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People In The News



During the 2006 Homecoming celebration festivities, Prairie View A&M University named the Architecture and Art building for distinguished alumna, Nathelyne Archie Kennedy, class of 1959.

Known for her uncompromising integrity and drive, Kennedy made history when she graduated as the first black female in Texas with a degree in architectural engineering and again when she became the first black female to

in the state to become licensed as a professional engineer. A native of Conroe, Texas, Kennedy is the founder, president and chief executive officer of Nathelyne A. Kennedy and Associates, one of Houston's leading engineering consulting firms.

The naming ceremony featured a presentation of the key to the city of Prairie View, Texas by Mayor Frank Jackson, a greeting from U.S. Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, a Texas Senate proclamation from Senator Rodney Ellis, and a plaque presentation from the Prairie View A&M class of 1959.

When asked what the building dedication meant to her, Kennedy stated that "My family and I were truly touched by this honor—I went through every emotion from delight and pride, to feeling downright self-conscious because of the wonderful things being said."

CityView, a national discretionary housing investor led by Chairman and former HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros, recently promoted Richie L. Butler to partner. Previously, Butler served as regional manager for the Texas, Northeast and Southeast regions. He will continue to work in that capacity, as well as contribute to the CityView strategic team.



Butler has an extensive record in real estate development and redevelopment projects throughout the United States. As partner, he will serve on CityView's governance and investment committees.

"Having served as regional manager for the company has been a phenomenal opportunity to link our capital plus business model with great urban builders and developers," Butler said. "And now as partner, I look forward to contributing further to CityView, and build on its reputation as a national institutional investor with the unique goal of creating workforce housing."

Butler completed his undergraduate degree at Southern Methodist University and graduated from Harvard University with a master's degree. His current civil involvements include the Downtown Dallas Board of Directors and the Real Estate Council Board of Directors, as well as a recent appointment to the Urban Land Institute's prestigious Urban Development Mixed Use Bronze Council.



Author Eric Pete reads from Lady Sings the Cruels at Black Images Book Bazaar on Saturday, November 25 at 2:00 p.m.

Eric Pete is one of contemporary fiction's rising stars. Having an intense love of reading from an early age, Eric was unknowingly building the foundation for what was to come.

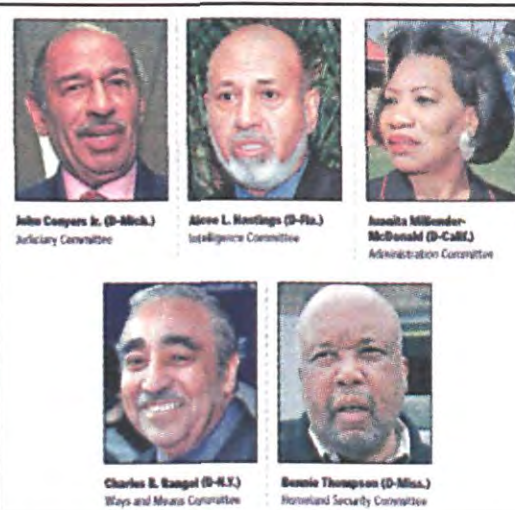
Eric's first novel, Real for Me, has been the featured selection of many book clubs across America and reached #1 Bestseller status at various bookstores. His second released novel was the Dallas Morning News bestseller Someone's In the Kitchen, which further established Eric in the literary arena. His third novel, Gets No Love, was featured in King Magazine and made the bestseller list of several stores including Karibu Books. His fourth release Don't Get It Twisted garnered critical acclaim as well as national bestseller status. His current release is the emotionally intense Lady Sings the Cruels. Eric also has short stories featured in the anthologies After Hours from Plume Books, Twilight Moods from Flowers In Bloom Publishing and the upcoming On The Line.

Black Images Book Bazaar is located at 230 Wynnewood Village Dallas. For more info call 214-943-0142 or visit www.blackimages.com.

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Black Lawmakers In Line For Key Posts



Leadership of 5 House Panels, Majority Whip's Job Could Go to Caucus Members

Three days after workers broke ground for the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial on the Mall, the Congressional Black Caucus is preparing to break new ground of its own.

Five of its members are poised to take the helm of key House committees when Democrats assume control of Congress next year: John Conyers Jr. (Mich.) of Judiciary, Alcee L. Hastings (Fla.) of intelligence, Juanita Millender-McDonald (Calif.) of House Administration, Reps. Charles B. Rangel (N.Y.) of Ways and Means, and Bennie Thompson (Miss.) of Homeland Security.

Another member, Rep. James E. Clyburn (S.C.), is slated to be named majority whip, which would make him the third-ranking

Democrat in the House. Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), the presumed speaker of the 110th Congress, has campaigned on his behalf.

"If they accede to that much power, it would truly be the realization of the kind of dream we've been waiting for since the civil rights movement," said Ronald Walters, a University of Maryland political science professor and a former political strategist who is black.

But, said Walters, that is a big "if." The appointment of Millender-McDonald is less certain than those of some of the others, and Hastings faces a steep uphill climb in his bid for the intelligence post because of past ethics problems.

On top of all that, Black Caucus members, who tend to be more liberal, might find it hard to push their traditional social agenda. Conservative and moderate "Blue Dog" Democrats, whose numbers are nearly equal to those of Black Caucus members, have vowed to counter agendas that they deem too liberal.

Rangel, the likely chairman of

Black Lawmakers Page 6

Plano City Council Adopts Drought Ordinance Revisions

At its November 13, 2006 meeting, the Plano City Council adopted Ordinance No. 2006-11-15, a revised version of the city's Drought Contingency and Water Emergency Plan passed last May. Changes to the new ordinance include provisions for foundation maintenance, tree irrigation, power washing, extended watering times and new enforcement procedures.



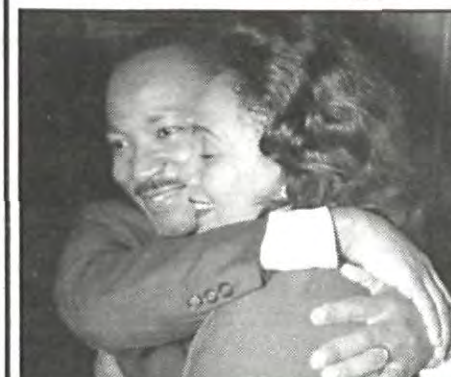
"This past summer has proven to be a real learning experience and so we made

changes to the ordinance based on some of the things that we have learned" said Jimmy Foster, Director of Public Works. In the previous ordinance Plano prohibited outdoor watering between the hours of 9:00am and 7:00pm. The prohibited timeframe has been amended to add two additional hours of watering time, thus the new prohibited outdoor watering times will be 10:00am - 6:00pm. Designated watering days, according to zone, have not been changed.

Questions regarding foundation maintenance and tree irrigation were among the most common calls received by the city during the hot summer months. The new ordinance clarifies that drip irrigation for

Plano Drought Page 6

King Family Dedicates New Crypt Coretta Scott King, MLK Rest Together



By: Ernie Suggs

On April 3, 1968, Coretta Scott King kissed her husband goodbye before he flew to Memphis to organize a march. An assassin's bullet would ensure that it would be the last time she would see the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. alive again.

On a blustery Monday afternoon 38 years later, the two were united spiritually when the King family unveiled a blinding white crypt that would house their

bodies. "It is altogether fitting that Martin and Coretta are here in this place, just as their spirits are together for all of eternity," said Christine King Farris, Martin Luther King Jr.'s sister. "Martin and Coretta are free at last, united forever in God's love."

In what was one of the coldest days of the season, hundreds of people - common folks and dignitaries - braved the weather to pay their respects to the Kings.

Among the several hundred people attending were U.S. Rep. John Lewis, civil rights leader the Rev. Joseph Lowery and his wife, Evelyn, activist Dick Gregory and Bishop Eddie Long of New Birth Missionary Baptist Church. Former Atlanta

King Family Page 7

Plano Fire Station 11 Begins Operation

The City of Plano and Plano Fire Rescue are pleased to announce the opening of the City's 11th fire station located at 4800 Los Rios Drive. Fire crews moved into Fire Station 11 Thursday evening and are now responding to emergency calls from the new station. Fire Station 11's coverage area includes the northeast parts of Plano east of U.S. 75 and Spring Creek Parkway. Housed at the station is a fire engine staffed with four fire personnel.

The formal dedication ceremony for Fire Station 11 will be held Saturday, Jan. 6, 2007



at 9 a.m. For more information on Station 11, contact Lieutenant Peggy Harrell at (972) 941-7421 or peggy-ha@plano.gov

UN Flies In More Aid To Hundreds Of Thousands Of Flood Victims In Horn Of Africa

By truck, donkey cart and on foot, thousands of Somalis who have already fled fighting and drought in their homeland are trekking from flooded refugee camps to drier ground in northeast Kenya as United Nations agencies rush in emergency supplies for up to 1.8 million people hit by the worst floods in years in the Horn of Africa.

"Health and sanitation remain a serious concern," UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) spokesperson Jennifer Pagonis told a news briefing in Geneva today of the Somalis in the Dadaab complex, where the agency has already flown in five plane loads of relief supplies since Sunday. "The general health of the population has deteriorated due to the conditions, lack of food and sleep and difficulty in accessing medical care."

"Latrines throughout the camps have been flooded, contaminating standing water and posing a serious health risk. Fever, diarrhoea,



eye and skin infections are common. UNICEF [UN Children's Fund] and other agencies are bringing in vaccines and other supplies to combat the spread of disease," she added.

A Boeing 747 jumbo jet chartered by the UN World Food Programme (WFP) landed today in Nairobi, Kenya's

Aid To Africa Page 6

Plano Residents Invited To Dialogue With Collin County Judge Elect Keith Self, November 29, 2006

Newly elected Collin County Judge Keith Self will host a community reception on Wednesday, November 29, 2006, 7pm, Davis Library Programming Room, 7501-B Independence Parkway, Plano.



Plano citizens are invited to attend the reception affording them the opportunity to meet County Judge Elect Self, who will respond to any questions and/or concerns they may have in an informal town hall format setting.

"I believe that open government is vital to representing the citizens and I intend to continue to seek out citizen inputs," said County Judge Elect Self.

"Our rapid county growth requires a nimble, responsive county government in order to stay ahead of that growth while recognizing that our cities are in various stages of development."

The duties of the County Judge include the adoption and administration of a budget

Judge Elect Keith Self Page 7

Dorie Miller V.F.W. Post 1406 Presents 5th Annual Community Awards Banquet



(L - R) Rudolph Stevens, Jr. Vice Commander; Alton Ates, Sr. Vice Commander; Robert H. Young, Quarter Master; Lee M. Williams, Commander; Ken Bowen, Membership; and James H. Scott, Chaplin

In honor of Veterans Day, the Dorie Miller V.F.W. Post 1406 hosted its 5th Annual Community Awards Banquet on November 12, 2006 at the Radisson Hotel.

The Awards banquet recognizes outstanding civilians for their contributions of service to the community as well as educational achievement. As Mistress of Ceremony, Colonel Carolyn F. McKnight-Bray distinguished the participants with her gracefully style. The keynote speaker for the evening was Pettis Norman, former Dallas Cowboys football player and current owner of PNI. Among Mr. Norman's many community services, he has been a long-time supporter of the V.F.W. Post 1406 and shared his visions of change for our community.

The distinguishing Veterans of Foreign Wars "Medal of Recognition" Award was given to NFL Football Hall of Fame inductee, Rayfield Wright. Other honorees for this event were:

VFW National Citizenship Education Award Nominee, Coach James Mays II, South Oak Cliff High School; Voice of Democracy Award, Jazzmen McCoy, 12th Grade South Oak Cliff High School; Patriotic Essay Winner, Jahche' Granado, 6th Grade

Faith Family Academy; Veteran of Foreign Wars Life Saving Award, Roy Binion, Fire and Rescue Officer, Dallas Fire Department; Emergency Medical Technician Gold Medal Award Nominee, John Caldwell, Paramedic, Dallas Fire Department; Firefighter Gold Medal Award Nominee, Gary Woods, Second Driver, Dallas Fire Department and Law Enforcement Gold Medal Award Nominee, Officer Carolyn Stevenson,

Dallas Police Department.

The bravery exhibited by Dorie Miller during the attack on Pearl Harbor is the inspiration for V.F.W. Post 1406. The Post is committed to providing services to the military veterans and their families in the Dallas area. As minority veterans struggle to get medical assistance, shelter and other needs, the V.F.W. Post 1406 has been there to provide support and financial assistance. The annual banquet is the major supporter for assisting these veterans in need. The commander of the VFW Post 1406 is Lee Williams.



(L - R) Dr. T.R. Lee, Jr., Dallas Post Tribune; Thurman Jones, MON The Gazette; Lee M. Williams, Commander; and Johnnie King, Jr., President of The King Group, Inc.

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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.assistanceleague-gcc.org.

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

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

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

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

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.

Strait Street is the official home of "The Yundrae Show." Every Thursday evening at 7PM, it's the live television taping of "The Yundrae Show!" It's new, it's off the chain, and it's only at Strait Street. Artists, celebrities, who's who, sports icons, and many more. The doors open at 7pm and the show starts at 7:45pm. There are door prizes and giveaways each week. Tickets are \$15 at the door. Check it out at www.theyundraeshow.com

November 23

Dinner for the Homeless

On Thanksgiving Day will be a day of serving the homeless at the Martin Luther King Community Center located at 2922 MKL Blvd, Dallas. For more information please call 214-670-8414.

November 28

Career Fairs

Its the High Tech and Security Clearance Career Fair that is held from 11am-3pm. For more information please contact Targeted Job Fairs 513-251-1400 or visit the website www.targetedjobfairs.com.

U Don't Know Me The Musical The Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Inc. presents a musical of the New Generation of Urban Theatre which is about education, struggle, leaders, forgotten, and fatherhood. The musical will be held at The Black Academy of Arts and Letters located at 650 S. Griffin St. Dallas. For more information please call 214-373-8000. This musical will be held from November 28-December 3.

November 29

Stephen Fite Children's Concert

The children's concert has been described as an "interactive celebration of music and learning." This concert is for children ages from 3-7 and its from 10am-11am. Admission is \$4 per seat. For more information contact Melody House at 800-234-9228 or visit melodyhousemusic.com/concerts.asp.

November 30

Mark Curry at the Addison Improv
4980 Beltline Road #250
972-404-8501

December 1

A comic opera that is perfect holiday production. A fun and light-hearted romp and one of the world's favorite operas, the audience is sure to be dazzled and delighted with the humorous wordplay and sympathetic characters. More information please visit the site www.dallasopera.org.

sopera.org.

The Dallas Opera's the Barber of Seville

A Night of Mystery: Masquerade Ball & Silent Auction

The Kappa Zeta chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. is pleased to present a masquerade ball and silent auction held at the Radisson Hotel-Dallas located at 6060 N. Central Expwy at 8p.m. The guests are asked to wear After-5 attire and colorful masks. Door prizes will be asked awarded to the best dressed male, female and couple for the evening. Tickets are \$40 and can be purchased online at <http://www.kappazpb.org/masquerade.html>. The event benefits the March of Dimes and the Stork's Nest Charity Fund of Dallas. For more information please send all concerns to kz75@kappazpb.pair.com.

Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening Ceremony

Abounding Prosperity will have a ribbon cutting and grand opening ceremony to link African American men and their families about services ranging from HIV/STD. This ceremony will be held at the Abounding Prosperity, Inc. located at 1816 Peabody Dallas, 75216 beginning at 10am. This event is free to the public. For more information please call 214-565-9500.

HIV/AIDS

A 2-day youth drama explosion called HIV/AIDS on the Rise among Children. The 2-day play will be at the Southwest Center Mall on December 1-2. For more information contact Donna Mitchell at 972-218-9105.

December 2

Alpha Phi Alpha

The Centennial Founders' Day Luncheon beginning at 11am held at The University of Texas-Dallas located at 2601 N. Floyd Road, Richardson. Admission is \$30 per person or \$240 per table. For more information call Anthony Everett 972-230-6473 or email aeverett1906@sbcglobal.net.

December 4

Jazz Was His Name

A booksigning and a night of poetic prose featuring N.M. Shabazz and some of DFW's SpokenWord artist held at Brooklyn's Jazz Cafe located at 1701 S. Lamar St., Dallas from 7pm-11pm. Prices begin at \$15 at the door. For more information please call 214-475-8950.

December 7

Aretha Franklin

The Diva herself will be here in Dallas, live at the Nokia Theatre at 8 p.m. located at 1001 Performance, Grand Prairie. For more information please call 214-373-8000.

December 9-10

Healthfest

Come out to celebrate Kwanzaafest when they host Healthfest with various education forums about health issues such as lung & breast cancer and sickle cell anemia. The Healthfest is Saturday 10am-8pm and Sunday 11am-7pm held Centennial Hall at Fair Park, Dallas and admission is free. For more information 214-653-6671 or www.johnwileyprice.com.

December 16

The Plano Symphony Orchestra

Honorary host Mayor Mike will be presenting a musical version of

"Scrooge" at the Centennial High School Theater. Located at 6901 Coit Road, Frisco beginning at 7 p.m. and the tickets are between \$8-\$35

14th Annual Christmas/Kwanzaa Concert

The concert is a combined event with more than 200 voices from Lincoln, Carter and Madison high schools along with the Townview High School band. The concert will open up with a lobby performance by First Baptist Church Hamilton Park Hand Bell Choir. The concert will be held at 650 S. Griffin St. Dallas and the admission is \$10. For more information please call 214-743-2440.

Christmas Couple's Ball

A classy party for mature couple's (25 and up) and it's a black tie affair with amenities such as a Couple's Contest, Comedy performance and a free lavish buffet from 8-10 p.m. This ball will be held at Holiday Inn Select Ball Room located at 2645 LBJ Freeway, Dallas, 75234. Tickets will be sold at the door or on the website www.hickspromotion.com. For more information please call 214-281-1985. This mature event begin at 8 p.m.

December 27

Al Green and Etta James

Coming live to Dallas, Al Green and Etta James live at the Nokia Theatre located at 1001 Performance, Grand Prairie beginning at 8 p.m. For more information please call 214-373-8000.

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Paul Hailey

Silly me, I actually thought we were finished with O.J. Simpson.

For some strange reason, I believed white people were fresh out of hatred and loathing for Orenthal James Simpson. I also believed black people were finished being angry at O.J. for playing them like a fool during his murder trial at subsequent acquittal, (actually, very few black people got played, but I'll get to that in a minute).

Was 1994 really that long ago?

1994 was when we first associated Mr. Simpson with murder, following the gruesome June 12 stabbing death of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ron Goldman in posh Brentwood California. Up until then he was just a grinning ex football player who couldn't make it in sports commentating, but pitched cars for Hertz and appeared in some Naked Gun movies. O.J. was acquitted of the double murder in 1995.

I found out this week exactly how long memories run in these United States, at least when it comes to hatred.

For reasons that escape nearly everyone on the planet, (insert the word money here), O.J. recently announced that he was releasing a book with the ludicrous title of "If I Did It". The preposterous book was to highlight Simpson "theorizing" on how he would have killed his ex-wife and her friend "if" he had committed the murders. If this was not crazy enough, O.J. was scheduled to give a two-part interview Nov. 27 and Nov. 29 on Fox, with the book to be released on Nov. 30.

At least that was the plan until Fox owner Rupert Murdoch put the brakes on the whole shebang on Monday.

"I and senior management

The Hate Of A Nation

agree with the American public that this was an ill-considered project," said Murdoch, whose News Corp. owns both Fox Broadcasting and publisher HarperCollins. "We are sorry for any pain that this has caused the families of Ron Goldman and Nicole Brown Simpson."

That Rupert Murdoch is one funny Australian.

This is the same Fox network that has introduced us all to quality programming like "When Animals Attack".

Murdoch canceling the O.J. book and TV interview had nothing to do with taste or concern for the families of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ron Goldman. After all, the TV special was supposed to air on the final three nights of the November sweeps. None of Fox's fall shows have found an audience and the network has to wait until January for new episodes of "American Idol" and "24".

What Murdoch was referring to was the firestorm of criticism that Fox received over their tasteless sponsoring of Simpson. I'm thinking that criticism came almost exclusively from white folks.

White people hate O.J. They hate him more than Ted Bundy, Jeffery Dahmer and Son of Sam all rolled into one.

White people revile O.J. Simpson so much because he fooled them. He hoodwinked and bamboozled them. O.J. fooled white people into believing that he was one of them.

From his days at USC on, Simpson spent all of his time convincing white people that he was "different" from all the other black people. He had little or no use for black folks in his life.

One of my favorite journalists of all-time, the late Ralph Wiley, summed up the O.J. situation like this:

"White people were confused and let down, because white people had decided that O.J.

Simpson was a 'unifying symbol of all races.' Black people didn't decide that. Black people didn't think that up. Black people didn't even believe that. Who was he unifying, and to what end?"

Black people only got mad at O.J. after the trial for being black just long enough to get their support for him playing the race card during his trial. That served to only further disappoint white people.

Mary Jo Kane, a sport sociologist at the University of Minnesota said, "Up until that point (Simpson) had been accepted in white American's homes like no other black athlete had ever been accepted. So one could make the argument that he was one of us, quote unquote ... the minute he gets into a jam of his own making, what does he do? He falls back on the race card. So you really aren't one of us when it gets down to it, you are one of them."

As Ralph Wiley pointed out, O.J. fooled himself. He fooled a lot of rich and powerful white people. But he didn't fool very many black people. Black people can smell phony through a television set.

Black people weren't cheering for O.J. when the verdict was announced. They were cheering for a black face beating the judicial system. They were cheering for the late Johnny Cochran. That's why black people weren't surprised when O.J. went back to being super-white after he got off. And that's why we really didn't care whether he wrote a stupid book or not. We were all set to watch the interview on Fox.

But white people aren't through with O.J. yet. And that's why whenever he pops his huge head out from now until the day he dies, white people will make sure he feels the hate of a nation.

Paul Hailey can be reached at phailey@MonTheGazette.com

Trent Lott: Record Of A Racist

By: George E. Curry - NNPA Columnist

After expressing support four years ago for Senator Strom Thurmond's pro-segregation 1948 presidential campaign, then-Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott went on Black Entertainment Television to repudiate himself, calling his comments insensitive, repugnant and inexcusable.

Lott was apologizing for having said at Thurmond's 100th birthday party, "I want to say this about my state. When Strom Thurmond ran for president, we voted for him. We're proud of it. And if the rest of the country had followed our lead, we wouldn't have had all these problems over all these years."

When interviewed on BET by Ed Gordon, Lott, in an unsuccessful attempt to save his Senate leadership position, said he was wrong to have voted against establishing a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. federal holiday and said that he now favors affirmative action "across the board." He said, "As majority leader, I can help move an agenda that would hopefully be helpful to African Americans and minorities of all kinds and all Americans."

The groveling didn't stop there. "I'm trying to find a way to deal with the understandable hurt that I've caused," he told Gordon. "I obviously made a mistake, and I'm going to do everything I can do to admit that and deal with it and correct it. And that's what I hope the people will give me a chance to do."

And what has Lott done to "correct it?"

Nothing. On the NAACP Legislative Report Card for the 109th Congress (Jan. 4, 2005-Dec. 22, 2005), Lott received an "F," voting in favor of issues supported by the NAACP only 5 percent of the time.

Instead of contrasting Lott's words with his record, the media has been covering Lott's one-vote victory margin to

become Senate Minority Whip as a story of redemption and vindication.

An Associated Press headline proclaimed, "Sweet Redemption: Republicans return Lott to Senate Leadership." The New York Times called it an "unlikely study in professional redemption." To its credit, the Los Angeles Times noted that Lott has "a credibility problem on issues of race."

In describing Lott's noxious comments, some outlets were especially timid. For example, the Associated Press gingerly described them this way: "At Senator Strom Thurmond's 100th birthday bash, Lott had saluted the South Carolina senator with comments later interpreted as support for Southern segregationist policies."

Although Lott denied being a racist on BET, his record arguably supports such a conclusion. Both Fair.org and MediaMatters.com, media monitoring groups, have Trent's civil rights record posted on their sites, pointing out:

- In 1981, Lott filed a "friend of the court" brief opposing the IRS's decision to terminate Bob Jones University's tax exempt status because it prohibited interracial dating;

- In 1982, Lott voted against the extension of the Voting Rights Act;

- In 1983, he voted against creating a national holiday to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.;

- He voted against the Civil Rights Act of 1990, a measure that reversed five Supreme Court rulings that would have made it more difficult for people of color to win job discrimination lawsuits;

- In 1992, he spoke to the Council of Conservative Citizens, a successor to the White Citizens' Council of the 1960s, saying "the people in this room stand for the right principles and the right philosophy. Let's take it in the right direc-

tion, and our children will be the beneficiaries;"

- In 1994, he voted to terminate federal funding for the King Holiday Commission;

- In 1995, he criticized Rep. Bennie Thompson, Mississippi's lone African-American member of Congress, for seeking FBI documents on the death of civil rights leader Vernon Dahmer and

- In 2001, he was the only U.S. Senator to vote against President George W. Bush's nomination of Roger Gregory, an African-American, to the Fourth U.S. Court of Appeals.

In acknowledging to Ed Gordon that he had been wrong to vote against the federal holiday honoring Dr. King, Lott said: "I'm not sure we in America, certainly not white America and the people in the South, fully understood who this man was, the impact he was having on the fabric of this country."

Linda Chavez, a leading conservative, didn't buy that one.

"Sorry, Senator, that statement reflects willful ignorance. No one who lived through the civil rights era can fail to appreciate the social transformation that occurred through the efforts of Rev. King and other civil rights leaders."

"Sen. Lott's problem is not that he didn't understand what Rev. King was fighting for, but that, at that time, he was on the other side."

If Lott was sincere when he said he favors affirmative action "across the board," there could be no better time than now to prove it. If he's not sincere, we should see Trent Lott for what he is: a politician willing to say anything to regain power.

George E. Curry is editor-in-chief of the NNPA News Service and BlackPressUSA.com. To contact Curry or to book him for a speaking engagement, go to his Web site, www.georgecurry.com.

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Take Time To Give Thanks

By: James W. Breedlove

Throughout the history of mankind various nations and cultures sought to give thanks to their god for a plentiful harvest. The American recognition of Thanksgiving began as a feast of thanksgiving almost four hundred years ago as the Pilgrims celebrated God's bounty after surviving a harsh first year in a new land.

The tradition endured and for years was celebrated as a local custom until President George Washington declared November 26, 1789 as the first national day of prayer and thanksgiving. Following the civil war President Lincoln established the last Thursday in November as a day to acknowledge "the gracious gifts of the Most High God" that were bestowed upon America. Every president since issued a Thanksgiving Day proclamation until 1941 when Congress officially made Thanksgiving a national holiday.

As we approach and prepare for this thanksgiving there is ominous and foreboding news about terrorists, economic uncertainty, and war being drummed into our collective consciousness. The pain and suffering we experience, while bogged down in the struggle to survive coupled with the perception of worse things to come, make it hard to look up and be thankful.

I cannot speak for others, but I have plenty to be thankful for in spite of the misery bombarding my senses. Dealing with the daily challenges of mortgages, hectic schedules, bills, and personal conflicts can put a heavy burden on one's mind.

As one gets older it seems that an inordinate amount of

time is spent attending the funerals of friends and loved ones. But then in the middle of our death despondency God presents a new life in the form of a beautiful healthy baby and despondency gives way to thankfulness for the beginning of a new generation and for the loving family that made it all possible.

I am thankful that in my seventh decade of life there are still mountains to climb and stars to reach for. It still amazes me that I have the mindset and the desire to look upon each day as an opportunity to accept a fresh challenge and learn something new.

I am grateful that mother instilled in her children a firm understanding that no matter how bad things get, it could always be worse. Do not be consumed with self centered negativity but open your eyes and see those with even harsher and more immediate difficulties to face. Then the old adage, "There but for the grace of God go I", will have meaning.

I'm thankful for America, that still has free expression and religious choice, despite the humiliation of false prophet leaders that speak peace but pursue unwarranted war that has killed thousands of innocents, strained our global alliances, weakened our economy, and scuttled a number of international treaties designed to make the world healthier, more just, and harmonious. A quick look at conditions around the world reminds that freedom cannot be taken for granted.

I give thanks for the difficult times that I have overcome, and in the process gained an additional measure of confidence and an expanded base

of experiences. I am grateful for my mistakes that have provided valuable life lessons that schools and books could never teach.

Tribulations have their purpose. They make us struggle -- often bringing us to our knees. They are the prisons of personal doubt in which we find ourselves locked. It is then that faith in our God helps lift us above the doubt.

Faith and thanksgiving are partners. Faith in God encourages thankfulness because you become aware that His loving grace embraces all, even though at that moment you may be mired in one of life's hell-holes. That deep sense of peace, joy and serenity is the true barometer of your faith.

Of course you don't need a holiday to be deeply thankful for the beauty in your life. Give thanks for that which you have today. The future cannot be experienced in the present. So never let future concerns ruin the awe-inspiring amazing beauty right at hand.

The Bible stresses that the greatest praise should go to God. Give thanks to HIM for each astonishing sunrise, each breathtaking rainbow, and each spectacular sunset. Recognize that all blessings and good fortune are not of our own making. Set aside the cynicism and the bitterness, just for a moment, and get quiet, look around, look deep inside. Find something to be thankful for. And find the time to give thanks for it. There is no better place to begin than to look up in prayerful gratitude this Thanksgiving Day.

Comments or opinions may be sent to the writer at: www.truthclinic.com.

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

While you ponder that thought we would like to announce that Minority Opportunity News, Inc., formerly a Dallas based renaissance community tabloid, founded in 1991, has relocated to Plano, Texas and changed our name to MON-The Gazette. In addition to moving our offices to Plano, our editorial coverage has also shifted to encompass Dallas' Northern Corridor. The Northern Corridor is clearly the fastest growing region in Texas, if not in America. MON-The Gazette believes that the engine to continue this growth is the airport expansion in McKinney, which is the largest and most visible of many area opportunities. As always, and true to tradition, MON-The Gazette will be there carving a world of opportunity for those seeking to provide quality services. Should you dare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the southern region or just want to know what is going on up north-

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

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

Forming An Investment Club? Here's a guide to get you started

Starting an investment club is a great idea, but to run it successfully, you need to do more than select a broker, pool money with a few friends, and sub-

in three easy steps:

Establish a club name, legally. Choosing a club name goes beyond a catchy phrase, such as the African American clubs, Umoja, in the Washington, D.C. area, or Sisters Together Achieving Financial Freedom (STAFF) in Miami. For legal reasons, you need to make sure no other local entity has that name. So, follow the registration process at your local County Clerk's Office, which may include announcing in the local newspaper your intent of appropriating the name.

With name in hand, download the SS-4 application from the IRS Website or call 800-829-4933 for a tax ID number, known as an Employer Identification Number. You'll need this for filing your club's annual tax return.

Next

Set membership and officer requirements. Elect officers, with each role rotating annually or biannually. Draw up a membership application and in the bylaws state the maximum number of members, specific educational seminars potential new members should attend before they can join, and whether or not they must live within a certain distance so that they can attend monthly meetings, which are typically 90 minutes to two hours long.

You can meet via conference call or online, but preferably, members "should be in the same area because an important part of an investment club is the educational portion of it," says Ken Janke, the chairman of Madison

Heights, Michigan-based BetterInvesting, formerly the National Association of Investors Corp., which has 200,000-plus members with an aggregate portfolio of about \$117 billion. "If all you're doing is sending a check in, you may as well just have a mutual fund." Plus, the face time helps maintain trust.

Establish member fees and open accounts. Set a monthly investment fee, which is the minimum amount of money a mem-

ber must contribute each month for stock purchases in order to remain active in the club. "Invest a small amount, about \$20 to \$25 a month," suggests Ann McNeill, a founding member of STAFF and the first African American female appointed to the BetterInvesting board of trustees. "I say that because people won't stay in a club if it is \$100 and they can't afford it," she says.

Plus, there are other fees mem-

Forming An Investment Page 8

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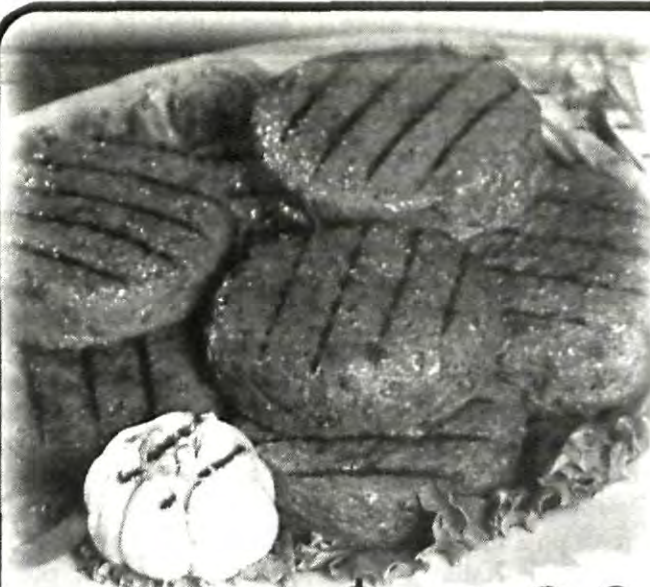
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Nick Cannon & Joy Bryant In 'Bobby': Young Actors Gain Hollywood Clout And Political Perspective

By: Kenya M Yarbrough

Today, the story of the assassination of U.S. Senator Robert F. Kennedy comes to the big screen, this time brought to audiences as a labor of love of actor/writer/director Emilio



Estevez. The film chronicles the shooting of the popular senator on June 6th, 1968, and centers around 22 people who were at the Ambassador Hotel where he was killed.

Some of those 22 characters are played by major talents such as Harry Belafonte, Lawrence Fishburne, William H. Macy, and Anthony Hopkins, but the film has also become a catalyst for craftwork for young Hollywood-ites Nick Cannon, Joy Bryant, Elijah Wood, and Lindsey Lohan.

Cannon plays a young activist and campaign volunteer who

sees Bobby Kennedy as the last hope to cement the social change of the times after the loss of President John Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.; quite a contrary role to those audiences are accustomed to. After the comedic character roles he mastered in "Underclassman" and "Roll Bounce," not to mention his very funny improv show "Wild N Out," it's seemed a tough pill to swallow to accept Cannon in such a film and such a role, but the young actor pulls off the vulnerability and humility of the character.

"I've admired Stokely Carmichael and listened to Dr. King's speeches, but even right at home, my grandparents would tell me about that time. And the character was so well written - every scene and every word that he spoke meant something," he continued. "I just took that in. I took the balance of the anger of what was going on at the time and the hope of what could happen in the future - that brought the humility to the character."

Bryant, who many remember from her role in "Antwon Fisher," continued that the all-star cast also inspired her and her castmate Cannon to really delve into the characters and the story.

As young actors who don't have the history that the film covers, Cannon and Bryant both explained that they got a lot more

out of the film than the film itself.

"It wasn't until I saw the film for the first time that I got hit over the head with a couple of things," Bryant said. "One of the messages of the film is that when Bobby



Kennedy died so did the idealism and the innocence of a nation; the hope for a better future, and the country got spun into this age of cynicism and distrust of the government. I always thought of myself as being informed and abreast of issues and what's going on in the world, and when I saw the movie, it made me look in the mirror and say, 'You're a lot more cynical than you pretend to be.' It made me think that I need to inject more optimism in my whole being and have more hope."

"Bobby" opens today, November 17, in limited release and opens nationwide November 23.

"Dreamgirls" Star Jennifer Hudson Signs Deal With J Records

Jennifer Hudson, former "American Idol" contestant and break-out star of the forthcoming Dreamgirls film, recently inked a deal with J Records.

Hudson joins fellow "Idol" alumni Fantasia, Ruben Studdard, Carrie Underwood and Taylor Hicks, who are all signed to J as well.

Hudson, who was voted off "American Idol," withstood public ridicule from the show's lead judge and executive producer Simon Cowell. However, Cowell recently revisited his original criticisms of Hudson's star power.

"Now I feel my criticism has probably had a significant part in your career, because the buzz

on you is huge," Cowell told Hudson on yesterday's episode of "Oprah." "I heard your version of 'And I Am Telling You I'm Not Going' today, and I would like to be the first to eat a massive dose of humble pie. Because there are good performances and occasionally there are extraordinary performances. That was extraordinary, Jennifer, and I feel very proud for you. I feel we had a very small part in what's happened in your life, and please thank me when you get your Oscar."

Production of Hudson's debut album is expected to begin in January, following the release of Dreamgirls.

Dreamgirls, which also stars



Beyonce, Jamie Foxx and Eddie Murphy, hits theatres everywhere on December 25.

Audio Bible Could Be The Next Holiday Hit



Samuel L. Jackson

Move over Nintendo Wii and PS3. The audio Bible might be the hit of this holiday season.

The 21-hour Bible Experience, based on Today's New International Version of the Christian holy book, is read by a who's who Black Hollywood stars, including Denzel Washington as Solomon and Samuel L. Jackson as God.

With a price tag of \$49.99, the

all-star "Bible Experience" also features Blair Underwood as Jesus, Cuba Gooding Jr. as Judas and Angela Bassett as Esther.

It is currently among the best-selling audio books on the market. Having 250 of the best-known Black artists involved in the project doesn't hurt, according to the Michigan publisher, Zondervan.

Wal-Mart reports that it has been at or near the top spot for audio books on its Web site for weeks. It has had sales of 80,000 in just over a month. The next best-selling audio Bible in the United States, also by Zondervan, clears barely 60,000 a year.

The retail chain Family Christian Stores also reports that "Bible Experience" is the fastest-selling audio Bible it has ever stocked.

The project is the brainchild of Kyle Bowser, a former television executive who, in the early

1990s, helped develop such TV shows as the sketch comedy series "In Living Color," a show with a mostly black cast that also propelled white comedian Jim Carrey to stardom, and the Charles S. Dutton situation comedy "Roc." Dutton is one of the performers on the new audio Bible.

The production includes the whole New Testament and part of the Old, an original score recorded by the Prague Symphony Orchestra and is available on CDs and MP3 format.

Its success has led "Bible Experience" producers to start work on a more ambitious Old Testament for next year.

Is the "Bible Experience" going to be on your shopping list? Do you think it's a good idea, or should people leave the Bible reading to Sunday school teachers? Talk about it.

Vocal Mavericks Take 6 Soar Into Fall-Winter With A Plethora Of Amazing Projects



Soul-scentillating multiple Grammy Award-winning vocal sensations Take 6 are in the midst of a whirlwind of exciting activity for the Fall & Winter seasons. Promoting their March 2006 CD, Feels Good - the first for their own Take 6 Records label - the sextet of Alvin Chea, Cedric Dent, Joey Kibble, Mark Kibble, Claude V. McKnight and David Thomas have rolled up their sleeves to endeavor in several multi-media projects.

The genre-defying sextet will be the subject of a rare full hour "Thanksgiving Special" for National Public Radio's (NPR's) acclaimed "All Things Considered" program with host (and longtime group admirer) Michele Norris. For the occasion, Take 6 has created its own masterful and singular 60-second theme song that will debut on the broadcast then join a plethora of other all-star versions that are rotated on a regular basis. Beyond the expected insightful interview segments, Take 6 will perform several new and classic songs live on the show.

The group is in negotiations for a one-hour television concert special for the NHK Broadcast Network (the PBS Japan) that will coincide with the March 2007 release of Take 6's first Hi-Definition concert. The DVD, directed by Gerald Wenner of Planet Dog films, will cover the band's history, influences and inspirations along with ample samplings of their jaw-dropping vocal capabilities.

Meanwhile on the concert trail, Take 6 will be sharing the stage with urban contemporary gospel duo Mary Mary for Christmas shows in Oakland (12/17), Seattle (12/19), San Diego (12/21), Los Angeles (12/22) and Cerritos/Orange

County (12/23).

Fans unable to attend the West Coast holiday extravaganzas can catch Take 6 on TV as special guest on BET's December-slated "Patti LaBelle Christmas Special." Being recorded live in Atlanta at the New

Birth Missionary Baptist Church on December 6th, the star-studded special will feature Take 6 as well as Mary Mary, Donnie McClurkin, Yolanda Adams, Wynona Judd, J Moss, the Soul Seekers and Shirley Caesar, plus

the renowned Greg Philliganes serving as Musical Director. The show will air multiple times on the network from mid-December to Christmas Day.

Later in 2007, Take 6 will take part in more of their acclaimed "Symphony Concerts" - highly coveted evenings where they team with the philharmonic orchestras of a major city. Scheduled thus far are appearances with the Nashville Symphony (at the newly christened \$55 million Schermerhorn Hall on February 22-24) and the Dallas Symphony on June 15. www.nashvillesymphony.org

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Lawmaker Says He Will Introduce Bill To Reinstate Military Draft

AP
Americans would have to sign up for a new military draft after turning 18 under a bill the incoming chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee says he will introduce next year.

Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y., said Sunday he sees his idea as a way to deter politicians from launching wars.

"There's no question in my mind that this president and this administration would never have invaded Iraq, especially on the flimsy evidence that was presented to the Congress, if indeed we

had a draft and members of Congress and the administration thought that their kids from their communities would be placed in harm's way," Rangel said.

Rangel, a veteran of the Korean War who has unsuccessfully sponsored legislation on conscription in the past, has said the all-volunteer military disproportionately puts the burden of war on minorities and lower-income families.

Rangel said he will propose a measure early next year. Although he said he is serious about the proposal, there is little evident support among the public or lawmakers for it.



Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y.

In 2003, Rangel proposed a measure covering people age 18 to 26. It was defeated 402-2 the following year. This year, he offered a plan to mandate military service for men and women

between age 18 and 42; it went nowhere in the Republican-led Congress.

Democrats will control the House and Senate come January because of their victories in the Nov. 7 election.

At a time when some lawmakers are urging the military to send more troops to Iraq, "I don't see how anyone can support the war and not support the draft," Rangel said. "I think to do so is hypocritical."

Sen. Lindsey Graham, a South Carolina Republican who is a colonel in the U.S. Air Force reserve, said he agreed that the

United States does not have enough people in the military. "I think we can do this with an all-voluntary service, all-voluntary Army, Air Force, Marine Corps and Navy. And if we can't, then we'll look for some other option."

Rangel and Graham appeared on "Face the Nation" on CBS.

Rangel, the next chairman of the House tax-writing committee, said he worried the military was being strained by its overseas commitments.

"If we're going to challenge Iran and challenge North Korea and then, as some people have asked, to send more troops to Iraq, we

can't do that without a draft," Rangel said.

He said having a draft would not necessarily mean everyone called to duty would have to serve. Instead, "young people [would] commit themselves to a couple of years in service to this great republic, whether it's our seaports, our airports, in schools, in hospitals," with a promise of educational benefits at the end of service.

Polls have shown about seven in 10 Americans oppose reinstatement of the draft, and officials say they do not expect to restart conscription.

Plano Drought Page 1

foundations and trees may be used as often as deemed necessary by the property owner (except between the hours of 10:00am and 6:00pm).

The new ordinance also provides contractors the opportunity to use power washing

equipment as long as a portable water tank is used as the source of water.

Another significant change in the new ordinance is the way that enforcement will be handled.

The process has gone from a municipal penalty process to an administrative fee process.

Instead of a citation, violators will see a small blue flag placed in the ground out by the water meter and a door hanger will be placed indicating a water violation has occurred.

For those with automatic sprinkler systems, the irrigation system will be locked off and will

not be unlocked until a fee is paid to the city. Similar provisions have been made for those who irrigate manually. Water for domestic (i.e., indoor) use will not be turned off due to water restriction violations.

"This process will be far more effective in getting irrigation

water use under control, which is one of our primary goals during a drought response stage," states Lorrie Reeves, Water Education Coordinator for the city.

Even though North Texas has received some rain lately Stage 3 restrictions remain in place. The lake level at Lavon, Plano's pri-

mary water source, remains 16 feet below normal and the recent rains have had very little effect in making up for the lack of rain this past year.

An information hotline detailing Plano's water use restrictions has been activated at (972) 769-4338.

Black Lawmakers Page 1

Ways and Means, which he called the "most important and most powerful" committee, said conservative Democrats need not worry.

"I'm excited to participate in a kinder and gentler Congress," he said. Congress under Republican leadership "was a heavy blow ... to me personally," he added. "... People not talking

to each other. It was a nightmare."

For Pelosi, the decision of whether to appoint Hastings as intelligence chairman is something of a headache. Hastings is haunted by accusations that, as a judge, he accepted a \$150,000 bribe in exchange for a lenient sentence in a perjury case.

Hastings was acquitted of bribery and perjury charges by a jury in a criminal trial, but the

House impeached him in 1989, and the Senate later removed him from the bench. When Hastings challenged the decision in federal court, a judge, Stanley Sporkin, ruled in his favor and remanded the case to the Senate. The removal was eventually upheld.

One political hurdle for Hastings to overcome in chairing such a sensitive panel as the intelligence committee stems from his

long-standing legal debts, which, according to his most recent financial statement, amounted to between \$2.1 million and \$7.35 million last year. Hastings listed assets worth less than \$15,000 in the statement, filed in May.

Pelosi's office declined to comment on Hastings's possible appointment, except to say that he and Rep. Silvestre Reyes (D-Tex.), a member of the

Congressional Hispanic Caucus, are vying for the chairmanship. She is already under fire for her decision to support Rep. John P. Murtha (D-Pa.) as majority leader, despite ethical issues in his past.

Black Caucus Chairman Melvin Watt (D-N.C.) said the Hastings decision should be a done deal. "The leadership told us a long time ago that it was

going to happen, and I believe it's going to happen," he said.

The caucus was founded in 1969 by 13 members who joined forces to address African American concerns, according to its Web site. In the recent midterm elections, its membership grew in number, to 42, and in diversity, with a Jamaican American, a Muslim and a Buddhist joining its ranks.

Aid To Africa Page 1

capital, with 94 metric tons of high energy biscuits from the UN Humanitarian Response Depot in Brindisi, Italy. A planeload of 94 additional tons is expected within days.

Yesterday, WFP launched a three-month regional air operation with fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters to transport humanitarian workers and aid to regions in Somalia and

Kenya that have been cut off by the floods. More than 1 million people have been affected in the two countries. Including Ethiopia, the UN puts the total at up to 1.8 million.

"The flooding made many roads impassable so some WFP-contracted trucks are stuck in the mud," the agency's Country Director in Kenya Burkard Oberle said. "These biscuits are an immediate response to the

worst-hit survivors."

The aid will be enough for an estimated 100,000 refugees at the Dadaab camps and another 100,000 flood-affected Kenyans for three days. A WFP-chartered helicopter today flew agency and Kenyan Government teams from Nairobi for a three-day on-the-ground assessment of needs in areas that cannot be reached by road.

The floods have displaced more than 100,000 of the estimated 160,000 mainly Somali refugees in Dadaab. UNHCR has airlifted in thousands of plastic sheets to help rebuild shelters, 28 emergency health kits, nearly 15,000 litres of fuel for vehicles and generators that power water pumps, offices, hospitals and clinics, and hundreds of shovels to fill sandbags to shore up flood defences.

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NORTH TEXAS TOLLWAY AUTHORITY PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT

The North Texas Tollway Authority will receive sealed proposals at 5900 W. Plano Pkwy. Suite 100, Plano, TX 75093, (214) 461-2049, until Thursday, December 7, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. for the following project:

Project: 02127 - Facility Management System Phase I. Generally consists of design and installation of a single computerized facility management controls system allowing control and diagnostics of HVAC and lighting at Main Lane Plaza 3, Main Lane Plaza 7, Gleneagles Phase II building (5910 W. Plano Parkway), and the ramp plazas on the President George Bush Turnpike from Preston Road east to North Garland Road. The system will communicate over a native BACnet® controller network, will be expandable to add additional facilities, and will utilize the existing NTTA Ethernet fiber-based network. Bid packet cost is \$50 and will be available Tuesday, November 14th. PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE A MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING ON November 28th AT 1:00 P.M. AT THE NTTA MAIN OFFICES IN PLANO. Contact Sherry at (214) 461-2049 for more information.

Bid packets include plans (if any), specifications, and quantities. Cost of the bid packet is non-refundable. Acceptable methods of payment include cashier's check, money order, company check, or personal check. Cash will not be accepted. Bid packets may also be examined at the NTTA offices. **In order to bid, you must purchase a bid packet from the NTTA.** Bids shall be submitted in sealed envelopes marked clearly with the project number, company's name, and bid opening date. No oral, telephoned, or faxed bids will be considered. Late bids will not be considered and will be returned unopened. To register online to do business with the NTTA, go to www.ntta.org click the "Business" link, and then on "Register". Electronic bidding information is also available online at the NTTA's Internet Home Page at www.ntta.org, under "Working With Us", "E-Bidding Opportunities", and "All Open Bidding Opportunities" links. All rights reserved.

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APPLY: 151 W. CHURCH ST. LEWISVILLE TX 75057
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Church News

If You Had One Day . . .!



Sister Tarpley

I read in Parade magazine, "If you had one day with someone who's gone, who would it be? What would you do? Pondering this since September, my mind hasn't changed. Being a family history buff, I want to talk to my great grandfathers, Nicholas Demus and Wiley Baker from Mexia, TX.

My paternal great grandfather Nicholas Demus carried the slave master's name "Means" until 1867 when news reached Texas about the Proclamation that freed the slaves; two years after it was signed.

The story that has passed down through generations is that, being a proud family man and a traveling Preacher, Means, the slave, refused the master's name. And remembering the story about Nicodemus and his encounter with Jesus (St. John 3), Means decided to take the name Nicodemus and declared his name to be Nicholas Demus; thus generations of Texas Demus' were born.

I would ask Nicholas Demus, what was going through his mind when he decided to change his name; where was he born; where did he original come from; and who were his parents? How did he learn to read and write; was he a slave before he came to Texas or did he come to Texas as a free

man to preach and the authorities ignored his rights as a free Black man and enslaved him? When did he first come to Texas; who are some interesting people that he met along the way? I would tell him how we, as his heirs, are proud of his courage and our name. I would ask him the history of Nicodemus, Kansas.

I would ask Wiley Baker, almost the same questions with a few

they walked and talked with as they were growing up; but I want to look into the history of our ancestors, to understand where we get our values, morals, and talents from; we are truly a little bit of each one of them.

Please write or email me and tell me who would be the person that you would pick and why? I would love to print some answers that I get.

Every day should be Thanksgiving for each of us; however, a special time is set aside to thank and honor God, I want to leave this prayer by Samuel F. Pugh with you:

"Oh, God, when I have food, help me to remember the hungry; when I have work, help me to remember the jobless; when I have a warm home, help me to remember the homeless; when I am without pain, help me to remember those who suffer. And remembering, help me to destroy my complacency and bestir my compassion. Make me concerned enough to help, by word and deed, those who cry out for what we take for granted."

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

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



Picture of The Week

At Mrs. Lila Turner Baker's 75th Birthday Party with immediate family & cousin; (L to R): Front, T.J. Baker, Jr., Mrs. Baker, Camille Baker. Middle Row: Mark Baker, Cynthia Baker Okafor, and Jennifer Baker. Back Row: Cousin Charles Jones, and Tony Baker, Sr.

exceptions. The paternal side of my family were older (my father, Lloyd David Demus, two years older than my mother, was the youngest child of Deacon David & Ida Rutherford Demus; my mother, Cedella Baker Demus, was the third child and the oldest daughter of James & Maggie Smith Baker. At family reunions, I have learned about the Baker's (Wiley's mother, Rhoda, his marriage to great grandmother, Mary Ann Hall Baker, etc.)

I know some people would pick others, perhaps an individual that

Judge Elect Keith Self Page 1

and the assessment and collection of property taxes from the citizenry to pay for the services funded in the budget. Such county services include the provision of county courts, law enforcement, jails, hospitals, health services, the maintenance of county roads, bridges,

dams and other infrastructure.

In the process of providing such services to the county the County Judge and the County Commissioners Court, over which he presides, conduct the business of the county by providing an effective governing administration, contracting for services and overseeing the activ-

ities of the county as the elected stewards.

"I will work to focus our county spending on those core county functions that serve all our citizens," said County Judge Elect Self. "I look forward to a lively discussion with those citizens of Plano who join us on November 29."

Church Happenings

COMMUNITY WORLD OUTREACH INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES (CWOIM)

November 26, 4 pm

Please join us for an Appreciation Celebration for Toni Nelson, Minister of Music for Miracle Temple Church of Deliverance in Dallas @ the Luxury Inn off of 35 (North West Highway & Regal Row.)

For more information and how you can help and donate to this appreciation call Minister Cheylon Brown @ 940-597-4603.

Community World Outreach International Ministries
Pastor L. Tarpley, Overseer
526 Compton Avenue
Irving, TX 75061
972-986-5552

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN

December 9, 10 am - 2 pm

You are invited to a dynamic and inspired Christian Finance Meeting on Budgeting, Credit Repair & Restoration, First Time Home Buying, and Investments and Retirement Planning; lunch will be served. "But my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus" Philippians 4:19. Reserve your spot by calling 972-359-9956.

FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH OF ALLEN

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

Senior Pastor
200 Belmont Drive
Allen, TX 75013
972-359-9956

FELLOWSHIP OF BELIEVERS MINISTRIES (FOBCC)

December 16, 6:30 pm

You are invited to our 4th Annual Holiday Musical. Our theme is "Indescribable Praise." It will be @

King Family Page 1

Mayor Andrew Young hosted the ceremony.

Monday's dedication was the culmination of Coretta King's longtime wish to be buried with her husband at the King Center, the facility she built to honor him.

When she died in January of cancer at the age of 78, Coretta King was placed in a temporary crypt in front of her husband's, which had been on an island in the middle of the King Center's reflecting pool.

Community Outreach Church, 526 Compton Road, Irving, TX 75061. Please confirm your attendance by Monday, 12-11-2006. We are asking that each of you bring good, non-perishable food items, new or used clothing for adults and children, and new toys for children.

For more information call Pastor Debra Jackson @ 214-476-8188.

Fellowship of Believers Ministries
Bishop Gregory Crawford
Founder and Senior Pastor
501 Wynnewood Village, #423
Dallas, TX 75224
214-372-3624

GRACE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

December 2, 8 am

You are invited to our First Annual Golf Tournament @ Lark Park Golf Course in Lewisville. Registration is \$85 and includes green fees, cart, range balls, lunch and door prizes. For more information, call Kim Teamer @ 972-317-1260.

Grace Missionary Baptist Church
Rev. Maurice A. Floyd, Pastor
1602 College Avenue
Lewisville, TX 75067
972-436-6131

KEEP LAUGHING PRODUCTIONS

November 25, 3:30 and 7:00 pm

We present "Laugh That Turkey Off!" This is a post-Thanksgiving, clean and comedy event for adult fellowship; @ The Plaza Theatre, Downtown Garland, 521 W. State Street, Garland, TX 75040. Comedians include Jason Earls, Ms. Vickie, Linda Stogner, John Lewis, Cleto Rodriguez and Marcus Wiley. Doors will open at 3:00 pm for the Matinee Show and 6:30 pm for the Evening Show. Call 1-866-666-8932 for tickets.

Keep Laughing Productions
Ms. Vickie, Representative
Garland, TX 75040
214-995-1499

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVERS FOR COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE (PACE)

December 1, 7 pm

For a great time and a way to help our community, join us at our Annual Christmas Gala; @ Brookhaven Country Club - The Grill, 3333 Golfing Green, Farmers Branch, TX 75224. There will be a dinner, dancing, and an auction; proceeds to benefit PACE Community Fund. Festival Attire. For more information and tickets call Lillie Lawrence @ 972-492-2651.

PACE
Patricia Hempstead, President
P.O. Box 112721
Carrollton, TX 75011-2721
972-236-1337

THE POTTER'S HOUSE OF DALLAS

December 13, 7 pm

Please join us for Man Talk - "A Man & His Estate." This is a Q & A Session for Men hosted by Chris Howell, a broadcast personality, inspirational speaker, and author of "Man Talk - (The Book) The Hard Things Men Never Talk About."

Man Talk is FREE and open to all men - from homeless men to millionaires. No registration is required.

The Potter's House of Dallas
Bishop T. D. Jakes, Senior Pastor
6777 West Kiest Blvd.
Dallas, TX 75236
214-331-0954

The left side of the new crypt reads:

"Martin Luther King, Jr. 1929 - 1968 - Free at last, Free at Last, thank God Almighty I'm free at last."

The right side reads:
"Coretta Scott King 1927-2006 - And now abide Faith, Hope, Love, These Three; but the greatest of these is Love. 1 Corinthians 13:13."

"It is so humbling that they are now side by side," said Bernice King, the youngest King child. "Like they were in the beginning

when they met. We fulfilled our mother's wishes."

Yolanda, Martin III and Bernice saluted their parents with a poem they composed and recited together - each alternating stanzas.

"After 38 years of being apart, the peacemaker and the peacekeeper are together again," Yolanda King said. "We see them on the other side, standing on the mountain top. Father saying, Coretta, I have been waiting for you. We have one last march. A march to glory."

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 11:00 am
Children's Church 11:00 am
Wednesday Prayer/Bible Study 7:00 pm
2nd & 4th Monday "Youth for Christ" 7:00 pm

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*If you need a ride to worship with us, please call the church.



NORTH DALLAS COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

"A Spiritual Oasis for a Thirsty World" Isaiah 55:1

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES:

8:00 AM • 9:30 AM • 11:30 AM

972-437-3493

1010-1020 South Sherman Street • Richardson, TX 75081

www.ndcbf.org

Dr. Leslie W. Smith,
Senior Pastor

New Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Dallas

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

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



Dr. Robert E. Price,
Senior Pastor

A Praying Church Family
"Watchmen on the Walls"

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

9550 Shepard Road

Dallas, TX 75243

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

Faithway Fellowship Baptist Church

Of Hamilton Park

8219 Bunche Dr. Dallas, TX 75243

Church Office: (972) 792-0239

Pastor's Office: (972) 792-0240

Service Times

Sunday School 9:45AM

Morning Worship 11:00AM

Wednesday Bible Study 7:00PM

PEOPLE OF FAITH WITH A MIND TO WORK

St. Luke A.M.E. Church (aka - SLAME)

"Where we slam dunk the devil and serve up Jesus"

521 W. Avenue E. Garland, TX 75040 972.487.9703

Email: slamechurch@aol.com

Sunday

8:45 a.m. Church School

9:45 a.m. Praise & Worship

10:15 a.m. Worship Experience

Thursday

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal



Reverend Charles E. Franklin, Pastor

Tuesday

7:15 p.m. Bible Study

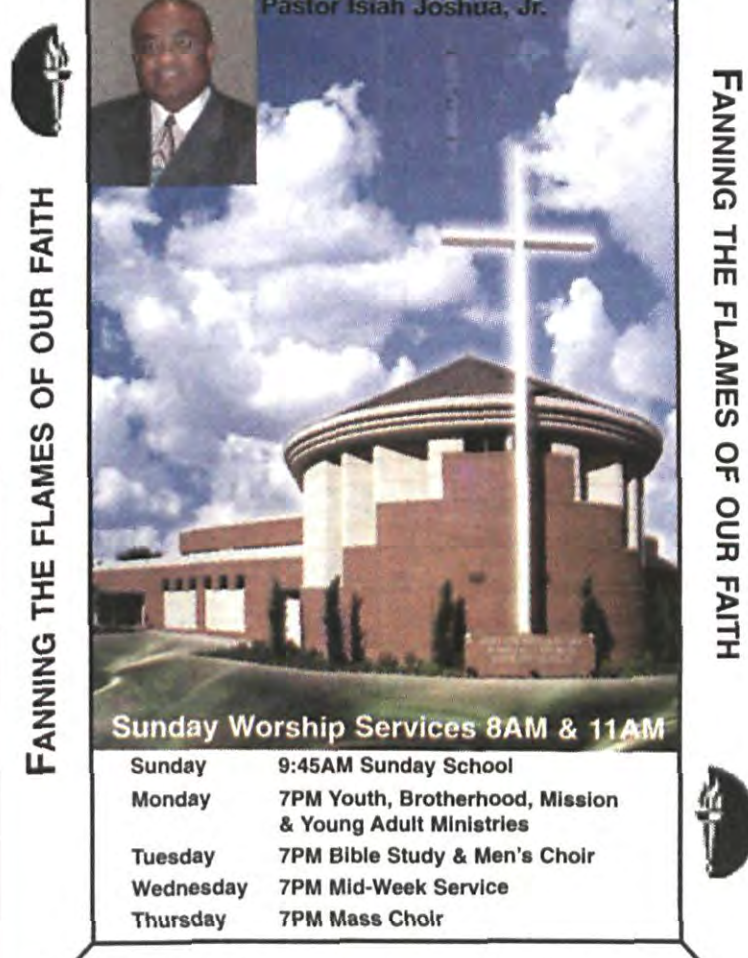
Wednesday

6:30 p.m. Prayer Service

7:00 p.m. Church School

Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church

920 E. 14th Street Plano, TX



Pastor Isiah Joshua, Jr.

FANNING THE FLAMES OF OUR FAITH

FANNING THE FLAMES OF OUR FAITH

Sunday Worship Services 8AM & 11AM

Sunday 9:45AM Sunday School

Monday 7PM Youth, Brotherhood, Mission & Young Adult Ministries

Tuesday 7PM Bible Study & Men's Choir

Wednesday 7PM Mid-Week Service

Thursday 7PM Mass Choir

For more information call (972) 423-6695

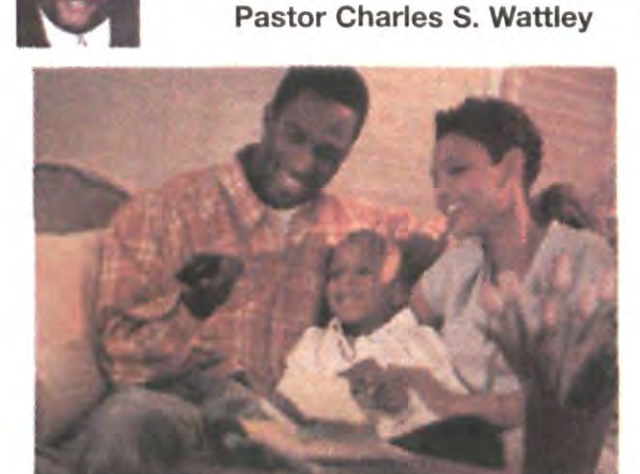
www.shilohbaptistchurch.org

Saint Mark Missionary Baptist Church



1308 Wilcox Street, McKinney TX

Pastor Charles S. Wattle



Sunday

Education Ministries... 9:30 a.m.

Worship Celebration... 11:00 am.

- Nursery Facilities Available -

Wednesday

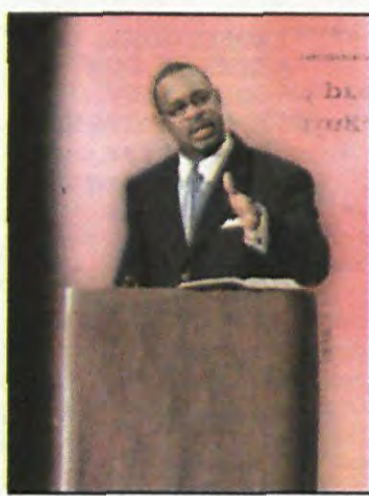
Family Ministries... 7:00 p.m.

Friendly Fellowship with A Family Focus

For More Information Call 972.542.6178

www.saintmarkbc.com • stmarkmissionary@aol.com

Three Congregations Combine For A "Stop The Darfur Genocide Worship Service"



Pastor Tyrone D. Gordani

On Thanksgiving Eve, three United Methodist Churches - St. Luke "Community", Highland Hills and Warren - will merge to celebrate Thanksgiving and remember the displaced and suffering in Darfur, Africa at St. Luke "Community" UMC, 5710 East R.L. Thornton Freeway in Dallas, at 7:00 pm.

Pastors of those congregations; Pastor Tyrone Gordon, Pastor Sheron Patterson and Pastor Perry Crenshaw decided to refocus the joy of thanksgiving into a concern that highlights the geno-



Pastor Perry Crenshaw

cide that ravages the people of Darfur. The offering collected from this worship service will be donated to Darfur relief agencies. "It's not enough for us to eat turkey dinners in peace while millions are in peril," they said. "This service will lead us toward gratitude for what we have and increased action for the suffering in Darfur."

According to Save Darfur.com, Darfur has been embroiled in a deadly conflict for over three years. At least 400,000 people have been killed; more than 2 million



Pastor Sheron Patterson

innocent civilians have been forced to flee their homes and now live in displaced-persons camps in Sudan or in refugee camps in neighboring Chad; and more than 3.5 million men, women, and children are completely reliant on international aid for survival. Not since the Rwandan genocide of 1994 has the world seen such a calculated campaign of displacement, starvation, rape, and mass slaughter.

For more information, please contact Dr. Sheron C. Patterson 972 225-1096.

Pastor With AIDS Concludes 2006 Speaking Tour With An Announcement Of A Major Book Deal

After speaking all over the country to packed auditoriums for the past year on tour from the West Coast to the East Coast and the South, Pastor Donald E. Archey, founder and President of the Archey AIDS Foundation, Inc., a Fort Wayne based AIDS organization and the overseer of New World Church in Akron, Ohio that a book deal and partnership has been reached with Tate



Pastor Donald E. Archey

Publishing & Enterprises, LLC out of Mustang, Oklahoma. Tate Publishing is one of the

largest Christian book publishing companies in the country and was awarded the Best Christian Book Publishing Company in the nation for 2006.

At the Word Conference 2006 in Akron, Pastor Archey stated, "I am pleased to announce and inform you this evening that a partnership and deal has been reached with Tate Publishing & Enterprises, LLC." Tate Publishing & Enterprises, LLC says, "We are delighted to have Pastor Archey as part of the Tate

Publishing Family!"

This announcement of the Pastor's book has brought great relief to him as the words of his world can be read and used as a reference to help educate tens of thousands if not millions of people that still don't understand the plague that has hit the African American community. The book entitled, Pastor, How Did You Get AIDS? will hit bookstores some time in 2007. A release date has not yet been set. Pastor Archey has been infected with AIDS for over 20

years and he is truly a living witness of the goodness of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ whom he has publicly acknowledged as his Savior. "God has kept me alive with HIV/AIDS for many years for his will and his purpose, not mine," Archey explained in a recent phone interview.

In addition to his book deal, Pastor, Archey was recently contacted and interviewed by JET Magazine for an upcoming feature article about HIV/AIDS. This will be another

opportunity to reach out to the minority community and provide hope about the epidemic.

At press time, Pastor, Archey has stated that a few dates have opened up for speaking engagements prior to the release of his new book. To schedule an interview for radio or television or to book a speaking engagement, please contact the Archey AIDS Foundation at 1-877-272-4920 or (260) 420-0330. You can also visit the website at www.aafoundation.net.

Community Service Announcement For Immediate Release

St John Missionary Baptist Church in partnership with the North Texas Food Bank invites the public to attend a Benefit Luncheon for The Bethlehem Foundation on Saturday, December 9, 2006. A reception will begin at 11:30am with the Luncheon beginning at

12:00pm. The speaker will be Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson and guest musician will be Dr. Richard Allen Farmer. This event will be held in the Family Life Center of St. John Missionary Baptist Church, 2600 South Marsalis Avenue, Dallas, TX 75216. Advance



purchased tickets are requested at \$30.00 per person. For information or to obtain tickets, call 214-375-4876.

The Bethlehem Foundation is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization. "For over thirty years The Bethlehem Foundation has served people who have fallen

between the cracks of the social services system within the greater Dallas area. They've carried the mandate to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, help the sick and afflicted, provide shelter to the homeless, assist with utilities and help the captives go free. The Bethlehem

Foundation exists to serve the needs of the poor, the disadvantaged, and the outcast; without regard for race, sex or religious affiliation." For more information on The Bethlehem Foundation visit them online at www.thebethlehemfoundation.org.

Forming An Investment Page 4

bers should contribute to cover periodic expenses, such as annual club and individual dues to BetterInvesting, money to pay for postage, photocopying, educational materials, and computer software for keeping track of the club's investments. Collect these membership dues annually in one lump sum and never take them out of the monthly investment fee, which is strictly for purchasing stock, says Edwards.

Open a bank account for depositing membership dues. Preferably choose a bank with no-fee savings and checking

accounts. Require two signatures to withdraw funds from savings and have two signatories, preferably the president and the treasurer, on the checking account, but allow either the ability to write a check for small amounts—coordinating schedules to cut an \$80 check may not be worth the hassle.

And finally, select a broker. Whether it's a discount broker or an online broker, they will tell you which forms and requirements are needed to open your investment account.

Although these are three general areas to get you going, there is no need to go it alone. Many

established BetterInvesting members will happily offer you advice and even share copies of their bylaws that you can amend to your own. There are also workshops offered by local chapters on how to understand stocks, an

annual conference, and a subscription to BetterInvesting Magazine. Other educational materials will also be available to you as a member. For more information, go to www.betterinvesting.org.

EBENEZER WORSHIP CENTER

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

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

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

Rev. Cecil T. Smith, II
Senior Pastor

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

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

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

New Life Fellowship Church of Rowlett
Bishop Miller E. Johnson, Senior Pastor
New Worship Home
7401 Miller Road • Rowlett, TX 75088
972-463-4964

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.

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

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

Website: www.ibocjoy.org

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

Email: church@bwbcirving.org
Web: bwbcirving.org

"THE CHURCH WITH AN OPEN BIBLE"

Sunday Worship Services
8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
6:00 p.m. Baptist Training Union

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

Friendship Baptist Church
Dr. C. Paul McBride, Pastor

Schedule of Services:

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

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

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

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

Macedonia Ministries
702 S. Mill Street • Lewisville, TX 75057
972-436-2011

"We Choose Love to Nourish and Cherish One Another"
John 13:34 & Ephesians 5:28-29
www.macedoniaministries.com

T.J. Denson, Pastor

Saturday: Intercessory Prayer @ 7:00 am
Sunday Services: Sunday School @ 9:30 am • Morning Worship @ 11:00 am
Monday Service: Men's Group & Women's Group Bible Study @ 6:30 pm
Wednesday Service: Family Bible Study @ 6:30 pm

If You Do Only One Thing for Your Family This Month . . .
. . . Make Sure They are Protected in case of an Emergency.

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To help you take care of this important responsibility, we are offering a **FREE Simplicity Planner** preplanning guide.

Call 972-238-7111 today!
(Don't wait until it's too late to make your final wishes known)

Schools are starting; students are college-bound, and people are joining the workforce. We wish you good health and prosperity. Now do "The Simplicity Plan" for family security and peace of mind.

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