



Great American Clean-up

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Comer Cottrell

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The Sweetest Thing

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The Gazette

A Division of

MON
Minority Opportunity News, Inc.

SERVING PLANO, DALLAS, RICHARDSON, GARLAND, ALLEN, MCKINNEY AND MESQUITE

Volume XI, Number XV

"North Dallas" Weekly Paper of Choice

April 11-April 17, 2002



On the Homefront:

Wanted-Citizen of the Year Auction. Donations and Golf Tournament prizes. If you are interested in donating an auction item for the Citizen of the Year Banquet, or a prize for the golf tournament, please contact Mike Agnew-Chamber of Commerce office 972-424-7547.

Boys and Girls Club of Collin County Theatre Outreach Program & Dance are accepting applications for more information call Ms. Dee Dee Gibson 972-562-6556 or 214-439-2771.

The Avenue Resource Center of McKinney will host its first Spring Health Fair from 10am to 4pm April 20th at the Old Settler's Recreation Center, 1201 E. Louisiana St. in McKinney. For more information call 972-562-9647.

Members of the United Methodist Men from across North Texas will gather for a fund-raiser April 27th at The Tribune Golf Club to benefit the group's organizations in area churches. Proceeds will also benefit The Wilkinson Center, a United Methodist charity in East Dallas. The event will begin at 8am at the golf club, 1000 Boyd Road off FM423, north of The Colony. The cost is \$15. Reservations must be made by April 15. Make checks payable to "Methodist Men" and send to First United Methodist Church, Attn: Dennis Yates, 4901 Paige Drive, The Colony, TX 75056.

The Texas Department of Health in Austin has confirmed a skunk, which came into contact with two dogs in the vicinity of Hearst Castle Drive, has tested positive for rabies.

Plano's Inspection Services supervisor, Dennis Evans, advises pet owners even if your pet stays in its own backyard it can be exposed to local wildlife. For more information call Animal Services at 972-769-4366. If you suspect an animal of rabies.

Americans will be able to find information in plain, understandable language without having to navigate through a sea of red tape by using the redesigned Firstgov.gov website - the "Front Door" to all U.S. government information, services, and transactions - pulls together 35 million federal web pages, along with 16 million state and local government pages.

The next GenFriends seminar will feature the topic of "Blended Families" by Bill Hallas. Brenda Kallow will provide an overview of the recently released 1993 census. The event will be April 20th at Gladys Harrington Library 1501 18th Street in Plano, Texas. The program will begin at 9:30am on Saturday morning.

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Pastor Sam: Net worth, little over \$3 million

By: Susan Stewart

Pastor Sam Fenceroy started the chain of Color Time television rental franchises along with Curtis Mathis in 1979. Mathis built the TVs and set up the business and they were one of the first franchises. Fenceroy said he owned 23 stores before he went broke.

Pastor Sam Fenceroy was born in Wilmet, Arkansas. His parents divorced when he was 13 years old, after which, he moved to Iowa with his mother. After which, moved to Denver. He left Denver in 1973, and came to Texas and went into business. He was in business from 1973 through 1990, as the owner of a chain of TV rental stores.

Fenceroy said he has been in church all his life, but got saved in 1984.

"When God called me into the ministry, I had 23 stores. My net worth at the time was a little over \$3 million and my goal was to make another million... and then I would go pastor."

The Mount Olive Church of Plano is a church on the move for the Lord.

As Pastor Sam Fenceroy puts it, "We are here to unite the Body of Christ."

Pastor Sam, as he prefers to be called, says God called him to ministry to unite the 'Body Of Christ'. "Our job in Plano is to be a mirror of Church's that don't look like 'us' and tell them that God took one blood and made all

of us."

Fenceroy says he ran from his "call" at first, because of fear and because he did not think he had enough money.

"I really did want enough money so that money wouldn't be



Pastor Sam Fenceroy

an issue. "So I said, when I do it, I'll have a lot of money and I won't have to take a lot of stuff."

"I had been in the Baptist church all my life and Baptist folks kind of treat preachers bad, so I wanted to be financially independent ... have a lot of money and that way, I wouldn't have to take a lot of stuff."

"I told God I will go pastor and when people start trying to boss me around, people like deacon; I will tell them where to go, 'cause I don't need them, and from that point on, I started losing money. Within four years, I

was broke." He was a member of Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church at that time.

So Pastor Sam made up his mind to go to college.

"I had to go back to college at 40-years old." He enrolled at Dallas Baptist University and received a Bachelor's degree in Pastoral Ministries. He went to Christ For the Nations in 1990, at age 41.

He later went to Christian Life School of Theology and got a Master's degree.

"And now, at age 52, I'm plugging along."

Fenceroy says the church had a contract on land to build a church, "but, we discovered that there were so many red tape kinds of things here in Plano (I guess in most cities) here in this area, and we realized that maybe we should wait, so we rented a larger space twice the size of the one we moved out of and we're set to be there for the next three-and-a-half years."

Pastor Sam says his church is predominately black, but among the 200-member congregation there are seven different nationalities.

"We've got Hispanics, Whites, Puerto Ricans and Filipino's ... a little of everything ... our church caters to mixed couples, because those are the people who feel uncared for. Sometimes being in an all Black church "they" are looked at strangely and being in an all White church, the opposite

See Pastor Sam page 6



Some members of New Landmark (out for Saturday cleaning project)

New Landmark MBC GOD's Little Church on the Hill

By Belinda G. Alexander

An exciting new Church has taken 'root' in Dallas. A growing number of dedicated Christians in the Oak Cliff area have found a welcoming, warm and wonderful little house of worship of comfort for heavy hearts and spirits seeking renewal. This fast growing Christian fellowship is making its mark - in fact, it is the New Landmark Missionary Baptist Church. A combination of growing faith and developing plans to follow through in work is behind the real story of success of the spirited little church.

Landmark Beginnings

Brother William Jones answered the call to ministry to the community. He and his dedicated family moved forward to a call to bring a church to a different people in need of God's heal-

ing. First Lady Mary Jones shared interesting history on how the church was established. She said, "Under the leadership of Brother William Jones and the direction of God's Prayer and Patience, New Landmark was established."

Why This Church?

Pastor Jones saw the need for this different kind of church for a special kind of people. He wants to reach those who are in the most needy areas of the community. The church family echoed Pastor Jones words, "Those people out on the streets and under the bridges should feel welcome to walk into the church." New Landmark MBC has made it their business to make everyone feel at home when entering the doors of their church. The

See New Landmark page 6

Ethical Practices in the workplace: Consulting to Management

In the global world where change comes suddenly, and the impact of only one unethical decision or event can be overwhelmingly disastrous for so many, all advisors to management - management consultants and other professionals - must practice complete independence of thought and action.

The Institute of Management Consultants USA, Inc. (IMC USA) is the professional association for individual management consultants in the United States. According to IMC USA's Code of Ethics, consultants to management who represent themselves as objective outside experts or facilitators of change, must exercise the professional and financial freedom to reject or withdraw from assignments where they are not able to effect solutions in the interest of their client, or where they find a client deliberately practicing unethical, immoral or illegitimate behavior.

Independence is the foundation of consulting to management. It requires freedom from management pressures to represent, refer, or recommend services or products of their parent or affiliate organizations. Independence means standing apart from self-serving motives and telling the truth-facing clients the hard facts about the right things to do-and knowing when to withdraw from a conflict of interest.

"The objectivity, independence and ethics of consultants is validated every day by the professional organizations that certify them. These resources can be important assets to corporate boards," stated E. Michael Shays, CMC, FIMC chair of IMC USA.

IMC USA has been certifying the independence and experience of management consultants since 1969. The ethics and standards established by the Institute assure clients that the advice given by members and a certified member is independent. Members who have met educational, experience and competence levels, and have passed an examination on consulting and consulting ethics are also awarded the CMC mark of "Certified Management Consultant."

IMC USA is non-profit professional association representing more than 2,100 management consultants throughout the United States. Its mission is to promote excellence and ethics in management consulting, through certification, education and professional resources. IMC USA is a member of the International Council of Management Consulting Institutes, representing institutes of management consultants in 32 countries. For more information, please call (800) 221-2557 or visit the IMC USA's website at www.imcusa.org.

A truthful proposal: A Salute to the Black Press presents the truth

By Brandon Guidry

Dallas - The Dallas Examiner hosted its first annual Salute to the Black Press on Saturday April 6, 2002 at the Fairmont Hotel in Dallas, TX, as they invited keynote speaker George Curry and others to take part in the event.

The event was hosted by Rev. Dr. Sheron C. Patterson, senior pastor of Jubilee United Methodist Church in Dallas. Rev. Patterson is an author and co-host of a gospel/relationships Sunday mornings on KRNB 105.7. Dallas Examiner publisher Mollie Finch-Belt served as a host also.

"We want to Salute the Black Press in the celebration of the paper's (The Dallas Examiner's) 16th anniversary and the 175th anniversary of the national Black Press," said Mollie Belt, The Examiner publisher, in a recent issue of The Dallas Examiner.

In an effort to honor the Black Press, The Examiner presented awards to Pioneers, Living Legends, Still Standing, and Growing strong Journalist.

Among these awardees were Fred J. Finch (The Dallas Examiner), Thurman Jones (Minority Opportunity News - The Gazette), Clarice Tinsley (KDFW - Channel 4), and Ranioma Logan (KXAS - Channel 5). But the highlight for many that attended

the event was the opportunity to hear Keynote Speaker of the night, George Curry.

George Curry is currently editor-in-chief of the National Newspaper Publishers Association News Service and BlackPressUSA.com. He served also as Editor: Black America's News-magazine editor-in-chief from 1993 until June 2000 and under his guidance the magazine won

truth in each organization he participates in.

"We are in danger of losing not only our history, but also our truth. Somebody has to stand up and tell the truth; and that's what the Black Press has been doing," said Curry.

During Curry's speech, he focused on telling the truth; and in order to do this, he commented on how Black organizations are

being brought by white companies, such as BET being sold to Viacom. "These companies are doing this because in the year 2053, the white population will be a minority in America," said Curry.

"Our kids don't need to know about what they can't do, but they need to know what they can do. In Great Britain 33% of the population has single parents, and 44% in France; we aren't the only ones," said Curry.

Curry spoke of many areas of the black community supporting his theories with facts. He also shared his feelings on phrases, such as 'single parent' and 'broken' homes that the Black community receives from other races.

The banquet was a time for looking at what has been accomplished over the Black Press' 175 years of existence and what needs to be accomplished in upcoming years.

"We are in danger of losing not only our history, but also our truth. Somebody has to stand up and tell the truth; and that's what the Black Press has been doing"

more than 40 national journalism awards.

Curry has received many honors, such as being named to the National Association of Black Journalists' list of Most Influential Black Journalists of the 20th Century, and he also won the award in January 2001. Curry holds many titles, but his sarcastic humor and facts presents the



(L to R) Eugen Johnson, Fred Draper and Neil Stibbers take trash bags from people who came to drop off their trash.

Great American Clean-up



Eddie Coker performing

On Saturday, April 6, Plano held its Plano Clean-Up Day. Volunteers went around the city from 8-11 a.m. picking up trash in parks, along roadsides, and around schools. There were also designated areas where people could bring their trash; old computers were being collected as well. After people dropped off their trash, they were given information on recycling and other tips for keeping the environment clean. At 11 a.m., all the volunteers gathered at Bob Woodruff Park for a picnic and to see Eddie Coker perform. Face painting was also part of the celebration. The City of Plano thanks all the volunteers for their help.



Ernesto Lora



Danielle Harding getting her face painted



Dan getting his face painted

The Democratic Party of Collin County

The 8th and 30th senatorial district convention held recently in McKinney



Crowd shot



Anne Graham running for State Representative, District 67



Manny Moleres running for Congress



Jeff Graham



Tom Ramsay
Agriculture Commissioner candidate



Fred Lusk, District 70 candidate



Celesta Allen, delegate



Rozalind Dickerson



Barbara Oldenburg, delegate

Community Forums

Robbie Robinson is the chairman of Arts of Collin County. There is a Steering Committee which is working on an arts district plan for the cities of Allen, Frisco, McKinney and Plano. The Dance Council encourages you to attend and participate in one or more of the remaining three public forums. The forums are not limited to the citizens of the particular city that the forum is being held in, so feel free to attend any or all of them. The first forum in McKinney was very positive with nearly 40 people providing their ideas of what they'd like see for the arts in Collin County.

There will be 4 public forums over the next month, one in each of the four cities. The schedule is as follows:

Each will start at 7 PM and end at 9:00 PM. All will be held in the city council chambers.

The dates:

McKinney 21 March
Frisco 27 March
Allen 1 April
One Allen Civic Plaza, Allen 75013, 972-727-0100
Plano 10 April
1520 Ave K, Plano 75074, 972-941-7000

The purpose is to solicit citizen input on our project. Please attend one of the meetings. Also please pass the word to your friends and colleagues who you know support the arts in North Texas.

Buyer/Vendor Mixer

April 19, 2002

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

SpringPark Sports Club and Community Center

3330 Springpark Way
Garland, Texas 75044

Hosted by
City of Garland
Garland Independent School District
City of Mesquite
City of Rowlett
Garland Chamber of Commerce

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Quick
Easy qualify

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2,300 sq ft
Prestigious N. Dallas neighborhood
\$8k down, \$2,700 month

LEASE-PURCHASE - ALLEN
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3,200 sq ft, Allen
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Your First Workplace Resolution: Take the Steps Necessary to Succeed

This week we talk about the workplace. Read on to learn how you can improve your work relations, etc ...

New technology allowing increased communication and collaboration encourages better understanding, better planning and organization and more synchronization between teams and departments. Being in sync eliminates some delays and enables team members to foresee and create alternatives to other possible roadblocks.

Whether it's a high visibility assignment for your company, a line position that will get you in the running for senior management or a plum post in North Carolina — ask for it. Learn to negotiate. To be perceived as powerful, act like a leader. Take charge, take responsibility, and come up with a solution. And most important, never stop moving up.

It's time to make New Year's Resolutions, not just for your personal life, but for your work as well. Keeping the momentum in your career is vital for your success.

First, take stock of yourself, and see where you are in the food chain of your organization.

If you're not at, or near the top, it's time to take immediate remedial action. If you're already in middle management, decide to take on the toughest hurdle: moving from middle to top management.

You probably will have to work consciously on modifying many of your habits and attitudes. Perhaps the most important attitude change will be to give up "the caretaker-of-the-details trap". The shift from middle manager to top manager is a shift from "doing" to "directing" or delegating. A top manager must focus on big picture issues. You must learn to develop successful strategy and effective management of people. Doing someone else's job can no longer be one of your options. Tackle the big problems ... let someone else pick the ladies' room wallpaper. Learn to take well thought out risks, since being unremarkable and unnoticed at work won't get you where you want to go either.

If you seem "stuck" in whatever position you're in, take an analytical look at your company and its true "woman-friendly" quotient.

Does your company have women in executive offices and on the board of directors? Do female executives earn as much as their male counterparts? If not, you might start looking around at companies where you may find a more "level playing field" and greater opportunities for advancement. Even a lateral move can put the momentum back in your career.

Find the right company with a culture that supports your success.

Companies which have embraced "family friendly" and diversity-oriented values will have designed an organization with the staffing philosophy and processes and development philosophy and processes to support those values.

On a formal basis, managers will provide opportunities for visibility; explain and interpret organizational politics; map out clear developmental goals and support you in achieving them. On an informal basis, management will have credible advocates with positional authority to see that key people, and women in particular, are not excluded from informal networks. Advocates with authority will also assure that women have access to a line position with responsibility so they may qualify for promotion to the next level. Within this framework you should try to align your career goals with what you see as the opportunities within your company.

Learn to negotiate, to uncover the "hidden agendas and masked perceptions", to identify your true value, make it visible, and make the negotiation pivot around it.

Almost every day at work, we are faced with some type of negotiation. Not only must we negotiate for our salary, perks, benefits, title, office space and support staff, but daily issues involving our duties, the need for increased manpower, authority over projects, flexibility with clients, arrangements, communication or sharing of the workload with co-workers; all require a form of negotiation, which, if we fail to recognize, we will, in all probability, fail to win. Beneath the surface of all negotiations are "hidden agendas and masked assumptions", most of which are unfavorable to women. Women, generally, are expected to acquiesce, keep the peace, not make waves, and be the first to make concessions. Women need to learn not to buy into this self-defeating set of expectations.

The only reason someone is negotiating with you is that you have a value that he wants. The more you can make that value visible, and make the negotiation pivot around it, the stronger your position will be. The first negotiation, which will shape much of your future, is how much you will earn and what benefits you will receive. Bargain hard and smart. Your work life depends upon it.

To talk is to win. At every opportunity, step up to the plate, speak up in an authoritative voice and present a message which is clear and communicates your firm belief in it. Whether it's a high visibility assignment for your company, a line position which will get you in the running for senior management or a plum post in London — ask for it. Don't hint. Forget indirection and subtlety. If you want a job within the company ask for it. And ask for the authority to do it right.

Get recognized, the not so easy task for women.

Why is it so difficult for women to get recognized in corporate America? It is one thing to perform effectively, and it is quite another to be perceived as performing effectively. The answer to being perceived as effective and getting recognized for it does not lie in performance. Research

shows women perform as well on the job as men, often better, but men are prone to boasting and successful men have become experts in self-promotion. To most women, boasting is anathema. A major turning point in most women's careers comes when they recognize that self-promotion is part of the game of business. Start immediately by weaving your accomplishments into your casual conversations. Absolutely anything can be your cue. Example: "I haven't been anywhere the air conditioner was turned on so high since the Chamber of Commerce had that special banquet to honor me."

If you want recognition, you must broadcast your achievements and press for appropriate rewards and advancement. No one else will do it for you. And if you start promoting yourself, you will soon feel comfortable doing it, and equally important, you will begin to realize you deserve it.

Go for the power and never stop moving up.

Power is an important currency in today's workplace. In fact, power is largely in the perception of it. To be perceived as powerful, act like a leader. Take charge, take responsibility, and come up with a solution. You don't need to be president of a corporation or head of a committee. You just need to lead. Do you see a problem crying out for a solution? Develop a project to address it. Projects not only gather people together and marshal their strengths to achieve a defined and mutually beneficial goal; they advertise your skills and position you as a leader. Develop reputation power by tackling the critical issues and getting results.

Determine to hone and expand your skills, grow and promote yourself, build relationships and networks, deliver results and be sure to get credit for them. Then, continue to get feedback.

Are your career goals still the same, or have they changed. If they've changed, make the necessary adjustments and pursue new opportunities which match your new goals.

Check with the market to be certain you're getting paid what you're worth in the market today. Check salary benchmarks in your industry.

As measures of your success, you must ...

- Have an exceptional skill or expertise at something which delivers real value.
- Focus on the practical result of the skill you deliver.
- Learn how to be a leader and a supportive team player at the same time.
- Be a visionary... define a goal and make it a reality.

As Thoreau once said: "Keep marching continuously in the direction of your dreams and one day you will be leading the life you have imagined."

It will never be sooner than today to start.



By Monica Thornton

Although the hectic holidays are behind us, most people still haven't caught up with themselves, and are trying desperately to establish a routine so the New Year resolutions they made can become a reality. And with spring around the corner, it's time to take an inventory of bad winter eating and beauty habits and find miracle products to brighten up our dead winter skin and minds.

But to establish any order in our lives, we must first learn to do that which is so hard for Americans - we must learn to relax. Once we get in a habit of relaxing our minds will be clearer, our thoughts more organized, and hopefully our lives will be more fulfilling.

Before you say you don't have time to relax, there are some simple measures you can take that will cost you a few minutes of your day to produce extraordinary results, and the cost involved can be minimal.

One of the best ways to learn to relax is through the use of essential oils. Only a basic knowledge of oils is needed to enjoy them, and they are available at a large number of beauty and health and also by Internet shopping. With such a vast range of oils available, there is something for everyone. There are many oils that produce relaxing results, and often it is a matter of finding one or more of these oils that best suits you. Lavender is probably the best-known relaxing oil, but frankincense, neroli and geranium are also excellent relaxants.

These oils can be used in a variety of ways, one of the easiest is to use a diffuser - a ceramic or glass holder with water and a few drops of the oil, with a candle burning underneath to release the oil into the air. This and the use of candles with these fragrances can be used to relax you with no effort, as they can be used at any time of day, while you're getting ready for work or when you are doing chores around the house.

Two to three drops of the oils can be added to bath water (not into the running water), but be cautious at first and use limited amounts as too much oil can burn the skin. A drop or two of any oil can be mixed in with your daily body and facial moisturizer allowing you to breathe in the oil throughout the day for a lasting relaxing feeling. Mixing the oil in this way not only helps with the mind and emotions, but also helps the skin as the oils have therapeutic value when applied topically (always mixed with a carrier oil or moisturizer to avoid

burning the skin). And of course, one of the widest known uses for oils is for massaging. If you choose to massage yourself or someone else, always remember to mix just a couple of drops into carrier oil such as almond to avoid damaging the skin.

Lavender is one of the most useful oils for restoring balance to all systems of the body. It is also an antiseptic and makes a wonderful natural cleaner for any bathroom and kitchen surface when diluted in water. Lavender can be used for flu, throat infections, asthma and other respiratory disorders, and thus makes a good air freshener by mixing a few drops of the oil with water in a spray bottle.

Lavender oil calms, refreshes and relaxes, relieves stress, and can be used to treat depression, insomnia, headaches, nervous exhaustion, restlessness and moodiness. It clears the head and increases mental alertness, balances mind and body, and assists the immune system.

It can neutralize sensory overload and balance either a racing or sluggish mind. Lavender oil also helps overcome insomnia. For restless nights, about 40 drops of lavender to an ounce of water in a mist spray bottle and sprayed around the bed and pillow works wonders to induce sleep.

Lavender also promotes new cell growth, balances oil production, and helps heal blemishes and stimulate circulation to the skin, making it an excellent choice of oil to mix in with moisturizer.



Frankincense oil can help relieve mental anxiety, nervous tension and stress. It comforts the emotion and heals emotional wounds. Frankincense is stabilizing and centering oil that helps to focus energy. Although it revitalizes the mind and body, it also slows respiration, producing a sense of serenity.

It is especially beneficial when added to moisturizer for dry, mature and sensitive skins as it contains restorative, regenerating and rejuvenating properties. It smoothes lines and wrinkles and soothes raw chapped skin. Frank-

Relax and Rejuvenate with Oils

incense oil also accelerates healing of blemishes, sores, scars, skin ulcers and wounds.

To ease stress and tension, calm anger and nervousness, soothe emotional upsets and depression, stop an anxiety attack, and try the sensuous fragrance of neroli oil. It is another oil that helps to induce sleep. Neroli oil also encourages confidence, courage, joy, peace and sensuality, and has the ability to help you through difficult or trying times.

Neroli is an excellent topical oil (again, when mixed in a carrier oil or moisturizer), as it stimulates circulation and promotes new cell growth. It is useful in treating skin conditions linked to emotions or stress, as it calms the emotions and the skin. Neroli is particularly good for dry, irritated or sensitive skin. It regulates oiliness and minimizes enlarged pores. With regular use, neroli oil can also reduce the appearance of broken capillaries and varicose veins.

For an oil that can simultaneously calm and energize, geranium is an excellent choice. Inhaling geranium eases anxiety and tension of mentally and physically demanding days, making it a likely oil for diffusing into the air. It acts as an anti-depressant, its uplifting effect freeing the mind from negative or depressing thoughts. It balances aggressive and passive tendencies, and almost any stress-related condition can respond to the scent of geranium.

This is another oil that can help almost any skin type or condition. It promotes regeneration of skin cells and speed healing of acne and blemishes. Geranium oil imparts a healthy glow to the complexion as it stimulates the lymphatic and circulatory systems, helping to clear the body and skin of toxins.

Relaxing the mind and pampering the body shouldn't be expensive and time consuming, as that only leads to more stress. To reach your potential, take small steps to reach the big steps. Filling your home, car and office with mind clearing fragrances can make each day a happier experience. And soothing fragrant oils that will enhance the look and feel of your body, and bring healing and energy to your life is a step anyone can take. You will see the benefits in your mind and body in a short time, maybe in time for Spring, and it won't be long until you have candles and diffusers all over your home, and your favorite oil sitting amongst the lotions in your bathroom.

General caution: do not take any oils internally or apply undiluted essential oils to the skin. If you are pregnant, epileptic, have liver damage, cancer or any other medical problem, use essential oils under the proper guidance of a qualified aromatherapy practitioner. Consult an aromatherapy practitioner before using essential oils on children.

The Gazette

MON

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

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

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

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

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WILL THEY TEACH
THIS IN FIRST GRADE
NEXT YEAR!

J. Slaton

Former president of Texas Southern University is now an executive director



For the first time since its creation in 1980, the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities has an executive director who is a former president of an HBCU. Leonard Spearman, former president of Texas Southern University and a former ambassador to two African countries, is the new executive director of the initiative.

"President Bush appointed Ambassador Spearman because he is uniquely qualified to lead the initiative and be an effective advocate for historically black colleges and universities," said U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige. "His knowledge of the challenges that HBCUs face and his broad range of experience in government and education make him a valuable member of our team."

On Feb. 12, President Bush signed Executive Order 13256 establishing the presidentially appointed board of advisors as well as a White House Initiative

on HBCUs, located in the education department's office of the secretary. The initiative provides staff and support for the HBCU board of advisors and assists the secretary as the liaison between the executive branch and the HBCUs. The initiative also works with some 30 federal agencies to increase the ability of HBCUs to successfully compete for federal grants, contracts or federally sponsored programs.

Spearman served as president of Texas Southern University in Houston from 1980 to 1988, where he led initiatives to accredit the schools of law and pharmacy, to accredit its MBA degree program, and to expand university resources and facilities. He also served on then-Governor Bill Clements's blue ribbon task force for the desegregation of Texas colleges and universities.

In 1988, President Reagan appointed Spearman as U.S. ambassador to the Republic of Rwanda, where he served until 1991 when he was appointed the ambassador to the Kingdom of Lesotho. Among his many accomplishments was establishing American schools in Rwanda and Lesotho.

A former Tallahassee high school science teacher and associate professor at Florida A&M University (1950-60), Spearman served as professor and dean of the lower division of Southern

University-Baton Rouge, which he established to help entering students transition to a collegiate environment (1960-70).

In 1970, Spearman joined the federal government, rising to the rank of associate deputy assistant secretary for postsecondary education (1979) at the then-Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW). In this capacity, he administered more than 22 federal programs, including the federal TRIO programs, which help disadvantaged students prepare for and succeed in college. Other programs under his direction strengthened institutions such as HBCUs and supported international education. In 1978, he was presented with HEW's distinguished service award for management excellence. Spearman remained in federal service until becoming president of Texas Southern in 1980.

The recipient of six honorary degrees, Spearman has served on numerous boards and organizations and is widely published. He earned his bachelor's degree in biological sciences at Florida A & M University. He has a master's degree and doctorate in psychology and education from the University of Michigan.

He and his wife Valeria reside in Washington, D.C. They have three children and five grandchildren.



Reception after the Anti-Racism commissioning ceremony

SHALOM Means Community Success

By Belinda G. Alexander

The true test of a Christian is to serve when you will not get the credit and when your time may become someone else's time. There are not many people who feel willing or able to commit to such a demand. The community is in need of more people to work together for the good of each other and as obedience to God's will. Mrs. Sally Vonner is one person such as this. Mrs. Vonner is the coordinator of the Shalom project of North Texas Communities. The Shalom idea was result of a need for people to work together in the church and community.

Sally Vonner grew up in Tyler and the East Texas area. She and six siblings learn the importance of education, commitment and faith early in life. Sally grasped this mindset from seeing her mother step forward into the community to take a stand on civil rights issues. Mrs. Dorothy Lee is well known for early activism and determination to see justice for those often overlooked in East Texas and all over. Sally's sister, Della Clark is President of the Enterprise Business Incubator Center in Philadelphia, where she works toward inner city economic development. Sally also picked up the 'activist torch' and has moved forward into areas and issues that benefit many people in North Texas and all over.

Sally graduated from East Texas State University (currently Texas A & M at Commerce). After fourteen years of working in corporate America, she came home to raise her children. The stay-at-home mom job was wonderful but Sally felt a need to serve in the community while taking care of her family and home. She started working at the Dallas Bethlehem Center, a childcare provider for South

Dallas. She became more involved in the church, faith based and non-profit organizations after working with these families.

From this relationship, Sally moved to head up Jubilee UMC Ministries and became the conference coordinator of Shalom Ministries. This program enables the transformation of communities as they work together to look for resources available in their midst. Sally said, "We often have just what we need right at our fingertips - we just need to look around and figure it out! 'Shalom' gives us a way to find answers and solutions. This was God's plan and design. We did not all get the same gifts and abilities, but if we can get together - we will find what is needed to compliment on another. When our paths cross we can all benefit. Shalom means constant sharing!"

More solutions to problems are discovered when people get together and discuss the issues. Sally has found that the coming together of many difference types of people promotes and enhances the ability to find assets and deficits. She said, "I find this effort reflects the scripture - Jeremiah 29:5-7. 'Enter into relationships with others, in exile, pray together on the behalf of each other. In doing this you will prosper and find peace and God will be pleased.'"

Sally spoke of how September 11, 2001 brought out

the need for people to share what they had - no matter how little - the healing process was helped.

She says, "There is a restoration of wholeness and reconciliation when we go beyond me, myself and I. We must go beyond ourselves to help others. In doing so we are better in tune to understand when God is pleased with us and also when he is not. This is my personal experience and testimony!"

The effort to move past limitations of resources and lack of provisions led Mrs. Vonner to face a problem in the community that is repeatedly swept under the rug. The ugly reality of Racism made itself known as she works closer with many different churches. "Racism is a result of many years of separation and resistance to face differences of people and communities. The civil rights laws were meant to combat racism; however, the old system was still in place. The only real solution is to 'dismantle' a system that was built to favor whites and to punish non-whites. This is a painful but necessary process."

Mrs. Vonner and the Shalom project started a grass-roots effort out of the desire to address the challenges of racism. The group was called 'Voices for Justice.' These 'voices' were advocates for equality, justice and prosperity together.

See SHALOM page 6

Ethnic Notes

Comer Cottrell

A business' growth often triggers the move to expand overseas. Either the business has already established a strong domestic presence, or the market has become so saturated that the only practical prospect for growth exists on other continents. It's a situation that catches some entrepreneurs off-guard.

Comer Cottrell's ethnic hair-care products company, Pro-Line Corp. in Dallas is a good example. When he started the business in Los Angeles in 1970, Cottrell relied solely on domestic sales. But before long, he realized his own competitive advantage - specially formulated shampoos, conditioners, relaxers and other styling - could likely tap into a huge segment of the worldwide market. Using the connections he made during his stint in the military, Cottrell initiated Pro-Line's global expansion by getting his products on the shelves of military exchanges in 1970.

"He realized that (African-American) servicemen and servicewomen did not have products to choose from that were specifically formulated for their hair care needs," said Paul Owsley, director of international sales. "(Military) stores were stocking general market products, which store managers

assumed had crossover appeal. But they didn't because they weren't adequately formulated."

After the products became available in military exchanges,



sales skyrocketed. The products eventually made the civilian market ultimately securing Pro-Line's global position. Today, the \$50 million company exports to 40 countries.

Cottrell received a bachelor's degree from the University of Detroit and is the former chairman of the Texas Cosmetology Commission and former vice chairman of the Texas Youth Commission. He is the former chairman of the American Health and Beauty Aids

Institute and a former board member of the NAACP, YMCA, and the Baylor University Foundation. Cottrell is also a former vice president of the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce and previously served as a trustee of the National Urban League, Compton College Foundation and Paul Quinn College.

Cottrell is involved in various other activities and was recently appointed to the Texas Racing Commission by Governor Rick Perry for a term to expire Feb. 1, 2007. Cottrell will replace former Racing Commission Vice Chairman Dr. Jim Schultz, who was appointed to the Commission in 1996. Cottrell is expected to make his first appearance at a Texas Racing Commission meeting at the agency's next regular meeting on May 9. Although those meetings are typically held in Austin, the May 9 meeting is scheduled to take place in College Station, Texas.

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MW/2002

Public Meetings

Rail Planning and Implementation Study for Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport
The North Central Texas Council of Governments, in cooperation with the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport Board, The Fort Worth Transportation Authority, and Dallas Area Rapid Transit Invites the public to the following public meetings:

Tuesday, April 16, 2002

North Richland Hills City Council Chambers
7301 NE Loop 820
North Richland Hills, TX 76180

Thursday, April 18, 2002

DFW Airport Administration Building
2nd Floor Board Room
3200 E. Airfield Drive
DFW Airport, TX 75261

*Free parking at both locations

6:30 PM Open House 7:00 PM Public Meeting

The goal of this study is to provide a seamless, customer sensitive, affordable, clearly achievable rail interface between the regional rail systems and the DFW International Airport Central Terminal area.

The product of this effort will be a set of recommendations and an action plan for immediate implementation

This public meeting is intended to solicit public input into the Rail Planning and Implementation Major Investment Study for transportation improvements to and from the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport.

For special accommodations due to disability or for additional information, please call Cathy Huffman-Morris at 817-695-9284. Reasonable accommodations will be made

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Billie Meador

FINANCIAL FOCUS: Take Realistic View of Future Investment Returns

Investing in the 1990s was fun, wasn't it? All those double-digit gains in the stock market, year after year, were certainly nice. But they weren't typical and that's important to remember as you invest today.

Unfortunately, some investors may still be burdened with unrealistic expectations, thanks to the "go-go" decade that's now gone. That's too bad, because if you always expect returns of 16 percent a year, you'll never be satisfied with the 7 percent or 8 percent that have historically been more normal.

So, how do you avoid playing the "Great Expectations" game? Here are a few suggestions:

Set goals, not targets. You can easily get frustrated by setting "targets" for the rate of return you want from your investments. On the other hand, you do need to set long-term financial goals for yourself. You may decide you want to retire at age 55, pay for your children's college education or buy a vacation home in 10 years. Once you've established these goals, you can then estimate how much money you'll need to pay for them. At that point, you can determine the appropriate

investment strategy for accumulating the money you're going to need. By establishing realistic goals and creating a systematic strategy for achieving them, you'll be more likely to overlook short-term price fluctuations and stay focused on the long-term objective.

Hold on to high-quality stocks. By expecting a very high level of return each year from your stocks, you're setting yourself up for disappointment and you'll also be more likely to make some bad investment decisions. Here's how: If you're dissatisfied with your stocks' performance, you may end up constantly juggling your portfolio in an effort to boost your returns. This type of hyperactive trading is usually ineffective and it can be expensive, too, once you start racking up heavy commissions. So, instead of perpetually buying and selling stocks in an effort to increase your return, look for high-quality stocks, and hold them for the long term. Most good stocks will still have their ups and downs, but if they represent good companies with good products and strong management, they should reward you over time.

Diversify your investments.

If you expect high returns from your stocks, you're going to be rewarded in some years and disappointed in others. It's true that, over time, stocks have historically outperformed other asset classes, such as bonds and U.S. Treasury securities. And yet, during any given year, stocks can perform poorly, while bonds and Treasuries are showing good returns. That's why it's essential that you diversify your investment dollars among a broad range of assets: growth stocks, international stocks, growth-and-income stocks, bonds, Treasuries, certificates of deposit, etc. By diversifying your portfolio, you can help cushion yourself against downturns affecting just one type of asset while giving yourself more opportunities to succeed.

In most walks of life, it's good to be optimistic. And it's that way in the investment world, too, as long as you temper your optimism with a healthy dose of realism.

Billie Meador is an Investment Representative for Edward Jones. She can be reached at 972-208-5688 or toll free 888-758-0950.

Strategy

The U.S. economy

Many more Americans filed claims for unemployment insurance last week, but the economic significance was clouded by a technical fluke. Laid-off workers seeking to take advantage of a federal extension for benefits were required to submit new claims.

That requirement accounted for most of the big jump in new claims as reported by the Labor Department last week, private economists said.

For the work-week ending March 30, new claims for jobless benefits shot up by a seasonally adjusted 64,000 to 460,000, the highest level since the beginning of December.

Given the distortion, economists continued to be optimistic that the jobs market-battered by the recession that began in March 2001 and jolted by the Sept. 11 terror attacks-was getting better.

After having slashed payrolls, U.S. companies in February added jobs for the first time in seven months. Economists believe payrolls grew again in March, by 50,000 to 85,000 jobs. The government will release the employ-

ment report for March soon.

"I really believe labor market conditions are improving," said Richard Yamarone, economist with Argus Research Corp. "Consumers have been so upbeat and confident, something that is predominantly driven by employment status."

Consumer confidence soared in March to its highest level since Sept. 11.

Tom Stengle, an analyst with the Labor Department, said that a portion - he did not know exactly how much - of the big rise in claims resulted from a federal provision requiring workers whose benefits had run out to file a new claim in order to become eligible for an extension of federal jobless benefits.

Because of this requirement, the weekly claims figures - usually a good proxy for layoffs - could be volatile in the next few weeks.

Congress recently passed legislation signed into law by President Bush that provided a 13-week extension of jobless benefits.

The more stable four-week

moving average of new claims, which smoothes out week-to-week fluctuations, also rose to 403,750, the highest since the middle of January.

Gerald Cohen, Merrill Lynch economist said: "These increases are technical and do not reflect underlying economic fundamentals."

Still, many economists believe that the nation's unemployment rate - now at 5.5 percent - probably ticked up to 5.6 percent in March because job growth wasn't strong enough to take care of people entering the labor force.

Businesses slashed thousands of jobs to cope with the recession, and company profits were hit hard. So economists say companies will be reluctant to quickly hire back laid-off workers until profits recover and executives are convinced the recovery is here to stay.

"Some firms are still laying off workers in search of profitability, even as others begin the rehiring process," said Paul Taylor, chief economist for the National Automobile Dealers Association.

New Black Slavery For The New Millennium

By: James W. Breedlove
Sound the alarm. Dial 911. Call out the National Guard. But especially hold tight to your wallets. It seems that corporate predators have not only discovered but also perfected a diverse system of "fringe banks" to legitimately squeeze huge profits out of poor consumers; with special focus on Blacks and other minorities.

These "fringe banks" consist of an integrated network of businesses like: finance companies making small loans at rates of 30-300 percent, pawnshops lending at 200 percent, check-cashing outlets charging 3-6 percent fees, mortgage companies focusing on high interest-high fee loans, home repair predatory lending, used car lenders that entice borrowers with 25 percent loans, rent-to-own stores with monthly rates that equate to 100-300 percent interest, and sham trade schools that do little educating but leave students holding big loans.

Most of these fringe businesses are bankrolled by big names such as Ford, Citibank, NationsBank, American Express, Bank of America, Western Union, and Chrysler. This shadow economy is raking in dollars at a dizzying pace by targeting people on the bottom rung of the economic ladder that are shut out by banks and conventional financial institutions. These businesses that bottom feed on the poverty economy have developed a market estimated at \$300 billion a year and growing.

Typically, conventional banks and S&Ls publicize that poor people are bad risks. While they shun low-income consumers of all races, Blacks are more likely to be targets of redlining because of subcon-

scious bias and historical misperceptions. Banks will close a branch in a neighborhood because of the so-called risks but then provide the financing for the check cashers and pawnbrokers who service the same customers that the bank would not service.

But what this "fringe financing" scheme amounts to is a method of squeezing 240 percent loans through pawnbrokers, 2,000 percent loans for a quick payday loan from check-cashing outlets, and 25 percent loans on second mortgages. Something the banks and financiers cannot do while operating under federal and state regulations.

The lack of conventional financial institutions in low-income neighborhoods is an obvious example of how poor minority consumers are locked out of access to mainstream financing. The impact on communities goes far beyond individuals being squeezed by higher prices and high interest rates. Whole communities are decaying because discrimination and exploitation have stifled economic growth.

A U.S. News and World Report found that a typical white neighborhood averages 33 bank branches per 100,000 populations while a minority neighborhood averages 11 per 100,000. Neighborhoods suffer when homeowners lose their homes to rip-off mortgage companies. As banks and legitimate financial institutions leave minority communities they are replaced by pawnshops, rent-to-own stores, used car lots, and liquor stores.

These "fringe financiers" employ sophisticated marketing techniques to hook people accustomed to being snubbed by regular banks and financial

sources. History has revealed in no uncertain terms what the chains of slavery can do to a people. But even though the iron chains have been removed from Black wrists and ankles, the 21st Century chains of easy credit keep Blacks in bondage.

Consider the new couple, just married, with a potential for a grand future. Even before they complete the probation period on their new jobs, they succumb to the skillful tongue of Madison Avenue encouraging them to acquire new cars, the best of clothes, and the finest apartment with the latest decorator designed furnishings. And for what? To experience the short lived envy of their friends. They sign on the dotted line, volunteering to be shackled to six years of easy payments.

What they don't realize is the cars, clothes, and furniture that requires 6 years of payments wears out in three years. But that sly smiling massa, Mr. Easy Credit, is right there saying "turn it in for some more and we'll just add on to the back of your bill while keeping the same monthly payments".

The couple naively resigns not knowing they are becoming slaves to Easy Credit. They believe they can stop whenever they want to-but can they? Psychologists know that when you get used to something it's almost impossible to give it up. Once the couple is hooked, the credit shysters have a life long customer. Is this easy credit any different than the sharecropper scheme used to keep freed slaves tied to the same farms on which they slaved? History is full of great lessons if we would only learn them. Comments or opinions may be sent to the writer at jaydubub@swbell.net.

Thomas & Hall Fine Art Gallery...

DALLAS - The Thomas & Hall Fine Art Gallery, sequestered in the Bishop Arts District, is not only just a place to go view fine art, it is a place with plenty of ambience, a place where a history lesson is a daily occurrence and a place that is history in the making.

The history lesson includes the name of the Gallery - named for two of Dallas' most famous streets, Thomas Avenue and Hall Street - and the noted fact that Thomas & Hall hosted the last major exhibit for the late, great artist John Biggers before his death in February 2001.

Originally, the owner/curator Mr. Anthony Hopkins, sought a location in the Thomas Hall area - Short Dallas to most Dallasites living in the city during the late 60's and early 70's. However, with construction delays and the dream of opening the Gallery

being put on hold, they decided to locate further south.

Upon entering just listen to the soft jazz music as you stroll leisurely through the Gallery. The walls are adorned with works by famous as well as up and coming artist. Works by artist such as John Biggers, Romare Bearden, Bob Blackburn, Jacob Lawrence, Elizabeth Catlett, Margaret Burroughs, Frank Frazier, Charles Rucker, Bernice Montgomery, Ron Adams, Gregory Ridley and others. It is an experience you will want to share with others and one you will certainly promise to re-visit again and again.

Beginning in February 2002, Thomas & Hall began hosting exhibits which features African American artist of various mediums. If you like oil on canvas, water colors, mixed media or sculptures you will find it at the

Gallery. There are gallery talks by guest artisans the likes of Ron Adams who is a world-renowned artist and a master printmaker. For over twenty years Adams worked as a master printmaker collaborating with well known artist such as Jasper Johns, Robert Rauschenberg, Ellsworth Kelly, Francisco Zuniga, R.C. Gormam, John Biggers and Charles White. Dubbed the "Prince of Prints", Ron Adams is back in the mix creating his own "flawless" lithographs and etchings. His works can be found in collections across the country from the Albuquerque Museum to the New York Bronx Museum, from the National Museum of American Art Smithsonian to, yes you guessed it - the Thomas & Hall Fine Art Gallery here in Dallas.

Artist Gregory Ridley of See Thomas & Hall page 8

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Pastor Sam Jump from Page 1



looks at them strange, so we try and make those folks feel comfortable."

Fenceroy says he never uses terms that show prejudice toward others.

"We never use terms like, 'We've got to stick together,' or 'and you know how they are' and those types of statements ... as a matter of fact, we don't celebrate Black things in our church. 'We don't celebrate Martin Luther King's birthday, we don't celebrate any ethnic group in our church, because if you do, then you're going to shade somebody, then you've got to have a Hispanic day, a Black day, a White day, or whatever.'"

There are different Pastoral

Alliance's and Pastor Sam says Mt. Olive Church of Plano is part of the Rhema Fellowship of Bishop David E. Martin, and also a part of the Full Gospel Fellowship out of Little Rock, Arkansas, with Dr. Silas Johnson, this church is full council.

Pastor Sam's says there are several groups of pastor's here in Plano "who don't look like me (who are White), we fellowship, we've been praying together for the past six years."

Adding that he and Dr. Dwayne Lusk, church is formally the Potter's House in Plano now called "Where Eagle's Soar", are in covenant here in Plano.

"I have not had a problem being accepted, but I don't look for those problems, because I try to break down those walls... Fenceroy says he makes people

aware that "I recognize that I'm black, so I go to White church's and say 'why don't have any Black members?' If we're the Body of Christ, then you need to seek after them...you need to make a point to recruit them."

"I say that kind of crazy stuff where they can't get mad at me, because I say it with love."

Mount Olive Church of Plano's new location is, 740 Avenue F, suite 303, directly behind Oshman's off of 75 Central Expressway. The church was formally located at 3831 Independence and Parker. Services are at 10:45a.m. on Sundays and 7:30p.m. on Wednesdays. Pastor Sam Fenceroy is also heard daily on KGGR1040 AM radio at 10:25 a.m.



SHALOM Jump from Page 4

This group created a heightened awareness of issues of racism being experienced inside the church and community. The fight against racism has grown stronger and more inclusive as the North Texas UMC Conference governing body approved a new task force. As Shalom coordinator, Mrs. Vonner saw the need and opportunity to present the anti-racism project proposal and it was well received. Vonner said, "This was the work and will of God because there were so many different personalities to convince and it went smoothly. When God shows up - great things will happen!" So the Anti-racism team began to work toward a solution that works for the community as a whole.

During a recent ceremony at The First United Methodist Church, UMC Bishop, William Oden, gave recognition to those



Sally Vonner presents the 'Plow For Justice Award' to Bishop William Oden

who have worked together for anti-racism solutions. A 40-member task force was commissioned to work toward a plan of Dismantling Racism. The members of this group include key people from around the North Texas UMC Conference. This is

a diverse make up of clergy and laypersons, different ethnicity, professionals and from various types of community origins.

Sally Vonner said she told the task group, "This is not an instant gratification project, it will take time, dedication and much work. Those who chose to serve will be committing for the long haul!"

The team will go through extensive training and joint exercises to get to know each other. Mrs. Vonner believes that in order to take on such a task - the team must learn many things about the differences and similarities that make up each personality. This will be a challenging process within itself. The team has committed to at least a three-year program, however, each member is encouraged to stay close for the duration and into realization. Mrs. Vonner recalls a favorite quote - "Never underestimate what a small group of people can accomplish" - by Margaret Mead.

New Landmark Jump from Page 1

church as already hosted pastors from several major Texas communities. They look forward to growth in ministry and membership.

The church started out with eight original members but now they have seen the building fill for programs of community service, praise and worship

Obstacles Overcome

Every success has trial somewhere in the process. New Landmark has also had its share of such obstacles. The first challenge was to find a place to worship. The first organizational meeting of New Landmark MBC was in June 2001. That meeting was in the home of Brother and Lady Jones at 1330 Oak Meadows. For the next two months, the kitchen and den became a place of worship for the new church. The spirit began to show up early in the meetings and Pastor Jones knew that they would soon need a building more suited for the growing house of God. The family committed to pray each day at 12 noon. As they repeat in testimony, "Prayer did it again!"

A Time to Pray

As they prayed each day at noon, Pastor Jones looked all over for that special building. And finally - there it was - right before his eyes. Carolyn Jones recalls saying, "Daddy, don't you want to see the inside first?" Pastor Jones replied, "I can tell from the outside - this is the place!" From that time they began a new prayer for finances to purchase the building. Those prayers were answered as the sale was closed on August 27, 2001.

Help Arrived on Time

New Landmark church is a result of many dedicated hours and much determined work by the whole family. Father, mother, sisters, brothers, spouse and even the children played an important part in getting the building ready for service. The church family agrees that it took many people coming together to make the church a reality. Financial support has come from sister church, Mount Zion Baptist Church of Hallsville, Texas and many others.

This church was truly a work of God as so many parts of the building were being completed. As New Landmark began to make its presence in the community, donations began to come in. A front door, the piano and a heater are some the many gifts that helped to build, furnish and warm this house of worship. A famous African proverb is - "It takes a vil-

lage to raise a child." It also looks like - "It takes a family of God to raise a church ... one brick at a time, constant prayer all the time!"

The How and Why of Success

When asked how and why this church is succeeding - everyone spoke of the feeling of unity as inspiration to move forward with the new church. Another very important thing noted was the strength of the men of this church. From the beginning, New Landmark men have stepped forward and presented themselves available and able to get what ever the job was to be done. Brother Calvin Jones takes pride in being



Kids play on the piano while adults clean

one of those dedicated Godly men. He spoke about how, the building was being refurbished and lifted up, while they also found time to raise their voices together as a spirited male choir. Sister Bettie Johnson and Sister Denise Jones agreed that Unity is a strong quality of this church family. They say, "Put God first and you can work as a unit."

Brother Rufus D. Pyburn reiterated this mindset by saying, "The family that prays together stays together!" This is something that many long established and larger church families have yet to accomplish.

Working Together

Unity continued to work, as the church became a reality inside and out. Everyone came together in the back yard of Pastor Jones while working evenings and weekends until the job was done. Visit the church soon and listen closely as the pews tell an inspiring story of the how the little church that was to be - is now reality. Lady Jones laughed with the family as they reflected on how the church pews came to this new home by what some may call luck - but they know it as another blessing, sent by God!

They attended an auction to bid on the pews. Although they had a limited amount of money in the treasury - they proceeded

again, in prayer and faith. They saw the prized pews and held their breath as the bids were called out - down to wire - they made a final bid with what they had and 'there was a loud' silence as their hearts thumped in their chests. "SOLD!" - The silence was broken as they praised and thanked God for showing up, again! This little church appears to have a big 'hook up.' They insist that the testimony is in the prayer and praise.

With much dedicated work, the new house of worship was finally 'fit for a King' - of Glory. The wood panel walls reflect a richness and resilience that will serve to keep the elements out and welcome many visitors from places to come. Classic white pillars extend to the ceiling representing strength and support as this congregation family has surely found in Christian worship and works.

Visions and Aspirations

With so many accomplishments already at hand, one would think that this church could take a break - but that will not be the case here! Pastor Jones says, "In the next three years - this church will be 'busting' at the seams!"

The quest grows as New Landmark reaches out in ministry to those 'lost, forgotten, down trodden, down and out souls. In addition, Sister Carolyn Jones saw the need to make worship inviting, interesting and supportive for the young people of the community. With this in mind, she started an outreach program at the church where children can come together for conversation, friendship and fun - all under Godly support and supervision. This program became such a success that the first speaker, Corporal Allen was inspired to take it further out into the community. This act of faith will now benefit many other young people and families.

Prayer continues to pay off for this church. They continue in faith with the tried and truth power as they are now praying for a musician who will join them and grow with the church. Their history so far has proven them to be on the upside, so listen soon for sweet new music from New Landmark.

Wise WORDS To Others

Lady Mary Jones offers words of encouragement to those who chose to serve in church and community: "Seek ye first the kingdom of Heaven and His righteousness - All things will be added unto you" [Matthew 6:33] Prayer can move mountains, if a person is sincere about it!

Legal Notices

972-606-7351

Fax Ad Copy to 972-509-9058 for "Quote"

C CONSTRUCTION CO., INC. will be bidding the Bachelor Enlisted Quarters, at the Naval Air Station - Joint Reserve Base at Ft. Worth, Texas as a General Contractor. This project bids on April 25, 2002. C Construction Co., Inc. is soliciting bids from any and all qualified Subcontractors and Suppliers, 8A, SDB, WOSB, HUB Zones, Large Enterprises, etc. Sub contractors and Suppliers who are interested in bidding this project are encouraged to contact the estimating department at C Construction Co., Inc., P.O. Box 8270, Tyler, TX 75711, by phone, (903) 597-1500, fax (903) 597-0567, or e-mail, c.construction@sbcglobal.net. C Construction Co., Inc. is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Employer.

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School of Management
Richardson, Texas**
Bid Date: May 8, 2002 at 2:00 p.m.

Hensel Phelps Construction Company is actively seeking bids from certified HUB / MBE / WBE Subcontractors for the above-mentioned project. Proposal Documents will be available at the Hensel Phelps Job Offices located at 7929 Brookriver Drive, Suite #160, Dallas, Texas, on **April 22, 2002**. Please call to confirm all dates and times.

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LEGAL NOTICE: Sealed bids for "**Sandpiper/ Driftwood Roof**" Bid Number **2-0016** will be received at the Office of the Purchasing Director, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, 6300 Ocean Drive, University Service Building, Room 120D, Corpus Christi, Texas until 2:00 p.m. o'clock, May 8, 2002 and then at said room publicly opened and read aloud. There will be a **mandatory prebid** meeting on **May 1, 2002** at 10:00 a.m. in the University Services Center, Room 113. Bid packages may be obtained from the Office of the Purchasing Director, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi or call 361-825-5767. Texas A&M Corpus Christi reserves the right to waive any and all bids; however, no bid can be accepted after the closing hour as advertised. Minority businesses are invited and encouraged to bid.

LEGAL NOTICE: Sealed bids for "**Sandpiper/ Driftwood Windows**" Bid Number **2-0015** will be received at the Office of the Purchasing Director, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, 6300 Ocean Drive, University Service Building, Room 120D, Corpus Christi, Texas until 2:00 p.m. o'clock, May 6, 2002 and then at said room publicly opened and read aloud. There will be a **mandatory prebid** meeting on **April 29, 2002** at 10:00 a.m. in the University Services Center, Room 113. Bid packages may be obtained from the Office of the Purchasing Director, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi or call 361-825-5767. Texas A&M Corpus Christi reserves the right to waive any and all bids; however, no bid can be accepted after the closing hour as advertised. Minority businesses are invited and encouraged to bid.

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Arts & Entertainment



Warner Bros. Records Artist Boney James 'On Stage at Nextstage at Grand Prairie'

By M. T. Caesar, Jr

Boney James is one of music's most successful pop/urban instrumentalists. The star saxophonist appearance in the Metroplex is the tenth stop on "Boney James "Ride Tour 2002" a forty city nationwide tour.

Boney will perform music from the chart-topping Warner Bros. Album, "RIDE." Presently, the first two singles from "RIDE," "Something Inside" (featuring Dave Hollister) and "See What I'm Saying" are #7 at Urban AC radio and #1 at Smooth Jazz respectively. Boney's shows will also feature tracks from each of his consecutive Gold albums, "BODY LANGUAGE," "SWEET THING," "SEDUCTION," and "SHAKE IT UP" (with Rick Braum).

Boney was recently nominated for a 2002 NAACP Image Award in the Best Jazz Artist category. His fellow nominees are Quincy Jones, Branford Marsalis, Dianne Reeves and Patti Austin. He has also been nominated for a 2002 California Music Award in the Outstanding Jazz Album category, which he won last year. Boney is a past recipient of a Soul Train Award for Best Jazz Album.

Boney's "RIDE TOUR 2002" stops this Sunday April 13th, at NextStage at Grand Prairie. For ticket information call: Ticketmaster 972-647-5700



BLOCKBUSTER® Hit List™

These are the Top 10 Renting Video Titles at U.S. BLOCKBUSTER® stores for the week ending April 8, 2002.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| VHS | DVD |
| 1. TRAINING DAY | 1. BANDITS |
| 2. BANDITS | 2. TRAINING DAY |
| 3. K-PAX | 3. THIRTEEN GHOSTS |
| 4. THIRTEEN GHOSTS | 4. K-PAX |
| 5. RIDING IN CARS WITH BOYS | 5. RIDING IN CARS IN BOYS |
| 6. DON'T SAY A WORD | 6. ZOOLANDER |
| 7. JOY RIDE | 7. JOY RIDE |
| 8. ZOOLANDER | 8. ORIGINAL SIN |
| 9. THE LAST CASTLE | 9. DON'T SAY A WORD |
| 10. ORIGINAL SIN | 10. A.I. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE |

These are the Top 10 Selling Video Titles at U.S. BLOCKBUSTER® stores for the week ending April 8, 2002.

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| VHS | DVD |
| 1. TRAINING DAY | 1. TRAINING DAY |
| 2. THIRTEEN GHOSTS | 2. THIRTEEN GHOSTS |
| 3. SHREK | 3. BANDITS |
| 4. CINDERELLA II | 4. THE ONE |
| 5. DRAGON BALL Z: MAJIN BUU - A HERO'S FAREWELL | 5. K-PAX |
| 6. AMERICAN PIE | 5. THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS |
| 7. DRAGON BALL Z: MAJIN BUU - DEFIANCE | 7. BLUE STREAK |
| 8. RUGRATS MOVIE COLLECTION | 8. SHREK |
| 9. THE MUMMY | 9. ZOOLANDER |
| 10. TUPAC SHAKUR: THUG ANGEL | 10. JAY AND SILENT BOB STRIKE BACK |

These are the rental New Releases hitting the streets on Tuesday, April 16, 2002. Titles also available for rent on DVD are indicated with *

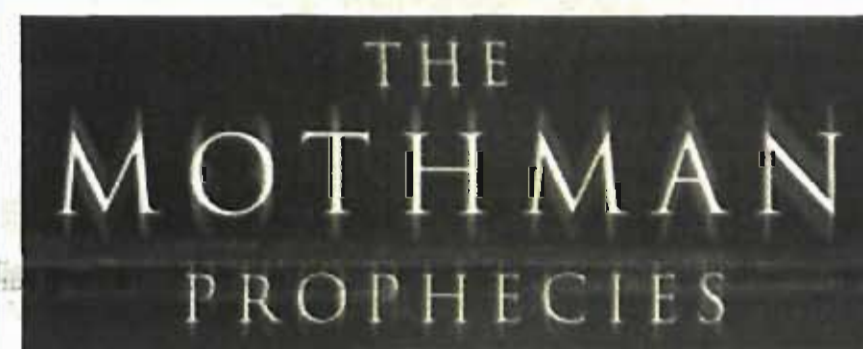
- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE* | TAPE |
| BLACK KNIGHT* | PERFUME |
| THE DEEP END* | PLATINUM COMEDY SERIES: MICHAEL COLYAR |
| THE CIRCUIT* | DRAGON BALL Z: COOLER'S REVENGE |
| | (DVD only) |
| | TEXAS RANGERS* |
| | ULTIMATE FIGHTS FROM THE MOVIES |



The Sweetest Thing

When it comes to dating, Christina Walters (Cameron Diaz) has a golden rule: avoid searching for Mr. Right and focus on Mr. Right Now. That is until one night at a club when she unexpectedly meets Peter (Thomas Jane), only to see him suddenly disappear the next day. She and her best friend Courtney (Christina Applegate) decide to break the rules and go on a road trip to find him, encountering wild and hilarious misadventures along the way. A romantic comedy without the sugar, The Sweetest Thing is a fresh twist on the search for love.

Cameron Diaz
The Sweetest Thing
A romantic comedy without the sugar.
In theaters everywhere April 12th



The Mothman Prophecies

Based on true events, "The Mothman Prophecies" examines a series of inexplicable occurrences through the eyes - and mind - of one man. Richard Gere, Laura Linney, Will Patton and Debra Messing star in this suspense-filled thriller about a man driven to extremes to investigate the mysterious circumstances surrounding his wife's death - and how they might be connected to the strange phenomena in a town four hundred miles away.

Bass Performanc Hall April, 2002 Events

NATALIE COLE
presented by Performing Arts Fort Worth
Thursday, April 11, 2002 - 8:00 pm
Tickets: 817-212-4280

GEORGE JONES
Sponsored by 96.3 KSCS
Friday, April 12, 2002 - 8:00 pm
Saturday, April 13, 2002 - 8:00 pm
Tickets: 817-212-4280

DIVERSITY OF THE HEART
presented by Fort Worth Men's Chorus
Saturday, April 13, 2002 - 8:00 pm
To be held in the
Van Cliburn Recital Hall
Tickets: 817-212-4280

JAZZ FESTIVAL INVITATIONAL
presented by Texas Wesleyan University
Monday, April 15, 2002 - 7:30 pm
Tickets: 817-212-4280

KRYSTIAN ZIMMERMAN, piano
presented by Cliburn Concerts
Tuesday, April 16, 2002 - 8:00 pm
Tickets: 817-212-4280

TIM CONWAY & HARVEY KORMAN
- "Together Again"
presented by Performing Arts Fort Worth
Wednesday, April 17, 2002 - 6:00 pm/ 8:30 pm
Tickets: 817-212-4280

NANCI GRIFFITH
presented by
Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra
Thursday, April 18, 2002 - 8:00 pm
Friday, April 19, 2002 - 8:00 pm
Saturday, April 20, 2002 - 8:00 pm
Sunday, April 21, 2002 - 2:00 pm
Tickets: 817-665-6000

BRUCE WOOD DANCE COMPANY,
SPRING PERFORMANCE
presented by The Bruce Wood Dance Company
Monday, April 22, 2002 - 8:00 pm
Tickets: 817-212-4280

FREDERICA VON STADE AND
HÅKAN HAGEGÅRD, soloists
MIGUEL HARTH-BEDOYA, conductor
presented by
Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra
Friday, April 26, 2002 - 7:00 pm
Tickets: 817-665-6000

RANDY TRAVIS
EDUARDO BROWNE, conductor
presented by
Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra
Saturday, April 27, 2002 - 8:00 pm
Tickets: 817-665-6000

Concert featuring **JOHN OWINGS** and
STEPHEN GIRKO
presented by Chamber Music Society of
Fort Worth
Sunday, April 28, 2002 - 2:30 pm
Tickets: 817-212-4280

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC
DEPARTMENT CONCERT
presented by Midlothian Independent
School District
Sunday, April 28, 2002 - 4:00 pm
Tickets: 817-212-4280

ALFRED BRENDDEL, piano
presented by Cliburn Concerts
Tuesday, April 30, 2002 - 8:00 pm
Tickets: 817-212-4280

On Stage at NextStage at Grand Prairie: April, 2002

Boney James
Ride Tour
Sunday,
April 13

Jeff Foxworthy/
Blue Collar Comedy
Saturday,
April 20

South Pacific -
The Musical
April 24-27

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Thomas & Hall Jump from Page 5

Nashville, Tennessee is a professor at Fisk University. His work, which has been widely exhibited, will be at the Thomas & Hall Gallery beginning April 6, 2002. Mr. Ridley's forte has been portrait oil paintings. More recently he has added the use of metals as a medium. Totem, one of his metal works, stands over five feet tall. Gregory Ridley has been the recipient of numerous awards over the years including the Gold Medal Award in Sculpture from the New York American Veterans Society Exhibition and the Emancipation Proclamation Award. If you would like to read more about Mr. Ridley and other African American artist find a copy of Cedric Dover's American Negro Art (1961), Famous Negroes Past and Present (1967), and Prize Winning Art (1965-68). When asked why an art gallery and why African American Art, Anthony Hopkins, the seemingly quiet, soft spoken curator/owner smiles and even

before he answers the question you somehow get the feeling he wants to ask you "why not". But, with the grace and class befitting an owner of a fine art gallery his response is heartfelt and thought provoking. "Historically African American art is so undervalued in the market place. This in itself makes for a very wise, and good, investment." Says Mr. Hopkins. "More importantly, African American Art tells us about us. The old masters, Jacob Lawrence, John Biggers, Dox Thrash, Elizabeth Catlett, Margaret Burroughs, Charles White and others [and there are many, many others] used their chosen canvas to bring light to the political and racial climates. Artist Romare Bearden's work, Slave Ship, is an abstract that tells a story of a slave ship where captured slaves revolted. Today's artist, Frank Frazier, Bernice Montgomery, Maxwell Taylor, Charles Rucker, Erika Cosby, Varnette Honeywood, SamOt - and here again there are many - many others, express a variety of messages in their work. Like the old masters, these new-

comers express our history within their work. And, they go a step further for in their work we can also glimpse our future. From family to politics, from watercolor to silk threads, realism to abstract, the artist, the medium and the eclectic meaning of African American art is all relative to us as a people. So, if you are lucky enough to already own an original piece of artwork or even a signed original print, hold on to it ... and take good care of it." The Thomas & Hall Fine Art Gallery, a visual history lesson - past, present and future, will host a gallery talk and reception for Mr. Gregory D. Ridley on April 13, 2002 from 6 to 9 PM. You can visit the Thomas & Hall Fine Art Gallery, located at 407 N. Bishop St., Suite 2, Tuesday through Friday, 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 12:00 noon until 6:00 p.m. Check out their website at www.thomas&hallgallery.com email the gallery at thegallery@hotmail.com. Or, contact Mr. Anthony Hopkins by calling (214) 943-7999.

NAACP Garland Branch to Host Economic Empowerment Workshop: How to Do Business (Goods and Services) with the Garland ISD

With over 52,000 students and over 6,000 employees, the Garland Independent School District is BIG business. The budget for fiscal year 2001-2002 totals \$309,202,203.00. The District's Maintenance and Operating Budget is \$255,911,547.00. How can minority-owned businesses gain better access to opportunities to do business for goods and services with the Garland ISD? The NAACP Garland Branch will sponsor an Economic Empowerment Workshop for minority-owned businesses in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex entitled "How to Do Business (Goods and Services) with the Garland ISD". This workshop will be held as part of the regular monthly Branch meeting at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 23, 2002, Women's Activity Center, 713 Austin at Glenbrook Drive, Garland (Downtown), Texas. Guest presenter will be Mr. Mark Booker, Director of Purchasing and Warehouse, Garland Independent School District. This workshop is free and open to the public. For directions or more information, please call the NAACP Garland Branch at (972) 381-544.

St Mark Baptist Church Prayer Seminar

Mark your calendar!

Saturday, April 20th, 2002

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Guest Minister:

Harry (Rick) Jordan

of

Concord Missionary Baptist
Church - Dallas

Call St. Mark's Church

972-542-5178

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Church Directory

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Around The Town

ON GOING

Plano City Council Meeting-
2nd & 4th Monday of each
month-7pm-Municipal Building
1520 Avenue K.

Plano School Board Meeting-
1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month-
7pm-First Floor Board Room,
Plano ISD Administration
Building, 2700 W. 15th Street

Frisco City Council Meeting-
1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month-
6:30pm- Municipal Complex,
8950 McKinney Road.

Frisco School Board
Meeting-2nd Tuesday of each
month-7:30pm- Lecture Hall of
Frisco High School.

Garland City Council
Meeting- 1st & 3rd Tuesday of
each month- City Hall Building,
200 N. Fifth Street- 7pm.

Alzheimer's Support Group
meets the fourth Thursday of each
month at the Victoria Gardens
Assisted Living Facility in Allen on
Jupiter Road between Bethany and

Main. Call 972-941-7335 for
more information.

Breast Cancer Support
GROUP MEETS 7PM - 8:30PM
The THIRD Monday of every
month at the Senior Health
Center of Plano. Anyone who has
breast cancer, is undergoing treat-
ment, needs to share their feelings
and anxieties, or is a breast cancer
survivor is invited. For more infor-
mation call 972-519-1588.

April 12

Art encounter. is in its
eleventh year of serving as Dallas'
premier source for emerging local
artists. Art encounter will sponsor
"Meet the Artists Reception" Friday
from 7pm to 8pm at 230
Spanish Village, the Southwest
corner of Arapaho at Coit Road.

April 13

Home Buyer's Expo at the
Plano Centre from 9am to 6pm.
Meet Realtors, Mortgage compa-
nies, Title companies, Builders,
and related home specialists.

Admission is free. For more infor-
mation call Marcia Jower, DFW
Community Newspaper at 972-
543-2212.

The Thomas & Hall Gallery
will open an exhibition featuring
the work of former Fisk Alum &
University Professor, Greg Ridley
and some of the leading African
American Artists of the 60's and
70's who Ridley counts among
friends. This event is free and
open to the public at 6pm. The
address is 407 N. Bishop Street
Suite 2 in the Bishop Arts District.

FAMU-Clark/Atl Alumni
meeting @12:00 noon-1:30pm.
The chapter that brings in the
most members to the meeting will
be honored with a Pizza Party. The
meeting is held at the Center for
Community Cooperation. For more
information call 817-784-3589.

The Women's Museum pre-
sents Journalist Lynn Sherr for a
special benefit gala April 13, 2002
at the Museum. For more infor-
mation call 214-946-6688.

April 14

Toy Show- from 10am-5pm
held at the Plano Centre at 2000
E. Spring Creek Plano, Texas.
Comics, toys, cards, and col-
lectibles are just part of what you
will see at this special Toy Show.
Come meet Roscoe from the Dukes
of Hazzard, admission is free.

April 15

DFW High Tech Career
Expo at the Plano Centre from
11am-2pm and 4pm-7pm. Admis-
sion is free. For information call 1-
800-562-2820 or participating
companies, job postings, direc-
tions and current events schedules

The City Of Plano Parks and
Recreation Department is offering
a Summer Adult Softball Team.
New team registration is April 15-
26. For more information, call the
Plano Athletics office Monday
through Friday from 8:00am to
5:00pm at 972-941-7278; or contact
the Heritage Yards of Plano Softball

Complex office 972-712-3930.

April 19

Collin County Prayer Break-
fast held at Plano Centre, 2000 E.
Spring Creek Parkway from 6:30am-
8:30am. Admission \$15.00. For tick-
et information call 214-757-7259.

The Dallas Black Chamber of
Commerce invites you to attend
the 5th annual Education Luncheon
to recognize outstanding perfor-
mance in education @ 12:00 Noon
at the Dallas Convention Center.
Tickets are \$25.00 per person. For
tickets call 214-421-5200.

Famed defense attorney John-
nie L. Cochran Jr. will give the
keynote speech to highlight the
Sixteenth Annual Herman Sweat
Symposium on Civil Rights at the
University of Texas at Austin. At
7pm in the LBJ Auditorium. All
events are free and open to the
public. For more information call
(512) 332-4850.

April 19 - May 19

Part oral history, part dramat-

ic action, part remembrance AND
THEN THEY CAME FOR ME
breaks new ground and has been
acclaimed by audiences and critics
in productions across the US.
Dallas Children's Theater presents
this unique and riveting play at the
Crescent Theater, 2215 Cedar
Springs, across from the Crescent
Hotel. Fridays at 7:30pm, Sat-
urdays at 1:30pm, Sundays at
1:30pm and 4:30pm. Tickets are
\$12 for children & \$14 for adults.
Special rates available for groups
of 10 or more. For reservations,
call DCT Box Office at 214-978-
0110. No performances Saturday,
May 4 and Sunday May 12.

April 20

The Third Eye presents its
17th Annual Spring Rising
Conference. The featured speaker
is the preeminent scholar, author,
and Egyptologist Dr. Yosef ben-
Jochannan. Location: Black Acad-
emy of Arts and Letters @ 6pm.
Admission is \$15.00. For more
information call 214-943-0142.

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