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## People In The News



When author/actress/educator/activist Dr. Maya Angelou visits the University of North Texas (September 14), the event will also mark the fact that it has been 50 years since the first African-American undergraduate enrolled at the university.

According to the Story of North Texas, published by retired UNT faculty member Dr. James Rogers, the first African-American undergraduate student to enroll was Irma E.L. Cephas, who commuted from her home in Fort Worth. Her first day on campus was February 3, 1956.

Maya Angelou is the author of more than a dozen best-selling books, including I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings and A Song Flung up to Heaven. In January 1993 at the inaugural ceremony for President Bill Clinton, Angelou became only the second poet in U.S. history to write and recite an original work at a presidential inauguration. She has been nominated for Emmy and Tony Awards, and is also a lifetime Reynolds Professor of American Studies at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Angelou will be introduced by Debbie Denmon, anchor/reporter for WFAA-TV8 and a UNT alumna. For ticket information call 940-565-3805.

Dr. Wright Lassiter, chancellor of the Dallas County Community College District, will be honored by BKM Total Office of Texas - a Dallas-based office furnishings company - with a scholarship donation in his name during a special higher education seminar on Thurs., Aug. 17. BKM officials will announce that the company has established the Dr. Wright Lassiter Jr. BKM Scholarship, which will be administered by the DCCCD Foundation; a student recipient will be announced that day as well.



"I am honored to accept this scholarship gift on behalf of DCCCD and all of our students," said Lassiter. "Our partnerships with area businesses like BKM provide students with critical resources they need to pursue a career and to lead productive lives."

Lassiter will speak to participants of the "Higher Ed Higher Tech '06" conference at 8:30 a.m. about "The Changing Face of Higher Education." The seminar will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at BKM's corporate offices, 9755 Clifford Drive, Suite 100, in Dallas. BKM's one-day program targets facilities managers, university deans, architects, designers, information technology and audio/visual professionals, and human resources management.



Dr. Sheron Patterson will present her latest book, Put on Your Crown: The Black Woman's Guide to Living Single and Christian at Black Images Book Bazaar on Saturday, September 16, at 2:00 PM.

Rev. Sheron C. Patterson is the senior pastor of Highland Hills United Methodist Church, Dallas, Texas.

Dr. Patterson is a nationally recognized Christian relationship expert. Her sage advice has been broadcast via Black Entertainment Television (BET) and Jet Magazine. On a weekly basis, over one million believers in 50 cities hear her "Love Doctor" broadcast on the syndicated ABC radio format REJOICE. Dr. Patterson is also the "relationship expert" for the Good Morning Texas television broadcast on WFAA, Channel 8, and she reaches over 500,000 viewers.

A trailblazer and champion of women's advancement, Dr. Patterson is a first in many areas. She was the first African American woman to be ordained in the North Texas region of the United Methodist Church. These extraordinary accomplishments landed Dr. Patterson a place of honor in the National Women's Museum and the Elite News Religious Hall of Fame Museum, both located in Dallas, Texas.

For more info call 214-943-0142.

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## Sen. Obama Addresses Xavier Graduates



U.S. Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., receives an honorary Doctor of Laws degree during the commencement program at Xavier University of Louisiana in New Orleans on Saturday, Aug. 12, 2006.

Nearly a year after Hurricane Katrina submerged Xavier University's campus under eight feet of water, Illinois Sen. Barack Obama on Saturday joined the school in celebrating one of its largest graduating classes.

"Thanks for allowing me to share in your miracle," Obama told the nearly 500 graduates of the College of Arts and Sciences and the Graduate School seated at the New Orleans Arena.

Norman C. Francis, Xavier's president, said

he never doubted that the university would hold graduation ceremonies this year.

"I said shortly after the storm that people would either call me stupid and crazy or an aggressive visionary," Francis said. "I guess it's the latter."

Xavier, the country's only historically black and Roman Catholic college, reopened in January. More than 120 students graduated from the College of Pharmacy in May, and the fall semester will begin Sept. 8 with about 2,800 students.

Obama noted that most commencement speakers tell graduates what to expect when they enter "the real world."

"But this is different," he said, adding that most in the room have already experienced the "real" world since Katrina.

The Democratic senator said he visited New Orleans last month and saw the "pictures of your campus after the storm - submerged classrooms and dorm rooms where books remained open as you left them."

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## Preparations Underway For 2nd Annual Plano International Festival

Preparations are underway for the 2nd Annual Plano International Festival, to be held on Saturday, October 21 at Haggard Park in downtown Plano from 10am - 4pm. The Festival, through performances, ethnic foods, children's activities, music, cultural displays and more, will highlight the rich tapestry of cultures represented by the citizens of Plano. Haggard Park is located at the corner of 15th Street and Avenue H, just west of the DART rail station for downtown Plano.

This year's Festival builds on the success and excitement of last year's event, which drew nearly 5,000 attendees. The festivities will again kick

off with a Parade of Nations where students from Plano ISD wear traditional costumes and carry the flags of their native countries. Plano Mayor Pat Evans will then officially open the Festival from the park's beautifully restored gazebo. Live music, dance performances, two international fashion shows and other multicultural entertainment will be staged at the gazebo throughout the day.

International Festival Page 5

## US75 HOV Installation Slated To Begin

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) has announced plans to install two high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes on US 75 extending from I-635 north to Exchange Parkway in Allen. There will be one southbound and one northbound lane.

Construction will begin in approximately three weeks beginning at I-635 extending northward. The project is expected to take 11 months for completion, with approximately half of the work slated for nighttime hours.

Various lanes will be closed temporarily while the work is ongoing, with closures reopening when work is not being done to alleviate impact on rush hour traffic.

According to TxDOT the highway lanes will not be widened. Rather, the HOV lanes will be gained by using the current inside shoulder and stealing some width from the remaining travel lanes. The HOV lanes will have a soft barrier to the adjacent traffic lane to allow fire and police access to render emergency services. The soft divider will be a small curb with vertical "soft

posts" spaced every nine feet. These posts can be driven over or around to access the lane for



emergencies. When complete, motorists will have access to the HOV at three locations: Exchange Parkway, north of I-190 and at I-635. A construction office for W. W. Webber, LLC, the contractor, will be located at Coit and Churchill at the south end of the project.

## Congresswoman Johnson: Praises AT&T Access All Grant To Dallas Urban League

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice today praised the AT&T Foundation's announcement of a \$1.6 million AT&T AccessAll grant to the National Urban League to support opportunities for technology-career development for African Americans.

The grant is a joint effort between the National Urban League and AT&T to develop technology academies. The Greater Dallas chapter of the National Urban League is one of the recipients of this grant. The grant is part of the three-year \$100 million AT&T AccessAll initiative to provide technology access to underserved communities.

"In recent years, we have seen the job market demand a workforce that is increasingly technology-focused," said Congresswoman Johnson.



"Many jobs in technology offer individuals greater career opportunities and earning potential. The National Urban League's Digital Career Academies program will help more African Americans find and secure technology opportunities."

Under the 2006 grant, the Dallas Urban League Page 8

## TAFI And 97.9 The Beat Host Job Fair For The Formerly Incarcerated

The Texas Alliance for the Formerly Incarcerated (TAFI) and radio station 97.9 The Beat will host a job fair targeting individuals who have been formerly incarcerated or have a prior criminal record. The job fair will be held on August 23rd, from 10 am-2pm at the Martin Luther King Recreation Center, 2922 Pennsylvania Ave.

This group of disenfranchised individuals is the focus of this job fair because historically, formerly incarcerated persons have faced obstacles in obtaining employment due to their criminal record. The goal of this job fair is to bring together corporations and small businesses that have made a commitment to hire the formerly incarcerated with required qualifications on



Rickey Smiley

the spot. Individuals seeking to attend the job fair will have an opportunity to dress for success with business attire, haircuts and hairstyles provided free of charge by the community. The community is encouraged to make a donation of new or gently worn business attire for the job interviews. Clothing dona-

Job Fair Page 8

## UNT Honored By The DFW Office Of INROADS As Academic Institution Of The Year

The University of North Texas has been honored as Academic Institution of the Year by the Dallas-Fort Worth office of INROADS-a non-profit organization that trains and develops talented minority youth for careers in business and industry.

Cassandra Berry, assistant vice president for Equity and Diversity at UNT, accepted the award on behalf of the university at INROADS's 25th annual awards banquet in Richardson on August 3. Berry says, "Seeing the students who will become our future business leaders was the highlight of the evening. We are very honored to receive this recognition."

Of the 234 interns currently in the DFW INROADS program, 29 are students at UNT. Among the companies they



Cassandra Berry

work at are Alcon, American Airlines, Brinker International, Citi Financial, DFW International Airport, EDS, the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, Kraft, Lockheed

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# 'Dream Big' In Plano Schools

Plano ISD's 7000 employees were challenged to continue to "Dream Big" by



Dr. Doug Otto,  
PISD Superintendent

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Doug Otto at the school district's August 3 Convocation. The staff pep rally highlighted a week of teacher and staff inservice. Dr. Otto thanked employees for their commitment to close

the achievement gap and challenged them to "finish the job."

"Whether you are a Fortune 500 company or an educational system, you must confront facts," Dr. Otto said, during his Convocation Presentation "The facts indicated that our school system was doing well overall, but many students were not doing well."

He reminded of Plano ISD's 2004 community summit which showcased achievement data and began a series of crucial conversations among the school district's stakeholders to develop plans for closing the achievement gap.

"The process has given us a laser-like focus on the issues," Dr. Otto said. "We've had two full years to think about what we need to do programmatically and instructionally to improve achievement."

Superintendent Otto illustrated

ed student gains in student performance on standardized tests in reading, writing, math, science and social studies.

"We know our students," he said. "And we've proven that we can make major strides with thousands of students."

He explained that two standards for measuring the achievement gap are 1) the gap between minority and white students, and 2) the gap between students and the ninetieth percentile (exemplary).

"I want to share the good news with you about what you've done," he exclaimed. "It's time to honor your progress."

Dr. Otto challenged teachers to make sure that they

know each and every child's dream this school year. "We have an obligation to help them make their dreams come true."

"I want Plano ISD to be the first school district to accomplish the goal of closing achievement gaps for all students."



"I dream that Mitchell Elementary students are respectful citizens, because education isn't practice for life...It is life. I also dream that I will be a light for future educators." -Linda Patrick, principal, presented school spirit pencils to fourth grade students of Team Leader Molly McCreary.



My dream is to get kids more active and aware of physical fitness." -Kenya Havis, Robinson Middle School PE Instructor



When I grow up, I want to be a mermaid fish." -Alana, Pearson Early Childhood School



Huffman Elementary School Faculty & Staff are 'Building Success.'



PISD employees at district's August Convocation

## Collin Awards Scholarships

August 10, 2006 - More than 700 people were recently serenaded by Miss Texas at Collin County Community College District (Collin) Foundation's annual scholarship award ceremony. Miss

Texas, Shilah Phillips, a former college scholarship recipient was among many outstanding Collin students to take the stage including Chang Young Jang, who recently won first place in a national mathematics competi-

tion, and Eddy Trejo, national League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) Man of the Year.

More than 250 Collin students were awarded scholarships at the event. According to

Paula Roman, Collin Foundation executive director, more than 50 percent of students coming to the college request financial assistance.

For more information, visit the website at [www.ccccd.edu](http://www.ccccd.edu).



(L to R) Honoree Ben Thomas and scholarship recipient Duane Thompson



Collin Scholarship Award Winners



Miss Texas Shilah Phillips

### Around The Town

#### Ongoing

**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.

Call 214-421-0013 or visit, [www.myspace.com/sankofakrew](http://www.myspace.com/sankofakrew)

**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

**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.assistance-league-gcc.org](http://www.assistance-league-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 information.

**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 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.

**11th Annual Homeschool Conference and Bookfair** 9:00-5:00, Plano Centre

2000 East Spring Creek Parkway. Homeschool students and parents can attend seminars, shop at more than 130 exhibitor booths, network with other homeschool families, and explore the latest educational tools and services. The conference features keynote speakers Dr. G. Thomas Sharp, founder of Creation Truth Foundation, and Gary DeMar, president of American Vision. Pre-registration fee until August 5 is \$6/adults and \$3/students (2 years and up). Admission at the door is \$10/adults, and \$5/children. For more information call 214-495-9600, or visit

[www.NTHEN.org](http://www.NTHEN.org).

**Gospel Music Workshop of America Convention** will convene Aug 12-Aug 18 at the Dallas Convention Center, located in downtown Dallas. The Gospel Music Workshop of America is the largest International music convention of its kind. Visit <http://www.gmwana.org> for more information

**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, Alexis Rhone, Kadir

Nelson at the African American Museum. Friday to Sunday. More information at [www.tulisoma.com](http://www.tulisoma.com) about event times.

**August 26 United Nations Association Dallas Chapter** presents 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](http://www.visionsexpo.com).

**August 27 St. Paul United Methodist Church**, 1816 Routh St., in downtown Dallas, culminates its 133rd anniversary with Celebration Sunday on August 27. The public is invited to attend. Guest speaker for the afternoon service will be the Rev. Harold Dangerfield, senior pastor of Hamilton Park United Methodist Church. The theme for the month is Celebrating our Oneness: One Family, One God, One Great Joy. Call (214) 922-0000 for more information. The Rev. Elzie Oldom is the senior pastor.

**August 31 Tom Joyner's Family Reunion**, August 31 - September 6. Join the whole Tom Joyner Morning Show Family from across the country along with top entertainment for an incredible weekend created and customized just for you and your family! Labor Day weekend will be packed with family fun: hilarious comedy shows,

fabulous musical entertainment for the whole family, The Family Reunion Health Fair and Expo, The Family BBQ (no family reunion would be complete without a BBQ)

**September 4 National Baptist Convention** at the Dallas Convention Center through Friday. For more information call 1-866-531-3054 or long onto [nationalbaptist.org](http://nationalbaptist.org).

**Awesome Arts Family Festival '06** The Big Thought's Awesome Arts Family Festival is an event featuring Young Audiences' children programs, interactive performances and hands-on activities in music, dance, visual art and theater. Other activities include:

10:00 am Educators' Workshops - "Integrating the Arts into Your Classroom" and "Arts Funding for Your School: A grant writing workshop"

5:00 pm Live Concert - a one-hour show with interactive children's performance.

Bring the whole family... there's something for everyone! Admission and parking are Free. Sponsored by: Darden Restaurants, WB 33 News and the Kennedy Center Imagination Celebration at Dallas. Plano Centre 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway For more information call 214-520-0023 or visit [www.awesomearts.org](http://www.awesomearts.org) or [www.bighthought.org](http://www.bighthought.org).

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# Proud To Be An Active Partner In The Community





**Paul Hailey**

*The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires—William Arthur Ward*

*Those who educate children well are more to be honored than parents, for these only gave life, those the art of living well—Aristotle*

Let me make myself perfectly clear up front so there's no room for misinterpretation: I love teachers. I have a thing for all of them collectively. Maybe it's the little boy in me that remembers fighting with the other boys in my first grade class to be first in line so the teacher could hold my hand as we walked to the playground. Or maybe it is related to the fact I have always loved school and learning and it is only natural that I possess admiration for those that have taught me. Whatever the reason, I love teachers.

I love them for their career choice, I love them for their dedication and patience, I love them for what they do. I am filled with an enormous sense of appreciation and respect for the job they do with the most fragile minds in our society, while also being filled with disgust that they get paid less than the people that pick up the trash.

The start of another school year caused me to reminisce about the various teachers I've had in my life. At first, I was surprised at how many of their names I could remember: Miss Barnes in second grade, Miss Haugen in third grade, Miss Frelix in fifth grade, Mr. Hutcherson and Mr. Quinn (my first exposure to an openly gay black man) in middle school, Ms. Bryant and Mr. Pitt in high school. I find myself forever indebted to my debate coach Ms. Prestidge,

## Why I Love Teachers

and the lady who encouraged me to write and join my high school newspaper staff, Ms. Grove.

After some thought, its not surprising at all that I remember these teachers, their names or the lessons I learned from them. Other than my parents, these are the people who taught me the most lessons about myself, life and my peers in addition to what they taught me about what was in the textbooks. These are the people who helped me to become the person that I am today, the folks who cared enough about me to inspire me to become more than I could see.

To say we undervalue teachers is an understatement.

Elementary school teachers are essentially full-time babysitters in addition to educators. They have to deal with hyperactive children who aren't yet used to being away from their parents for long periods of time and are in the early stages of developing relationship skills with others. Middle school teachers get to deal with all of the joys associated with teaching youngsters who are going through puberty and just starting to recognize that there is an opposite sex. As for high school teachers...they should all be nominated for sainthood. These teachers deal with society's children at all stages of emotional and physical development, while trying to

educate them according to increasingly structured curriculums and dealing with parents who never believe that their "baby" could ever do anything wrong.

So why don't we value teachers? Part of it has to do with the fact that teachers get to work with children, which people mistakenly think is an easy task. Then there is the notorious summer vacation, which makes most of the rest of us envious. Finally, they are incredibly easy targets for what is wrong with our children. Lazy, apathetic parents find it much more comforting to blame their 16 year old's Algebra teacher for the child's behavior than it is to look at themselves.

The greatest (and least greatest minds) in the world were taught by teachers. Teachers form and mold young minds, while coming under all kinds of fire for the failures of parents and society as a whole. We all agree that teaching today's children is a difficult task at best. I challenge each of us during this school year to find at least one teacher and tell them that we support what they are doing. That we are grateful for their effort and patience. That we admire them.

We should all love teachers, and we should have no problem in telling them so.

Paul Hailey can be reached at editor@MonTheGazette.com



## Open Letter Regarding Harsh Criticism Of Dr. Bill Cosby

By: Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Sr.  
While I respect the intellectualism and intent of Dr. Michael Eric Dyson, and treasure our friendship, his attacks on Dr. Bill Cosby are too harsh.

Cosby has paid his dues. He has earned the privilege of having and expressing an opinion about the plight of Africans in America. In his groundbreaking sitcom, *The Cosby Show*, unlike many of today's unapologetic, commercial purveyors of filth and degradation, Cosby uplifted black college and family life in ways that permanently changed perception and reality. There is a great distance – philosophically and politically – between Bill Cosby on the one hand, and those like Clarence Thomas and many artists who use their power and access to media to hurt the cause of civil rights and social justice.

On a personal note, I recall Bill's alignment with, not distancing from, the civil rights movement. On one occasion, Bill Cosby did a concert to raise funds for the movement, and many who normally would come to see him would not come. So Bill later did events without announcement of its fundraising purpose, would pack the house, and then support the movement directly. He is the longest and largest single source of support for the Jackie Robinson Foundation, and is well known for his and his wife Camille's support for Spellman College, Morehouse College, and our historically Black Colleges and Universities.

It is one thing to disagree with his views, but quite another to personally denigrate him to make one's point. To do so is to diminish his commitment and service.

There is no real debate in the African American community concerning personal responsibility. It is well settled that while institutional inequality and injustice are real, they never excuse doing less than one's best to overcome the effects. Certainly, African Americans and the poor face structural inequality. Cosby argues that while it may NOT be the fault of Blacks for being in poverty, it IS our burden to challenge and break out of it.

We marvel at our athletes enjoying success DESPITE resources: rocky baseball diamonds, hoops without nets, dilapidated public tennis courts and public golf courses. But athletes make choices to overcome—not succumb—to such obstacles, to not let anyone hinder them from achieving their goals. It is fair to say when rules are public, goals are clear, and the playing field is even, all people, regardless of ethnicity, can excel exceedingly well. But if one group is far behind for any reason in the race of life, that group must run faster. We, as African Americans have much ground to make up. As a community and a people, we must make good choices.

If the playing field is uneven, those who succeed and benefit most from the struggle of others are not the ones who make it even. It is always the VICTIMS of the uneven playing field who must rise up and make it even—that's the legacy of our civil rights struggle: Not blaming the victim, but securing social responsibility.

Ministers and teachers convey Cosby's message to us every day. Cosby's prominence should not be misused to justify the political

right wing's predisposition of being indifferent to the pain of poverty, and to blame communities for the plight of people who live there. The right wing historically has twisted the words of Jesus and used the Bible as a weapon to justify slavery, segregation and racial superiority; they twist the words of Dr. Martin Luther King to justify their anti-affirmative action rhetoric.

Speaking at the 50th anniversary of the 1954 Brown v. Board Supreme Court decision—after 247 years of slavery—Cosby reflected on the price paid by our lawyers, martyrs and common citizens at great risk, facing violence and Lynch mobs on a daily basis. Thinking of the price they paid for our momentous victories, he commented that many of the beneficiaries of these struggles are now nonchalant and dismissive about their sacrifice. Today, many have lost the will to fight back against FEWER odds, with un-sound priorities, engaging in commercialized self-degradation and undermining self-determination. Therefore, such people suffer from a dignity deficit disorder.

Cosby issued a clarion call to demonstrate and show what all of us can do if we have the will and use our power and accept the challenge of taking on today's righting so determined to roll back the gains of the last 50 years. So, we should respect Dr. Cosby's cumulative record of service and appreciate the context of his pain and challenge. We cannot justifiably make Bill Cosby the "poster child" for cultural insensitivity.

Keep our eyes on the prize and keep hope alive!

## Lieberman And McKinney: Voting Political Change

By: Ron Walters

Last week's elections brought about some substantial change in the landscape of American politics. First, the fact that Senator Joe Lieberman of Connecticut was defeated 52 percent to 48 percent by Ned Lamont is a referendum on the Iraq War. It should also be seen as a referendum on the centrist politics of the Democratic party.

To cement that point, we should remember that Joe Lieberman, was the first Democrat to take the floor of the Senate to denounce Bill Clinton's tryst with Monica Lewinsky as immoral. And even though it was immoral, the Senate is not a church, it is a political body where the admission of weakness is seen as a sign that the wolves on the other side can move in – and they did.

Moreover, Lieberman approved school vouchers, passed on the first vote to approve Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court and opposed him only on the second vote, opposed affirmative action, joined the Bush administration in the Terry Schiavo case, refused to support a boycott on Supreme Court nominee Samuel Alito and supported the administration's secretive style of operating the Guantanamo base.

On the other hand, Ned Lamont is not only an anti-war candidate. He supports universal pre-K for little children with enhanced educational resources, universal health care, opposes out-sourcing American jobs, supports increasing the minimum wage and other progressive issues. These issues are somewhat unusual for a multi-millionaire cable executive, but he gets it.

In his statement conceding defeat, but vowing to continue, Joe Lieberman characterized his

defeat as the politics of polarization. But he badly mischaracterized his defeat, because it not just partisanship; the American people have – by a bi-partisan majority – turned against the war. And Lieberman is arrogant for not bowing to the will of the majority in this case.

At one point, he said that there is something beyond partisanship and although he is right, the question is how he defines that "something." Could it be as simple as the fact that he is taking a hit for having supported the war because it helps to protect the security of Israel. Perhaps, at the very least, that motivation should be seen against the framework of an ally that includes the United States in its strategic plans in the region, not a cowboy regime that consistently surprises its ally by initiating actions that puts it in political jeopardy with his own citizens.

Otherwise, the fact that prominent Democrats, such as the courageous Rep. Maxine Waters, Revs. Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton and others campaigned for Lamont, made this an effort to change the direction of the Democratic party, clarifying its position on the war and perhaps other issues, for those who run in the fall election and in 2008 as well.

Right now, the Lieberman/Clinton axis has control of the Party's direction. Bill Clinton's support for Lieberman should be seen as protecting Hillary's position on the war in her bid for the presidency. But now that axis is in jeopardy because its position has been defeated and this election has created some daylight for the new direction.

In the South, the defeat of Rep. Cynthia McKinney of Georgia's 4th District should be seen as not only the result of the peculiar Georgia election sys-

tem that lets Republicans vote in the Democratic primary. The fact that she lost 58 percent to 41 percent in Rockdale, the northern part of her district where White voters are numerous, supports the cross-over theory. However, she also lost by the same margin in Dekalb county, where her base is the strongest. Perhaps there was some McKinney fatigue in the outcome. Dekalb county is bustling with the construction of new condos, with a new class of moderate middle-class Blacks moving in who are image sensitive and therefore, embarrassed by McKinney's direct style.

But this triumph of stylistic politics over the progressive issues that McKinney has championed has the earmarks of making the Black portion of the Georgia delegation more conservative by national standards. Her return to the House was too brief and was colored by the rejection of the House leadership that refused to restore her seniority – and the refusal of her colleagues to fight for her on the basis of principle. Perhaps this is a sign of something new, but one hopes not.

In any case, these elections were a signal that Democratic voters want change. Right now the message seems to be turning in the direction of the people who need government most. What kind of change they eventually get will be determined by the other elections and as they occur. Stay tuned.

Ron Walters is the Distinguished Leadership Scholar, Director of the African American Leadership Institute and Professor of Government and Politics at the University of Maryland College Park.

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## MON The Gazette

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

While you ponder that renaissance we would like to announce that Minority Opportunity News, Inc., formerly a Dallas based 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 carrying a world of opportunity for those seeking to provide quality services. Should you dare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the southern region or just want to know what is going on up north-

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

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





## More Black Males Entering And Graduating From College

By: Chris Levister  
Special to the NNPA from Black Voice News

Picture this: Morehouse running back J.D. Washington strolling across the stage to receive his college degree his proud papa shouting "That's my boy." The May 2006 graduation was emblematic not just for two-time Academy Award winner Denzel Washington and wife Pauletta but for the battered image of America's Black male.

"We're coming back," exalt-

ed J.D. pushing back tears and tossing his black mortarboard into a sea of more than 600 fellow graduates.

Amid the almost daily barrage of media headlines about the dearth of Black men in higher education there are some bright spots. Two key studies in July THIS PART show more and more African-American males are attending and graduating from college. Increasingly many of them are choosing one of America's his-



Walter Massey

torically Black colleges and universities, or "HBCUs."

Morehouse College is one of the nation's top degree producing institutions for African-American males. This year the college graduated its largest class ever - more than 600 graduates compared to less than 500 a year earlier.

A new report from the Journal of Blacks in Higher Education (JBHE) states that in 2004, the latest year for which complete data is available, there

were 758,400 Black males enrolled in higher education compared to 603,032 in 2000. This is the highest level of enrollments for African-American males in history. Black males made 4.4 percent of all enrollments in higher education. The JBHE report notes that about 28 percent of foreign-born Black men in the U.S. have a four-year college degree. This is very close to the educational attainment figures for native-born white men in

America.

Dr. Walter E. Massey, president of Morehouse College says, "At Morehouse developing young men is our only business. We build an expectation of success: lawyers, the physicians, the bus drivers and computer technicians - if not - we will all pay the price," he says citing James Baldwin's 1970's call for radical change: "These are our children and we will benefit by or pay for what they become."

## Minority-Serving Groups To Manage Two New NASA Programs

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration has partnered with three minority-serving organizations to lead academic and scholarship programs designed to boost under-represented minority participation in engineering, math and science fields.

With a \$3.5 million grant, the United Negro College Fund Special Programs Corporation will establish the NASA Science and Technology Institute for Minority Institutions at the agency's Ames Research Center in Moffett Field, Calif. The institute will provide researchers and students from minority-serving institutions with direct access to NASA facilities, technology and scientists. NASA officials say the institute will provide research-based fellowships, internships, co-ops and

grants to professors and students from historically Black colleges and universities, Hispanic-serving institutions, tribal colleges and other minority institutions.

"This joint venture will give minority students and researchers access to NASA and the opportunity to collaborate with researchers in the surrounding community of universities, high-tech research and development companies," says Dr. S. Pete Worden, director of the Ames center.

In a second initiative, NASA's Office of Education Minority University Research and Education Program has designated a consortium of three organizations to administer the Motivating Undergraduates in Science and Technology Project. The three groups are the UNCF Special Programs Corporation, the Hispanic College Fund and

the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers. The project will receive a maximum of \$1.75 million in annual funding over three years.

The consortium will offer one-year competitive scholarships to college freshmen, sophomores and juniors to cover up to 50 percent of tuition and fees, with a maximum award of \$10,000 per academic year. It also provides students with a stipend to participate in an internship. The project will help participants develop mentoring relationships and provide them with tutoring to support their academic progress.

Like the UNCF-administered Science and Technology Institute, NASA's program is targeted to under-represented students interested in the science, technology, engineering and math fields.

## Naomi Shihab Nye Enlightens Audience At UT Dallas Sept. 6

Naomi Shihab Nye, who for thirty years has traveled the world leading writing workshops and visiting students, will share her poetry in the Jonsson Performance Hall at The University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 6. The event, part of the Claire Rich Lecture Series, is free and open to the public.

She has authored or edited more than twenty works, ranging from picture books to poetry anthologies to novels. Nye has received numerous awards including the Isabella Gardner Poetry Award, four Pushcart Prizes, two Jane Addams Children's Book Awards and a Lavan Award from the Academy of American Poets. She has been a Guggenheim Fellow, a Lannan Fellow and a Wittner Bynner Fellow. National Public Radio shows A Prairie Home Companion and The Writer's Almanac have presented Nye's work. She has been featured on two PBS poetry specials, "The United States of Poetry" and "The Language of Life with Bill Moyers."

For the evening's poetry reading, Nye will concentrate primarily

ly on works from Fuel, You & Yours, 19 Varieties of Gazelle: Poems of the Middle East and Habibi. 19 Varieties of Gazelle, published in 2002, was a finalist for the National Book Award. You & Yours was the 2005 winner of the

Isabella Gardner Poetry Award. In 1997, Habibi received a Jane Addams Children's Book Award.

More information about this event may be found at <http://ah.utdallas.edu/season0607/nye.htm>.

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## RISD Names Interim Superintendant

The Richardson Independent School District Board of Trustees recently named Deputy Superintendent Patti Kieker interim superintendant after Superintendent Jim Nelson tendered his expected resignation.

"Mrs. Kieker will provide the continuity of leadership needed for RISD to stay on its path of excellence," said Board President Luke Davis.

"Under Jim's guidance, the district has experienced significant gains in several areas of student achievement. Although we are sad to see him go, we are excited about the impact he's made and are looking forward to continued progress for all our students. We have complete confidence in senior district administrators, campus teachers and staff to remain focused during this transition," he added.

In related action, the Board contracted with nationally respected educational executive search firm Harold Webb Associates to conduct the search for the district's next superintendent.

Headquartered in Austin, Harold Webb Associates is led by Dr. Nolan Estes, former Associate United States Commissioner of Education and General Superintendent of Schools in Dallas. This firm has conducted superintendent searches for nearly 30 years, including school districts in

Dallas, Beaumont, San Antonio, Round Rock, and Temple, and nationally for Tulsa Public Schools in Oklahoma, Falls Church City Public Schools in Virginia and Gulfport Public Schools in Mississippi.

The Board will work with the search firm initially to develop a profile for the superintendent position and a timeline for the search. The process will include gathering staff, stakeholder and community input, and then moving forward to identify and interview qualified candidates.

The process will culminate

with the naming of a lone finalist and negotiation of a contract for the new superintendent, who will be officially hired after the required 21-day public notice.

"The Board understands that RISD staff and community members want to have a new superintendent as soon as possible, but we also know the high expectations we have in place," said Mr. Davis. "We are committed to being thorough and deliberate as we search for the right superintendent for RISD."

## Church Directory

### Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church



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Pastor Charles S. Wattley



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## Small Business Marketing Coach Offers Educational Opportunities For Entrepreneurs

Small business coach and marketing consultant, Tarsha Polk announced today limited seating is still available at the "Listening to Your Business™" seminar.

The seminar will be held on Saturday, August 26th, from 8:30am. - 12:30p.m. at the Richardson Civic Center, 411 W. Arapaho Road, Richardson.

Tarsha Polk (The Marketing Lady) is a small business coach and marketing consultant with over a decade of functional experience in corporate sales and marketing at Fortune 500 companies, it is her practical experience in the corporate environment, midsize companies, and home offices that have tremendously benefited numerous businesses and organizations. She will be teaching valuable, profit-producing secrets at this workshop. Hundreds of CEO's across the country have paid

thousands to consultants just for the same information.

Listening to Your Business™ is a FastTrac® Program of the Kauffman Entrepreneur Education Foundation. FastTrac® is



Tarsha Polk

a comprehensive educational program that provides entrepreneurs with business insights, leadership skills and professional

networking connections so that the participants are prepared to create a new business or expand an existing enterprise.

FastTrac is designed to help entrepreneurs hone the skills needed to create, manage and/or grow successful businesses. Participants don't just learn about business, they live it! They work on their own business ideas or ventures throughout the program - moving their venture to reality or new levels of growth.

Polk is certified to facilitate these programs through the Entrepreneurial Education & Kauffman Foundations.

"Business owners should definitely be interested in this seminar," said Polk, "I take a small group of fellow entrepreneurs through a four-step evaluation and action process designed to enhance their company's performance, now and into the future. Setting a three-year

vision, taking a snapshot of the business, evaluating where they are in the planning process, and translating their goals into action steps - it's all presented in one comprehensive package; real information, that real entrepreneurs can use now to take their business to the next level. But they need to sign up right away - these seminars always sell out, and there are only a few seats left."

Polk said some of the hands-on workshop is designed to provide entrepreneurs and business managers with the critical evaluation tools and action steps they need to maximize the growth and profitability of their businesses.

The workshop is priced at \$85 per person.

For reservations, please call (469) 633-9171. Pre-registration is required. To register visit [www.themarketinglady.com/LTYB.htm](http://www.themarketinglady.com/LTYB.htm).

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## SBA Errors May Have Cost Small Biz \$12 Billion

**Ineligible firms got contracts, Dems say**

By: Joyce Jones

Last year, about \$12 billion in federal contracts designated for small businesses instead went to large firms and other ineligible organizations, according to a recent report; calling into question the Bush administration's claim that it has surpassed its small business-contracting goal of 23%.

The Democratic staff of the House Small Business Committee last month released its annual scorecard, which examines how federal contracting dollars were spent in the previous fiscal year. The report found that many federal contracts were awarded to large firms, and were miscoded as small business contracts.

Although the federally mandated small disadvantaged business goal is 5%, the overall achievement for agencies in 2005 was 3.58%, according to the scorecard, costing minority-owned companies \$4.5 billion in lost opportunities. SDBs include small businesses that are at least 51%-owned by one or more individuals who are both socially and economically disadvantaged.

"This year [the federal government's overall] grade is a D, the lowest achievement in

the history of the scorecard," said Rep. Nydia Velazquez, (D-NY), the committee's ranking Democrat, in a media release. "While SBA came out last month saying that they'd reached over 25%, the truth is that they failed to account for the massive amount of miscoded dollars, which brings the achievement down to only 21.57%."

Ineligible businesses awarded contracts include Eastman Kodak, United Parcel Service, Wal-Mart, and Clear Channel Communications, according to a list provided by the Democrats on the committee.

"What we are seeing is a sheer lack of accountability from the administration that is resulting in these large businesses receiving small business awards," said Velazquez. "As a consequence, entrepreneurs are getting less and less contracting opportunities each year."

Some of the discrepancies may be attributed to the fact that firms that were eligible when they bid for a contract [but] have since grown or were acquired by corporations, according to Karen Hontz, the Small Business Administration's associate administrator for government contracting. "Time Warner could have acquired a company that's now listed as

Time Warner but before was a small cable or book publishing company," she says. Although Hontz says the agency stands by its numbers, she says the SBA is looking into the miscoding allegations.

"We're looking into that now and I prefer to call them miscoding discrepancies. We will have an explanation, but it takes time," she says.

Miscoding first became a large concern in 2004 when the Small Business Administration's Office of Advocacy reported that \$2 billion had been miscoded in 2002.

Hontz's explanation is of little comfort to Joseph Cooper, former president and CEO of Washington, D.C.-based J. Cooper & Associates Inc, which lost an \$8 million contract from the Immigration and Naturalization Service in 1995 to advertise for and recruit minority border patrol agents. After seven to eight months, he says, his 8(a) set-aside contract was given to a group of larger agencies, including J. Walter Thompson, although, he says, there was no problem with his firm's performance. Cooper sued but ran out of legal options and money earlier this year.

"I think that what bothers me most is I did nothing wrong. The government knew that J.

Walter Thompson is not (a Small Disadvantaged Business), the SBA knew this and did absolutely nothing about that and that's wrong. Everyone acknowledges that this problem occurs, but nobody wants to deal with it," Cooper says.

It makes one wonder, adds Anthony W. Robinson, president of the Minority Business Legal Defense Fund, if persistent miscoding is due to "something that's very deliberate on the part of government officials and their relationships with many of these large companies. We learned that when the General Accounting Office first brought this issue out several years ago, the SBA took the opportunity to expunge a number of those miscoded companies from the central registration only to six months later find many of those companies back on the list. That's quite a concern to me as to why they would continue to be listed as small companies knowing that they are not small."

Robinson says he has discussed the issue with the SBA's new administrator, Steven Preston. "He said he was not going to be tolerant of fraudulent activity; this will not happen on his watch," Robinson said. "We'll see. It's not what he says, it's what he does."

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#### International Festival Page 1

A special highlight at this year's Plano International Festival will be a naturalization ceremony to be held in the Haggard Park for all Festival

attendees to witness.

Admission and parking are free. Visitors can take advantage of the DART rail station next to the park for transportation. Applications for vendors and performers are

still being accepted. Visit [PlanoInternationalFestival.org](http://PlanoInternationalFestival.org) for application forms and other information, or email [info@PlanoInternationalFestival.org](mailto:info@PlanoInternationalFestival.org). The Plano

International Festival is sponsored by the 501(c)(3) Plano International Festival Corporation (PIFC) and is underwritten by the City of Plano.



# A Myriad Of Stars Lining Up For Black Academy Of Arts And Letters (TBAAL) 30th Anniversary Black Tie And Red Carpet Season Opening Gala

The celebrity guest list is being made, the invitations are being mailed and the stars are lining up. What is the occasion? It's The Black Academy of Arts and Letters 30th Anniversary Black Tie and Red Carpet Season Opening Gala, Saturday, September 23, 2006.

To kick off the 30th anniversary season, TBAAL is hosting a star-studded black tie and red carpet gala recognizing the institutions many accomplishments and achievements as well as the numerous celebrities who have continued to support TBAAL for the past thirty years.

The celebration weekend begins Friday, September 22, 2006 at 12 noon with a celebrity and sponsor press conference in the Clarence Muse Café Theatre. On Saturday, September 23, 2006 a VIP reception begins the evening at 6 p.m. filled with

fond memories of TBAAL's thirty years of excellence. Following the VIP reception, the apex of the evening ensues; a moving awards gala performance. An award designed by famed artist and sculptor, Elizabeth Catlett,



Ella Joyce

will be presented to several artists and scholars.

At 10 p.m., TBAAL will be transformed into one of the largest arts parties of 2006.

Every venue in TBAAL's facility will overflow with local, national and international talent performing Gospel, Jazz, Reggae, Blues, Pop, Rhythm & Blues, Rap, Hip-Hop, Comedy and Spoken Word.

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Inc. (formerly the Junior Black Academy of Arts and Letters) was founded in 1977 by Curtis King at his dining room table with a personal investment of \$250 to support it. Thirty years later, TBAAL boasts an operating budget of nearly \$2 million, presenting over 100 programs and attracting more than 500,000 patrons annually. Since its inception, the organization moved approximately nine times before finding its current home in 1989 in the Dallas Convention Center located in the heart of Downtown Dallas. The Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Inc. is the only African American multi-disci-

plined cultural arts institution in the country housed inside a major urban convention center. It currently occupies 250,000 square feet of space which includes the Naomi Bruton Theatre (1,750 seats), the Clarence Muse Café Theatre (225 seats), the Eva Jessye Gift shop, the James E. Kemp Art Gallery, rehearsal/lecture rooms, and administrative offices.

Tickets are on sale now for TBAAL's 30th Anniversary Black Tie and Red Carpet Season Opening Gala. Tickets are \$100-\$75 for the entire evening. Tickets for the Post Gala Reception and Entertainment only are \$50. For more information or to purchase tickets, call TBAAL's Box Office (214) 743-2400 or Ticketmaster (214) 373-8000.

To date, we are proud to have the Alpha Xi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., AT&T, FedEx, Pro-Line

International, NBC 5 and International Trucking Company as our major sponsors. American Airlines is the official air carrier for TBAAL's 30th Anniversary Gala.

MON-The Gazette will feature an upcoming exclusive interview with TBAAL's founder, Curtis King on his dream and the 30 year journey of TBAAL in Dallas.



Louis Gossett Jr.

## Confirmed celebrity guests include:

Oleta Adams  
Erykah Badu  
Bill Cobbs  
Keith David  
Ruby Dee  
Mari Evans  
Kim Fields  
Louis Gossett, Jr.  
Micki Grant  
Irma P. Hall  
LisaGay Hamilton  
Linda Hopkins  
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Regina Taylor  
Beverly Todd  
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## Back To School On A Shoe String Budget

According to Dr. Stephen Jones, parents can save thousands of dollars by mapping out a back to school shoe string budget. Annually the cost of going back to school continues to rise. Supplying one child for a K12 school or college can cost between \$300-\$1000. In fact one Villanova University student recently said a book he purchased cost \$200. While this may not be the norm it is cause for alarm for parents who have several children in school. Parents must make difficult choices regarding the quality of materials their children will use to present term papers and projects that are due during the school year. Often parents get so busy during the summer that they fail to plan a school supply budget and they end up running around from store to store trying to reduce the cost of book bags, calculators, text books, computers and etc.

Here's how parents can save hundreds of dollars:

1. Don't shop at the last minute right before school is about to start.
2. Identify a discount school supply store so that you don't

end up shopping at the local corner store.

3. Check the internet for sales at websites such as overstock.com. Get together with friends and buy some things in bulk.

4. Don't be afraid to buy some clothing at a thrift store. You can



save hundreds of dollars.

5. Check your supplies from last year before you go out to buy new supplies. You will reduce the chances that you are purchasing items that you have stored from last year.

6. Ask your local school where they order their supplies from and contact the store for a catalogue or website.

7. Consider purchasing certain items at the Dollar Store near

you.

8. Purchase books at discount websites that are on the internet.

It's amazing that some parents are willing to spend more money because they are unwilling to invest time to uncover savings. The hundreds of dollars that are saved can help with the purchase of a new computer and printer. Don't cave in to the temptation to putting your purchases on a credit card. The credit card debts that parents obtain at the beginning of the school year can last until the next summer if a parent is not cautious. Parents who are shopping on a shoe string budget recognize that credit cards are potholes that will take you thousands of dollars off track.

Mobilize family and friends who can keep an eye out for special school supply sales. Parents can use a number of methods to stay in touch. First consider using the cell phone to create a list of people who will be looking out for certain supplies that you have identified. Also, friends and family can contact you immediately when they discover a good sale. Parents can give friends and family money in advance or ask them to pay for it and agree to pay them back.

## Alphas Get \$1 Million For King Memorial

The ExxonMobil Foundation gave \$1 million last week to help build a memorial on the National Mall of the nation's capital for Alpha member and national civil rights leader Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The announcement was made at the Alpha Phi Alpha Centennial Symposium Luncheon, where former National Urban League leader Hugh Price was the keynote speaker.

The chair of the Symposium was University of the District of Columbia Vice President Dr. Bobby W. Austin, who said: "I believe the Centennial Symposium represents a very meaningful step in an overall plan for saving our Black men and boys in this nation. Such a thoughtful forum was long overdue."

Alpha Phi Alpha General President Darryl R. Matthews,

Sr. said: "We hosted this symposium because we all know what the problems are, since we've always been involved with the plight of the commu-



nity and specifically the African-American male. Instead of creating another symbolic event, we wanted a forum to address these issues

directly, creating measurable objectives."

Gerald McElvy, president of the ExxonMobil Foundation, said of the memorial donation: "Martin Luther King, Jr. devoted his life to fighting for equality for all mankind. We're proud to be involved in this tribute to Dr. King's life and legacy. It is fitting that we make this announcement at the Alpha Phi Alpha 2006 Centennial Convention, given Dr. King's active and proud involvement with the fraternity, which in turn has played a pivotal role in making this Memorial a reality."

The gifts were part of a week of Alpha celebration, highlighted by a two-day symposium on "The Future of African American Men: The Mind, The Body, The Soul in the 21st Century."

## CCCCD Adult Literacy, College Prep Open House Scheduled Aug. 26

Individuals seeking more information about adult literacy and college preparation should attend an open house Saturday, Aug. 26.

The department of Developmental reading and Academic and Personal Enrichment will host the event from 2-3:30 p.m. at the Central Park Campus Library, 2200 W. University Drive, McKinney.

The purpose of the event is to create an awareness of classes offered at the campus and to help with adult literacy needs

and college preparation.

The free event is open to the public and registration is not required.

Recent high school graduates, adults seeking to advance their career or who want to see if college can help them achieve their career goals are encouraged to attend. Brief summaries and demonstrations of reading and study skills classes will be offered, in addition to an overview of the college registration process.

For more information, contact

Academic Chair for Developmental Reading and Academic and Personal Enrichment Marilyn Rice at 972.548.6578.

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.

### INROADS Institution Page 1

Martin, Mary Kay, TXU, and Verizon.

Berry says she and Dr. Sandra Terrell, dean of UNT's Robert B. Toulouse School of Graduate Studies, are planning a graduate school workshop/forum for the INROADS interns. It will include not only UNT students, but also students from other area universities.

INROADS recruits the best and the brightest high school and college ethnically diverse students interested in pursuing careers in business, engineering, computer and information sciences, sales, marketing, allied health care, healthcare management, and retail management careers.

The organization was founded by Chicago businessman Frank C. Carr in June, 1970. In its first year, it had 25 college interns and 17 sponsoring corporations.

Today, INROADS has more than 50 offices around the world, assisting more than 5,000 interns at more than

6,000 companies.

UNT's Office of Equity and Diversity can be reached at (940) 565-2456.

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## Ruben Studdard's New R&B Album Due Out

Ruben Studdard returns to R&B with his third album, set for release Sept. 26. The album's title, "The Return," signifies his coming back to the mainstream after recording the 2004 gospel album, "I Need an Angel," Studdard said in a statement released Monday by J Records.

"I've had people ask me where I've been in the past few years so I thought calling it 'The Return' made sense," said Studdard, who won Fox's

"American Idol" talent competition in May 2003.

"The first track on the new record is 'The Return of the Velvet Teddy Bear,' so I just shortened it and made it the title of my CD," the 27-year-old singer said. "With 'The Return,' I'm letting all the people who've followed me from 'American Idol' until now know that basically I'm back."

His debut album, "Soulful," was released in 2003.



## MC Lyte Joins 2nd Annual Hip-Hop Leadership Camp

Entertainers and industry professionals representing some of the most recognized brands in entertainment are volunteering their professional and celebrity status to give back to the youth by sharing their experiences while teaching the importance of empowerment through education using hip-hop as a tool.

During the second week of August, 30 inner-city youth will be housed on the campus of UCLA where they will undergo a four day apprenticeship learning the ins and outs of the music business as a means to learning practical application of business skills.

The Hip Hop Leadership

Camp (HHLC) utilizes the



music, entertainment, communication, and technology industries

as a medium to promote leadership and the empowerment of at-risk youth by introducing and illustrating career tools via hands-on workshops with DJs, radio personalities, artists, video producers, business managers, accountants, marketing/A&R representatives, and lawyers.

"This camp is more than just a series of classes," explains camp founder, Karen Levy, "The personal interaction and application of the skills acquired in the program gives them the chance to experience their potential as future leaders by using their love of hip-hop and entertainment as a learning tool."

For more details visit HipHopLeadershipCamp.com.

## Infamous Down Low Author/Husband & Wife/Author Hook Up: J. L. King & Brenda Stone Browder Launch 'Conversation of Reconciliation.'

Atlanta, GA and Springfield, OH Best-selling authors J.L. King and Brenda Stone Browder are working to combat the indifference toward HIV and AIDS within the African-American community.

In a national speaking tour called "A Conversation of Reconciliation," King and Browder reunite in a forum that promotes candid, open and honest conversation between African-American men and women about sex and love and the devastating impacts of deception and denial in relationships.

The tour is being presented in conjunction with Black churches, health organizations, women's groups and other community organizations, and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Lillie Mae Foundation, a family based foundation that provides financial support for families impacted by HIV/AIDS.

"The vision that Brenda and I have is that our 'Conversation of Reconciliation' tour will enable us to use our experiences to bring the discussion of HIV and AIDS to the forefront in the African-American community.

We want to make a meaningful difference in the lives of brothers and sisters across this country," King added.

The 90-minute presentation sheds light on their personal struggles



J. L. King & Brenda Stone Browder

as a couple with two children whose private battles with deceit and deception quickly became public. They detail the pain that resulted, their individual journeys toward healing, their fight to save their family and how their faith played in the middle of everything.

"I truly give all credit to God and to a tremendously supportive family for helping me make it through one of the most difficult times in my life," Browder said.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the HIV/AIDS epidemic is a health crisis for

African Americans. In 2002, HIV/AIDS was among the top three causes of death for African American men ages 25 to 54 and among the top four causes of death for African American women ages 25 to 54 years.

J.L. King first gained national and international attention for his New York Times best-selling book On the Down Low, which exposed the "DL" phenomena among some men. The terms "On the Down Low" and "DL" are often used to describe the behavior of men who have sex with other men as well as women but do not identify as gay or bisexual.

Brenda Stone Browder, King's ex-wife and author of the Essence bestseller On the Up and Up: A Survival Guide for Women Living with Men on the Down Low, is a writer, educator, and lay speaker in Springfield, Ohio.

The "Conversation of Reconciliation" tour will be traveling to major cities across the United States and the Caribbean. To request the tour in your area or for media interviews, contact Ian Smith at 850-212-8840 or ian-smithpr@netally.com.

## Diahann Carroll To Join 'Grey's Anatomy'

The cast of "Grey's Anatomy" will have an additional person-of-color for its 2006/2007 run. Veteran actress Diahann Carroll, who made history in 1968 as the first African American woman to star in a TV series, will join the cast of the popular ABC drama when it kicks off its new season on Thursday, Sept. 21 at 9 p.m.

"Each time, I'm surprised [to still be asked to appear on a television show]," she tells Entertainment Tonight in an exclusive interview. "I feel as though they've counted me out. I might as well sit on the beach. Then the phone rings."

Thirty-eight years after breaking barriers with "Julia," the 1968 series starring Carroll

as a widowed nurse raising her son, the 71-year-old Bronx



Shonda Rhimes about becoming a regular for the new season.

ing a regular for the new season.

"She said the most lovely thing," Diahann recalls. "She said, 'I knew when I was a girl that if I had any success in television or film that I wanted to work with you.' I said, 'When I hear things like that, you make me feel so wonderful that I'll work for nothing.'"

Unfortunately, Carroll promised producers that she would not reveal details about her character, nor divulge information about upcoming storylines.

"They explain that you just say nothing, and I think it's a wonderful idea. So I'm on the show, that's as far as we can go," she says.

## 2006 BMW Pop-Jazz Live Tour Kicks Off In New Orleans: Saxophonist Mike Phillips Featured

The 2006 BMW Pop-Jazz Live Tour will get off to a rousing start with a special debut show in the



birthplace of jazz at the historic jazz venue Tipitina's French Quarter, 8/18 at 8pm.

The New Orleans show—conceived as a "tribute" to the Big Easy in recognition of New Orleans' singular contribution to

jazz history—will feature the tour headliner Mike Phillips, who appears courtesy of Hidden Beach Recordings. Phillips, a NAACP Image Award Nominee, regularly tours and collaborates with the likes of Stevie Wonder, Prince and Jill Scott.

Phillips will be joined by local jazz legends Kermit Ruffins and Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews. The invited audience will include community leaders, dignitaries, local jazz musicians and New Orleans residents. "We want this special show to serve as a post-Katrina reunion that brings the community together," said Michael Aiken, Managing Director of Spring LLC, the driving force behind the tour. "The show demonstrates our thanks for the city's contributions to jazz and music and gives our guests at Tipitina's a well-deserved opportunity to just have a good time and see old friends."

Mike Phillips is renowned for

his signature passion and magnetic presence challenging the established jazz norms by embracing a variety of musical influences while adding his own unique flavor to the mix. These skills earn him the distinction of being the first and only non-athlete endorsed by Brand Jordan. Phillips can also be seen hosting his music-lifestyle show, Mike's World on BET J.

Dedicated to "re-inventing" jazz for a younger, sophisticated and hipper generation audience with new ideas on what jazz should be, the 2006 BMW Pop-Jazz Live Tour will then travel to six other cities: Chicago, 9/13; Washington, D.C., 9/19; New York, 9/21; Atlanta, 9/26; San Francisco, 10/10; and Los Angeles, 10/12. Further information about Mike Phillips and the tour are available at <http://www.ipopjazz.com>.

## 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 enjoy exciting activities, such as a speaking presentation by singer-songwriter **Naomi Judd**, an appearance by **Bryan Dattilo**, the mischievous Lucas Roberts on Days of our Lives, the annual JC Penney Fashion Show, shopping opportunities, product and cooking demonstrations and seminars on several specialty stages.

**Admission:** \$10 for adults, \$8 if purchased online and for seniors, \$16 for a two-day pass, and free for children 12 and under.

For more information please visit [www.visionsexpo.com](http://www.visionsexpo.com) or call (972) 504-6358.

## Gospel Artist Martha Munizzi Goes To Great Lengths For Family Solidarity

By: Mona Austin

Two time Stellar award winner and Dove award nominee, Martha Munizzi, while selling more than 400,000 units, has experienced abounding career success. Simultaneously, she has achieved what countless celebrity moms desire: the act of balancing being in popular demand while fulfilling the demands of motherhood.

"Today we have braces to put on and the grocery store," she tells me.

With three kids (Danielle, Nicole and Nathan) listening to their iPods, Munizzi treks across the country spreading the gospel through song. For the last year she has been home-schooling them while traveling.

Her children were central to the penning one of her most recent, well received songs. The artist explains: "With 'Because of Who You Are' I was worshipping the Lord around the house when my kids were little. I would be sitting around the tub

and singing. One day I asked 'Who is good?' And the words came to me. . ."

With her hubby of eighteen years and Manager Danny by her side, her priorities are undeniable: God and family. And her secret to keeping a close-knit family is ". . . whatever it takes to ease the pressure of ministry, that's what we do. We prioritize the importance of what's most important—family. . . they [the children] understand the importance of what I do."

As a worship leader at Joel Olsteen's Lakewood Church in Houston, TX she shared her anointing with a diverse audience. Martha has a passion to exceed cultural bounds and ministers to people all over the world with her beautifully written, cross-over songs. Named one of the top five Gospel Artists by Billboard (2004), the mark of her appeal to African Americans was affirmed with a historic Stellar Award win for Best New Artist (2005).

As parents today Dan and

Martha face the reality that there are too many distractions that deviate from Bible based norms.

The Munizzi's have the daunting task of raising their children at a time when the traditional family is falling apart. Moreover, youth egocentricism dominates televi-



sion programming and advertisements. To curb the influence of popular culture on their offspring, their parenting style is old-fashioned and hands on but not too strict.

The double disc "No Limits Live" CD is her first Integrity Gospel recording. The DVD case leased on August 8.



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

Mid Cities-Texas Chapter, The Links, 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, Senior Vice President /District Manager, Wells Fargo Bank.

Proceeds from 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 Prairie, The Circles Girls Leadership Program, the North Texas Food

Bank and other community service programs.

Corporate sponsors and supporters include Texas Instruments, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway, Chase Bank, Guaranty Bank and UPS.

Also providing generous support for the 2006 effort are Alliance Data, BenchMark Data Management, Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Citizens Fidelity Mortgage, Comerica Bank, Dikita Enterprises, Inc., Diversapack, Donald R. Johnson, M.D., Friendship-West Baptist Church,

JD&Associates, JPS Health Network, Regions Financial Corporation, Secure Net, Inc., The Bowens Foundation and Wells Fargo Bank.

This is the 14th year for A Knock-Out Affair: Black Tie Boxing, the General Chairpersons are Audrey Bolling, Audrey Thomas and Brenda Hull Thompson. The Chapter President is Roslyn Thibodeaux Fitch.

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 of the Bahamas, Frankfurt, Germany and South Africa. Founded in 1946, The Links, Incorporated is committed to educational, cultural, and civic activities, on local, national and international levels. 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.

## Job Fair Page 1

tions can be dropped off Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 am and 5 pm at the Inspiring Body of Christ Church, 7710 S. Westmoreland, Dallas.

Local personalities expected to be in attendance include Rickey Smiley of 97.9 The Beat; Kevin Mondy, Project Still I Rise, Inc.; Bob Lydia, President Dallas NAACP; Rev. Rickie G. Rush, Pastor of Inspiring Body of Christ; Ronald Wright, Praise Him Ministry; Joyce Ann Brown; Mothers (Fathers) for the Advancements of Social Systems; Lisa Melton, X Factor Training Center; and Casey Thomas; Dallas County Black Chamber

Curtis Wilbert, TAFI Vice President expressed, "It's all about creating an opportunity for a group of individuals that are disenfranchised. Most for-

merly incarcerated persons are great people, hardworking and dependable. They simply need a chance to prove they can be excellent employees."

Mr. Wilbert speaks from personal experience.

His conviction on what he said was a wrongful 1993 drug charge was overturned by an appeals court, which ruled that he was inadequately represented. The 43-year-old Dallas native said he was a county juvenile worker who was visiting a client when the residence was raided. He served three years of a 15-year sentence and ultimately cleared his name and changed his career to radio broadcasting.

He became an advocate for ex-offenders and was the Texas Criminal Justice Coalition's state

coordinator for two years. He endured personal tragedy, though. Both parents died while he was in prison. He last saw them when he was sentenced.

But he gained passion for this worthy cause, he said. Ex-offenders, employers and new supporters may contact him to get involved. Call 817-344-0223.

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## Dallas Urban League Page 1

Greater Dallas chapter of the National Urban League will continue to provide instruction in digital media and IT administration.

The Digital Career Academies program builds on the success of a 2004 AT&T Foundation grant initiative, which provided \$1,070,000 to the National Urban League to launch the initial 11 technology career academies. Through the program, the Urban League provided information-technology career training in computer and video-game programming, 3-D animation, digital radio and IT administration.



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Further information may be obtained by calling the Purchasing Manager at (972) 466-3115 or visiting the City's purchasing website at: [www.cityofcarrollton.com/purchasing](http://www.cityofcarrollton.com/purchasing).

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**MON-The Gazette**, (An African American Weekly Newspaper located in Plano, TX) is seeking a bright, energetic person for the position of Assignment Editor. The Assignment Editor will be responsible for the assignment of stories to correspondents, columnists, photographers and freelancers for publication. The Assignment Editor will oversee the timely submission of copy and photos, and will be responsible for the preparation of a weekly status sheet. This position will serve as a point of contact for writers on the Editorial staff, and will be responsible for maintaining the Editorial staff directory. The Assignment Editor will have input in developing the Editorial Calendar. This position will report directly to the Publisher.

Interested parties should call 972-606-3891 in order to schedule an interview for this position.



## Church News



### Sister Tarpley

HED, I heard the message you left me. I will continue praying for you; I want to remind you that life is all about choices; the great thing is that God is willing to help you; all you have to do is ask.

**Life is a Tug of War:** Life is full of experiences when our souls become a battle-ground between opposite forces of good and evil. Pulled this way and that way by opposite desires, duties and family values that were taught; it is very hard to come to a point of equilibrium. Wanting to do right, we feel the tug of bad influences. Finding that we are doing wrong; we are pulled over toward the right.

You are not the first with this dilemma; Apostle Paul describes the state of the undecided soul. Romans 7:21, "When I would do good, evil is present with me." All of us have had such an experience. This is not the natural state of the fully-surrendered Christian and certainly not those who have not surrendered to God. The immature follower of Christ and the uncommitted individual is unable to make up his "spiritual mind" to do the right thing.

Psychologists tell us that some individuals have a disease of the mind called Schizophrenia (commonly called a "split personality" which is characterized by a feel-

## Life Is A Tug Of War

ing of being divided into separate personalities. There are many who are affected with a divided soul, who wants to be good, but have not made a full surrender to God.

There is a cure for a divided soul; all that is necessary is to: 1) Realize that you are not what you truly want to be because of the



**Picture of The Week**  
Jay Jay Wilson, Author of *Black Wall Street*, CEO of Dallas Gold Media; and Producer of *The Yundrae Show* in Lewisville.

troubles of this world and you can't seem to find peace. 2) Ask God to forgive you of your sins. He knows about them, just as you do; He is willing to forgive them and to wipe the slate clean. 1 John 1-9 says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to clean us from all unrighteousness." 3) Then decide that with God's help you can avoid those sins in the future. 4) Ask God to give you power to overcome sin whenever

it presents itself to you. 5) Turn your entire life over to Him, your future, as well as your present life. 6) Make up your mind to follow God's will. When your heart is filled with God's love, the tug of war ceases, and you will be at peace within. Today is the day of salvation, tomorrow may never come!

**Think About This:** When you have heard your last sermon and the pastor has made his last prayer. When the choir has sung its last anthem and the sound has died out on the air. When the Bible lies closed on the altar, and the pews are all empty of men, and each one stands facing his record, and the "Great Book" is opened—What Then?

When the crowds seeking pleasure have vanished, when the trumpet of ages is sounded, when we stand before Him, and a world that's rejected its Savior is asked for a reason—What Then?

When life and friends have run to a finish and the last thing you can do is done. When your work here on earth is ended and eternity's issues begun; as you think of how long God has pleaded, or how Christ bore your sins on the tree; and your soul stands there naked before Him, and the Father denies you—What Then?

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

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

## Church Happenings

### 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 Urquhart, 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

### FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN

August 27, 3:30 pm

We invite you to join us for Pastor Wayne L. & First Lady Tasha Stafford's Second Anniversary @ Anderson Elementary School, 305 North Alder in Allen, TX. Our guest speaker will be the dynamic Dr. J. R. Sheppard from Ben Washington Baptist Church in Irving, TX. Dinner will be served

@ 2 pm. For more information please call Sis. Marcia Jones @ 469-667-7718

Fellowship Baptist Church of Allen  
Rev. Wayne L. Stafford, Sr.  
Senior Pastor  
200 W. Belmont Street, Suite B  
Allen, TX 75013  
972-359-9956

### GOLDEN GATE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

August 27, 10:30 am

Get Ready! Get ready for the Ribbon Cutting and Building Dedication Ceremony for the "Gate House;" a community outreach building that will house the administration and classrooms for the Adult Rehabilitation Program (ARP) for men and women. The day of celebration will start in Morning Worship @ 10:30 am & will end with the ribbon cutting ceremony @ 1:30 pm. Our theme: Building Together On Faith; A Labor of Love, Ephesians 1:15-17. African or Caribbean attire can be worn for that day, but is optional.

Golden Gate MBC  
Minister Vincent Parker, Pastor  
1101 Sabine Street  
Dallas, TX 75203  
214-942-7474

### MT. OLIVE CHURCH OF PLANO

August 25, 7 pm & August 26, 8 am

Please join our "Women of The Word" 3rd Annual Women's Conference with Pastor Gloria Fenceroy. Our theme is "Princess With A Purpose, Promise & Power." Our special guest is Dr. Karen Taylor, Pastor of Sabbath Days Journey; Rev. Melissa Alfaro, Founder of J.A.M. Ministries; and

Rev. Marilyn Giles, Founder of Christ and Common Sense

Mt. Olive Church of Plano  
Rev. Sam Fenceroy, Senior Pastor  
740 Avenue F  
Plano, TX 75074  
972-633-5511

### 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 20th: "Memorial Sunday" is when we remember members who have gone home to Glory, since the last Anniversary. August 27th: "Celebration Sunday" will culminate 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 Odum, Jr., Senior Pastor  
1816 Routh Street  
Dallas, TX 75201  
214-922-0000

### Obama Addresses Xavier Page 1

He recalled hearing the stories of 400 students trapped on the roof of a building along with a handwritten sign that read 'Help us' after flooding blocked their escape from the storm-ravaged city.

He said he could give advice about overcoming

challenges or about courage and perseverance but "you could probably teach the rest of us" about those things.

"Yours has been quite an education, an education in humanity brought by a force of nature," Obama said.

However, he said, those types of lessons can be

unlearned.

"Time can heal and cloud a memory," he said. "But it's your responsibility to remember what happened in New Orleans and make it a part of who you are. Katrina might be the most dramatic test you take but it won't be the last." Obama said the graduates

would be forced to choose a path \_ one of detachment and indifference or one of involvement.

"The easiest thing is to do nothing at all. Turn off the TV, put down the newspaper and go about your busy lives. Remain detached and indifferent," he said. "But, if you

choose to remember what happens when responsibilities are ignored and the buck is passed. ... That asks more of you. Not only to pursue your own individual dreams but also to perfect our collective dream as a nation."

Obama encouraged the graduates to "make this a

nation where we are no longer unprepared to meet the challenges of time. Make this a nation worthy of the sacrifices of so many of our citizens. Take the second path.

"Katrina's not the end of tough times for New Orleans or you," he said.

## Church Directory

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



"Where Jesus is the Main Attraction"

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

14120 Noel Road • Dallas, TX 75254

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

templeoffaith\_cme@sbcglobal.net (Email)

Healthy Beginnings Child Development Center - 972-404-1412

### FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN



Pastor W.L. Stafford Sr., M.Div

"A Ministry that is on the Move for Christ"

Sunday School 9:30 am  
Sunday Morning Worship/Children's Church 11:00 am  
Wednesday Prayer/Bible Study 7:00 pm  
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\*If you need a ride to worship with us, please call the church.



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SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES:

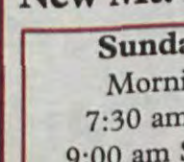
8:00 AM • 9:30 AM • 11:30 AM

972-437-3493

1010-1020 South Sherman Street • Richardson, TX 75081

www.ndcbf.org

### New Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Dallas



#### Sunday Service

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

#### Wednesday Service

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

Dr. Robert E. Price,  
Senior Pastor

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214-341-6459 (Phone) • 214-342-8403 (Fax)

9550 Shepard Road

Dallas, TX 75243

www.nmzb.org (Website) • newmzb@aol.com (Email)

### West Irving Church of God in Christ

3922 Grimes Road

Irving, TX 75061

972-790-8036

www.westirvingchurch.org

Special Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord; we have a great challenge before us as we move into the 21st Century. That challenge is to build the Kingdom of God. The command of our Lord remains the same: That we must reach out to the lost and dying world that know not Christ. In a day of victimization, felt needs, and self esteem, it is easy to become focused on ourselves and our problems. But no believer has a problem that even compares to that of one lost without Christ.

#### Sunday Service Times

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

#### Wednesday Service Time

Bible Training: 7:00 pm  
Youth Life Development (1st & 2nd)

#### Intercessory Prayer

Tuesdays: 12:00 Noon • Saturdays: 9:00 am



Pastor Andrew Jackson &  
First Lady Sandra G. Jackson

### Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church

920 E. 14th Street Plano, TX

Pastor Isiah Joshua, Jr.

FANNING THE FLAMES OF OUR FAITH

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

Sunday	9:45AM Sunday School
Monday	7PM Youth, Brotherhood, Mission & Young Adult Ministries
Tuesday	7PM Bible Study & Men's Choir
Wednesday	7PM Mid-Week Service
Thursday	7PM Mass Choir

For more information call (972) 423-6695  
www.shilohbaptistchurch.org

FANNING THE FLAMES OF OUR FAITH

### MOCOP Mt. Olive Church of Plano

740 Avenue F Plano, TX 75074 972-633-5511

WWW.MOCOP.ORG

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Sunday Worship  
10:00 am

Wednesday Night  
7:15 pm

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Denny D. Davis, Servant

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



## Strait Street Entertainment Venue

Look what has come to the North Dallas Metroplex Area, Strait Street! An elegant Upscale Entertainment Venue in Lewisville, Texas that caters to ages 21 and up, from professionals to retirees, and individuals that loves to have fun in a safe and protected environment. It's also for people that love a wholesome atmosphere; that are down to earth; that enjoy the warmth, peace, tranquility, and serenity of a place will like this environment. Strait Street offers a wide range of music from contemporary, to smooth jazz, R & B; and Christian music throughout the weekend. When the mood hits, you can also glide your partner over a beautiful dance floor highlighted by wrought iron design.

Mark & Jessie R. Hubbard, Founders of Strait Street said that it's a labor of love; what was a vision to Mark approximately

19 years ago is now a reality. His desire was to create an alternate to what was in the market place. Also a place where individuals, especially women, professionals



Mark & Jessie R. Hubbard

and retirees could feel safe, comfortable, and yet a place that is well-designed, very stylish, exceptionally chic, classy, and pleasing

to the eyes and ears. This is a place that is uniquely designed for spending an evening out with the spouse or a significant other. Strait Street is a non-smoking, non-alcoholic venue where all drinks are less than .05% alcohol by volume.

Strait Street has imported and domestic, red and white wines and champagne for toasting any occasion. It has mixed drinks, a variety of beers, and a long list of sodas, flavored teas, lemonades, juices, bottle water and coffee for your enjoyment and pleasure.

The name of Strait Street is scriptural and is taken from the conversion of Saul taken from Acts 9 in the Bible. As a result, Strait Street is a place of the ultimate in relaxation, music and a most enjoyable evening with your partner. Log on [www.straitstreetlewisville.com](http://www.straitstreetlewisville.com) for more information, pictures, and directions.

## The Yundrae Talk Show

Coming to you, taped live each Thursday from the Strait Street Entertainment Venue in Lewisville TX, at 7:45 to 9:30 pm; "The Yundrae Show" which is currently the only talk show of its kind in Texas and featuring Yundrae



Yundrae Wilson

Wilson. The show is produced by Jay Jay Wilson, author of Black Wall Street and owner of Dallas Gold Media. Approximately nine years ago, Yundrae Wilson of Ft. Worth, TX started the Yundrae Ministries which has branched off to several entities, including Yundrae Records that specializes

in Christian Rap, smooth R & B, and other Christian music; and the Yundrae Barber Shop in Everman, TX (South of Ft. Worth, TX)

The Yundrae Talk Show will Spotlight Texas Celebrities.

"George & The Band" performs live at each Thursday's taping. Band members consist of George Hicks, Sr. on Guitar, George Hicks, Jr. on Bass Guitar, Christopher "Stixx" Oliver on Drums, and Antjuan Hicks on key Board. Each performance is totally awesome and precise. You can see it all live every Thursday as the doors open at 6:00 pm and the taping of The Yundrae Show

starts at 7:45 pm.

Yundrae will interview celebrities in entertainment, sports, music, film and business; as well as up-and-coming new stars. Yundrae will ask questions that the listening audience will want to know. He will accept suggestions from the listening audience for people, and for future events that they want to know about. By mid-season, "Yundrae" will be on the "red carpet" doing his interviews at major awards shows such as: BET, Soul Train, The American Music Awards, and other major events. Log on to [www.theyundraeshow.com](http://www.theyundraeshow.com) to find out more information.

## Gospelbiz.com

Google and Yahoo look out for Gospelbiz! Gospelbiz is the brain-child of James Sullivan who has provided marketing and advertising for Fortune 500 Companies for over 18 years. In mid 2004 God revealed to Sullivan, that the playing field for search engines on the World Wide Web (WWW) was dominated by secular information and saturation with things that are contrary to the Word of God. Christians needed a search-friendly place for the things of God; so on April 11, 2004 Gospelbiz was "Created to Spread the Gospel."

One main feature that you will find on Gospelbiz.com is the

largest listings of Christian's events on the WWW. It's the only listing that you can search by a criteria; the good news is that it is currently getting over a million hits per month. The better news is that you can submit your events to Gospelbiz.com for FREE.

Sullivan has often been told that



James Sullivan

another great feature of Gospelbiz.com is the Sponsorship Dollars that allows the opportunity to receive dollars for any event that promotes Christian Family Values. You will find the Sponsorship Form Link at [www.gospelbiz.com](http://www.gospelbiz.com) and detailed information.

After studying Rick Warren's "40 Days of Purpose," Sullivan discovered his purpose; to glorify God with resources, knowledge, and abilities that God had given

him with in regards to marketing & advertising. God had trained and prepared him for this appointed time - to leave Corporate America and serve God by serving you.

Two of Gospelbiz newest clients are "Strait Street Entertainment Venue" in Lewisville, TX; and the one and only Texas talk show, "The Yundrae Talk Show" that is hosted by Strait Street every Thursday from 7:45 to 9:30 pm. For more information, log on [www.Gospelbiz.com](http://www.Gospelbiz.com).

a youth worship experience

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straight thinking on matters of faith

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Friendship West Baptist Church

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T.J. Denson, Pastor

Sunday Services: Sunday School @ 9:30 am • Morning Worship @ 11:00 am  
Monday Services: Men's Group & Women's Group Bible Study @ 6:30 pm  
Wednesday Service: Family Bible Study @ 6:30 pm

**Faithway Fellowship Baptist Church**  
Of Hamilton Park  
8219 Bunche Dr. Dallas, TX 75243  
Church Office: (972) 792-0239  
Pastor's Office: (972) 792-0240

**Service Times**  
Sunday School: 9:45AM  
Morning Worship: 11:00AM  
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00PM

Pastor Derrick L. Bowman, Sr.

PEOPLE OF FAITH WITH A MIND TO WORK

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7710 S. Westmoreland Rd.  
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Sunday Services: 7:30 am, 10:00 am, 12:30pm.  
Monday School: 7pm  
Men's Fellowship: Friday 7:00pm

Pastor Rickie G. Rush

Website: [www.ibocjoy.org](http://www.ibocjoy.org)

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

Email: [church@bwbcriving.org](mailto:church@bwbcriving.org)  
Web: [bwbcriving.org](http://bwbcriving.org)

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**Wednesday**  
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7:00 p.m. Prayer Hour  
7:30 p.m. Bible Study

Dr. Joseph R. Sheppard, Pastor

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Overseer Craig L. Cobb (First Lady - Melkel Cobb)  
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Wednesday Night Bible Study - 7:30 pm

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972-289-1200 • 972-289-1206 - fax  
[www.TheMoveOfGilead.org](http://www.TheMoveOfGilead.org)

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New Worship Home  
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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: Ingredients for Life . . . 4:00 p.m.  
Wednesdays: Life In The Word Prayer and Bible Study . . . 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.

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