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A hobby to get revved up about

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The Benjamins

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The Gazette

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On the Homefront:

U.S. Congressman Pete Sessions will host a Town Hall Meeting on Saturday March 2, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., at Lakewood Elementary School, to discuss issues important to the Dallas community. Lakewood Elementary School Auditorium, 3000 Hillbrook Street, Dallas, 75214.

Plan to contribute to the 14th annual Taste of Plano, March 25, presented by the Plano Chamber of Commerce. To be held at Southfork Ranch, 3700 Hogge Road, from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. The event benefits PISD Outstanding Students Scholarships Awards Program and highlights the products and services of over 40 of the area's finest restaurants. Donations of goods, services or cash welcome. Contact Judy Cordell at 469.752.5014, or email jcordell@pisd.edu. Or visit the website at www.tasteofplano.com.

Quad C Theatre presents "Side Man", by Warren Light, centered on jazz musicians, from their heyday after the war, through the decline of the big bands, through the rise of rock and roll, to the dark years of the seventies and eighties. February 28 - March 2, and March 7 - 9. Named Best New Play at the 1999 Tony Awards, and nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. Times are 8 p.m. with a matinee on March 2 at 2:15 p.m., and a weekday matinee on March 6 at 10 a.m. Tickets are \$8 general admission, \$6 for students and Senior Citizens. Free admission with a donation of a large brand new (with the tags still on it) stuffed animal for Adam's Animals. Adult language and aggressive family situations. Call 972.581.5809.

The Frisco Community Theatre presents Hugh and Margaret Williams' comedy "The Grass is Greener" through March 3 at the Youth Center Park, in the 7700 block of Maple, Frisco. An American millionaire stumbles into the private quarters of an aristocratic English couple that allow public tours through their stately mansion, leading to an entertaining series of events. Tickets range from \$8 to \$10. Call 972.377.3868.

StageFest seeks performers for March 3 to raise public visibility of the Dallas Performing Arts Center in the Dallas Arts District. StageFest is an outdoor festival, featuring exhibits, demonstrations and performances by many Dallas performing arts organizations. Planned as a free community wide event for all ages, it will take place along Flora Street from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. To participate contact Lisa Limoges at 214.954.9225.

Quad C Theatre at Collin County Community College is holding open call auditions Tuesday March 5 between 7 p.m. - 10 p.m., for "One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest", by Dule Wasserman. Adapted from the novel by Ken Kesey. Seeking 18 male and 5 female actors. Prepare a one minute monologue from any contemporary drama in the style of the play. Auditions held at Black Box Theatre, Spring Creek Campus, Jupiter Road, Plano. Contact Brad Baker at 972.581.5679, or e-mail: bbaker@ccc.edu.

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Carolyn Martin

Women's Leadership Symposium at CCCC

Women in leadership positions from a variety of industries and educational centers spoke at the Collin County Community College district's Women's Leadership symposium this Monday.

Zelma Harris of Parkland College in Champaign, Ill. delivered the keynote address.

Following the keynote was a leadership panel featuring the leaders of two community colleges: Judith Hansen of Independence Community College in southeast Kansas; and Monique Amerman of Mountain View College in Dallas.

Also on the panel was Sylvia Konatsu, senior vice president for TV production at KERA-TV; and Paula Mann, president and chief executive officer of Sunbelt Telecommunications in Plano.

The luncheon featured an

address by former ambassador Kathryn Hall of Hall Financier, which owns Hall Office Park in Frisco. She was U.S. ambassador to Austria during the Clinton administration.

The afternoon session included two sets of round tables.

The first was entitled "Getting to the Green From different Tee Boxes," led by Cheryl Stevens, senior vice president of TXU Workforce and Supplier Diversity; "Assessing the Political Climate and Making It Work for You," with Dalene Buhl, director of external affairs for Southwestern Bell; "The Importance of Great Mentoring and Networking" with Mary Jo Dean, director of public relations for the Medical Center of Plano; and Negotiating The Maze: Guiding Through Change," with Herlinda Coronda, vice president

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Democrats Wrong to Take African-American Voters for Granted

Texas Publishers Assn. News Wire

Austin — A few years ago, a well-known politician coined the phrase "It's the economy stupid!" The essence of this message was the notion that the opponent did not understand the root cause for the issues that he was discussing. Rather than focusing on the real issue (i.e. the economy), the politician chose to debate the symptoms of a poor economy. In the final analysis, two points became clear. First, it really was the economy that was the true issue and the greatest concern for the voters. Second, and most important, the failure to "get it" lead to his political downfall as the voters ousted him from office.

As you will recall, this strategy was used by a Democrat to defeat a Republican. As profound as this lesson was, it seems ironic that this lesson is now apparently unlearned by the Democrats. As we enter yet another political season, it seems as if the Democrats do not "get it" as it relates to understanding the needs and expectations of the African American community. Time and time again, the African American voter has shown an increasing sophistication in terms of both an understanding of the issues and setting clear expecta-

tions for what politicians should deliver once in office. The evidence of this reality is becoming more and more apparent during each voting opportunity. It is also more and more obvious that the old approach of stirring emotional pitches or music-



backed radio spots do little to answer the detailed perspectives and positions that African American voters require.

There is little doubt that some will contest the existence of this emerging trend. One need look no further than the recent mayoral election in Dallas to get validation of this new situation. In this election, the political consultants followed the old pattern of getting a few selected self-appointed gatekeepers to lead the candidates through a myriad of churches and community events. This

approach, along with spirited radio commercials or television ads where the "leaders" tell us what a good person the candidate is, has done little but consume a lot of campaign contributions to pay the "consulting fees" of these "leaders". The bottom line in the Dallas election was that the candidate lost, a lot of money was spent towards fundamentally useless efforts, and the "leaders" are the only folks who profited.

Need another instance of the Democrats taking the African American community for granted? The Texas Publishers Association (TPA) recently distributed a survey to all candidates for statewide office seeking their positions on certain issues of interest to the African American community. Much to amazement of the TPA leadership, when the surveys were returned, no Democrats responded while most of the Republicans did. We are left to assume that the Democrats felt that the support of the African American voter was a given and therefore there was no need to elaborate on their position on the issues. Whatever the case, it does not speak well for the party that claims to resonant most closely with the hopes and aspirations of African Americans.

See Democrats Wrong page 2

The EDUCATION and WELFARE of OUR CHILDREN— "Whose Job Is It?" (SHOWING UP FOR 'ALL OUR CHILDREN')

by: Belinda G. Alexander

A much-debated question is asked, "Who is responsible for the education and welfare of the children?" Most agree that the parent is responsible for raising a child. Parenting is one of the most demanding responsibilities of society. The act of parenting is a serious job and also a most important social relationship. In order to be successful at raising the children, we must not forget the importance of active participation of different people. The saying, "Our children are the Future," has never been more significant than it is today. It is important for everyone to 'Show up for All the Children.' The reference to 'everyone' includes parents and non-parents. The outlook on the future looks bleaker with every news update. Each day seems to be highlighted with reports of crimes committed by children, crimes against children and crimes affecting children. Society asks, "Whose job is it - whose fault is it?" If 'blame' recognition were an award, who would get the big trophy? The most blame is usually placed on the parents. The teachers and educational

system also get a large portion of the 'blame award. Extended family, friends, community, business, faith and religious establishments also get special blame awards. There is enough blame to include everyone. In order to move past blame, it is best to recognize the cost of failing and the rewards of success in raising the children.

We Must Recognize Facts and Truth:

The subject of responsible parenting is debated as time continues to pass. Children seem to quickly grow up and beyond the benefits caring parental guidance and positive influence. How important is it for parents to 'show up' for the children in school? Yes—it's important to pick them up after school and it is certainly our duty to show up when they become ill during the day. When the teacher requests a meeting to discuss problem areas—we definitely must show up! Having fulfilled these obligations as responsible parents—we have covered the most important reasons for showing up in the school. However, as we closely examine some of the ongoing chal-

See Our Children page 3

March 12th Primary Election

Anthony Jones

This year nearly 100 candidates have filed for fifty-five district and local offices in Dallas and Collin counties, which is the most candidates that have run in twenty years.

As the March 12th Primary Election approaches with less than 14 days, candidates are barraging voters with television, radio and print advertisements, trying to get out their message. As a result of the numerous candidates, campaigns are focusing on name recognition and more specialized campaign issues.

U.S. Senate:

Texas voters have a list of 20 U.S. Senate candidates for the seat vacated by Sen. Phil Gramm (R-Texas), who retired from the office. Gramm's 23-year political career represents the full spectrum of politics in the last quarter century. From the energy crisis of the 1970s, and his switch in party affiliation to support of trickle down economics under President Ronald Reagan, Gramm explained at his retirement that it had taken years of policy argument and intellectual conviction.

"Remarkably, the things I came to Washington to do are done," Gramm said, explaining his sudden retirement.

The Republican Primary:

One of five Republican candidates for the U.S. Senate, John Cornyn served as Attorney General of Texas since January 1999, and has won wide praise

for his commitment to professionalism over politics.

As the state's chief law enforcement officer, he headed the largest law firm in Texas, with more than 3,500 employees, including nearly 700 attorneys. His responsibilities included directing programs vital to the interests of Texas families, ranging from child support to consumer protection, and providing legal representation to more than 300 state agencies.

Cornyn also served six years as a District Court Judge in San Antonio and he was elected to the Texas Supreme Court in 1990. Cornyn won the attorney general berth on his promise to halt the growing influences of special interests and to reverse the under-achieving performance of key agency programs. As the 49th Attorney General in Texas history, Cornyn is the first Republican to win the position since Reconstruction.

As attorney general, Cornyn became the first in nearly 20 years to personally appear before the U.S. Supreme Court

on behalf of the people of Texas, presenting his argument for the right of Texas school children to conduct voluntary prayers before high school football games.

A second candidate to appear on the March 12th Republican Primary ballot, Lawrence Cranberg, who says he



Lawrence Cranberg

"welcomes the opportunity, at this time of extraordinary national crisis, to serve the people of Texas and of our country in the Senate of the United States."

"I pledge to devote my best efforts to respond with competence, leadership, innovation and knowledge gained from an exceptionally long, diverse, and productive career in public and private service, to advance the best values of American civil and religious traditions in the U.S. Senate," Cranberg said.

Cranberg has 60-years' experience as a physicist. During that time he was an

See March 12th Primary page 6



John Cornyn

6100 Avenue K, • Suite 105 • Plano, TX 75074

Community Spotlight

16th Annual Image Award Scholarship Luncheon

Omicron Mu Alumnae Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and Title Sponsor State Farm Insurance hosted the 16th Annual Image Award Scholarship Luncheon this week at the Wyndham Anatole. The guest speaker was Best-Selling author of Think and Grow Rich: A Black Choice, Dr. Dennis Kimbro. The theme for the event was "Preparing Our Youth Today for

Leadership Tomorrow".

Special honorees presented at the luncheon included OMO's 2002 Image Award recipient Renee Hornbuckle and 2001 Scholarship winner, Valerie Walker graduate of Townview Magnet.

Omicron Mu Omega started the first Image Award Scholarship Luncheon in 1986 as the major fundraiser and event for recognizing outstanding citizens

who have made significant contributions to the Black community. Since the founding year, the luncheon has continued to grow in attendance and monetary support each year. Funds from the luncheon are used to support the chapter's sustaining scholarships for college students and community service projects.



Atwell Middle School Choir



(L to R) Dr. Dennis P. Kimbro, Keynote Speaker and Lynnette DeWalt Huggard, Pres, Omicron Mu Omega Foundation



(L to R) President, Omicron Mu Omega Chapter, Sharon Kyles Ross and Renee Hornbuckle, 2002 Image Award Recipient



(L to R) Lawyer, Demetris Sampson and Councilperson, Maxine Reece Thornton

Women's Symposium Jump from Page 1

of student learning at Richland College.

The second round table started at 2:45 p.m., with the "Bottom Line: The Importance of Budget and Finance in Career Development", with Mary Sias, senior vice president of student affairs at the University of Texas at Dallas; "Finding the Balance Between Professional and Private Life," with Plano Independent School district trustee, Melody Timinsky; "Communication: The Difference in Communicating On Your Way Up Versus Once You Get To The Top," with Kandi Stinson, vice president- sales of peripheral Enhancement Corporation in Plano; and "Emotional Intelligence: Would You Pass The Marshmallow Test? With Carolyn Eskridge Martin, owner of Vision Management International in Dallas.

The afternoon keynote speaker was Carol Nichols, senior vice president of J.C. Morgan Chase Bank in Dallas.



(L to R) Barbara Money, Dean of Students, CCCC and Carolyn Martin



(L to R) Dr. Zelema Harris, Cindy Bauge, Board of Trustees, CCCC and Kathryn Hall



Lunch Group



Dr. Mary Evans Sias

Democrats Wrong Jump from Page 1

Lest there be any question, this editorial is by no means an endorsement of the Republicans and/or their political positions. What we are addressing though, is the issue of respect and the lack of effort the Democrats are exerting towards displaying this respect for African Americans. The time has long since past for using emotions, music and monologues as the basis for political campaigns to the African American community. Our citizens want the facts and detailed position statements that can allow us to make informed choices about those who represent us. You cannot achieve this level of sharing in a thirty-second sound bite. Perhaps the Democrats should listen to their own message - "It's the facts we want stupid, not the fluff!"

You & Your Money

Hobby Offers Should I Turn My Hobby Into A Career?

by Leslie Godwin, MFCC

We're supposed to enjoy our work, right? So why not turn something we already enjoy into our career?

Here are some reasons for and against the idea of turning your hobby into your full-time job.

The Pros:

1. You know you enjoy it: Whether you're into quilting, painting, or building furniture, you know you lose track of time and feel proud of the results of your efforts.
2. It's more fun than real work: If you don't like what you're doing now, this can seem very attractive.
3. It makes you think work can be fun: Many people have a tough time imagining truly enjoying work. Fantasizing about how you could make a living at your hobby can help you overcome the doubt that work can be gratifying.

The Cons:

1. Gratia Hardy, of Pasadena, points out that, "...being required to do something regularly and well is very different from the no-pressure, no-expectation levels of our recreational activities."
2. Your hobby may not be worthy of a business: Your relatives and friends' assurances that they'll buy your adorable (fill in the blank with your handcrafted product.) doesn't count as market research. If you're serious, write a business

plan. And use real numbers. It just may work, and you'll make smarter decisions if you have a plan.

3. A hobby may not be deep enough to provide the ongoing potential that you'll need to tap to find it fascinating, challenging, and meaningful in 15 or 20 years from now. Of course it depends on your hobby, but if you are brainstorming ideas for your new career path, I recommend you list lots of ideas and choose one or two to explore that have the most potential, as well as those that really draw you in.

4. When you have to crank out 90,000 of those adorable (fill in the blank with your handcrafted product) each year, will you still enjoy it?

The Bottom Line:

There's nothing wrong with turning your hobby into a business, and I don't think you should eliminate the idea from your career search. But you should explore the concept as you would any other business idea. And do your market research and other planning. Don't forget to consider what your day-to-day work life would look like.

If your idea keeps looking better the more light you shine on it, you should have a promising path ahead.

There is one very positive aspect of doing a business plan based on your hobby. You may be highly motivated to do some plan-

ning and research, since this relates to an activity you know well and enjoy, and you therefore may be more likely to do the necessary planning. This is a big plus! Once you see how to do this research, you may be more likely to do it for other ideas you will come up with.

Something I've learned coaching over the years is that creating a business out of the first few ideas you come up with isn't a good goal. The best careers come from exploring the first ideas and finding out what will, and what won't, work for you.

The evolution of your ideas are the best reason to explore those first ideas. If creating a business plan based on your hobby gets you to see that you can plan a business that you will enjoy and that will add to your quality of life, then starting with a hobby is a great idea. So start with your hobby, and enjoy the adventure of finding out where you will end up!

Leslie Godwin, MFCC is a Career & Life-Transition Coach, Writer, and Speaker.

Inspiration

Inspirations for Living

A Collage of selected African Americans quotes



All the courage and competitiveness of Jackie Robinson affects me to this day. If I patterned my life after anyone it was him, not because he was the first black baseball player in the majors but because he was a hero. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (1947-) Kareem (1990)

I never thought of losing, but now that it's happened, the only thing is to do it right. That's my obligation to all the people who believe in me. We all have to take defeats in life.

Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave, I am the dream and the hope of the slave. I rise. I rise. I rise.

Charles W. Chesnutt (1858-1932) The Marrow of Tradition (1901)

Man, if you gotta ask you'll never know.

Louis (Satchmo) Armstrong (1900-1971) reply when asked what jazz is

Racism is not an excuse to not do the best you can.

Arthur Ashe (1943-1993) quoted in Sports Illustrated, July 1991

If we accept and acquiesce in the face of discrimination, we accept the responsibility ourselves and allow those responsible to save their conscience by believing that they have our acceptance and concurrence. We should, therefore, protest openly everything ... that smacks of discrimination or slander.

Mary McLeod Bethune (1875-1955) "Certain Unalienable Rights," What the Negro Wants, edited by Rayford W. Logan (1944)

The workings of the human heart are the profoundest mystery of the universe. One moment they make us despair of our kind, and the next we see in them the reflection of the divine image.

Charles W. Chesnutt (1858-1932) The Marrow of Tradition (1901)

You're either part of the solution or part of the problem.

(Leroy) Eldridge Cleaver (1935-1998) speech given in San Francisco in 1968

You have seen how a man was made a slave; you shall see how a slave was made a man.

Frederick Douglass (1818?-1895) Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass (1845)

It is a peculiar sensation, this double-consciousness, this sense of always looking at one's self through the eyes of others. ... One ever feels his twoness, an American, a Negro; two souls, two thoughts, two unreconciled strivings; two warring ideals in one dark body, whose dogged strength alone keeps it from being torn asunder. W.E.B. DuBois (1868-1963) The Souls of Black Folk (1903)

I used to want the words "She tried" on my tombstone. Now I want "She did it." Katherine Dunham (1910-) quoted in Black Pearls by Eric V. Copage (1993)

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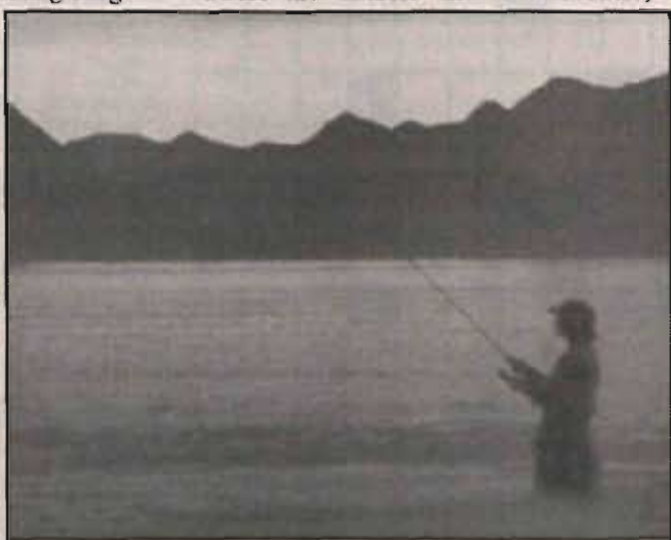
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Hobbies Can Enrich Lives

Modern generations see time in a very different way today compared to past generations. The idea of working long and playing hard seems to be the mindset for a majority of today's Americans. The more we have—the more we seem to want. Although we are finding many creative ways to enjoy times of leisure, the job usually wins out when time is in demand. Productivity is good for the mind and body, however play and leisure time also nourishes the heart and inner self.

In social gatherings, conversations tend to center around one's profession or occupation. While much talk is about business profit margins and advancing up the corporate ladder of success; personalities are most genuine when speaking on hobbies. What people choose to do with their time away from making a living can be the secret for them to enjoy a better quality of living. Research by the NIMH-National Institute of Mental Health support the conclusion that individuals with regular hobbies and social interaction have fewer instances of mental illness. It is very important to

give yourself an outlet that offers escape from the daily job pressures. There are endless choices



and possibilities of hobbies from which to choose. Often that choice has already been made subconsciously and it begins to show up while the children are growing up. A demanding day

uncommon abilities can be found throughout the working world. Laborers, office workers, teachers, medical professionals and numerous others are transformed like different personalities after work. A yearn to create and love of the game inspires transformation into artists, writers, athletes and musicians well into the late hours.

As society adapts to faster lifestyles and the demands of a hectic workplace; people will be looking for and services that are geared to support various hobbies. In doing so, the company can score positive Public Relations by sponsoring programs in the community and facilitate the special interests and hobbies of employees.

A few examples of how businesses can work with community programs are 1) Recreational Centers, 2) Tutoring Programs, 3) League and Team Sports, 4) Community Fix-it, Cleanup and 5) College

Hobbies cont. next column

Hobbies cont.

Internships. During time off, many dedicated employees volunteer their skills and hobbies to serve on specific programs. Coworkers and Friends can help others by putting on the 'hats' of tutors, coaches, carpenters, actors and other areas of hidden talent.

Churches are also institutions where people can go to volunteer a special gift or skill. This is where there is always a

need for talented, sincere and willing individuals to assist in reaching the communities. Teaching a bible class or working with youth can be very full filling.

The choice of hobbies and opportunity to share with others are unlimited and can range anywhere from fishing to gardening and so on. It is our individual responsibility to identify that special ability deep within as we dare to bring it to reality. Hobbies are personal skills, special

talents, gifts and abilities that we may have put off for too long. Whenever you dream or whatever you yearn to work on after regular work is done—most likely is that which will give you the needed feeling of escape. To get away—if only in your mind—it is still very important for long term health and happiness. Life can be happy when you take time for that special hobby. Therefore go forth—after hours—and be happy!

Our Children

Jump from Page 1

Challenges of raising children—there is another very important way we can show up for our kids. Educational institutions are experiencing a growing disenchantment, disrespect and disregard of the importance and the value of learning. Too often, many students and their parents exhibit this attitude. It is difficult for a child to see the importance of teaching and education, if the parent does not show a committed interest.

Let your child see you step up and volunteer on at least one project or task in the school year. Recent census information reflects that a majority of American family households have parents working outside of the home. The work schedule can make it difficult to be very active in the schools. Most of us share the problem of finding time to volunteer, however, there are also many tasks available, which require very little time. Some working parents say, "I don't have time, let the stay-at-home parents do more—they have more time." This might appear to be true, however, it helps to remember that it is not how much time, but rather the quality of time spent that makes the difference in success or failure at any job. We must also recognize that children take a parents' commitment personally. There is truth in the lasting power of 'action' versus just words. What the children can see be very impressing on the developing person. A good parent must daily maneuver a narrow invisible line around teaching values rewards and consequences. Common Sense Parenting by Burke and Herron, suggests a realistic approach to raising kids. A sensible combination and application to assist successful parenting includes:

- a) *Effective Praise* - Make your approval known.
 - b) *Preventive Teaching* - Be specific about your expectations.
 - c) *Corrective Teaching* - Discourage negative behavior, by applying consequences.
 - d) *Teaching Self-Control* —
1. Address problem behaviors with time for calming down.
 2. Remember Follow-Up in discussion and practicing good behavior.

It is up to each parent to committee time to be active in the complete education and welfare of their child. On the job of Parenting, we are not allowed to take a break and seldom see what can be considered a payday, until many years later. There are however, snapshots of payday as we journey through the parenting process—Picture the following:

- That smile on your son's face when you join him for lunch at school is unforgettable.
- The look of pride on your daughter's face is priceless, when you bring cookies for the class party.
- Your children gain great confidence when you take a stand at the meeting on school policy.
- Step up and dare to speak with your employer about your commitment as a parent.
- Schedule a day to go on the student field trip.
- Sign up to chaperone the Spring dance, or help in the refreshment stand.

There are numerous opportunities, and even more reasons to establish yourself at the front

of your child's educational journey. Set a parenting precedence and ask your child's teacher if there is something you can do to help the process—or better yet, say to your child, "I want to make school better for you—how can I do this?" It is easier to get to the desired destination if we plan a trip before the sails are set. When we show up as a volunteer, our children reap the benefits for years to come. As caring Parents, let's 'show up' for them today. They will arrive confidently, safely and securely on the shores of success tomorrow!

Should the teachers and the educational system become more involved in parenting issues other than during school hours? The answer is also subject of debate. Many children are having a great support system in the home and are well on track to succeed at home and in school. There are also a growing number of children who need an additional guiding push from those adults in the school where they also spend many hours. Some educators think, "It is not my responsibility to parent children in the classroom." The fact is—Often times the only real parenting some children get will be in the school environment. All parents unfortunately—are not in touch with the learning progress of their child. Many children have not been taught structure and rules until entering the school systems. If one is not introduced early to the importance of common courtesy, self-respect and accountability—a crash course during the latter school years is often more like a head on collision of the minds. Because society is not the perfect place that we wish it could be—it is critical for individuals in the educational system to recognize those sensitive sides of the truth. A 'Line of Demarcation' for teaching, parenting and raising kids does not exist. We all are responsible in part for teaching and raising children.

The 'Opportunity for Blame and/or Accountability does not end in the educational system. Extended Family, Friends, Community, Faith and Religious Establishments can also play a very important part in the child's outcome. Many Empty nesters and childless individuals feel like they need not be bothered with the issues of raising kids. "If I wanted kids, I would have had my own!" This is the understandable mindset and opinion of some people; however, the facts support everyone should be involved with raising kids.

Children of single parent homes statistically show a lower trend in academic performance and adjusting to social change. Mental Health Professionals attribute much of this to the absence of a parent or positive substitute at critical stages development. It is also true that the ongoing demands of single parenting raises levels of exhaustion, stress and depression. A Study of Social Welfare in America noted that for centuries society considered the welfare of family to be private and not a public concern. Parents were expected to take care of their own children and the children were responsible for parents in old age. Times have changed significantly as the pressure of social readjustment has fostered some negative results. Psychological studies indicate that if society neglects

the children today, the children may force their way into your life in the future by acts as irresponsible citizens or at extremes, as a criminal in your neighborhood.

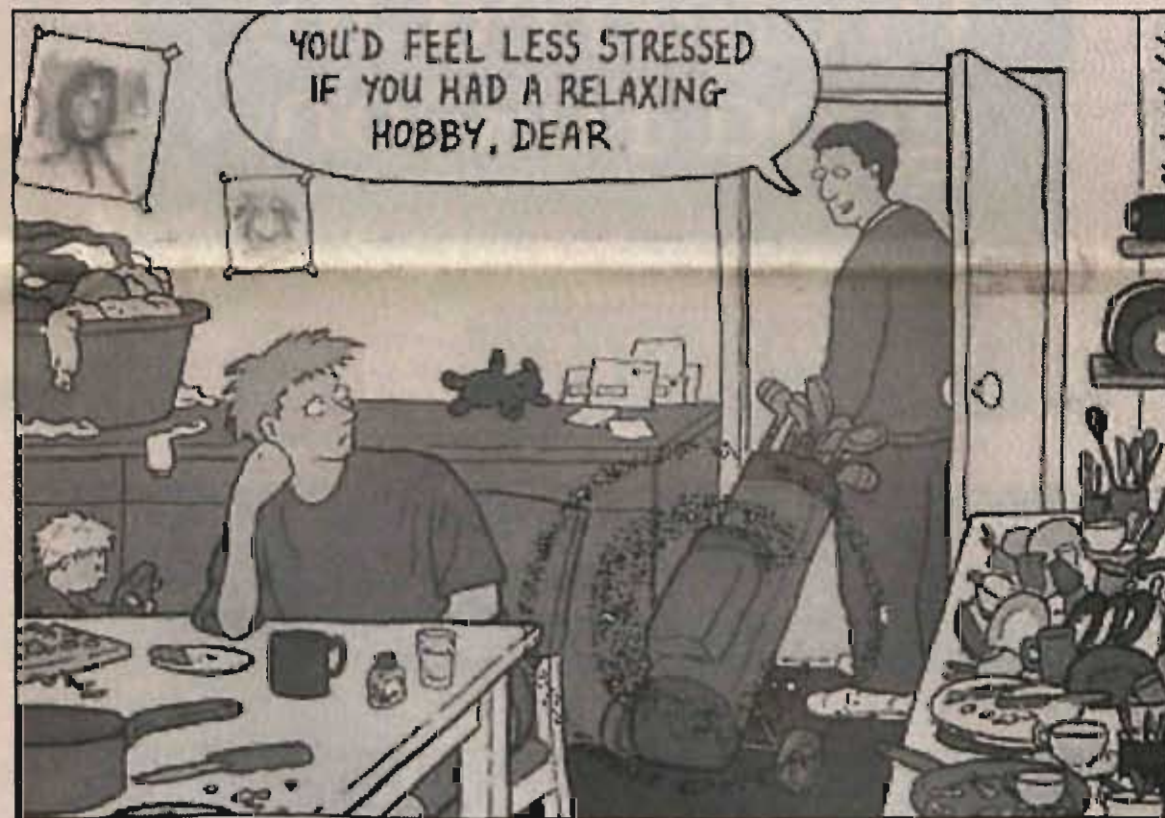
Children are often left to take care of themselves for extended hours due to the work schedule of parents. Distance from immediate family, cost of childcare and single parent households are some of the major reasons many parents feel forced to leave children without adult supervision. It is easy to place blame when bad things result from such choices. Extended Family, Friends, Business, Community, Faith and Religious Establishments can promote safe childcare alternatives by supporting active programs and kid friendly neighborhoods in their communities. These additional groups are 'alternate parents' and 'substitute family' whether they choose to be active or passive. Those who are bold enough to speak up on issues relating to raising kids and to share in the journey toward viable solutions can grasp the challenge and opportunity. Some of the viable and realistic solutions can be as simple as volunteering a few hours to a child mentor program. As little as a few hours a month or even in a year can make a positive difference in the life of a young person. Single parents and those in the 'minority' category statistically have a greater need for alternate parents, and substitute family. Sadly those groups in greatest need also seem to have the least volunteers. African-American and Hispanic Men are desperately needed to show up for a society of children otherwise destined to an unstable adulthood. Some of the many establishments that can use a caring, willing and responsible helping hand are as follows:

- Boys and Girls Club of America
- Associations for Young Women and Men Christians - YMCA / YWCA
- Community Recreational Centers
- Community Sports Leagues
- Neighborhood School Projects

We all have opportunity to enhance the parenting responsibility as a collective. As the single parent of a young teenage son, I find my parenting experience is best-handled one day at a time, but with a watchful, hope-filled eye on the future. My experience also moves me to concern for all children and the daily environment to which they are subjected or deprived. I refuse to accept the negative statistics on raising good kids. However, each child deserves to know they live in a society that cares about their importance today and their significance to the future. Children who are raised to be respectful of self and others, self confident and validated visionaries — will be good neighbors in our community.

*A child learns by example,
So step up and join the crew,
A little effort will go a long,
long way,
Your child's quality of education,
Largely, depends on decisions made by you!*

[Excerpt from *Setting the Sail* by Belinda Alexander (1997)]



The Gazette

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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 far economic parody 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

African Americans by the Numbers

Population total 36.4 million

The number of U.S. residents who reported as African American alone or in combination with one or more other races in Census 2000. This group made up 12.9% of the total population.

Income and Poverty \$30,439

The 2000 median income of African-American households, representing a new all-time high. The 2000 median was up 5.5% from 1999.

22.1% Poverty rate for African Americans in 2000, the lowest measured since 1959—the earliest year for which poverty data are available. The 2000 rate was down from 23.6% in 1999. About a half-million fewer African Americans were poor in 2000 than in 1999 (7.9 million versus 8.4 million).

Education 79%

The percentage in 2000 of African Americans age 25 and over who were high-school graduates—a record high. Among those ages 25 to 29, 86% of African Americans who attained at least a high school diploma.

17% The percentage in 2000 of African Americans age 25 and over with at least a bachelor's degree—a record high.

Technology 81%

Percentage of African-American children ages 6 to 17 who had access to a computer either at home or in school in 2000.

Businesses 823,500

Number of African American-owned businesses in the United States in 1997. These businesses employed 718,300 people and generated \$71.2 billion in revenues. They made up 4% of the nation's 20.8 million nonfarm businesses and 27% of its

3.0 million minority-owned firms.

26% The increase from 1992 to 1997 in the number of African American-owned firms, excluding corporations; the total number of firms in the United States grew 7% over the same period.

38% Proportion of the nation's African American-owned firms in 1997 whose owners were women, a higher percentage of female owners than in any other minority race or ethnic group.

\$86,500 Average receipts of an African American-owned firm in 1997. A small subset of African American-owned firms—8,700—had annual sales of \$1 million or more each.

Jobs 119,000

Number of African-American engineers in 2000. Additionally, 48,000 African Americans were lawyers and 45,000 were physicians.

15.3 million Number of employed African Americans.

Population Distribution Nation

Census 2000 was the first census in which respondents had the option of choosing more than one race to describe their racial identity. The population who chose African American only in 2000 showed an increase of 4.7 million, or 15.6%, since 1990. However, if the population who chose African American and at least one additional race is added, the result is an increase of 6.4 million, or 21.5%.

Note: The data that follow pertain to the population who chose African American alone and the population that chose African American and at least one other race.

54% The percentage of people reporting as African American who lived in the South, according to Census 2000.

States 3.2 million

The number of New York residents who reported as African American in Census 2000, making the Empire State the state with the highest number of African Americans. California, Texas, Florida (about 2.5 million African Americans each), and Georgia (2.4 million) followed.

17 The number of states with 1 million or more African-American residents in 2000. Ten (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia) were in the South. The remaining seven were California, Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Combined, these states accounted for more than 8 in 10 of the nation's African Americans.

37% The percentage of Mississippi's population that reported as African American in Census 2000. Louisiana (33%), South Carolina (30%), Georgia, Maryland (29% each), and Alabama (26%) followed. The District of Columbia, a state equivalent, had the highest proportion, with 61%.

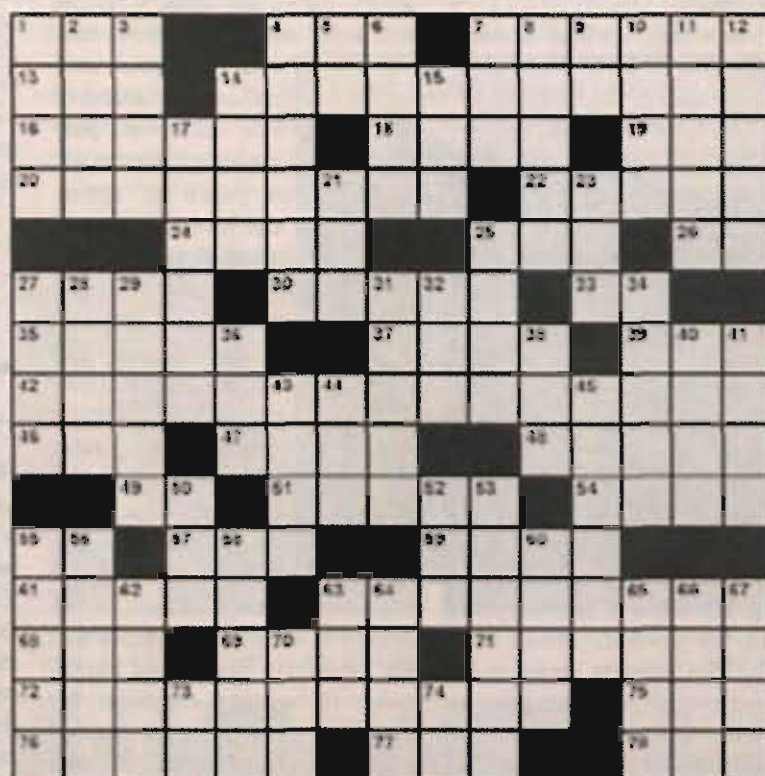
Cities 2.3 million

The number of people in New York City who in Census 2000 reported as African American. New York led all the nation's cities in this category. Chicago was second, with 1.1 million, followed by Detroit; Philadelphia; Houston; Los Angeles; Baltimore; Memphis, Tenn.; Washington, D.C.; and New Orleans.

85% Percentage of Gary, Ind., residents who in Census 2000 reported as African American. Among cities with 100,000 or more residents, Gary edged out Detroit (83%).

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

African-American Writers by Kelly Ann Buchanan



- Across
1. Said in Literature Class: "Mind of My Mind and Paterfamilias and Wild Seed" some of the science fiction novels written by Octavia E. Butler.
 4. In 1988, author Toni Morrison won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction for her critically acclaimed novel "Beloved". Then, in 1993, she received the Nobel Prize for Literature.
 7. "The ____ of My Familiar" (Novel of 1989 written by #72A)
 13. oppoZ.
 14. Author of "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" (1970)
 16. * (1991) "psD wouldY ____ A": scores yereym snidwA chz ni lenoN
 18. * Ma. Dove (Post Laureate of the United States from 1993 to 1995)
 19. First ill
 24. * Toni Morrison wrote it, with The
 25. Low fluid from a vein, without the "B"
 26. Against (abbr. & blvd.)
 27. Relating to birth, without the "N"
 30. * Classic written by Alex Haley (b.1921 - d.1992): "____ The Saga of an American Family" (1976)
 33. Atomic #52
 35. * (1991) "climS s'ndicF y84 fo ____ eliz y8". A27# y8 ac-
- Down
1. isogul. rM
 2. Small brook
 3. Make-a-Word! V. ____ -R-E (Business Enterprise)
 4. * First Name of the writer of mystery stories which feature the character Ezekiel "Easy" Rawlins (See #76A for a Related Clue)
 5. Certain hurs d'oeuvre, without the "sters"
 6. Not one
 7. Explosive letters
 8. "Oh, my goodness!"
 9. * Children's book by #14A: "My Painted House, My Friendly Chicken and ____" (1994)
 10. Floor's Follower
 11. Cuts of meat
 12. Cherrish (bleach.)
 14. Stage Setting: ____ en scene
 15. Make-a-Word! C-U-R-T ____ -L-M- -N-T (Downizing)
 17. * Book by James Baldwin (b.1924 - d.1987): "Go ____ on the Mountain" (1953)
 21. Tokyo, once
 23. Make a choice
 25. ____ of Man (It's located off Great Britain)
 27. Q. "What is an Unusual?" A. It's ____-toed sloth."
 28. Unfreedom
 29. Spyy
 31. * Novel by Wallace Thurman (b.1902 - d.1934): "Infants Spring" (1932)
 32. "Uncle" in Spanish
 34. * (1991-d - 1991) (acnc) hJ notuRi ____ areZ: enstareti ni skrow evitacrc vgnidnatruo fo dourep— s0291 eht fo ecnassianR melnH eht hnw detaicosa saw ohw reitW dna tirolidF
 36. Flower, with the "ac" snipped off
 38. Divine, without the "music"
 40. Olive genus
 41. Camper's shelter
 43. Part of the neck
 44. Prefix that means "Earth"
 45. * Author of "Not Without Laughter" (1930): Langston ____ (b.1902 - d.1967)
 50. Circuit in the pool
 52. Make-a-Word! ____ -L- ____ -L-E- (Sort of Fish)
 53. staiser
 55. * "RL's ____" (1995): This story (written by #4D - #76A) is about a dying blues guitar player who is befriended by a young woman
 58. Monte's follower
 59. Deuce-Ace
 60. Tear apart (blows.)
 62. Garlands
 63. Ms. Peoples
 64. Friend
 65. Stadium where The Beatles played
 66. Peanut and Sunflower
 67. census (1002) "maS naA l"
 70. Flamboyant, means the "Sh"
 73. Purifier in the Pool, punily
 74. Boating acronym

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13th Dickie Foster Texas Black Women's Conference

WHO: The African American Museum and the Friends of the Texas Black Women's History Archives.

WHAT: The 13th Dickie Foster Texas Black Women's Conference.

WHEN: Saturday, March 16, 2002, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Registration begins at 8 a.m.

WHERE: The Dallas Marriott Suites Motel - Market Center

WHY: To provide a forum for discussion on issues relevant to Texas Black women and to help them become more aware and to be able to make informed decisions; also to create an atmosphere for networking in which black women relish their past and prepare for the future.

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Ethnic Notes

A Hobby to Get Revved up About

by Monica Thornton

When Braniff, the company he worked for repairing airplanes, went out of business in 1982, Robert Beachum, Sr., turned his hobby into his own business. And for 18 years he has been keeping Dallas area residents flying down the highways in their newly repaired cars, working from his North Dallas auto repair business, often until late in the evening.

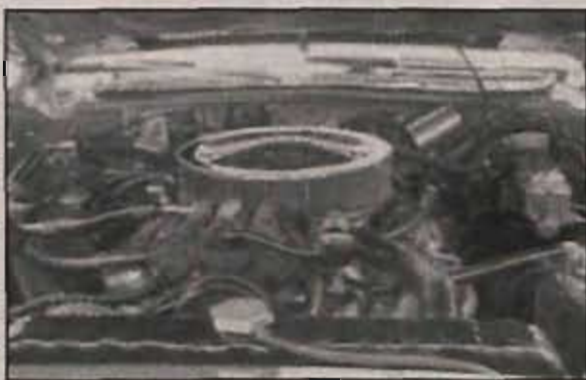
Mr. Beachum inherited his love for working on cars from his father, who, at 90 years of age, still works on cars.

"I started doing cars at my dad's garage in Mexia, Texas," said Mr. Beachum, "I just wanted to start working on the cars. I've been working on them since I was 6 years old, and I put my first car together when I was about 11 years old," he said.

Mr. Beachum said that even when he was employed at Braniff he always worked on cars in his garage at the back of his house, and when they were old enough, his two sons would help out. He kept a side busi-

ness working on custom Corvettes, and doing other mechanical and body repairs that enabled him to save enough money to eventually own his own business, without getting a loan.

At the time he was laid off, one of his friends ran a service station, and Mr. Beachum went to work for him. He said he built up a customer base, then started



looking for his own shop. He thought about getting his own service station, but Mr. Beachum said at that time the oil companies were charging too much to get into one of their stations.

He found the space he is still working from on Vargon Street, in North Dallas, and he said he opened his shop around 1984. He said if Braniff hadn't have gone under he would still

be there, but now he's glad he has his own business, and will always work for himself.

One of the biggest problems Mr. Beachum faces is keeping employees. Although he wouldn't he said there have been times that he's felt like quitting the business because it is so hard to get reliable help.

"I don't think anything is better than automotive," said Mr. Beachum, "it's a good business, it's just getting people to work the business."

But he still looks for good people to work for him, as he doesn't want to scale the business back. Instead, he works long hours to get the cars repaired. He is constantly being recommended

by customers, which increases his work load and hours, and his circle family and friends keeps growing, so it seems that he will still be repairing cars when he too is 90 years old.

Robert Beachum, Sr., owns and operates The Auto Place, 13550 Vargon Street, Dallas. He can be reached at 972.231.0071.

Inspiration

Jump from Page 2

The question is not whether we can afford to invest in every child; it is whether we can afford not to.

Marian Wright Edelman ((1939-))

The Measure of Our Success (1992)

There will always be men struggling to change, and there will always be those who are controlled by the past.

Ernest J. Gaines (1933-)

interview with John O'Brien in *African American Writers* (1991)

What happens to a dream deferred?

Does it dry up

like a raisin in the sun?

Langston Hughes (1902-1967)

"Harlem" (1951)

I am not tragically colored. There is no great sorrow dammed up in my soul, nor lurking behind my eyes. ... Even in the helter-skelter skirmish that is my life, I have seen that the world is to the strong regardless of a little pigmentation more or less. No, I do not weep at the world-I am too busy sharpening my oyster knife.

Zora Neale Hurston (1901?-1960)

"How It Feels to Be Colored Me" (1928)

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,

We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered.

James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938)

Lift Every Voice and Sing, stanza 2 (1900)

When I read great literature, great drama, speeches, or sermons, I feel that the human mind has not achieved anything greater than the ability to share feelings and thoughts through language.

James Earl Jones (1931-)

Voices and Silences (1993)

"We, the people." It is a very eloquent beginning. But when that document [the Preamble to the US Constitution] was completed on the seventeenth of September in 1787 I was not included in that "We, the people." I felt somehow for many years that George Washington and Alexander Hamilton, just left me out by mistake. But through the process of amendment, interpretation and court decision I have finally been included in "We, the people."

Barbara C. Jordan (1936-1996)

statement made before the House Committee on the Judiciary, July 25, 1974

I can accept failure. Everyone fails at

something. But I can't accept not trying.

Michael Jordan (1963-)

I Can't Accept Not Trying (1994)

What's shaking, chiefly baby?

Thurgood Marshall (1908-1993)

customary greeting to Chief Justice Warren E. Burger, quoted by

Michael D. Davis and Hunter R. Clark in *Thurgood Marshall: Warrior at the Bar, Rebel on the Bench* (1992)

American means white, and Africanist people struggle to make the term applicable to themselves with ethnicity and hyphen after hyphen after hyphen.

Toni Morrison (1931-)

Playing in the Dark: Whiteness and the Literary Imagination (1992)

Defining myself, as opposed to being defined by others, is one of the most difficult challenges I face.

Carol Moseley-Braun (1947-)

interview in *The New Republic*, November 15, 1993

If you send up a weather vane or put your thumb up in the air every time you want to do something different, to find out what people are going to think about it, you're going to limit yourself. That's a very strange way to live.

Jessye Norman (1945-) interview in

The New York Times, 1987

Avoid fried meats which angry up the blood. If your stomach disputes you, lie down and pacify it with cool thoughts. Keep the juices flowing by jangling around gently as you move.

Go very light on the vices, such as carrying on in society. The social ramble ain't restful. Avoid running at all times. Don't look back. Something might be gaining on you.

Satchel Paige (1906?-1982)

"How to Stay Young" (1953)

Freedom is never given; it is won.

A. Philip Randolph (1889-1979)

keynote speech given at the Second National Negro Congress in 1937

That ... man ... says women can't have as much rights as man, cause Christ wasn't a woman. Where did your Christ come from? ... From God and a woman. Man had nothing to do with him.

Sojourner Truth (1797?-1883)

'speech at the Woman's Rights Convention in Akron, Ohio, 1851

When I found I had crossed that line, [on her first escape from slavery, 1845] I looked at my hands to see if I was the same person. There was such a glory over everything.

Harriet Tubman (1820?-1913) to her

biographer, Sarah H. Bradford, c. 1868

Sometimes you've got to let everything go-purge yourself ... If you are unhappy with anything ... whatever is bringing you down, get rid of it. Because you'll find that when you're free, your true creativity, your true self comes out.

Tina Turner (1939-)

I, Tina (1986)

Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome while trying to succeed.

Booker T. Washington (1856-1915)

Up From Slavery (1901)

I could depend a lot on my shaking, though I never shimmied vulgarly and only to express myself.

Ethel Waters (1896-1977)

His Eye Is on the Sparrow (1951)

I felt that one had better die fighting against injustice than to die like a dog or rat in a trap. I had already determined to sell my life as dearly as possible if attacked. I felt if I could take one lyncher with me, this would even up the score a little bit.

Ida B. Wells (1862-1931)

Crusade for Justice: The Autobiography of Ida B. Wells (published posthumously, 1970)

Black people have always been America's wilderness in search of a promised land.

Cornel West (1953-)

"Nihilism in America," *Race Matters* (1993)

As long as the colored man look to white folks to put the crown on what he say ... as long as he looks to white folks for approval ... then he ain't never gonna find out who he is and what he's about.

August Wilson, Jr. (1945-)

Ma Rainey's Black Bottom, act 1 (1984)

I still have my feet on the ground, I just wear better shoes.

Oprah Winfrey (1954-)

Oprah: Up Close and Down Home by Nellie Bly (1993)

My hope for my children must be that they respond to the still, small voice of God in their own hearts.

Andrew Young (1932-)

A Way Out of No Way (1994)

The History of Black History

by Elissa Haney

Woodson chose the second week of February for Negro History Week because it marks the birthdays of two men who greatly impacted the American black population, Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. However, February has much more than Douglass and Lincoln to show for its significance in black American history. For example:

• February 23, 1868:

W. E. B. DuBois, important

civil rights leader and co-founder of the NAACP, was born.

• February 3, 1870:

The 15th Amendment was passed, granting blacks the right to vote.

• February 25, 1870:

The first black U.S. senator, Hiram R. Revels (1822-1901), took his oath of office.

• February 12, 1909:

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was founded

by a group of concerned black and white citizens in New York City.

• February 1, 1960:

In what would become a civil-rights movement milestone, a group of black Greensboro, N.C., college students began a sit-in at a segregated Woolworth's lunch counter.

• February 21, 1965:

Malcolm X, the militant leader who promoted Black Nationalism, was shot to death by three Black Muslims.

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Aetna
Financial Services

March 12th Primary Jump from Page 1

entrepreneur, an inventor, and a science consultant on high-energy physics and environmental and energy issues. As a journalist and a civil libertarian and an advocate on eldercare legal and health issues, Crandberg explains Benjamin Franklin passed away in 1790, at age 84.

"That is my present age," he said, "but two hundred years of advances in medicine and public health have made huge improvements in the quality and span of human life. One purpose of my entry into politics at that age is to help dispel the myths and stereotypes about age and aging that have lingered too long in the minds of many."

Businessman, attorney and



Douglas G. Deffenbaugh

CPA, Douglas G. Deffenbaugh, is the third Republican candidate vying for Gramm's senate seat. Deffenbaugh, a devout Roman Catholic, explained he has been married over 25 years and has three wonderful children.

"If you want to understand who I really am, you must understand that being a devout Roman Catholic is at the core of my very existence," Deffenbaugh said. "My moral and educational training is steeped in the belief that Jesus Christ is my Savior and that my purpose in life is to know, love and to serve my God."

"In my professional life," Deffenbaugh said, "starting a business and becoming a lawyer and CPA have been instrumental in cultivating my belief in America's free market system. America outshines the world because of our moral beliefs and our economic freedoms."

According to Deffenbaugh, the reach and impact of Federal laws and regulations is staggering, from the Endangered Species Act to regulation of lending practices by financial institutions to abortion and prayer at football games.

"I believe that power needs to be shed by the federal government and returned to the states," Deffenbaugh said. "Most often, local control is more favorable and responsive unless uniformity between the states is necessary or the area is

constitutionally the province of the federal government."

Dallas Dr. Bruce Rusty



Dr. Bruce Rusty Lang

Lang also appears on the Republican ballot for U.S. Senate. Lang says that for the Republicans voting in the March 12th Primary, "the choices are between a Christian international physician, a Houston lawyer, another lawyer/politician who's been Texas Attorney General since 1999, a rancher, and an octogenarian physicist from Austin. The Green party has also fielded a couple of candidates."

"Many Texas Republican Party officials have endorsed the 'General,' who is remaining in the Austin office to which he was recently elected, and staying on the state payroll while campaigning," Lang said. "He (Cornyn) doesn't yet seem to realize that he'll really have to run if he wants to win this race."

As Cornyn's chief opponent in the election, Lang says he is a political outsider, with extraordinary credentials, a strong dark horse who was awarded a Presidential Unit Citation last April for military service three decades ago when he commanded a covert Special Forces (SOG) combat reconnaissance team.

Rancher and land trader Dudley Mooney is the fifth Republican candidate for U.S. Senate.

The Democrat Primary: U.S. Rep. Ken Bentsen (D-District 25) has a clear track record in support of campaign finance reform and has been a steadfast supporter of the Shays-Meehan bill, which will ban soft money contributions to national political parties.

Bentsen has garnered a record of accomplishments for Houston and the State of Texas and was overwhelmingly reelected to the District 25 Congressional seat. The Washington publication, Roll Call, listed him among their members to watch and noted his "sharp strategic and organizational sense."

Congressman Bentsen is a senior member on both the Budget Committee and the Financial Services Committee.

He also serves as Co-Chair of the Congressional Biomedical Research Caucus, Co-Chair of the House Cancer Working Group, and Vice Chair of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee with emphasis on the Democratic Party's national redistricting project.

During his three terms and the current budget cycle, Bentsen has been a leading advocate for using the projected federal budget surplus to pay down the \$3.4 trillion debt and preserving Social Security and Medicare. On the Budget Committee, he helped enact into law the bipartisan Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

Bentsen led the fight to make sure this plan was fair to Texas, helping to devise a more equitable Medicaid funding formula that saved the state more than \$600 million.

Democratic U.S. Senate



Ed Cunningham

candidate Ed Cunningham is a unique attorney because he has represented both labor and big business as well as sports figures. Cunningham has also assembled the brightest young stars of American politics and these young men and women are the new faces of the Democratic Party.

Cunningham's parents, two schoolteachers, reared him in rural West Texas and he earned a master's degree in psychology and certification in educational administration. After a brief career in the NFL, Cunningham went back to West Texas where he graduated from Texas Tech, magna cum laude. He began his legal career in Austin as a litigation attorney, representing Ford Motor Company, Chrysler Corporation, and various hospitals and large insurance companies. This experience provided Ed with valuable insight into the workings of these enterprises.

Cunningham earned a reputation for tough but ethical negotiations. He established his legal practice, representation of the highest paid union workers in the world: professional athletes. He says experience has taught him "that effective and successful negotiation requires a complete understanding of both

positions. Working both for labor and for large corporations gives Ed that critical insight into the concerns of both sides."

Cunningham's wife, Tara, is a graduate of the University of Texas School of Law and founder of the school's Immigration Clinic.

Former Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk is a different kind of public



Ron Kirk

servant. According to Kirk, he grew up in a home that understood the importance of hard work. His father was the first black postal clerk in Austin. His mother was a schoolteacher.

Kirk is also a former Texas Secretary of State and he was twice elected Mayor of Dallas. As Mayor, Kirk ended the blame game, brought Democrats, Republicans, the business community, and working families together "to cut crime, cut taxes, and attract billions in investment to create over 45,000 new jobs."

Kirk was the first African American Mayor of Dallas and of a major Texas city — first in 1995 and reelected in 1999 with 74 percent of the vote.

During tenure as mayor, Kirk increased public safety budget by almost 40 percent, resulting in Dallas' lowest crime rate in twenty years. Kirk also pushed economic development efforts that helped secure more than 45,000 jobs and investment of more than \$3.5 billion in Dallas, including \$600 million in the long-neglected Southern part of the city, resulting in 13,000 jobs.

Democrat Victor Morales is running for Gramm's senate

seat based on his experience as a teacher and a Vietnam War Veteran. Morales was a 1996 and 1998 U.S. Representative Nominee.

Morales teaches and coaches full time and is running a grassroots effort for the U.S. Senate.

Green Party:

Civil rights activist Roy Williams will appear on the March 12th Primary ballot under the Green Party. Williams is making a bid for the U.S. Senate seat.

Also under the Green Party banner, retiree James Wright has entered the race for U.S. Senate.

Libertarian Party:

Libertarian candidate Ken Grubaugh is making a bid for the U.S. Senate. The anti-tax activist cites his book, "What the I.R.S. Won't Tell You and More!" as an answer to growing concerns arising from extensive study in recent years of the income tax system administered by the Internal Revenue Service.

Retired Navy officer and 2000 Reform Party candidate Michael Idrogo is also running on the Libertarian ticket as a



Michael Idrogo

U.S. Senate candidate.

Idrogo asks voters to name this country — 709,000 regular (active duty) service personnel; 293,000 reserve troops; eight standing Army divisions; 20 Air Force and Navy air wings with 2,000 combat aircraft; 232 strategic bombers; 13 strategic ballistic missile submarines with 3114 nuclear warheads on 232 missiles; 500 ICBMs with 1950

warheads; Four aircraft carriers, and 121 surface combat ships and submarines, plus all the support bases, shipyards and logistical assets needed to sustain such a naval force.

"Is this country Russia? ... No. Red China? ... No. Great Britain? ... wrong again, no way! USA? ... Hardly," says Idrogo. "Well, don't feel too bad if you are unable to identify this global superpower because this country no longer exists. It has vanished. These are the American military forces that have disappeared since the 1992 elections. Sleep well, America! We need a new direction!"

Running as the third candidate on Libertarian ticket, Scott Jameson is seeking the U.S. Senate berth.

Independent candidates:

Running as an independent, Thomas Gibbons hopes to garner enough votes to fill the vacated Senate seat.

Kevin Harrison also appears as an Independent on the March 12th Primary ballot for U.S. Senate.

Marketing consultant and Gulf War veteran Eric Kirkland is running for U.S. Senate on the Independent ticket.

According to Kirkland one of the first noticeable things about his campaign is that "we leave behind the notions of slick politicians and boring politics as usual. Through our campaign, you can win prizes and earn money, in addition to having a candidate of substance and depth."

"This election is literally about democracy," Kirkland said. "It's also about who should have more political power. Who do you feel should have more political power? The lobbyists, politicians and special interests or we the people? I'm campaigning for the people and, if you agree, I want to be your U.S. Senator."

Candidates David Latimer and Altero Salazar II are also running for the U.S. Senate on as independents.

Early voting now through March 8th!



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Arts & Entertainment



All About the Benjamins

Ice Cube stars as Miami bounty hunter Bucum Jackson, who teams up with the slippery mark he's chasing for a one-in-a-million chance at a huge payday. It's about trust, it's about teamwork, and it's *All About the Benjamins*, a comedy set in the world of fast cars, diamonds and a missing lottery ticket worth a fortune.

Co-starring Mike Epps, who reunites with Ice Cube after co-starring in the Friday series, *All About the Benjamins* marks the feature directorial debut of acclaimed music video director Kevin Bray. The film is written by Ice Cube and Ronald Lang and produced by Ice Cube and Matt Alvarez.



We Were Soldiers

If you think we need another three-word-titled war movie right now, raise your hand. That's what we thought. But moviegoers might still go to *We Were Soldiers*, simply because the bankable, blue-eyed Mel Gibson is starring. Gibson reunites with his *Braveheart* collaborator Randall Wallace, who directs his own screenplay, an adaptation of the true story *We Were Soldiers Once ... and Young: Ia Drang: The Battle That Changed the War in Vietnam* (you can see why the film's title was shortened). The novel, written by Lt. General Harold G. Moore and Joseph L. Galloway, a war reporter, describes the month-long battle at Ia Drang (a.k.a. Valley of Death), one of the first major battles in Vietnam, in which 400 green troopers from the U.S. Air Cavalry find themselves surrounded by 2,000 enemy soldiers. Gibson plays Lt. General Moore and leads a cast of troops that includes Sam Elliott, Greg Kinnear, and Chris Klein. Barry Pepper, who was a soldier once, in *Saving Private Ryan*, plays Galloway and provides the movie's voiceover.



BLOCKBUSTER® Hit List™

These are the Top 10 Renting Video Titles at U.S. BLOCKBUSTER® stores for the week ending February 24, 2002.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| VHS | DVD |
| 1. DON'T SAY A WORD | 1. DON'T SAY A WORD |
| 2. HARBALL | 2. HARBALL |
| 3. O | 3. RAT RACE |
| 4. RAT RACE | 4. HEARTS IN ATLANTIS |
| 5. HEARTS IN ATLANTIS | 5. O |
| 6. CAPTAIN CORELLI'S MANDOLIN | 6. CAPTAIN CORELLI'S MANDOLIN |
| 7. AMERICAN PIE 2 | 7. AMERICAN PIE 2 |
| 8. THE GLASS HOUSE | 8. KISS OF THE DRAGON |
| 9. THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS | 9. WHAT'S THE WORST THAT COULD HAPPEN |
| 10. ATLANTIS: THE LOST EMPIRE | 10. THE GLASS HOUSE |

These are the Top 10 Selling Video Titles at U.S. BLOCKBUSTER® stores for the week ending February 24, 2002.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| VHS | DVD |
| 1. SHREK | 1. DON'T SAY A WORD |
| 2. ATLANTIS: THE LOST EMPIRE | 2. HARBALL |
| 3. EXIT WOUNDS | 3. THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS |
| 4. THE PRINCESS DIARIES | 4. O |
| 5. BALTO II: WOLF QUEST | 5. AMERICAN PIE 2 |
| 6. THE RUGRATS MOVIE COLLECTION | 6. SHREK |
| 7. AMERICAN PIE | 7. ATLANTIS: THE LOST EMPIRE |
| 8. CATS & DOGS | 8. RAT RACE |
| 9. DRAGON BALL Z: MAJIN BUU-TACTICS | 9. THE MATRIX |
| 10. BLOW | 10. VOLCANO |

These are the rental New Releases hitting the streets on Tuesday, March 5, 2002. Titles also available for rent on DVD are indicated with *

A.I. - ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE*
THE LAST CASTLE*
WICKED SINS*
HIMALAYA (subtitled)

THE ONE*
FALLING SKY*
TRUE BLUE
JOHNNY GREYEVES

On Stage at NextStage

at Grand Prairie:

REO Speedwagon/Styx
Tuesday,
February 26, 2002

Dancin' with Gershwin
Saturday,
March 23, 2002

**Joe Avezzano's
Special Teams for
Special Olympics**
Saturday,
March 3, 2002

**Scooby-Doo
in Stage Fright**
March 7-10, 2002

Travis Tritt
Down the Road I Go
Tour
March 15, 2002

Paul Anka
Live in Concert
March 21, 2002

**SMUin
Ballet/SF**
Dancin' With Gershwin
March 23, 2002

Enrique Iglesias
Live in Concert
April 4, 2002

Buddy:
The Buddy Holly Story
April 2-7, 2002

**Jeff Foxworthy/
Blue Collar Comedy**
Saturday,
April 20, 2002

**South Pacific -
The Musical**
April 24-27, 2002

Ticketmaster
972-647-5700

Moore In March

MELBA'S
CABARET

Every month, Moore's Cabaret presents a special performance for the month of March. This month, Moore's Cabaret presents a special performance for the month of March.

Friday, March 8th-Saturday, March 9th
7:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Performance
Clarence Muse Café Theatre
135 Butler Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75201
\$15-Performance Only

Reservations and Payment for Moore's Cabaret
Call 972-581-1111, Thursday, March 7th
Hosted by Dallas Southwest Medical Center



Honda 2001 Insight 3DF

Efficiency

At EPA average fuel efficiency of 61 mpg city / 68 mpg highway, Honda is proclaiming the Insight as "the world's most fuel-efficient vehicle". Indeed, this makes it at least twice as efficient as most cars on the road today.

While a car that goes a lot further on the same amount of fuel may be a very attractive proposition in the current climate of continually rising fuel prices, there are other reasons why fuel efficiency is important:

It reduces consumption of non-renewable resources.

There are also many problems associated with producing and transporting petroleum, and so the less of it we use, the better.

It is important in developing future automotive technologies. Because of limited range problems, battery electric or fuel cell electric cars will need to be very efficient to be successful in the marketplace. The Insight's light aluminum alloy body and excellent aerodynamics make it an inherently low energy vehicle.

As we are about to describe, the only practical way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from our cars is to reduce the amount of fuel that they burn.

Gas/Electric Hybrid Propulsion

In the Insight, a lean-burn gasoline engine is combined with an electric motor/generator to provide the equivalent performance of a car with a significantly larger engine, but with much greater efficiency.

Power for the electric motor comes from a nickel metal hydride (NiMH) battery pack that is charged using regenerative braking, and when necessary, by the gasoline engine.

Regenerative braking allows energy that would otherwise be wasted by braking to be partially captured and used later during re-acceleration.

What makes the Insight such a fun car to drive? Although it is hard to pin down, some aspects are: Suspension tuned for handling, quick and precise steering and short-throw shifter (manual transmission version).

"EROTIC, SCARY, GOTHIC AND EXCITING."

Move over DRACULA the Queen has arrived!



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FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS MOVIE
America Online Keyword: Queen of the Damned www.queenofthedamned.com

Around The Town

On-going

Planet Kidz provides youth activities at Carpenter Park and Oak Point recreation centers for children in third through eighth grades. Saturday nights, 7 to 11:30 p.m. Plano police officers provide security. \$8.00 admission fee. Call The Carpenter Center, 6701 Coit Road, at 972.208.8087; The Oak Point Center, 6000 Jupiter Road at 972.941.7540.

Celebrate Black History Month and National Women's History Month by visiting the exhibition of Dallas artist, Beth Ritter-Perry. Mrs. Ritter-Perry work in a variety of media including dollmaking, quiltmaking and drawing. Through March 9, at the South Dallas Cultural Center. Tuesdays to Fridays 12 noon to 7 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is free. Call 214.939.ARTS for more information.

Applicants are being sought for

2003-04 Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarships, which provide up to \$25,000 for tuition and expenses for study abroad. Applicants cannot be related to a Rotarian, must be a U.S. citizen, must have completed 2 years of college and speak the language of the country of study. Call Dr. George S. Kadera, Rotary District Scholarships chairman at 972.562.3219.

Family Outreach of Richardson/Plano offers parenting classes to focus on development, personality and discipline of children age 0-18. Classes held at the Family Outreach Center in Richardson, free of charge. For details call 972.231.6584.

"But You Look So Good" is a new support group for those recently diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, or those experiencing invisible, mild or moderate symptoms. Meetings held at the Schimelpfenig Library, first Saturday of each month, 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. For more information call the

MS Society at 214.373.1400.

SPCA of Texas hosts Pet Grief Counseling Group, free and open to the public, the first Saturday of every month at the SPCA's Dealey Animal Care Center, 362 S. Industrial Blvd., Dallas, at 1 p.m. Contact 1-888-ANIMALS ext. 143 or 118 for more details, or the Pet Grief Hotline at 1-888-ANIMALS ext 172.

The McKinney Civic Chorus is seeking vocalists ages 16 and older. No audition is required for participation. Rehearsals are 7-9 p.m., Mondays at Hillcrest Christian Church, 509 S. Graves St. Membership dues and performance attire are required. For more information, call Bobbe Thompson at 972.562.2360.

Jazz in the Atrium with the Marchel Ivery Quartet every Thursday at noon, through March 20, at the Dallas Museum of Art. Admission is free. Call 214.922.1200 for more information.

Feld Entertainment commemorates 21 years of on-ice Disney classics that have come to the metroplex, February 15 - March 31 with a lavish exhibition of Disney On Ice props, costumes and more. Located on the 3rd level of The Shops at West End Marketplace, Dallas. Call 214.351.9806 for more information.

Billie G. Meador, the Edward Jones Investment Representative hosts a five week workshop "Financial Workshop for Individual Investors." Workshop runs February 25 through March 25. Classes meet 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. at the Courtyard Center Campus. Enrollment fee is \$69. For more information contact Billie Meador at 972.208.5688.

February 26- March 3

"I Won't Be The Other Woman" - an enlightening and entertaining look at the reality of life, love and the power of relationships. At The Majestic Theatre, every day but Monday, at

7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 to \$34. Call 214.373.8000.

Through March 3

Dallas Children's Theater presents "Sideways Stories from Wayside School", El Centro Theater, Downtown Dallas. For tickets call 214.978.0110 or www.dct.org.

March 1

The Women's Museum presents "Black History meets Black Herstory...finally!" with an independent short film exhibition and party celebration for women in entertainment. Hosted by Channel 8's Debbie Denmon. Starts at 7:30 p.m. at the Women's Museum, Fair Park. Tickets are \$15 in advance, and \$20 at the door. Call 972.296.1390

March 1 - 3

"Alice in Wonderland" presented by the Repertory Company Theater at UNT Dallas Theatre. Performance

times are March 1 at 7:30 p.m. and March 2 and 3 at 2: p.m. March 3 performance includes a Mad Hatter's Tea Party with the cast immediately following the performance. Tickets are \$9 adults/\$7 children, and \$12 for the Special Sunday Performance. Call 972.690.5029.

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra, with Principal Pops Conductor Richard Kaufman, invites you to experience your favorite films as never seen or heard before in "Symphonic Night at the Movies: A Night at the Oscars" At the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center. March 1 - 2 at 8 p.m., and March 3 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets from \$16 to \$90. Call 214.692.0203 for more information.

March 2

Legal Peek Live, presented by The Law Offices of Bobbie Edmonds. Topic for March 2 "Mamma's Baby, Daddy's Maybe, But the Judgment

Community Calendar Sponsored by Southwestern Bell Telephone

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Declared You the Baby's Daddy". Be equipped with legal knowledge to make common sense and intelligent decisions. Free. At Greater St. Stephens Missionary Baptist Church, 1021 Ash Crescent Street, Ft. Worth. Call Lea Trice at 817.332.6501 for more information.

The Dallas Mavericks vs. Miami Heat at American Airlines Center, 7:30 p.m. Tickets range from \$8 to \$345. Call 214.373.8000

March 3

Dallas Tax Assistance Program offers free tax assistance from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at St. Cecilia's Church, 635 Mary Cliff Road, Dallas, 75241; and OLP Church, 7625 Courtfield Avenue, Dallas, just south of Love Field. Bring W-2 or 1099 forms, proof of any other income and all family information.

March 5

The Dallas Mavericks vs. Phoenix Suns at American Airlines Center, 7:30 p.m. Tickets range from \$8 to \$345. Call 214.373.8000.

March 6

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra presents The Academy of Ancient Music with Conductor Christopher Hogwood and fortepianist Robert Levin. At the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center, 8 p.m. Tickets range from \$15 to \$85. Call 214.692.0203, or log on to www.DallasSymphony.com.

March 7 - 16

Out of The Loop Festival, presented by WaterTower Theatre, Addison Conference & Theatre Centre, Addison. Call 972.450.6232 for details.

March 8

The Children's Chorus of Greater Dallas Inaugural Tour Concert and Silent Auction, at Zion Lutheran Church, 6121 East Lovers Lane, Dallas. Silent Auction begins 7 p.m., and Concert Performance begins 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 advance/\$12 door. Reserved seating available. Call 214.965.0491, or visit www.thechildrenschorus.com.

March 8 - 10

Join the Friendship West Baptist Church Singles Ministry of Dallas, Texas for the 3rd Annual Singles Conference "Below See Level", at 616 W. Kiest Blvd, Dallas. Times vary. For more information call 214.371.0964, ext. 335, visit the website at www.friendshipwest.org, or e-mail the Singles Ministry at fwbsingles@aol.com

March 9

The Richardson Symphony RSO/Lennox Competition. March 9 at 8 p.m., Richardson High School, Richardson. Tickets range from \$13 - \$30. Call 972.234.4195.

March 10

Dallas Chamber Orchestra presents "Easter at White Rock" at 6:30 p.m. at Winfrey Point Pavilion, White Rock Lake. Tickets are \$15, \$10 seniors, \$5 students. Call 214.321.1411.

March 12

Dallas Network of Career Women hosts "Networking to Reach Your Goals", at its monthly luncheon. Reservations are a must, before noon on Friday March 8 by calling 214.855.1509. Tickets \$20 members, \$22 guests. Held at City Club, 69th Floor of the Bank of America Building, downtown Dallas, from 11:30 a.m. 'til about 1 p.m.

Members of the Mavs All-Star Reading Team will read to youth as part of The NBA's Read to Achieve campaign, at Fretz Park Library, 6990 Belt Line Road, Dallas, 75240, at 5 p.m.

The Emeritus Program at Mountain View and Cedar Valley colleges will sponsor its Spring Symposium March 12 at Cedar Valley College. Featuring keynote speakers, workshops, vendor booths, continental breakfast and lunch, and much information for older adults. If you are interested in participating as a vendor you will need to confirm your participation as quickly as possible. Contact Henry O. Adkins at 214.860.8816.

Last weekend, I washed my car,
hung out with a few friends,
and helped murder a family in Colombia.
C'mon, it was a party.

Drug money helps support terror. Buy drugs and you could be supporting it too.
Get the facts at the anti drug.com. Get help at the National Treatment Hotline, 800 662 HELP.

Office of National Drug Control Policy