewayne "Preacher Boy" Gibson, Jr. Religious/Marketing Editor

Shirley Demus Tarpley Assistant Associate Editor

Publicist Cheryl Jackson

Cartoonist Brad McMillon

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LaKeesha Joe

Columnist

Paul Hailey

Intern

Erin Evans

Photography

Patrick "PJ" Johnson

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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

# American Airlines Holds Fundraiser In Support Of United Negro College Fund Hurricane Katrina Relief

\$50,000 Goal for Donations

American Airlines today joined the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) to hold a fundraising event at American's Fort Worth headquarters to help raise money for the UNCF Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund. The fund assists students from UNCF colleges who were impacted (Left to R) Dr. John Waddell, incoming presiby the hurricane, and will help them to continue their education.

rative effort of the UNCF and American's Marketing Human Resources departments and American's African American Employee Resource Group. In attendance were Maurice Jenkins, Senior Vice President-UNCF;

Airlines' Employees Set Diane Stephenson, Area commended for stepping up to UNCF partner for more than



dent of Paul Quinn College; Debra Hunter Johnson, vice president- Global Human Resources Services-American; Sheena Payne, manager-Advertising and The event was a collabo- Promotions-American Airlines; and Maurice ment to helping them

Jenkins, senior vice president-UNCF. and Dr. John Waddell, incoming president of Paul Quinn College. Dr. Waddell surprised American and the UNCF with a \$1,500 donation to the cam-

Katrina get the college education they need," said UNCF President and CEO Michael L. Lomax. "At a time when a college degree is a minimum requirement for almost every good career, the hurricane could have not ed. only derailed these

young people's education but affected the rest of their lives as well," Lomax said. "American's commit-

will play an important part in keeping their education and careers on track." American Airlines, a

founding member of the oneworld® Alliance, "American Airlines is to be has been a longstanding

Development Director-UNCF; help these victims of Hurricane 26 years, supporting the organization's fundraising efforts and the nationally televised Annual Evening of Stars event. Additionally, the airline serves 25 of the communities in which UNCF's member colleges and universities are locat-



Cory Falade and Ta'yana White, incoming freshman at Dillard University in New Orleans, attended an event at American Airlines Headquarters to raise funds for the United Negro College Fund's Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund.

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# Pro-Line International And Boys & Girls Club Of Greater Dallas Search For Great Young Writers Launch "Helping Hands Creative Writing Contest"

or Savings Bond to Help Further Education

Pro-Line International, a subsidiary of the Alberto-Company (NYSE:ACV) and the second largest manufacturer of ethnic beauty care products in the world, and the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Dallas, Inc. are launching the "Helping Hands Creative Writing Contest" to find the most talented young writers in North Texas.

Dallas area students, ages nine to 18, may enter the "Helping Hands Creative Writing Contest" through August 15, 2006. Each essay must address the question: "What would you do to make

Winners Earn Scholarship a difference in your community?" All entries will be judged on originality, creativity and grammar. The essay should contain no more than 500 words, be unpublished and never submitted to other competitions. Aspiring writers may pick up application packets or receive more information by visiting any Boys & Girls Club in the Greater Dallas area.

> "Pro-Line International is committed to giving back to the community by providing the Boys & Girls of Greater Dallas with financial support for educational endeavors," Dondella Harris, Promotions Director for Pro-Line International. "With this partnership, Pro-Line and

the Boys & Girls Club of during America's Day for Kids Greater Dallas are leading the way to help develop greater educational opportunities for children in our communities."

The selection committee will announce first, second and third place winners in two age groups: 9-14 year olds and 15-18 year olds. The top winner in 9-14 year- old category will win a \$2,000 savings bond, while the first -place winner in the 15-18 year-old category will walk away with a \$2,500 educational scholarship. Also, the first 100 entrants will receive a FREE one-year membership to the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Dallas. Winners will be issued awards at Bahama

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are forced to cross the road at

School Begins Page 1

safety of the school entrance through designated carpool lanes. Stopping "along the way" in the carpool lane to unload children creates delays and may cause injury to your child, as has been experienced here in Plano. If you don't want to navigate through the carpool lanes and wait your turn at the school entrance, park your car a reasonable distance from the school and escort your student(s) to the

crossing guard for safe passage. Watch for marked pedestrian crossings where Crossing Guards are not on duty. Watch the roadways for clearly marked pedestrian crosswalks. It's the law that motorists stop and allow for

all marked locations, not just locations that have guards in attendance. Never "wave" from your vehicle for a child to cross. Your wave could cause a fatal accident. Just because you see the child and plan to wait for them to cross, doesn't mean the · children. motorists around you are aware of the instructions you have given. consider Commuters alternative routes to work. delays for non-school com-

Motorists trying to commute around areas of peak school traffic might choose another route to avoid frustration. The muters can be substantial between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. Choosing a longer route out of a neighborhood to avoid school traffic will save time in the end. Frustrated motorists put pedestrian children at the greatest risk because they are

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## Blacks Saddled With High-Interest Loans

subprime lending

After analyzing lending data, the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now found that 32.4% of blacks received high-interest loans to purchase homes in 2004. That number was drastically different for Latinos and whites-20.3% and 8.7%, respectively. High-cost mortgages, defined as loans that originated at an annual percentage rate three points above Treasury rates, had APRs ranging from 7.67% to 8.54% in 2004.

For the first time last year, Home Mortgage Disclosure Act mandated that financial institutions report details about their mortgage lending transactions to the Federal Financial Institutions

Study shows disparity in Examination Council, an interagency body regulated by the Federal Reserve. More than 8,853 financial institutions disclosed information about their lending practices, and the results are alarming.

In Miami, Wells Fargo dispersed high-cost loans to 11.2% of blacks, compared to 1.2% of whites, reports ACORN. In African Philadelphia, Americans are 7.8 times more likely to receive high-interest loans than whites; in Chicago, 7.2 times more likely; and 6 times more likely in New York and Washington, D.C.

In some cases, minority borrowers with good credit are "steered" toward high-cost loans more appropriate for borrowers with low credit scores. But the report also suggests that discrimination is not always the

factor; minorities are far more likely than whites to borrow from companies that specialize in high-rate loans.

In the past, information on subprime loans flew below ACORN's radar. The new HMDA data accounts for all high-cost loans, regardless of the lenders' mix of offerings. Not only did HMDA reporting make compiling mortgage data more accurate, says ACORN Fair Housing Director Valerie Coffin, "It also made it clearer that the disparities were greater than was previously understood.'

Coffin says lenders need to ensure that every borrower gets the lowest-cost loan for which they qualify. Among lending institutions, Bank of America had the best record; Wells Fargo performed the worst.

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you at the Texas Workforce Center in Plano (820 Jupiter Road, Plano, Texas) between 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. on August 23rd.

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Contact Steve Miyazaki at 469-229-0099, ext. 272 or Freda Deutscher at 972-772-9705 or go to www.experienceworks.org tives will be available to meet with for more information.

### Study Reports Affluent Black Women An Untapped Market

According to the 2005 African American Active Investor Study, a larger proportion of well-off black investors are young, female, and single, compared with other prosperous Americans.

The survey reports that affluent African Americans are 58% more likely to be women, 28% more likely to be single or never married, and almost two times more likely to have \$100,000 in

investable assets between the ages of 30 and 49. Whites are more likely to have \$100,000 or more in African American investors will investable assets between the ages of 60 and 75.

These savvy, business-minded women represent an untapped client group that asset managers can reach by targeting this group's aspirations and desires to leave a legacy for their children.

"It's our prediction that represent one of the fastestgrowing markets for the investment services industry," says Mark Boles, executive vice president of Phoenix Cultural Access Group, a division of Phoenix Marketing International.

### North Texas Cities To Observe Stop On Red Week

the Richardson corner of Coit and Campbell will be the meeting place for cities from all over the North Texas area. The cities will join together at the site of one of Richardson's red light photo enforcement cameras to observe National Stop on Red Week, an event created in 1998 through a public-private partnership between the Federal Highway Administration and the

On Thursday, August 10, draw attention to the problem crash survivor advocates; and of red light running. The ceremony will begin at 10:00 a.m. at the northeast corner of Coit and Campbell, and will feature speakers who will address the issues involved with red light running, including State Representative for District 102, Tony Goolsby (R

Richardson); Richardson City Councilmember Bob Townsend; Martha Stowe, Director of the Injury Prevention Center of Greater

Leslie Blakey, Executive Director of the National Campaign to Stop Red Light Running. The City of Garland will also release the results of its most recent red light photo enforcement program effectiveness report. "North Texas is leading the nation in the number of localities adding the proven traffic safety benefits of red light cameras," said Blakey. "National Stop on Red Week Dallas; local red light running is the perfect time to publicly

recognize the commitment these communities have demonstrated in order to reduce red light running violations, crashes, injuries and fatalities."

The North Texas event is just one of many planned across the United States, including Stop on Red game nights being held by Major League Baseball teams, the Toronto Blue Jays and the Washington Nationals. For more information regarding National Stop on Red Week, go to stopredlightrunning.com.

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# Viva Dallas! Showcases Hispanic Enterprise

The Greater Dallas Hispanic Aug. 12 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. UT Southwestern Medical all regions of Latin America. Chamber of Commerce (GDHCC), one of the largest and most prestigious chambers in the nation, kicked off today the annual VIVA Dallas! Expo during a press conference at the Latino Cultural Center (2900 Live Oak). The highly anticipated event, presented by Bank of America, is the GDHCC's annual Hispanic business showcase, which attracted more than 18,000 attendees in 2005.

"Viva means live, and for two days, the citizens of Dallas will live with more fun, family food and free services than they can imagine," said CiCi Rojas, president and CEO, GDHCC. "The Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is proud to host VIVA Dallas! and highlight they city's Hispanic flavor through the local businesses, corporations and institutions dedicated to our community." VIVA Dallas! will be held

Urban League Gala Page 1

including financial education focusing on home ownership education.

The mission of the Urban League is to enable African Americans and others to secure economic self-reliance, parity, power and civil rights. Through its services, which include education, employment, health, housing, seniors and technology training, the League creates positive choices for residents throughout Dallas County.

"We continue to believe in the words of Whitney M. Young Jr., that "every man is my brother and each man's burden my own: where poverty exists all are poorer: where hatred flourishes all are corrupted; where injustice reigns, all are unequal," said Dr. Brooks.

Event sponsors include State Insurance Farm Washington Mutual (Title Sponsors);

Verizon; Verizon Wireless; American Airlines; The Dallas Morning News; WFAA-TV;

Clear Channel; AT&T; Airlines; Southwest Blockbuster; Chase Bank; Fannie Mae; J.C.

Penney; TXU and Texas Instruments.

For ticket information call (214) 915-4600.

and Aug. 13 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Event admission and parking are completely free. VIVA Dallas will be an amazing showgive-a-ways to live cooking fun activities for the children. Highlights include:

Fitness Pavilion offered by the will feature incredible food from

Center at Dallas will be one of several health providers

• The Home Depot will host a raffle at the conclusion of VIVA case of everything from free Dallas, where individual appliances of the Home Depot VIVA shows to health screenings and Dallas Kitchen will be won by attendees

· The Food Pavilion, hosted · Community Health and by the Latin Restaurant Alliance • UT Southwestern is offering

free mammograms to women 35 years and older. The total process, including paperwork and the mammogram, takes about 20 minutes. To pre-register for the mammograms contact 214-648-7421 or 214-648-7420 for Spanish speakers.

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water for future generations.

# Cynthia McKinney Defeated In Georgia Runoff

McKinney, Georgia's first African American congresswoman, lost her primary runoff race Tuesday, paying a price for strident rhetoric and a failure to galvanize supporters.

Her opponent, Hank Johnson, won 59 percent of the vote in Georgia's 4th Congressional District, according to Atlanta station WSB-TV's Web site.

McKinney had been expect- in which she poked a ed to cruise through the July police officer who stopped

primary but emerged only 3 percent ahead of Johnson, a lawyer and former county commissioner, and was forced into a run-off for a seat she has held since 2004.

In June, McKinney was forced to apologize on the floor of the House over an incident at the Capitol that drew rebukes from lawmakers of both parties,



Rep. Cynthia McKinney, D-Ga., right, speaks to supporters during an election night party in Decatur, Ga.

ing to recognize her.

The Justice Department declined to charge her over the incident, but Republicans seized on the opportunity to paint her as a loose cannon.

In a brief concession speech, McKinney said she wished the new district representative well, while Johnson told cheering supporters he would work to heal divisions caused during the campaign. Johnson will

her at a checkpoint after fail- face Republican Catherine Davis eager to unseat her because of in the Nov. 7 election.

> Senior Democratic leaders had declined to endorse McKinney's re-election campaign, viewing her as a polarizing figure who could hurt party chances in November elections, commentator Earl Hutchinson told Reuters.

McKinney's campaign slogan was "Backbone in politics" and she accused her opponent in a televised debate last week of taking money from Republicans

her principled stand on issues, not least her opposition to the war in Iraq, which she says is

McKinney, 51, was first elected to Congress in 1992 but lost her seat in a primary race in 2002 in part because of her suggestion that President Bush may have had prior knowledge of the Sept. 11

She was reelected two years

# Louisiana Police Who Turned Away Katrina Victims Face Inquiry

A grand jury will investigate last year's blockade of a Mississippi River bridge by armed police officers who turned back Hurricane Katrina evacuees trying to flee New Orleans.

Orleans Parish District Attorney Eddie Jordan declined to reveal any details of the investigation on Thursday.

the investigation next week, but it will start soon, said Leatrice Dupre, spokeswoman for the district attorney's office.

Several hundred evacuees claimed that police from suburban Gretna blocked them as they tried to flee New Orleans for safety on Sept. 1.

Many of the evacuees, who had

The grand jury will not begin been stranded at the New Orleans convention center without food and water, said they were told to cross the bridge to be evacuated from the city. But Gretna police confronted them on the bridge and forced them to turn around.

> Police later said they blocked the evacuees because there were no supplies or services for them on the other side of the river.

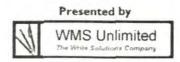
Gretna Police Chief Arthur S. Lawson Jr. has acknowledged that his officers fired shots into the air in an attempt to quell what he described as unrest among the evacuees.

The case raised widespread allegations of racism and spurred two marches across the bridge by national civil rights organizations



# in the months after the hurricane.

# No Limit Women's Expo



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### Out Of Africa Page 1

The slow approach of help from the government has dragged down the morale of the victims of both events. Limited access to food, water and medical attention is strongly believed by several critics to lead to famine. Ironically, after the Darfur peace deal, the residents took two large steps back. Nearly two million people were forced to relocate to temporary hous-

### Sound familiar?

Ineffective guards against escalation of the struggle, namely, the levees in New Orleans still remain in question as the one year mark of devastation rapidly approaches. Although New Orleans is in the process of its extreme makeover, have extreme measures been made

to, in some way, mitigate the effects of any future hurricanes in the area? And as for Darfur, when will the peace deal finally bring peace?

To donate to the Save Darfur campaign and to the Hurricane Katrina relief fund visit, www.savedarfur.com www.redcross.org, respectively.

Sudan-Care, International Rescue Committee (IRC), Oxfam International and World Vision, all international humanitarian groups have stated that July has been the worst month within the Darfur conflict.

"The level of violence being faced by humanitarian workers in Darfur is unprecedented," Manuel da Silva, United Humanitarian Coordinator and Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Sudan, told reporters in Khartoum on

### Monday.

Over three million people throughout Darfur are dependent on humanitarian aid, yet vast areas such as the Jebel Marra mountains and large parts of the northwestern region are almost completely inaccessible to aid agencies due to the violence and insecurity.

Since the signing of the DPA, violence has been widespread across Darfur due to the various rebel groups dispersed throughout the region and the escalation of violence between those pro and against the peace agree-

Secretary General Kofi Annan reported that more than 18,000 troops will be needed for the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS). The mission will begin in January, if the Sudanese government allows international support.

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### Angelina Jolie Sparks Casting Controversy

reporter

Mariane Pearl might be delighted to have actress Angelina Jolie depict her in an upcoming movie, but some of you are outraged.

Pearl is the tan, biracial widow of slain Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl, whose memoir, "A Mighty Heart: The Brave Life and Death of My Husband Danny Pearl," will be adapted into a motion picture by Brad Pitt's production company.

The film, simply called "A Mighty Heart," will tell of husband was abducted by ing his murder. Pearl, who is she is a woman of color,"

Oscar winner to play biracial Islamic extremists in Pakistan in reportedly of Afro Cuban/Dutch widow of slain Wall St. Journal early 2002. A month later, his heritage, was pregnant with



Pearl's experience after her captors released a video depict- photo of Mariane Pearl can tell

their son Adam at the time.

Since the news came out a few weeks ago, message boards across the Internet have been on fire, expressing harsh criticism about Jolie playing the role of Pearl. On BET.com's own boards, user chantejoy calls the very idea a "new generation of Hollywood in blackface."

"With talent such as Halle Berry, Thandie Newton and Jennifer Beals available - just to mention a few - what is Hollywood's excuse for casting a white woman this time?" she asks. "Anyone who has seen a

## Gnarls Barkley Success Bittersweet: Cee-Lo And Danger Mouse Postponed Other Projects To Deal With Unexpected Popularity.

Gnarls Barkley members and Cee-Lo's reunion with rap al" collaboration. Danger Mouse were not ready brought on by their experimental album, Elsewhere." Its success, fueled by the first single "Crazy," has already forced the duo to delay work on some of their other that Capitol Records projects.

"A lot of things have been say it just like that 'cause, pushed on the back burner by the success of Gnarls -- which is a good thing," Cee-Lo tells Billboard.com. "It's bittersweet, a double-edged sword. We didn't plan on touring for ['St. Elsewhere'], but here we are, three months into a tour. The dominoes are falling just as they should."

Among the extra curricular activities placed on hold is Danger Mouse's collaboration with rock outfit Sparklehorse, for what began as a "casu-

Cee-Lo Green and producer group Goodie Mob. Cee-Lo also recorded an album with Jazze I'd like to see what we could do

> "That was originally scheduled to be released prior to ['St. Elsewhere']," Cee-Lo says, "but I must say dropped the ball, and I'll frankly, I'm a little insulted by it. It's a very good project, and I wish people

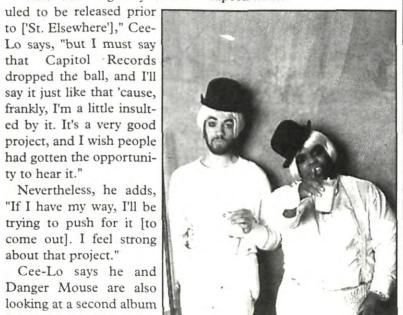
never see the light of day.

Nevertheless, he adds, "If I have my way, I'll be trying to push for it [to come out]. I feel strong about that project."

ty to hear it."

Cee-Lo says he and Danger Mouse are also looking at a second album

"Now, with what it's become, for the avalanche of attention Pha, but the rapper says it may if we really, really focused," he says. "It's surpassed both of our expectations."



## Janet Jackson Poses Topless For Vibe Magazine Janet Jackson has never been I'm onto something new. feels as if she's met her

after losing some 60 pounds, done," she says. appears on the cover of Vibe

magazine wearing a skimpy bikini bottom and a necklace made of large shells. Her right arm covers her breasts.

Will she ever stop posing for sexy photos? "Of course. When I'm 80," she tells Vibe. "That's when I'll call it quits."

Timberlake pulled off a part of Jermaine Dupri, for giving her Jackson's bustier, briefly expos- self-esteem "a little boost." ing one of her breasts, during the Super Bowl halftime show.

IN LOVE

ICE CUBE

In an interview in the magazine's September issue, on older men," she says. "With the newsstands Aug. 15, Jackson younger guys, there was less says the incident - variously referred to as "Nipplegate" and the "bra-ha-ha" - is history.

"It's just over and done with. made less." It's old. It's the past. It's history.

afraid to expose some skin. The Everybody got their licks in - match. 40-year-old singer, newly svelte those who wanted to - and it's

Jackson credits her boyfriend, feel as if I'm looking in the mir-

"When I look at Jermaine, I see myself," Jackson says. "I

ror. The connection I feel with him I have never felt with anybody else."

Her new album, "20 Y.O.," is slated for release Sept. 26. Dupri produced a few tracks, and longtime collaborators Jimmy "Jam" Harris and Terry Lewis pitched in on the disc as well.

The pop star recently Two years ago, Justin 33-year-old music producer said she had packed on extra weight for a role in the upcoming movie "Tennessee," which she ulti-

mately had to pass on because of her new record.

When asked if she'd rather have a hit album or win an Oscar, she says: "Win an Oscar. It's just a passion. But can't I have both? Everybody in my family says I'm spoiled



"I came to realize that

younger men had less of a

problem with who I am than

ego. Things were less competi-

tive. They weren't threatened

by who made more and who

resume.

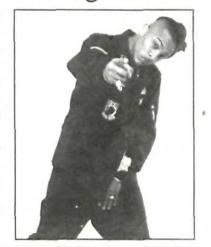
The Atlanta-bred MC has Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe in the movie, which is being directed by Ridley Scott also attached to the movie, (Black Hawk Down, Gladiator, which was written by Steven Thelma & Louise, Hannibal).

American Gangster tells the story of a 1970's drug lord who to hit theaters in 2007.

Rapper T.I. continues to fur- smuggles heroin into Harlem ther his acting career, adding the inside of Vietnam soldiers film American Gangster to his coffins. T.I. has signed on to play the nephew of Denzel Washington's character Frank signed on to star in American Lucas, while Crowe will star in Gangster opposite veterans the film as Detective Richie Roberts.

> The Wu-Tang Clan's RZA is Zaillian.

> American Gangster is slated







Being Poor Page 1

owners (\$30,000 or less) pay interest rates as high as nearly 7 percent, meanwhile people with incomes of more than \$120,000 paid a rate of 5.5 percent.

The Johnsons were able to secure a rate of 4 percent.

So how did they do it? And why aren't more low-income folks rushing to do the same thing?

Financial empowerment experts and the Brookings Institution's study say the number one problem is the lack of information.

For low income Black Americans, there are even deeper issues, said John Hope Bryant, the chairman and founder of Operation Hope, a Los Angeles-based financial empowerment organization.

"We really don't have a history of economic capitalism and free enterprise. And that's hurt us. We're experts generally speaking in civil rights, we're experts in issues of social justice because those are the things that most impacted our lives from the history we have in this country, said Bryant, who has been featured on Oprah, and has a number of partnerships with major financial institutions across the country and with former U.S. President Bill Clinton.

Because of that, Bryant launched a new movementthe Sliver Rights Movementwhen he started Operation Hope in 1992. Bryant's goal was to help lower income people take back their fiscal lives and has developed several programs including credit counseling, job assistance and home ownership classes that help people like the Johnsons.

Banking on our Future, is another nationally-recognized financial literacy program from Operation Hope geared toward students ages 9-18. That program alone has reached more than 700 schools in the U.S. serving thousands of students, Bryant said.

Operation Hope currently has

seven Hope Centers in the Los Oakland Angeles, Washington, D.C. areas.

Home buying isn't the only area where lower income people are getting bad deals.

Lower income homeowners "can pay as much as \$300 more for home insurance than those in higher income neighborhoods," the report said.

When a lower income person walks into a car dealership, the report showed, that person will pay between \$50 and \$500 more in car prices and an extra two percentage points on an auto

"Together, these higher prices can add up to over \$1,000 every year," said the report.

What you pay all hinges on credit, says Tracy Bailey, assistant manager of the Hope Center in

"People don't understand the power of good credit and they don't check it as often as they should. They really don't understand that they don't need a whole lot of money for purchasing power if they have good credit. When we inform them of that fact it's like a light comes on," Bailey said.

That's why the credit counselors at Operation Hope, teach people how to read their credit report at least twice a year and encourage them to get rid of the fear of contacting their debtors and disputing incorrect informa-

"We've got to stop being ashamed of the fact that we may have tore up credit. The fact that we may not have any money in the bank... We sit there with you and have a good laugh. We laugh and we encourage you to laugh. We say this credit report looks like a bus accident. Now it's out. It's not that bad, the world didn't explode. We're proud of you that you actually stepped forward," Bryant said.

Check-cashing, payday loans and rent-to-own furniture businesses are also major contributors draining the pockets of low income people, says the report.

NBC 5 to Sponsor 17<sup>th</sup>

Annual VISIONS: The Women's Expo

Saturday, Aug. 26 and Sunday, Aug. 27

10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Dallas Market Hall - 2200 Stemmons Freeway -

The two-day show, which benefits Dallas Habitat

for Humanity Women Build program, provides an

opportunity for women of all ages to attend and

presentation by singer-songwriter Naomi Judd,

mischievous Lucas Roberts on Days of our Lives,

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the annual JC Penney Fashion Show, shopping

enjoy exciting activities, such as a speaking

an appearance by Bryan Dattilo, the

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free for children 12 and under.

For more information please visit

stages.

Most customers of check-cashing businesses earn annual incomes of less than \$30,000 and to cash a \$500 check, the report said. Customers would pay an additional \$5 to \$50 in the 12 metro areas they selected for the

Bryant said when people use these services, they ask the wrong questions.

"You don't buy almost anything based on what the payment is, but that's how we tend to ask the question. When we go buy a house, a 30-year mortgage we ask what's the payment? It can be an interest only loan which means you never pay any of the principal off. It could be a negative amortization loan, meaning every time you make a payment you can owe more money next month. We don't ask the question of what's the interest and what's the terms.

"Rent to own furniture. We don't ask. How many times in a year, if I rent this television set and I pay you every week, how many times in a year have I bought this television? You probably have bought that television three or four times," he said.

Career Opportunities opportunity section 972-606-7498 Fax or Email copy for quote: Fax: 972-509-9058



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News Talk 660 KSKY-AM located in Irving, TX is looking for a full-time Account Executive with outside sales experience. Candidate should have an understanding of news talk format and be ready to hit the ground running. Previous news talk radio sales experience a plus. 2 years sales experience required.

Please fax a letter along with a brief resume to Bob Johnson, Sales Manager at 214-561-9662 or email to bjohnson@ksky.com. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE!

News Talk 660 KSKY-AM is a subsidiary of Salem Communications, an equal opportunity employer.

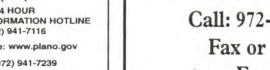
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Email: publisher@monthegazette.com



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### Trying to Get Your Foot in the Door?

Community Newspaper seeking ambitious, flexible and dependable Staff Writer to cover Government and Community Desks. Must have strong desire to learn and be willing to take instruction, should also be familiar with

AP style. Shift is part-time evenings and Saturdays. Great opportunity for student or seasoned professional looking to begin a career in journalism. A writing sample will be requested. Please call 972-606-3891 and leave contact information or fax resume to 469-366-7473.



### Sister **Tarpley**

As you face new challenges, especially with the condition that our world is in today, the fighting, killings, bad attitudes, hatefulness, road rage, etc., think of this story from the files of Floyd Erving's Short Stories:

A woman died after living a long life. She met God and asked, "If man was created in Your image and created equal, why do people treat each other so badly?" God replied that each person who enters our life has a unique lesson to teach. It is through those lessons that we learn about life, people, relationships and God. Then God explain.

When someone lies to you, it teaches that things are not always as they seem. The truth is often beneath the surface. Look beyond the masks people wear if you want to know their heart. Don't forget to remove your own mask to let people know yours.

When someone steals from you, it teaches that nothing is forever. Appreciate what you have; you never know when you might lose it. Don't take your friends and family for granted; today is the only guarantee you have.

When someone inflicts an injury upon you, it teaches that the human state is a fragile one. Protect and take care of your body as best you can; it's the only thing that you have here on earth. When you are mocked, it teaches that no two people are alike. When you encounter people who are different from you, don't judge them by how they look or act; base your opinion on the contents of their heart.

When someone breaks your heart, it teaches that loving some-

Leadership Program, the North

Texas Food Bank and other

This is the 14th year for A

Knock-Out Affair: Black Tie

Boxing, the General Chairper-

sons are Audrey Bolling,

community service programs.

Links Page 1

**Everything Happens For A Purpose** 

one do not always mean that the per- true. Do not feel guilty about your son will love you. Don't turn your back on love; when you find the right achieving your goals lead you to person, the joy the person brings will make up for all past hurts.

When someone holds a grudge against you, it teaches that everyone make mistakes. When you are wronged, the most virtuous thing you can do is forgive the offender without pretense. Forgiving those who have hurt us is the most difficult

Picture of The Week

Dr. Rickie G. Rush, Senior Pastor of

IBOC Church autographing Sister

Tarpley's copy of his book May I

have Your Order Please. Buy a copy

of this dynamitic book by calling the

church @ 972-572-4262

When a loved one is unfaithful to

you, it teaches that resisting tempta-

tion is man's greatest challenge. Be

vigilant in your resistance against

temptations; doing so will be reward-

ing with a sense of satisfaction

greater than the temporary pleasure

teaches that greed is the root of evil.

Aspire to make your dreams come

Hull Thompson. The Chapter

The Links, Incorporated is

an international professional

women's organization with

more than 10,000 members in

43 states, the District of

Columbia, the Commonwealth

When someone cheats you, it

by which you were tempted.

and courageous thing man can do.

Hearing the Lord's wisdom, the woman thought that there were no lessons to be learned from man's good deeds.

success; don't let an obsession with

When you are ridiculed, it teaches

that nobody is perfect. Accept peo-

ple for their merits and be tolerant of

their flaws. Don't reject someone for

imperfections over which they have

engage in malicious activities.

God replied that man's capacity to love is the greatest gift he has. At the root of all kindness is love; each act of love teaches us a lesson. God once again explain: When someone loves us, it teaches that love, kindness, charity, honesty, humility, forgiveness and acceptance can counteract all evil. For every good deed, there is one less evil deed. Man has the power to control the balance between good and evil, but the lessons of love are not taught often enough, the power is often abused.

When you enter someone's life, whether by plan, chance or coincidence, consider what your lesson will be. Will you teach love or a harsh lesson of reality? Will your life have results in loving or hurting; in comfort or pain; more joy or sadness? Each of us has power over the balance of love in the world. Use it wisely. Everything happens for a purpose; we may not see the wisdom of it all now, but trust in the Lord that everything is for the best!

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

Fax: 972-516-4197

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

Germany and South Africa. Through the years, The Links, Incorporated has raised millions of dollars for numerous worthy causes including education, health care, the arts and support of youth and the elderly.

The attire for the event is black-tie. Tickets for the fundraiser are \$100.00 per person. For ticket information, please call 214-371-1756.

FELLOWSHIP OF **BELIEVERS** MINISTRIES (FOBCC)

August 31 - September 2, 7:30 pm The public is invited to a "Youth Extravaganza 2006" at the Greater Fellowship Church, 825 Murdock Road, Dallas, TX 75217; Rev. George Dawson, Senior Pastor. Guest speakers include Minister Karen Tolbert from New York City, NY; Minister Rudolph Urquheart, Now Ministries in Lewisville, TX, and Pastor Debra Jackson from FOBCC. Our theme: "The Next Generation Summoned by God," 1 Peter 2:9.

September 1-2, 2006

Please join us for our 1st Annual Christian/Gospel Talent Search @ Waxahachie Bible Church, 6214 N. Grand, Waxahachie, TX 75165. There will be a 1st, 2nd, & 3rd prize winner. Professional Christians and Gospel Music Industry judges in attendance! Vendors are welcomed. Registration ends August 25, 2006.

For more information, registration fees, and performance times, please call Bishop Crawford @ 214-938-0167.

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

GREATER ALLEN TEMPLE AME CHURCH August 13, 3 pm

You are invited to join us as we celebrate our 117th Church Anniversary. The Rt. Rev. Gregory G.M. Ingram, Presiding Prelate of the 10th Episcopal District of the AME Church will be our speaker. For more information, please call the church @ 972-790-0432.

Greater Allen Temple AME Church Rev. Michael W. Waters, Senior Pastor 3550 Gilbert Circle Grand Prairie, TX 75050 972-790-0432

### ST. LUKE "COMMUNITY" UNITED METHODIST CHURCH August 9 - 13, 6 pm

All youth in grades 7 - 12 are invited to an end of summer Block Party with food, music, fun, and prizes to kick off the Annual Youth Revival. Workshops include Prayer 101; Dating 101; Hip Hop 101; and Worship 101 - designed to help youth learn the importance of Trusting His Unfailing Grace -T.H.U.G. 101 Guests include Rev. Otis Moss III, Pastor, Trinity United Church of Christ, Chicago, IL, cited by Newsweek as "One of God's Foot Soldiers" committed to transforming the lives of youth.

For more information and cost (which includes a revival T-shirt, all meals and materials, call Katrina Martin @ 469-235-2261

August 16, 6 pm

QEI Productions proudly presents Djore' Nance in his FREE Gospel Music Debut Concert with guest artists, Anwar Robinson of American Idol fame and Myron Butler as Praise and Worship Leader. For more information call 214-336-6544 or 214-821-2970.

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

### ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN DOWNTOWN DALLAS ARTS DISTRICT August 2006

Please join us for our month of activities in celebration of our 133rd Anniversary in the Arts District of Downtown Dallas. We will be "Practicing The Spiritual Disciplines" for the month and our theme is "Celebrating Our Oneness: One Family, One God, One Great Joy." We will Fast and Pray each Wednesday; and we will

have Bible Study each Thursday. August 13th: The public is invited to our "Children & Youth Sunday" this is when the children and youth lead worship. August 20th: "Memorial Sunday" is when we remember members who have gone home to Glory, since the last Anniversary. August 27th: Lewisville, TX 75067 "Celebration Sunday" will culmi- 972-221-5668

nate this historic celebration featuring the Henry Thompson Male Chorus and a delicious Soul Food dinner served from 1 - 3 pm in the I. B. Loud Fellowship Hall; and @ 4 pm our guest speaker will be Rev. Harold Dangerfield, Senior Pastor of Hamilton Park UMC, with his choir and church family. Reception will follow.

For more information contact the church @ 214-922-0000.

St. Paul UMC, Downtown Dallas Rev. Elzie Odom, Jr., Senior Pastor 1816 Routh Street Dallas, TX 75201 214-922-0000

### THE CITY OF BLESSINGS **MINISTRIES** August 13, 12 pm to 5 pm

The Styles of Heaven Beauty & Barber Salon in partnership with The City of Blessings Ministries will provide FREE hair cuts and styles for children ranging from Pre-K to 8th Grade. FREE food will be served during the event @ the Styles of Heaven Beauty & Barber Salon, 2616 N. Edgewood Terrace, Ft. Worth, TX 76103

For more information, please contact Shinette Jackson (Stylist) or Carla Sanders (Barber) @ 817-535-0078

The City of Blessings **Ministries** Rev. Stanley Alexander, Pastor Ft. Worth, TX 76103 817-230-9134

### WESTSIDE **BAPTIST CHURCH** IN LEWISVILLE August 13, 5 pm

You are invited to our FREE "Gospel Music Worship of America" concert. Guests include West Coast Regional Chapters from Los Angeles, Sacramento, Oakland, San Jose, and San Diego, California, along with our own WBC Mass Choir. For additional information, contact Dr. Patrick Bradley @ 972-221-5668.

Westside Baptist Church Rev. K. W. Blake, Senior Pastor 900 W. Bellaire Blvd.

### **Church Directory**

Audrey Thomas and Brenda of the Bahamas, Frankfort,

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**Sunday Service** Morning Worship 7:30 am & 10:30 am 9:00 am Sunday School

Wednesday Service Prayer Meeting 7:00 pm Brotherhood 7:00 pm Missions 7:00 pm Singles Group 7:00 pm Bible Study 7:45 pm



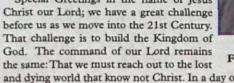
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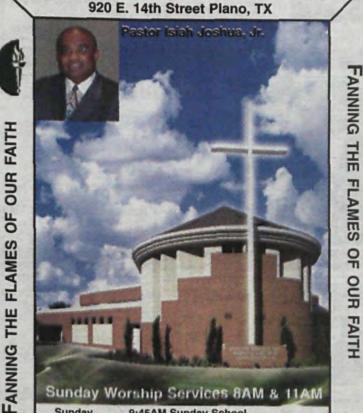


First Lady Sandra G. Jackson no believer has a problem that even compares to that of one lost without Christ.

Sunday School: 9:30 am · Morning Worship: 10:45 am Evening Praise: 6:30 pm (1st & 3rd)

Bible Training: 7:00 pm

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ww.orgsites.com/tx/fmmkindom/ (Web Site) 972-624-8669

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



### Hill Chapel

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

Sunday School: Sunday Worship Service:

Wednesday Night-

Community Bible Class:

9:30 A.M. 11:00 A.M. 7:30 P.M.





Four Morning Worship Services 7:00 A.M. • 9:00 A.M. • 10:00 A.M. and 11:15 A.M.

### **Letters To God**

Her Pastor Shares Communication With Heaven in New Memoir

Many people think that their obstacles in life are far different from those of the preachers who are so close to God. In her new book, Dear God: (Letters to God) (now available through AuthorHouse), Minnie Bell Hawthorne shines light on the struggles pastors face through personal journal entries and the heart wrenching account of losing her husband.

The book begins with insight lessons into the that has learned Hawthorne throughout life and the purpose for writing her letters to God. She continues with her personal and exposing letters to the higher power that she has made the center of her life. Through her words to God, Hawthorne makes it clear that she cares for each person she preaches to and that she is there for the ones who falter on their spiritual journey!

up-close look at her emotions and her struggles as well as her realization that every problem-



from hair loss to lamenting death-can be brought to God and that he is there to help those in need. After the death of her husband, her emotional account shows how pastors experience the same devastations and grief as those they preach to, but her message is that God will help

Hawthorne gives readers an anyone through their tough

The pain in my heart seems so unbearable. But somehow I make it. Yesterday as I watched my love slip away from me, I was so full of emotions. I wondered why my husband who loved you whole-heartedly and served you with a fervent spirit; how can he not live to see his church full or enjoy the wealth of God? We have struggled and fought for everything we have and we have had to fight to keep it. I am so glad I am full of the Holy Ghost! I couldn't take this without it.

Dear God gives readers a chance to see the thoughts and emotions of a pastor on paper so that they, too, can learn to trust in God to help them through their struggles.

Hawthorne is a pastor, wife and friend, She has also written, Here We Go Again, Lord.

AuthorHouse is the premier publishing house for emerging authors and new voices in litera-

## Bishop Desmond Tutu To Visit Dallas

and international activist for democracy, human rights and religious tolerance, Bishop Desmond Tutu, will speak at The Episcopal Church of the Wednesday, September 13, 2006.

He will give a speech on human rights, peace, democracy and hope.

Bishop Tutu promotes equal civil rights for all, the abolition of South Africa's passport laws, a common system of education and an end to forced deportation from South Africa.

In 1954, Tutu graduated from the University of South Africa and became a high school teacher, where after three years, he decided to become a priest. From 1962-1966, he studied in England and gained his Master of Theology degree.

In 1975, he became the first black Dean of St. Mary's Cathedral in Johannesburg.

Three years later, he became

of the South African Council of Churches.

Tickets are available online beginning Aug. 5 for Roper Hall and Gym seating with live video Transfiguration in Dallas on and audio feed. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$10 (cash

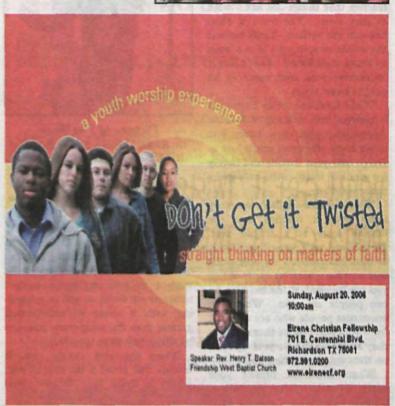
The Episcopal Church of the

Transfiguration is a parish of 2,000 members, whose faith has led to strong commitments to education, outreach and evangelism. The parish, which was established in 1956, regularly con-

Nobel Peace Prize winner the first black General Secretary ducts four weekend services, two weekday services and monthly Compline and Taize services. The Church of the Transfiguration also has active outreach ministries, adult religious education programs and a youth ministry.

The church is located at 14115 Hillcrest Road.





# Tickets On Sale For True Worship Production Of "The Prince Of Egypt"

presents a production of "The Prince of Egypt" on August 12, at 6:00 p.m., on the University of Texas at Arlington Rose Bud St., Arlington.

Presale tickets are available for \$10.00,kids under12 and Seniors tickets are \$8.00, with

True Worship Praise Dance for \$5.00 discount only must show student I.D. Group discounts are available for Dance and Church groups.

True Worship was founded in Theater Building, 300 W. First 2006 with a vision to give guidance in the area of worship ministry. In true worship, something happens to the worshippers. Minds are cleared, perceptions general admission tickets the come into focus, spirits are day of the show priced at renewed, and truth breaks out in \$12.00. UTA Students get in new clarity. This is what sends

news to those who long for hope, peace, or freedom from guilt. True Worship is proud to offer Christian dance studio classes. They offer a wide variety of professional dance instruction, spiritual productions, modern and

Christians out to tell the good jazz, lyrical praise dance, flag worship, tambourine and streamers, workshops, and biblical worship instructional classes.

For more info on the production and additional facets of True Worship visit www.trueworshippraisedance-wear.com.

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T.J. Denson, Pastor

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Wednesday Service: Family Bible Study @ 6:30 pm

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Wednesday Bible Study ......7:00PM

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Morning Worship - 11:15 am Wednesday Night Bible Study - 7:30 pm 1016 Pioneer Road • Mesquite, Tx 75149

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12:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Prayer Hour 7:30 p.m. Bible Study

### 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 7:30 p.m. Evening Bible Study

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website: www.fbc-online.net "The Church with a Vision"

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