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fate of arts hall

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Pres. Dilip Patel
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The Gazette

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

Volume X, Number VIII

"The Paper of Choice"

April 15-30, 2001

NEWS BRIEFS

Columbia U. gathers Malcolm X material for archive
(NNPA) - Columbia University in New York City is collecting material on human rights leader Malcolm X for an archive dedicated to his life and work. The multimedia archive will include a digital version of his autobiography, reams of FBI surveillance reports, as well as pictures, letters and other materials from his family.

Mississippi voters to decide on Confederate-style flag
(NNPA) - Voters in Mississippi will decide this month whether or not to remove the Confederate battle-cross on its 117-year-old state flag. The April 17 vote is a public referendum. The vote comes in the wake of struggles by civil rights organizations to stop organizations from using Confederate symbols as state symbols in the South, most notably in South Carolina.

Gun deaths decline in 1990s
(AP) - Gun deaths in the United States dropped more than 25 percent during the mid-1990s to the lowest level since 1966. Stricter sentencing in some areas, new laws that make it more difficult for criminals to get guns, the waning crack trade, and low unemployment because of the booming economy are cited as reasons for the decline. Guns remain the second leading cause of injury-related deaths in the United States, trailing only auto accidents.

Tape allowed in church bomb trial
(AP) - A tape secretly recorded in the apartment of a former Ku Klux Klansmen can be used as evidence at his murder trial in a 1963 church bombing that killed four black girls. The tape was recorded in 1964 using an FBI bug hidden under the kitchen sink of Thomas Blanton Jr. Court documents give no indication of the tape's contents. Blanton goes on trial Monday on murder charges in the Sept. 15, 1963, dynamite bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in downtown Birmingham.

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ELECTION ISSUE



Office Sought: Councilmember, Place No. 1



Office Sought: Councilmember, Place No. 3

City of PLANO TEXAS



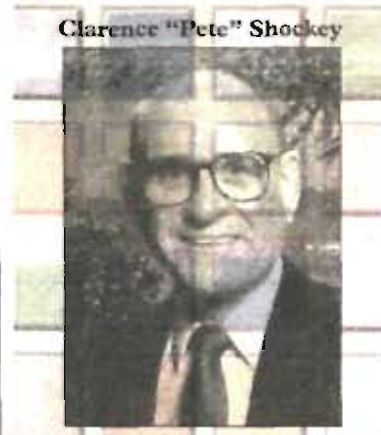
Office Sought: Councilmember, Place 5
Experience: Through years of public service, in my former role as vice-president for the Plano Homeowners Council, and having served on numerous city committees, focus groups and task forces, I have spent a great deal of time working to make Plano the "All-America" City that it is today.
Previous candidate, office: yes, 1998-city council, place 2; 1999-city council, place 7
Top priorities: Traffic, Taxes, Infrastructure & street maintenance

Improvements to office: I will work to ensure that local government is responsive to our citizens by promoting sound fiscal policies that benefit everyone in Plano. I'm a "team player" who will research all sides, display respect for my Council peers, and work to unite all parties through consensus building and compromise.
Problems/Progress: Plano City Council is a volunteer position, but requires a full-time commitment. Most Council members have other full-time careers, leaving Council responsibilities as part-time endeavors. To more effectively perform the duties of the office, I will dedicate full-time hours to serving the City.
Citizens Deserve: Fair and balanced representation, with an emphasis on research and consideration of all viewpoints. One's willingness to seek a middle ground brings successful compromise. All citizens should expect to be heard, but bowing to small, but vocal special interest groups is to the detriment of Plano as a whole.
Character: I'm a uniter. Through years of work bringing homeowners, developers and staff together, in the spirit of negotiation and compromise, I've gained a unique perspective of the valid issues and concerns that diverse groups bring to the table.

I believe the citizens want a public servant representing them, not a politician.
Promises: Giving back surplus revenues to the taxpayers allows them to best decide how and where to use their money. I pledge support to our business community, which is vital to the continued success of Plano. Maintaining our sales tax revenue will help keep the tax rate low. I pledge to be responsive to all of Plano's citizens.



Office Sought: Councilmember, Place No. 5



Office Sought: Councilmember, Place 7

Experience: Three years as president of my neighborhood association, four years as president of Concerned Citizens for Dist. 1, four years as a member of the Plano Police Crime Prevention Advisory Board, and service on eight different bodies serving senior citizens, including a term in the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature.
Previous candidate, office: Yes, Plano Mayor in the 1950s
Top priorities: Fiscal responsibility, Crime, Traffic violators
Improvements to office: I will represent all the Plano citizens and do what is best for all citizens, not just special interest groups. I will be frugal using taxpayer dollars, by moving ahead quickly to accomplish authorized projects within budget, rather than dragging them out and escalating cost (as has occurred with the Arts Hall during the past two years). Work to change traffic light timing to promote traveling at the speed limit.
Problems/Progress: Although well intended, the Council has experienced the pitfall of listening more to special interests and straying from citizen mandates. A shining example of this is the Arts Hall, which has not yet been built, but has grown from a \$19.4 million project to \$43 million.
Citizens Deserve: A councilman that has the citizens' best interest at heart, one who will do what is best for citizens; which includes preserving neighborhood integrity through code enforcement (targeting renters as well as owners) and making our streets safer through curbing speed and red light running; fines should be increased sharply for second and third offenses.
Character: I served in the US Marine Corps in the South Pacific during WWII. Participated in the Battle of Okinawa, served with Occupations Forces in China. I have lived in Plano for 54 years, and always been involved in Plano issues. I am a member of the Church of Christ and Bible class teacher. I am a workaholic, I am ready to give the citizens of Plano my best, just give me the City Council Place 7, if you want my service.
Promises: My primary concerns include fiscal responsibility and law enforcement. Fiscal responsibility

includes frugal use of taxpayers' dollars. Law enforcement concerns include crime reductions, particularly in regards to illegal drugs.



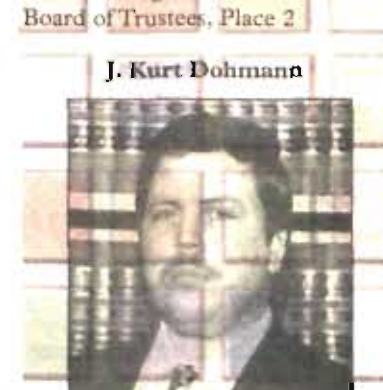
Office Sought: Councilmember, Place No. 7



Office Sought: School District Board of Trustees, Place 1

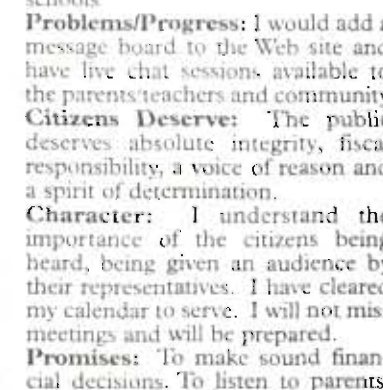


Office Sought: School District Board of Trustees, Place 2



Office Sought: School District Board of Trustees, Place 3

Experience: I bring 17 years experience as a law enforcement officer, managing a multi-million dollar budget and 150 deputy sheriffs. I have volunteered in the schools, community and around the state for many years.
Top priorities: Communication with parents, Improving financial management, Providing teachers with tools to be successful
Improvements to office: I will make myself available to the citizens in the PSD, be creative and innovative in finding solutions, and be a proactive advocate of local control of the schools.
Problems/Progress: I would add a message board to the Web site and have live chat sessions available to the parents/teachers and community
Citizens Deserve: The public deserves absolute integrity, fiscal responsibility, a voice of reason and a spirit of determination.
Character: I understand the importance of the citizens being heard, being given an audience by their representatives. I have cleared my calendar to serve. I will not miss meetings and will be prepared.
Promises: To make sound financial decisions. To listen to parents. To support teachers.



Office Sought: School District Board of Trustees, Place 3

Plano citizens vote for city's well-being in upcoming election

On Saturday, May 5, 2001, Plano citizens will decide the fate of a series of proposed referendums. The Bond Referendum totals almost \$130 million and contains nine separate propositions for various public improvements, including street repairs, construction and renovation of buildings, and acquisition of land and equipment.
Early voting begins Wednesday, April 18, and will continue through May 1, at six locations throughout Plano. Early voting will be conducted Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Exceptions are Thursday, April 26, where the hours will be 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, April 28, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Regular voting hours begin at 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on May 5.

To receive an application for ballot by mail, send requests to: Sharon Rowe, Elections Administrator, Collin County SubCourthouse, 920 East Park Boulevard Suite 120, Plano, Texas 75075. The application for ballot by mail must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. Friday, April 27.

Inquiring eligible voters can direct all questions to (972) 941-7194 and for more information or visit www.planotx.org/budget.

To assist voters in understanding all nine-ballot items, MON-The Gazette with the assistance of the City of Plano Budget & Research Department, offer a brief synopsis of each proposition.

Proposition 1: The issuance of \$48,835,000 general obligation bonds for street improvements.

Explanation: This proposition includes funding for the

construction, reconstruction, ramps, traffic signalization, over-size participations and enhancements of streets throughout the City of Plano.

Proposition 2: The issuance of \$5,250,000 general obligation bonds for fire fighting facilities and equipment.

Explanation: This proposition includes the acquisition of land, construction and equipment costs associated with proposed new fire stations plus the expansion of Fire Station #4.

Proposition 3: The issuance of \$4,100,000 general obligation bonds for police facilities.

Explanation: This proposition includes funding for the expansion of the Tri-City Academy to add new classrooms and offices plus expand the firing range and driving course. Two-thirds of the cost of this project will be reimbursed by other member cities. In addition, this proposition includes funding for the acquisition of land for future police parking.

Proposition 4: The issuance of \$35,050,000 general obligation bonds for parks and recreation facilities.

Explanation: This proposition includes funding for the acquisition of land and construction costs associated with the completion of the Oak Point Park and Nature Preserve. It also includes funding for a new indoor swimming pool with an outdoor leisure pool, general park improvements including security lighting, playground equipment, athletic fields, green belts and nature preserves. It also entails the acquisition of land for a South Central Plano Community Park and recreational trail and bikeway improvements at various locations throughout the city.

Proposition 5: The issuance of \$10,500,000 general obligation bonds for a new recreation center.

Brief Explanation: The Recreation Center will include a gymnasium, classrooms, exercise rooms, weight room and an indoor jogging track.

Proposition 6: The issuance of \$1,650,000 general obligation bonds for Downtown and Municipal Center parking facilities.

Explanation: This proposition is for the acquisition of land and construction cost for a Municipal Center Parking Lot and a Downtown Public Parking Lot.

Proposition 7: The issuance of \$3,530,000 general obligation bonds for expanding the Haggard Library.

Explanation: This project includes the expansion of the children's area and adult circulation plus provides for expanded parking facilities.

Proposition 8: The issuance of \$3,500,000 general obligation bonds for an overpass project to provide grade separation at Preston Road and Legacy Drive.

Explanation: The \$3.5 million is the city's share of this Texas Department of Transportation Project.

Proposition 9: The issuance of an additional \$15,600,000 general obligation bonds to complete the funding for the Creative and Performing Arts facilities to be located in the vicinity of Spring Creek Parkway and Ohio Drive.

Explanation: The Performing Arts Center will include a 1,500 seat multi-event theatre for performances such as concerts, dances, touring shows and a variety of community programs.

Community Spotlight



Bethany Whitt gets her face painted during the opening of the Christopher A. Parr Library. The new library is Plano's fifth community library and is located in northwest Plano.
Photo by Maggie Ybarra



(From left) Twenty-year award winners of outstanding service to McKinney include Terry McCullough, Public Works; Mark Douglas, Fire; and Jack Carr, Development Services. Not pictured is Monty Strickland, Fire. They received the awards at the annual Employee Services Awards reception.
Photos courtesy City of McKinney



Audience members listen to a history of the planning of Parr Library during its dedication ceremony. A \$5.2 million bond issue funded Parr Library in 1998. The library is named in honor of Dr. Parr for his thirty years of volunteer service and financial support of Plano libraries.
Photo by Maggie Ybarra



(From back, left) Terry Morrison, Police, (10 years); Jim Adams, Police (15 years); Don McKinney, Fire (15 years); Diana Hale, Police (15 years); Bryan Williams, Police (15 years); Keith Long, Communications (15 years). (From front, left) David Herron, Fire (15 years); Patsy Weber, Public Works (15 years); Shirlene Salter, Library (15 years); and Tom Allison, Public Works (15 years). "These milestones aren't just time markers," Ms. Neff said. "They are the number of years these employees have served the residents of this community."



Members of the McKinney Chamber of Commerce welcome the Allen Presbyterian Hospital during ribbon cutting ceremonies.
Photo by Delicia Carter



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Second Service, 11:00 A.M.

(Casual Attire)

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(Living Instructions For Today)

Every Tuesday, 7:30 P.M.

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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Sticks and stones and words - This time they all hurt

Every child is familiar with the old saying, "Sticks and stones may break my bones but words will never hurt me." Parents encourage their little ones to know that, despite what is said, no real "hurt" exists from mere words. As good children, they should refrain from retaliatory acts, because words don't have a lasting physical impact - only the actions that may be taken after they are said.

Unfortunately, the recent situation where the Chinese detained an American aircraft and its crew deteriorated into a war of wordsmithing. The priority seemed to focus on the proper use of words, which have become symbolic of victory or defeat in this matter. They have, in and of themselves, taken on a level of importance that far exceeds what most would consider appropriate.

In all seriousness, much of the consideration of what to do about the matter of the downed plane and crew as centered on the appropriate use of words. For some, the phrasing is indicative of the honorable status of the United States. To use the word "apologize" is nothing short of surrender. It means that our country has damaged its image as a world leader and reflects as inherent weakness in American leadership.

Despite the sentiment that,

as military personnel, the crew knew they were second to national honor. One report even suggests that the lead officer of the downed plane should have been court-martialed upon his release for not sacrificing himself and the crew when faced with imminent capture. Now that they have been released, attention can be turned to the intricacies of repairing damaged relations with the Chinese. No doubt this debate will continue long after the folks are back home.

In the last episode, U.S. Ambassador Joseph Prueher handed Chinese representative Tang a letter that twice used the words "very sorry," but did not actually apologize for the collision. "As the U.S. government has already said 'very sorry' to the Chinese people, the Chinese government has, out of humanitarian considerations, decided to allow the crew members to leave China after completing the necessary procedures," Tang said. "Both President Bush and Secretary of State Colin Powell have expressed their sincere regret over your missing pilot and aircraft," read Prueher's letter. "Please convey to the Chinese people and to the family of pilot Wang Wei that we are very sorry for their loss." "We are very sorry of the entering of China's airspace and (that) the

landing did not have verbal clearance," it added.

Earlier, China's state-run media prepared the angry nation for a resolution that could be presented as the apology from the United States that Beijing had demanded. Washington had refused to apologize for the collision, arguing that it was not the spy plane's fault. Prueher's letter described what happened as being "still unclear" and said the two sides would meet to discuss the causes of the incident and other related issues. U.S. officials complained key context had been edited out of the report, but a Western diplomat said that did not matter. "The fact that they twisted his words a bit is not the point. The point is they are setting the scene for something to happen," the diplomat added. "What the Chinese will choose to characterize as an apology, we would probably choose to characterize as an expression of regret or sorrow," one senior administration official said.

The larger lesson to be learned from this experience is the very tenuous nature of symbolism and the many and varied interpretations of its importance. Situations such as this one draw the line in the sand as to where we really stand - whether on principle, profit or pride.

Selling the Dream

By Julianne Malveaux

I just about did a double-take last week when I was riding around an urban downtown and thought I saw the image of Dr.

Martin Luther King Jr. on a billboard. The civil rights leader was standing across from the Washington Monument, but instead of thronged crowds, there was empty space. "Before you inspire, before you can touch, you must first connect," said the script below the image of King. It was an advertisement for Alcatel, a French company that describes itself as a leader in telecommunications.

(The company also has a television commercial featuring a digital image of King, deliver-

ing his speech before the same empty space.)

Whatever they are, I am appalled, even as I learned that Dr. King's heirs were paid well

drugs? Then we'd have to wonder how consistent those sales were with Dr. King's dream.

Communications is fuzzy and nebulous enough to be embraced, no matter what its content. So if I am to count my blessings in this dream-selling context, I suppose I should be happy that officials of an American company have recognized the power of the King image, the fact that his rhetoric and imagery sell. They have made it clear that King has enough posthumous appeal to make his image worth something, and they've recognized our civil rights leader in the only way they know how, in the marketplace.

By paying his heirs, they've also put a value on King's dream, a value that has not been revealed because no one wants to say what a dream like King's

See DREAM Page 11

Vote for a Better arts hall by voting "No" on Proposition 9

A "No" vote on City of Plano Proposition 9 will return the City Council to plan a new arts hall that will serve more of the community at a lower cost to city taxpayers.

Instead of implementing the \$19.4 million project approved by the voters in 1998, the City Council allowed some special interests to reduce the community the new hall would serve, change its location and dramatically increase project costs (to about \$43 million).

A slim 5-3 majority of the City Council voted to transform the project then advocated asking the voters for an additional (\$15.6 million) borrowing authority. After the original project was kept stymied by a two-year campaign supported by a few Council Members, a Council majority saw a ballot proposition as the best way to bring a resolution to the controversy.

Thus there is an opportunity for the voters to decide in the May 5 election. They may vote "Yes" on the proposition, which would commit the city to the \$43 million project, with a new hall within a private office and retail development at a specific location on Ohio Drive. The alternative "No" vote leaves the city with previously authorized funds. The entire \$19.4 million can become a city contribution to a new hall built with in concert with other public entities on public land.

Either way, the city can build a hall in the near future. Proposition 9 is just a question regarding who will benefit more and what city taxpayers will have to pay.

Vote "No" to increase the

community served

The 1998 project involved the Plano Independent School District (PISD) as well as the city. The hall was going to be located on school district land next to Plano's historic downtown. PISD students as well as the private arts groups were going to perform in the hall. The new hall was going to be part of a budding arts district and be a cornerstone of the revitalization of the most ethnically diverse sector of our city.

The Proposition 9 project makes the new building primarily a symphony hall, located within a private west side development named Symphony Park. PISD is not part of the operating plan. Owners of currently vacant land and their associates will reap multimillion-dollar windfalls. "High crime" in the ethnically diverse east side area was one of the reasons developers touted in torpedoing the 1998 plan in favor of their preferred west side site.

A "No" vote on Proposition 9 will return the Council to using public dollars for a maximum possible public benefit. The 1998 plan could be dusted off. Another attractive option is placing the hall at the city's convention center, Plano Centre. The adjacent Collin County Community College and/or a new hotel developer could become financial contributors. Also, use of the hall for business conferences can open up access to hotel/motel taxes paid by our out-of-town visitors.

If a strong "No" vote frees the City Council from the constraint of reacting to private special interest agendas, other joint project opportunities using the

city's ample public land may be apparent. In any case, more of our community can be served with fewer city taxpayer dollars.

Vote "No" to vote for fiscal responsibility

The 1998 plan to spend \$19.4 million for two performing arts facilities ballooned to a plan to spend \$43 million. New hall construction was going to be \$17 million. It is now proposed we spend \$35 million plus another \$1 or 2 million in site-related costs. Converting an existing building to a small theater was going to be a \$2.4 million project. That cost is now at least \$6.3 million.

In 1998, a new hall nicer than what \$17 million could buy was envisioned. The "Friends for the Hall" group committed to raise extra funds from the private sector. After three years, zero money was raised and now the taxpayers are asked to come up with more.

The later city subsidy for operations, debt service and depreciation was to be about \$2 million per year. With higher construction costs, lower operating revenue (due to fewer users) and higher operating costs (due to not being adjacent to related city facilities), the projected city subsidy has soared to approach \$5 million per year.

A "No" vote on Proposition 9 sends the City Council back to a concept that involves less city funds initially and on an ongoing basis.

Vote for responsible use of city dollars in support of the arts by voting "No" on Proposition 9.

David Smith
There's A Better Way

Plano needs a performing arts hall now

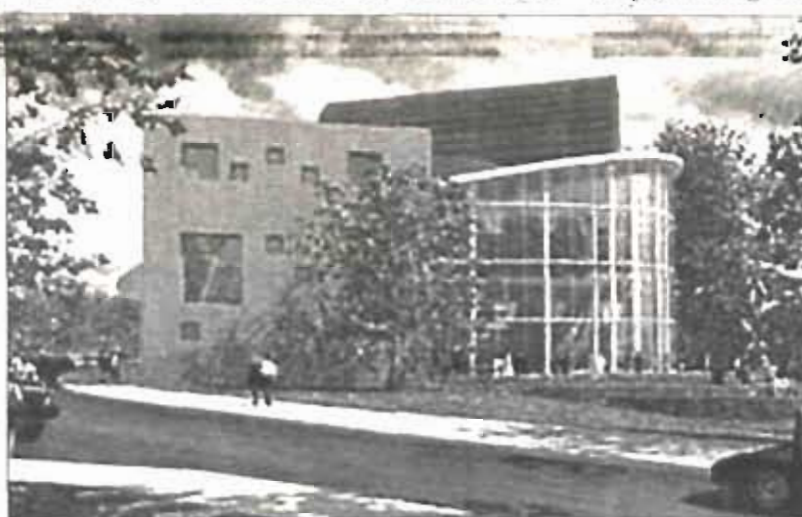
It has been discussed and debated for ten years. As the City is nearing its build out, what we do now will set the stage for the future. A multi-purpose arts hall will be the center of various cultural events. The arts have long been known as catalysts that bring people and cultures together.

Clearly, the time is now. We think failure to bring this idea to fruition will stagnate progress of our beautiful city

for years.

We will lose educational, culture, enjoyment and quality of life issues for our children

and grandchildren. We will force our over 30 non-profit arts organizations to look elsewhere for performing venues.



The hall will be located on Preston Road and Ohio Drive. The cost to the average homeowner in Plano for the \$14.6 million to build the hall is expected to be about \$3.00 per year.

Plano cannot afford to be left behind in the arts arena. A recent study revealed that in the year 2000, \$704 million was brought to the North Texas economy by the arts. These organizations have generated thousands of jobs, accounted for hundreds of thousands of hours of volunteer time and provided experiences for almost 1 million school children.

We think the performing arts hall for Plano is an idea whose time has come and we endorse this idea. Election day is May 5th, with early voting beginning April 18th.

James Muns
Friends for the Hall

The Gazette

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City of Richardson

Councilmember, Place 1



Larry V. Howell



George S. McKearin



Bob Townsend

Experience: My educational background, my technical and managerial skills attained during my work career at TI and my leadership in various civic organizations offer the Richardson residents of Collin County a candidate capable of addressing the concerns of Richardson.

Promises: I will always concentrate on what is best for the citizens and to always be available for them.



Diana Clawson

Experience: I have been attending the weekly work sessions & bimonthly council meetings for the past 2 years.

Promises: I will be responsive to the citizens of Richardson.



John Frick

Experience: I am an attorney with 12 years of experience practicing in Dallas and Collin. I have been active in the community through the Wyndor Estates Homeowners Association, Cub Scouts of America, Richardson Soccer Association, and Plano Youth Soccer Association.

Promises: I will do what is necessary to bring quality retail and restaurants to Northeast Richardson.



Tom Rohm

Councilmember, Place 3



Sheryl Miller

Experience: I ran in 1985 and received 42% of the vote. I will work for the residents. They will be my employers. I will be their employee.

Promises: Stoplight at Cottonwood/Beltline, 50,000 cars per day cross Beltline, puts children & adults in harms way.



John Murphy

Councilmember, Place 5



Raj Chari



James E. Shepherd



Carol Wilson



Bill Denton

Experience: I have attended City Council work sessions and meetings for the last 1 1/2 years. I am knowledgeable about any issue that has come before that council in that period of time.

Promises: As an at-large candidate, I will work diligently for all of Richardson, insuring their "Quality of Life" continues to strengthen in an environmentally sound community.

Councilmember, Place 4



Gary A. Slagel

Councilmember, Place 7



David Hadavi



Bob Nusser

Councilmember, Place 1



Tom Eads



Tony Felker



Steve Nichols

Councilmember, Place 3



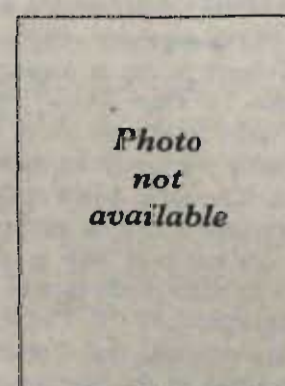
Diane Long



Joy West

City of Frisco

Councilmember, Place 5



David Bristol

Experience: I bring experience with government service thru 14 years as a military officer and fighter pilot. I have demonstrated the skills needed to produce success as a small business owner. The combination of those skills makes me a community leader.

Promises: I promise to listen to the citizens, conduct my own investigations and lead by example as a member of the Frisco City Council.



Tracie Reveal



Rich Kaeufer

Experience: I have been an active resident in the City of Frisco, participating in the school district (PTA Treasurer), our homeowners' association board, and in several committees at our church.

Promises: My promise is to place the education, safety and health of our children before anything else when decisions are to be made.



Richard Scoggins

School Board Trustee, Place 2

School Board Trustee, Place 1



Laura Ellison



Leanne Darden



Dan Presley

School Board Trustee, Place 3

City of McKinney

Councilmember At-Large



Randall Rice

Experience: With 28 years of professional experience, community service and Christian stewardship, I want to bring to the City Council a servant heart that will listen to the citizens of McKinney and a vision for the way things ought to be-responsible leadership and finding the right solution.

Promises: Other than my home, I own no raw land or other real estate that would require me to step down or preclude me from voting on any issues concerning growth, development, quality of life, traffic, airport use, zoning, job creation or parks and recreation. I will work for a comprehensive growth management policy, enhancement of the quality of life and better responsiveness to all citizens.



Alonzo James Tutson

Experience: Being a teacher I understand the importance of education. I also know that learning is a two-way street. When sharing with others and they in turn share with us we grow together.

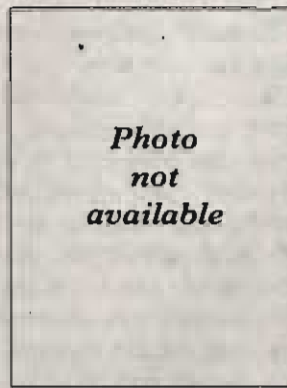
Promises: I promise to be a person whose door is always open and to stand up for what is right even if it means public persecution.



Brad Wysong

Experience: 4 years as McKinney City Council Member at Large, Chairman-Planning and Zoning Commission, Chairman-Board of Adjustments, Traffic and Housing Commissions

Promises: I will encourage creation of commercial tax base and job opportunities, keep McKinney a great place to live and work!



Don Day

Experience: BS in Physics, 35 years experience in Business and Management of large companies and large projects. McKinney Housing Authority Board, McKinney Thoroughfare Committee

Promises: To work to: Reduce Public waste of taxpayer's dollars, Rebuild antiquated water and sewer systems and fix the streets in old McKinney, Develop decent, affordable housing in District 1.



Gilda Garcia Garza



Willie J. Wattley

Experience: I can the programs already in effect, support lower-cost, affordable housing. Replace water lines and make improvements in McKinney.

Promises: Help get affordable housing in McKinney, lower taxes for the people, support the people.

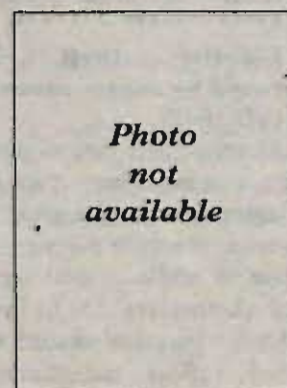
Mayor



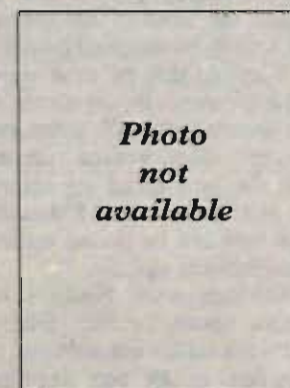
Steve Bell



Don Dozier



Christy Armon Lane



Gabe Nesbitt



Julie Vargo

Councilmember, Place 3

City of Allen

Councilmember, Place 1



Debbie Stout



Bill Petty



Susan Bernard

Experience: Today Allen is faced with new challenges and new growth. I believe our city is best served by officials who act in the best interest of the city and county as a whole. We need to be very aware of our actions today so that future generations will benefit tomorrow.

Promises: I commit to being the best I can be. If so many have entrusted me I will try my hardest so that there would be no regrets from my supporters or myself.



Kenneth M. Fulk

Experience: Since my arrival in McKinney 12 years ago, I have been involved in the civic and charitable matters of this community. My direct connection with the residents of District 3 and the people of McKinney provide me with a broad base of information on the thoughts and concerns of my constituents.

Promises: I will continue to work for open & responsive government, family friendly zoning and code enforcement, preservation of our history and charm, balanced smart growth, a stronger commercial tax base. I will continue to be the citizen's voice at city hall and will continue to put the values of homeowners and families first.

School Board Trustee, Place 4



Virginia Browne

Experience: I have volunteered in the community for several years. Served as PTA president at the Council, high school and middle school.

Promises: To continue to serve the community and work toward children's causes.



Susie McCloud

Experience: I am a 12 year resident of Allen, a 12-year participant with AISD as a parent and volunteer, a degreed business professional and "community leader. My skills, knowledge and experience derive from extensive community and district involvement.

Promises: I promise to be visible and accessible within the Allen community and to make children my top priority.



Jerry Waldon

Experience: As a father of three bright children, I am very committed to their education. I have the ability to make the tough decisions to balance educational standards, teacher retention, and the budget with the public's expectations.

Promises: I will maintain educational excellence, lower taxes, retain teachers and restore discipline in the classroom as a member of this board.

School Board Trustee, Place 5



John Garcia

Senate approves 2002-03 budget

By Lakeesha Joe
Gazette Corresponding Writer

The 77th Session of the Texas Legislature is almost over and senators from across the state continue to work hard to pass legislation.

Lieutenant Governor Bill Ratliff announced that the Senate approved a \$111.7 billion budget for the 2002-2003 biennium that will meet the needs of Texans and address the state's top priorities without a tax increase.

This proposal includes \$24.8 billion in funding for public education, \$200 million in start-up funds for a statewide teacher health insurance program and additional funding to cover existing school district debt. Budget money (\$30 million) has also been set aside to fund President George W. Bush and Governor Rick Perry's reading and math initiatives. The Senate also approved \$380 million in new financial aid for the state's college bond students through the Texas Grant Program.

Ratliff said that substantial amounts of budget money have been allocated for health and human services, which has been hit hard by growing caseloads and escalating health care costs, and a state employee pay raise.

Another significant step in the proposal would raise \$961 million in new federal funds for road construction and improvements to help alleviate congestion and other traffic problems.

"I praise the leadership of Chairman Rodney Ellis and the dedicated work of the entire Senate Finance Committee on the senate budget," said Ratliff. "This budget is tighter than the last, but we were successful in covering our most pressing needs and priorities without raising taxes."

The Senate's budget proposal calls for \$4.1 billion more in general revenue spending than the current adjusted budget for 2000-2001, a 3.6 percent increase each year for the next biennium. Education remains the largest area of state spending, through health and human services will experience the

largest amount of growth due to rising health care cost.

The Senate recently passed a bill that establishes a uniform start date for public schools. Under Senate Bill 108, Texas school districts would be prohibited from starting classes earlier than the week of August 21. Those opposing the bill included Florence Shapiro of Plano.

The bill is intended to allow time for children of migrant families to get back home before the school year begins, as many migrant families travel out of state to work during the summer months.

If this bill becomes law, it would be effective on September 1, but would not apply to school districts until the 2002-2003 school year.

In other Senate news, a bill to combat the practice of racial profiling by police won quick approval by the Texas Senate.

The Committee Substitute for Senate Bill (CSSB) 1074 would create a legal definition of racial profiling and require law enforcement agencies to adopt policies and training programs for officers. The bill would also require police to collect and report race and ethnicity statistics during traffic stops and officers' interactions with suspects.

The author of the bill, Senator Royce West, said the bill is the product of a lengthy process that has included the input of law enforcement, civil rights and legal groups.

West said that the most important component of the bill is installing video cameras in 8,000 police cars. Although the installed cameras would also be a useful law enforcement tool, the estimated \$35 million cost should not be placed on local law enforcement agencies.

Although some Senators had questions about the bill's financial impact on local law enforcement, the bill passed quickly and with little debate. Ratliff was among those who voted for the bill.

"I felt that it was important that not only the members of the Senate but that my office indicate that it is simply not acceptable in the state of Texas for anyone to be detained or arrested based on a racial profile," said Ratliff.



Senator
Florence
Shapiro

Senate passes school safety bill (SB 430)

The Texas School Safety Center is a clearinghouse and resource for schools on violence prevention and school safety. However, the Center is currently funded through an annual grant from the Governor's office, with no year-to-year stability. Senate Bill 430, approved by the Senate on Thursday, will permanently establish the Safety Center by including funding in the state budget.

There is a wealth of information in various places about how to keep schools safe, however, most school administrators do not have time to sift through it all to find the information most useful to their school or district. The Texas School Safety Center has been a useful tool for school districts implementing measures that prevent school violence and encourage safe schools.

Senate Bill 430 now goes to the House for consideration. Identity theft bill approved by senate committee (SB 1047)

Identity theft can victimize a person in more ways than just damaging their credit rating. If someone steals your driver's license, is arrested, and represents themselves to be you, then your personal record will forever reflect their arrest. Because of the inadequacy in current law, even after a person's name has been cleared and charges dropped, the arrest record with the Texas Department of Public Safety cannot be cleared - forever identifying the victim as being arrested. The Senate Criminal

Justice Committee approved Senate Bill 1047, providing that if a person's identifying information was used in the arrest of another person, the victim is entitled to an expunction of that information. Senate Bill 1047 now awaits a vote before the full Senate.

Privacy bill for stalking and domestic violence victims moves forward (SB 27)

Unfortunately, in Texas there are many victims of domestic violence and stalking who are unable to move on with their lives, or begin the healing process. They live in fear of being found by the abuser or stalker. Exacerbating the problem is the fact that much of a person's personal information is available on the Internet. A Senate committee endorsed Senate Bill 27, which will create an address confidentiality database for victims such as these. Currently, many of these victims remain underground and do not enroll their children in school, register to vote, open bank accounts, obtain credit cards, or even order telephone service. This bill instructs the Secretary of State's office to establish and operate the address confidentiality program whereby a victim can use a substitute address. The Secretary of State's office will sort the mail and forward it to the participant's true confidential address. This will give victims of abuse or stalking a mechanism to keep their home, work, or school address confidential on all state maintained records including drivers' licenses and voter registration.

A legislative update from the Capitol

Similar programs are established in several other states. Senate Bill 27 awaits consideration by the full Senate.

Senate passes school financial accountability bill (SB 218)

Senate Bill 218 will provide a mechanism whereby taxpayers can view a report on the financial well being of a school district. Under this bill, just approved by the Senate last Monday, the Texas Education Agency will be required to create a financial accountability rating system that uses data already reported to the state, but until now has not been used to evaluate a district's financial health. Under current law, a district's accountability is only rated through student performance and does not take into account financial management.

The financial accountability rating system will use indicators such as a district's financial allocations, tax collections, operating costs, personnel and debt management, as well as many other performance measures that are easily calculated by the district. The final report shall be made available at a public hearing, providing an opportunity for the public to view and comment on the findings.

Senate Bill 218 now goes to the House for consideration. Commercial truck safety bill faces final hurdle in house (SB 220)

In the last 8 years, commercial truck traffic has increased by more than 40% on Texas highways, and 80% of all U.S./Mexico commercial truck traffic crosses the border in Dallas. According to the Dallas

County Sheriff's Department, 98% of all commercial trucks pulled over in the county are overweight. In addition to creating a hazard for Texas drivers, dangerously overweight and unsafe trucks severely damage roads and bridges that were not designed for such extreme loads.

Almost 24 percent of Texas' 47,196 bridges are deficient, meaning they require repairs or are too narrow or weak to handle current traffic, and current state law allows overweight trucks to travel across any bridge.

Senate Bill 220, which was adopted by the Senate, and subsequently approved by the House Transportation Committee, will provide increased enforcement of truck weight and safety provisions, and prohibits overweight trucks from crossing bridges that have a posted weight limit below the weight of the truck.

Senate Bill 220 awaits consideration before the full House.

You can visit Senator Shapiro's website: <http://www.senate.state.tx.us/75/senators/members/dist8/district8.htm>

Contact Information for Senator Shapiro at the Capitol:
1400 Congress, Capitol 3E.12
P.O. Box 12068
Austin, Texas 78711
Phone: 512/463-0108
Fax: 512/463-7579

Contact Information for Senator Shapiro in the District:
5005 Addison Circle
Addison, Texas 75001
Phone: 972/385-9876
Fax: 972-385-9877



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Chambers of Commerce



Tuesday, April 17

8:00 a.m. - Government Legislative Committee
Collin County Community College, Room A302

11:30a.m. - Member Appreciation Hot Dog Lunch - Oak Hollow Golf Course, 3005 N. McDonald (Hwy 5)
Free! The Chamber Board of Directors will host the annual "Member Appreciation

Event" and treat you to lunch under the spreading pecan trees at Oak Hollow Golf Course. John Rattan, "The Body Shop," is bringing his traveling grill and we will be

cookin' up a mess of dogs and other special treats just to show you all how much you are appreciated! The Oak Hollow staff is cooking up some fun games and prizes for our members as well. No RSVP required - just come on by and enjoy the beautiful weather at Oak Hollow!

Wednesday, April 18

11:30 a.m. - Ribbon Cutting
Join us for a ribbon cutting for McKinney.com in the Chamber lobby.

Thursday, April 19

7:30 a.m. - Business Development Committee
McKinney Economic Development Corporation Boardroom

4:00 p.m. - Women's Golf League

Oak Hollow Golf Course - 3005 N. McDonald (Hwy 5)
30-minute lesson followed by 9-hole scramble. \$15 per session

5:30 p.m. - Business After Hours

Jim Wilson's Architects, 220 E. Virginia. For more information call 972-542-0163.

Friday, April 20

8:00 a.m. - Citizenship McKinney Regional Collaborative Session, held at Chamber office.

1:00 p.m. - High Adventure Golf Tournament

Oak Hollow Golf Course, \$100.00, Sponsored by St. Gabriel's Boy Scout Troop 531.

For more information contact Tucker Thompson at 972-548-1629.

Saturday, April 21

9:00 a.m. - 12th Annual Native Plant Sale

Heard Natural Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary, free to attend sale, largest native plant sale in Texas. Over 260 varieties of Texas Native plants available for sale, tax-free.

For more information call 972-562-5566 or www.heardmuseum.org.

Monday, April 23

7:00 p.m. - McKinney Storytelling Guild

"Mysterious Stories" in the historic Foote Chapel of Chestnut Square Historical Park, located at the SW corner of McDonald (Hwy 5) and Anthony Street. Free, donations accepted. For more information call Adah Leah Wolf at 972-548-7186.

Tuesday, April 24

11:30a.m. - Manufacturer's Roundtable Luncheon

Orthofix 1720 Bray Central Drive, Orthofix marks McKinney's emergence into the booming biotech industry. Orthofix is a manufacturer and distributor of high-quality orthopedic devices. They have now moved into their new 70,000 square foot facility in the Bray Central II Business Park in North McKinney. Orthofix employs 300 professionals and represents a \$40 million investment in McKinney. Orthofix found McKinney to be the most economical location in the US 75 Technology Corridor coupled with our outstanding quality of life. To make reservations for the tour and lunch please RSVP to Cammy Martin at 972-542-0163.

City of Richardson

Wednesday, April 18

7:30a.m. - EarlyNet
EarlyNet is held at Castle at Canyon Creek (2700 Custer Parkway). No Reservations Required! Super networking table exchange!

11:45 a.m. - TBC Environmental Technology Forum

"Electronic Equipment Reclamation" Speaker: John Lerohl, National Key Account Manager, ECS Refining. Forum will be held at the Holiday Inn Select - Richardson (1655 N. Central Expwy).

Friday, April 20

11:15 a.m. - TBC 3rd Friday Technical Luncheon

Event sponsored by Thompson & Knight, LLP. Part 2 of the "From Photons to Networks" Series. Speaker: Joe Bass, VP of Cisco Systems and GM of the Wavelength Router Business Unit. Event held at Radisson Hotel (formerly Clarion - 1981 North Central Expressway). For technology professionals only.

Tuesday, April 24

11:45 a.m. - RCC Small Business Roundtable

"Gifts for a Lifetime - Treasures from 'Who Moved My Cheese' by Carl

Youngberg." Speaker: Carl D. Youngberg, President, Concepts 3 Marketing & Management Inc. Event held at Holiday Inn Select - Richardson (1655 N. Central Expwy).



City of Allen

Wednesday, April 18

7:30 a.m. - RCIB Meeting
Meeting will be held at the Chamber Office.

11:30 a.m. - Candidate Forum

The forum will be held at St. Jude Catholic Church and will feature candidates for the upcoming May 5 election.

Thursday, April 19

8:00 a.m. - Ambassador Meeting
The meeting will be held at the Chamber Office.

7:00 p.m. - Youth Summit
Summit will be held at the Lowery Freshman Center.

Friday, April 20

8:00 a.m. - Leadership Allen Class

The class will be held at Quad C's Spring Creek Campus.

Thursday, April 26

7:30 a.m. - Board of Directors Meeting
The meeting will be held at the Chamber Office.

PLANO

It's Plain to See,
Plano is the Place to Be!

Tuesday, April 17

5:30 p.m. - Business After Hours

The mixer will be held at the Presbyterian Hospital of Plano. The mixers offer members a chance to meet and network with other members in a casual atmosphere. Individual member businesses may sponsor this event. To register call 972-424-7547.

Wednesday, April 18

7:30 a.m. - Board of Director's Meeting

The meeting will be held at the Chamber. Everyone is invited, no RSVP required.

11:30 a.m. - Women's Division Luncheon

The luncheon will be held at the Gleneagles Country Club. To register call 972-424-7547.

Friday, April 20

7:30 a.m. - Business Interchange

Event will be held at the Chamber building.

Monday, April 23

7:00 p.m. - City Council Meeting

Meeting will be held in the Municipal Building, 1520 Avenue K.

Wednesday, April 25

11:30 a.m. - T.I.P.S.

Timely Informative Programs for Success will be held at the Chamber building. The event is sponsored by Hauptrief Financial. To register call 972-424-7547.

Friday, April 27

7:30 a.m. - Business Interchange

Event will be held at the Chamber building.

FRISCO Chamber of Commerce

Tuesday, April 17

9:30 a.m. - Ribbon Cutting
Join us for a ribbon cutting for Jantech Staffing, 2591 Dalias Pkwy., Ste 300, Frisco

For more information contact Christie Coggins at 972-731-4390 or the Chamber 972-335-9522.

1:30 p.m. - Ambassador Meeting
Meeting will be held in Chamber Board Room, 6843 Main St.

Thursday, April 19
8:00 a.m. - Get on Track at 8 Networking Session

Session will be held in the Frisco Chamber Office, 6843 Main

9:15 a.m. - Ribbon Cutting

Join us for a ribbon cutting for Office Interiors Group, Chamber Office, 6843 Main Street

For more information contact Debbie Munson at 972-387-9866 or the Chamber 972-335-9522.

7:00 p.m. - 2001 Meet the Candidates Night

Staley Middle School
Come meet the 2001 Frisco City Council and Frisco ISD School Board candidates. The event is sponsored by the Frisco Chamber of Commerce.

Monday, April 23

9:30 a.m. - Ribbon Cutting

Join us for a ribbon cutting for Jon Scott Hair Colour & Design, 3411 Preston Rd., Bldg. C, #5, Frisco. Grand Opening with Ribbon Cutting at 9:45 am. For more information contact Ron

Boen at 972-668-6295 or the Chamber 972-335-9522.

Tuesday, April 24

9:30 a.m. - Ribbon Cutting
Join us for a ribbon cutting for Corner Bakery, 3301 Preston Rd., Ste 2, Frisco

For more information contact Scott Rhyne at 972-668-6590 or the Chamber 972-335-9522.

Thursday, April 26

8:00 a.m. - Get on Track at 8 Networking Session

Frisco Chamber Office, 6843 Main

9:30 a.m. - Ribbon Cutting

Join us for a ribbon cutting for Starlight International, Chamber Office, 6843 Main Street

For more information contact Joanne Boyd at 972-625-2800 or the Chamber 972-335-9522.

1:00 p.m. - Newcomers Stuffing

Event will be held at the Chamber Office, 6843 Main Street.

5:00 p.m. - Business After Hours

Event will be held at the North Dallas Bank, 7359 Preston Road, Frisco

For more information contact Emily Dukes at 972-701-2825 or the Chamber 972-335-9522.

Saturday, April 28

9:00 a.m. - City Wide "Operation Clean Sweep"

Show Frisco Pride! Volunteers are need and welcome. For more information call Pipha Couvillion at 972-335-5519.

be Norm Lyons, Executive Director of the Dallas Stars Foundation and VP of Community Relations for the Dallas Stars Hockey team. PIP children will be singing for the event. For more information call Pam Harvey at 972-867-5871.



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Plano Housing Corporation to build inexpensive homes in East Plano

By Delicia Carter
Gazette Senior Writer

As announced in a recent city council meeting, the non-profit organization, Plano Housing Corporation is building four homes available for low to moderate-income purchasers.

"Homes in Plano are expensive and many people who work in Plano cannot afford to live here," said Neighborhood Services manager Bob Buffington.

The City Council conveyed the lots at 1614 15th Place to the Plano Housing Corporation at the council meeting.

Potential buyers must meet the following qualifications:

- * Meet HUD Income Requirement Maximum of 80 percent (example: a family of four must not have an income over \$48,560).

- * Must be employed by an

entity in the City of Plano.

- * Cannot currently own a home in Plano.

- * Buyer must qualify for mortgage financing.

The Plano Housing Corporation has already selected three purchasers. These homeowners expect to move into their new homes July 1-15, weather permitting.

The average home in Plano costs \$191,000 and these four homes will cost between \$86,000 and \$100,000 to build. "This range only includes the homes, not the lots. The lot is a grant to the buyer if they live in the home for five years," said Susan Vinson, executive director for Plano Housing Corporation.

The city began purchasing this land two years ago with low-income housing in mind.

Buffington says the homes were built on the East side because land prices are more reasonable.

The company is in the process of purchasing eight more lots on Parker Road for more affordable housing. "This purchase should be complete in the next few months and then we will start the process of selecting additional buyers," said Vinson.

In addition to this program, Plano offers a first-time buyers program that provides half of the down payment up to \$3,000. Plano houses may be on the pricey side, but many are seeking to provide homes at a reasonable cost. For information on the first-time buyers program, please call Wallie Simien at (972) 941-7322.

By Delicia Carter
Gazette Senior Writer

It is illegal for citizens of Texas to ride their bike on the sidewalk and it can be extremely unsafe to ride in the street. Traffic, speeding and sharing small roads with motorists all present a problem for those wanting to cycle, walk or run. All of these factors are causing cities to look into providing trails for community members. Frisco is one of the many growing cities wanting to provide a trail for their community.

Representatives from the Frisco City Council, Planning and Zoning Commission and staff from the Parks and Recreation and Planning Departments presented a sketch of the trail plans during a recent community meeting.

"This trail will be used by bikers, runners, roller bladers and walkers. We want the com-

munity to use this trail," said Mike Spackman, a consultant from Newman, Jackson and Bieberstein.

"The trail size will most likely vary in width because we can make it wider in areas less developed. It will have to be smaller in commercial areas," Spackman said.

It was also suggested that the trail be adjacent to the DART rail enabling commuters to bike to the rail. This would help cut down on air pollution and traffic. Many questioned the cost of the trail and how it would affect taxpayers.

"We are just trying to establish a framework and the planners need some time to discuss and implement all these ideas. The grant application for this trail is due the first of June and we will know more by then," said Dudley Raymond, Senior

Landscape Artist.

The city will hold more planning meetings before planners make the trail presentation to the City Council.

"We will make our final presentation to the council six weeks after August 7. That gives us enough time to put in the grant application. We will hold another community planning meeting on June 4 and we will have more details about the trail then," said Spackman.

"These trail meetings help plan our future and will affect community members many years from now," Raymond said.

All Frisco residents are invited to attend the June 4 meeting to give their thoughts and ask questions about the trail plan. For any questions about the trail plan, please call (972) 335-5551.

Joint tax returns may be hazardous, unfair

By Marilyn Barrett
WEnews Contributor

(WOMENSENEWS)—At last, Stephanie Toth thought, she and her young son were free to put their lives back together. That was the day in 1998 when her husband began a 30-year prison sentence, ending years of beatings, rape and forced prostitution. Then the IRS showed up.

Stephanie, it turns out, had filed a joint income tax return for 1993, a year in which she lived with her abusive husband for only about three months. After he was in jail, the Internal Revenue Service came to her looking for \$10,000 of unpaid taxes. Even though the IRS was aware of the abuse Stephanie had suffered at the hands of her former husband and even though the divorce judge ruled that her former husband was entirely responsible for the tax debts, the IRS said Stephanie had to pay.

Margaret, who asked not to be identified further, also had to pay taxes really owed by her abusive husband David because she filed a 1994 joint tax return with him. At trial, her daughter testified that she saw David throw Margaret across the room, grab her hair and slam her against the wall.

Nevertheless, the judge decided that, although Margaret was a victim of abuse, she had not proved she

was being abused at the precise time she signed the return. She was, the judge said, liable for any unpaid taxes for 1994 even though she and David were now divorced.

Stephanie Toth and Margaret became just two more of the women knocked off their feet by joint return liability. These are extreme examples, but the risk of liability holds true for all women who file joint tax returns.

This is the type of "marriage penalty" President Bush should address, not the small adjustments to the current income tax rules he is advocating.

If only one spouse works, however, the married couple will pay less tax than if they were not married—a "marriage bonus." President Bush's recent tax proposal does not solve these problems.

Under his proposal, the marriage penalty would be reduced by at most \$990, and for many married couples considerably less. The marriage bonus would not be changed.

Moreover, Bush's proposal doesn't do anything for the biggest "marriage penalty" of them all: joint return liability—a penalty that is particularly appalling when the woman is the victim of domestic violence.

Filing Joint Returns, Women Can Be Liable for

100 Percent of Unpaid Taxes

Joint return liability will continue to be a major problem for divorced men and women for years to come as the divorce rate continues to hover around 50 percent. It is particularly onerous in cases like those of Stephanie Toth and Margaret who are first victimized by their husbands and then victimized again by a tax system that makes them pay their abusers' tax debts.

Sometimes a taxpayer can escape joint return liability if she can prove to the IRS that she is an "innocent spouse." She has to demonstrate to the IRS that she didn't know that the taxes were not properly paid, that she had no reason to know of the impropriety and that she didn't financially benefit from the underpayment of tax.

In 1998, Congress passed a law that purported to make it easier to qualify as an innocent spouse. This law also allows taxpayers to retroactively file a separate return if they are divorced from the spouse with whom they filed a joint return and they didn't know that taxes were underpaid. To do so, taxpayers must be able to prove how much tax they would have paid if they had filed separately in the first place. This can be hard to do when many years have gone by and records needed to prove their separate

income and expenses are lost.

For example, for a spouse to prove that she didn't know about the underpayment of tax, the IRS and the courts hold that, as long as the woman knew about the underlying transaction, she is deemed to have known that taxes weren't properly paid. That is, if she knew that the couple received cash from an exotic investment that wasn't reported properly on their tax return, the IRS and the courts hold that she then knew that taxes related to the investment were underpaid. And they hold her liable for these taxes even if she didn't understand how the investment worked, she didn't know how it ought to be taxed and she didn't know that it wasn't taxed correctly.

"Married, Filing Separately" Avoids Joint Return Liability—But Taxes Higher

Joint return liability can be avoided by married couples filing tax returns as "married, filing separately," and married couples increasingly are doing so as they become aware of the risk of joint return liability. However, married couples that file separately lose other benefits and pay more tax than if they filed joint returns and joint returns are still more common.

Sometimes an abused woman can escape joint return liability by proving that she

signed the joint return under duress, but perceptions about what constitutes duress vary greatly among IRS agents and judges.

Instituting Separate Return System Would Eliminate the 'Marriage Penalty'

A separate return system would be consistent with today's family economics.

More married women enter the workforce everyday and the government should finally acknowledge that the Ozzie and Harriet days are over and change the tax system to conform to that reality. One-earner couples would lose the marriage bonus under a separate return system, but, as more women work, fewer couples qualify for the bonus.

A separate return system would eliminate the marriage penalty and equalize the taxes paid by unmarried and married taxpayers. It would allow the IRS to use the resources it currently uses to sort through the vast number of claims for

joint return relief to pursue true tax cheats. It would eliminate the financial hardship and emotional devastation suffered by divorced taxpayers who become faced with massive and unforeseen taxes owed on a joint return on tax items they didn't even know about.

And it would eliminate the further victimization of women who have already suffered intolerable abuse at the hands of their former husbands.

Marilyn Barrett is the author of "The Ten Biggest Legal Mistakes Women Can Avoid."

She is a corporate and tax partner at the Los Angeles law firm Alschuler Grossman Stein and Kahan LLP. She is a former chair of the taxation sections of the California State Bar and the Los Angeles County Bar Association.

For more information, visit "The Ten Biggest Legal Mistakes Women Can Avoid": <http://www.legalmistakes.com>.

DART News

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Massage therapy used to renew body functions, relieve stress

By Monica Thornton
Gazette Corresponding Writer

One of the best ways to keep your body fine-tuned is with massage therapy. Massage is the oldest and largest system of natural health, whose value is recognized by natural therapists and medical professions. It is a scientific treatment using systematic manipulations on the body to promote and maintain a balanced circulation.

Although the benefits of massage are numerous, North Dallas-based massage therapist Janet Sherrill says the main benefit is stress relief.

"Stress is a factor in all kinds of physical, mental and emotional disorders," says Sherrill. "And in today's hectic paced life, especially amongst Dallasites, they do not know how to relax." She says it can take some people months to relax during sessions, until they eventually even end up falling asleep during the therapy.

Massage also relaxes the respiratory muscles, increasing the mobility of the chest. It promotes lung expansion and increases cellular respiration. It is also excellent for the circulation, helping the contractions of the heart. This develops the heart muscle, and blood pressure in the veins is reduced. Massage also quickens the cellular activity for increased digestive power and stimulates the glands to increased activity. The overall increase in circulation provides the brain and nervous system with a greater supply of blood, boosting the activity of these organs. And in the treatment of iron-deficiency anemia, the influence of massage upon the blood-forming organs makes it an invaluable tool.

There are many types of

massage, including lymphatic, Swedish, polarity and trigger point. Lymphatic massage is a light massage requiring specialized training, aimed at draining the lymph system and boosting the immune system. Trigger point massage is mostly for pain areas in the body that can be felt by heat coming from the point of pain, or by feeling for knots in the body tissue. Sherrill says the knots are spasmed muscles that trap toxins such as lactic acid and mucus. The toxins then solidify and the muscles become frozen, and then bear down on nerves, causing pain. By manipulating the knots, pain is relieved and a free path is created for body fluids to pass through, carrying the toxins away.

Sherrill says massage should not be painful. A series of massages should be performed, gradually breaking down pain areas, rather than massaging too deep during an

initial session and risking bruising tissue and inflicting a great deal of pain.

"I believe that when you create pain the body will fight you to try and protect itself by tightening muscles, which becomes counter productive," says Sherrill.

Massage is even beneficial for post-operative cancer to help with scar tissue and relax muscles that have been cut and scarred. Specifically, in post-operative breast cancer, there is loss of mobility in the muscles of the chest and arms and massage therapy can restore some of this mobility by relaxing these muscles, boosting the immune system and increasing blood flow.

Getting a massage is a safe, natural and scientific way to jumpstart your body and boost your immune system in a relaxing and soothing environment.

Steps to Scheduling Your First Massage:

1. Pick your therapist carefully. When contacting a therapist ask them where they were trained, what kind of massage they give, do they require a medical history, and make sure they are state licensed.
2. If you have a particular condition you want them to address, such as arthritis, circulatory problems or cancer, ask the therapist if they have dealt with any of these problems. For certain conditions you will must check with your doctor before getting massage, and then provide the massage therapist with written permission from your doctor. Ensure that the therapist has you fill out a medical history form, and does not want to just sit and talk with you about your medical history.
3. Once your appointment is booked, try not to eat for at least an hour or to drink for at least 30 minutes before the massage.
4. Keep the lines of communication open before, during and after the massage. Let the therapist know if you find anything uncomfortable or painful.
5. After the massage, try to rest for half an hour to an hour. Drink plenty of water for the next 24 hours to flush out the toxins.

Dilip Patel takes helm of Asian American Chamber of Commerce

By Brandy Jones
Gazette Editorial Assistant

The Dallas branch of the Asian American Chamber of Commerce recently installed Dilip Patel as its new Chairman.

"As Chairman, I have the duty to uphold the Constitution and by-laws of the organization," says Patel.

The plan for his term is centered on the theme "Membership and Money." He plans to reach out to different ethnic communities and business partners from corporate America. "A strong Chamber is as solid as its quality of members," he says. The duration of his term shall also include efforts to catapult the hearts and minds of the Board of Directors and members toward the goals of the Chamber.

Dilip Patel is a native of India, but opportunities and family brought him to the

United States. He even calls the United States his adopted motherland.

His family consists of wife Sudha and two sons, a

zations. When asked how he juggles all those activities, he replies, "My wife and children give me inspiration. [I also have a] love and commitment to serve the people, especially those who are in need. That's the reason why most of my involvement is in service organizations."

The Asian American Chamber of Commerce was founded 14 years ago. The Chamber represents 16 Asian American communities in the greater Dallas metroplex. The membership, composed

primarily of Asian American professionals and small businesses, is approximately 700, with almost 90 corporate members. The Chamber seeks to develop leaders, promote community awareness, create business opportunities for members, and represent Greater Dallas Asian American communities in the business world.



Dilip Patel

Washington, D.C. doctor who and a consultant. Patel holds a bachelor's degree in economics and accounting and a master's degree in finance, which prepared him for his six-year position with the Department of Revenue.

Patel is also involved in the community serving on the boards of several ethnic organi-

RISD teachers win awards for innovative teaching

RICHARDSON, TX—Ten teachers in the Richardson Independent School District won recognition this week as the RISE Foundation's award recipients for 2000-2001.

The RISE Foundation program recognizes and rewards teachers for outstanding, innovative, and creative classroom teaching in district schools.

This year's winners are Nancy Barkel, Apollo Junior High School; Bhajan Singh "Ben" Chehal, Prestonwood Elementary School; Susan Fixler, Lake Highlands Freshman Center; Chad Gilliland, Westwood Junior High; Caroline Keller, Arapaho Elementary; Melanie Martin, Springridge Elementary; Daniel McKay,

Richardson Junior High; Maurice Norman, West Junior High; Patu Rawlins, Lake Highlands High School, and Sarah Thompson, who teaches Spanish through RISD's languages-other-than-English program.

Winners will receive \$1,000 awards at the Richardson Education Association banquet April 27 at Southfork. They also will be honored at a reception to be hosted by Compaq and again at the RISD convocation in August.

Principals, teachers and staff members, and parents nominate teachers for the RISE Foundation awards. A committee also made up of principals, teachers and parents chooses recipients on the basis of

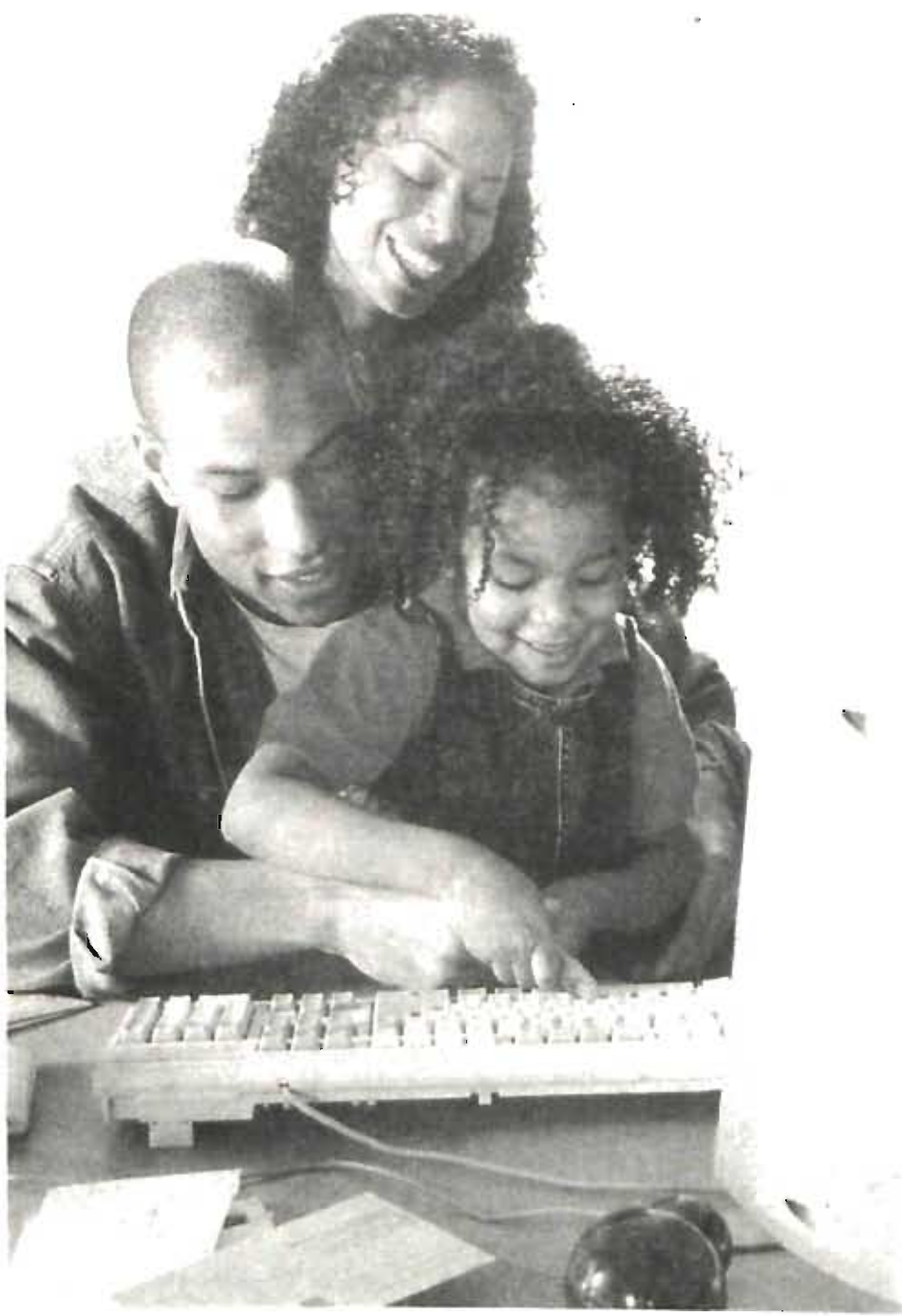
recommendations.

Nancy Barkel heads the English department at Apollo and also teaches eighth-grade English and Pre-Advanced Placement English. She has taught for 21 years, all in RISD. On the nomination form, one parent describes her as "an educator of incredible intelligence with a flair for the kind of creative and innovative teaching methods that make her stand head and shoulders above her peers."

Ben Chehal teaches fourth grade at Prestonwood Elementary and has 33 years of teaching experience, including 26 in RISD with 22 of those years at Prestonwood. Born in a remote village in northern India,

See RISD on Page 12

She's young, but she's well on her way!



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Sly Stallone returns to the big screen for action-packed drive

By Brandy Jones
Gazette Editorial Assistant

Warner Bros. Pictures and Franchise Pictures present the action drama "Driven" starring Academy Award-winner Sylvester Stallone and Academy Award-nominee Burt Reynolds. Directed by Renny Harlin with screenplay by Stallone, from a story by Stallone, Neal Tabachnick and Jan Skrentny, the film also stars Kip Pardue, Til Schweiger, Gina Gershon and Estella Warren.

"Driven" captures the lives and careers of four drivers chasing the ultimate adrenaline rush.

Talented but unfocused rookie Jimmy Bly (Kip Pardue) is slipping in the ranks and cracking under the pressure from his ambiguous promoter brother (Robert Sean Leonard). And to make matters worse, Bly is pursuing an affair with Sophia (Estella Warren), the girlfriend of his nemesis, top

racer Beau Brandenburg (Til Schweiger).

Seeing the pressure brewing on Bly, seasoned car owner Carl Henry (Burt Reynolds) seeks help from former racing star Joe

sensation Memo Moreno (Cristian De La Fuente).

"Driven" features coverage of real races including the fastest car chase and racing sequences ever filmed. For the



(l to r) Sylvester Stallone and Cristián de la Fuente star in the Warner Bros. Pictures film "Driven".

Tanto (Sylvester Stallone), whose once-promising career abruptly ended after a near death tragic accident. Nevertheless, in order to point Bly in the right direction, Tanto must deal with his scarred emotional past, steer around the hovering presence of a reporter (Stacy Edwards) covering the male-dominated racing scene, and challenge his ex-wife, who has since married rival racing

specter of death intensifies them. Caught between success, failure, regret and the need for speed, the four competitors are driven to put the pedal to the medal in pursuit of redemption and glory.

The Motion Picture Association of America has rated this film "PG-13," for language and intense crash sequences. "Driven" opens in theaters April 27.

first time, a feature film puts the audience in the driver's seat of some of the fastest cars on earth.

The characters that propel the ensemble "Driven", struggle with the desires and temptations in an environment where the

By Brandy Jones
Gazette Editorial Assistant

Thousands of bookstores, libraries, schools and cultural institutions participate each April in National Poetry Month through readings, festivals, book displays, workshops and other activities. This

year, the Gazette highlights the extraordinary legacy and ongoing achievement of poets by acknowledging the accomplishments of Li-Young Lee.

Lee possesses "a disarming modesty...that turns out to be the foot in the door

of a whole range of sad, strange and even monumental experiences...intimate without being confessional (it's a highly sensual, devotional kind of writing, avoiding sentimentality through equal use of cunning and candor)." -New York Times Book Review. Writing of love, family and a personal past, Lee may seem to some as a spontaneous, romantic poet. However, Lee's surfaces are labeled as deceptive; his work is highly literate. Given his personal history, his poetry deals with questions of identity, what it means to be Chinese and broader questions of life. Critics have compared his

work to famous poets of the past such as John Keats, Rainier Maria Rilke and Theodore Roethke. "Part of the pleasure in reading Lee is hearing how those voices echo and transform within his own," say reviews on Norton Listening Booth. www.norton.com



Li-Young Lee

Chinese royal family. His father had been personal physician to Mao Zedong but left for Indonesia where he became a professor of English and Philosophy at Gamaliel University, where he was one of the founders. His father was arrested by the President Sukarno in a wave of anti-Chinese protests and spent a year as a political prisoner. He and his family managed to escape and spent five years moving from Hong Kong to Macau and Japan before finally migrating to the United States in 1964. "Lee often reflects upon his father's experiences as Mao's personal physician and as a

Presbyterian minister in Pennsylvania, exploring the dramatic differences between that life and his own." (Norton Listening Booth)

Li-Young Lee studied at the University of Pittsburgh, the University of Arizona and the State University of New York. He taught at various universities, including Northwestern University and the University of Iowa. In 1990, Lee traveled to China and Indonesia to do research for a book of autobiographical prose.

Lee has many honors include several arts council grants, fellowships, and the Lannan Literary Award.

The Academy of American Poets launched national Poetry Month in 1996 with seven goals in mind:

- * To highlight the legacy and achievement of American poets,

- * To introduce more Americans to the pleasures of reading poetry,

- * To bring poets and poetry to the public in immediate and innovative ways,

- * To make poetry a more important part of school curriculum,

- * To increase the attention paid to poetry by national and local media,

- * To encourage increased publication, distribution, and sales poetry books, and,

- * To increase public and private philanthropic support for poets and poetry.

Cosby Foundation film about learning differences to screen in Dallas

DALLAS (PRNewswire) — Some of the world's most talented athletes, writers, business leaders, actors, and artists struggled to learn to read, write, learn mathematics, or express themselves in school. Their stories are the subject of the film "Ennis' Gift: A Film About Learning Differences," which will be shown on May 2, 2001 at 7:00 PM at the Dallas Museum of Art.

"Ennis' Gift" is inspired by the life of Ennis Cosby. Introduced by Ed Bradley of 60 Minutes, the film includes special appearances by James Earl Jones, Henry Winkler, Charles Schwab, Danny Glover, Lindsay Wagner, Robert Rauschenberg,

Bruce Jenner, and others who refused to be limited by their difficulties or defined by labels. They, like Ennis Cosby, found gifts within their differences.

The 52-minute documentary film was produced by Boston filmmaker Josh Seftel, in collaboration with the Hello Friend/Ennis William Cosby Foundation.

It was recently shown in Boston to a standing room only crowd of 450 people at the Museum of Fine Arts. It has been described by writer Tom West (author of "In the Mind's Eye") as a "national treasure."

The Hello Friend/Ennis William Cosby Foundation was founded by Bill and Camille Cosby to celebrate the life and fulfill the goals and dreams of their son, Ennis William Cosby. Ennis' common greeting to

friends, old and new, inspired the name of the Foundation, which is dedicated to the vision that no one with learning differences be denied the lifelong joy and fulfillment of learning. The Foundation strives to create fundamental changes in services, attitudes, educational systems, families and communities, in order to unlock the gifts of creative accomplishments in learning that benefit all.

This presentation is co-sponsored by the Rick and Carolyn Waghorne, in loving memory of their son, Carter; Park Cities Learning Disabilities Association; and The Shelton School and Evaluation Center.

Call (972) 774-1772 for reservations. Tickets are \$5 reserved in advance or \$7 at the door.

THIS HOUR AND WHAT IS DEAD

*Tonight my brother, in heavy boots, is walking through the bare rooms over my head, opening and closing doors.
What could he be looking for in an empty house?
What could he possibly need there in Heaven?
Does he remember his earth, his birthplace set to torches?
His love for me feels like spilled water running back to its vessel.*

At this hour, what is dead is restless and what is living is burning.

Someone tell him he should sleep now.

*My father keeps a light on by our bed and readies for our journey.
He mends ten holes in the knees of five pairs of boy's pants.
His love for me is like his sewing: various colors and too much too thread, the stitching uneven.
But the needle pierces clean through with each stroke of his hand.*

At this hour, what is dead is worried and what is living is fugitive.

Someone tell him he should sleep now.

- Li-Young Lee
(Norton Listening Booth)

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Shawn
Atkinson

Lack of dominant center may end Mavs playoff dreams

Sobriety will come to Dallas' drunken hysteria over the Mavericks. I know everyone is having fun, the music is right and there is a party going on. I have never been one to be a party pooper, I just want to make sure everyone knows that it's nearing closing time and the party will soon be over. I like to give advanced warning so that when the lights go out no one will be disappointed.

I know some are saying "the party is just getting started", however there is a fine distinction between a party revving up for the long haul and a climatic event. Sure our beloved Mavs have accomplished a feat that Dallas hasn't experienced in a decade. Congratulations are in order. They are going to a dance they haven't been to in a while. The NBA geeks have finally changed their goofy ways. They have exchanged them for a suave sophistication that has impressed the league. They have stopped backing down to bullies and tripping over own feet. But the dance they have an invitation to, will be playing music that they don't yet have the rhythm for. Why? Because the man in the middle doesn't know his steps. In addition to not knowing his steps, there are bullies that have not been backed down.

Dallas has many rising stars. A few of the even have superior skills by many NBA standards. However they have a 7-foot-6-inch Achilles heel in the form of Shawn Bradley. Oh, Bradley is a good guy, nice enough to get into any function. But the NBA playoffs have a different groove. Despite all the success the Mavericks have experienced, they must be keenly aware that the teams they will meet in the playoffs will be teams they have never played before. Because just as there is a transition that must be made from the college level to "the league" there is just as big, if not bigger, transition from regular season games to playoff level

play.

The Mavs are especially disadvantaged because the teams that Dallas will have to go through for sustained success have strengths where Dallas is weak. The Western Conference playoff teams that have centers, play games stronger than Bradley's. The Spurs tout David Robinson, one of the most productive centers in basketball for the past decade. This is a man who has scaled his game back due to the arrival of the other Twin Tower, Tim Duncan. In spite of his reduced responsibility, this man has grabbed one hundred more rebounds than Bradley. Duncan, who is a big body and a scoring machine, has matched close to 500 more boards than our Mav, while leading the league in double-doubles.

The Kings of Sacramento have one of the more mobile centers in the business. Vlade Divac also owns a sweet outside shot that helps make his team one of the teams the Mavericks have yet to beat. Divac also has championship pedigree, having won it all with the Lakers.

Speaking of the Lakers, the league doesn't have an answer for Shaq, so it would be unfair to expect the newcomers to slow

him down. Nelson's "Hack-a-Shaq" invention has only made the reigning league MVP better.

Let's move on, before somebody gets hurt. Bradley for all of his efforts is the number one shot blocker in the league. Validation, I hardly think so. He fouls so much in the process of getting the blocks, that it is a stat that doesn't help his team very much. Utah has recently shown that the season victory Dallas enjoyed should not be overestimated. Understanding the playoff implications motivated the Jazz to handily put the Mavericks in their last meeting. This was a game - reminiscent of other big games - where Bradley seemed to disappear. I am sure he has had it tough all through life. Being bigger than everyone always brings expectations and attention. But the crowd at this dance is tough, unyielding and unsympathetic, that's life.

Bradley is a player in this league, no doubt. But a starter, that is a reach; a force that will make this team the belle of the ball, so to speak. Calvin Booth has tapped him on the shoulder, with his talent and hustle. But he too is only a good backup at this point. So frizzy and catch a dance, because even though some have just arrived, it's about time to turn the lights out. The party is almost over.



The Mavericks will have to rely on assistance from Wang Zhizhi in the middle during playoff competition. Wang (7-0, 255) was originally selected by the Mavericks in the second round of the 1999 NBA Draft (16th overall). By signing with the Mavericks, Wang became the first Chinese player to play in the NBA.

Photo by Lori's Photography



Ron
Shaw

How's Your Receiver?

Mark 4:23-25

I'm come to realize that most people have problems receiving. We don't have problems taking but receiving is a real problem because receiving is an act of faith. It has to be done apart from works. The other problem with receiving is that it must be done with the heart and not the hand. To get or take we just outstretch our hand. The attitude behind getting or taking is one of duty or a perceived debt; not so when it comes to receiving with the heart.

I had lunch with a very wealthy man a few weeks ago discussing business issues from a biblical perspective. As we finished, I picked up the check for the food. Of course he attempted to stop me. I asked him if he would just receive the gesture as an act of appreciation. He was not used to being on the receiving end because he'd had to work for everything he'd accumulated. I asked him if he had to work for his salvation. "Not exactly," he replied.

The conversation helped me identify a serious issue in the lives of so many people.

Because of our ineptness in this area we often forfeit relationships, gifts, opportunities not to mention the internal forces that keep escaping us like peace, joy, and contentment. What do you do with a gift, either accept it or reject it. You can't work for it.

The most interesting aspect of this principle is that receiving must be done with the heart not the hand.

Consider what Jesus says in our text. Be careful what you hear because it will determine what you have. It's plain to see that according to Him, receiving starts with the ear and concludes with the heart. What you hear on a consistent basis is being deposited in your heart and is what shows in your life. If you want peace but continue to bend your ear toward chaos, confusion and strife, you'll have no peace.

Whenever God gives us something, He speaks it to us. It comes through the ear and must be received with the heart. Then the heart produces the physical reality in our lives. In our praying, we must remember what the Bible says: He has already given us everything that we need to live godly lives. We

are also told that He has revealed everything to us. If he has given and we don't have, the problem can't be on His end, it has to be with the receiver. Let's check our receiver to guarantee it's in working order.

First, how have you received salvation, from works or from hearing? We heard then received. Therefore, everything He gives must be received that way. What are you hearing? If you don't change what you're hearing, you'll never change what you're receiving.

Second, what condition is your heart in? If you don't forgive others (a heart issue), you can't receive forgiveness. Grudges in the heart are like clogged arteries.

Finally, each of the aforementioned requires effort. It's hard work to monitor what you hear because there is so much that constantly assaults us. We are bombarded with negativity on our jobs, in our families and in our relationships.

Never forget, you are the only one who can prevent yourself from receiving. Check to see the condition of your receiver.

Kroger signature celebration at Six Flags Over Texas

ARLINGTON, TEXAS - Kroger Food Stores hosts their second annual Signature Service Day honoring key associates and employees who have provided customers outstanding service over the past year. The event called "Signature Service is a Piece of Cake" was again held at Six Flags in Arlington and included over 1,000 employees and their families from all over the Metroplex.

Kroger employees in Districts six through ten who have exhibited excellent cus-

tomers service in their stores



Kroger employees are honored at the Signature Service Day celebration at Six Flags Over Texas. Employees' family members join them at the celebration. Photo courtesy: Kroger Food Stores.

during the promotion were invited to the celebration.

and were each rewarded with a day at Six Flags and a spectacular prize. Prizes ranged from brand new DVD players, digital cameras, VCR's and televisions to cash prizes and gift certificates.

Also, all of the Key Associates present at the event had the chance to win a brand new, red 2001 Ford Mustang convertible. Annazette Morgan, the winner of the Mustang, is employed at the Kroger store located at 3302 Denton Highway, Haltom City, Texas.

DREAM from page 3

ost. It seems as if we have moved from "I Have A Dream," to "Money, Money, Money, Money." I would be useful for the King heirs to remind themselves, that Dr. King said, "If you will respect my dollars, then you must respect my person." Through Operation Breadbasket, he led boycotts against companies that did not fully include minorities in their governance and operations. If he were alive today, would King embrace Alcatraz or reject their corporate policies?

Some will see the King commercial debut as evidence that we have come a long way, baby. Indeed, one might say King's appearance in the commercial world is the highest compliment that our capitalist society can offer anyone. I see it as a reminder that we still have a long way to go. After all, minorities remain relatively absent in corporate executive suites. We are a tiny fraction of those who pull down six-figure earnings. We don't shatter glass ceilings, but batter our heads on concrete ones. And, while our images have commercial value, our work efforts are often undervalued.

Now, they've got King, too. They've taken a classic speech and turned it into a commercial moment - taken a moment in history and attempted to turn it into sales.

To be sure, they paid for it, and so they should not necessarily be condemned. The fact that King was for sale, though, ought to be cause of condemna-

tion.

A moment of conscience has been turned into a commercial construct. The dream that has motivated so many has been turned into something that can be priced, auctioned and sold.

I wouldn't mind the dream being sold if the dream had been attained. But even as we are

being barraged with the Alcatraz commercial, we are also being told that a Michigan court will not accept admission standards at the University of Michigan Law School when race is included as an admission factor. Alumni, athlete, or any other status is okay. Race can't matter, this court says, because it is

unfair. The real unfairness, of course, is that race has mattered for so long that the court cannot understand that they cannot simply assert a level playing field.

Dr. King's heirs can tell his image, but they cannot cash out the dream because, by now, the dream no longer belongs to

them. It is a dream that many share, and that many aspire to. It is a dream that transcends the time commercialism of an Alcatraz ad, a dream that the heirs can't put a dollar figure on.

They can sell Dr. King's image, but they can't sell his spirit.

Indeed, perhaps the King

they sold will remind us to search for the dreamer in his words and in his words.

Julianne Malveaux is a Washington, D.C.-based economist, columnist and commentator.

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Now through May 17, watch the movie Shrek at 5:00 p.m. and see the movie Shrek 2 at 7:00 p.m. at participating theaters. See Shrek 2 at 7:00 p.m. at participating theaters. See Shrek 2 at 7:00 p.m. at participating theaters.

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McKinney honors community businesses, residents during annual celebration

By Delicia Carter
Gazette Senior Writer

Faces were bright and the decorum beautiful at the 2001 McKinney Annual Community Awards Celebration recently held at the Eldorado Country Club, and sponsored by the McKinney Chamber of Commerce.

"Tonight is about who makes McKinney a better place to live and who works hard to make McKinney what it is today," said David Anthony, one of the masters of the ceremony. The ceremony honored volunteers and employees of the City's many schools, committees and organizations.

The following awards were given to McKinney businesses and individuals:

- * City of McKinney Innovative Design-Walker Elementary School
- * Building and Landscape Design-The Eldorado Parkway Office Building located at 2600 Eldorado Parkway and owned by Bry Taylor, Bryson Realty.
- * Historic Preservation for



Dwayne Howell of Howell's Home Furnishings accepts the Community Award for Small Business of the Year.

Photo by Maggie Ybarra

Residential/Business-Scott Home at 513 Louisiana, owned by Tom and Karen Watson.

* McKinney Convention and Visitors Bureau Lifetime Achievement Award-McKinney Chamber of Commerce.

* McKinney Convention and Visitors Bureau Individual Tourism Partners-Donna

Brakefield and Erma Beeson.

* McKinney Convention and Visitors Bureau Corporate Tourism Partner-Holiday Inn, McKinney.

* Economic Development Corporation Corporate Performer Award-Performance Food Group.

* Community Development Corporation Quality of Life Award-Neil Sperry.

* Firefighter of the Year-Duke Durham.

* Police Officer of the Year-Damien Guerrero.

* Excellence in Teaching, Secondary education-Barbara Dorff, McKinney High School.

* Excellence in Teaching, Elementary education-Linda Chapman, Glen Oaks Elementary School.

* Outstanding Business of the Year-Bob Torres Ford.

* Small Business of the Year-Howell's HomeFurnishings.

* Kim Hoffman Volunteer of the Year-Kent Paluga.

* Outstanding McKinney Citizen-Carey Cox.



John Dudley

Taking Advantage of Market Declines

There are a few certainties in life-death, taxes, low tide, full moons, and declines in the stock market. Long-term investors know this-so they often see opportunity in market declines.

When the evening news contains a graphic of a red arrow pointing down, should that make you nervous? Only if you need money soon and can get it only by selling stocks. Otherwise, you can look at these downturns with more optimism than is normally reflected on the evening news.

For starters, think about the asset allocation in your investment portfolio and your qualified retirement plan. Revisit your targeted allocation of stocks, bonds, and other investments in your portfolio and make some adjustments in keeping with the new economic climate. You may find during bear markets that by shifting more money into stocks, you can take advantage of lower prices. If you've been hoarding some cash for a particularly good bargain or a stock that's been on your wish list for a while, this may be a good time to add to your stock portfolio.

Warren Buffett, Berkshire

Hathaway Chairman and one of the most successful investors of all time, offered a long-term perspective on market fluctuations in his company's annual report:

"If you expect to be a net saver during the next five years, should you hope for a higher or lower stock market during that period? Many investors get this one wrong. Even though they are going to be net buyers of stocks for many years to come, they are elated when stock prices rise and depressed when they fall.

"This reaction makes no sense. Only those who will be sellers of equities in the near future should be happy at seeing stocks rise. Prospective purchasers would much prefer sinking prices."

The objective, of course, is "Buy low, sell high." It's been said that market declines

"return stocks to their rightful owners"-that is, to those who buy low.

Provided by courtesy of John Dudley a Financial Advisor with the investment firm First Union Securities in Dallas. For more information, please call John Dudley at (214) 740-3253. First Union Securities, Inc., Member New York Stock Exchange and SIPC, and a separate non-bank affiliate of First Union Corporation. (c) 1999 First Union Securities.

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First Union Securities 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.

RISD from page 9

Chehal attended village schools, walked miles to read books in other villages, eventually went to college and then on to England and the United States. "His life experiences have created in him the ability to teach his students not only the required fourth-grade curriculum but also lessons on which they can build their lives," parents stated in nominating him.

Susan Fidler teaches English and Pre-Advanced Placement English at the Lake Highlands Freshman Center. She has been teaching for 14 years, all in RISD schools. Parents and peers praise her dedication to the teaching profession and her "positive, creative approach to teaching the English curriculum."

Chad Gilliland heads the math magnet program at Westwood and also teaches seventh and eighth-grade math. His six years of teaching experience include two in RISD. Gilliland helps students to truly understand advanced math, and "his breadth of information and his teaching maturity far exceed his earthly years," according to comments on his nomination form.

Cardine Keller, who teaches music at Arapaho, has been teaching for 30 years, including 15 years in RISD schools. Parents and peers describe her as being creative in her use of teaching methods and say she "buys into every child," "never quits," "generates unique opportunities for her students" and "draws the community into the school."

Melanie Martin teaches kindergarten at Springridge Elementary. She has taught for 10 years, all in RISD. Martin is "unique in her ability to develop in her young pupils a love for learning and to inspire them to pursue academic excellence" and she "makes learning a positive reward on its own," parents stated on her nomination form.

Daniel McKay teaches seventh-grade science and eighth-grade Pre-Advanced Placement science at Richardson Junior High and has been teaching for about nine years,

all in RISD. According to parent comments on his nomination form, he challenges himself to try new techniques, is successful in working with children who have special needs, presents scientific principals in creative ways, involves students in demonstrations and labs, and always teaches and re-teaches, using alternative methods until all students understand the concepts.

Maurice Norman teaches band at West. His 18 years teaching include eight in RISD. Norman demands excellence, is creative and determined to make all students successful, encourages community support, and finds innovative ways to reach out to students who speak little English and students with special needs, according to parents.

Patti Rawlins teaches Advanced Placement Latin literature, AP art history and Latin cultural linguistics topics at Lake Highlands High School. Her 28 years of teaching include 21 in RISD. In supporting Rawlins' nomination for the RISD award, parents stated she "willingly accepts new challenges by developing different and exciting curriculum for the courses she teaches" and "structures her class in such a manner that academic goals are met as a result of creative techniques."

Sarah Thompson, who has eight years of teaching experience, including four in RISD, teaches Spanish through studio lessons and on school campuses through the district's language-other-than-English program. Supervisors and parents describe her as using her creativity and teaching skills to meet the demands of teaching in front of a camera and "to project sincerity, warmth, care and interest for each and every child." Thompson also plans classroom lessons that give students the "opportunity to see, feel, taste and hear the language on

another level."

Finalists in this year's program include Christy Scheef, who teaches second grade at the Math/Science/Technology Magnet School, and three Berkner High School teachers: Sandra Lyman, Advanced Placement and Pre-Advanced Placement physics; Catherine Weigel, newspaper and journalism; and Andrew Stern, geometry.

Vote on Saturday, May 5th
"For" the Hall
and
Say "Yes" to #9



John & Myrtle Hightower (supporters of The Hall)

Vote for
Proposition #9!

Political Adv. Ytd. for by Friends "For" The Hall, 5512 W. Plano Pkwy, Suite 200, Plano, TX 75093. James Boswell Treasurer.

RE-ELECT

Willie J. Wattley

District #1



As we approach election day, we are faced with a challenge and a choice. The challenge is to vote.

Let's vote for the candidate who is making progress in the older section of our city. This candidate is for continuous improvements. These are some of the visual accomplishments: new streets, new storm drainage, new water and sewer lines, old settlers park renovated and new old settlers recreation center, upgraded Fitzhugh Park with more improvements due.

There is still much to be done in the older section of the city, we must build affordable housing and we must continue to replace old water and sewer lines, continue to build new streets, sidewalks, and work to decrease the drainage problems.

Let's vote May 5th at the Collin County Courthouse, support your District 1 Councilman so that McKelvey will be what we want in the year 2001, and beyond. Let's Re-Elect Councilman Willie Wattley.

EXPERIENCE • QUALIFIED • INTEGRITY

Pol. Adv. Ad by Willie Wattley

Responsible Leadership For Plano's Future



JOY FLICK
For
City Council

Place - 5

www.JoyFlick.com

Early Voting: April 18th thru May 1st

Election Day: Saturday, May 5th

Pol. Adv. Ad. by: Joy Flick Campaign, Peg McBrayer, Treas., 2700 Winfield Dr., Plano, TX 75023, 972-608-0054

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.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)

District: DALLAS

CONTRACT #095-02-089, for GUIDE SIGN FURBISHING in DALLAS County will be opened on: MAY 1, 2001 at 1:00pm 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 Office 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.tdot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies in Austin, Texas at the expense of the contractor. NIP03327

District Office(s)

Dallas District
District Engineer
4777 E. Hwy. 80
Mesquite, TX 75150
Phone: 214-329-6110

State Office

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

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.

"With the Texas Tomorrow Fund we make monthly payments and lock in our child's college tuition at today's prices."

Jackie and James Montgomery



You must enroll by May 25, 2001.

For more information, call or visit our Web site:

1-800-440-GRAD (4723)

www.texas tomorrow fund.org



Texas Tomorrow Fund
Tomorrow's College at Today's Prices

Committee: Corrie Rogers Rylander, Chairman • Texas Prepaid Higher Education Tuition Board

Arts & Entertainment

EVENTS

On-going

Frisco Dance Force is looking for dance teachers for the summer and fall 2001 summer. Teachers should have a professional background or degree in the field, and or have been teaching extensively. Please e-mail your resume to Debra Swaim at jdsuaim@swbell.net or call the studio 972-712-6829. Resumes may also be faxed to 972-712-2600.

April 15-29

A photographic exhibit of the Million Man March - Five Years Later will be on display at the Black Academy of Arts and Letters. The exhibit is donated by the James E. Kemp Gallery. Guest curators for the exhibit are Phillip Collins and Emanuel Gillespie.

Dallas Children's Theater will present "The Great Gilly Hopkins," from the children's book by Katherine Paterson. The play will run at The Crescent Theater, 2215 Cedar Springs, Dallas. The show is for children 12 years of age and older. For more information or tickets call 214-978-0110.

The African American Museum, 3536 Grand Ave., Fair Park, will host the Young American Talent Regional High School Art Competition. The competition is sponsored by the Visual Arts Guild of Booker T. Washington High School for Performing and Visual Arts. For more information call 214-565-9026.

April 15-May 6

The Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth presents the exhibit "Ultrabaroque: Aspects of Post-Latin American Art" at the Modern's Cultural District location. For more information call 817-738-9215 or visit www.mamfw.org.

The Dallas Theater Center will present "Wit" by Margaret Edson at the Kalita Humphreys Theater. Opening night is Apr. 17. For more information or tickets call 214-522-8499 or visit www.dallas-theatercenter.org.

April 15-May 13

The Richardson Children's Theatre will hold the Lone Star League Workshop for ages 8-15. For information or registration call 972-690-5029.

April 15-June 1

Works by artist Mary McCleary will be on display at the Dallas Visual Art Center, 2801 Swiss Ave., Dallas. McCleary will hold an Artist Talk Apr. 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Pegasus Theatre will present "H'mlet 2001: A Space Travesty (of a Landmark about Denmark)," by Kurt Kleinmann & Mario Cabrera. For information or tickets call 214-821-6005.

April 19

Arts & Letters Live will continue its season with a special look at screenwriting in "Making a Scene," with Stephan Harrigan, Anne Rapp and Lawrence Wright at 7:30 p.m. in the Horchow Auditorium at the Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 N. Harwood St. For tickets or information call 214-922-1220.

April 20-21

Jazz pianist Kim Jordan will return to TBAAL for a third concert by popular demand, at the Clarence Muse Café Theatre, Dallas Convention Center during 9:00 p.m. performances. For more information or tickets call 214-743-2440.

April 20,27

Plano Children's Theatre, 1301 Custer Rd., will present "My Fair Lady," a musical with weekend performances at 7:15 and 2:15 p.m. For tickets call 972-422-2575.

April 20-May 13

Dallas Children's Theater will present Mark Twain's "Tom Sawyer," adapted for the stage by James De Vita. Performances will be held at El Centro College Theater, Main & Market Streets, Downtown Dallas. For tickets and information call 214-978-0110.

April 21

The Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd., will hold its Arts Spring Fling in the Center's Sculpture Garden. The event will feature hands-on art activities for children of all ages. For more information call 972-252-7558.

The Third Eye will present the 16th Annual Spring Rising Lecture Series at TBAAL, 650 S. Griffin Street, Dallas, at 6:00 p.m. "Remembering Marcus Garvey" is the theme for the lecture series. For information and tickets call 214-428-1040.

April 21-22

Dance Council will present the Dance for the Planet Festival at the Annette Strauss Artist Square, Dallas Arts District, from noon to 7:00 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. For more information call 214-219-2290, or visit www.thedancecouncil.org.

April 21-May 5

Lyric Stage will close its eighth season with "Listen to My Heart: The Songs of David Friedman," in the Irving Arts Center's Dupree Theater, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd., Irving at 8:00 p.m. For more information and tickets call 972-252-2728.

April 22

The Dallas Theater Center will continue its Deloitte & Touche In Perspective Series with a seminar by Tom Mayo, Professor at SMU's Dedman School of Law. The seminar will be held at the Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. For more information call 214-252-3916.

April 25-29

The UTA Theatre Arts Department, 700 W. Second St., Arlington, will present "The Glass Menagerie," by Tennessee Williams, directed by Dennis Maher. Performances will begin at 8:00 p.m. For tickets and information call 817-272-2650.

April 28

Junior Players will hold open audition for students grades 9 through 12 for its summer production of "Much Ado About Nothing," at the Sammons Center for the Arts, 3630 Harry Hines Blvd. (at Oak Lawn) from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. interested students should call 214-526-4076 for an audition appointment.

April 29

Alpha Kappa Alpha and Delta Sigma Theta Sororities are sponsoring "Sisters in Opera," with mezzo soprano Barbara Conrad and soprano Harolyn Blackwell at the Naomi Bruton Theatre at 6:00 p.m. For information or tickets call 214-743-2440.

May 3-27

Plano Repertory Theatre will present "Six Characters in Search of an Author," by Luigi Pirandello, at the ArtCentre Theatre, 1028 15th Place, Historic Downtown Plano. For tickets or information call 972-422-7460.

May 4

The Dallas Black Dance Theatre II will perform at the Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts at 7:30 p.m. For tickets and information call 214-871-2376.

The African American Museum, 3536 Grand Ave., Fair Park, Dallas, will debut the exhibit, "Three Centuries of African American Art." For information call 214-565-9026.

Night Vibes

By Ché Hill

Shelly Garrett's world premiere of "You're Gonna Make Me Love Someone Else," proved to be humorous, but predictable. The show follows the same basic plot of previous Garrett plays. While entertaining, there were many moments

become impatient with the lack of quality time he spends at home. She claims, "common sense should tell you to take care of home first." After seeing lipstick on Adam's collar, and over-hearing a phone conversation, Roslyn concludes that Adam is cheating.

She mulls over her situation with friends Kay



Michael Colyar and Lisa Raye star in Shelly Garrett's "You're Gonna Make Me Love Someone Else."

(Bern' Nadette Stains) and homosexual Rodney Brown (Rodney W. Jackson) who provides cliché laughs, but no real advice. Roslyn is still unsure about to handle things when she gets a call from ex-boyfriend Brandon (Howard Hewitt).

Brandon proves to be a suave and subtle guy bent on getting what he wants, which is Roslyn. Dinner turns out to be a private party for two, accompanied by song and dance from Hewitt, and the antics of comedian Michael K. Colyar.

Yet Roslyn's love for Adam proves strong. Lisa Raye does a good

job as Roslyn, making her character very believable and she delivers the best performance of all. Michael Cooper portrays Adam fairly well, but he isn't seen that often in the show. The energy brought by Michael Colyar's comic relief comes right on time and Bern'Nadette Stains is exciting. Rodney W. Jackson performs in stereotypical homosexual style, and Howard Hewitt's role of the suave Brandon fits him.

I give the show a C because it's predictable and there are times when the story goes overboard and becomes surreal and it's apparent that the scene is being over played and it doesn't work. Overall the actors do a good job and the musical selection is nice.

where it seemed to lack a strong story line or a hint of innovation, and in its place we're left with an attempt at a cheap laugh to fill the void.

The play centers on a couple, Roslyn (Lisa Raye) and Adam (Michael Cooper) that has been married five years. Adam has been working late nights on a regular basis and Roslyn has

What's Happening in the Hood

The James E. Kemp Gallery presents the exhibit "One Million Strong: A Photographic Tribute and Recountance of the

Million-Man March - Five Years Later." The photos can be seen at the Black Academy of Arts and Letters Tuesdays-Fridays

from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays from noon to 4:00 p.m. Donations are accepted.

Eyeing the Arts

By Stephanie Ward

Warm temperatures mean festival season. These outdoor festivals celebrate everything for art to corn dogs. These festivals present a great opportunity to purchase original or unique artwork for a reasonable price.

* The Main Street Fort Worth Art Festival in Downtown Fort Worth. This festival starts April 15-18. The festival presents 400 musicians, dancers, poets and artists. Marti Mayo, director of Contemporary Art Museum of Houston, juries the art portion of the festival. Main Street is lined with booths from hundreds of artists with outstanding original artwork. Along with the great artwork, is outstanding music with Kirk Whalum and Joe McBride headlining the music portion of the festival. The festival is free but bring plenty of money for shopping.

* The USA Film Festival is in its 8th year and runs April 26 to May 3. This eight-day festival

celebrates excellence in independent film from around the world. Movie enthusiasts get to go to a local theater and see work by independent filmmakers that may never make it to the big screen. Celebrity producers discuss the making of their films after the movie is screened. Festival planners have not yet announced the theater that will host the festival. For more information call (214) 821-FILM.

* The City of Richardson hosts the Cottonwood Arts Festival featuring more than 200 artists displaying arts, crafts, plus food and entertainment. The festival is located in the Cottonwood Park, near the Telecom Corridor. This festival usually begins the early part of May. The high points of the festival include: musical groups Huey Lewis and the News and the Spin Doctors. Along with bands, the festival includes a classic car show and rock climbing.

* The Dallas Festival of Arts & Jazz celebrates its 7th year. The festival is scheduled for June 9-11 at the City Hall Plaza in Downtown Dallas. Jazz great Spyro Gyra will perform his unique blend of soul, jazz and pop. Other musicians include Bob James, Freddie Jones, Joe King and Anna Grey.

* Art fest is held on Memorial Day weekend. This is a real art festival and includes over 300 artists from across the country. This is a juried with original artwork and handmade items. There is also food and music at this festival but it ranks second to the art. The proceeds from this festival will benefit local art organizations.

* Other festivals include Taste of Addison in Mid-May with food for local restaurants and the Grapevine Heritage Festival in late May in downtown Grapevine. This is mostly a wine fest with many of the Texas wineries participating.



Look No Further!

Hobby Lobby Store Management Opportunities

Hobby Lobby is a leader in the Arts & Crafts industry with over 260 stores located in 24 states.

Candidates must have previous retail store management experience in: supermarket chain, craft chain, mass merchant, drug chain, building supply chain.

Hobby Lobby

7707 SW 44th Street
Oklahoma City, OK
73179

Attn: Bill Owens
or apply Online @
www.hobbylobby.com



TARRANT COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS CURRENTLY RECRUITING FOR THE FOLLOWING PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL OPPORTUNITIES:

PUBLIC DEFENDER, (213 District Court) Represents indigent persons who are charged with a criminal offense in a Tarrant County court or who is party to a juvenile delinquency proceeding. Requirements include member of State Bar of Texas, practiced law for at least 3 yrs., exp. in the practice of criminal law. \$4071-\$4478/mo.

TELEPHONE OPERATIONS MANAGER, (IS) Bachelors degree or equivalent related education or exp. Min 3yrs. exp. in IS including 2 yrs. telecommunications exp. Knowledge of DMS-100 switching system & CCRS training. \$4176/mo.

SYSTEMS MANAGER (IS), Bachelors degree in Computer Science or Information Systems or equivalent related education or exp. Min. 4 yrs. exp. in IS including 4yrs. in system design, programming, exp. wking w/government agencies desirable \$4644/mo.

GROUP COUNSELOR (FEMALE ONLY), Juvenile Services, Provides supervision & counseling in a 24hr basic child care therapeutic milieu for pre-adjudicated youth. Bachelors degree or equivalent education or exp. 3mts. exp. or internship in related field. Valid TX DL and auto liability insurance. \$2291-\$2520/mo.

Applications required. Applications available on www.tarrant-county.com or issued/accepted M-F, 7:30a-4:00p. If outside Tarrant County, call (817) 884-1188 to request an application & to listen to the Job Line. Tarrant County HR, 100 E. Weatherford, Ft. Worth, TX 76196-0105. Fax: 817-884-3250. EOE/AA

Around The Town

On-going

Cathedral Dallas, Inc. is sponsoring the "Educational Lecture Series on Mexican Culture and History," conducted by Anthropologist Mario Navarrete. The courses will be held on Tuesdays and Saturdays April 17 through May 22 at 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m., respectively. For more information or registration call 214-871-1677.

Oshman's Sporting Goods, Inc. is accepting applications for its Grants for Girls program for girls' sports organizations. For information or an application call 800-877-6005, ext.

8576 or visit www.grants-for-girls.com. Application deadline is June 1, 2001.

A Parenting Class will be offered at Highland Oaks Counseling Center, Room 200, 10805 Kingsley Rd., Dallas, each Monday, April 15-May 7, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. For information or registration call Barbara Palmer at 214-342-6095.

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

Host Families are needed for International Exchange Students for the 2001/2002 school year. Students will arrive in August 2001 and stay for one semester or until the end of the school year. For more information call Yvette Coffman at 800-941-3738.

The International Library of Photography is sponsoring an Amateur Photography Contest. The contest is free and open to the public. For more information call Pamela Roberts at 410-363-4800 or visit www.picture.com. Entries must be postmarked by May 31, 2001.

April 18

The City of Allen is holding a candidate forum at Saint Jude Catholic Church, 1515 N. Greenville, Allen, at 11:30 a.m. for the upcoming May 5 election. For more information call 972-727-1177.

Diversity Speakers will hold a Human Resources Diversity Conference at CityPlace Conference Center, Dallas. There will be several workshops presented by multi-ethnic experts. For more information call 972-864-5516 or visit www.diversityspeakers.com.

April 19

Senior Citizens of Greater Dallas will offer a Women's Financial Management Seminar at the Center for Community Cooperation, 2900 Live Oak, Dallas, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Women age 45 and older are invited to attend an afternoon lunch with financial columnist Scott Burns. For information or reservations call 214-823-5700.

Planned Parenthood of North Texas will hold auditions for Teenage Communication Theater from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. and Apr. 20 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. The theater is a

group of teens that educate their peers through dramatic portrayals of everyday situations. Call Elva Mendoza for audition locations at 214-363-2004, ext. 122.

April 20

The Asian-American Advisory Committee of the Dallas Public School will host the Scholarship Award Program at Dallas City Hall. For more information call Julia Lam at 214-860-2339 or Sherri Cleaver at 972-925-3923.

Members of the African-American School Board will hold their convention at the Adams Mark Hotel Apr. 20-21 to develop a national policy agenda to improve the academic achievement of African-American students. For more information call Toska Medlock Lee at 214-932-5297.

April 21

The Plano Community Forum will hold its Annual Retreat. The retreat will focus on issues of the organization and membership. For more information call Althea Gibson of the Forum at 972-260-4208.

The Dallas Public Library is celebrating 100 years of service with a Centennial Fest at J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, 1515 Young Street, Dallas. The Fest will last Apr. 21-22 with all day activities. The event is open to the public. For more information call 214-670-1400 or visit www.dallaslibrary.org.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Dallas Alumnae Chapter will hold the 6th Annual Teen Town Hall Meeting at Dallas City Hall Council Chambers, 1500 Marilla Street, Dallas, 9:00 a.m. to noon. For more information or to RSVP call 214-428-7400.

The Rock Christian Academy will hold its First Annual Appreciation Banquet/Auction Benefit at the African American Museum, 3536 Grand Ave., Dallas, at 7:00 p.m. Proceeds will benefit the academy's computer and book library for

the 2001-2002 school year. For more information or tickets call 972-404-1981.

April 25

Major Money Entertainment will hold its Impact Super Summit XV Weekend in Dallas at the Black Academy of Arts and Letters. The weekend will also include the 2nd annual Appreciation Gala from 3:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m., Apr. 26. For more information call Terry McGill at 972-675-5242.

April 26

The Women's Center of Dallas is hosting the 24th Annual Women Helping Women Awards at The Women's Museum, An Institute for the Future, 3800 Parry Ave., Dallas, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. For more information call Cynthia Brown at 972-296-6630.

April 27

KERA 13 will host its 7th Annual Tour of Taste, "Cool Jazz, Hot Destinations," at The Fairmont Hotel, Ross & Akard, Dallas at 7:00 p.m. The event will include a live

auction, raffle drawing, and food samples. For more information or tickets call 214-740-9279.

April 28

Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church will hold a Block Party from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the Douglas Community Center, 1111 Avenue H, Plano. The event is open to the public. For more information call 214-495-9756.

The Kennedy Center Imagination Celebration at Dallas will hold its 16th annual festival at Old City Park, The Historical Village of Dallas, 1717 Gano, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information call PACE at 214-823-7601.

April 30

The Plano Symphony Orchestra Association is hosting an Appreciation Luncheon to honor corporate and business supporters at 11:30 a.m. at the Harvey Hotel-Plano, Central Expy. at 15th St. For more information or tickets call 972-473-7262.

May 5

Metro Church of Christ and Sisters on the Move, Inc. are hosting a Victorian Tea for area mothers at the church, 4650 S. Hampton Road, 2nd floor, Suite 222, Dallas, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. For more information or for tickets call 214-330-1343 or 972-709-1180.

EXCAP is holding a Child Care Provider Conference at S. MacArthur Church of Christ, 1401 S. MacArthur Blvd., Irving, 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For registration call 214-370-9810.

May 12

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. The seminar is for women aged 35 and older. For information call Kim Watson at 214-823-5700.

May 17

DFW Community

Newspapers will host a Home Buyer's Expo at the Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Pkwy., Plano, from noon until 8:00 p.m. The expo will feature realtors, homebuilders, mortgage and title companies, home furnishing experts and more.

The Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter of the National Sales Network is holding an inaugural reception titled, "An Empowerment Strategy to Encourage Sales Excellence," at the Women's Museum in Fair Park from 6:00 to 9:30 p.m. For more information call George Petagrew 972-691-2302 or Deborah Brannon at 972-219-1278.

May 19

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. North Dallas Suburban Alumnae Chapter will hold a golf tournament at Plantation Golf Course in Frisco. Proceeds will benefit the chapter's Jabberwock Scholarship program. Track spikes worn by gold medalist and world record holder Michael Johnson will also be auctioned at the event. For more information or to register call Misha Sturns at 972-571-1698.

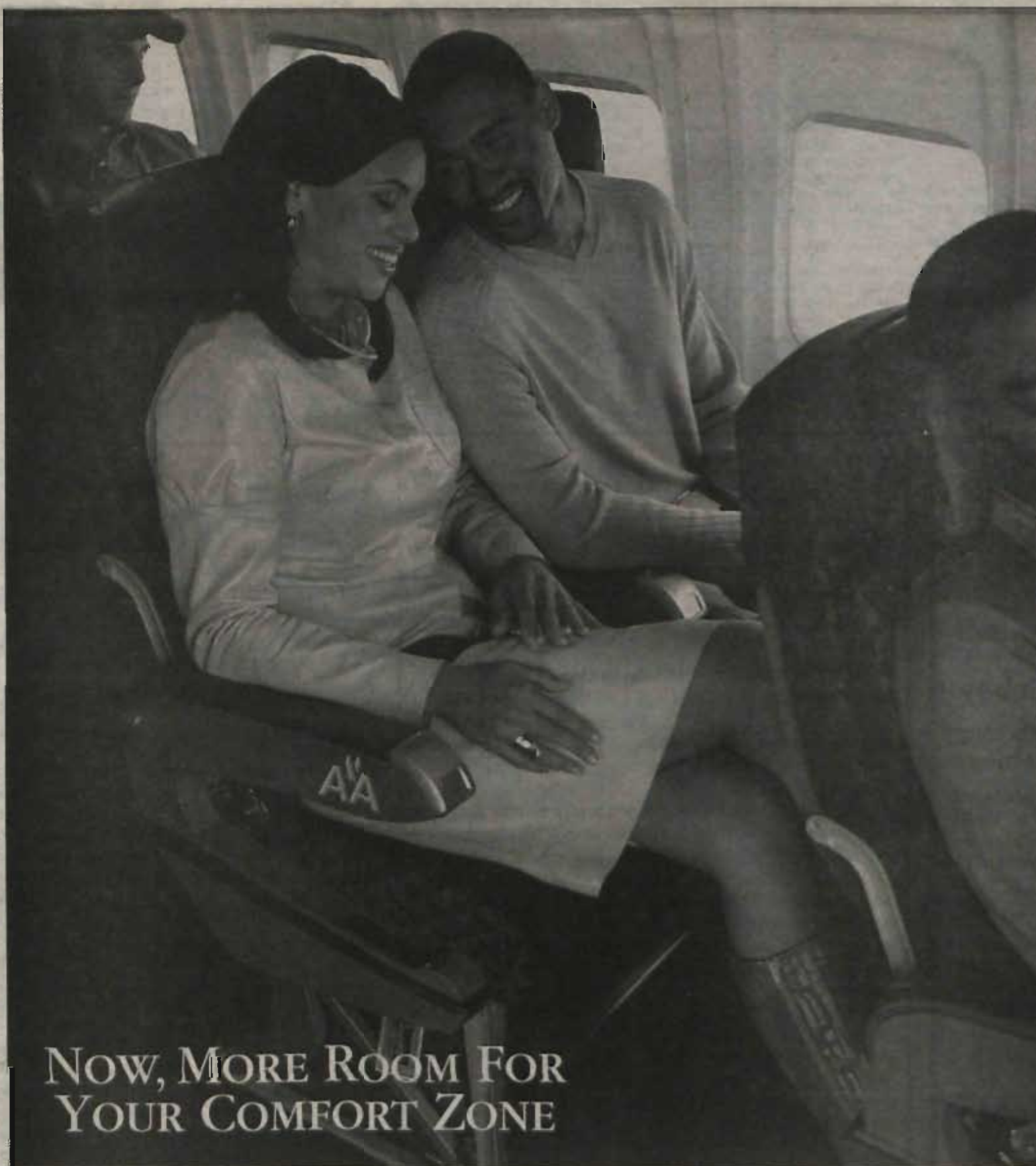
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