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The Gazette

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On the Homefront:

Quad Theatre presents the light-hearted romantic comedy *Beau Jest* by James Sherman. "This show will appeal to everyone during the holidays. It's a terrific show for families," said Brad Baker, Director of Theatre at Quad C. Beau Jest will be presented in the Black Box theatre, 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway in Plano with performances on December 15 and 16 at 2:15 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for general admission, \$6 for students and senior citizens (55+). Group rates are available. Free admission with a donation of a large brand new stuffed animal for Adam's Animals, a local non-profit agency that donates new stuffed animals to children in the pediatric ward at medical City in Dallas. For more information, call 972-881-5809.

Sip and sample at Plano's newest restaurant, Luna de Noche Tex-Mex Grill, located at 1401 Preston Rd. from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. December 16th. Donations of \$10 will be accepted to benefit Plano ESD Teachers in Distress, a program of Plano Futures Foundation. For more information, please call 469-753-6272 or email futures@pud.edu.

The Women's Division will meet December 19th for lunch at Glen Eagles Country Club. Networking begins at 11:30 a.m. If you are interested in meeting other dynamic women and men doing business in and around Plano, please join us for these exciting lunches. Reservations are required. Payment is expected in full at the luncheon. For more information, call 972-424-7547.

The International Library of Photography is pleased to announce that over \$60,000.00 in prizes will be awarded this year in the International Open Amateur Photography Contest. Photographers from the Plano area, particularly beginners, are welcome to try to win their share of over 1,300 prizes. To enter, send one photograph in the following categories: people, travel, pets, children, sports, nature, action, humor, portrait, or other. The photo must be a color or black-and-white print (unmounted, 8"x10" or smaller. All entries must include the photographer's name and address on the back, as well as the category and the title of the photo. Photos should be sent to: The International Library of Photography, Suite 101-2612, 1600 Crandall Lane, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Entries must be postmarked by December 31, 2001. You may also submit your photo directly online at: www.picture.com.

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What is Kwanzaa?

Kwanzaa is a unique African-American celebration with focus on the traditional African values of family, community responsibility, commerce, and self-improvement. Kwanzaa is neither political nor religious and despite some misconceptions, is not a substitute for Christmas. It is simply a time of reaffirming African-American people, their ancestors and culture. Kwanzaa, which means "first fruits of the harvest" in the African language Kiswahili, has gained tremendous acceptance. Since its founding in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga, Kwanzaa has come to be observed by more than 18 million people worldwide, as reported by the New York Times. When establishing Kwanzaa in 1966, Dr. Karenga included an additional "a" to the end of the spelling to reflect the difference between the African American celebration (Kwanzaa) and the Motherland spelling (kwanza).

Kwanzaa is based on the Nguzo Saba (seven guiding

principles), one for each day of the observance, and is celebrated from December 26th to January 1st.

• Umoja (OO-MO-JAH) Unity stresses the importance of togetherness for the family and the community, which is reflected in the African saying, "I am We," or "I am because We are." • Kujichagulia (KOO-GEE-CHAGOO-LEE-YAH) Self-Determination requires that we

tion to the past, present and future, and that we have a role to play in the community, society, and world.

• Ujamaa (OO-JAH-MAH) Cooperative economics emphasizes our collective economic strength and encourages us to meet common needs through mutual support.

• Nia (NEE-YAH) Purpose encourages us to look within ourselves and to set personal goals that are beneficial to the community.

• Kuumba (KOO-OOM-BAH) Creativity makes use of our creative energies to build and maintain a strong and vibrant community.

• Imani (EE-MAH-NEE) Faith focuses on honoring the best of our traditions, draws upon the best in ourselves, and helps us strive for a higher level of life for humankind, by affirming our self-worth and confidence in our ability to succeed and triumph in righteous struggle.

define our common interests and make decisions that are in the best interest of our family and community.

• Ujima (OO-GEE-MAH) Collective Work and Responsibility reminds us of our obliga-



Gems Are Top Choice for Holiday Gift Giving

DALLAS, PRNewswire/ — Gifts that most consumers want to give and receive this holiday season are products that imply security, a sense of connection, or a joy of life. Gift giving to family, friends, and colleagues is expected to have greater significance to consumers this year than it did last year in light of the events of Sept. 11 and beyond.

"The jewelry industry and key products such as colored gemstones and pearls are better positioned than other luxury goods to affirm for consumers their connections with others," says Douglas J. Hucker, executive director of the American Gem Trade Association (AGTA). And it's no wonder since gems have historically symbolized human emotions-inspiring passion, declaring love, and recognizing commitment. "Colored gemstone purchases give consumers a meaningful way to express their feelings in a gift that keeps on giving for generations to come."

Charles Dickens Celebration in Plano page 2



Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus

variety of options in color and price point to suit any taste and budget for gifts or self-purchases notes Hucker. Consumers can seek clues as to what's en vogue in colored stone jewelry this season and into the New Year from the 2002 Spectrum Awards Competition, sponsored by the AGTA. Winning pieces of this annual gem-set jewelry event reflect designs that are on the cutting edge of fashion and style by the country's top jewelry designers, retailers, and goldsmiths.

The Contest's 25 winning pieces, in five divisions (evening, business, casual, bridal, and men's) — including best of show and best use of color — represent an eclectic collection of jewelry from classic designs with engraving and traditional settings to contemporary, innovative work with post modern influences.

"Like many other aspects of American culture, the jewelry in the 2002 Spectrum Competition broke old rules and combined different styles," notes contest judge

Alan Revere, a designer and founder of the San Francisco-based Revere Academy of Jewelry Arts. "The work is exuberant, elegant, intriguing, dramatic, innovative, and dazzling. Like a snapshot of the very best in American jewelry today."

According to Spectrum judge Jeff Johnson, a designer and retailer with the Johnson Family Diamond Cellar in Dublin, Ohio, the winning pieces, as well as a majority of the 500 entries submitted, displayed a high level of creativity. From a brooch of interwoven sterling silver tubing and 22k gold set with a meteorite cabochon to a carved conch shell ring resembling a spiral staircase set in pearls, Spectrum pieces were not only inventive, but well-designed and timeless in nature. "I was energized by the amount of creativity we have in this country. It was nice to see art and good design mixed with functionality, something I believe is our social obligation to introduce at all levels of our society."

Overall, two-tone styling was prevalent in all gold and gold and platinum mix. Moreover, several pieces combined different colors of gold, including rose and green. Tourmalines, blue and fancy sapphires, pearls, and garnets were among the favored gems of designers this year, followed by tanzanite, opal, citrine, aquamarine, and amethyst. And, blues, greens, and pinks dominated the color spectrum of the winning pieces.

Galatyn Parkway slips Richardson into the 21st Century

By ANTHONY JONES

RICHARDSON = Cities that voted to support Dallas Area Rapid Transit are fast-finding their investment is paying off.

Through mid 2001, more than \$922 million in private funds has been invested in development along DART's \$860-million, 20-mile Light Rail Starter System. The trend continues along 24 miles of new track extending north and northeast, as DART light rail reaches Garland and Richardson in 2002, and Plano in 2003.

According to DART spokesperson Estela Hernández, throughout the DART Service Area, investors and developers

According to Johnson, the urban center includes the Galatyn LRT Station, the plaza, the hotel, and the auditorium. Galatyn Properties Ltd. will develop a 12-acre mixed-use development site immediately south of the Plaza.

Working with the land use and planning, Johnson said the city represented by Mayor Gary Slagel, Al G. Hill Jr. of Hunt Petroleum and John Q. Hammons of John Q. Hammons Hotels formed Galatyn Park Corp.

"Nortel came in on the development and expanded their campus by a million square feet," Johnson said. "Nortel bought some land (25 acres) east of the station."



At Virgin Mega Store, one of 20 stores in the nation, store manager John O'Neill says since opening about eight months ago, business has been very good at the Mockingbird Station location.

are following DART rail lines for the fastest track to successful developments.

Richardson Deputy City Manager Daniel Johnson told The Gazette, DART will open three light rail stations in Richardson in 2002 -- at Spring Valley, Arapaho and Galatyn Parkway.

Johnson explained the Galatyn Parkway LRT station is one of the first stations that will have "transit-oriented development."

The City of Richardson's and Galatyn Park Corporation's master planning efforts a little over two years ago provided the opportunity for the development of the urban center area.

In June, the new hotel Marriott Renaissance opened its three-acre development with new conference areas and 336 rooms.

Don Dillard, vice president of Galatyn Park Corp., contrasted the urban center's development with that of the established Mockingbird station.

Mockingbird Station is a 10-acre grouping of properties that have emerged around DART's Mockingbird light rail station.

Dillard explained Mockingbird Station has brought housing, shopping, entertainment and top-quality dining to the area. However, he said, "it's a redevelopment." Also the Galatyn Park

See Galatyn Park page 5



Eastside Village in Plano was developed anticipating the Plano Dallas Area Rapid Transit Light Rail Station opening in 2003

Dickens celebration held in downtown Plano

Plano held its Dickens in Historic Downtown Plano celebration last Friday. The weather was cool but it did not frighten away the holiday crowd. This year's activities included carriage rides, live music, pony rides, magicians, carolers and the Sixth Annual Festival of Trees.

There was face painting for the kids and escorted tours of the historic downtown district by the Plano Conservancy. Some got to enjoy mini-train rides.

Entertainment for the evening included performances by the Wilson Middle School Pop Orchestra, 4-ever young and the Shufflin Shoes Cloggers. And of course Santa took a break from his busy schedule at the Northpole to visit the kids and take requests. Mrs. Claus accompanied the jolly one.



Plano Community Band



Carly Winfield telling Santa what she wants



Magician performing a trick

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Politics as usual

WASHINGTON (AP) — Legislation to stimulate the economy is stimulating an outburst of political

combat instead, the White House and Republicans on one side, Democrats on the other in a clash over recession-related issues likely to play out next year in mid-term elections.

Following Vice President Dick Cheney's charge of obstructionism, White House spokesman Ari Fleischer on Monday accused Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle of pursuing a "formula for gridlock, for partisanship and for inaction" on stimulus legislation.

For their part, House Democrats got the campaign advertising season off to an early start, aiming radio commercials at three Republicans they hope to defeat next year.

Referring to a House-passed stimulus measure, the ads charge that Reps. John Hostettler of Indiana and Dick Shimkus of Illinois "voted along narrow partisan lines to pass billions of dollars in tax breaks for huge corporations. A bill that gives the most to the few, and shortchanges Americans who have lost their jobs and could lose their health insurance." A similar commercial begins Tuesday against West Virginia Rep. Shelley Moore Capito.

With the House and Senate

eager to adjourn for the year, lawmakers may yet compromise on a bill to help victims of the Sept. 11 attacks and the recession. Unemployment rose to 5.7 percent in November and 1.2 million Americans have lost their jobs since the recession began in March.

The outlines of a compromise are easy to discern: an acceleration of last spring's tax cuts, as favored by Republicans, coupled with direct unemployment and health care benefits for the jobless that Democrats advocate.

For now, though, talks are at a standstill. After a weeklong struggle to decide who should sit at the bargaining table, meetings were abruptly called off over the weekend when GOP Rep. Bill Thomas went home to California, a trip that triggered yet another round of finger-pointing.

Political strategists eager to use gridlock to their advantage may find it an unreliable ally, particularly against the unusual background of rising unemployment and a war against terrorism.

Some Democrats say they have a tempting target: the House-passed bill includes a \$24 billion, 10-year tax break for corporations, including billions of dollars for energy and other companies through a lump sum refund of Alternative

Minimum Tax payments made as far back as 1986. Most Republicans voted for the bill and against a Democratic alternative, the vote highlighted in the Democrats' radio commercials.

Privately, some Republican strategists have expressed concern about lawmakers having to defend the vote, particularly if unemployment rises.

House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-Texas, said in an interview that if talks deadlock, GOP leaders might bring a second stimulus bill to the floor, this one including a \$20 billion package of unemployment and health assistance floated last week.

Some Republicans say the political advantage is theirs: that Democrats are newly in charge in the Senate, and will bear the blame if Bush's request goes nowhere. "This is a test of the Senate...and a real test of whether they are able to govern," said Fleischer, whose party will be running its own ads next year.

Presidential popularity figures in, as well.

A trio of veteran Democratic strategists recently distributed a memo to party leaders arguing that the time was ripe to attack Republicans over the economy.



Ron Shaw

Romans 5:17
by Ron Shaw

As we approach the time of giving, allow me to share with you a very important lesson I've learned about gifts. I was visiting a friend a few months ago when he was handing out allowances to his children. He told them their allowances were not for doing chores but rather a gift from him out of the goodness of his heart. He proceeded to pass out the money. He got to his youngest child and asked him, "what did you do to earn your allowance?" His youngest replied, "nothing, but what's that got to do with anything?" We all laughed because the child didn't flinch or stutter when he said that. He fully expected to receive the money that was promised him even though he had done nothing to merit it. I thought to myself, how wonderful it would be if we had that revelation about gifts. When God says it's a gift, HE doesn't mean it's provisional. I've heard ministers say, "we'll send you this for a gift of..." If you do anything for it, it ceases to be a gift and then becomes a wage. You work for wages but you receive gifts.

Our text says that our right standing with God is a gift that must be received. If it's on the basis of our behavior, it then ceases to be a gift. The good thing about gifts is the fact that they are based solely on the grace of the individual giving them. We are told that salvation is a gift of God. If we do anything other than receive it, we make it a wage and therefore

True Gifts

nullify what God desires. Most of what we are to have as Christians are classified by God to be gifts. That's a very difficult concept for most people. We say we give gifts but the truth is that they are not in the true sense of the word gifts. We give based on what someone has done for us or what they have given us. For someone to truly give you something, it must be completely divorced from anything they did, do or will do. True gifts are always on the bases of the giver's grace. That means that they have decided as an act of their will to add some service or item to your life for no other reason than they simply chose to do it for you. Their decision could be based on your need or your desire. What would do for you or would give to you they could do because they know you need it or want it. Nevertheless, whatever their reason for doing or giving it, it is not because you did something for it. Again this is a very difficult concept for most. However, it is the bases for our relationship with our Heavenly Father. HE chose to give to us. Of course HE need what our needs were. But we could not possibly earn HIS goodness so HE chose as an act of HIS will to do something for us. HE decided to bless us. We didn't earn it, or deserve it. In fact what we earned or deserved was much different than what HE gave. We the concept of true giving comes alive in us, then all of our frustrations with people seem to disappear. Think of it! When you give someone a gift,

if it's solely on the bases of what you decided you wanted to give them, then they can act or not act the way you think they should. They can be or not be the kind of person you think they should be. They can possess wealth and riches or be as broke as the ten commandments and it wouldn't make any difference because our act of kindness towards them is not tied to any of the above mentioned issues. This is what is so good about having a relationship with HIM. HE is the only one I know who gives true gifts. When HE says their gifts, that's what they are. Our responsibility then is to receive them. That's the part that we're really bad at. We aren't very good at receiving. We're good at getting. But we've not majored on receiving.

So let me help you give and receive. 1st, make sure of your intent. If you intend to give a gift, never expect or imply that you want something in return. Your decision to give whatever you're giving must be completely separate from anything the recipient does. 2nd, it should be stated right up front that what you are giving is a gift and that they don't owe you any act of kindness or reciprocity. 3rd, encourage the person to receive. This is done by a simple act of saying "I receive this. Thank you". Then watch how the power of giving takes over and changes not just the person but you. There's nothing more liberating than giving true gifts.

Wellness

Keep holiday gatherings safe; don't invite food borne illnesses

Light the candles, set the music, pour the beverages, lay out the tableware and by all means use extreme caution when preparing holiday edibles.

"Entertaining during the holiday season is stressful enough without having to worry about someone getting sick," says Lone Wenzel of the Texas Department of Health (TDH). "For most healthy people, food borne illnesses are just uncomfortable, but for the very young, the elderly or those with weakened immune systems, the consequences can be severe."

Each year, up to 76 million people suffer from food borne illnesses that occur when they eat food that contains a bacteria or a toxin produced by bacteria growing in food. Holiday buffets and party trays left at room temperature for long periods of time often fall prey to bacteria. Given sufficient time, bacteria in food can grow and multiply depending on

the type of food, the temperature at which it was held, its moisture content and its acidity level.

"You cannot tell from the way food looks, smells or tastes if it is safe," Wenzel said. "But you can take a few simple steps to keep your food from being contaminated." TDH offers these suggestions to help prevent food borne illness:

- Separate raw meat, poultry and seafood from other foods in your grocery-shopping cart and in your refrigerator.
- Always wash your hands before any contact with foods.
- Never defrost or marinate food on the kitchen counter. Use refrigerator, cold running water or the microwave.
- Use plastic or other non-porous cutting boards.
- Use a clean food thermometer to make sure meat, poultry, casseroles and other foods are cooked all the way through. Cook roasts and steaks to at least 145 degrees F. Whole poultry should be cooked to 180 degrees F. Ground beef should be cooked to at least 160 degrees F.

• If possible, use one cutting board for raw meat and another for raw fruits and vegetables. If you only have one, wash it between uses.

• Never put cooked food on an unwashed plate that previously held raw meat, poultry or seafood.

TDH food safety experts also advise consumers to refrigerate cooked foods quickly. "Get those leftovers to the refrigerator fast," Wenzel says.

Some more tips from TDH for keeping food safe and good to eat:

- Refrigerate or freeze perishables, prepared food and leftovers within two hours.
- Divide large amounts of leftovers into small, shallow containers for quick cooling in the refrigerator.
- With poultry and other stuffed meats, remove the stuffing and refrigerate it in a separate container.
- Don't pack the refrigerator with too much food. Cool air must circulate to keep food safe at 41 degrees F.

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.

SOUTHWESTERN



To: Thurman Jones, Publisher / The Gazette / Ed. Cartoon / 11-20-01

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"We close to please"



John Dudley

Year-End Tax-Planning Strategies

Taxes are an important consideration when making almost any financial decision—especially toward the end of the calendar year. A few last-minute strategies can help reduce your taxes for this year and beyond. As always, be sure to consult with your tax or legal professional before taking any action that may involve tax consequences.

Managing Income and Deductions

The most basic strategy for tax planning is to arrange to:

- Receive as much of your income as possible in the year you will be in a lower bracket—when it may be taxed less.
- Pay as many deductible expenses as possible in the year of the higher bracket—so your deductions may be larger.

Thanks to the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001, income-tax rates are scheduled to be gradually reduced over the next six years. Don't be sur-

prised if your marginal tax bracket is lower next year, even if your income remains the same. The following schedule should help you determine your tax bracket for 2001 and 2002.

Single	2001	2002	Married Filing Jointly	2001	2002
Taxable Income	Tax Rate	Tax Rate	Taxable Income	Tax Rate	Tax Rate
\$0 - \$6,000	15%	10%	\$0 - \$12,000	15%	10%
6,000 - 27,050	15%	15%	12,000 - 45,200	15%	15%
27,050 - 65,550	27.5%	27%	45,200 - 109,250	27.5%	27%
65,550 - 136,750	30.5%	30%	109,250 - 166,500	30.5%	30%
136,750 - 297,350	35.5%	35%	166,500 - 297,350	35.5%	35%
297,350 and above	39.1%	38.6%	297,350 and above	39.1%	38.6%

prised if your marginal tax bracket is lower next year, even if your income remains the same. The following schedule should help you determine your tax bracket for 2001 and 2002.

The Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 is subject to a "Sunset" provision. The provision (required by the Congressional Budget Act of 1974) requires that the provisions of the Act do not apply after the end of the year 2010. Therefore, technically, all the 2001 rules, rates, and exemptions come back into effect in 2011.

Capital Gains

If you are selling less than your entire interest in an investment that was acquired over time (such as a stock or a mutual fund), it is important to properly instruct the financial institution about which shares to sell. In some cases, it will be better to sell shares that have been held the longest so your gain will be taxed at the lowest possible rate. Assets held for over 12 months qualify for the 20% maximum capital-gains rate. On the other hand, if you want to maximize a loss (perhaps to offset other gains), it will be better to sell shares with the highest tax basis. At First Union Securities, this selection is made by asking your Financial Advisor to note special instruc-

- include unrealized appreciation as of that date in your 2001 income, and
- pay taxes on that unrealized appreciation.

If you elect this special "deemed sale and repurchase" treatment for an asset and then wait more than five years to sell it, any additional gain will be taxed at a maximum rate of 18% rather than 20%. Market performance in 2001 has given some investors a chance to minimize this unrealized gain and resulting taxes. If you have an unrealized loss, you cannot deduct the loss or use it to adjust your cost basis. However, if this special election is made, any future gain resulting from the sale of the asset will be eligible for the 18% rate after the five-year holding period is completed. "Resetting the clock" in order to take advantage of the 18% maximum capital-gains rate may be a strategy worth considering.

If you're in the 15% tax bracket, no election is needed to take advantage of a reduced capital-gains tax rate—8% instead of 10%—when you sell an asset you've owned for more than five years.

Wash-Sale Rule

A common tax-reduction strategy is selling some of the losers in a portfolio to offset the gains of your winners. But what

if this year's losers are investments that you think will turn back into winners? It is possible to sell the losers for the tax loss and repurchase the same stocks, as long as you keep the wash-sale rule in mind.

The wash-sale rule states that if, within 30 calendar days before OR after the date of the loss, you acquire "substantially identical" stocks or securities, the sale constitutes a "wash" and you may not claim the tax benefits of the transaction. The date for tax purposes is the trade date, not the settlement date. In 2001, November 30 is the last day you can buy additional shares, or "double up" on a security in which you have an unrealized loss, and still be able to sell (December 31) the original shares for a potential loss credit on this year's taxes. If this is done correctly, you may be able to enjoy the tax benefits of the loss on the original shares and still participate in any upside potential of the addition-

al shares.

Mutual-Fund Purchases and Sales

If you are buying mutual funds near the end of the year, be careful to do so after the record date of any distributions. Many mutual-fund companies pay out dividends and capital gains at the end of the year. If you invest in a fund shortly before it makes its year-end distributions, you will have to pay tax on the distribution—even though you're simply getting back the capital you just invested in the fund. Usually, the fund's share price drops by the amount of the distribution. Your cost basis, however, will remain at the pre-distribution price you paid for the shares. Most fund companies can tell you when distributions for the year are expected.

If you are thinking of selling shares of a mutual fund, you should consider selling your shares before any upcoming dividend payments are made by the fund. If you sell the shares before dividends are paid, you can effectively avoid the ordinary-income treatment of the dividends and pay capital-gains rates on the appreciated share price. The value of mutual funds fluctuates daily; when sold, your shares may be worth more or less than your original investment.

See Money page 6

Shapiro files for Re-election to the Texas Senate

Austin - Senator Florence Shapiro (R-Plano) has filed to run for re-election to the Texas Senate in District 8, including Dallas and Collin counties.

Senator Shapiro was first elected to the Senate in 1993.

During her time in the Texas legislature, Senator Shapiro has worked to strengthen families and business, improve education, and protect taxpayers.

Her efforts in the most recent legislative session include promoting election reform and finding innovative ways to relieve traffic congestion to improve the quality of life for all Texans with the Texas Mobility Fund.

Senator Shapiro currently serves a second term as Chairman of the powerful Senate State Affairs Committee, and serves as a member of the Legislative Budget Board and

the Legislative Audit Committee. Recently, the Senator was asked by Governor Perry to serve on the Homeland Security Task Force and by the Lt. Governor to serve as a member of the State Task force on School Finance. Additionally, Senator Shapiro serves as Co-chairman of the State

Finance Task Force, which is a bi-partisan effort underway to cut state spending as an alternative to increasing taxes, as the state faces a potential budget shortfall.

Shapiro has been a leader in the Texas Senate, serving in 1997 as the Senate Republican Caucus Chairman and earning numerous honors, including

awards from the National Federation of Independent Business and Citizens for a Sound Economy. At the national level, in August, Shapiro was elected President of the National Republican Legislators' Association, which represents over 3,500 Republican legislators across America.

Shapiro is currently president of her own advertising and public relations agency, Shapiro & Company. She lives in Plano with her husband Howard.

They have three children: Lisa and Brian Strauss living in Houston with grandson, Joshua Harry; Staci and Dr. Paul Rubin; and Todd Shapiro.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

District: DALLAS

Contract 6074-23-001 for CHAIN LINK FENCE in DALLAS County will be opened on January 15, 2002 at 10:30 am at the District Office for an estimate of \$241,725.00.

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

NPO: 5433

State Office

Construction Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

District Office(s)

DALLAS DISTRICT
DISTRICT ENGINEER
4777 E. Hwy 80
Mesquite, Tx 75150
Phone: 214-320-6100

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

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Telephone (214) 634-0090 Fax (214) 634-0090 is accepting competitive sealed proposals (based on 100% Design Development Documents) for the Mechanical/Electrical/Plumbing (MEP) portions of work for the following project:

The University of Texas at Dallas - School of Management

The University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas
Bid date: December 12, 2001 at 1:00p.m.

Hensel Phelps Construction Company, UTD-SOM Construction Manager-at-Risk, is actively seeking bids from certified HUB/MBE/WBE Subcontractors for the abovementioned project. Proposal documents will be available at the Hensel Phelps Job Offices located at 7929 Brookriver Drive, Suite # 160, Dallas, Texas, at 1:00p.m. on November 28, 2001. Additional dates for Pre-Proposal Conferences, Questions by Respondents, etc. will be described in the package.



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- Interfacing with/promotion KWRD/KSKY to local church leaders and congregations
- Working with Operations and Sales department in developing marketing and promotional materials for the radio station.
- Maximize station's exposure to national and local media.
- Writing and servicing press releases about promotional events at the radio station.
- Establishing a station presence at key local events.
- Grow awareness of the radio station in order to increase come of station.
- Educate listeners as to the mission of KWRD-KSKY
- Develop revenue-generating promotions in conjunction with Sales and Programming departments
- Coordinate and facilitate all station events.

Fax or Mail resumes to:
Pete Thompson • General Manager
KWRD/KSKY

6400 N. Beltline Road, Suite 110 • Irving, TX 75063
214-561-9662 (fax)

Galatyn Park continued from page 1

Developer Ken Hughes called the project a "unique urban village" when he formed the joint venture with David Dunning and delivered a new look and a fresh idea in residential living, shopping and commuting to the City of Dallas.

The design came through collaboration with RTKL Los Angeles and Selzer Associates Inc. of Dallas.

Hughes' project includes the renovation of a former Southwestern Bell telephone warehouse and office tower that fronts on Mockingbird Lane and North Central Expressway. The existing structure was converted to retail and 211 loft apartments. The mixed-use development includes an 8-screen movie theater complex, restaurants, office space, a music store and a future hotel.

"We anticipated those rail stops to generate a lot of activity," Dillard said. "What we're hoping to do is develop some mixed-use of residential and office. And we're excited about that prospect. But where we have a public-private partnership with a mixed-use development, Hughes has a private mixed-use."

According to Dillard, Galatyn Park is a spin-off from a Hill family name — Albert Galatyn Hill.

"His wife, Mrs. (Margaret) Hill is a Hunt, and the Hunt family owned a lot of the (State Highway) 190 corridor," Dillard said. "With the rail line running north and south three years ago we decided we're working now on the development."

Where the 500-odd acres were once just a field located at President George Bush Turnpike (SH 190) and Central Expressway, it soon became a symbol of the continued merger of public-private dreams in Richardson.

The 336-room Renaissance Hotel by Marriott and adjoining meeting facility has been built on the east side of North Central Expressway just south of SH 190. The project was in the planning stages for more than a year.

The 12-story hotel complex, along with a plaza and the new DART rail station will be the centerpiece of Hunt Petroleum Corp.'s 500-acre Galatyn Park development.

The sprawling development is planned to contain offices, hotels and retail space in the largest addition to Richardson's commercial property market in recent years.

Galatyn Park's strategic loca-



The new Dallas Area Rapid Transit Light Rail Station is slated to open in 2002. Development around the light rail transit station has already become evident with the new Marriott Renaissance hotel opening its three-acre development with new conference areas and 336 rooms.

tion in the southeast quadrant of the intersection provides excellent access in all directions. Access will be enhanced by DART light rail service, which is scheduled to open in 2002. Galatyn Park will redefine accessibility for future development with access via DART light rail or bus, plus easy access on bike or foot from planned mixed-use transit oriented developments.

Deputy city manager Johnson explained the City of Richardson's objective is having a mixture of retail shops and restaurants.

"We'll also have a high-rise development similar to those in Addison," Johnson said. "There will be some lofts. It's a new type

of product."

"The city put in the overpass and road system for road access," Johnson said, explaining local dollars along with \$11 million in funding provided the overpass and light rail station came about when Nortel expressed an interest. "The DART station set up the possibility."

"We had all along been interested in developing an auditorium," Johnson said. "It's being financed with hotel/motel taxes. It's under construction now and will be finished in September 2002."

The Eisemann Center's main venue, named Margaret and Al Hill Performance Hall, is a 1,500-seat venue of the Charles W. Eisemann Center for the Performing Arts and Corporate Presentations. The hall is named in honor of Margaret and in memory of her late husband Al Hill. Through their family holdings in the Galatyn Park Corporation, the Hills donated the land on which the Eisemann Center is located.

Scheduled to open Spring 2002, this hall is large in capacity, but intimate, warm and inviting by design. With audience seating on two levels, its interior architectural treatment with natural wood-clad walls sculpted to meet acoustical requirements is an exceptional environment for symphonic music, dance, musical theatre, opera, corporate meetings and awards programs. The stage area, consisting of 4,815 square feet of production space, will be the largest of the primary performing arts facilities surveyed in the Dallas/Fort Worth market with the exception of Fort Worth's Bass Hall.

According to Johnson the performing arts center cost \$35 million and will be funded from hotel-motel taxes and the city's new Galatyn Center parking garage will generate \$8 million for the project.

Ethnic Notes

A Tribute to the Long Legacy of "The Kid"

Born in Boston on June 2, 1907, Dorothy West was the only child of Isaac Christopher West, a freed slave turned successful businessman, and Rachel Pease Benson, one of 22 children. West wrote her first story at the age of seven; by the time she was fourteen, she had won several writing competitions sponsored by the Boston Post. Wider recognition followed in 1926 when her story "The Typewriter" tied for second place with a story by Zora Neale Hurston in a contest sponsored by the New York-based Opportunity, a journal published by the National Urban League. West and her cousin, the poet Helene Johnson, had recently moved to Harlem and begun to meet other young, gifted, black writers, including Langston Hughes, who called West "The Kid"; Countee Cullen, who later proposed to her; Hurston, whose apartment West rented; and the novelist Wallace Thurman.

West's principal contribution to the Harlem Renaissance was as publisher of the magazine Challenge, which she founded in 1934 with her savings of \$40, and its successor New Challenge. These magazines were among the first to provide a forum for realistic portrayals of African Americans in literature, publishing Richard Wright's groundbreaking essay "Blueprint for Negro Writing," together with works by Margaret Walker and Ralph Ellison. Both magazines quickly folded for lack of financial support, however. West then worked for the WPA Federal Writers Program until the mid-1940s, when she settled on Martha's Vineyard. It was there that she wrote her first novel, The Living Is Easy, pub-

lished in 1948. This autobiographical novel was critically well received, and West wrote a second novel, but no publisher accepted it. Two generations were to pass before West's fiction found a new audience. In the interim, she returned to journalism, writing primarily for the Vineyard Gazette.

The Feminist Press brought The Living Is Easy back into print in 1982. Her next work of

paving the way for other African-American women writers. Maya Angelou, Bebe Moore Campbell, Rita Dove, Nikki Giovanni, Terry McMillan, Toni Morrison, Gloria Naylor, Ntozake Shange, and Alice Walker are part of a tradition; their accomplishments can be partly credited to their sisters who defied the odds and put words on paper when this century was young.

Novelist, short story writer, editor, and journalist Dorothy West died August 16, 1998, at the age of 91. Her death was mourned by many as the passing of the last living member of the Harlem Renaissance, but that extraordinary outburst of African-American artistry only marked the beginning of her career. West continued to write for another seven decades, and her essays and fiction attest to the fact that she was a writer who traveled the distance, exploring with dignity, insight, and elegance the important issues of race, color, and class within the African-American community.

When I was a child of 4 or 5, listening to the conversation of my mother and her sisters, I would sometimes intrude on their territory with a solemnly stated opinion that would jerk their heads in my direction, then send them into roars of uncontrollable laughter. I do not now remember anything I said. But the first adult who caught her breath would speak for them all and say, "That's no child. That's a little sawed-off woman." That was to become a self-fulfilling prophecy.

—Essence Magazine, August 1995



Dorothy West

fiction was not published until many years later, however, after Jacqueline Onassis, then an editor at Doubleday and a neighbor of West's on the Vineyard, encouraged her to complete The Wedding. Finally published in 1995, the novel was so well received that Doubleday published The Richer, the Poorer, a collection of short stories and reminiscences, the same year. Oprah Winfrey's production company aired a two-part miniseries of The Wedding earlier this year.

West never married, nor did she have children. Her legacy is her writing and her role in

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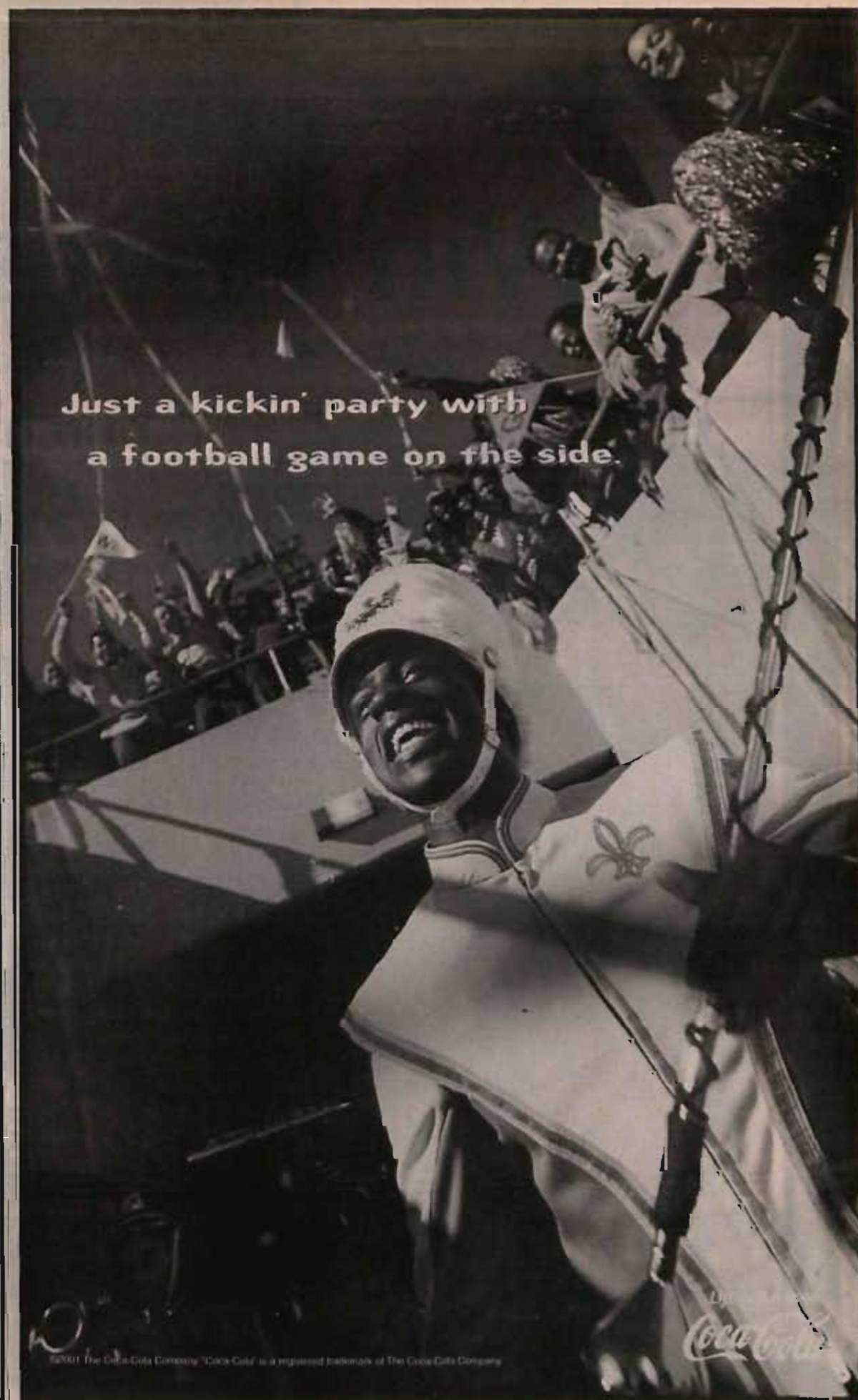
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Nation gives overdue recognition for Indian help in World War II

GREAT FALLS (AP) — If Benjamin James was alive today, his son knows just what he'd say: Ni hai iindo hoish nii.

In Navajo it means, "Finally, we are remembered."

"He would have been very proud," said Norman James, 42, of Great Falls.

Benjamin James was one of more than 300 Navajo Indians who used their native language to communicate military information while serving as Marines during World War II. It was a code the Japanese found impossible to break.

At a ceremony this fall in Window Rock, Ariz., Norman James and his family received a Congressional Silver Medal in his honor.

As Code Talkers, the Navajos communicated tactics, troop movements, orders and other strategic information via phones and radios.

They're credited with saving thousands of lives and securing important victories, such as the Battle of Iwo Jima in the Pacific Theater.

Until recently, the public has been largely unaware of their contributions, said James, who works in Wal-Mart's shipping and receiving department and speaks fluent Navajo.

"They've been treated as a footnote," he said. "That's been the problem. But since about 1990, it just seemed to rebound from obscurity."

In July, President Bush gave Congressional Gold Medals to the 29 Navajos who

created the code.

The premise behind the code was simple — Navajo words were translated into English, and the first letter of each English word was used to form words to spell a message.

Code Talkers also invented substitutions for about 500 military terms for which no Navajo words existed.

The code for submarine, for example, became "besh-lo," which means "iron fish" in Navajo.

The complex Navajo language, little known outside the Southwest, stumped the Japanese, who had been able to crack other American codes.

"The first time the Navajo came on the airwaves, the Japanese were probably taken aback," James said.

A native of New Mexico, James has spoken at the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center and at several Great Falls middle schools about his dad and the Navajo culture, and how World War II changed his tribe.

Before the war, James said, few Navajos left the boundaries of the reservation, which are marked by four sacred mountains.

But because of the first Code Talkers' success, recruiters came looking for more Navajo men who could speak English.

In all, about 3,000 Navajos enlisted in the different branches of the military. For many, including James' father, it was their first glimpse of life outside the reservation.

Born in New Mexico,

Benjamin James was a teenager training to be a healer when he joined the Marines.

He served in the second all-Navajo platoon and was stationed in Guadalcanal and Guam. He returned around 1944 after snipers shot him in the back and leg. He then was a ranch hand for 20 years. He died of natural causes two years ago.

His widow, who speaks only Navajo, accepted the Congressional medal on his behalf.

Hundreds of people, including Sen. John McCain and golf pro Notah Begay, attended the ceremony.

"Even I felt proud, even though it wasn't my tribe," said Norman James's wife, Rhonda, a Blackfeet.

Comanche Indians also served as WWII Code Talkers.

James, his mother, Mary, and his siblings have decided to take turns keeping the heavy silver medallion, which is 3 inches in diameter and features a picture of two Code Talkers on one side. A Navajo sand painting is on the other.

Norman, Rhonda and their four children will keep the medal until his family comes to Great Falls in May to see his daughter,

Tashina, graduate from high school.

James said he is thankful Code Talkers are getting the credit they deserve.

He is proud, as well.

"I have a feeling of honor knowing my kids' grandfather is someone special in history," he said.

Politics As Usual Jump from Page 3

"Democrats should feel free to attack wrongheaded Republican congressional initiatives, even separating the House Republicans from the president," wrote Stanley Greenberg, James Carville and Bob Shrum.

"The economy is emerging as a major issue for next year," they added, "but Democrats to not yet have the advantage."

With Bush's approval ratings at stratospheric levels, Democrats are attempting to tread carefully.

Rep. Nita Lowey, D-N.Y.,

Money Jump from Page 3

shares may be worth more or less than your original investment.

Charitable Contributions
A charitable contribution made by check is deductible in the year the check is mailed—not when the charity cashes it. Similarly, a contribution by credit card is deductible when you make the charge, not when you pay the credit-card bill. However, if you give the charity a pledge or promissory note, the gift is not deductible until you actually pay it.

If you plan to give to certain charities this year and next year, you may want to bunch the contributions into the year when your tax bracket (and therefore the value of your deductions) will be higher.

Individual Retirement Account (IRA) Contributions

While the deadline for IRA contributions is not until April 15, the sooner IRA contributions are made, the better. Don't forget your 2001 traditional or Roth IRA contribution. If you are 70½ or older, don't forget to take at least the minimum required distribution from your IRA—otherwise, you'll face a 50% penalty on the shortfall. Be sure to take advantage of the new Fresh Start rules when calculating your required minimum distribution. In most cases, the new rules will result in a lower required distribution.

declared recently that the current economic contraction was "George Bush's recession." But the radio commercials steer well clear of that — saying only that "we're in a recession."

And the commercial begins with a reference to the war against terrorism, a subject on which it says, "we're all united."

If Democrats are hoping to create political distance between Bush's wartime popularity and Republican handling of the economy, Republicans are working to prevent it.

And Daschle, the nation's most powerful Democrat and

the Senate majority leader since summer, is their target of choice.

Cheney spoke up on Sunday, saying on NBC's Meet the Press that "Tom Daschle, unfortunately, has decided in this case to be more of an obstructionist."

Speaker Dennis Hastert suggested Daschle may be trying to block passage by saying he wouldn't bring any bill to the floor unless two-thirds of the Senate Democrats favor it.

"To block it by saying you have to have a two-thirds vote, that puts this whole thing in jeopardy," Hastert said.

Provided by courtesy of John Dudley, a Financial Advisor with First Union Securities in Dallas, TX. For more information, please call John Dudley at 214-740-3253. First Union Securities, Inc., member New York Stock Exchange and SIPC, is a separate non-bank affiliate of Wachovia Corporation. (c) 2001 First Union Securities. (1001-00552)

Updated 10/24/01 RRC

Hensel Phelps Construction Company, Dallas, Texas

Telephone (214)834-0090 Fax (214)834-0120

Is accepting competitive sealed proposals for the Civil/Site Utilities/Storm Water Pollution Prevention/ and Engineering-Layout portions of work for the following project:

The University of Texas at Dallas -

School of Management

Richardson, Texas

Bid Date: January 4, 2002 at 1:00 p.m.

Hensel Phelps Construction Company is actively seeking bids from certified HUB/MBE/WBE Subcontractors for the above-mentioned project. Proposal documents will be available at the Hensel Phelps Job Offices located at 7928 Brookriver Drive, Suite #100, Dallas Texas, at 1:00 p.m. on December 14, 2001

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Arts & Entertainment



Frank Sinatra

LAS VEGAS (AP) _

Fifty years after Frank Sinatra's debut at the Desert Inn resort, the Chairman of the Board will be honored with his own day.

Dec. 12, which would have been Sinatra's 86th birthday, will be celebrated as "Sinatra Day" in Nevada, Lt. Gov. Lorraine Hunt and Las Vegas Mayor Oscar Goodman announced last week.

"If anyone deserves his own day in Las Vegas, it's Frank Sinatra, who epitomized all the best of Las Vegas style and cool," Goodman said.

Las Vegas Strip hotel-casinos will display "Happy Birthday Frank" on their marquees, and the Bellagio fountains and the Fremont Street Experience will play musical tributes.

As part of the celebration, the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority is releasing a CD that features the song "It's Time for You."

The Frank Sinatra Foundation allowed the use of the song in a series of TV ads to promote Las Vegas as a travel destination. The ads were launched following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, which caused anxiety about air travel.

Andre Agassi

LAS VEGAS (AP) _

Andre Agassi received hugs from grade school students and autographed their hands at an open house for the charter school bearing his name.

"It's been a long time in the making to be here today," the tennis star told a crowd of teachers, parents and administrators on Thursday. "It's a bit overwhelming."

Andre Agassi College Preparatory Academy, underwritten by the Las Vegas native, opened in August with three applicants for each of its 150 desks.

The academy is open to at-risk students in grades 3 through 5. A computer randomly selects eligible students, who do not pay tuition.

The school is designed to give disadvantaged youths the opportunity to increase their education opportunities, attend college and participate in community and cultural activities.

The Andre Agassi Charitable Foundation provided \$1.5 million to help build the West Las Vegas campus, which also received funding from the state and federal governments.



Faith Hill and Tim McGraw

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) _

Country singers Faith Hill and Tim McGraw are parents again.

Hill, 34, gave birth Thursday to Audrey Caroline McGraw, said her spokesman Paul Freundlich. The couple have two other daughters, 4-year-old Gracie and 3-year-old Maggie.

"To be blessed with a beautiful healthy baby girl _ what a way to kick off the holiday season for us," said Hill, whose hits include "This Kiss" and "Wild One."

McGraw, 34, said he "couldn't be happier." His latest hit is "The Cowboy in Me."

"I'm still king of the house and my girls will always keep me in line," he said.



Michael Michele

NEW YORK (AP) _

Michael Michele is checking out of "ER" after three years.

The 35-year-old actress, who played Dr. Cleo Finch on the NBC hospital drama, said she's leaving because she's tired of making the cross-country commute to Los Angeles.

"I am finished with 'ER,'" Michele said in a recent interview. "The traveling back and forth to New York just about killed me."

"I had convinced myself that 'Oh, I can do this. I'm on a plane every week. I'm on a plane every nine days, I can do this.' But it just about killed me. So I'm happy to be home and it was a good, productive three years but now it's over."

Michele said her time on "ER" and on "Homicide: Life on the Street" before that prepared her to return to feature films. She plays Muhammad Ali's wife, Veronica, opposite Will Smith in "Ali," opening Christmas Day.

"You have to do good television so that you can flex your muscles," she said, "so that when I come back to feature films, I have this huge toolbox, and I can just pull out whichever tool I need to make the character work."

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

District: DALLAS

Contract 2374-02-103 for WIDEN EXISTING RAMP in DALLAS County will be opened on January 08, 2002 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

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

NPO: 5482

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200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

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DISTRICT ENGINEER
4777 E. Hwy 80
Mesquite, Tx 75150
Phone: 214-320-6100

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

King Ranch F-150 SuperCrew

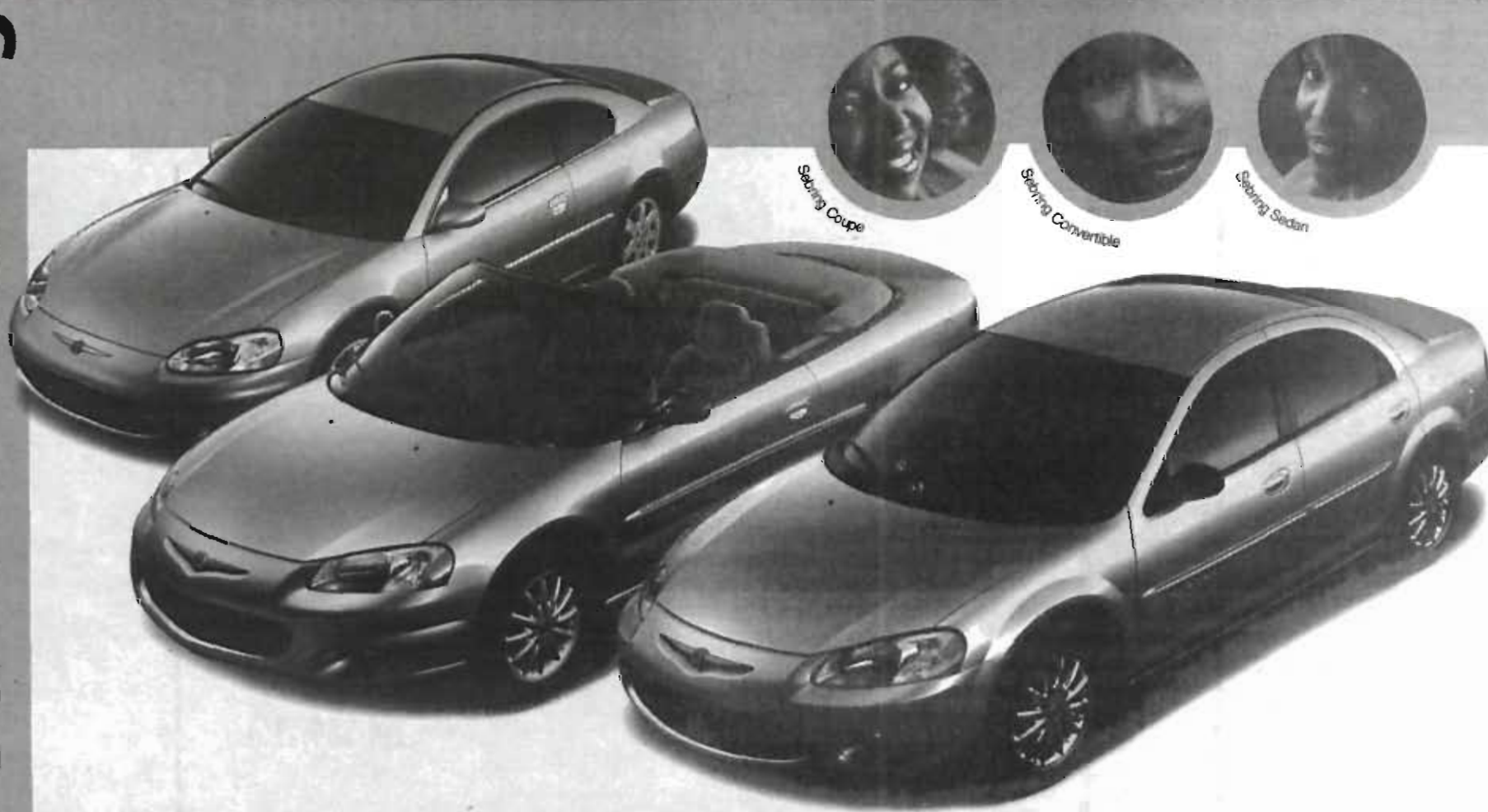


In F-150 SuperCrew you have a choice of powerful Triton(tm) engines. The standard 4.6L Triton(tm) SOHC V-8 engine or the optional 5.4L SOHC Triton(tm) V-8, both with an automatic overdrive transmission. In F-150 SuperCrew you have a choice of powerful Triton(tm) engines. The standard 4.6L Triton(tm) SOHC V-8 engine or the optional 5.4L SOHC Triton(tm) V-8, both with an automatic overdrive transmission.

F-150 SuperCrew comes with four full-size doors standard so everyone can get in and out easily. And the rear seating area includes a spacious rear bench seat.

Seating comfort is provided by a cloth trimmed 40/60 split bench with recliners, armrest/storage, and driver and passenger side manual lumbar supports. The rear split bench seat is trimmed in matching cloth and folds down for added cargo space. Leather trim is standard on Lariat. King Ranch F-150 SuperCrew includes leather heated captains chairs with embossed King Ranch logo and 2-way headrest, front and rear consoles and more.

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The Women's Museum: An Institute for the Future announces its winter blockbuster exhibit *Alma Thomas: Phantasmagoria, Major Paintings*. The works of the legendary abstract artist, will be on display until March 2002. The catalog, *Alma Thomas: Phantasmagoria*, major Paintings of the 1970's will be available in the museum store. For more information, call 214-915-0861 or visit www.thewomensmuseum.org.

December 13-December 15

The Lucky Spot by Beth Henley will be showing at Richardson Theatre Centre through December 15th. For show times and ticket information, call 972-699-1130.

December 13-January 5

It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Murder! by Kurt Kleinmann, is a murder-mystery comedy presented live in *Black & White*, opened November 2, 2001, and will run through January 5, 2002. Tickets are available through Pegasus Theatre. The Late Show on New Year's Eve includes *Black & White* party favors, Champagne after the show, a light *Black & White* appetizer buffet, and of course the show. For more information, call 214-821-6005.

December 13-December 24

A Christmas Carol runs through December 24, 2001 at the Arts District Theater, 2401 Flora Street at Fairmount. Single tickets are on sale now, and range from \$14 to \$42 in price. For tickets, call the Dallas Theater Center Box Office at 214-522-8499 or purchase on-line at www.dal-theatercenter.org or www.tickets.com.

December 13-December 22

A beloved holiday tradition that amazes and delights audience members of all ages. Kathy Burkes Theatre of Puppetry Arts critically acclaimed *The Nutcracker* returns by popular demand to the Dallas Children's Theater stage. Performances will be held at The Crescent Theater, 2215 Cedar Springs across from The Hotel Crescent Court. For reservations or more information, call DCT Box Office at 214-978-0110.

December 15, and 16

Quad C Theatre presents the light-hearted romantic comedy *Beau Jest* by James Sherman. "This show will appeal to everyone during the holidays. It's a terrific show for families,"

said Brad Baker, Director of Theatre at Quad C. *Beau Jest* will be presented in the Black Box theatre, 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway in Plano with performances December 15 and 16 at 2:15 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for general admission, \$6 for students and senior citizens (\$5+). Group rates are available. Free admission with a donation of a large brand new stuffed animal for Adam's Animals, a local non-profit agency that donates new stuffed animals to children in the pediatric ward at medical City in Dallas. For more information, call 972-881-5809.

December 13-29

Beginning December 10th, the Potter's House Christian Bookstore Outlet will be selling a multitude of select books, music and other various products featuring the inspiring wisdom and sounds of America's Best Preacher-as dubbed by Time magazine- Bishop T.D. Jakes, founder and senior pastor of the Potter's House. The celebrated "Grand Opening" will be on Saturday, December 15th at 10 a.m. The Potter's House Christian Bookstore Outlet will be located at 2524 Ledbetter near the Westcliff Plaza. It will be open until 8 p.m. For more information, call Shawn Paul Wood at 214-337-0099, extension 713.

December 13-22

N.M. Productions Theatre Company's next show is truly unique! *Live From DeSoto-A TV Christmas Special* is a hilarious parody of all those TV Christmas specials that we've come to know and love. The play will feature an all-youth cast and will give the audience a healthy dose of comedy, songs, dances and a few surprises. The play will be held at the Corner Theater in DeSoto Town center. Performance days and times are as follows: Thursday, Friday, Saturday evenings at 7:30 p.m., December 16th 3 p.m., and December 22 at 3 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$5-\$10. To make a reservation, please call 972-680-4466.

December 14-16

Target will present Rodgers and Hammerstein's *The Sound of Music*, December 14-16, 2001. Show times are Friday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 2 & 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. at UTD Theatre, Floyd & Campbell. Tickets can be purchased by phoning 972-690-5029. The Sound of Music will be performed by RCT's Repertory Acting Company.

December 15

The Junior Group of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra League

announces the 13th annual Deck the Hall celebration featuring the Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra and Booker T. Washington High School Arts Magnet Choir. The concerts will take place at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. in the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center. Funds raised from the event benefit the outreach and education programs of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. For more information, call 214-692-0203.

December 15-16, 22-23

A Sort of Xmas Story, a children's holiday play, is playing December 15, 16, 22 and 23 at 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. on Sundays. The play will be held at Jason Auditorium on the campus of Paul Quinn College, 33837 Simpson Stuart Rd. in Dallas. Admission to the play is \$15 and children 12 years old and under get in free. For more information, call 972-953-0270 or 214-904-9334.

December 16

Sip and sample at Plano's newest restaurant, Luna de Noche Tex-Mex Grill, located at 1401 Preston Rd. from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Donations of \$10 will be accepted to benefit Plano ISD Teachers in Distress, a program of

Plano Futures Foundation. For more information, please call 469-752-8272 or email futures@psd.edu.

December 18

The annual Dallas Jingle Bell Run, one of the largest and most colorful nighttime fun runs, is scheduled for December 18, 2001 at the Reunion Arena. Festivities will include Santa Land, costume contest, a 1-mile fun run/walk/wheel, a 5K run/walk, and a post race party. The event's proceeds benefit Carter BloodCare, the not-for-profit community blood center serving 200 healthcare facilities in 22 North Texas counties. For more information, call the JBR hotline at 817-412-5500 or visit www.carterbloodcare.org.

December 19

The Women's Division will meet December 19th for lunch at Glen Eagles Country Club. Networking begins at 11:30 a.m. If you are interested in meeting other dynamic women and men doing business in and around Plano, please join us for these exciting lunches. Reservations are required. Payment is expected in full at the luncheon. For more information, call 972-424-7547.

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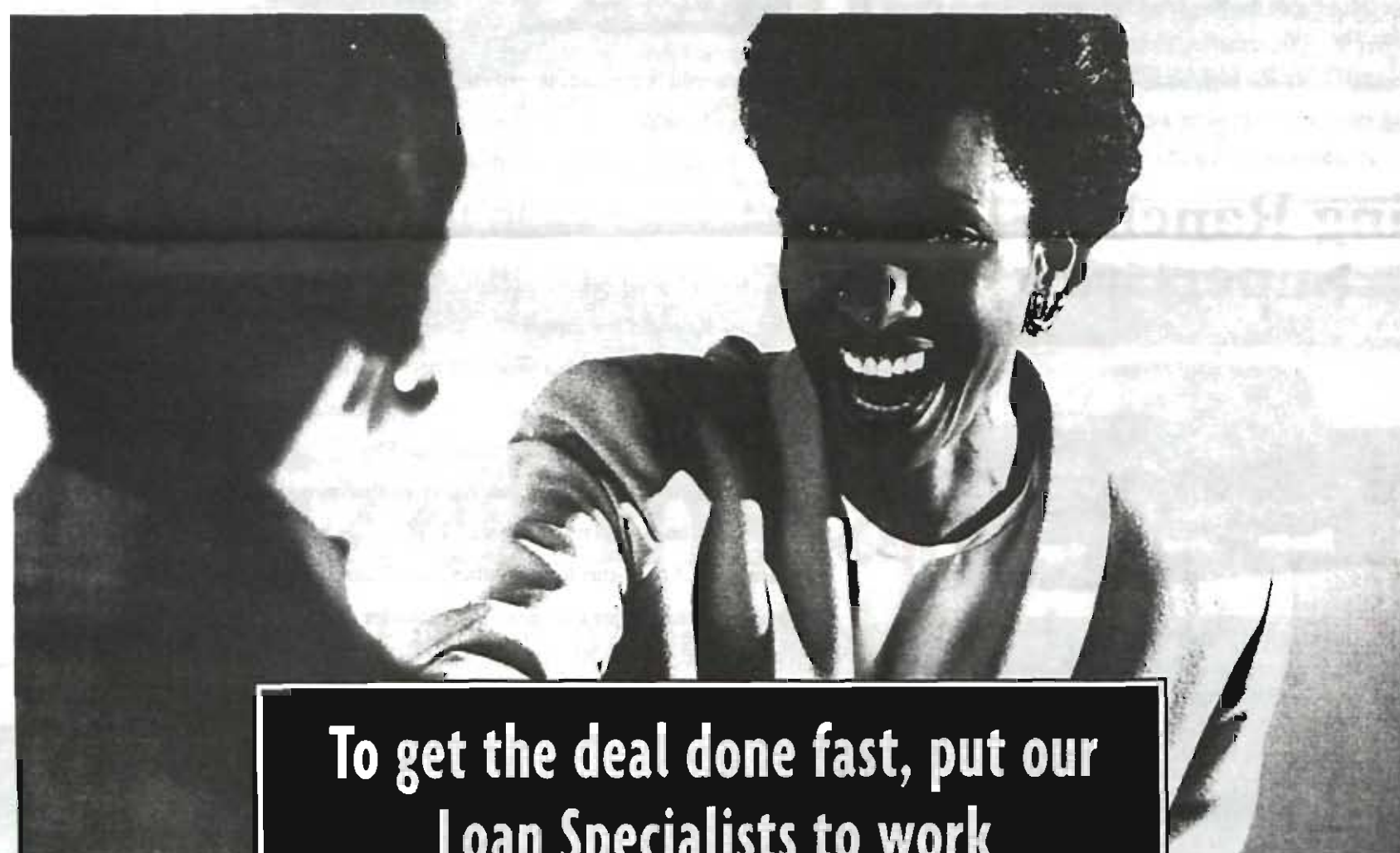
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