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memorial day**

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banned in
McKinney**

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in the ring**

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The Gazette

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SERVING PLANO, DALLAS, RICHARDSON, ALLEN, MCKINNEY AND FRISCO

Volume X, Number XI

"The Paper of Choice"

June 1-15, 2001



EBAY bans Nazi and KKK goods

(Special to the NNPA) - Ebay, the popular online auction site, has banned items associated with the Ku Klux Klan, Nazis or any other hate items. Ebay officials also said it would extend its new policy to murder souvenirs, including the artwork and letters of criminals, medallions with nooses and whips from the 1800s, and Klansmen postcards.

Bush says no price caps on electricity

President Bush says won't force down soaring electricity prices that have cost California nearly \$8 billion since January. Bush opposes price limits on wholesale electricity that utilities buy, arguing they do nothing to address supply-and-demand issues at the heart of the crisis.

Site sheds light on human arrival

ALLEDALE, S.C. (AP) - Some chipped tools and stone flakes found on a hill above a remote and wooded stretch of the Savannah River may show humans arrived in America about 3,000 years earlier than first thought. The finds are the latest evidence that the continent was inhabited 15,000 years ago, well before the end of the last Ice Age around 10,000 years ago. The area may have served as a sort of workshop, where prehistoric people made the implements they needed for working wood and scraping animal hides.

Red Cross raises blood prices

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Red Cross, which supplies about half of the nation's donor supply, is telling hospitals of its plans to raise the cost of a pint of blood by July, with prices being determined by local blood centers. The extra funds will be used to help pay off roughly \$300 million in debt the organization has accrued in implementing blood safety measures. The typical pint of red blood cell product now costs \$130 to \$150.

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Bridal retailers in north Dallas offer value, variety

By Delicia Carter
Gazette Senior Writer

Choosing a bridal gown and a wedding cake are two very important aspects of a wedding. A bride-to-be



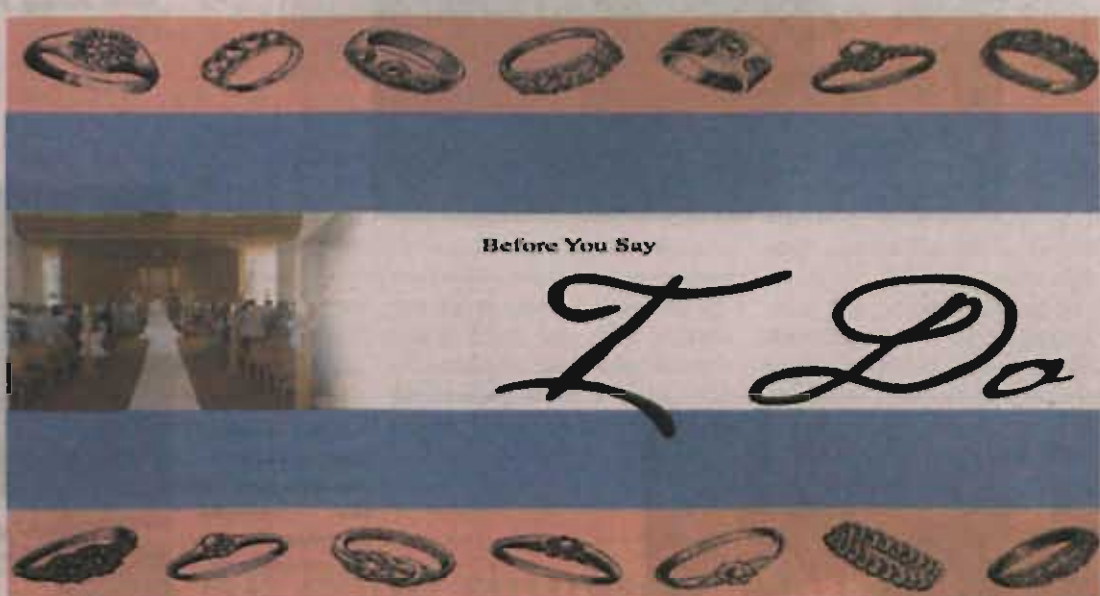
Bride-to-be Trina Hickman and mother Marva Hickman try on dresses at David's Bridal. The store has several locations in the Dallas area.

Photos by Lori's Photography

spends countless hours in bridal shops and bakeries trying to find the perfect dress and cake. The dress should match the bride's style and the fashion of the wedding



Jerri Kopecky, owner of Cake Carousel in Richardson displays one of her company's many creations.



Before You Say

I Do

and reception. The cake should symbolize the couple and their commitment.

Give yourself plenty of time to research all possibilities of gown and cake choices. If you are having a formal wedding, choose a formal cake and gown. Everything about the wedding and reception should work together like a symphony to make a beautiful presentation. The gown and cake represent major improvements of that symphony.

Before you go gown

shopping, look at bridal magazines and get some ideas of what you like and think about the type of wedding and reception you will have. Outline your budget for dress, shoes, veil,



Trina Hickman models a popular style of engagement ring. Many brides are opting for separate wedding and engagement rings instead of the traditional band and ring set.

Bridal gowns can sell anywhere from \$100 to \$10,000. No matter what the price, the gown should fit the bride's fashion and should make her feel like a princess.

In the Dallas area, there are many bridal shops from which to choose. You can buy anywhere from haute couture to



A cake from Willie Mae's Bakery in Plano is featured here. The bakery features moderately priced cakes and also provides delivery service.

See I DO Page 9

Texans can expect more fees, tighter driving rules

By Connie Mabin
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN (AP) - When the ink is dry on more than 1,100 pieces of new legislation this year, Texans can expect higher vehicle fees, tougher drunken driving laws and longer summer breaks for schoolchildren.

Other ways the average Texan will be affected will become clearer after the 140-day session comes to a close Monday.

Rural residents might see speed limits rise to 75 miles per hour on some highways, where 170 more state troopers will be patrolling.

Owners of manufactured homes who rent the land on which they live will have greater protection.

Students seeking higher education can depend on the state for more financial aid.

"While Texans won't get the final bill for several months, it was neither the best of times nor the worst of times for consumers," said Reggie James, executive director of the Southwest Chapter of Consumers Union.

Lawmakers vowed there would be no new taxes, but

they managed to pass several measures raising various fees.

Out-of-staters moving into Texas will help boost funding to clean-air programs. If Gov. Rick Perry gives the OK, registration fees for out-of-state vehicles will rise from \$1 to \$225.

The Legislature also approved increased fees on rental, lease or sale of heavy-duty diesel equipment from 0.5 percent to 1 percent.

Traffic tickets would cost \$1 more to help pay for equipment needed under legislation banning the use of racial profiling by law enforcement.

"Taxes or fees? For consumers who are paying the bills, it doesn't really matter," James said.

James noted that the Legislature rejected repeated attempts by Rep. Sylvester Turner, D-Houston, to force utility companies to refund millions in overcharges to consumers allowed under the electricity deregulation law.

Reducing the number of deaths and injuries because of drug- or alcohol-related acci-

dents was the aim of several bills passed this session.

In 1999, Texas had 1,734 alcohol-related traffic deaths, compared to California's 1,351, according to statistics provided by Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

Gov. Rick Perry has already signed legislation by Rep. Steve Wolens, D-Dallas, which increases driver's license suspension periods for those who fail or refuse breath tests.

"The message we send today is clear: Whether on the roadway or the waterway, if you drink and drive in Texas there will be consequences," Perry said when signing the bill.

The law also expands the driver's license revocation for boat operators under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

People who do not strap their young children into car seats and safety belts could face higher fines.

Existing fines range between \$25 and \$50, but under the bill by Rep. Trey Martinez-Fischer, D-San Antonio, the fines would range

from \$100 to \$200. Half of the money generated from the fines would help support Texas trauma centers.

A new prepaid tuition savings plan, sponsored by Rep. Rob Junell, D-San Angelo, and Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, would allow parents to invest savings in mutual fund portfolios, potentially providing greater returns. But it also is riskier and the state won't guarantee investments.

Come Sept. 1, there will be no more legal open containers of alcohol in vehicles.

Summer vacation will last longer for Texas children. A bill requires school districts statewide to start their year during the week of Aug. 21, a date later than most districts now use.

The legislation was intended to stop schools from discriminating against migrant students who can't follow most school calendars because of their work schedules, said sponsor Eddie Lucio, D-Brownsville.

See page 6 for more session information.

New weddings leave no room for old traditions

By Brandy Jones
Gazette Editorial Assistant

Tradition is the handing down of beliefs and customs from one generation to another; and in weddings tradition has long played an important role. Traditions are usually very dear, deeply embedded and seldom broken.

However, many couples today do not want to be bound by the rigid rules of wedding traditions followed by earlier generations. More couples are straying away from the outdated superstitions and designing their own ceremonies and writing their own vows.

"Almost anything goes these days," says wedding consultant Rhona Streit.

In her endeavors she's noticed that brides are older these days. Although the biological clock may be ticking, women are becoming more established in life and are often career women. As a result of success and age, more couples are footing the bill for their own sacred union instead of parents.

"Weddings are still in," says Louise Sweeden of Weddings and Celebrations. More and more weddings are taking place and not necessarily in traditional churches. Garden and gazebo weddings have become very popular. In fact, it is sometimes cheaper to wed in these places during the peak season between the months of May and July.

Receiving lines are no longer the run-of-the-mill. Brides and grooms are "taking time to visit with each guest" at their less formal reception serving light hors d'oeuvres versus the formality and big banquet dinners says Sweeden.

Exotic and extreme sites are also becoming a favorite. Brides and grooms are now pledging their love to each other while plummeting hundreds of miles toward earth bungee jumping or skydiving. Other couples opt for submerging deep into love while scuba diving.

Brides are even daring to show a little more skin where as the proverbial gown is being buried along with the veil. The bride used to wear mom or grandma's old, long sleeve, white as snow dress and veil. Now, the bride can be princess-like in her tiara, wear whatever color she wants, go backless, sleeveless or even wear a bikini to her tropical wedding.

Some brides are even opting for ethnic or themed weddings and encouraging guests to dress accordingly.

"Out with the old, in with the new," is no longer the saying only heard after a new year has begun, it has become the mantra of many engaged couples as well.

Community Spotlight

RISD's O'Henry Elementary School principal Mike Savage gets a friendly rub from staff members after shaving his head and mustache.

Photos by Stan R. Davis

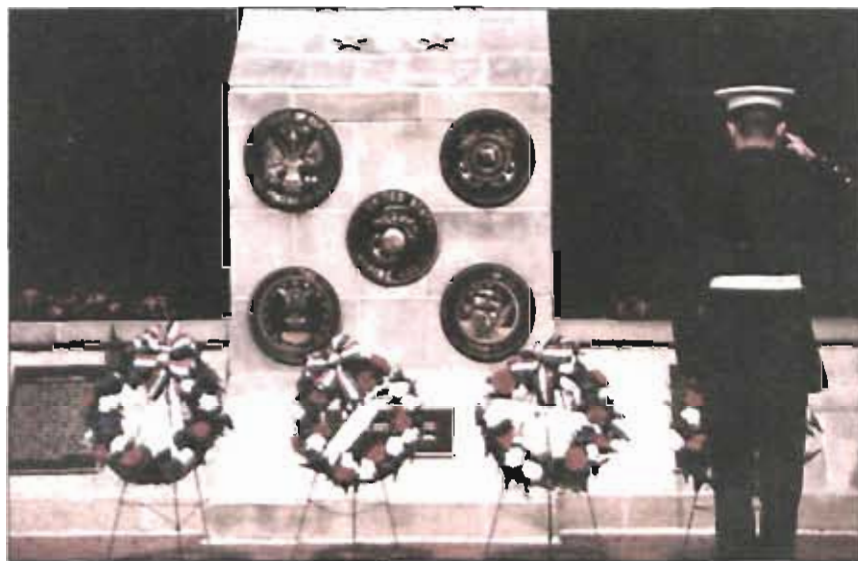


Principal Savage promised his 400 students that he would shave his head if they concentrated all year on learning and produced higher test scores. The students raised their scores and Savage kept his promise.

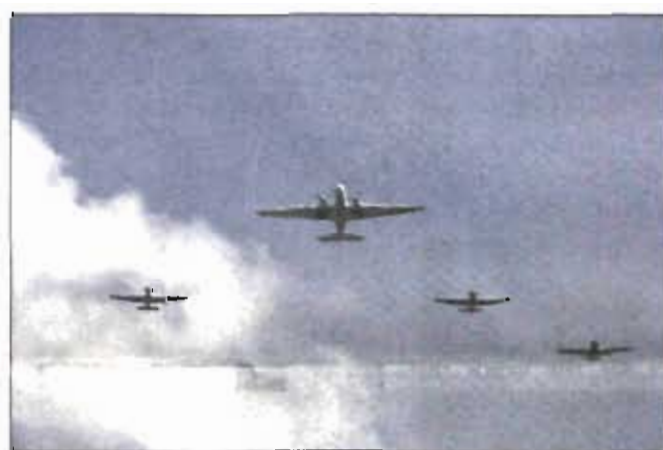


Youngsters look on as members of the Plano Community Band perform during Plano's Memorial Day celebration held at the Municipal Center.

Photos by Maggie Ybarra



A soldier pays tribute to the deceased in the various services during the ceremony.



The Texas Confederate Air Force flies in "Missing Man" formation over the National Cemetery in Grand Prairie during the Memorial Day celebration.

Photos by Lori's Photography



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Jim Jeffords: The humble patriot

By William F. Buckley Jr.

You need only know Jim Jeffords to trust his motives; I've heard it said (three times) in 24 hours. This gives a little advantage to those who don't know Jim Jeffords, because some of us do not trust his motives.

If he is trying to cast himself as an Emersonian individualist, he fails. "Jeffords, and Fellow Vermonters, Emphasize Tradition" was one headline. Individualists care naught for tradition; they care for their conscience. Most of us believe in the supremacy of conscience, but the question before the house, if inquiring about the purity of Mr. Jeffords' motives, is: What was it that triggered this geological shift in conscience?

In his statement on

Thursday he reported that he had "serious, substantive reservations about the budget" and that he anticipated disagreeing with the president on "very fundamental issues — the issues of choice, the direction of the judiciary, tax and spending decisions, missile defense, energy and the environment and ..." And? And what on earth else?

Whippoorwill? "And a host of other issues, large and small."

Anyone who has served as a Republican congressman and then senator for 27 years has had plenty of time to get the swing of things under the GOP banner. True, under President Clinton, Jeffords voted 75 percent of the time on the Clinton side of divided

issues. But that long endurance as a member of the Republican Party would have given him, one assumes, time enough to discover irreconcilable institutional differences some time before May 24, 2001. What was it that so suddenly pushed him over the brink?

His followers tell us that he is not a trivial man. Therefore we must rule out the failure of the White House to invite him to tea when a fellow Vermonter got an award as the catalytic agent of his disaffection. He was reputedly annoyed by his exclusion, but surely big men don't let an annoyance engender a political revolution.

He didn't agree with the budget. But the tax-cut part of the budget was reduced from the \$1.6 trillion President Bush campaigned for over a period of six months. That reduction, to \$1.35 trillion, was in part

the doing of Sen. Jeffords himself, which substantiates that he was having an influence of his own on GOP policy. Why didn't he complain last November that the budget was a sundering difference between him and Bush?

Differences on the judiciary? So Mr. Bush opposes abortion — but unlike Bill Clinton, has never said he would be governed in his

nominations to the judiciary only by solidarity on that subject. Missile defense became a national objective 18 years ago under Reagan. Clinton backed the idea, though not expansively. How was Jim Jeffords affronted by the White House's proceeding with a policy for which Bush had fought as a national candidate? What is it about Bush's energy policy

that explains dissolution of lifelong party ties to the GOP?

And — before we forget — just what are the "host of other issues, large and small" that made continued life as a Republican unthinkable for him?

What is dishonorable about the event is the clear exercise of what I dub the "skyjacker's leverage" — one man pulling out a pistol in a crowded airplane. You don't argue with what he tells the pilot. What Sen. Jeffords did, holding the one critical vote, was an act of consummate democratic infidelity. It is one thing to cross the aisle to plead your case for association with the other political party, building that case and aiming to seek validation in a general election. Jeffords didn't do that. He coasted along as a Republican without any significant complaint before, during and after Bush was nominated and elected.

Then the histrionic challenge loomed. Whee! Jim

Jeffords has the power to reorient the entire political composition of the U.S. Senate, with changes in the leadership of committees that preside over health, defense, human services and justice. A man of greater moral responsibility would have declined self-gratification of this kind: submitting his case to deliberative democratic processes; giving his own constituents an opportunity to weigh his case, and others their case; and, indeed, the president, his.

But the story told us nothing more than that to some people temptations are, if not irresistible, irresistible to the second-class among them. "Those who don't know me may have thought I enjoyed the limelight," he said in his press conference. "Nothing could be further from the truth." Jim Jeffords just hates the limelight, but good, brave, loyal soldier that he is; he'll just put up with it, in the service of his ego.



Senator Jim Jeffords

Staff says goodbye to Assistant Editor

For anyone who has been in business for more than a day, it is clear that one of the greatest challenges is finding competent and committed individuals to help turn your dreams into realities. Actually having this person on your team represents more than just another pair of hands. Moreover, they become a very tangible part of the heart and soul of the operation, a vital part of the success you realize.

MON-The Gazette has been blessed to have Ms. Janel Burrell as a critical part of our team in the role as assistant editor. From her first day on the job almost two years ago, it became evident that we not only had a consummate professional but, as well, one who demonstrated a real commitment to the goal of providing timely and relevant information to our readers. In fact, I clearly recall the comments of her college counselors as we considered her for employment where they said, "You really have no idea how much a much mature and competent journalist you are about to hire." Their words have proven to be true on countless occasions. Janel has brought to MON-The Gazette a level of dedication that transcended title or position and directly addressed a real interest and concern in doing whatever was necessary to deliver the absolute best publication to the commu-

nities we serve. This has frequently meant a contribution of many, many hours and a flexibility to make the best of ever-changing situations. Nonetheless, without concern or complaint, Janel has always risen to the need at hand and responded as a true and caring professional.

Now you might have surmised by this point that Ms. Burrell is leaving our newspaper family for other personal and professional pursuits. Clearly, her departure represents a major loss for us and she will definitely be missed. It has been a real pleasure working with Janel. Her dedication, discipline, calm manner and commitment to excellence leave a mark on MON-The Gazette that will continue to make us an even better publication in the future.

There are few words that can really express the level depth of appreciation we all have for Janel and her efforts. In many ways, her lasting impact will be present and her influence will continue to be felt. Suffice it to say then, that our heartfelt thoughts and prayers for future success go with Janel. She will, no doubt, continue to be a rising star in the world of professional journalists. For all that you have and will do, Janel - ookini arigatou, gracias, dhanyawaatha, kon-goi, ngeyabonga kakulu, grazzi, asante and thanks!

The time has come for me to leave MON-The Gazette. After a year and a half of serving as assistant editor of this publication, I regretfully resign.

Unlike other editors and staff members of The Gazette, I have had the opportunity to experience the paper's transformation from Minority Opportunity News in middle Dallas, to MON-The Gazette in Plano. Therefore my feelings for this paper run deep. I have

developed relationships with individuals in both areas of the city, including fellow journalists, staff members, community leaders and residents. Some of these relationships will sustain my career from this day forward. These people have helped this position become more than a job, but the start of a career.

The experience I have gained in this position has been invaluable. Being able to interact with readers has heightened

my awareness of the responsibilities of a good journalist. I have thrived on the accolades, but even more on the criticism.

This was my first journalism position after college, which made it that much more special. I came in wide-eyed and big-hearted and cultivated my skills more with each edition. Journalism for me has always been about relaying useful, accurate information to readers, watchers, listeners, etc., and at The Gazette I had

the opportunity to do this every day. The lessons learned here will serve as a guide in my future endeavors.

To the readers of this publication, keep reading, complaining, calling and writing. Nothing so excites a journalist like feedback.

I leave The Gazette a little smarter, a little braver, a little wiser; but most importantly much more thankful.

Janel Burrell

All good things must come to an end

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Janel Burrell

Inspiration

Roots and Fruits!

Matthew 12:33



Ron Shaw

A young couple planning to get married came to see me a few weeks ago. The man was concerned about the rising divorce rate. I asked them what they thought was the root cause of divorce. Their replies started me to thinking about an issue that escapes most people in relationships. Our monthly married couples session, Partners In Prosperity, deals with issues that arise in marriage from a biblical perspective. As I searched for answers to questions the couples asked, I heard the voice of God clearly state that they didn't get past particular issues because they only dealt with the fruit and not the root. The fruit is just the result of what happens at the root. If you never deal with root causes, you destined yourself to spend frustrating hours on the same results.

You keep getting the same fruit because you never deal with the root. I believe the Bible is a book of principles dealing specifically with roots. God knows that if the root is right, the fruit will be right.

Our text says to make good fruit start at the core of the tree. Jesus was questioned about divorce. In today's culture we have tried to rationalize every reason for divorce. The root cause of divorce is what Jesus describes as "hard heartedness". Therefore, if you fix that condition you get rid of its fruit, divorce. Hard heartedness means insensitivity. The quickest way to become insensitive is to never think of anyone else. Your heart will be hard and the fruit born out of this will be separation.

A church member recently asked if I thought they

should get a second job to supplement their income. The problem with people not having enough money is not that they don't have enough, but poor stewardship of their money. I've seen people with three jobs and still not better their financial situation. If you're a poor steward with one job, you'll be a poor steward with two or three jobs.

Another root is our perspective. The Bible says if we don't see straight, we won't walk straight. In other words our perspective on marriage determines our behavior in marriage.

Allow me to offer some helpful suggestions that might assist in identifying roots. Make a list of undesirable fruits you're seeing in your relationships. It's the root you must get at in order

for these to be effectively eliminated. On the same sheet make another column for roots. Begin to search for scriptures that address the fruits (individually) and make a list of those scriptures on a separate sheet of paper. After completing the list, you should be able to identify the root causes. What you're going to discover is that there are a few roots that produce a wide variety of fruits that can keep your relationships from prospering.

The Bible deals with root causes and shows us how to get the fruit we desire. Fruit determines the kind of root you have. So if what you're seeing isn't desirable, get to the root of it instead of spending time trying to replace the fruit.

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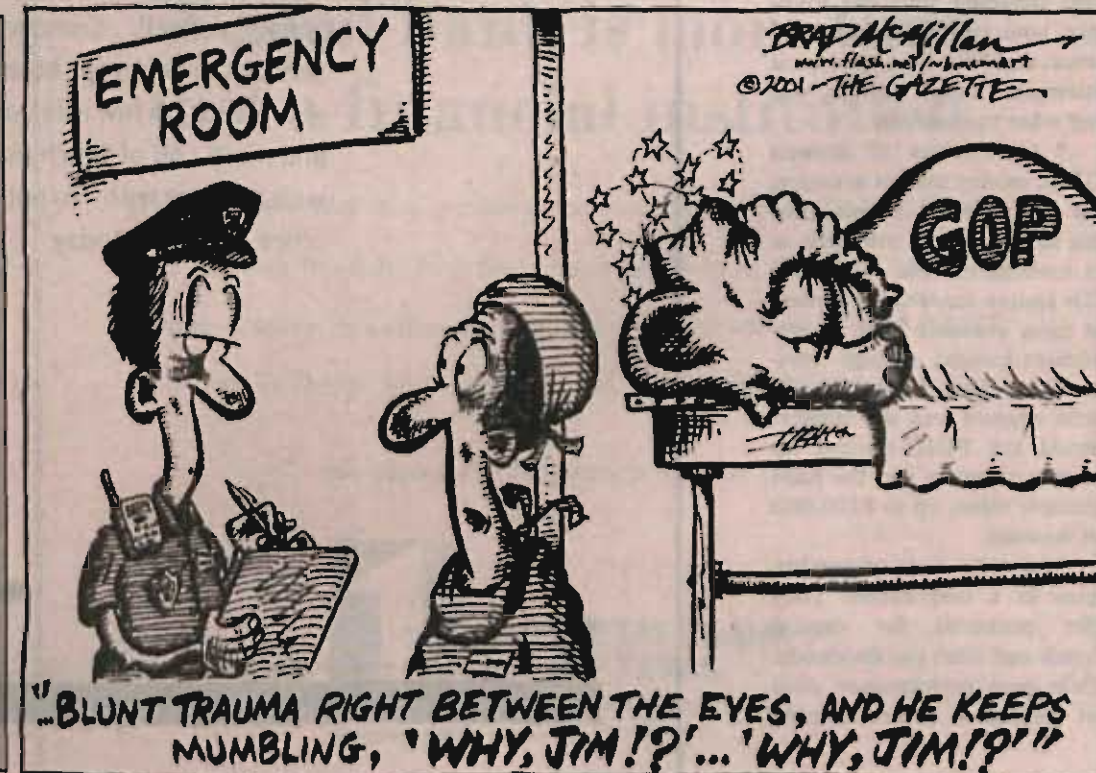
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"BLUNT TRAUMA RIGHT BETWEEN THE EYES, AND HE KEEPS MUMBLING, 'WHY, JIM!?'... 'WHY, JIM!?'"

A smart savings plan can beat lottery odds

By E. Dean Fowlkes
American Express Financial Advisors

Have you ever daydreamed about winning the lottery? What would you do if you won? Quit your job? Travel the world? Buy your dream car or vacation home? While it's fun to think about what you'd do with lottery winnings, it may not be a good way to establish a viable plan for funding your retirement years.

Unfortunately, not all Americans agree. In fact, 25 percent of respondents to a Consumer Federation of America survey believe their best bet for building retirement wealth is playing the lottery. In reality, you stand a better chance of being in a plane crash - about one in 250,000, according to the National Safety Council - than you do of winning a lottery jackpot.

How Small Sums Grow

What some lottery players don't realize is that saving even a small amount each week in an interest-earning savings or investment vehicle may provide far better odds for having a retirement nest egg. Thanks to the potential of compounding, even small sums can add up if given enough time. Keep in mind that an investment, unless a fixed product, does not guarantee a profit and will fluctuate in value.

With compounding, you can earn interest on your beginning principal and on the interest you earn each following year. Hypothetically, if you earned 5 percent interest on \$1,000 in your retirement account, you'd have \$1,050 at the end of the year. The next year, you may again earn 5 percent - but this time on \$1,050 instead of \$1,000, so you'd end up with \$1,102.50. The following year you could potentially earn interest on \$1,102.50, and so on. (These hypothetical rates of return are for illustrative purposes only and are not meant to represent the past or future returns of any specific investments or investment strategy, or to imply any guaranteed rate of return.)

Less Is More

The beauty of retirement planning means you can work towards and invest to reach your investment goals; you should begin investing early enough and have the self-discipline to leave your investment untouched.

Choose the Option That's Best for You

The types of investments you choose to fund your retirement portfolio can affect your ability to benefit from compounding. You may choose to put your money in various financial vehicles with varying strategies, such as an investment portfolio, certificate of deposit or even a savings account. Your choice depends on a number of different factors, including your risk tolerance, your current financial situation and your time span until retirement. Some options you may want to consider:

- * Certificates of deposit (CDs), money market accounts and U.S. Savings Bonds, provide steady growth with little or no investment risk. Generally, CDs feature known, fixed interest rates available from a government-insured savings vehicle. Both the principal investment amount and the interest earned are FDIC-insured on the rate of return and the fixed principle value, up to \$100,000 per account.

- * Stocks are ownership rights in a corporation. They offer potential for capital growth and often pay dividends. While past performance does not guarantee future results,

stocks have historically provided a better return than other asset classes, such as bonds and money market accounts.

- * Bonds are interest-bearing obligations issued by corporations and federal, state and local governments. Bonds produce steady income but historically have not shown as much growth potential as stocks. The value of a savings bond is at maturity, and the number of years it takes to reach maturity varies, depending on the treasury securities' market rates earned over the life of the bond.

Get Started Today

Time is what gives compound interest its power, so, if you haven't started contributing money toward a retirement fund, don't delay. If you don't already have an automatic investment plan in place, you may want to start one. Automatically depositing a set amount each month directly from your paycheck into your retirement plan and/or investment accounts can be an easy, painless way to save for the future. As such plans do not guarantee a profit or protect against loss in declining markets, an investor should determine their ability to invest in periods of market downturn.

Need Help? Ask an Expert

When it comes to making decisions for funding your retirement years, don't play

games. If you'd like help determining a retirement strategy that's best for you, consider seeking the advice of a professional financial advisor.

A qualified advisor can help you work out the details of your financial life, including showing you your retirement income projections and the effects of inflation on your investments. An advisor also can explain various investment risks, help you select specific investments and map out a long-term strategy to best meet your retirement goals. By starting now, you won't need to depend on the lottery for your retirement nest egg.

You may reach Dean Fowlkes at the contact information below. He is also available for education seminars for business or organizations.

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John
Dudley

Should you be thinking of refinancing your mortgage?

Mortgage interest rates have been on a roller coaster ride in recent years. When rates came down significantly after late 1994, many homeowners with older fixed-rate mortgages sought refinancing with a lower rate loan. Some with adjustable-rate financing sought to lock in a low fixed rate for the long term or refinance to a lower variable rate.

Refinancing a home mortgage can result in a significant monthly savings in mortgage costs. A rule of thumb says that refinancing makes sense if the current mortgage rate is at least two percentage points lower than your existing mortgage rate and you plan to stay in the home for at least two years. This "rule" is based on the fact that you will incur new closing costs by refinancing.

In fact, the decision to refinance should not be made solely according to an arbitrary rule. Rather, it should be made only after undertaking a careful financial analysis.

The costs of refinancing - prepayment penalty (if any) on the old mortgage, application fees, appraisal costs, "points" (prepaid interest), survey costs, recording fees, among other expenses - need to be taken into account. Some of these

costs may be waived or refunded by the lender. You may also be able to save additional closing costs by refinancing with your current lender. Be sure to shop around to make sure you are getting the best overall deal.

After reviewing the costs of refinancing, weigh the income-tax consequences of refinancing. Be aware that refinancing may yield some unexpected tax write-offs.

- * If you pay a prepayment penalty, it may be deductible as mortgage interest.

- * If you incurred any mortgage points that you couldn't deduct in full when you took out the old mortgage, the points had to be amortized and deducted over the life of the mortgage. When you refinance that mortgage, the remaining unamortized points may be deducted in full.

Also consider that if your refinancing means paying less annual interest, you will have a smaller mortgage interest deduction for tax purposes. Result: You may have to increase your withholding or estimated tax payments to account for the change.

Also, if you are paying points on the newly refinanced mortgage, be advised that, unlike points paid on your origi-

nal home mortgage which may be fully deductible in the year paid, your refinancing-related points are generally amortizable over the life of the new loan.

Finally, you must determine whether to take out a fixed-rate mortgage or an adjustable rate mortgage. Each comes in a number of variations, and whether one form is preferable to another depends on factors such as the longer-term trend of interest rates and, more importantly, your personal circumstances.

Deciding whether to refinance your mortgage requires careful analysis. If we can be of assistance, please let us know.

Provided by courtesy of John Dudley, a Financial Advisor with the investment firm First Union Securities in Dallas, TX. For more information, please call John Dudley at 214-740-3253. First Union is a division of First Union Capital Markets Corp., Member New York Stock Exchange and SIPC, and a separate non-bank affiliate of First Union Corporation.

First Union does not provide legal or tax advice. Be sure to consult with your own tax and legal advisors before taking any action that would have tax consequences.



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Wedding receptions can make, break wedding budget

By Delicia Carter
Gazette Senior Writer

Falling in love is simple. It does not require money or status, only two people and time. When people fall in love, they experience a union of heart and mind. When in love, the world seems to be a better place. There is goodness, happiness, love and opportunity unbound.

A wedding, on the other hand, is often costly and chaotic. Getting married requires a small fortune and the coming together of many people. It is a wedding, the most glorious day of two people's lives. Unfortunately, it is also the most stressful and expensive day of two people's lives.

Planning a wedding requires time, money and a lot of self-evaluating. The bride and groom will question their wedding day wants, not only the style of wedding and reception, but the invitations, food, guests, attire, flowers, entertainment, favors, pictures and much more.

When it comes to receptions, anything goes these days, from backyard barbecues to extravagant affairs at The Crescent Court. Receptions depend on individual styles and budgets.

Most wedding coordinators and catering companies will accommodate various budgets. It is important to find out all costs included. Tax and gratuity will be added to the final bill, but many caterers or restaurants may include other costs. Ask questions. It is better to be inquisitive than stuck with a large bill. Also, ask the caterer or restaurant if there are discounts for children attending the reception. Below are some various wedding reception ideas in the area to fit every budget:

Old San Francisco Steakhouse (Dallas)-A great place to have a wedding rehearsal dinner or smaller reception. The restaurant has a romantic feel and the servers are extremely pleasant. They also are very accommodating and will adjust store hours to fit individual needs. They will stay open later or open earlier to oblige you. They have three banquet rooms available holding approximately 100 people each, and three menu selections, starting at \$20.70 per person and increasing to \$37.70. Tax and 18 percent service charge are added to the bill. Call (214) 357-0484 for information.

Maggianno's (Dallas)-The king of elegance. This restaurant is classy and beautiful. The food is superb and the staff is professional. The food is delicious and there is plenty of it. Maggianno's does not charge a room fee for its banquet or ballrooms, but a minimum food and beverage fee for certain rooms. For example, for a Saturday lunch reception in the ballroom, a couple must spend \$4,000. Call (214) 360-0825 for more information.

Chapel of the Bells (Irving)-This chapel is very reasonably priced for weddings and receptions and they have many packages to choose from. They have a complete first class wedding package, which includes, a two-hour wedding, groom's tuxedo and cake, wedding cake, six disposable cameras, limousine, beverages, food, disc jockey for three hours, hotel room and much more. It is reasonably priced at \$4500 for 50-

75 guests for five hours. They also specialize in just weddings or receptions. Call (972) 257-1033 or visit www.chapelofthebells.com for more information.

Questions for potential reception sites

- ▼ How many people can the facility comfortably seat? How big is the dance floor?
- ▼ Is an in-house catering service offered? If it is, and if you don't wish to use it, can you bring in your own caterer? (See section on catering for more details.)
- ▼ Are tables, chairs, dinnerware, and linens supplied? What about decorations?
- ▼ Is the site an appropriate one for live music? Is there proper spacing, wiring, and equipment?
- ▼ Does the site coordinator have any recommendations for set-up and decorations? Are there florists, bands, or disk jockeys he or she can recommend?
- ▼ Can you see photos of previous reception set-ups?
- ▼ How many hours is the site available for? Is there a time minimum you must meet? Are there charges if the reception runs overtime? How much advance notice must you give if you decide to extend your reception?
- ▼ Is there free parking? If there is valet parking, what are the rates and gratuities? (If you pay for everything up front, post a sign informing your guests that the tip has been taken care of.)
- ▼ Will there be coatroom and restroom attendants? A bartender? A doorman? What are the charges?

Methodist minister touches lives with love

By Brandy Jones
Gazette Editorial Assistant

Welcomed into the open arms of St. Paul United Methodist Church, Dr. Sheron C. Patterson, the first African-American woman to be ordained in the North Texas region of the United Methodist Church, has made this historic site her new pastoral home.

Not only can Dr. Patterson be seen at St. Paul touching the lives of those in her congregation, but also she can be heard on KRNB 105.7 FM co-hosting gospel music/relationship radio programs on Sunday mornings. On a weekly basis, she shares her relationship expertise with 25 cities on the "Love Doctor" program broadcast on the syndicated ABC radio format REJOICE and published in her Dallas Examiner column. She has also been featured on Black Entertainment Television (BET), in JET magazine and is the author of five books.

The accomplishments of this Christian relationship specialist have earned her a place of honor in the national Women's Museum in Fair Park. Dr. Patterson's Love Clinic, established in 1995, resulted from observations of failed relationships. Designed to heal hearts and homes, the series combines gospel music, Christian theater and Christian comedy to give attendants a faith-based remedy to social problems. "For too long the church has been a place of shame or a place where you were too embarrassed to admit

you had problems. Jesus Christ was about pulling back the walls of deception and telling it like it really was and that's what we do. We have successfully helped people to understand that before you can fix it, you have to face it," says Dr. Patterson.

Now in its sixth year, Patterson's Love Clinic has garnered various sponsors including State Farm Insurance.



Dr. Patterson (left) with Friendship West Pastor Freddie Haymes.

Photo by Lori's Photography. They want to join in and help me do even more," says Patterson. Thanks to State Farm's support, the Love Clinic is now able to do seven clinics at seven churches, three summer camps and a closing end of the year banquet in January. Most importantly, the Love Clinic is raising funds at each church to build a Habitat for Humanity house to be called "The House that Love Built."

Dr. Patterson received her undergraduate degree from Spelman College in Atlanta, two master's degrees and a doctorate of Ministry from Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. She is married to Robert L. Patterson Sr. and has two sons, Robert Jr. and Christian.

For more information regarding the Love Clinic, visit www.theloveclinic.com or call 214-922-0000.

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Motor Scooters banned from streets, sidewalks in McKinney

The McKinney Police Department will begin enforcing Texas statutes governing the use of operating motorized scooters or skateboards on city streets and sidewalks. Motorized scooters are small

gas-powered skateboards with and without handles.

The enforcement initiative comes on the heels of a recent ruling by the Texas Department of Transportation and the Texas Department of Public Safety

that the motor boards are being classified as motor vehicles under state law, which means they are subject to registration and safety inspection requirements. Since they cannot pass safety inspections, they cannot

be registered. As a result, they are banned from city streets and sidewalks. (This enforcement does not apply to products intended as play vehicles for children, such as the little electric motorcycles for children nor does this apply to battery or gas operated wheel chairs

designed to assist the handicapped.)

The Police Department is offering a grace period to warn motor skateboarders about the enforcement. Warnings will be issued until August 31, 2001. Citations for youths under 14 will be issued to parents.

"Our goal is to prevent individuals from riding their motorized skateboards on public streets and sidewalks," said Bryan Williams, McKinney Assistant Police Chief. "This poses a danger for them and for pedestrians."

Bowie Elementary named RISD's newest National Blue Ribbon School

Contributed by RISD
James Bowie Elementary School, 7643 LaManga Drive, in Richardson Independent School District has been named a National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. Principal Jan Casner said, "The students are thrilled. They certainly feel they have been getting a blue-ribbon education. My thanks to the team that put the nomination together. Countless hours were needed to compile the information about all the positive things

happening here at Bowie."

National Blue Ribbon status is determined by excellence in school leadership, teaching, curriculum, student achievement and parental involvement.

U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige said, "These schools represent pockets of excellence in education that can be found in communities all across the country." This year, 264 public and private elementary schools were awarded the honor.

Bowie is RISD's thirteenth school to receive the National Blue Ribbon School status. Elementary schools may apply once every other year, with secondary schools being eligible in opposite years. Winning schools may apply only every six years.

Other RISD schools who have received the honor include: Pearce, Richardson and Berkner high schools, Parkhill and Richardson junior highs, and Big Spring, Brentfield, Dartmouth, Hamilton Park, Merriman Park, Moss Haven and Prestonwood elementary schools.



Capitol Watch

Session ends with more than 1,100 legislative acts

By Lakeesha Joe

The 77th Legislative session ended on May 28th, and in accordance with the Texas Constitution will reconvene again in Austin in 2003.

However, before the current session ended, the Senate passed a bill creating tougher penalties for animal cruelty.

HB 653 makes animal cruelty a felony offense. Minors who are convicted will have to undergo psychological counseling. Under current law, animal cruelty is a misdemeanor. The bill will only apply to domestic, non-livestock animals and would not affect activities such as hunting, fishing and rodeos.

Dallas Senator, David Cain, and sponsor of the bill, said that the legislation was prompted in part by an incident in Dallas in which a puppy's eyes were intentionally gouged out.

The Senate also passed a bill that focuses on problems in the nursing home industry. The Committee Substitute for Senate Bill (CSSB) 1839 addresses the crisis facing the long-term care industry in Texas.

The bill includes provisions for quality of care monitoring and dealing with violations. Other components of CSSB 1839 focus on liability insurance

rates and availability, especially a quality assurance charge capped at six percent of the per-bed rate charged by the specific home to be levied on nursing home operators.

The quality assurance charge would be used to lower liability insurance rates by reducing the number of claims, with the goal of further reducing rates by increasing the number of insurers operating in Texas. Currently, there is only one company writing liability insurance for nursing homes.

In other legislation, the Senate met to discuss redistricting. Three proposals for redistricting are currently under consideration by the Senate including CSSB 499 to redraw Texas' 31 Senate districts.

The Senate also passed HB 1200 that allows school districts more freedom to grant property-tax breaks to encourage new investment. Under the bill, the tax break can only be applied to new projects.

"In the year 2000 we were down below the 35th state in attracting new business," said Senator Chris Harris of Arlington. "We've got Oklahoma and New York both attracting more new business

than Texas does."

After much debate, the Senate finally approved a bill that will ban the death penalty in crimes committed by the mentally retarded. CSB 236 will make life imprisonment the maximum sentence in cases in which a mentally retarded person is convicted of a capital offense. The bill will only apply to new convictions. Currently, fifteen other states and the federal government prohibit the execution of the mentally retarded.

"The death penalty simply is not an appropriate sentence for people who lack the mental capacity to fully understand the consequences of their actions and it does not serve justice to execute those people," said Houston Senator Rodney Ellis, the bill's sponsor.

Under CSB 236, the judge would hold a pre-trial hearing to determine if a defendant is mentally retarded. The determination requires three tests, which include significantly sub-average general intellectual functioning, deficits in adaptive functioning and onset of retardation before maturity.

A special legislative session may have to be called to finalize rulings on redistricting.

Concord Baptist Church holds family reclamation conference

Concord Church announces the first of its kind conference on reclaiming the family to be held June 3-5. The conference's purpose is to address the pressing family needs of today's community. Dr. Larry Mercer current Vice President of Church Ministries

at Moody Bible Institute in Chicago will be the guest speaker.

"We believe that the family must be strong for the community to be strong," said Associate Pastor Rod Stodghill of Concord Church. As a community, we have lost God's view of

the family and our whole community is suffering for it". This conference will be a part of Concord's Church 2001 initiative of "reclaiming the village". Concord Church is located at 6808 Boulder, Dallas TX. 75237. For more information contact Associate Pastor Rod Stodghill at 214-331-8522.

CONFERENCE SERVICES WILL BE HELD IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

Sunday- June 3rd

8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. - Reclaiming Our Children From This Lost Generation
6:30 p.m. - Whole Children: Emotionally, Spiritually, and Physically

Monday- June 4th

11:30a.m. -1:00 p.m. - Mom's only lunch- Reclaiming Biblical Motherhood
7:00 p.m. - Reclaiming Gods Plan and Purpose for Discipline

Tuesday-June 5th

7:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m. - Breakfast with Dad- Reclaiming Biblical Fatherhood
7:00 p.m.- Reclaiming God-Order In the family When Trouble Strikes

DEPRESSED AGAIN?

The Department of Psychiatry at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center of Dallas is conducting research sponsored by the National Institute of Mental Health on cognitive therapy for depression. **Treatment is free.** The symptoms of depression include:

- Depressed or sad mood
- Loss of interest in activities
- Difficulty sleeping or sleeping too much
- Feeling slowed down
- Feeling tired or having low energy
- Feeling guilty or worthless
- Changes in weight or appetite
- Difficulty concentrating

If you have experienced these symptoms more than once in your life, are drug free and not currently in psychiatric treatment, please call the Psychosocial Research and Depression Clinic at 214-648-5351.

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McDonald's® presents "It's Showtime at the Apollo" Kids' Talent Search.

Open to kids ages 5-12; acts may contain up to two performers. To enter, fill out and submit the application along with your child's demo tape. The first place winner will receive a trip to New York and an opportunity to perform on "It's Showtime at the Apollo" and a home computer system. Not to mention the chance to compete for the Grand Prize of an appearance in a McDonald's commercial. For more information, visit us online at www.mcdonalds.com or call toll-free 1-866-294-9637. But don't wait. Enter today and let the rest of the world see your star child!

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Pre-register by sending in entry form TODAY!

Mail entry form along with an audio/visual tape of your child's performance to: McDonald's presents "It's Showtime at the Apollo" Kids' Talent Search, Attn: National Entry, PO Box 8574, Prospect Heights, IL 60070.

ENTRY FORM MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 11, 2001

Name of Child: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Please print all information. To be completed by an adult.

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Type of Performance: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

*By signing, parent agrees to send her child and agree to the Official Rules. Original entries and entries without tape will not be considered. No purchase necessary. ©2001 McDonald's Corporation.

No Purchase is Necessary. Parental Consent Required.

Must be a U.S. citizen 5 to 12 years old as of August 25, 2001. Like all other contests, with this contest many are encouraged to enter with the understanding that there will be 6 winners nationally and 1 winner in each of 12 local areas. National contest entries must be received by August 11, 2001. Mail tapes and entries to: McDonald's presents "It's Showtime at the Apollo" Kids' Talent Search, Attn: National Entry, PO Box 8574, Prospect Heights, IL 60070.

For information and entry deadlines for Regional Live Competitions in the following areas: Chicago, Detroit, Kansas City, Memphis, Jacksonville, Greenville, Atlanta, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Dallas, Sacramento and Seattle, please call toll-free 1-866-294-9637. For more information on the national or local contests, see the Official Rules at www.mcdonalds.com or send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: McDonald's presents "It's Showtime at the Apollo" Kids' Talent Search, Attn: National Rules Request, PO Box 8574, Prospect Heights, IL 60070. Void where prohibited or restricted by law. ©2001 McDonald's Corporation.

Ethnic Notes

Wedding customs, traditions; Where did they originate?

Compiled from public resources

Weddings are filled with dozens of customs and traditions... "Something old, something new and something blue..." However, in the midst of planning have you ever stopped to think about where it evolved?

Most of these customs have endured the test of time beginning centuries ago. How have they survived?

These customs have been maintained over time because such traditions carry the promise that they will bring happiness and good fortune to the couple at this transitional time in their life. Who could be brave enough to tamper with that?

What's a wedding?

In earlier days, quite often the bride was exchanged for land, political alliance, social status or currency. Indeed, the Anglo-Saxon word, "wedd" meant the groom would vow to marry the woman and the bartered goods would go directly to the bride's father. (Note: the very word "wedding" comes from the root term meaning "gamble" or "wager.")

Where does the phrase tying the knot come from?

A phrase associated with getting married, "tying the knot" refers to an ancient Babylonian custom. Threads were taken from the clothes of both the bride and the bridegroom and tied together in a knot to symbolize the union of the couple. In some cultures today, the couple's hands are loosely bound during the ceremony.

It is also said this expression originated from Roman times when a bride wore a girdle that was tied in knots that the groom

had fun untying.

Why a wedding ring?

The circular shape of the wedding ring symbolizes never-ending love. According to folklore, the ring protected the bride against evil spirits. If the bride or groom dropped it during the ceremony, bad luck would supposedly follow. Originally, rings were made of grass-like herbs like hemp or braided grass that had to be replaced every year. Early Romans chose more durable iron to symbolize the permanence of marriage. Gold has always been a popular, but more expensive choice, symbolizing lasting beauty, purity and strength. In ancient Egypt, before coins were minted, gold rings were used as currency and as a symbol of the groom's wealth and his intention to wed. To show that he trusted his wife with his money, the Egyptian husband placed a gold ring on the third finger of her left hand.

Only one ring was worn, until the 13th century. The betrothal and marriage led to separate rings. The first recorded account of a diamond ring was in 1477, when Maximilian I, King of Germany, proposed to Mary of Burgundy and offered her a diamond ring to seal his vow.

Which is the ring finger?

Ancient peoples believed that the vein in the third finger of the left hand ran directly to the heart. Medieval bridegrooms placed the ring sequentially on three of the bride's fingers to symbolize the trinity. The ring was first placed on the bride's thumb "in the name of the Father," then on the index

finger "and the Son," then the middle finger "and the Holy Spirit" before sliding it onto the third finger, saying "Amen." The ring remained on the third finger throughout the marriage. This has since become the customary ring finger for all English-speaking cultures. On the other hand, in many European countries, the wedding ring is worn on the right hand. A Greek woman wears her ring on her left hand while she's engaged, moving it to her right hand after being married.

Why does the bride wear white?

White has been a symbol of celebration for some 2,000 years, since the Roman era. In the 19th-century during Victorian times, white was a sign of affluence since it was assumed that a woman would only be able to wear a white dress once or twice until it was soiled. At the beginning of the 20th century, white became synonymous with purity. Today, white once again symbolizes the color of joy on the wedding day. Women who are remarrying may choose among many shades of white from white to champagne.

Why does the bride wear a veil?

Originally, the bride's veil symbolized her youth and virginity. Bridal veils helped brides remain modest and hide themselves from jealous spirits. Even today, in Muslim countries (Middle East, Africa and Eastern Europe), a young man is bound by constraints of religious modesty to conduct his entire courtship with his bride-to-be veiled, never being

permitted to see her face until after the wedding.

Also, because of arranged marriages and bartering, the groom's family informed him that he was to marry, but he rarely saw his bride. The family was afraid that if the groom didn't like the bride's looks, he might not agree to marriage.

In early days, veils were worn to confuse the devil and protect the bride from the evil eye. Veils were often red (color of defiance), blue (meaning constancy) or yel-

low (the classic color of Hymen, god of marriage). Early Greek and Roman brides wore flame yellow or red veils. Yellow was thought to ward off demons. Roman brides sometimes swathed their entire body with a long red veil to shield themselves from malicious spirits. Early Christian brides wore white or blue veils (a symbol of the Virgin Mary's purity). George Washington's adopted daughter, Nellie Curtis, is said to have started the custom of wearing a white lace veil. Apparently the first time

her fiancé, President Washington's aide, ever saw her, she was behind a lace curtain and her beauty mesmerized him. Nellie made herself a lace veil for the ceremony in an effort to duplicate this effect.

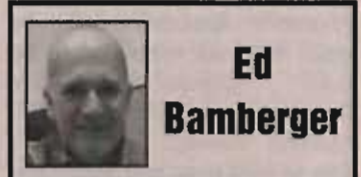
Why does the bride carry flowers?

Flowers have always represented a variety of emotions and merits—lilies symbolize virtue and roses symbolize love. Early Roman brides carried bunches of

See WEDDING Page 10

Internet News

Minorities make their mark on the World Wide Web



Ed Bamberger

This month's selections have no particular theme, but appear to be helpful and informative sites worthy of investigation.

<http://www.lib.umich.edu/libhome/Documents.center/tsoc.html> - from the University of Michigan - provides statistical resources on a wealth of topics of interest to minorities. These include aging, child support, divorce, ethnicity, food stamps and immigration.

<http://www.pitt.edu/~lmiten/indians.html> - from Lisa Mitten, an American Indian

working as a librarian at the University of Pittsburgh. This site gives American Indians a chance to tell others what they would like them to know about themselves.

<http://www.bet.com> - from Black Entertainment Television, this site devotes a section to women and deals with subjects that range from how to start a business to such matters as "three quick and easy hairstyles to wear to the gym."

<http://www.superfamily.com> - for Spanish-speaking audiences - provides a combination photo album, family calendar, address book and chat room that keeps audiences young and old glued to their computer screens.

<http://www.politicallyblack.com> - offers African Americans the latest from Capitol Hill, including how black representatives in Congress vote. The site also runs online polls to monitor the community's pulse on hot-button subjects.

<http://www.a2ol.com> - displays ongoing articles on touchy subjects that include controversial remarks about minorities made by Atlanta Braves' John Rocker and Asians not being able to realize their aspirations in show business, particularly in the movies.

I would appreciate receiving your feedback. If there are particular topics you'd like covered, please e-mail your suggestions to: MONNetNews@aol.com.

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Partnership for a Drug-Free Texas and America

For information or assistance, call
Greater Dallas Council on
Alcohol and Drug Abuse
214-522-8600

Wellness

Government funded programs available for children's insurance

By Monica Thornton
Gazette Wellness Correspondent

If you are one of thousands of Texas parents who worry about their children getting sick because they simply can't afford health insurance and doctor's visits, TexCare Partnership may be able to ease your burden.

With the alarmingly high number of uninsured children in Texas, which, according to the Texas Medical Association, currently stands at approximately 1.3 million, the Texas Legislature launched the TexCare Partnership. This is a children's health insurance campaign that incorporates the new state-federal Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), Medicaid and the Texas Healthy Kids (THK) Corporation.

THK has served as a bridge in health insurance while CHIP has been setting up. CHIP is designed for families earning too much money to qualify for Medicaid, but who cannot afford private health insurance. Eligibility for CHIP is based on family size, income, and expenses. In some families, income can be higher yet children still qualify if there are childcare expenses, payments for disabled units, child support or alimony payments, or work-related expenses. For many families, this means an annual fee as little as \$15 to cover all their children, with higher-income families paying monthly premiums of \$15-\$18. Some families will also have co-payments for doctor visits, prescription drugs and emergency care, not to exceed \$90 a year.

CHIP goes beyond the basics of coverage for doctor's visits for the flu or allergies. People can select a primary care

physician (PCP) from the list of doctors, nurse practitioners and physician assistants in the CHIP provider directory. Services also include inpatient and outpatient hospital services with semi-private room; operating, recovery and other treatment rooms. Some other services covered are speech, physical and occupational therapies, substance abuse treatment, well-child exams, vision and hearing screenings, surgeries and in-patient and outpatient mental health services.

To qualify for CHIP, a child must be:

- * A Texas resident
- * A U.S. citizen or permanent legal resident (citizenship or immigration status of the parents does not affect the child's eligibility)
- * Under age 19
- * Living in a family that meets certain income requirements

* Uninsured for at least 90 days - although certain exemptions apply, such as loss of job of one or both parents, or change in marital status of the parent(s)

CHIP contracts with private sector corporations and non-profit organizations, for improving the health of all Texans. According to the Texas Medical Association, since CHIP's inception, TexCare Partnership has enrolled more than 300,000 children in the program. Health insurance providers vary from county to county, with AmeriKids and Parkland Kidsfirst providing coverage for both Dallas and Collin counties.

The program is under the federal umbrella, which allocates \$40 billion over 10 years to states implementing CHIP. Through this, Texas could gain \$2-\$5 billion over the first five years. To receive federal funds,

states must contribute matching funds, but at a reduced rate. This means that for every \$1 invested by the state, the federal government contributes \$3. The program was implemented to reverse the growing trend of uninsured children. As the government recognized that with rising prosperity, health insurance costs still prevented parents from providing private insurance for their children.

The Texas Medical Association urges working parents unable to afford health insurance for their children to contact TexCare Partnership to see if they qualify for one of its programs. Applications can be made over the telephone or by mail. Contact TexCare Partnership at (800) 647-6558, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., and Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., or visit their Web site at www.texcarepartnership.com.

Services Provided:

- X-ray, imaging, laboratory and pathology
- Renal dialysis, respiratory services
- Radiation and chemotherapy
- Physician office and hospital visits
- Specialty physician care (on referral from PCP)
- Enhanced services for children with complex special health care needs
- Transplants
- Chiropractic
- One eye exam and one pair of glasses per enrollment year
- Emergency hospital, physician and ambulance services

Sports

Cowboys only NFL team to accept marketing clause

DALLAS (AP) - The Dallas Cowboys will be the only NFL team next season to be the private wholesaler, retailer and distributor of its own apparel, owner Jerry Jones says.

Jones, who has earlier contended he can do a better job of marketing the Cowboys than NFL Properties, said this week that Dallas will be the only team to exercise a new option allowing private wholesaling, retailing and distribution.

National Football League owners voted this week to approve a 10-year, \$250 million deal that makes Reebok the league's exclusive apparel licensee beginning in 2002, with a clause that allows each team to spin off on their own.

"I can market and sell the Dallas Cowboys better than anyone else," Jones said Wednesday. "The franchise can promote the apparel, and the apparel can promote the franchise."

Jones' franchise, under the deal, will keep any merchandise revenue over what it usually generates for the league. But if he doesn't hit that threshold, the Cowboys must still pay out the same share.

In the last five years, Jones' share of sales has been 16 percent.

Under the new deal, he must guarantee the league 16 percent, whether he goes on to sell that much or less. Anything he sells above 16 percent he pockets.

The Cowboys have led the NFL in merchandise sales in four

of the last five years. But league rules have required it to equally share revenue.

Jones has complained about NFL Properties since the mid-1990s when the Cowboys were winning Super Bowls and setting records for merchandise sales. He even threatened to withdraw when the trust between NFL Properties and NFL teams expires after the 2003 season, allowing him to regain control of his franchise's trademarks and logo.

He complained that no matter how much merchandise Dallas sold, the Steelers and Cincinnati Bengals would receive the same check from NFL Properties without exerting a fraction of the Cowboys' marketing effort.

Sports

Holyfield's last decision should be retirement



Shawn Atkinson

While watching Evander Holyfield get ripped off in the 1984 Olympics, I knew he was a special boxer. Holyfield remained poised while being denied a gold medal that everyone knew - including an Olympic committee and referee who were unwilling to admit it - he would have ultimately won. He and the world knew that he would have big paydays to come.

He also showed great acumen weaving his way up stream to win the ultimate prize in a category that was not natural to him. He had to mold his body into a heavyweight tool while breaking a record held for 20 years by the greatest boxer of all time (Muhammad Ali), in winning the heavyweight title four times.

However, why is a man with this track record making the dumb decision to engage in the gladiator-like sport well beyond his prime? Not saying that he cannot hold his own against three-time opponent, John Ruiz. Ruiz won't make Holyfield a paraplegic, but we saw the massive deterioration of Holyfield's skills when he stood flat-footed and absorbed all of the punishment from Lennox Lewis.

Like the champion whose record he eclipsed, he has stayed too long. Holyfield is my man that is why I want him to retire while there is still dignity in his game, not wait for an Ali-Holmes like embarrassment to

tell him to go. But boxers have a tendency to do that. Sugar Ray Leonard had his Ali; Holmes tried to come back after an extensive lay off, only to succumb to torn leg muscles.

The worse that could happen would be for Holyfield to



win the fight against his rival. He would leave China with his head as big as the wall. His determination would then be to regain the belts he lost for a probably untouchable fifth time. The punishment he would take on the road of what would be an unsuccessful journey is what the detractors of the game call inhuman.

BERRY EXTRAORDINARY

<p>WHERE IT COSTS LESS TO GET MORE</p>	<p>1 lb. 20 oz. Sweet California</p> <p>Strawberries</p> <p>2\$4 For 1 lb.</p>	<p>Best California</p> <p>Half Flat (6 Dry Pints)</p> <p>Strawberries</p> <p>\$4.99 Ea.</p>	<p>1 lb. 20 oz. Sweet Texas</p> <p>Blueberries</p> <p>2\$4 For 1 lb.</p>
<p>U.S.D.A. Select Grain Fed Boneless Beef</p> <p>Texas Broil</p> <p>\$1.39 Lb.</p>	<p>16 Oz. Box, Raisin Cinnamon</p> <p>General Mills Cheerios</p> <p>\$1.77 Ea.</p>	<p>1/2 Gallon, 20 oz. Blue Bell Ice Cream</p> <p>Blue Bell Ice Cream</p> <p>2\$6 For 1/2 Gallon</p>	<p>69 Oz. Powder or 128 Oz. Liquid</p> <p>Tide Laundry Detergent</p> <p>\$7.99 Ea.</p>

TRIPLE & DOUBLE
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I DO from page 1

hot off the rack. Couture gowns are more expensive, but the design is unique and the fabrics are usually real silk, satin or organza. Gowns off the rack are usually made of polyester. Preference and budget are the big factors when a bride purchases her gown.

In downtown McKinney, there is a hidden treasure for all brides. The store is The Bridal Portfolio owned by Sherry Dorman. This boutique features simple Victorian style and professes a customer service mantra, giving each bride the royal treatment. The gowns, which are simply stunning, are expensive, running between \$1,200 to \$5,400, but the shop features well-known designers and rich fabrics. All the gowns are made to order and take some time. Shop early to ensure your dress is ready before your wedding day.

The Bridal Portfolio also has many beautiful veils, tiaras, wedding books, shoes, accessories, as well as dresses for bridesmaids, flower girls and mothers. They also have less costly sample dresses for sale that range from \$599-\$1,000. Most sample sizes are either an 8 or a 10 and bridal gowns usually run one to two sizes smaller than normal dress sizes. This store prefers customers to make an appointment to ensure better service, but walk-ins are always welcome. This is the type of shop Scarlet O'Hara visited for her wedding day. The gowns are stunning and the service is unparalleled. For more information, go to www.bridalportfolio.com or call (972) 562-9779.

David's Bridal has many Dallas area locations. They have many gowns to choose from and various styles. You can find anything from long-sleeved and lacy to sleeveless and simple. Some dresses have beading, others are unadorned. This is a great place for the bride on a budget. Their gowns are economical and you can purchase your gown and take it home with you. They also have onsite alterations.

David's Bridal has jewelry, shoes, veils, dresses for

bridesmaids and mothers as well. They offer a 15 percent discount on bridesmaids' dresses if the wedding gown is purchased at the same time. The sales staff accommodates shoppers with various needs and the store has a large selection. Visit them online at www.davidsbridal.com or call (972) 458-2211.

Now, for the sweet stuff-cakes. Wedding cakes are beautiful. Most are pristine and white with beautiful decorations. Wedding cakes are popular with guests especially if they taste great and look fabulous. Wedding cakes symbolize good luck and fertility, and its traditional to gather around a bride and groom to watch them feed each cake.

Many bakeries in this area sell extraordinary wedding cakes. The Cake Carousel on Arapaho and Central Expressway has striking cakes in popular flavors such as white or vanilla with various fillings, which they sell for \$2.50 a slice. They also accommodate the brides' wishes for the style desired and will deliver for around \$50. Call Jerri Kopecky, owner of Cake Carousel, at (972) 690-4628 for more information.

Willie Mae's Bakery in Plano has magnificent cakes as well and at a great price, too. Cakes sell for about \$2 per slice and they have a variety of flavors and various styles. Purchasing a wedding cake to feed 100 people costs \$210 and they will oblige various tastes and styles. The store prefers the bride to purchase the cake at least one to two weeks before the wedding. Delivery in the Plano area runs around \$20. Call (972) 424-6716 for more information.

This world is full of customs, but new styles and traditions are ever-changing, though bridal gowns and wedding cakes tend to be traditional, there is much room to make personalize them. Take time to figure out how you want to tailor the gown and choose a cake to your taste. Most of all, remember it is a day to celebrate the unifying of you and your spouse. The cake will be eaten and the gown will end up in storage, but the memories will last forever, so make this occasion special.



Tuesday, June 5

11:45 a.m. - Ambassador Meeting
The meeting will be held in the Bob Tones Ford conference room.

Wednesday, June 6

11:30 a.m. - Ribbon Cutting
Join us for a ribbon cutting for Le Shoppe, 1681 N. Central Expwy, Suite 200. Refreshments will be served. Contact Paula LeBlanc at 972-542-6111 for more information.

Thursday, June 7

9:45 a.m. - Ribbon Cutting
Join us for a ribbon cutting for Sam's Club, 1200 E. Spring Creek Pkwy, Plano Contact Yale Scott at 972-578-0421 for more information.
4:00 p.m. - Women's League Golf
The event will be held at Oak Hollow Golf Course.

Tuesday, June 12

7:30 a.m. - Good Morning McKinney
The event will be held at the El Dorado Country Club. Sponsored by Service First

Mortgage, with guest speaker Senator Florence Shapiro.

The Chamber is pleased to welcome Senator Shapiro to McKinney. She is going to inform McKinney businesses what the current legislation will do for us and to us!

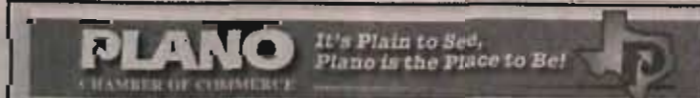
Wednesday, June 13

11:30 a.m. - Ground Breaking
Join us for a ground breaking ceremony for Ashton Woods Homes, NE corner of Hwy 121 and Lake Forest Drive. Refreshment will be served. Contact Brenda Milam at 972-490-3255, ext. 106 for more information.

Thursday, June 14

8:00 a.m. - Who Moved My Cheese? Workshop
Eldorado Country Club Certified trainer Tom Pearce with iLead Consulting and Training will facilitate the workshop reinforcing the main focus of the popular book by author Spencer Johnson, "Who Moved My Cheese?" For information, contact Terrie Keith at 972-542-0163

4:30 p.m. - Women's Golf League
Oak Hollow Golf Course Bi-weekly lesson and scramble. Contact Linda Dixon at 972-542-0163 for more information.



Friday, June 1

7:30 a.m. - Business Interchange
Event will be held at the Chamber building.

9:00 a.m. - Ribbon Cutting
Join us for a ribbon cutting for Rayfield Hypnosis at the Chamber Office.

Monday, June 4

7:00 p.m. - Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting
Meeting will be held in the Municipal Building, 1520 Avenue K.

Tuesday, June 5

7:00 p.m. - PISD Board Meeting
Meeting will be held at the PISD Administration Building, 2700 W. 15th Street.

Friday, June 8

7:30 a.m. - Business Interchange
Event will be held at the Chamber building.

Monday, June 11

12:00 p.m. - Promote Plano
The meeting will be held at the Chamber Office. Please bring a sack lunch.
7:00 p.m. - City Council Meeting
Meeting will be held at the Municipal Building, 1520 Avenue K.

Tuesday, June 12

8:00 a.m. - Public Safety Committee
Committee meeting will be held at the Chamber Office.

8:00 a.m. - Small Business Assistance
Meeting will be held at the Chamber Office. Everyone is invited to attend.

Wednesday, June 13

4:00 p.m. - Education/Workforce Development
Meeting will be held at the Chamber Office.

Thursday, June 14

11:45 a.m. - Ambassador's Club Meeting
The Meeting will be held at the Chamber Office

Friday, June 15

7:30 a.m. - Business Interchange
Event will be held at the Chamber building.

FRISCO Chamber of Commerce

Thursday, June 7

8:00 a.m. - Get on Track at 8 Networking Session
Session will be held in the Frisco Chamber Office, 6843 Main

9:30 a.m. - Ribbon Cutting
Join us for a ribbon cutting for AT&T Wireless, 3401 Preston Rd., Ste. D6.
For more information contact Dawn Sakaguchi-Harry at 972-668-4640.

1:00 p.m. - Newcomer Stuffing
Join us at the Chamber office to welcome new members.

Monday, June 11

7:00 9.m. - Town Hall Meeting
Call the chamber for more information.

Thursday, June 14

8:00 a.m. - Get on Track at 8 Networking Session
Session will be held in the Frisco Chamber Office, 6843 Main.

8:00 a.m. -Who Moved My Cheese? Seminar

Seminar will be held at the El Dorado Country Club. Seminar co-sponsored with McKinney Chamber - limited to 40 attendees. Call the Chamber for more info at 972-335-9522.

1:30 p.m. - Ambassador Officers & Team Leaders Meeting
Meeting will be held at the chamber office.

5:30 p.m. - Body Basic Training Fitness Boot Camp - 8AH
North on Preston Rd. across Hwy. 380. For more information contact Ron Lyons at 972-370-2000.

Saturday, June 16

2:00 p.m. - 50th Wedding Anniversary - The Don Hermonats
Come and join Don & Jeanne Hermonat for their Marriage Renewal Service at First United Methodist Church, 7659 Preston Rd., Frisco. A reception will be held in the Community Room of the Frisco Chamber of Commerce, 6843 Main St. at 3:00 p.m. They request no gifts please.



City of Allen

Saturday, June 9

5:30 p.m. - City of Allen Xtreme Teens Rangers Game Trip
Participants will leave from the Joe Farmer Recreation Center. Cost is \$12.

Monday, June 11

13th Annual Rotary Club Golf Tournament

Contact the Allen Chamber at 972-727-5585 for more information.

Wednesday, June 19

9:30 a.m. - City of Allen Xtreme Teens Trip to Six Flags
Participants will leave from the Joe Farmer Recreation Center. Cost is \$20.

City of Richardson



Friday, June 1

11:15 a.m. - TBC 1st Friday Management in Technology Luncheon Series
Sponsored By Fujitsu Network Services - A Division of Fujitsu Network Communications, Inc. "E-Learning"
Panelists: Jeff Stepler, Frontline Group; Joe Carlisle, Fujitsu Network Communications; Dr. Anne Ferrante, UTD; Jay Vernon, Microsoft
Radisson Hotel (formerly

Clarion - 1981 North Central Expressway)

1:30 p.m. - Ambassador Meeting

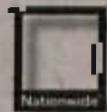
The meeting will be held at the Chamber Office, 6843 Main
5:30 a.m. - Ribbon Cutting
Join us for a ribbon cutting for Bankston Jeep & Chrysler, 6600 Hwy. 121.

For more information contact Doug Baum or Gary Burks at 972-668-9600 or the Chamber 972-335-9522.

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WEDDING

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herbs under their veils to symbolize fidelity and fertility, and to ward evil. The Greeks used ivy as a sign of indissoluble love. Orange blossoms were originally chosen by ancient Saracens to represent fulfillment and happiness, as orange tree blooms and bears fruit at the same time. Today, pretty wedding blooms convey a message of fertility, enduring love and bounty.

Why is it bad luck for the groom to see his bride before the ceremony?

Once, it was considered bad luck for the groom to see his bride and for the bride to see herself in a mirror in her wedding attire before the wedding. Because the wedding ceremony marked a break between old and new that was never to overlap, people thought if the groom saw the bride before the ceremony, she would not be pure and new. If the bride saw herself in a mirror before the wedding, it was said she would leave some of herself behind in the reflection.

Why does the bride wear something old, something new...?

This custom stems from an Old English rhyme, "Something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue and a sixpence in her shoe..." Brides throughout the decades have taken care to include these touches in her bridal outfit, a

nod to tradition and superstition. The symbolism: continuity, optimism for the future, borrowed happiness or friendship, fidelity and good fortune.

Why is a white/red runner used?

This is not just a decorative detail. In times past, women were carried to a wedding, in part to show respect, but also to protect them from evil spirits that lurked in the ground. The "red-carpet" treatment is a way to honor someone. The white runner signifies a pure pathway. Rose petals in the bride's pathway lead her to a sweet, plentiful future.

Why is it traditional to have groomsmen and bridesmaids?

Long ago, marriage by capture was the norm. A groom's friends helped him kidnap his mate and defended him against anyone who might try to steal the bride, including her family. The best man and ushers represent the warriors. At the altar, the groom always stood on the bride's right side leaving his sword hand free to defend her.

In later years, it was customary for the bride to travel to her groom's village accompanied by escorts, her bridesmaids, who would defend her and her dowry against suitors and robbers. In England, boys, or bride knights, symbolizing her innocent status escorted the bride to the church. On the way home, married men or bridegrooms escorted her.

Why do all wedding attendants all dress alike?

Under Roman law, 10 witnesses were required to make a wedding legal. To confuse the netherworld and the evil spirits that lurked at the altar, several witnesses dressed exactly alike the bride and groom. In Europe, it was common for the bride, groom and all their friends to walk together to the church. Afraid that someone, perhaps a rejected suitor, would spot the happy couple and put a curse on them, the groom's friends wore clothes almost identical to his, and the women costumed themselves like the bride, in an attempt to trick evil wishers.

Why is the bride given away?

In earlier times, when women were granted fewer personal rights, the bride was literally given to the groom in an arranged marriage. A vestige of that practice can be found in the question in the marriage service, "Who gives this woman to be married to this man?" The father responds, "I do."

Why does the ceremony end with a kiss?

From the days of ancient Rome, the kiss was a legal bond that sealed contracts, and thus, the betrothal. Christianity incorporated the betrothal ceremony into the marriage ritual. It was also believed that when a couple kissed, part of each of their souls was left behind in the other when their breath was exchanged. Occurring at the end of the rites, the kiss announces a new status.

Why is there wedding cake?

Like most rituals handed down from the ages, a wedding wouldn't be complete without more fertility symbols like the wedding cake. Ancient Romans would bake a cake made of wheat and barley and break it over the bride's head as a symbol of her fertility. Over time, it became a tradition to stack several cakes atop one another, as tall as possible. The bride and groom would then be charged to kiss over this tower without knocking it over. If they were successful, a lifetime of good fortune was certain for the new couple. Finally during the reign of King Charles II of England, it became customary for a cake to be a palatable palace iced with sugar.

According to custom, the groom's cake is either served at the reception along with the wedding cake or packed in decorative boxes for guests to take home. This was a way to share the couple's good fortune and the sweetness of married life. Custom holds that single guests who put a sliver of the groom's cake under their pillows that night will dream of their future spouses.

Why are there toasts at the reception?

Raising glasses together is a way for everyone to share in the wishing health and happiness to the newlyweds. The term "toast" comes from the Old French custom of placing a piece of toast at the bottom of the wine cup. The

cup was then passed from hand to hand until it reached the recipient of the good wishes, who drained the goblet and also got the lucky morsel. Toasts may be offered with any beverage, but champagne is a wedding favorite.

Why is the garter and bouquet tossed?

This dignified custom began in the 1300s in France, where guests used to chase the bride and tear off her garter because they believed it was good luck. To save herself, her leg and her dress, the bride began removing it voluntarily and tossing it into the eager crowd. Later, the bouquet was added to this toss. The lucky recipient of the bouquet is now believed to be the next woman in the group to get married as with the man who catches the garter.

Why is rice thrown?

In the Orient rice means, "May you always have a full pantry." In other cultures, grains such as rice and wheat symbolize fertility, prosperity and bounty. In some countries, the bride wore or carried sheaves of grain. Other societies literally sprinkled the newlyweds with grains or nuts, wishing them abundance and a large family. In Italy, wedding guests flung coins, dried fruit and candy, called "confetti." Eventually, shopkeepers sold imitation candies, or colored pieces of cardboard, to throw at newlyweds. Today rice remains a token of a life of plenty, but guests may also

throw rose petals, ecologically disposable streamers, potpourri, wheat, millet seed, safflower seed, birdseed or corn. Some guests blow bubbles, release birds or butterflies, or ring hand bells.

Why do newlyweds go on a honeymoon?

In ancient marriages by capture, the groom kept his bride in hiding for a month to prevent searching relatives from finding her. The term "honeymoon" has its origin in an early Teuton custom where couples drank a fermented honey drink, known as mead or metheglin, for 30 days after their wedding or until the moon waned. Because it was an intoxicant, it was thought to ease sexual inhibitions. Honey is an ancient symbol of life, health, and fertility. It was the couples "month of sweetness," spent alone with only each other, and a month of happiness before taking on the everyday responsibilities of marriage.

Why is the bride carried over the threshold?

The Roman bride, demonstrating her reluctance to leave her father's home (sometimes pretended out of respect) had to be dragged over the threshold to her new house. It was also believed that evil spirits hovered over the threshold of whatever house the newlyweds would enter. The bride was lifted over the entrance to keep the evil spirits from entering through the soles of her feet.

Movie Review

John Travolta stars as patriotic spy in Warner Bros. film

"Swordfish" unfolds in a world in which nothing is what it seems and every character's allegiances are obscured. "The central question in 'Swordfish' is what these characters are really up to and why," says producer Joel Silver, who has scored in recent years with such back-to-back hits as Oscar winner "The Matrix," "House on Haunted Hill," "Romeo Must Die" and "Exit Wounds." "The circumstances are constantly in question. Who is bad and who is good? Gabriel is not the film's hero, but is he really bad? And Stanley is the good guy, but how good is he really? Everything is changing and shifting and every character has shades of gray."

Two-time Academy Award nominee John Travolta plays Gabriel Shear, a man whose ties seemingly reach deep into covert channels within the government. "Gabriel is clearly a spy of some sort, or former spy," says Travolta. "You get the sense that he is someone other than who he presents himself as. He has this look of a European playboy type with the haircut and soul patch, but that's not necessarily who he is. In fact, in his mind he is not the bad guy at all."

When Gabriel sets his sights on a hidden cache of funds accumulated in a Drug Enforcement Agency money-laundering scheme - code-named Swordfish - nothing will get in his way of stealing it. "It has just been sitting there, gaining interest," Travolta explains. "And Gabriel thinks this money is really nobody's money. It's bad money, basically. So, why not take it for good use?"

"Gabriel is a patriot of sorts," Travolta continues. "He has his own ideas that are very strong about how to handle international terrorism. But you need money to do it, lots of money. And that's where this slush fund comes in."

Gabriel's plan to raid the DEA slush fund involves storming the bank in broad daylight using a dozen mercenaries, massive weaponry and hostages. But to pull off a cyber-heist of this magnitude requires the services of one of the top hackers in the world. "Computer hackers have extraordinary power and because they're young and rebellious the damage they can do is amazing," says Hugh Jackman, who shot to international attention as Wolverine in "X-Men."

Stanley Jobson (Jackman) is exactly who Gabriel is looking for.

Jackman describes Stanley as "sort of a reluctant hero. He's everyman in a way. He just happens to be extraordinary at what he does, which is being a computer hacker. Stanley didn't just hack into something for the hell of it; he hacked into an FBI program that was doing Big Brother-like surveillance on Americans. So, he went in and destroyed it."

But the stunt cost Stanley his freedom and caused him to lose custody of his daughter Holly (Camryn Grimes). "The only thing Stanley is living for is his daughter, and he has no access to her," says Jackman. "He can't see her or talk to her. So when we first meet him in the film, he is in despair."

The other love of Stanley's life, Jackman points out, is computers - but the terms of his parole prevent him from coming within 50 yards of one. "He has got a Mozart kind of ability with them," says Jackman. "He sees code the way great musi-

cians hear music in their heads." R and will open Friday, June 8.

And when one operative is apprehended trying to get through customs (and consequently murdered), Gabriel sends his most alluring associate, Ginger (Halle Berry) after Stanley.

"Ginger is a confident, smart and sexy woman," says Berry, who starred as Storm opposite Jackman's Wolverine in the hit "X-Men" and garnered accolades and a Golden Globe Award for her work in the title role of the HBO telefilm "Introducing Dorothy Dandridge." "Then she goes out to get him, she will not take no for an answer. She is a woman who is not afraid to use her sexuality to get what she wants. It takes her three tries, but she gets the guy."

At the same time, Stanley is being watched. Don Cheadle, whose performances in such films as "Traffic," "Boogie Nights" and "Bulworth" have earned universal acclaim plays burned-out cyber crimes agent Roberts. "This is the fed who used to head the largest task force on cyber crime in the country," Cheadle says. "He was the person responsible for catching Stanley in the first place. But he snapped and became violent on a suspect at his career went down from there."

"Swordfish" is rated R and will open Friday, June 8.



John Travolta and Hugh Jackman, right, in Warner Bros. Pictures' and Village Roadshow Pictures' dark counter-espionage action thriller "Swordfish."

cians hear music in their heads." Only a handful of hackers in

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Arts & Entertainment

EVENTS

On-going

The Summer Series 2001 will be held at the Majestic Theatre June 11-28 with three musical plays for children. The Series will benefit the Robert Pack Foundation. For more information call 214-370-5060.

June 1-2

The Dallas Black Dance Theatre will present "Porgy and Bess," the dance production set to the music of Miles Davis, at the Majestic Theatre at 7:30 p.m. For tickets or information call 214-691-7200.

June 1-9

RCT Theatre will present "The Wizard of Oz" during its Summer Theatre Camp for ages 8-15. For more information or registration call 972-690-5029.

June 1-23

Pegasus Theatre will present the musical "Cowboys," by Clint Jeffries and Paul L. Johnson. This play is for mature audiences. For tickets and show times call 214-821-6005.

June 1-24

The Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, 1309 Montgomery Street, will showcase photographic works from the Museum's permanent collection in a special exhibition titled "Ordinary Grandeur: Photography Since 1960." For information call 817-738-9215.

Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main Street, Ft. Worth, will present the comedy "Hedy Understands Anxiety," by Angela Counts. For information call 817-738-9215.

tion or tickets call 817-338-4411.

June 1-August 25

TBAAL will host an exhibition of eleven African-American women quiltmakers in the James E. Kemp Gallery, 650 S. Griffin Street, Dallas. For more information call 214-743-2440.

June 2

The Dallas Black Dance Theatre Academy will hold its Annual Recital at the Majestic Theatre at 2:00 p.m. For tickets or information call 214-871-2387.

June 4-July 1

Quad C Theatre will present "Shakespeare: From Page to Stage," a workshop for actors, theatre students and teachers at the Spring Creek Campus, 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway, Plano. Students must register for all 3 courses. For more information or to register call Carole Lowe at 972-881-5106 or Debbie Smith at 972-881-5107.

June 4-August 3

The Dallas Children's Theater will offer two new classes, Playwright Workshop 2001 and Musical Theater Scene Study in Shobiz Summer conservatory class sessions. For more information or enrollment call Nancy Schaeffer at 214-978-0110.

The Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd., will present KidsArts 2001 for ages 6 and older. For information or registration call 972-252-7558 or visit www.ci.irving.tx.us/Arts/index.htm.

June 5-22

The Dallas Black Dance Theatre will hold a 2001 Summer Youth Enrichment Dance Program for youth ages 9-16. The session includes classes and choreography in Ballet, Modern Jazz and African dance. For more information or to register call 214-871-2376.

June 7-23

Forth Worth Theatre, Inc. will present "Dimly Perceived Threats to the System," by Jon Klein, Thursdays thru Saturdays at the Ft. Worth Theatre, Orchestra Hall, 4401 Trail Lake Dr., For more information or tickets call 817-921-5300. This show is intended for mature audiences and would be rated PG-13.

June 8

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra will hold its free African-American Festival Concert at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center at 8:00 p.m. Pre-concert festivities begin at 7:00 p.m.

For information call 214-871-4000.

June 8-24

Dallas Children's Theater will present, "The BFG-Friendly Giant," adapted for the stage by David Wood, at El Centro College Theater, Main and Market Streets, downtown Dallas. A playwright appearance and poster signing with David Wood will be held June 22. For tickets and information call 214-978-0110. This show is recommended for families with children 7 year of age and older.

June 4-11

Junior Players will be holding a free Discover Shakespeare Camp for 6th, 7th and 8th grade students at St. Luke Community United Methodist Church, 5710 East RL Thornton, Dallas. Enrollment is limited. For more information or to register call 214-526-4076 or visit www.junior-players.org.

June 15-July 1

NM Productions Theatre Company will present "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs-The Melodrama" at The Corner Theatre, 211 E. Pleasant Run Rd., DeSoto. For tickets or information call 972-680-4466 or metro 817-784-6671.

June 16

The South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh Ave., Dallas, will host a "Batisado," a graduation ceremony for the students of "Capoeira," an African-Brazilian form of martial arts at 12:00 p.m. The ceremony is free and open to the public. For more information call 214-939-2787.

Norma L. Jarrett author of "Sunday Brunch" and Jill Darden and Michael Guinn, authors of "Back Talk: Poetic Confessions from the Soul," will be in attendance for an afternoon symposium at Old Mill Inn, Fair Park, at 10:00 a.m. For tickets or information call 972-599-2529.

TBAAL will host a Jazz & Blues Jamfest with saxophonist Stanley Turrentine, pianist Les McCann and vocalist KoKo Taylor at the Naomi Bruton Theatre at 7:30 p.m. For more information or tickets call 214-743-2440.

June 21-24

The Dallas Morning News will present "Oklahoma!" the musical by Rodgers and Hammerstein's at the UTD Theatre performed by Repertory Company Theatre. The play is suitable for the entire family. For tickets and showtimes call 972-690-5029.



Night Vibes

By Ché Hill



The Dallas Museum of Art recently featured jazz recording artist Joe McBride during their Jazz Under the Stars event. McBride, a vocalist/pianist, has been praised for putting soul back into smooth jazz, and after hearing and seeing him perform it's easy to see why. He's an instant crowd pleaser, playing a variety of melodic tunes most of which are accompanied by his soulful vocals. McBride seemed to sense what the audience needed and was adept at pulling songs from his many CD's to fit the moment.

His positive inviting manner made the crowd feel right at home as he jokingly commented, "It's good to see you all here tonight," despite being blind.

He played songs like "In the Moonlight," which was dedicated to all the ladies. He shared his inspiration for

songs like "How's It in Dallas," an up-tempo groove that's complimented by a mellow underscore that he wrote for some friends he met while in South Africa. Then McBride invited us to "check out the funk," as he played "Lower Greenville," a jam dedicated to the places where he performed when first arriving in Dallas.

The night's performance included a remake of Marvin Gaye's "What's going On," and a tribute to the great Grover Washington Jr. titled "After Sunset" featured on his "Keys to You Heart" album. "After Sunset" was a mid-tempo tune that gave reflections of the creative energy and warmth of the late horn player who was truly before his time. "Texas Rhythm Club" is McBride's latest album and just as the name states it hosts musicians solely from the Lone Star

State. "One of the things I love about the scene in Texas is how many of the players are already accomplished at their craft and respectful of the rich musical past of places like Austin, Houston and Dallas, but are constantly looking to the future to hone their skills and develop new styles. They're a new breed of contemporary jazz musicians," said McBride.

"My musical roots were definitely in the gospel music I heard in church," he explained, "but there isn't a style that I haven't embraced."

Featuring his own band on Texas Rhythm Club was something Joe felt was long overdue. His other albums all featured an impressive list of guest solo artists, including Richard Elliot, Phil Perry, Grover Washington Jr., Peter White, Rick Braun, Larry Carlton and Dave Koz.

What's Happening in the Hood

The Dallas Museum of Art will feature various artists at their 17th Annual Jazz Under the

Stars through June 21, including the Steve Soday Group featuring Pete Christleib on June 14, and

The Bell Curve June 21. For more information call 214-922-1200 or visit www.dm-art.org

Eyeing the Arts

By Stephanie Ward

So you want to be an artist. Almost weekly someone comes into my gallery asking me how to break into the art world. I love seeing these bright-eyed wonders. Their mouths are filled with questions and eyes bursting with ambition as vivid colors dance in their heads.

After I listen to their ideas, I ask them questions to determine their true level of ambition. I ask questions like how much do you paint, have you taken any classes and do you currently have a full-time job.

Those who tell me that they paint constantly and have taken at least two classes since high school, peak my attention. Or if art is really their passion, I know that I have a winner.

I give them my speech about how working as an artist is not an easy job and artwork is so subjective. One I force them to listen to a trail of starving artist stories and I see that they are not discouraged, and then the work begins.

My first piece of advice for people wanting to start a career in art is to continually paint. Then I tell them to try new mediums and styles and then find a style that works

for them and then perfect it.

Once they have art portion down to a science and have at least six good pieces

If you are fortunate enough to get an appointment, make sure you are organized and prepared. If you have slides bring a slide viewer with you. Be confident in your work but not over confident. There is nothing worse than a cocky, fledging artist.

If the gallery agrees to take your work, expect them to charge 40-50 percent commission on each sale.

Most galleries will allow you to price your own work. To develop a following, don't overprice your work. People will buy original artwork by an unknown artist for under \$500 a lot quicker than they would for an artist charging more.

Make sure that you create nice four-color post cards with pictures of your work and biography.

Start to display your artwork everywhere you can, including outdoor festivals, indoor shows and private homes. Make sure the venue you choose is conducive to the reputation you want to cultivate as a professional artist.

As your career develops, keep the quality of your work is constant. Maintain a list of buyers and invite them to shows and keep them informed about your new works. The art business is very hard work that takes time and dedication.



of art, they need to have slides made of them along with a brief biography, then contact local galleries to drum up interest in their work.

If they are interested, then the artist should try to set up an appointment for the gallery curate to see his originals. Artists should make sure they only contact gal-

eries that sell the kind of work they produce. If you paint contemporary abstracts, you should not approach galleries that sell western art, your chances increase 100 percent when the gallery already carries work similar to yours.



art, your chances increase 100 percent when the gallery already carries work similar to yours.



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Around The Town

On-going

Target: Kids in Court needs volunteers to help coordinate access to services to help expedite the processes of children in the court system with nine partner agencies. Volunteers are needed throughout the Dallas County area. For more information call Valerie Lengel at 214-634-5437, ext. 16 or visit www.kidsincourt.com.

The Latin Arts Association of Fort Worth is seeking 10-12 interns ages 13-20 for theatre arts training for a yearlong internship program. Internships will begin July 2001. Applications for the program will be accepted June 1-15. For more information call Lynda Rodriguez at 817-921-5300.

Miracle on Wheels makes available power wheelchairs to non-ambulatory senior citizens usually at no out-of-pocket expense if they qualify. Call 1-800-749-8778 or visit www.durablemedical.com for more information.

June 1-3

Journey to Healing, a non-profit cancer retreat center in the Texoma area will hold a holistic based cancer weekend retreat for cancer patients and caregivers. The center has dozens of scholarships available for the retreat. For more information call Jennifer Stalford at 972-539-5099 or visit www.journeytohealing.com

June 2

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, 1063 E. Rosedale Street, Ft. Worth, will hold the groundbreaking service for their new sanctuary at noon. The ceremony is open to the public. For more information call Norma Howard at 817-336-3878.

June 4

EXCAP's Parent Aide Program for the prevention of child abuse, will hold an orientation from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at their offices at 2820 Swiss Ave., Dallas. For more information call 214-370-9810.

June 4-8

A free Small-Scale Chemistry for Pollution Prevention in Chemistry Instruction Workshop for high school and middle school teachers will be held at El Centro College, Dallas. For information or to register call 214-860-2382.

The Dallas Sidekicks will hold an Open Tryout at the Inwood Soccer Center, Inwood Rd., Dallas, for local talent. Participants must be at least 18 years of age. For information and to register call 214-653-0206.

June 5

The Dallas Urban League and IBM will host Family Night Out technology workshops June 5, 7 and 9, at the Urban League Offices, 4315 S. Lancaster Rd., Dallas. For information or to register call 214-915-4600.

June 7-8

Galaxy Counseling Center, 1025 S. Jupiter Rd., Garland, will present "2001: The Odyssey of Family Violence Continues," conference. For more information or registration call 972-272-4429.

June 9

The RC Hickman Young Photographers Workshop will be held at the South Dallas Cultural Center at 11:00 a.m. for photography aspirants ages 10-18. For more information or registration call 972-224-0513 or visit www.artistuff.com.

The Texas Southern University Dallas Alumni Chapter will hold their 2nd Annual Scholarship Banquet at City Place, 2711 N. Haskell Ave., Dallas, at 7:00 p.m. Speaker for the evening will be judge Mary

Ellen Hicks. For tickets or information call James Pennick at 214-221-0656 or 972-768-2904.

Project Spotlight 75217 will sponsor an Anti-Gang, Anti-Crime and Anti-Violence Community Forum in the auditorium of Comstock Middle School, 7044 Hodde St., Dallas, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. For more information call 214-489-9300.

The Dallas Urban League and other agencies will host a Housing and Health Fair from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in celebration of National Homeownership Week. There will be health screening and testing and information from housing professionals. For more information call 214-915-4600.

June 13

Registration is due for the annual Hoop-It-Up, 3-on-3

basketball tournament in Dallas' West End. Participants must be at least 8 years of age. For registration information call 972-392-5750 or visit www.hoopitup.com.

June 14

Renaissance Cultural Center will hold the 8th Annual Dr. Marion J. Brooks Living Legend Awards Banquet at the Ramada Plaza Hotel, 1701 Commerce Street, Ft. Worth, at 6:00 p.m. Recipients include John Carter and Dionne Bagsby. For information or tickets call Gloria Austin at 817-922-9999.

June 15

The Plano Community Forum will hold its 4th Annual Golf Tournament at Plantation Golf Course, with an 8:00 a.m. shotgun start. Proceeds will benefit the MLK Scholarship Fund.

For more information or to register call Jimmy Dismuke at 972-260-4208 or visit www.planopcf.org.

June 16

Senior Citizens of Greater Dallas will offer its monthly Women's Financial Clinic at Lovers Lane United Methodist Church, Room 315, Epworth Hall, 9200 Inwood Road, from 9:00 a.m. to noon, for women aged 55 and older. For more information or to schedule an appointment call Kim Watson at 214-823-5700.

June 16-17

The Dallas International Festival will be held inside the Centennial Building at Fair Park, Dallas, and unite over 200 ethnic communities from North Texas. For more information call 972-960-2876 or visit www.dallasinternational.com.

June 18

The Jeffries Street Learning Center will hold its 3rd Annual Swing "Fore" Kids Golf Tournament at The Golf Club at Castle Hills, with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. For more information or to register call 214-360-2733.

June 21

Celestial Rhythm Celebrations will sponsor the Summer SolstiCelebration at the Winfrey Point building and grounds, Garland Rd. and Emerald Isle, east side of White Rock Lake,

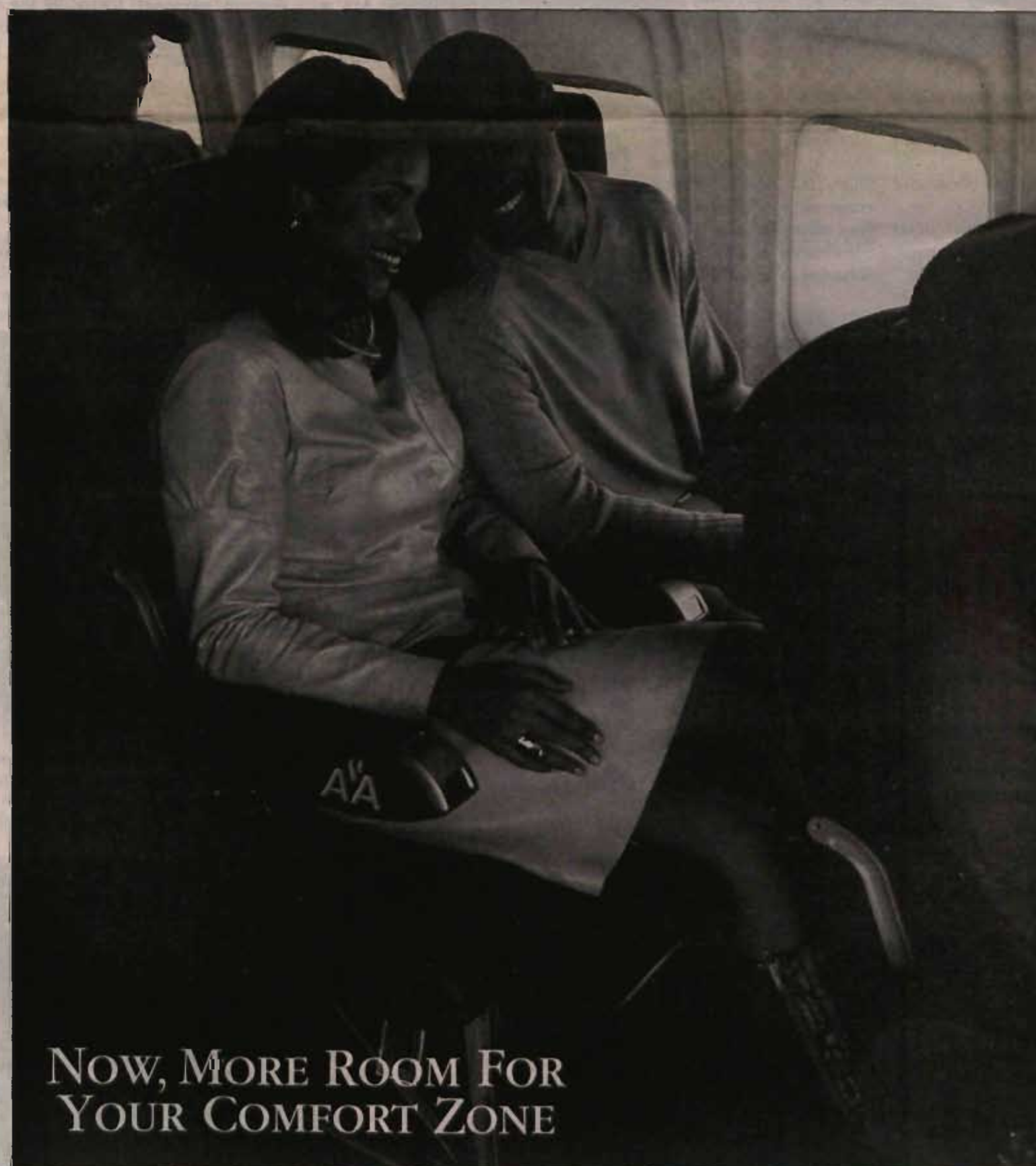
Dallas, at 5:00 p.m. The celebration will honor the longest day of the year with outside activities. Children and pets are welcome. For more information call 972-498-8788.

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