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Undisputed Coming to Theatre

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The Gazette

"North Dallas" Weekly Paper of Choice

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On the Homefront:

Free Photography Contest Open to Plano residents-The T International Library of Photography is pleased to announce that over \$60,000 in prizes will be awarded this year in the International Open Amateur Photography Contest. Photographers from the Plano area, particularly beginners, are welcome to try to win their share of over 1,300 prizes. The deadline for the contest is September 30, 2002. The contest is open to everyone and entry is FREE. To enter, send ONE photograph in ONLY ONE of the following categories: People, Travel, Pets, Children, Sports, Nature, Action, Humor, Portraiture, or Other. The photo must be a color or black-and-white print (unmounted), 5" x 10" or smaller. All entries must include the photographer's name and address on the back, as well as the category and the title of the photo. Photographs should be sent to: The International Library of Photography, Suite 101-2614, and 3600 Crowl Lane, Owings Mills, MD 21117. Entries must be postmarked by September 30, 2002. You may also submit your photo directly online at www.picture.com. For more information contact Owings Mills at (410) 363-4800.

The Plano Chamber of Commerce invites you to join them at welcoming their new president, Brad Shanklin at the Blue Mesa Grill, at 4200 Dallas Parkway, Plano (southeast corner of Tollard and 421) on Thursday, August 15, and 5:00pm - 7:00pm. R.S.V.P. by August 13th by calling (972) 424-7547, Ext. 230, or log on to rsvp.plano.org.

The last summer concert at the Heritage Farmstead Museum will be held August 17th featuring New Approach, a bluegrass band of hard-driving guys from Rowlett and Dallas, formerly members of various groups for many years. Also performing are, the Lone Star T's, a model T Club who brought their antique automobiles to the August concert in 2001. Booths will include an HFM membership information table, the Peddler's Cart, Mac's Salsa and Jam, chair massage, voter registration, child fingerprinting, drink sales, and jewelry and basket sales. Door prizes will be awarded at each concert and will include gift certificates for local restaurants and shops. Vendors at the concerts will donate HFM memberships and items. Tickets for general admission are \$3; seniors and HFM members, \$2; and for children under the age of 12, \$1. Volunteer are needed. If interested call Barbara Hobbs at (972) 571-1468 or email to bhobbs@herfarmstead.com or call the Farmstead office at (972) 581-0149.

North Texas Home Educators Network will host a conference on August 16th located at Plano Centre 2000 Spring Creek Parkway Friday, August 16 and Saturday, August 17 from 9:30am - 5:00pm. North Texas Home Educators' Network Annual Conference and Book Fair located at Plano Centre, Spring Creek and Jupiter Roads. Pre registration is \$30 for adults and \$15 for children ages 2-17. For more information call (214) 495-9600 or log onto www.nthenn.org.

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Mother and Daughter To Run Marathon

By: Felicia Coleman

Waynette Woodard and her mother Helen Woodard, both of Allen, are training for Ireland's 26.2 mile marathon in Dublin on October 28. The marathon will benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

To train for the marathon, The Woodards have teamed up with "Team in Training", the world's largest endurance sports training and fundraising program, in March of this year. "Team in Training" allows each athlete to run, walk or ride in honor of a specific leukemia patient.

"I received a letter in the mail on Teams In Training. I researched it and looked on the internet to find the Dallas chapter. That is how I became involved," Waynette Woodard said.

The program started in 1988, in honor of leukemia survivor, Georgia, the daughter of Bruce Cleland of Rye, New York, when a team was formed to train and raise funds to run the New York City Marathon. The program now

has branches all over the United States, with the purpose of raising funds for research to find cures in honor of those who have died, and who are suffering from

and make a difference," she added.

Waynette, her mother, and others, begin training at 5:00 a.m. at White Rock Lake, running 25-30 miles a week. She said that it was her mother Helen, an elementary school coach and aerobic instructor, who convinced her to run the marathon.

"I've come a long way in a short period of time. At first I was skeptical because I wasn't in shape and I've never run a marathon before in my life," said Waynette. "Never in a million years would I have thought that I would be a runner. When I run and I get tired, I think of the patients and I keep going on."

Each participant wears a wristband with the names of three patients.

Waynette is scheduled to leave for Dublin, Ireland on October to make it on time for the October 28 marathon.

"There will be a rest day, See Marathon page 6



(L to R) Helen and Waynette Woodard, mother and daughter team are training for marathon in Dublin, Ireland October 28

cancer. Waynette became involved in the marathon because she has had family members die from breast and lung cancer. "I wanted to get involved

Local Business Man Buys Thornton House to Preserve African American Heritage

Will Corporate and Private Sponsors Answer the Call for Funding and Involvement?



By Monica Thornton

Dallas resident and local businessman, Ron Williams, 42, has stepped up to the plate and purchased the John Thornton house in the Douglass Community of East Plano.

The Thornton house is believed to be the oldest in the area (built in the 1890's), and is of great historic significance to the African-American community, bought by John Thornton, an African-American sharecropper, farmer and real estate investor around 1909. But one way or another

the house has to be moved, as Greater New Birth Church owns the land on which it sits, and until recently, they also owned the house.

The church is ready to expand its sanctuary and need to build on the land. And in June, the call went out to the Douglass and neighboring communities to help preserve the house and the heritage it represents by moving the house with the purpose of turning it into an African American museum or heritage center.

See Thornton House page 6

Upcoming Reparations March Can Be Crucial

By: George E. Curry

From time to time, an issue that's been around for a while suddenly leaps to the forefront of public attention and takes on a new, energized life of its own. In the early stages of the anti-apartheid demonstrations in Washington, no one knew that minority-rule in South Africa was about to come to an end. And few thought that if Nelson Mandela were ever released from prison—if they believed he would be released at all—he would become president of South Africa.

This weekend, supporters of reparations for Blacks are gathering in Washington, D.C., in hopes of keeping the issue in the public eye and, more importantly, improve its chances of becoming a reality. And like those early anti-apartheid marchers, they are not discouraged by talk of Blacks never receiving reparations from the United States government. In the past, the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations (N'COBRA), Rep. John Conyers and activists such as Richard America have been among the lonely voices demanding reparations for the more than two centuries of slavery and another century of slave-like degradation and segregation. They have remained vigilant as others have attempted to marginalize them and their cause.

But in recent years, support for reparations has broadened to

the point that the idea can't be dismissed by summarily attacking its supporters. The likes of Richard America and attorney Adjoa Aiyetoro have now been joined by Dorothy Height, of the National Council of Negro Women, Harvard Law Professor Charles Ogletree and William Lucy, of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. Randall Robinson, the former head of TransAfrica, sparked more public debate by writing a book on the subject titled, "The Debt: What America Owes to Blacks." What was roundly dismissed as a radical idea in the past is not considered radical anymore. Not when the Bush Administration wants to eliminate affirmative action. Not when other countries are offering atonement for their past behavior. Canada has made financial amends with Japanese Canadians, Austria has doled out \$25 million for Holocaust survivors and even the United States has paid \$1.2 billion to Japanese Americans wrongly interned during World War II.

Unlike countries that have embraced their African links, such as Cuba and Brazil, the United States still has difficulty owning up to its exploitation of Africans brought here against their will. With people such as Ward Connerly willing to carry their water, they prefer to pretend that racism doesn't exist anymore. If it does exist, some

See Reparations page 8

2002 Bright Minds Bright Future Scholarship Awarded to Russell Jones, III



(L to R) Russell Jones, Jr., Russell Jones III (Brighter Minds Scholarship recipient), Bradley Jones, and Auran Jones

By: Tobbi Hicks

As a student at Frisco High School, Russell Jones, III was an active member of the Varsity Football Team, Spanish Club, Varsity Track Team, the Varsity Weight Lifting Team, and SADD-Students Against Drunk Driving. "It makes me kind of proud of him because he has so much inspiration and high education," said Mr. Russell Jones Jr. "I've always instilled in him that his participation and his education in activities or his surroundings, meaning the community would take him a long

way into the future."

In May of 2002, Russell Jones, III graduated from Frisco High School with honors and received a \$2,500 scholarship from the Bright Minds Bright Future TXU Scholarship Fund as well as a \$2,000 scholarship award from the YMCA.

With a promising future ahead of him, this eighteen-year-old high school graduate looks forward to attending The University of Texas at Arlington. Jones plans to study Business and Law at The University of Texas in Arlington under the

Coordinated Program of Admissions, as an undeclared graduate for one year and then transfer to the University of Texas at Austin where he will then study Philosophy.

Russell, III is grateful for the support of his parents Russell and Gail Jones. "They've really pushed me to do the best that can because they see a lot in me, they push me to bring that out and they try to get me into a lot of new things so that I can discover a lot of new talents."

Desire to Honor Kids Inspires Team Effort from Coca-Cola Bottling Company of North Texas



(Left to Right): Coca-Cola Bottling Company of North Texas Branch Manager Scott Holloway, Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Dallas President Cynthia Nunn, Coca-Cola Bottling Company of North Texas Community Relations Manager Cheryl Brown and Area Vice-President Brad Hopkins help distribute backpacks provided by Coca-Cola Bottling Company of North Texas to children from the Dallas Metroplex.

Dallas, Texas (August 9, 2002) - The Boys & Girls Clubs of America and KidsPeace, with the support of leading youth service organizations, have established the first Sunday in August every year as National KidsDay. Members of the Coca-Cola Bottling Company of North Texas' Employee Volunteer Council recently lent a helping hand at a kick-off celebration for

National KidsDay honoring the children of Dallas.

Locally, a special celebration, complete with a National KidsDay proclamation from Chief of Staff Crayton Webb on behalf of the city of Dallas, took place at the Oak Cliff Boys & Girls Club on Friday, August 2, 2002, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The kick-off celebration was held to educate children and adults on the

importance and benefits of spending meaningful time together, informing children that family can mean a neighbor, teacher or mentor and build awareness for National KidsDay on Sunday. The celebration included the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Dallas, Girls Inc., and YMCA-West and other sponsors that planned a multitude of family

See KidsDay page 8

Reparations from Page 1

argue, its racism against White people. And they make those specious arguments by using the very statues designed to assist Blacks, such as the equal protection clause of the constitution, and turn them against African-Americans.

So, it's no surprise that some Americans are unwilling to even discuss the merits of reparations. Conyers introduces a bill every year—HR40 (as in 40 acres and a mule)—that would establish a commission to study possible legislation at the federal level. But the measure never gets out of committee.

While there appears to be growing support for reparations among African-Americans, few White politicians will even discuss the subject. "This is the

subject that at the national level nobody wants to talk about," Conyers said at a TransAfrica forum two years ago. "This is America's secret and, at the same time, most sensitive political problem of race that now comes together when we raise questions of reparations that lead many people to move toward the door, to exit as quickly as they can." Not all Whites are moving toward the door. One group is called CURE—Caucasians United for Reparations and Emancipation. Acting in the tradition of White abolitionists, the group's statement of belief and purpose declares: "We see the United States as immoral from its very foundation because of the lie of white superiority and the commission of the crime of slavery, and we dedicate our lives to fundamental change within our-

selves, and in our society." A paper published by the Human Rights Watch notes, "We begin with the premise that slavery, the slave trade, the most severe forms of racism associated with colonialism and subsequent official racist

practices such as apartheid in South Africa or the Jim Crow laws in the United States are extraordinarily serious human rights violations. If committed today these would be crimes against humanity."

Correction: They were crimes against humanity then. And it's a crime to pretend that we are serious about solving the race problem in America without acknowledging in a formal way that the remnants of slavery are still with us.

George E. Curry is editor-in-chief of the NNPA News Service and BlackPressUSA.com.

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Allen Early Childhood PTA Brunch

Please join the Allen Early Childhood PTA (AECPTA) for brunch and the first general meeting of the year on Friday, August 16 from

9:15 - 11:00 at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church, 501 Hightrail Drive. Nursery is available for children 6 months - 5 years for chil-

dren with reservations. For more information please contact Jenn Terry, 214-495-8995 or email AECPTA@hotmail.com.

Did you know

Did you know that in 2000 the National Assessment of Educational Progress found that only a 1/4 of fourth and eighth graders perform at a proficient level in mathematics?

With those numbers in mind, the creators of WNET/Channel Thirteen's Magic Schoolbus coupled

television and the Internet for the first time last winter to create a math mystery show called Cyber Chase.

The program allows grade school children to connect to a new online game every day with respect to the content of the television show they just watched. The site also showcases

mysteries and problems to be solved with math education in mind.

More interesting, children are responding enthusiastically and contacting PBS with suggestions for upcoming episodes. For more information visit www.pbskids.org and click on Cyberchase.

McKinney6 Airs Part Two of Historic Preservation Programs

McKinney6 will begin airing part two of a series of programs designed to educate and preserve McKinney's heritage. In Part Two of McKinney, Texas: A Celebration of Historic Preservation, Guy Giersch, McKinney's Historic Preservation Officer, goes on a tour of the Flour Mill with local architect James West. After learning about this historic building and its operations, Guy Giersch interviews Dr. Brad Wysong, a lifetime resident of McKinney and fourth generation Collin County resident.

Video Producer Ana Adams believes the programs are an asset to the community. "This program does an excellent job of taking the viewer from their living room into a nostalgic part of our heritage," she said. "If you have ever driven past the Flour Mill and wondered what it is like inside, or if you have a curiosity about what it was like to grow up in McKinney, this program is for you."

Other programs that highlight topics such as the rise of minorities in McKinney and

the importance of preserving McKinney's past will begin airing over the next few months.

Part Two of "McKinney, Texas: A Celebration of Historic Preservation" will air Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays at noon, 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.

McKinney6 is a division of the City of McKinney's Public Information office and is available on AT&T Channel 6. McKinney6 features programming twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

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NAACP Announces Voter Empowerment and Registration Campaign at The Village of Eastgate

The NAACP Garland Branch in partnership with the Theta Alpha Chapter,

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. will conduct a Voter Empowerment and Registration Campaign 10:00a.m.-2:00p.m., Saturday, August 31, 2002 at the Village of Eastgate Apartment Complex Activity Center, 1765 Plaza Drive at E. Northwest Highway, Garland, Texas (1/2 mile north of LBJ Freeway). Any resident of Dallas County may register to vote at this event. For more information, you may call (972) 381-5044.

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THE TRUTH CLINIC

BLACKS SHORT CHANGED IN EDUCATION DOLLARS

By James W. Breedlove

School bells across the country are ringing announcing the start of a new school year. School administrators will be challenged by the tough new federal demands to raise achievement scores among poor and minority students. Many school districts, already hard pressed for funds, will find it more difficult to deal with the new federal standards.

The Education Trust, a non-partisan group that represents schools in poor urban districts, released a report documenting the large funding gaps between high- and low-poverty and minority districts in many states. The report analyzed census data and state and local school financing figures submitted to the federal Education Department for the 1999-2000 school year and compared them to school finance data from 1997.

This document should be a wake up call for black parents because it is one more indicator that the very students who have the greatest need are in fact getting the least help. In 31 of 47 states studied, districts enrolling the highest proportion of minority students receive substantially fewer state and local education dollars per student than districts enrolling a low percentage of minority students.

These gaps have real consequences on the quality of education low-income and minority children receive. In Texas, for example, the \$518 FY 2000 per student average funding difference translates into a \$207,200 difference between high and low-poverty elementary schools of the same size (The study assumed 400 students per school). That two hundred thousand dollar shortfall could go a long way toward allowing a poorer school to compete

with elite suburban schools for the most qualified teachers and also provide extra instructional time for students who are behind.

The \$518 was a 34 percent increase over the FY1997 differential. Nationally, school districts with the fewest minority students spent \$6,684 in state and local money per pupil, compared with \$5,782 for heavily minority schools. The study showed that while the financing disparities grew in nine states, the gap between high- and low-poverty schools nationally shrank to an average of \$966 per student, from \$1,139 per student in 1997.

The funding differentials might explain why blacks are failing poorly on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) report card. Comparing the math and science scores from 1996 to 2000 blacks had the lowest scores for all ethnic groups studied. Notwithstanding the incremental improvement that black students made from 1996 - 2000, the differential between the white scores and the black scores tells a significant story. The fourth and eighth grade black students tested were approximately 3 years of study behind the white students.

When comparing the Texas black student scores to black student scores in other states in 1996 the fourth grade math scores placed Texas in first place even though they were 30 points behind white fourth graders. However, by the year 2000 the eighth grade Texas black student scores were 8 points (a years study) behind the highest black scores and 36 points behind white eighth graders.

The Education Trust, report cautioned that more money did not automatically close the achievement gap between rich and

poor, or among black, Latino and white students. But eliminating the differences in financing and spending the money wisely to hire qualified teachers, lengthening the school day, and implementing strong curriculums could go a long way toward solving the achievement gap problem.

States establish the systems that fund public schools, and thus it is states that must act to close these gaps. The most common approaches are for states to reduce reliance on local property taxes by assuming a greater share of overall school funding and to heavily target poorer districts when distributing those state tax revenues. Many states now do some version of both of those things. How much the state needs to do is, of course, a function of how much inequality there is in local resources. The problem is that many states give low priority to addressing the huge resource differences between poor and wealthy communities. Education rhetoric much be supported with funding equality.

Few would disagree with the need to raise educational standards and improve the quality of education for our children. It seems clear that efforts to encourage academic achievement should involve more than just setting higher standards and imposing examinations that are simply referenced to the standards. Major education reforms must be put in place that are efficient, effective, funded and focused on educating the predominantly minority student population. This will require the collective and objective efforts of administrators, teachers, parents, civic organizations and community leaders.

Comments or opinions may be sent to the writer at: jaydubub@swbell.net

Be Thankful

- Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire. If you did, what would there be to look forward to?
- Be thankful when you don't know something, for it gives you the opportunity to learn.
- Be thankful for the difficult times. During those times you grow.
- Be thankful for your limitations, because they give you opportunities for improvement.
- Be thankful for each new challenge, because it will build your strength and character.
- Be thankful for your mistakes. They will teach you valuable lessons.
- Be thankful when you're tired and weary, because it means you've made a effort.

It's easy to be thankful for the good things. A life of rich fulfillment comes to those who are also thankful for the setbacks.

Gratitude can turn a negative into a positive.

Find a way to be thankful for your troubles, and they can become your blessings.

Another View

Blackonomics The Power of Wealth vs. the Power of Income

By James Clingman

Posted 8/10/2002

In his book, "Black Wealth Through Black Entrepreneurship," Robert Wallace says, "...it becomes painfully obvious that the basic problem facing the [B]lack community is that it lacks significant power to have a direct and sustained impact on its own destiny." The key word in his statement is "power." Notice the title of Brother Wallace's book includes the word "wealth," not "income," and if you have read the book you also noticed Wallace's instruction to us when it comes to capturing real power.

Too many of us spend most of our time bragging about the tremendous so-called "spending power" of Black folks in this country. We quote the information from the University of Georgia's Selig Center and revel in the fact that we have an annual income of \$600 billion. Did you know that the term "Black spending power," as used by the statisticians, simply means "disposable income?" Yes, Black people have \$600 billion per year in disposable income, and as Sister Sharazad Ali says, "Black folks have the most disposable income because we dispose of most of our income."

So, what is the difference between income and wealth? What is the difference between income and wealth when it comes to power? Well, the bottom line to wealth is net worth. Check out a person's net worth and you can see how wealthy he or she is. The latest statistics show that Black families have a net worth that is one-tenth of that of White families—and even less than that of Asian families. Need I say more?

The next time you see the statistics on Black buying power, stop and think about the word "power" and what it means in that particular context. Power for whom? Yes, it's Black buying power, but it's

power for those who receive some 95 percent of our \$600 billion everyday. It is power for others to purchase fine homes and cars. It is power for others to build their own communities. It is power for others to send their children to college. It is power that is transferable—the best kind of power—to the progeny of others, thus allowing them to maintain their collective hold on the economic system of this country.

This is why I use the term "Black buying weakness." If we continue to give our power to someone else through our conspicuous consumption of their products and services, we will continue to have billions of dollars in aggregate income and only thousands of dollars in individual family wealth. Additionally, we will continue to have the power of income rather than the power of wealth, which only allows us to our pay bills, continue to work on the proverbial "plantations," purchase all of our needs and wants from the proverbial "company store," and create the power of wealth for others.

The systems of sharecropping and dependence upon the company store, as miners had to do during the 1940s and 1950s, are being continued today when it comes to the enormous amount of income and the relative miniscule amount of wealth that Blacks have. We could never catch up then, and we will never catch up now, if we continue to depend upon income rather than wealth.

The power of wealth manifests itself in ownership and control of income-producing assets and infrastructure such as banks, hotels, manufacturing facilities, real estate, distribution channels, and other wealth-builders and wealth-retainers. The power of income manifests itself, via the transfer of that income to others, in ownership and control of assets by others from whom Black folks must purchase our very sustenance. If we

allow that system to continue, by pouring the vast majority of our income into the vast pools of wealth owned by others, we will always be on the bottom of the economic heap. Yes, some of us will still have the latest cars, fine homes, stock portfolios, and high positions (jobs) in corporate America, but collectively we will remain an income-rich and wealth-poor group of Africans in America.

We must take stock of our economic position in this country by understanding that income is not wealth. It's not what you earn; it's what you keep. You shouldn't work for money; money should work for you. Credit is a good servant but a poor master. Poor people pay interest; rich people earn interest. Don't have champagne tastes with a beer budget. Stop ending each month with more money than money. The clichés go on and on. But you get the picture, I'm sure.

Please start redirecting more of your income toward your own people, just like other groups do. And, the next time they count how much money we have collectively, they will add a footnote that says, "Black spending among Black owned businesses has increased significantly, the result of which is an increase in the net worth of Black families as well as an aggregate increase in Black wealth."

The power of income or the power of wealth. Which would you prefer for our people?

James E. Clingman, an adjunct professor at the University of Cincinnati's of African-American Studies department, is former editor of the Cincinnati Herald Newspaper and founder of the Greater Cincinnati African American Chamber of Commerce. He hosts the radio program, "Blackonomics," and is the author of the book, "Economic Empowerment or Economic Enslavement—We have a choice." He can be reached at (513) 489-4132, or by e-mail at jclingman@blackonomics.com.

Case Involving Council Race Delayed

By Felicia Coleman

A suit filed by former City Council District 1 member, Willie Wattlely, contesting that there were errors conducting the City Council District 1 runoff election in McKinney has been delayed from its scheduled August 29 date.

The suit was filed over a year ago, on June 29, 2001, after Mr. Wattlely, 75, lost the seat he has held since 1977 to retired records clerk, Gilda Garza, 52.

"I'm not going to just give it to her. The election was not fair because people were voting from Dallas and from Melissa, and from districts other than district 1. I can't understand it. They have to be honest and I can prove that it wasn't an honest

election. If it were an honest election I would have given it up without a second thought," said Wattlely.

The trial was rescheduled for August 29 because health problems forced Gilda Garza to ask for a delay.

"I'm ready to get through this. If you start with dishonest elections in McKinney you have to put up with it from now on," Mr. Wattlely added. "I just thank God that I'm strong enough to stand to it. A lot of things they should've done, but they did not do."

The suit alleges that 11 voters who signed the register were not eligible to vote in District 1 because they did not live in the district, and that 30 ballots were

cast by voters who did not sign the poll list. There was also an inconsistency of seven names between the poll list used during the runoff and the Collin County master voting list.

The suit asks that fees connected with the suit be paid by Ms. Garza, disputed votes be declared illegal, the election be voided and a new vote be ordered.

Mr. Wattlely said he plans to run for office in the 2003 election, but doesn't know if it will be for City Council.

"I will run for some office. I've been on the council for 23 years and nothing like this has ever happened," he said.

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Publisher
Thurman R. Jones

Office Manager

Vice President National Sales and Marketing
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Sales Department
Eve Clark
Billy Parnell
Brenda Alexander

Sales Department:
Phone: (972) 606-7351
Fax: (972) 509-9058
Email: trj@swbell.net

Assignment Editor
Thurman R. Jones

Staff Writers
Felicia Coleman
Tobavia (Tobi) Hicks
Brandy Jones

Contributing Writers

Monica Thornton
Lakeisha Joe
Anthony Jones
Shauna Benoit
Photography
Shauna Benoit
Deborah Kellogg
Maggie YBarra
Frank Lott

Editorial Department:
(972) 516-2992
Fax: (972) 516-4197
Email: mon-edit@swbell.net

Advisory Board:

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

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

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

TIME FOR A NEW LOOK





John Dudley

FINANCIAL FOCUS

Should you be bulletproofing your portfolio for wartime?

That's the recommendation of some "investment advisors," and some investors are listening. But it's not a good idea. Fear should never drive investment decisions.

In the aftermath of September 11, military strikes in Afghanistan, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the threat of war with Iraq, suggestions for defensive "war" portfolios have begun to appear. While these portfolios vary, they generally follow similar investment advice: load up on defense-industry stocks, gold, and U.S. government securities. Some recommend oil stocks on the premise that a Middle East war will dramatically push up the price of oil. Others like the stocks of companies producing products that consumers will buy regardless of the circumstances: food, tobacco, medicine and so on.

One defensive war portfolio found on the Internet calls for 70 percent U.S. Treasury securities and certificates of deposit, 10 percent precious coins, 10 percent defense-industry stocks, and 3 percent each of Swiss francs and New Zealand dollars. If disaster really does strike, some would argue that this would be a sound portfolio. But one of the problems, point out others, is that this particular "war" portfolio has been recommended for the past six years—the first four of which saw record stock market growth.

According to experienced financial advisors, it's the same principle as having a very defensive portfolio whose asset allocation mix is always braced for a market downturn. Yes, markets periodically falter, as they have the last two years, and a conservative portfolio might serve you well at that point. The problem is that we rarely can forecast a market downturn and in the meantime we miss out on the growth, which, over the long haul, has more than overcome the downturns.

Does the idea of a defensive portfolio sound familiar? Go

back to the fall of 1999, when alarmists warned of the impending Y2K disaster and some panicked investors converted all their investments to cash, often with significant tax consequences and missed market returns.

Unlike the Y2K scare, terrorism is real. But war has hit Americans before, and in most cases the economy and the stock market have weathered them well. The S&P 500 was up 20 percent within one year after Pearl Harbor, for example, and the Dow climbed 20 percent two months after the start of Desert Storm.

Although most investors will maintain their current portfolios, some panic and switch from long-held asset allocations to these war portfolios. Other investors have hunkered down with a lot of cash, though other factors such as the economy, Enron and the continued whipsawing of the stock market have contributed to their nervousness.

The smarter move is to stick with a portfolio that's well diversified and that reflects your long-range financial goals, risk tolerance and personal circumstances. You should be investing only for the long-term, such as for retirement and college, and not let potential catastrophes—whose dimensions are unknown and which could affect portfolios in unforeseen ways—dictate your portfolio's makeup.

A disaster-driven portfolio is usually an extremely conservative one, and as a consequence, investors following them are more likely to fail to reach their financial goals because of inferior long-term returns than because of shorter market declines due to a disaster, argue most planners. Besides, they say, if a national catastrophe were to strike that truly crippled our nation—devastating terrorist attacks or a nuclear attack, for example—even a "war" portfolio would unlikely be of much value in the aftermath.

For those investors who still feel defensive about their portfolio,

some financial advisors recommend tips that can help but not hobble the overall portfolio too much. One suggestion is to designate perhaps ten percent of the portfolio to a defensive position, such as U.S. Treasuries, precious metals, cash and real estate. Another is to buy certificates of deposit from financial institutions located in different geographic areas.

But ultimately the best defense is a well-diversified portfolio that over time will perform satisfactorily regardless of the circumstances. A portfolio that holds foreign stocks and foreign bonds, for example, which many financial advisors recommend under normal circumstances, could help blunt the effects of damage to the United States.

This column is produced by the Financial Planning Association, the membership organization for the financial planning community, and is provided by John Dudley, Financial Advisor with Wachovia Securities at 214-740-3253, Inc., member NYSE and SIPC, and a broker/dealer member in good standing of the FPA.

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POLL: CONFIDENCE IN JUDICIARY ERODED BY JUDGES' NEED TO RAISE CAMPAIGN MONEY

New American Bar Association president calls for end to political battles over the courts

WASHINGTON, D.C., Aug. 12, 2002 - The American Bar Association today released results of a poll that shows public trust and confidence in the judiciary is eroded by skyrocketing costs in judicial election campaigns.

According to the poll conducted by Harris Interactive, 72 percent of Americans are concerned that the impartiality of judges is compromised by their need to raise campaign money. Thirty-five percent of the respondents said they were "extremely" or "very" concerned.

"Today I am announcing the appointment of a blue-ribbon commission whose mission is to identify a better way for states to conduct judicial elections," said Alfred P. Carlton Jr. of Raleigh, N.C., incoming president of the ABA.

"We must defuse the escalating partisan battle over America's courts. Millions of dollars are being spent to 'control' courts in some states much the same way political parties control legislative and executive branches of government."

Carlton characterized the recent ruling by the Supreme Court of the United States that judicial candidates have the right to express their views on legal and political issues as "potentially the most interesting development of the 2002 election cycle."

"It raises the ante for judicial candidates who are now forced to become partisan politicians," he said. "Is this the beginning of the end of judges being different from partisan politicians? Can judges remain impartial arbiters when they become real candidates? As lawyers, we know they have to be different because their role is to be impartial."

"The challenge is to find a way for states that want to continue to elect judges to allow judicial candidates to freely express themselves on political issues in a way that does not compromise their impartiality once they are on the bench," he said.

According to the poll, a majority of people think elected judges are more fair and impartial than appointed judges. However, the survey shows almost three out of four people believe that raising campaign money compromises impartiality of the judiciary.

And the public strongly favors nonpartisan elections - by a 63 to 24 margin.

The Court ruling on what judicial candidates can say gives



the commission's work a sense of urgency and importance as the members strive to write a set of neutral principles that, hopefully, will lead to a new model of judicial selection in the states," Carlton said.

Carlton announced that William S. Sessions, former FBI director and a former U.S. district judge, and Abner J. Mikva, former chief judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and former U.S. representative, will serve as honorary co-chairs of the ABA Commission on the 21st Century Judiciary. Edward W.

Madeira Jr., Pepper Hamilton LLP, Philadelphia, chairs the commission. The commission will hold four public hearings, beginning next week in Detroit and later in Philadelphia, Portland, Ore., and Austin, Tex.

"The American Bar Association has an essential role in promoting judicial selection that minimizes the escalating politicization," Carlton said. "This broad-based commission, representing the legal and non-legal communities alike, is charged with devising the necessary framework to ensure that our judges of the future remain independent and accountable."

Over 80 percent of state judges face election of some sort. Federal judges are appointed.

The ABA has long preferred merit selection of judges, a system under which judges are appointed after being screened by an impartial nominating commission. In addition, the ABA adopted policy earlier this year urging states that continue to elect judges to consider public financing of judicial campaigns.

For complete poll results, visit the ABA online Press Room at www.abanet.org/media.

The American Bar Association is the largest voluntary professional membership association in the world. With more than 400,000 members, the ABA provides law school accreditation, continuing legal education, information about the law, programs to assist lawyers and judges in their work, and initiatives to improve the legal system for the public.



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Madame C.J. Walker



Madame C.J. Walker (Sarah Breedlove) 1867-1919, pioneer and industrialist who invented and manufactured hair care products for black consumers.

By: Tobin Hicks

Sarah Breedlove McWilliams Walker, better known as Madame C.J. Walker or Madame Walker, revolutionized the hair care and cosmetics industry early in the 20th century.

Madame C.J. Walker was born on December 23, 1867 in poverty stricken Delta, Louisiana. She was the daughter of former slaves Owen and Minerva Breedlove who worked as sharecroppers and both died when Sarah was a child. Orphaned at the age of seven, Sarah was forced to move from one house to another. She moved in with her sister Louvina and her husband. After suffering abuse from Louvina's husband, Sarah ran away and married Moses McWilliams when she was fourteen years old. In 1885, she gave birth to their only daughter Lelia. Two years later, a white lynch mob murdered Moses.

After this tragedy, Sarah moved with her daughter to St. Louis, Missouri where she worked as a cook and house-cleaner. Unfortunately, all of the stress and hardship had begun to take its toll on her and she found her hair falling out. She tried several products which claimed

would help her condition but to no avail. At this point Sarah had a dream in which a "big Black man appeared to me and told me what to mix up for my hair. Some of the remedy was grown in Africa, but I sent for it, put it on my scalp, and in a few weeks my hair was coming in faster than it had ever fallen out." After she shared her formula with some friends and found that it was successful for them as well, she realized that there were almost no hair products available for Blacks. She therefore decided to go into business, selling hair products to Black women.

In 1905 Sarah's brother died and she moved to Denver, Colorado to live with her sister-in-law. When she arrived in Denver she had only \$2.00 to finance her part time business. Around this time Madame Walker met Charles Joseph "C.J." Walker, a newspaperman with ability for marketing. She married Walker on January 4, 1906 and the couple set up the "Madame C.J. Walker Manufacturing Company" and began placing advertisements in Black newspapers throughout the United States. The couple made a successful team, yet they disagreed as to how much the company should grow. After years of struggling and suffering, Sarah wanted her company to grow immensely and divorced him in order to devote herself to the business. Charles Walker continued to work as a sales agent for the company. She continued on with many of the ideas he had

passed on to her, including going door-to-door to sell the products. Her hard work paid off and in 1906 she brought her daughter Lelia, a recent college graduate, in to manage the company.

While Lelia ran much of the company, Sarah traveled across the country and throughout Latin America and the Caribbean marketing her hair care products and developing new ones. She also sought to bring more women into the company, desiring to empower them and give them a way of rising above the constraints set by a male society.

In 1908, Sarah started Lelia College in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, which trained women to sell her products door-to-door and by 1910 had more than 1,000 sales agents. In that year, she moved the company's headquarters to Indianapolis, Indiana and soon the company grew beyond anyone's expectations. Eventually, Madame Walker's products formed the



basis of a thriving national corporation that employed at one point over 3,000 people. Her Walker System, which included a broad collection of cosmetics, licensed Walker Agents, and Walker Schools and offered meaningful employment and personal growth to thousands of Black women. Madame Walker's aggressive marketing strategy combined with relentless ambition led her to be labeled as the

See C. J. Walker page 8



BIPARTISAN EFFORT CRUCIAL TO PASS GENERIC DRUG LEGISLATION, SAYS RONKIRK

Generic Drug Legislation vital to help America's Senior Citizens

By Monica Thornton

"It's a befitting backdrop that the Senate is meeting as we speak to try and lower the cost of, and make more available, prescription drugs to seniors," said Ron Kirk on July 30, the 37th anniversary of Medicare.

Mr. Kirk said Medicare was created by an outstanding Texan, Lyndon Johnson, to provide senior citizens with access to affordable healthcare. He said that in the wealthiest and most medically advanced country in the world, it is particularly important for seniors to have healthcare access.

"Medicare has contributed to higher life expectancies, and health and financial benefits to seniors," Mr. Kirk added.

But the program has a strong loophole. Prescription drug coverage is not provided, and with the spiraling cost of drugs, Mr. Kirk said many seniors find themselves having to choose between getting a prescription or paying utilities or buying food. He noted that five of the six most commonly used drugs currently have no generic brand on the market.

"Medicare does not cover one of the most important parts of health care - prescription drugs. With prescription drugs prices increasing at 17 percent a year, too many seniors cannot afford medications," said Mr. Kirk. "Finally, the Senate has the opportunity to do something about high drug prices. Anyone who takes prescription drugs today, or who will take them tomorrow, will be impacted by this important legislation."

The Senate met that day to try and reach bipartisan consensus on proposed legislation that would provide immediate relief to seniors struggling with prescription drug costs by making more drugs available in generic brands. Mr. Kirk added that it was good to see a broad coalition of Democrats and Republicans putting aside party interests to work on this legislation.

"I'm really pleased to see that the Senate is working to try and reach bipartisan consensus on an

initial down payment on a real prescription drug benefit. The new bipartisan plan will help all seniors buy prescription drugs, but it will give the greatest help to the most vulnerable older Americans, those with lower incomes and with the most serious health problems," said Mr. Kirk.

Current patent laws allow pharmaceutical companies a 12-year patent on new drugs, with an automatic 30-month extension when generic brands apply to provide coverage. By this time, new drugs are on the market, and the cycle begins again. However, Mr. Kirk said he does think it is important to allow time for the pharmaceutical companies to recoup their cost of research by providing patent laws, but a compromise has to be reached.

Of the generic drug legislation, Mr. Kirk said, "The drug companies have used these loopholes to pick the pockets of seniors nationwide. It's time to restore the law's balance by providing consumers with some good old-fashioned competition. And that's what this bill does. It closes loopholes and eliminates the barriers preventing low-cost generic drugs from coming to the open marketplace on schedule."

For seniors in Texas he said the legislation would make a real difference. Mr. Kirk said they found that Prilosec, one of the most commonly used drugs, costs anywhere from \$3000 to \$3500 in Texas, but a generic brand could save seniors about \$2000 a year. And Dallas seniors would pay about \$204 a year for a generic version of K-Dur 20 to treat low blood potassium levels instead of \$522, and Houston seniors would pay \$408 for a generic version of Norvasc instead of \$1,045 per year. Mr. Kirk said that if the legislation is adopted, it could save the American people \$60 billion over 10 years.

He added that although the bipartisan generic drug legislation is a solid first step in helping with the availability and cost of prescription drugs, there was still a need to work toward providing a Medicare prescription drug benefit to help sen-

iors.

He noted that a legislator has supported a drug benefit that is run by insurance companies, even though he said the insurance industry has been on record saying they have no interest in the program. Mr. Kirk said by allowing the insurance industry that much control in the prescription drug program, it would clearly protect the pharmaceutical companies at the expense of seniors.

"It would put HMOs in charge, allowing them to charge seniors whatever they want, whenever they want. That is just wrong. Medicare has worked well for seniors for 37 years and we should not turn it over to HMOs and the pharmaceutical companies," Mr. Kirk said. "We ought not let HMOs, the insurance industry and drug companies run Medicare, that is not a good alternative."

He said that any prescription program provided for under Medicare needs to be cost effective for the beneficiary and the program.

"We need to look to strengthen the plan to allow for competitive purchasing to deal with drug manufacturers, and pass the savings on to seniors," he added.

And in regards to future of Social Security, Mr. Kirk said responsible, careful and conservative choices need to be made. He said he does not think that the time is right to privatize Social Security.

"Declining stock prices are devastating the retirement plans of our seniors, making it crystal clear that we need to make responsible, careful, conservative choices on Social Security - both for today's retirees and for younger workers. We need to get back on track towards balancing the budget and strengthening Social Security to assure that our seniors can enjoy a secure and dignified retirement," Mr. Kirk said. "And the fact is that privatization puts Social Security in jeopardy. These so called privatization plans take about \$1 trillion out of Social Security and promise it to younger workers for investments in private accounts."

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Thornton House from Page 1

Local newspapers, including MON-The Gazette, got involved, and it was in a Sunday morning paper that Mr. Williams first learned of the dilemma.

"I was at Bally's cycling and reading the newspaper, and came across an article about the house," Mr. Williams said, "and it was totally about a symbol of Black heritage in danger."

He said that Russ Kissick and Maggie Sprague, co-founders of the Plano Conservancy for Historic Preservation, talked in the article about the historical significance of the house. The impact hit home with Mr. Williams, and he immediately took action.

"I read the article twice, then got off the bicycle and went straight to Greater New Birth Church and met with Pastor Terry," he said. "I told him I wanted to take the project, and I met with Deacon Alex Rhodes, who is heavily involved."

By the time the second meeting regarding the house was held in July, Douglas Community churches had put out the call to their members to get involved. Mr. Williams said the Douglass and Plano Communities supported and embraced the project well beyond the call of duty, contributing to the large turn out of residents and council members at the meeting. It was at the meeting that he said he was able to tell attendees that he was purchasing the house and wanted to take the lead.

"I told them I wanted to take the lead, and get corporate sponsorship, and the involvement of political leaders," he added.

A Steering Committee of 18 members was formed, including Alex Rhodes, area educators John and Myrtle Hightower, and Historian Doris Freeling, Ph.D.

The project is moving quickly, with plans being laid, an architect on board, and a location for the site being sought. Mr. Williams said the house is solid and is in good condition, and they now have to plan to move the house. Mr. Williams said they are looking at land owned by DART, and DART is

being fully supportive of the project. Once land is found and building plans agreed upon, everything then has to pass city inspection.

However, at this point, one of the biggest concerns is raising funds.

"We're very excited about how things are moving along, but we need some fund raising," Maggie Sprague said.

Mr. Williams said that once land is found and the house is moved, "then we can focus on our goal of a museum."

But he said there are a lot of things to get done and they only have 90 to 120 days to move the house. This is where community and committee involvement will have to move the project along.

Alex Rhodes, Deacon of Greater New Birth Church and Steering Committee member, said he is happy about the project, and will serve on the committee in any way he is needed. He added that the church is also happy that the house will be saved. His involvement, he said, includes representing the church and being a concerned citizen. Mr. Rhodes said this is something that Plano needs.

"The Douglass Community as a whole is an older community now, and we need something there that younger African Americans can rally around and be proud of," said Mr. Rhodes, "and for older African Americans, it will help them to reflect on their contributions to Collin County."

Mr. Rhodes said that as the project is developing, it seems to be leaning toward the house being an African American museum and cultural center for Collin County as a whole.

Russ Kissick, of the Plano Conservancy for Historic Preservation, said they will stay involved as a facility but will not be running the project. Both Ms. Sprague and Mr. Kissick are excited about the direction of the project.

"It's taken on a life of its own, there are some really good things coming out of this," said Mr. Kissick.

The next meeting regarding the Thornton House is scheduled for Saturday August 17, at 1:00 p.m., at the Douglass Community Center.

Marathon from Page 1

another day we attend a banquet, and then on marathon day, we focus on the marathon," she said. "It takes between 4 and 8 hours to complete the marathon. Our goal is to complete it in 6 hours."

Waynette said that she wishes more Blacks and Hispanics were involved because leukemia is large within the community.

"I'm not disappointed or discouraged but I wish all of us would get involved. There are not many of us who have not been touched by cancer in our families, or someone we know,"

she said.

Although there are fund raisers to help generate funds, fund raising is slow, and Waynette said they want to work on corporate sponsorship. She said that maybe if one corporation gets involved others will follow and make contributions.

"Already, we've raised \$3,000.00 through letter campaigns, but \$11,000.00 is the goal," she said.

Anyone interested in making donations or sponsorship can call Waynette Woodard at 972-396-6170 or 469-583-3704. The internet address is www.teamintraining.org

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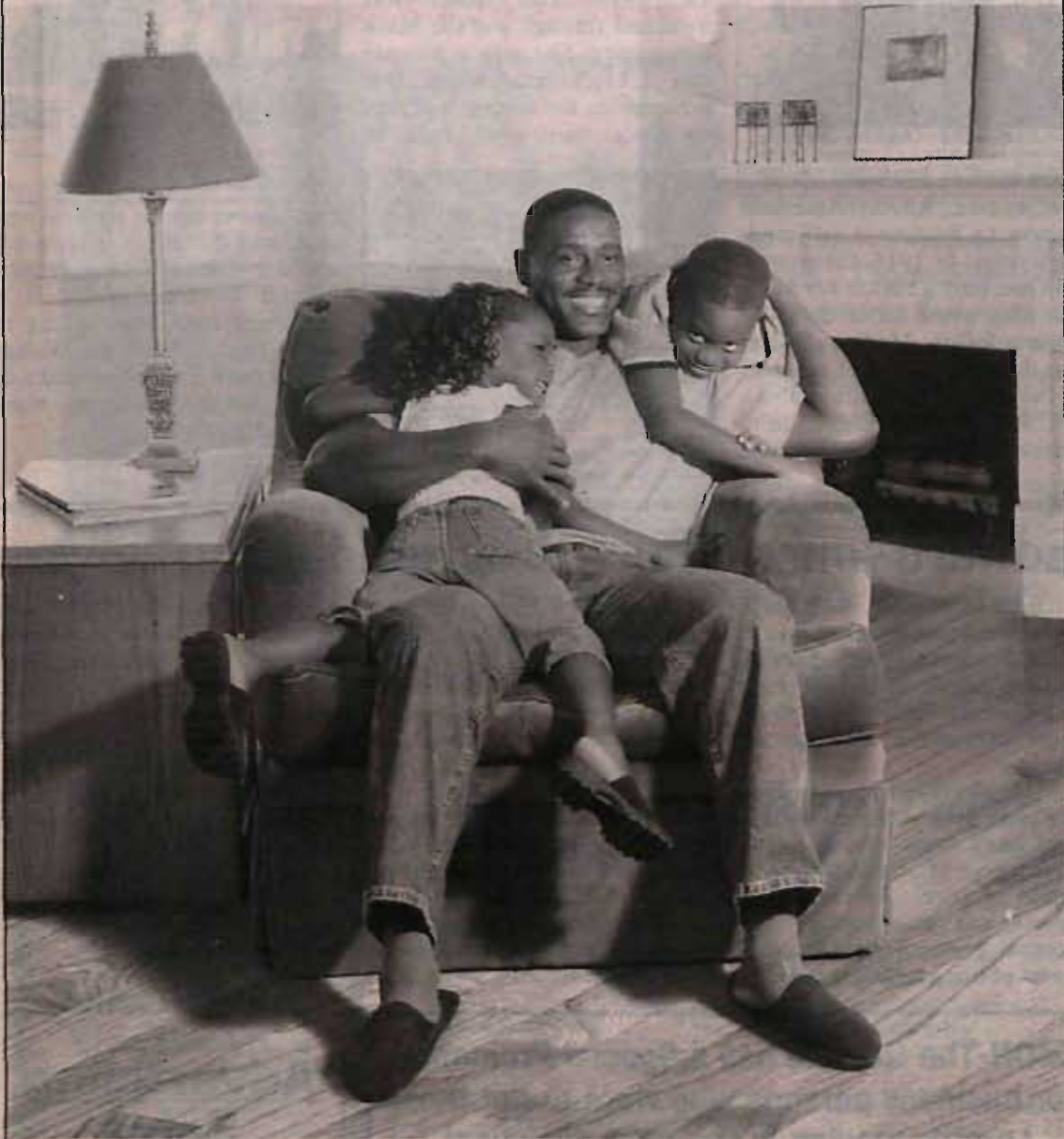
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NASA Names its First Black Deputy Administrator

Posted 08/10/02
(Special to the NNPA)—
Frederick D. Gregory, a veteran space shuttle commander and retired U.S. Air Force colonel, has been named deputy administrator at NASA, the first African-American to hold the position.

As deputy administrator, Gregory is chief operating officer for the agency, which includes directing and managing NASA's programs and day-to-day operations. "His considerable experience as an astronaut and aviator, and his leadership in space flight safety are needed at this critical time for the agency," says NASA administrator Sean O'Keefe.

In December 2001, Gregory

was named associate administrator for space flight, after serving as associate administrator for safety and mission assurance.



He became an astronaut in 1978, and logged more than 455 hours during three missions

aboard the Challenger shuttle, where he was mission commander in 1989 and 1991. In the Air Force, he logged more than 7,000 hours in 50 types of aircraft and flew 500 missions in Vietnam, retiring in 1993.

Gregory's nomination to the position was confirmed by the Senate and he will be sworn into office by President Bush. "This is an incredible opportunity," says Gregory. "I appreciate the president's confidence and I'm thankful for the Senate's speedy consideration. We have lots of work to do and I'm confident we'll be able to continue to NASA's historic legacy of accomplishment."

C. J. Walker
from Page 5



first known African-American woman to become a self-made millionaire. In 1914, the woman who had only \$2.00 to her name was then worth more than one million dollars. Madame Walker was the first woman of any race to become a self-made millionaire. Her products ranged from hair conditioners and facial

creams to hot combs specially made for the hair of black consumers.

In fifteen years Madame Walker gained nearly a fortune. She died at the age of 52 on May 25, 1919. Her death was mourned throughout the black community. She was a pioneer and a black industrialist. Her prescription for success was perseverance, hard work, faith in



herself and in God. "Honest business dealings and of course, quality products. There is no



royal flower-strewn path to success, and if there is, I have not found it - for if I have accomplished anything in life it is because I have been willing to work hard." Madame Walker served as an inspiration and role model for many women, black and white.

Edward Jones Offers Program for Caregivers

Billie G. Meador, the Edward Jones investment representative in Plano, will host a free program on Tuesday, August 20 at 5:30 p.m., for individuals likely to find themselves caring for a parent or spouse.

Guests will learn how to keep care costs from eating away their loved one's assets as well as the advantages of planning now, instead of later. Edward Jones experts will also explore the potential personal and financial impact of being a caregiver.

"Caring for a parent or spouse is an act of love that most of us would offer without hesitation," said Meador. "It's also a commitment that can become emotionally, physically and financially draining if you're not prepared."

This live, interactive broadcast is presented at Edward Jones branch offices nationwide via the firm's private satellite network.

The largest firm in the nation in terms of branch offices, Edward Jones currently has more than

7,900 offices in the U.S., and through its affiliates in Canada and the United Kingdom. Plans call for expansion to 10,000 offices by 2003. The Edward Jones interactive Web site is located at www.edwardjones.com.

For more information on the August 20 program or to reserve your seat, contact Billie G. Meador at 972-208-5688. If you are unable to attend at the above time, additional viewing opportunities are available.

DHA moves applications

The Housing Authority of the City of Dallas, Texas (DHA) has changed the location of its application in-take process for the Section 8 tenant based program. Every Monday, beginning at 6 a.m., only the first 50 applications are taken at the Edgar Ward Community building, 3901 Holystone Dr.,

near Hampton Road and Bickers Drive.

Applications for all other open programs are accepted on Mondays at 2710 N. Stemmons Freeway, Suite 500 from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. Applications for elderly (62 years and older), disabled or handicapped persons will continue to be taken

on Fridays from 8 a.m. to noon at 2710 Stemmons Freeway, Suite 500. For more information contact 214-424-5000.

The Housing Authority of the City of Dallas, Texas will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or age.

KidsDay
from Page 2

friendly activities for the Dallas KidsDay celebration. Arts and crafts, relay races, face painting, and a junior masters gardening booth were just some of the many activities that kids and adults enjoyed during the fun-filled event.

Volunteering their time at the event, the Coca-Cola Employee Volunteer Council helped everyone combat the heat with ice-cold refreshments donated by Coca-Cola Bottling Company of North Texas. The Company also donated backpacks to help the kids from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Dallas, Girls Inc. and YMCA-West get a head-start on the new school year. Coca-Cola Bottling Company of North Texas Area Vice-President, Brad Hopkins, said

"I am very pleased to see so many of the company's employ-

ees out here enjoying the day with the children and volunteering their time for such a commendable cause."



Kids from the metroplex enjoyed a variety of activities during the Dallas KidsDay awareness celebration. Coca-Cola Bottling Company of North Texas sponsored the event, which is designed to foster relationships between adults and children on the importance and benefits of spending meaningful time together.

Sponsors of Dallas KidsDay include Coca-Cola Bottling Company of North Texas, Amerigroup Corporation, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Dallas, Buffalo Soldiers, Dallas Children's Charities, Dallas Fire

Department, Dallas Mavericks, Dallas Police Department, Drug Enforcement Agency, Girls Inc., Greater Dallas Council on

Alcohol, Home Depot, IDP Films, Inner-City Games, McDonalds, North Texas Poison Control Center, Promise House, Sams, South Texas Dental, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Wal-Mart, Williams - Chicken, YMCA-West and 4-H Club. The goal of KidsDay is for adults and kids to spend meaningful time together. The day will be designated each year for adults to celebrate and honor children. Coca-Cola Bottling Company of North Texas is committed to the community and to enhancing

the lives of those in the community. Dallas KidsDay is just one of the many projects to which Coca-Cola employees devote their time. The employee's participation at Dallas KidsDay is another example of the Company's overall commitment to youth and the community.

MON-The Gazette has a Special Promotion for business persons who want to get those profits moving in the right direction!

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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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NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS

Scaled 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: Fort Worth

Contract 0008-12-083 for MISCELLANEOUS WORK CLEANING EXISTING STRUCTURES in TARRANT County will be opened on September 05, 2002 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or District Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 7255

State Office

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

District Office(s)

Fort Worth District
District Engineer
2501 Southwest LP820
Ft Worth, Texas 76133
Phone: 817-370-6500

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.

Islamic Relief Benefit Concert for North Texas Refugees

DALLAS, TX. Dallas Muslim Youth and Islamic Relief present a benefit concert for refugees in DFW and orphans around the world on Saturday, August 17, 2002. The performances take place at the Majestic Theater, 1925 Elm St., beginning at 7:00 p.m. Dallas Muslim Youth and Islamic Relief of Burbank, California will spotlight local as well as national talent. The three out of state bands are Sons of Hajar, Arab Lesion and Al-Nojourn.

This first annual event is an alternative form of entertainment for and by Muslim youth. The new genre of music will have religious lyrics and themes. Dallas Muslim Youth are committed to fulfilling the Islamic duty of caring for orphans, welcoming and providing help to refugees arriving in the Dallas area from war-torn areas of the world, says Amina Bakali, vice-chair of the event. Sponsors of the benefit concert are the national association Islamic Relief as well as local Muslim and non-Muslim businesses.

Amira Weber-Taha, has been coordinator of local volunteer efforts to support refugees for five years. Recently

named the Director of Refugee Affairs for the Islamic Association of North Texas (Dallas Central Mosque), she reminds us that the metropolis is one of the State Department's major refugee resettlement centers. "Ten years ago, when 2000 Iraqi Kurds were brought here after suffering the desperation of refugee camps for five years, we didn't know how to help them. Today, we have developed programs that welcome families from Sudan, Somalia, Afghanistan and other countries with dignity and love," she says.

The Dallas Muslim Youth are young students ages 14-18 who are active in promoting a positive image of their religion-Islam. Islamic Relief is an international relief organization that provides relief and development in 27 impoverished and war-torn countries around the world, including, but not limited to Bosnia, Chechnya, Palestine, and Afghanistan.

For more information contact Armina Bakali at 469-363-5381 (or Amira Weber-Taha at 972-931-0995—but do not publish this phone number) or visit the website at www.dfwmsa.com.



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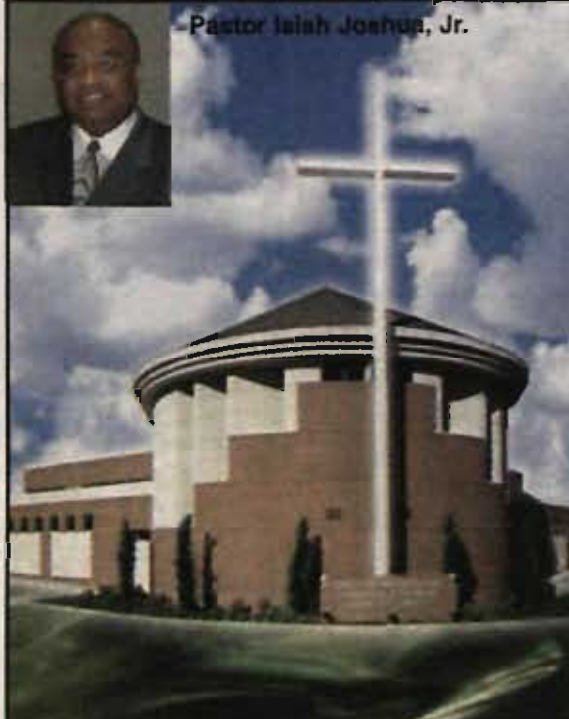
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Leadership Meeting2nd Mondays 7:30-8:30 PM
Marriage Enrichment & Singles Ministry4th Mondays 7:30-8:30 PM
Deliverance from IssuesTuesdays 7:30-8:30 PM
Mid-Week ServiceWednesdays 7:15-8:30 PM
Youth Bible StudyWednesdays 7:15-8:30 PM

Radio Broadcast Station 1040AM-KGGR
M-F 10:25-10:30 AM

For More Information: (972) 633-5511 or E-Mail
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Around The Town

August 15

Come join The Plano Chamber of Commerce at a Business After Hours Reception welcoming their new president, Brad Shanklin, at the Blue Mesa Grill, located at, 8200 Dallas Parkway, Plano (southeast corner of Tollroad and 121) on Thursday, August 15, 2002, from 5:00p.m. -7:00p.m. R.S.V.P. by August 13th by calling (972) 424-7547 Ext. 230 or log onto rsvp@planocc.org Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

August 15

The Heard Museum will display a new Van Landingham Photography Exhibit. The Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary presents a look at nature through the camera's eye with award winning published photographer L.F. Van Landingham. His expert's eye-view is featured in the new Van Landingham Nature Photography Exhibit on display from August 15-September 30. This exhibit is free with regular admission to the Heard Museum: \$5 for adults, \$3 for children 3-12 years of age, and senior citizens (60+); children under 3 and members are admitted free. The Heard Museum is open Monday-Friday from 9:00a.m. -5:00p.m. (Summer Saturday has extended hours through August 31st only) and from 1:00p.m. -5:00p.m. On Sunday. For more information call (972) 562-5566 or log onto www.heardmuseum.org.

August 15

Ethics Class for CPA's Held at Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway from 9:00a.m. -11:00a.m. It is a basic 2-hour board-approved ethics course, required every three years. For more information contact Values Based Management, Inc. at (214) 553-8255 or log onto vbm@aolmail.net.

August 17

Heritage Farmstead Museum Summer Concert at 1900 W. 15th, in Plano. The bluegrass band New Approach will perform old time bluegrass numbers and country tunes at 7:30p.m. Grounds open at 7:00p.m. Registration, chair massage, Heritage Farmstead Museum information and craft sales, door prizes will be awarded. General admission \$3, seniors and Heritage Farm Museum members \$2, children ages 4-12 are \$1. For more information call (214) 495-9600 or log onto www.nthen.org.

August 19

Pawtecture is a new concept in pet homes on display at North Park Center along with adoptable animals from SPCA of Texas. "Pawtecture" the new annual flagship fundraiser for the SPCA of Texas sponsored by the Decorative Center of Dallas and Purina, features 35 unique and dynamic designed pet homes by local architects, artists, designers, builders and stylists, located at North Park Center at Northeast Highway and North Central

Expressway, Dallas, Texas. On Monday, August 19 through Wednesday, September 3 Pawtecture displays during mall hours; Pet adoptions & SPCA merchandise sales daily; Monday through Saturday 11:00a.m. -8:00p.m. And Sundays from noon -6:00p.m. For more information contact Anita Edson or Maura Davies, SPCA of Texas at (214) 651-9611 or 1-888-ANIMALS ext. 143 or 118.

August 19

The City of Mesquite will hold a City Council meeting at 3:00p.m. Located at Council Chambers, 711 N. Galloway.

July 21-August 21

Let's Celebrate Women! The Irving Arts Center announces A Celebration of Women in Middle and Beyond: Photographs by Jayne Wexler, a stunning photographic exhibition celebrates the health, beauty and well being of 60 women in their middle years and beyond. Consistent with Wexler's keen eye for detail, the women are photographed in settings that define the eye of the individual charisma. Clear, sharp images distill personality; moments of joy, playfulness, sobriety, maturity, and reminiscence. No admission charge for the galleries and Sculpture Garden. The exhibition takes place between July 21 and August 21. The Irving Center is located at 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd. (one mile north of 183). For more information, please call the Irving Arts Center at (972) 252-7558.

August 24

Christmas in August Embroidery Expo will be held from 8:30a.m. -5:00p.m. At Plano Centre, located at Jupiter and Spring Creek Parkway. A full day of workshops and seminars on the latest in sewing and notions as well as great door prizes! Admission is \$5. For more information contact Denise Flagg at (214) 370-4232 or log onto www.carlsssewcreative.com.

August 28-29

"Back-to-School/Back to Work" Job Fair, hosted by Career and Campus Services-TCC Southeast Campus, at Tarrant County College Southeast Campus: Main Commons. The goal of this fair is to allow employers who offer flexible schedules, shift work, and tuition assistance to speak to students and community members who can most benefit from their opportunities. This highly attended event includes over 50 different employers in various fields of employment. For more information call the Career and Employment Services at (817) 515-3036.

August 29-September 1

The Dance Council proudly presents the Dallas Morning News Dance Festival. Labor Day weekend marks the 18th year for the Dallas Morning News Dance Festival co-sponsored in partnership with the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs and the Dance Council. Four evenings of splendid dance performances will take place at the Annette Strauss Artist Square

in the Dallas Arts District with performances beginning at 8:15 p.m. Pre-festival activities include a Friday Family Fun Night beginning at 7:00p.m. Each night that features movement workshops for children and arts and craft activities. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for students/seniors, and children under 12 are free. For more information call (214) 219-2290 or log onto www.thedancecouncil.org.

August 30-September 1

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra opens its 2002-2003 Audi Pops series with the dazzling, Tony Award-winning star of Broadway and film, Bernadette Peters. The evening will begin with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra performing Johann Strauss Jr.'s booming Thunder and Lightning Polka, followed by the elegant Concert Waltz No. 1 of Alexander Glazunov. Peters, who will dazzle the audience during the second half of the program with her vivacious music, which is familiar to audiences through her performances on stage, television, in concert and the recording industry. Ticket prices for these performances range from \$20 to \$100, and tickets may be purchased from the Dallas Symphony box office or by logging on to www.DallasSymphony.com. Box Office hours are from 10:00a.m. -6:00p.m. Monday - Saturday. For more information call (214) 692-0203. The Dallas Symphony Box Office is located on the lower level of the Meyerson Symphony Center.

September 7

The Celebration "For Women-By Women" will be held at 3917 W. Camp Wisdom, Suite #107, from 12:00p.m. -4:00p.m. At Jokae's Book Store. You're invited to celebrate with the writers of the African American Wedding & LifeStyle Directory as they celebrate one-year of success for their publication in The Black Economic Times Dallas Newspaper (BET). The Publisher of the Black Economic Times Newspaper, Chevis King invites the public, especially women to the FREE celebration and reception "For Women-By Women." Our new section (AAWLD) is impacting women to enhance their lifestyle with information that "makes a difference." Information will be offered to participants on how they can use immediately to enhance, change and/or modify their lifestyle choices for more success to create "life empowerment." For more information call (214) 357-7053.

September 10-30

The Dallas Center For Contemporary Art invites artist and the community to install an 8 x 10" memory work on their 9/11 COMMEMORATIVE WALL, to remember 9/11 in patriotic responses, memory, shrines, and your own experience. Installation Day is Tuesday, September 10th. Deinstallation Day is Tuesday, October 1st. Help to remember 9/11 in a meaningful way.

Community Calendar Sponsored by Southwestern Bell Telephone

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