

Minority Opportunity News

"Our Ninth Year"
Established 1991

"The Paper of Choice"

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NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Coke hit with race bias suit

Coca-Cola Co., the No. 1 soft drink company, was recently sued by a group of former and current black employees. This suit came after a 14-month racial discrimination lawsuit already settled with black employees. The 4 women in the suit accuse Coke of maintaining racially biased hiring practices and a hostile work environment for Blacks. Lawyers for the women include Johnnie Cochran. Last month, Coca-Cola launched a \$1 billion diversity campaign to boost entrepreneurship and other business opportunities for minorities and women in the U.S.

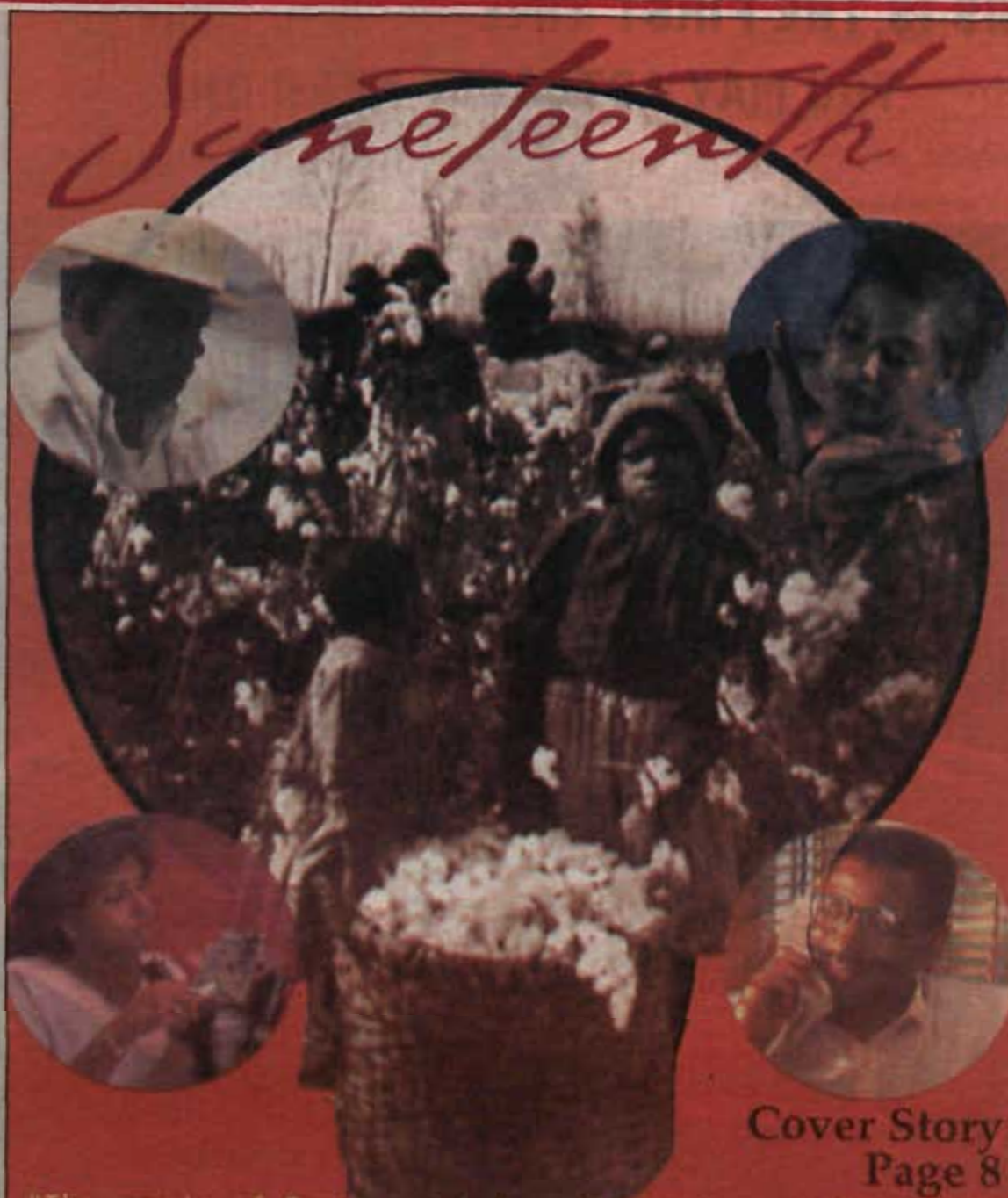
Southern Baptists vote against female ministers

The Southern Baptist Convention declared that the Bible forbids women from serving as pastors and leading congregations recently at their annual meeting in Orlando, Fla. The decision to disallow woman ministers was passed by the majority of the 16,000 members in attendance. Women currently lead about 35 of the 41,000 Southern Baptist churches. Baptist theologians said women must be subservient to men in the family and the ministry.

"Dr. J's" son may have had relapse

Police investigating the disappearance of basketball great Julius Erving's 19-year-old son, Cory Erving, think he may have had a drug relapse. Cory disappeared late last month from the family home in Lake Mary, near Orlando. He was last seen on May 28 when he went to buy bread for a Memorial Day picnic. The Erving family is offering a \$25,000 reward for information leading to Cory's return.

Julius "Dr. J" Erving



Cover Story Page 8

"The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States,
ALL Slaves Are Free.

This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and free laborer."

Ethnic Notes:

Johnny Taylor
and Josephine Baker

On The Move:

Sharon Patterson
and The Love Clinic

JUNE MILESTONE MOMENTS

- 18 1991 Natalie Cole's album *Unforgettable* was released. The album consists of her rendition of 24 songs by her father, Nat King Cole, and includes the title track, specially remixed to include both father and daughter's voices. It has been her most successful album, selling more than four million and sweeping the Grammy Awards ceremonies in 1992.
- 19 1862 Congress abolished slavery in the U.S. and its territories.
- 23 1940 Wilma Rudolph is born in Clarksville, Tenn. A polio victim, she won three gold medals at the 1960 Olympic summer games in Rome and was the first African-American woman to achieve this feat.
- 25 1963 George Michael is born in England. Michael first served his pop apprenticeship in group Wham!, the most commercially successful, teen-orientated group of the 80s. His solo career was foreshadowed in 1984's *Carless Whisper*, a song about a promiscuous two-timer with the oddly attractive line: "Guilty feet have got no rhythm". By the time Wham! split in 1986, Michael was left with the unenviable task of reinventing himself as a solo artist.
- 30 1912 Lena Horne is born in Brooklyn, N.Y. She began her career at 16 as a chorus girl at the Cotton Club in Harlem, appeared in the movies *"Cabin in the Sky"* and *"Stormy Weather"*, and had a successful Broadway career culminating with her one-woman show. Horne was a strong civil rights advocate who marched during the civil rights movement and refused to perform in clubs where African-Americans were not admitted.

June 19, 1865 Slavery is ended in Texas

Union soldiers arrived in the Texas city of Galveston with the announcement that the slaves were free. Two years prior to this date, on January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln declared the official abolition of slavery by way of the Emancipation Proclamation. Enforcement of the proclamation was to be carried out by the military and naval authorities. It also called for former slaves to be allowed to work for reasonable wages and to be received into the armed services. The document was witnessed by William H. Seward, Secretary of State.

Abraham Lincoln



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Next Edition Features



Salons in the Park

Have you ever wanted your hair to have that perfect style? Have you ever needed a stylist and could not find one? Well, look no further. In next edition MON highlights Salons in the Park, located right in the heart of one of Dallas' busiest districts. We will visit with some of the stylists and some of their customers to find out just what makes this salon such a popular place.



Mark Cuban

Rich. Smart. Enthusiastic. These are all words that personify Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban. In just his first season in that position the team has a better record, better fans and better players. What is his secret and how is he using it to inspire the Mavericks. In next edition we take a behind the scenes look at Cuban and his road to success.

Summer Safety Tips

With several days of record-setting temperatures already recorded in Texas this spring, the long summer weeks ahead can pose serious health problems. In our next edition MON offers some advice on how to stay healthy during this time. We will also provide tips on identifying and treating summer

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What's beyond the festivities of Juneteenth? Juneteenth more than fun, festivities

When we wake up on June 20, the opportunity to examine the real meaning of Juneteenth will again be before us. It is nice to have the celebrations, the barbecues and other festivities, but the question remains as to what significance this activity has beyond a few hours of recreation? How does this holiday enhance the lives of African-Americans who live in America and Texas in particular?

In each edition MON reports the issues and challenges facing the African-American communities in our state. There is no shortage of topics for intense discussion and debate toward developing a comprehensive and logical agenda for action. Celebrations are fine, but will reviewing these events throughout the country show how far we have progressed since the first Juneteenth and moreover, where do we go from here?

Consider the following:

- **Politics** - This is a year for presidential elections. In the midst of the political rhetoric and debate, where is the agenda for the African-American community? How are concerns such as welfare reform, affirmative action, school vouchers and treatment under the justice system, faring in presidential candidates' priorities?

- **Culture** - Ironically, Juneteenth, as a cultural celebration, affords the time to consider how the African-American community is aware and supportive of its culture and arts. With increasingly tight school budgets, areas such as art, dance and music often suffer due to program and budget cutbacks. Where does this leave our children in terms of their awareness and appreciation of those traits that make our cultural ancestry unique?

- **Technology** - There has been much written about the existence and impact of the "digital divide". This term refers to the limited participation of African-Americans with using computers and related technologies. While some progress is being made there is a critical and immediate need to close the gap.

- **Education** - Using the TAAS examination, the importance of monitoring

and improving school instructional programs has never been greater. Today, will students who are not successful be challenged to function as productive citizens of our communities?

- **Religion** - For the first time in history, many American youth are "unchurched". This means that a large number of the next generation is unfamiliar with religion. While MON does not advocate any particular faith over another, MON is concerned that the absence of any participation with the faith-based community does not bode well for the future.

- **Economics** - There is a widely held belief that, given the strong national economy, everyone who wants to work can find gainful and meaningful employment. While getting some work may be possible, the quality and length of employment may be more suspect without proper education and training. Future careers will not be available for African-Americans.

- **Drug and Substance Abuse** - Our community continues to be plagued with the challenges of drug and substance abuse. While many beneficial programs help stem this trend, much more is needed to remove the plight that disproportionately affects many African-Americans.

- **Criminal Justice** - Comedian Richard Pryor said that he knew why they called it the "Justice System", because it was developed for "just us." Unfortunately, this cute play on words is anything but funny when one considers the extraordinarily high rate of convictions, stiff penalties and incarcerations common among African-Americans. Despite years of cases that supposedly challenged and improved the criminal justice system, the disproportionate and negative impact continues.

Yes, Juneteenth provides a few hours to consider the meaning and value of freedom. However, in light of the issues and concerns facing African-Americans, how much of this freedom can be truly enjoyed? Maybe this year's celebration should end with a plan to make things better before next year's festivities begin.

Each year in month of June a debate embroils the African-American community regarding the Juneteenth holiday. For some, there is the question as to whether or not there should be recognition for the delayed announcement of the freedom of Texas slaves. On the other hand, many believe that any day a people receive emancipation from bondage, that is a day worthy of celebration. Regardless, there is always a spirited debate and the need to shed light on this day's relevance.

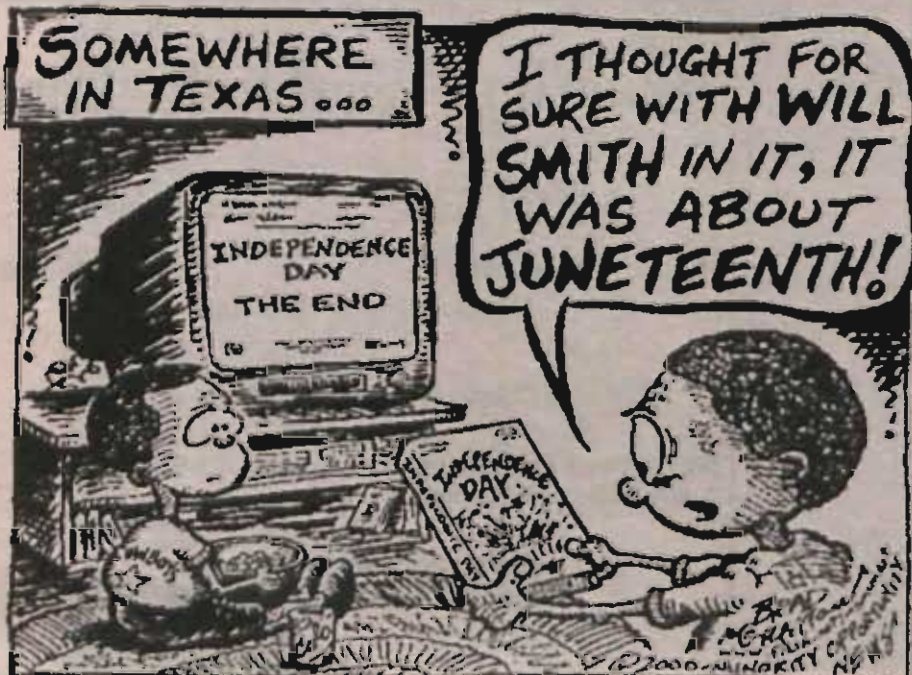
Juneteenth, or June 19, 1865, is when the last slaves in America were freed. Although rumors of freedom were widespread prior to this, actual emancipation did not come until General Gordon Granger rode into Galveston, Texas, and issued General Order No. 3. This was more than two years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation. President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, which freed all persons held as slaves. The proclamation was ignored by states that seceded from the Union, and did not apply to those slave-holding states that did not rebel against the Union. As a result, about 800,000 slaves were unaffected by the provisions of the proclamation. It would take a civil war to enforce the Emancipation Proclamation and the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution to formally outlaw slavery.

Why did it take so long for slaves in Texas to receive the news? During the Civil War, Union forces did not significantly invade Texas. Although the Union army attempted invasion, they were thwarted by Confederate troops, and slavery in Texas continued. Because Texas experienced such a minor interruption in its slavery operations, many people from other states brought their slaves to Texas to wait out the war. The overwhelming influence of

slave owners caused the news of the emancipation to be suppressed.

In the early years, there was little interest outside the African-American community in participating in Juneteenth. In some cases, there was an outward resistance of some people, who barred the use of public property for the festivities. Most of the activities took place in rural areas around rivers and creeks to provide additional activities such as fishing, horseback riding and picnics. Often church grounds were the sites for such activities. Eventually, as African-Americans became landowners, land was donated and dedicated for Juneteenth. Rev. Jack Yates organized one of the earliest documented land purchases in the name of Juneteenth. This fund-raising effort yielded the purchase of Emancipation Park in Houston. In Mexia, the local Juneteenth organization purchased Booker T. Washington Park, which had become the Juneteenth celebration site in 1898. As many as 20,000 African-Americans once flowed through the park during the course of a week, making the celebration one of the state's largest. Juneteenth activities were commonly interrupted and halted by white landowners who demanded that their laborers return to work. Most allowed their workers the day off and some donated food and money. For decades these annual celebrations have grown and flourished.

Juneteenth symbolizes for African-Americans what the Fourth of July means to all Americans--Freedom. Juneteenth reminds African-Americans of the triumph of the human spirit their ancestors endured over the cruelty of slavery. It not only honors those African-American ancestors who survived the inhumane institution of bondage, but also demonstrates pride in the marvelous legacy of resistance and perseverance.



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Local businessman sponsors women's basketball camps

By Trina George

Women desiring to play in the WNBA, might want to acquaint themselves with local businessman Bruce Carter. And ladies playing basketball now, on any level, probably already know Carter. He's the owner of Star Net Mortgage in Dallas and he's also a huge supporter of women's basketball.

In October 1999, Carter, sponsored the first WPBA Developmental League Scouting Camp to provide an opportunity for women not playing in the WNBA or overseas to be scouted at the professional level. "I simply want to enhance their chances of making it to the professional level," says Carter. "Additionally, my desire is to take women's basketball to higher heights by developing players and putting together camps like these."

The camps, which are financially backed solely by Carter, have each brought over 50 women basketball players from almost every corner of the world. Joining these players were WNBA players, Sheryl Swoopes of the Houston Comets, Dominique Canty of the Detroit Shock and Tony Edwards of the Phoenix Mercury. And eighteen professional scouts from cities such as Charlotte, Detroit, Portland, Indiana and several other areas were also in attendance along with five sports agents.

"This camp differs from other camps in that it is totally free," says Carter. "In

other camps, the players have to pay for travel, hotels and other incidentals. And I am grateful that I am able to bring

all-star game involving the top twenty players. The game is filmed and sent to WNBA teams and agents across the



WPBA camp participants (back row, l to r) Amy Herrig, sponsor Bruce Carter, Tonya Edwards of the Phoenix Mercury, Monique Foote, Dominique Canty of the Detroit Shock; (front row, l to r) Larecha Jones, Nekeshia Henderson and Ashley Berggren.

something like this to the Metroplex."

The camps consisted of a three-day event of various drills, shooting charts and a round robin tournament in which a champion is awarded. There is also an

country.

Ann Donovan, coach for the Indiana Fever, calls the camp as fantastic. "I am impressed at what Bruce was able to do. He brought in the best free agents that

are out there. And to see them all in the same gym at the same time is great." Donovan explained that when scouting new talent, she looks for the player with "a little bit of everything." "To make it in the WNBA," says Donovan. "You have to have every aspect of your game. You can't be a defensive player or an offensive player. You have to be able to play at both ends. In addition to that, I look for a good work ethic and a great attitude."

Most of the players are here at this camp because they want to get into the league, says Donovan. "There are some very talented players here and this is a great start for them."

Nekeshia Henderson, a player from Dallas, expressed her gratitude for Carter and his decision to present the camp. "I think what Bruce has done is great. He is giving women the opportunity to be seen that don't have the chance to be seen. There is equal play for everyone and it's an all around good opportunity for everybody involved."

When asked what's on the horizon, Carter says that he plans to bring more developmental camps to the Metroplex. "I want to make sure that those women who are not in the WNBA or playing overseas have a chance to be scouted at the professional level."

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Southern states assist low-income families with childcare

By Lakeesha Joe

Affording adequate childcare is a dilemma for many families. Often, low-income families cannot find dependable, quality childcare without some financial assistance.

Because of this dilemma, the Southern Institute on Children and Families has established a task force in recognition of the critical role affordable childcare plays in the employability of low-income parents and in the overall success of welfare reform efforts. Governors of 16 southern states, as well as the mayor of the District of Columbia have appointed a representative to serve on the Southern Regional Task Force on Childcare.

This Task Force will provide leadership and direction to the Southern Regional Initiative on Childcare, a grant-funded project of the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. The 23-member Task Force is charged with developing an Action Plan by December 2000, outlining specific steps that can improve access to childcare assistance for low-income families. The Action Plan will be disseminated and promoted across the southern region during 2001. States included in this regional initiative are Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.

"In research conducted by the Southern Institute, 48 percent of welfare beneficiaries told us that the number one benefit they needed most in order to work full-time was child care," said Sarah Shuptrine, founder and President of the Southern Institute on Children and Families and Chairman of the Task Force. "The Southern Institute's research found that many families who are eligible for child care assistance were unaware of available subsidies. It also identified wide variations in policies governing the childcare application and re-determination processes. The Task Force will identify ways to make the eligibility process more user-friendly and responsive to working families."

Research has shown that paying the high cost of childcare is especially burdensome for low-income families. Families earning below the federal poverty level spend an average of 33 percent of their income on childcare.

The annual income for a family of three earning minimum wage (approximately 80% of the federal poverty level) is only \$10,712. Given this income level, many low-income families are in a constant economic struggle to pay for housing, utilities, food, clothing, transportation, health-care, childcare, and other basic needs.

At the Task Force's first meeting in Atlanta, the Southern Institute released Child Care in the Southern States: Expanding Access to Affordable Care for Low-Income families and Fostering Economic Development by Louise Stoney, an expert consultant on childcare issues.

"Childcare is expensive. In all of the southern states, a young family with two wage earners at minimum wage could easily spend a third of their gross pay on childcare. And for single parents, the cost of childcare can be crippling. In each of the southern states, the annual cost of enrolling a 4-year old in full-time child care center is higher than public college tuition in that state," says Stoney.

"Childcare is one of the most important economic development tools available to low-income families and is increasingly significant as more and more parents join the workforce. The availability of reliable, affordable, quality childcare is the key to self-sufficiency, allowing parents to get and keep jobs," added Task Force Member Diane Rath, Chairman of the Texas Workforce Commission.

In 1997, the Southern Institute surveyed the southern states and the District of Columbia on childcare. In research conducted, the Southern Institute determined that some of the following actions could improve access to childcare assistance:

- To assist more low-income families with the high cost of childcare and to discourage welfare as an entry point for childcare assistance, states should identify and implement actions to achieve an income-based system of childcare subsidies for low-income working families with no requirement that a family be on welfare for any period of time in order to obtain assistance in paying for childcare.
- To avoid denying childcare assistance to children in income-eligible families who have resources that exceed state asset limits, states should exempt assets when determining eligibility for childcare assistance.
- To assure that the application and recertification process is not burdensome for low-income families seeking childcare assistance, states should review eligibility policies and procedures, including recertification periods and verification requirements.
- In order to provide continuity of childcare assistance, states should review policies regarding agency initiative in making category changes for low-income families whose children remain eligible.
- To assure that families know about available child care assistance, states and communities should design and implement outreach strategies to communicate the availability of childcare assistance for low-income families.
- To foster cooperation with Head Start collaboration strategies and document issues that need to be addressed at the federal level.

"A major impediment to welfare reform is insufficient state funding for child care. The competition among families leaving welfare and low-wage families who are not connected to the welfare system will become more intense as more families leave welfare for work," says Shuptrine. "The time to develop strategies to help more low-income families with the high cost of child care is now, and the Southern Institute is grateful to the southern governors for their willingness to work together on this regional initiative."

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Food Stamp Act, role of government questioned

By Raymond Nowicki
Special to MON

Any government program should be evaluated in the context of its original intent. Any additions to the program after the original enactment may be window dressing for avoidance of the fact that the program failed to achieve that original purpose. By focusing upon the original reason for passing any legislative program we can analyze on a basis of whether the program works properly or is really a failure. Such a process is never done, or seldom done, in regards to government programs. The public gets wedded to notions and is afraid to throw out programs which may never have done what they should. In this article I wish to explore the simple notion behind the legislative foray to pass the Food Stamp Act. I'm not here to criticize the current program, but rather to look at whether it did what it was intended to accomplish.

If we go back when the Food Stamp Act was being considered, we discover the media pushed for the passage of such a program. Investigative reporters scoured the country seeking individuals needing the money behind such a program. The major complaint was against welfare mothers abusing a portion of their welfare check. Examples showed how poor children were not being fed because a mother would be out squandering money on something other than food (drugs and alcohol were prime targets). Children were pictured hungry, dirty and neglected. Reporters said it was needed for a new program which could target this portion of the welfare check be set aside for use as food money only. Government needed to step in to save these unfortunate children.

Now, a logical way of seeing this abuse would have been to remove these children from such a neglectful atmosphere. No, government officials plunged forward to pass a massive government program intended to feed children on welfare. If government directed a portion of the welfare check and devoted it to food purchases only, then the welfare mothers would not be able to make decisions only designed to feed their children. This program would change the lives of these children and insure that our children would never again have to worry about not receiving an adequate diet, even if they lived in welfare households.

Now, I'm not going to get into the notion about people who are working are now able to feed their families. No, I said we must evaluate the program only against the original intent and not about added features, which now makes the program attractive to some. This is why we question the act. We can only look at what it has done to improve the lives of children who are born into welfare households.

Children in increasing numbers are removed from their homes because of abuse and neglects. Many of these homes are individuals on welfare. I remember a report from Chicago about several families on the West Side where the police discovered a dozen children seriously neglected. All the members of the family were on welfare receiving Food Stamps. We have seen reports of vendors cashing Food Stamps and giving cash to the welfare recipients. We have seen people fraudulently printing bogus Food Stamp coupons.

I would have to say that we did not. We expanded the program into areas which are questionable. What needs to be done is that if a person is on welfare then the food money has to be placed into their hands and not printed up into Food Stamp coupons. It is not the role of government to look over the shoulder of an adult and dictate every part of their lives. If a family is being neglected then the Church, neighbors and welfare agencies need to be more active in removing the children from a neglectful household. It is not the role of a huge bureaucracy to say how much you can or cannot spend on food. It is time to scrap the wasteful huge bureaucracy which is part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. We need to stand up to say this program has served its purposes and time to move on and let people help themselves. Government cannot always solve the problems which are part of everyday life. Sometimes the solution lies within the local community. Abuse of children is always wrong. However, if children are not being fed, clothed then schools, churches and neighbors need to care enough to step in and save any child from such a situation. Media certainly can point out that children are at risk who happen to be born into the household of a family on wel-

fare. However, media need not declare that the solution lies in another governmental program ran in a huge bureaucracy, which in the end will not solve the problem.

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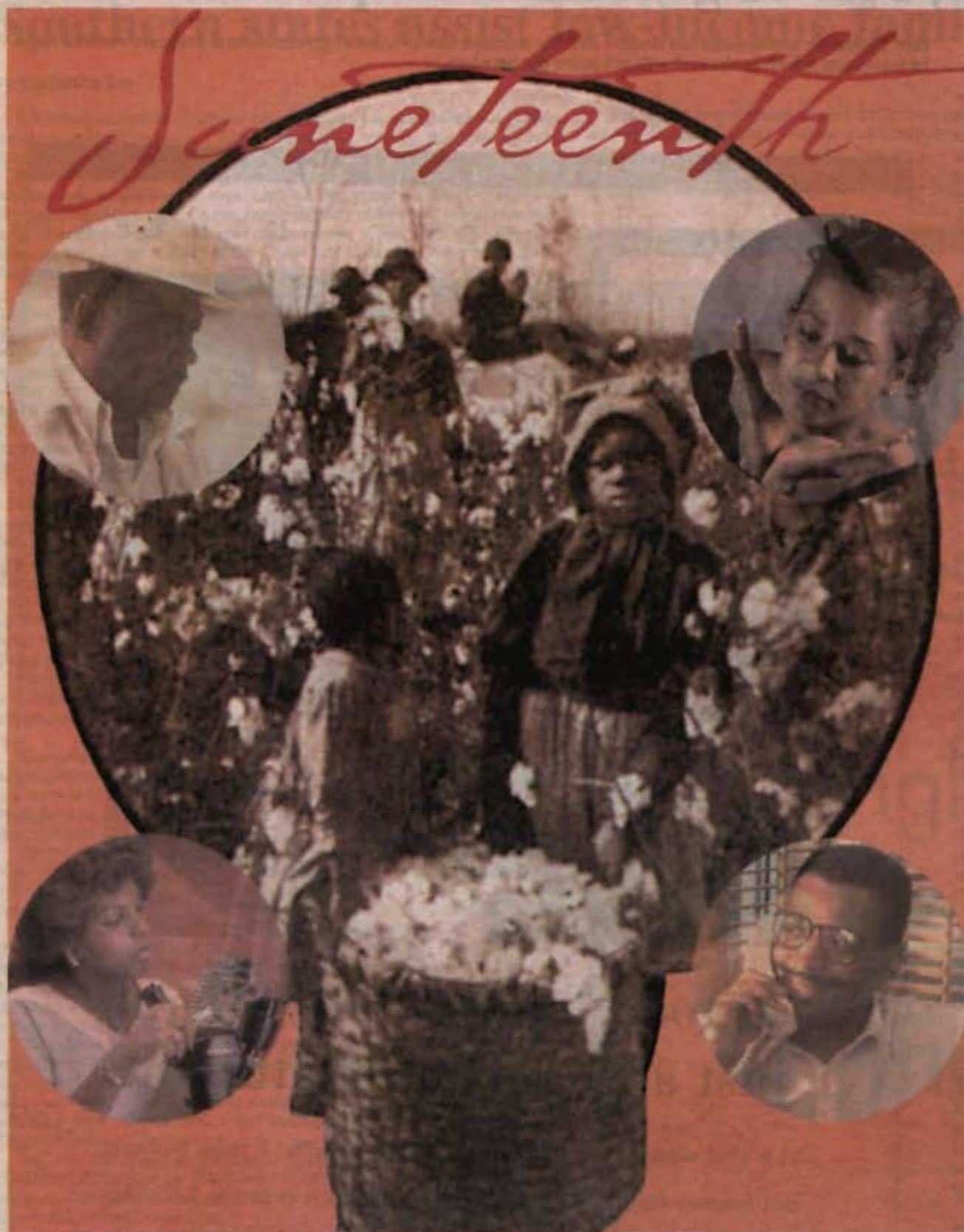
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Texans struggle to keep Juneteenth tradition

By Angela D. Jones

While Memorial Day 2000 marked the "unofficial" beginning of barbecue season for most, for African-Americans around the Lone Star State, the season doesn't officially begin until June 19. For generations, June 19, or Juneteenth, has become synonymous with barbecues, picnics and family gatherings. While some see it as the perfect party opportunity, for others it holds more historical and significant meaning.

On June 19, 1865, Union soldiers arrived in the Texas city of Galveston with the announcement that the slaves were free. Two years prior to this date, on January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln declared the official abolition of slavery by way of the Emancipation Proclamation. While rumor has it that the first messenger sent to deliver the news of freedom was murdered while in route to Texas, other historical accounts maintain that the news was intentionally withheld by slave masters in an effort to maintain the labor force on their plantations. Yet another account tells the story of federal troops awaiting the last cotton harvest before traveling to Texas to invoke the Emancipation Proclamation.

A native of the west Texas town of Clarendon, 95-year-old Martha Campbell clearly remembers being told by her grandmother about where she was when she first heard the news.

"My grandmother, who was a slave, told us she was on her way home with some milk when another girl yelled to her 'Martha we're free,'" recalls Campbell. "She was so excited that she dropped the milk. My grandmother was originally from Jacksboro, and lived with us until I was a teenager."

Not long after the declaration of freedom was made in Texas, June 19th was christened with the name Juneteenth and became an annual celebration where remaining former slaves gathered in anticipation of being reunited with other long, lost family members. For years, some former slaves and their descendants even made an annual pilgrimage back to Galveston in recognition and remembrance of the celebrated day in history.

"We used to have big picnics at the river and everyone took food," Campbell fondly recalls of her childhood. "We used to play ballgames with teams that came as far away as Amarillo. Even the white folks came to the picnics for good eating and a real good time."

By the accounts of most historians, recognition of Juneteenth and its associated festivities began to flounder in the early 1900's due to economic forces, such as the Depression. Some believe that another contributing factor that led to the holiday's demise was the fact that July 4th was more commonly known and established as the official Independence Day in America. It wasn't until the 1950's and 60's that a slight resurgence occurred through a series of demon-

strations and marches, which renewed recognition and interest in the holiday. Campbell, who relocated to Dallas from Clarendon in 1926 and attended Dallas' Booker T. Washington High School, says she sees a significant difference in the way Juneteenth is marked today, as compared to the way it was celebrated in earlier years.



95-year old Martha Campbell (right) remembers Juneteenth celebrations of her childhood.

"Everything we had, we shared," she says. "People used to come in love and now it's like they come in confusion. Our young people these days are so rough and they don't seem to realize that things were really as bad as they were."

She adds, "I was fortunate enough and blessed to where I never experienced blatant discrimination, but I always knew that there were some places where we shouldn't and couldn't go and things that we could never have."

Alonzo Evans is a 33-year-old courier supervisor and a native of the central Texas town of Temple. As a single parent to Brandon, his 9-year-old son, he says that as important as it is to recognize Juneteenth each year, it is equally important to him to ensure that his son learns what the textbooks have left out about Juneteenth. "I think it's a short-term memory lapse that we as a people are experiencing. We don't vote like we should and we take things that our ancestors have struggled for so lightly. This mentality trickles down to our youth in that if you don't know your history, you don't value it, says Evans. "I remember growing up how we used to have big celebrations in the park and everyone you knew was there," he recounts. "As an adult, I've noticed that it's not that

way anymore because with the gains and advances we've made as a race, Juneteenth is not touted as highly as it once was."

Through the efforts of former African-American state legislator Al Edwards, Juneteenth was declared an official state holiday on January 1, 1980; making it the first emancipation celebration ever granted official state recognition. Since that time, Juneteenth has no longer belonged to Texas. In fact, time and lip service have given birth to various organizations and committees throughout the United States, who are making it their mission to promote awareness and activities associated with the Juneteenth holiday.

Although he realizes that the history of Juneteenth is not something currently being taught to Brandon in his 3rd grade history class, Evans says he plans to gradually "school him" on the historical and cultural significance of the holiday. Despite the fact that Juneteenth falls on a Monday this year, Evans is also planning to escort his young son to his first Juneteenth event.

Another stu-

dent who acknowledges the absence of historical information about Juneteenth in her classroom is Brittany Kennedy. At 13-years-old, Kennedy, a student at Duncanville Ninth Grade School,



Baseball teams from as far as Amarillo, Texas came to south Texas to play games during Juneteenth festivities.

admits that her knowledge of Juneteenth and its importance was primarily derived from her mother, Angela, as well as from other members of her family.

"Juneteenth is special to me because even though I wasn't in slavery and neither were my parents, it is still important because my ancestors were slaves."

She adds, "I don't know why God allowed slavery, but I'm thankful anyway because he set us free."



Campbell's grandmother was four years old when the announcement of the Emancipation Proclamation was delivered to Texas.



Campbell and members of her church pose for a photo on a church sponsored Juneteenth picnic.

Photos courtesy Martha Campbell

← Inspiration →



**Ron
Shaw**

“Do You Have Enough” 2 Corinthians 8:9

There's a lot of talk these days about wealth. In the Christian camp, preachers are not only preaching it, but also modeling it. I personally believe it has always been God's desire for his people to be rich. A few days ago one of my friend's children asked me a question that took me some time to think about before I answered it. He asked, "Ron are you rich?" The reason it took some time to answer was because I wanted to help him think the way God thinks when it comes to wealth and riches. I asked him what he meant. His idea of riches is much like the mainstream ideas of Christians and non-Christians alike. He measured wealth only in terms of how much a person has for himself. However, when considering the way God thinks about riches and wealth, we would have to conclude that our attitude leaves a lot to be desired.

Biblically, the word "rich" means to have enough. Not just enough for you and yours, but enough to bless the world. We think of wealth and being rich only in terms of us being able to feather our nest and stuff our pockets. Our text says Jesus was rich but became poor so that we might be rich. To put it bluntly, He gave up having enough and took on our not having enough so that we could take on his having enough. Where God is concerned, we don't have enough until we are able to bless the world. Just having all of our bills paid is not being rich. Just being able to get out of debt and live debt free is not being rich. You're not rich until you can bless the world. God's plans always have a worldview in them. He doesn't think just in terms of your household, but rather your world. Most of us think too small to ever be considered rich. Your gifts and your talents should provide you with riches to bless the world.

Let me help you think of riches the way He thinks of riches. Think on them, you may find out that your attitude about being rich needs a lot of re-adjusting.

By themselves, material riches

are regarded as neither good nor bad, but only according to whose hands they are in. The same money that can be used to buy drugs can be used to buy bibles. Are your hands wicked or righteous? Riches are transitory. They come and they go. No one ever owns wealth. It's like trying to own a cat. It comes and goes no matter how hard you try to hold onto it.

Material riches are never permanent. Man's heart is not to be set on riches. To set your heart full of riches is to set yourself up for failure. If riches are not permanent, then anything built on them is temporary. If you build your self-esteem on riches, then your self-esteem will be temporary. Get the picture? The goal isn't to get rich, but to serve God.

Riches are not to be trusted. Jesus said trusting in riches can choke the word of God from producing in your life. They are to be enjoyed, but not trusted.

Riches are not to be glorified. In other words, don't go around bragging about your stuff. A lot of preachers could use this wisdom. My grandmother used to say, "don't act like you're not used to anything." Brag on God's goodness instead of the goods. Talk up the giver not the gifts.

The possession of wealth is not always a sign of God's favor. "Gain is Godliness" is a demoniacal doctrine. In other words, just because people have a lot of stuff doesn't mean God is in their corner.

Material riches are a test. Jesus said God uses material riches to test our readiness to handle true wealth. So, if you can't be a good steward over material wealth, you can't be trusted with what He calls "true" wealth. How you handle your things, tells God how you will handle His things.

Are you ready to handle riches? Do you know the purpose for them? Do you have enough? Can you pass the test of riches? How have you done so far? We'll look more at this next month.

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Taylor, Baker honored during Black Music Month

By Jamila Thomas

As America takes time to honor the many decades of African-American music during Black Music Month, the contributions of the artists are also recognized. African-American musicians have left lasting marks on the music industry with their unique singing styles and compositions. Two such musicians



Johnnie Taylor

are Johnnie Taylor and Josephine Baker. Both of these musicians made advances in the music industry that are still being celebrated today.

Johnnie Harrison Taylor was born in Crawfordsville, Arkansas on May 5, 1938. He was inspired by gospel and blues, and like most singers of his time, his singing roots were in the church. In the early 1950's

he first recorded as part of the Five Echoes, a doo-wop

group that had one release on the Chance label in Chicago. Taylor did not receive any significant recognition of "Somewhere To Lay My Head."

Taylor's voice so resembled Sam Cooke that Taylor replaced Cooke in the gospel group Soul Stirrers in 1957. Many records were recorded with Taylor as a part of the group but he left to pursue a short-term career in preaching.

Taylor then signed with Sam Cooke's SAR records and his first release "Rome Wasn't Built in a Day" established his presence as an R&B singer.



Josephine Baker



Fellow singer Bobby Womack hugs a mourner at Taylor's funeral in Dallas.

Photo by Lott's Photography

Taylor's style easily adapted to the demands of modern Soul with his recording of "Who's Making Love," which shot to the top of the R&B charts. The record sold more than one million singles and established Taylor as one of the nation's premier Soul attractions.

In 1966 Taylor signed with Stax Records in Memphis and became their all time best selling recording artist.

For the next seven years, Taylor's name was continuously on the best seller's list. His first million seller

was followed by such classics as "Take Care Of Your Homework" "Jody's Got Your Girl," "Steal Away" and "Cheaper To Keep Her."

In the 1970's, Taylor moved on to Columbia Records after Stax had gone bankrupt, and scored a platinum sale with "Disco Lady" in 1975.

Taylor recorded a series of albums for Malaco in

the mid 1980s. Most of the songs were in the style of soul-blues like his most recent release

"Gotta Get the Groove Back."

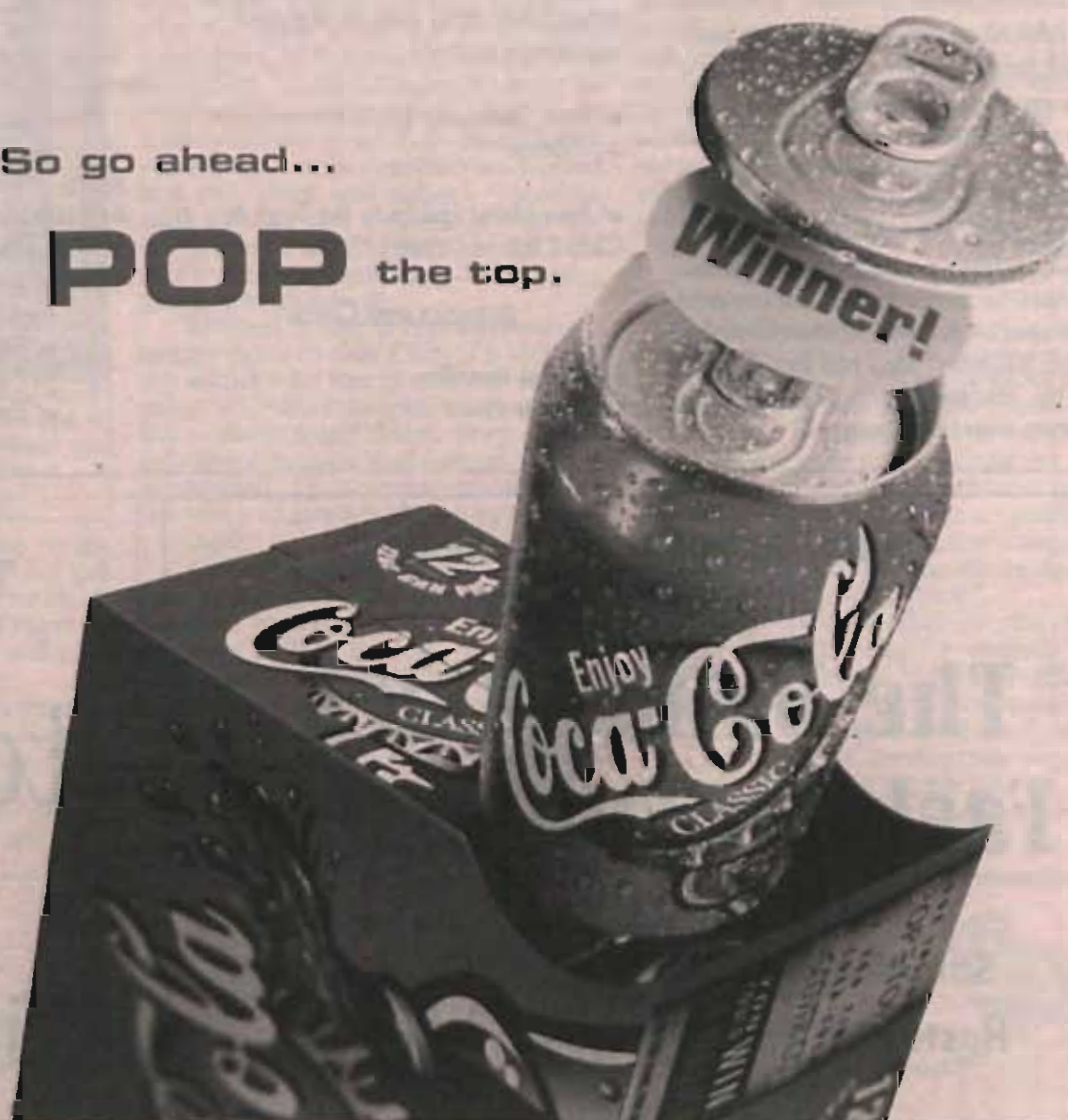
Taylor died of a heart attack May 2000 in

...continued on page 30

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Parkland introduces KIDSfirst insurance program

Courtesy of Parkland Hospital

Parkland KIDSfirst is the name of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) offered by Parkland Community Health Plan. CHIP is a new children's health insurance program from TexCare Partnership developed especially for Texas families. This program provides insurance for children at a price that fits most budgets. The program covers children from birth through age 18.

Parkland KIDSfirst has an extensive and growing number of doctors and hospitals in its network to make sure children have the best medical care possible to keep them healthy. We have health education programs to keep families informed about certain medical conditions, such as diabetes and asthma.

The hospitals in the Parkland KIDSfirst plan include many of the community-based hospitals, including Parkland and Children's. The doctors in the plan include pediatricians, specialists, as well as doctors who can provide routine check-ups and immunizations. Parkland KIDSfirst also has health centers in the community to offer children health care near their home.

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- ✓ Free Quarterly KIDSfirst member newsletter
- ✓ Free Membership to the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Dallas

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 - ✓ ER visits from \$5 up to \$35 per visit
- Prescriptions:

- ✓ Generic: \$1 up to \$5 per prescription
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To apply, call the TexCare Partnership at 1-800-647-6558.

About Parkland Community Health Plan.

Parkland Community Health Plan (PCHP), a part of Parkland Health & Hospital System, keeps you covered. We offer Parkland HEALTHfirst for people in Medicaid managed care, and we offer Parkland HEALTHplus for Dallas County residents who do not qualify for Medicaid or who do not have health insurance. We have been a part of the community for more than one hundred years, and we are the only locally owned and operated Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program HMO in the Dallas service delivery area.

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Treatment facility in need of volunteers, financing

By Trina George

According to drug surveys taken by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, America's youth are experimenting with drugs at younger ages. One would ask the question "why", but an even more pressing concern is how to help these alcohol and drug abusers. There are 26 drug treatment facilities in Dallas offering substance abuse treatment and detoxification. Most of them are quite expensive and require patients to have health insurance. There's one Dallas organization, however that operates on a mere shoestring budget and provides services for recovering alcoholics and drug addicts without health insurance and have limited, if any, income.

Community Alcohol/Drug Aftercare Program, Inc (CADAP), is a non-profit community-based organization founded in 1990 by Sam W. Smith that provides housing for uninsured recovering alcoholics and drug abusers. Sam Smith, executive director of CADAP, is a recovering alcoholic and drug addict who says he was led to help people who had nowhere else to go. "I worked over in the Lancaster/Kiest Shopping Center and I kept coming into contact with people who were in need of housing and counseling. I started housing people in my own home at 220 Cumberland Street in Oak Cliff."

Smith was diagnosed legally blind in 1988 which forced him to cease housing recovering alcoholics and addicts in his home; but that did not deter his resolve to do "what God wanted him to do." "I never intended this program to get this big," explains Smith. "I just wanted to house and counsel a few people, but God obviously had other plans because the people kept coming and the need kept growing." Smith continued to help individuals in need as he expanded his program from his home to a rent-

ed house on 1523 Ohio Street.

As the number of needy people increased, problems and issues increased as well. Around 1994, Smith recalls, quite a few of the individuals showing up at CADAP were ill. At the time, he often wondered what was wrong, and later discovered they were infected with the HIV virus. "I realized I had an epidemic on my hands. So I spoke with Ron Structure at the Dallas County Department of Health and Human Services and he suggested that there might be government assistance



CADAP Executive Director Sam Smith stands in front of the building being renovated to become Destiny House. Destiny House will provide assistance to recovering alcohol and drug abusers.

available. Ron helped me work through the red tape and I finally got some assistance." Smith has now created CADAP HIV Positive Program, which helps persons infected with HIV and are also substance abusers.

CADAP provides a place for recovering alcoholics and substance abusers in a setting that includes group counseling and provides structure. "The first thing a recovering alcoholic or substance abuser needs is to have their

needs met," says Smith. "We give them food, shelter and counseling first. Then, we help them find a job." Since structure and accountability are so important once a person decides to become clean, CADAP institutes some mandatory rules. All residents must attend a daily 12-Step Alcoholics Anonymous or Narcotics Anonymous Program meeting and are subject to unannounced urine analysis or Breathalyzer tests. Residents must adhere to a 10 p.m. curfew Sunday through Thursday and a 1:30 a.m. curfew on Fridays and Saturdays.

"CADAP has produced quite a few people who have remained sober who even counsel others like themselves," says Smith. One individual, Jonathan, who has been sober for seven years now, says CADAP helped him get back on his feet. "CADAP provided me with information on recovery and even introduced me to the AA. Now, seven years later, I am a construction worker and still clean and sober." Jonathan adds that he was impressed with the unity taught at CADAP and grateful that the atmosphere showed him how to relate to all people.

Michael, a hair stylist who owns a beauty salon in Oak Cliff, is a recovering addict who has been sober for five years. "CADAP taught me that I can live without using drugs. They got me into the meetings and helped me get established. I was very impressed with the love and concern shown by the people there."

CADAP's ability to help so many people, however, has not come without financial hardship. When Smith first started CADAP, he used most of his own money. "I rarely turned anyone away regardless of their means to pay. I feel it's my duty to help, but to be able to provide the care that people really need, we need more money."

In 1996, CADAP received a real estate donation. The two-story build-

ing, located at 4836 Gaston Ave. in Dallas, Smith is remodeling alone. He wants to use it to house women with children, married couples and even senior citizens. "I have been trying to remodel this building. And all that's been done, I am doing it alone. We need the help. This remodeling could be a good project for a construction company or contractor. Right now, we'd welcome any assistance to help us complete this building and start helping the people in need."

The property donated to CADAP includes two other parcels of land that Smith wants to use to build a daycare facility for the women and a career development center for recovering men and women. Smith adds that when he was first given the property, he had no idea of the financial hurdles he'd have to climb. "God blessed me to be able to come up with the money to pay the taxes. But, what we really need is for someone or some company to help us with the finances or show me how I can get some government financing."

"I have a vision for CADAP helping hundreds of recovering alcoholics and addicts start all over again. I believe God blessed me with this building because he keeps finding ways for me to hold on to it. I believe He knew that I would struggle to help this community of people as long as I have breath in me. That's why I am calling on the charitable, religious and business communities to assist with the completion of the rehabilitation house on Gaston as well as build and staff the career development center and daycare."

It is quite evident that the vast community CADAP helps far exceeds the resources available. Volunteer efforts and donations from communities across the Metroplex partnered with the CADAP is the combination needed to continue helping people into becoming productive and responsible citizens.



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Arts & Entertainment

Eyeing the Arts

By Stephanie Ward

Art is all that moves, motivates and changes the hearts, minds and eyes of it viewer. In this column we look at two people who have turned problems into art forms.

Abby Gail Smith turned fixing an ailing marriage into the art of love. She documents her journey in a new book, *Abby's Between Girlfriends: A Sharing of Marital Secrets*. In the 134-page paperback, Smith shares some of her joys and trials of a 23-year-marriage. Early in her marriage, she found out that her husband was not happy, so she set out to find ways to turn his world around. And in the process, she made herself happy.



She advises women to accept, appreciate and admire their man. She encourages a woman to constantly employ kindness and spontaneity into their marriages and watch the good times roll.

Instead of simply making the usual book tour circuit, the book's publisher, Black Pearl Publishing is promoting the book through tea parties. They are inviting women to sip tea, listen to Smith read excerpts from her book and share their own marital secrets. The cover of the book shows a table setting of a tea for two.

Sylvia Dunnavant, CEO of Black Pearl Publishing, says the tea parties have been like chatting with intimate friends. Often, she says, married women are uncomfortable talking about their relationship with anyone. But this book, allows open and honest conversation. Those wanting to purchase the book can pick it up at Black Images Book Bazaar, Joeka's African American Books Store or if you would like to participate in one of the tea parties, stop by Stephanie's Collection, 2546 Elm St., July 15, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. or you can see a schedule of upcoming signings on Abby's website

www.abbygailsmith.com. The site also includes a page to purchase the book along with a number of other mood enhancers.

The Nappy Hair Affair just released its new CD, *Love and Nappiness*; a tribute to all the sisters who have chosen to sport, their natural hair when the chemical got to be too much. The CD promotes the innate beauty of nature hair with sultry, bluesy lyrics and clever spoken word accounts. Some of the area's most prominent artists share space on the disc, including singer N'Nambi, poets Amon Rashidi and Shii Zulu.

Dallasite Linda Jones, a nappy hair advocate and founder of Nappy Hair Affairs, started the organization to promote the beauty of black hair. She says two year ago, some friends gathered at her house just to do each other's natural hair and to trade information on products and salons. The evening inspired them to organize and offer aid to other women with "naturals".

Her organization promotes natural hair through speeches, T-shirts, CDs and a monthly newsletter, *Nappy News*. To purchase T-shirts or a CD or to find out the latest on the organization, click on the to their website at www.nappyhairaffair.com.

Remember, June is **Black Music Month**. The South Dallas Cultural presents a line-up of Dallas' hottest composers each weekend during the month.

June 16 - Jammin at the Center Midnight Jazz - open mike at the Center, midnight to 3 a.m.

June 23 - The Marchel Ivery Quintet featuring David Fathead Newsman and Dino Newman on vocals grace the stage at the Hall of State, Fair Park, 8 p.m. Call the Marshall Agency for tickets (214) 943-1449

June 24 - Up and coming tenor sax player, Jason Davis keeps the Texas Tenor tradition alive at the Center.

To have your art featured in Eyeing the Arts contact Stephanie Ward at monedit@swbell.net

What's Happening in the Hood

The Rangers and UNCF recently hosted Black College Scholarship Night at Arlington Stadium. I went to the game to catch up with event co-chair Darrin Oliver. Even though we lost this game to Arizona, there's no doubt it was for a good cause. There were 40,000 plus people in attendance and on a night as important as this, that was good to see. In a brief interview with Darrin he says he will definitely continue to be a part of this program. He did-



Rangers pitcher Darrin Oliver

n't attend college himself as he was blessed to enter the league right after of high school. However he does feel that it's important to stress to our youth the importance college, because everyone can't be as fortunate as him. "If baseball were to end, I don't have a college degree to fall back on," says Oliver. Currently the Rangers are considering starting baseball camps at various HBCU's, including Paul Quinn. Stay tuned and we'll keep you posted.



Night Vibes

By Ché Hill



Dallas' night vibes were in full effect at Union Station's First Friday event. There was a packed house that included celebrities like the Dallas Cowboys' Kevin Smith, Flo Anthony of "Gossip to Go" on K104 FM, and radio personality Rudy V from KRNB, 105.7 FM. Union Station the hottest jams playing in the ballroom, while in the performance hall, jazz band Change of Pace throwdown with sultry sax, funky drum rolls and the vocals of Shelonvia.



MON's Ché Hill poses with Hollywood gossip columnist Flo Anthony at Union Station's First Friday event.

The room was packed with music lovers hand clapping and foot stomping. For the movers and shakers who like to cut a rug to the hip hop tunes, DJ's IZM and Romeo were mixing the flavas and keeping the dance floors packed. Evening highlights included live performances from Change of Pace, R&B group Stylz, and Flo Anthony's interviewing Kevin Smith getting the latest dirt on the Cowboys upcoming season. Could there be another Superbowl ring in Dallas' future? Kevin says it's possible. Stay tuned for that one. Stylz, the four man Houston R&B group, put on a mini concert displaying their vocal and dance/stepping talents as they sang "Ooh Wee", their first single which drops June 20. Their debut album

The world is Ours will be released July 1. Solo singer Lunger was in the house representing as he crooned to the ladies with his song and dance routine. Also night vibing was Cultural Insights, or Sankofa's, which had a full house for their Sunday open mic night. MC's Emotion Brown and Gno kept the crowd hype with jokes and the question and answer session of "give us free." Comedian June Bug was also in the house with his samurai look and kept the audience in



Houston based R&B group Stylz performed their single "Ooh Wee" for the First Friday audience.

Photos by Ché Hill

stitches. If you're into poetry and spoken word this is one of the hot open mic spots. Check them out at 1914 MLK Blvd on Sunday's.



I give the First Friday event four snaps for being live and entertaining. As long as they have live shows and bands then it makes for a good evening out.

Group performances

I give Lunger 3 snaps. He sounds good but we need more energy from him during a live performance. R&B group Stylz gets 4 snaps. They kept the crowd amped and they had good stage presence. Be sure to check them out when the album drops. Sankofa's open mic night gets 4 snaps for keeping it real with original flows and fueling the new millennium renaissance.

CELEBRATE

NOW PLAYING AT A THEATER NEAR YOU

Shaft

Samuel Jackson stars in this remake of the classic motion picture of the 1970s. Jackson plays a New York cop (John Shaft) who must face down criminals and crooked cops alike. Vanessa Williams and Busta Rhymes also star.

Big Mama's House

Martin Lawrence plays a detective who goes undercover as a grandmother to catch a criminal. Also stars Nia Long.

Gone in Sixty Seconds

Nicholas Cage plays a car thief who agrees to one last heist before retiring in order to save his brother's life. The challenge is to steal 50 cars in one night, but another gang is planning to do the same thing.

Road Trip

A college student accidentally mails his girlfriend a tape of his womanizing escapades and he and a group of friends set out on a trip across country to both the mall and retrieve the tape.

M:I-2

Tom Cruise and Ving Rhames return for another Mission Impossible movie. This time Thandie Newton stars as the dangerous criminal.



Celine Dion announces pregnancy

Pop star Celine Dion announced that she was indeed pregnant after two surgeries to improve her fertility chances. Dion is taking a three-year sabbatical from her career to have a child. She gave her final performance December 31 in Montreal.

Andy Griffith

recovers from surgery

Actor Andy Griffith, 74, is recovering at home in North Carolina from open-heart surgery after he underwent a quadruple bypass. Doctors anticipate a full recovery and have not yet said whether Griffith's surgery was the result of a heart attack. Griffith is best known for his role as the sheriff of Mayberry and as TV lawyer Ben Matlock.

Men arrested in NY assaults

Police have arrested six men in relation to the terrorizing and sexual abuse of nearly three dozen women in New York's Central Park. About 50 men were in the mob that brutalized and groped the thirty-two women after the annual Puerto Rican Day parade along Fifth Avenue. Two of the women have filed a \$10 million lawsuit against the city.

SPOTLIGHT

Stroganoff family collections displayed at Kimball exhibit



One of the pieces in the Stroganoff collection includes Malachite Coupe, designed by Andrei Voronikhin.

For the first time, the finest treasures of the celebrated Stroganoffs, one of imperial Russia's wealthiest and most influential families, are traveling to the United States from their home in St. Petersburg, Russia. The Stroganoff collection spans five centuries of art patronage and collecting with renowned art collections that were rivaled only by the holdings of Russian czars. Stroganoff: The Palace and Collections of a Russian Noble Family will be on view at the Kimball Art Museum from July 2 through October 1, with over 230 pieces on exhibit. The exhibition also explores a great range of art styles and cultures that engaged the Stroganoff family's interest as discriminating collectors: Greek and Roman antiquities; late-antique silver from the Sasanian dynasty; and Chinese decorative arts, including a rare alter set of cloisonné enamel from the 18th century.

A series of free public lectures by distinguished guest scholars will examine the art and architecture patronized by the Stroganoff family. For more information call 817-332-8451, or visit the website at www.kimballart.org.

SPOTLIGHT

Concert to benefit breast cancer research

The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, The Women's Chorus of Dallas, and the Turtle Creek Chorale have partnered to commission a new Symphonic Song Cycle to usher in the new century with healing and hope for a cure for breast cancer. There will be world premier performances of Sing for the Cure and A Proclamation of Hope. The evening will be accompanied by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. Presented by the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center. For more information call 214-526-3214.



Poet Maya Angelou will be one of the featured guests at the Sing for the Cure performance benefiting breast cancer research.

Events

June 16 - July 23

Dallas Children's Theater and Mervyn's California present the musical "The Surprising Story of the Three Little Pigs" at El Centro College Theater, Main and Market Streets, downtown Dallas. For more information and tickets call 214-978-0110.

June 17

IMAX Theatre at the Science Place, Fair Park, presents its new summer film "Island Adventure" daily at 2:00 p.m. The movie was filmed in La Reunion, Hawaii and France. For more information and tickets call 214-428-5555.

June 18

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters present "One Mo' Time for Old Times' Sake", a celebrity trunk show and brunch from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Attendees will have the opportunity to purchase items donated by celebrities.

June 20 - 25

Casa Manana presents Red, White & Tuna at the Nancy Lee & Perry R. Bass Performance Hall. For more information and tickets call 817-332-2272. The production is based on the Tuna trilogy by Jaston Williams, Joe Sears and Ed Howard.

June 22

The Dallas Symphony Orchestra and the Dallas Symphony Chorus present "Christmas in June" at the Meyerson Symphony Center. Performance begins at 8:00 p.m. with Christmastime festivities starting at 7:00 p.m. Maestros will be Andrew Litton and David Davidson. For more information call 214-692-0203.

Jubilee Theatre celebrates its 19th birthday with a party at the Renaissance Worthington Hotel, Ft. Worth, from 7:00 pm. To 10:00 p.m. The theme for the evening is "Gypsies, Tramps and Thieves". For more information call 817-338-4204.

June 23 - July 1

GRIOT Productions presents the Jamaican comedy "Strictly Matrimony" at the Black Academy of Arts & Letters, in the Dallas Convention Center, 650 S. Griffin, Dallas. For more information call 972-354-2520.

Movie Review

Film depicts true story of weather disaster

On Halloween of 1991, the shrieks and screams of fierce winds sent warnings that a vicious storm was on the way. Wolfgang Petersen directs and produces, with Paul Weinstein and Gail Katz, "The Perfect Storm," an epic drama based on Sebastian Junger's best-selling book, starring George Clooney, Mark Wahlberg, Diane Lane, William Fichtner, Karen Allen, Allen Payne and Bob Gunton with Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio and John C. Reilly. This film is based on the true story of courageous men and women who risk their lives each day, pitting their fishing boats and rescue vessels against the capricious forces of nature.

Their worst fears are realized at sea on Halloween of 1991, when they are confronted by three raging weather fronts, which unexpectedly bump into each other produce the fiercest storm in modern history- the perfect storm.

Billy Tyne (Clooney) and Bobby Shattford (Wahlberg) are joined on a trip by Dale "Murph" Murphy (John C. Reilly), a seasoned crewmember trying to support his estranged wife and child; Alfred Pierre (Allen Payne), a free-spirited Jamaican who has a way with women; Bugsy (John Hawkes), a friendly local who just wants someone to come home to; and last minute replacement Sully (William Fichtner), who shares a volatile relationship with Murph.

Tyne is convinced that he can change his run of bad luck by going beyond the normal reach of New England fishing boats to the Flemish Cap, a remote area for its rich fishing prospects. Once out at sea he hears about the storm building offshore. Unlike Greenlaw, who determines to play it safe, Tyne thinks he can beat the storm back to

Gloucester, taking a big catch with him. This attempt is to see that his crew does not go away empty-handed on this last trip of the season.

What is out of the ordinary is the disturbing weather pattern that emerges once their boat, the Andrea Gail is out to sea.



Mark Wahlberg and George Clooney star in the Warner Bros. Pictures film "The Perfect Storm", based on the true story of the vicious sea storm of 1991.

Local weatherman Todd Gross (Chris McDonald) reports that the storm begins with Hurricane Grace, a powerful southern storm front heading up the Atlantic. Grace is on a collision course with two other weather fronts that are rapidly gathering strength. When the three meet there will be a storm more terrifying than anyone has imagined. It will come to be called "The No-Name Storm" or "The Halloween Storm".

The crew of the Andrea Gail never receives a warning.

While the Andrea Gail and other vessels caught at sea struggle to make their way back to shore, another set of personnel carriers are following a course directly into the storm. These are courageous Air Force and Coast Guard airplane, helicopter and cutter rescue teams who are fully and frighteningly aware of what they are up against.

"The Perfect Storm" opens Friday, June 30.

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"RIGHT ON!"

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Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE

"Shaft" delivers! The **REBIRTH OF COOL.**
Todd Bantz, MTV

"Shaft" is the **"MUST-SEE"** movie of the summer!
Kimberly C. Roberts, PHILADELPHIA TRIBUNE

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AIN'T IT COOL NEWS

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See Tracy Byrd at Lone Star Park.



(Singing. Not Running.)



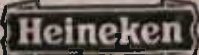
Tracy Byrd Performs at the Miller Lite "True to Texas" Concert Series Saturday Night.

Friday, June 16

Grandstand Gates Open—5:00 p.m.

First Race—7:05 p.m.

"Party at the Park" 7:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m.
with Tutu Jones & the Texas Crew
on the Heineken Stage
in the Courtyard of Champions
92.5 KZPS "Doubles Derby"



Saturday, June 17

Grandstand Gates Open—11:30 a.m.

First Race—1:35 p.m.

Miller Lite/KZPS Taste of Texas Barbecue Festival

12:30 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.

In the Courtyard of Champions

\$250,000 Dallas Turf Cup

KSCS/Miller Lite Concert Series - Tracy Byrd

30 minutes after the last race

Free with \$3 general admission



Sunday, June 18

Grandstand Gates Open - 11:30 a.m.

First Race - 1:35 p.m.

Sunday Brunch

In Silks Dining Terraces - \$18.95*

*Does not include admission or reservations.



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The Wellness Diary

Preacher's weight loss program a success with dieters

By Delmetria L. Millener

Summer is almost here. In stores, clothing racks are packed with colorful swimsuits, workout facilities are crowded and diet supplements are quickly disappearing from store shelves. But how can you quickly shed those last few pounds gained during winter in order to fit into one of those nice suits—without having side effects or developing health risks associated with some diet programs?

Your problems may be over. One weight loss system may be able to naturally alleviate weight problems. Named for the creator of the system, Reverend Charles E. Thompson, CET Products evolved when Thompson grew weary of commercial gurus, promoting ineffective and short-term weight loss systems. "I had heard of 'Jenny Craig' and 'Nutri-System' and how they ripped people off," he says. So the idea to promote an effective, inexpensive method began to take form.

Developed by the minister in 1989, CET Products are designed to not only assist with losing weight, but to teach nutritional maintenance for a healthier lifestyle without the use of gimmicks, hidden costs, prepackaged meals or counseling fees. According to Thompson, by using CET Products, "you can eat whatever you want. You are not dieting," he said. "You're cutting back and learning how to eat."

Starting out, Thompson did not have a master plan to promote his product, but his faith in God assured him God would be his greatest sponsor and business partner. This committed partnership is what Thompson attributes to the success of his product and business. "I asked God to be my partner," he said. "I didn't have any way to market or anyone to help. I asked God to show me the way." With God's help, Thompson works hard to promote his products, run his business and shows genuine concern for the well being of his clients.

Although Thompson's company is based in Dallas, CET Products are sold nationwide to help

people lose weight safely and effectively. "I couldn't even begin to answer an exact number of people using the product," says Thompson. "We have people all over and it's usually by referrals or word-of-mouth," he added.

CET is an all-natural, herbal formula that has powerful ingredients that promote weight loss. His clients have a 95 percent success rate with weight loss efforts. Thompson believes that the other 5 percent who fail are those who do not follow the plan. To be successful, clients have to drink plenty of water, be at least mildly active and eat according to instructions.

The system also calls for taking a natural, dietary supplement before breakfast, another before lunch and an alternate supplement before bedtime. The supplements are called Daytime Formula, which is designed to mainly curb the appetite during the day, and the latter is called Nighttime Formula, which helps the body burn fat, aids digestion and helps to calm the body, promoting sleep.

There is also a nutritional powdered drink supplement to speed up weight loss. The fruit drink powder is equipped with vitamins and protein and comes in a variety of flavors and are easy to prepare. There is however, one draw back with the liquids. "Some people have trouble with the fruit drinks," says Thompson. "However, most are still able to effectively take the pills without using the drink supplement. The drinks just help you lose weight faster."

A detailed instructional guide is included to insure adherence to the plan. Clients who have successfully used CET Products are eager to report their progress to Thompson. "We've helped some people weighing 400 pounds and up," he reported. But amazingly, Thompson's clients return with successful weight loss stories and they give him excellent reports about their overall health having dramatically changed while using his products! His clients have reported that use of the product helps menopause,

aging, allergies, cholesterol, heartburn, gas and stomach pains, which according to Thompson is a result of the natural ingredients used in manufacturing the product.

To date, other than mild diarrhea from those who cannot tolerate the liquid formula, there have been no known health risks reported. In fact, according to Thompson, the FDA approves CET being sold over the-counter and not as a prescription—unlike many other weight loss systems in tablet form. The FDA does require Thompson's clients to consult with their physicians prior to use. "Every doctor around knows about us," says Thompson.

Thompson's products are different from most other weight loss programs, because you do not diet (which Thompson does not advocate), you simply learn how to eat healthier.

With CET, clients can stop the plan whenever they desire without the fear of regaining lost pounds because they have learned to eat better. Therefore, the mind and body will appreciate and crave healthier foods. "If you keep eating like I've told you to eat, you won't regain the weight, and that's the plus side of the system," says Thompson. "People get off anytime they get ready and gain only about 5 pounds back—which is usually just water. We hear that all the time. The energy factor is also important to us because this one product supplies all the energy your body needs that many have to obtain from taking several supplements."

CET Products are not advertised or sold in stores and the reputation grew by chance. "I called a radio station and the lady there tried my product, and in two weeks this 41-year old lady had lost 14 pounds," he said. From that point on, Thompson's only means of advertising have come by radio announcements and word-of-mouth. Currently, CET commercials are aired on FM stations, KKDA, KTXQ, KRBV, KHVN, and AM's KGGR.

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- Depressed or sad mood
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- Changes in weight or appetite
- Difficulty concentrating

If you have experienced these symptoms more than once in your life, are drug free and not currently in psychiatric treatment, please call the Psychosocial Research and Depression Clinic at 214-648-5351.

SOUTHWESTERN

Reverend Sheron Patterson preaches practical solutions

By Trina George

Rev. Sheron Covington Patterson. The minister. The author. The pioneer. The woman. This Dallasite is well known for her blatant honesty and simplistic, practical solutions to some of the most troubled male/female relationships. Coupled with her unfaltering desire to do God's will and a genuine love and concern for all, Reverend Patterson continues to shine a bright light of hope on those in despair and to chisel distinct pathways for those without direction.

Born an only child, Patterson wants to help those in need. She credits her parents for providing a stable, loving environment that allowed her to appreciate life, which gave her the desire to help others.

In 1989, Patterson, became the first African-American woman ordained as a deacon and elder in the North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church. She was born and raised in the Methodist Church and had no plans of becoming a minister. "I was a student at Spelman (College) majoring in communications and journalism," says Patterson. "And after working on a class project in cinematography with a friend of mine who attended Morehouse, I was sure that I was on my way to study film in California after Spelman. My friend planned to go to film school in New York, and we vowed we would become these big time filmmakers and make a lot of money."

However, Patterson says, God had other plans for her. In the second semester of her senior year at Spelman, she received a call to the ministry. "So, needless to say, I didn't become this huge filmmaker."

She answered the call and went on to become the senior pastor of Jubilee United Methodist Church. What happened to her friend? "Well," reflects Patterson, "my friend did go to film school in New York and is a well-known director, now. My friend's



Rev. Sheron Patterson (left) and Rev. Adrian Drake (right) co-host the radio show "Inspirations Across the Metroplex" each Sunday morning on KRNB.

Photo by Lott's Photography

name is Spike Lee."

Though Patterson did not attend film school or

create characters that are hard to forget on the silver screen, she does write scripts, so to speak, in her never-ending work with relationships. Because of her pioneering efforts, individuals nationwide have learned to rewrite their real-life scripts as it relates to their personal relationships. Patterson founded The Love Clinic, which seeks to heal male/female relationships by discussing issues such as communication, commitment, communion and love. Patterson says she was with a stable, loving home. She learned about harmony and love in the household from her parents' example. However, she noticed in the community, dating practices had gone awry, there was little harmony in the home and love was missing. "Most of us would look at someone in an unpleasant relationship and say, 'Oh, that's too bad.' But I believe that 'Unto whom much is given, much is expected.' I was provided with the type of love so many people long for and I decided to give back and share what had been given to me."

The Love Clinic's roots sprung out of the singles ministry Patterson started while at St. Luke United Methodist Church. "I was single at the time and I wanted to make the church a more hospitable place for singles," says Patterson. "Of course, there was some initial opposition because of the incorrect images some people had about single men and women in fellowship." Through Patterson's efforts to heal and seal healthy relationships, singles' ministries are in almost every church of every denomination.

Patterson recognizes that the need to heal, main-

...continued on page 21

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...continued from page 21

tain and create healthy relationships is not just in the adult community. "It's never too early to teach a child about relationships," says Patterson. "We want to tap into those children and teen-agers who are leaders in their communities, schools and churches." Jubilee United Methodist Church is providing training to children ages 8-12 and 13-16 in The Love Clinic Youth Leadership Summer Camp. The camp consists of Bible-based training that builds on the existing leadership skills of the children to further equip, educate and elevate them to change their church, school and community for the better.

And if pasturing a church, heading up the Love Clinic and The Love Clinic Youth Leadership Summer Camp, is not enough to fill up three-fourths of a day, Reverend Patterson has a weekly radio show, is a renowned author, counsels individuals and is active in the community.

Patterson considers the weekly radio show on 105.7 FM, KRNB, to be a blessing from God. "KRNB actually approached me with the opportunity and I accepted." The show, "Inspirations across the Metroplex", airs every Sunday from 6:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. The show is a contemporary gospel music and talk show dealing with Christianity, relationships and other issues. Rev. Adrian Drake is Patterson's co-host. Patterson says the most appealing fact about the radio show is that not all of the listeners are Christian. "Christian folk can sometimes get so locked into being with and talking with other Christians that they forget the unsaved," says Rev. Patterson. "Christ said he'll 'be all things to all people.' And we have an opportunity to minister to the non-Christian and impact their lives."

Reverend Drake respectfully applauds Reverend Patterson. "Sharon is an awesome minister and person. Her teachings are biblically sound, but practical. She can still be heavenly and maintain earthly qualities."

Drake likens Reverend Patterson to some powerful women in African-American history, such as Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth. "History tells us that these outstanding women were submerged in hard work for the good of mankind. I believe Sharon, with the

Love Clinic and her poignant books, to be one of our century's greatest women. She maintains a modern Underground Railroad freeing people from all walks of life from unhealthy relationships."

"And we must not forget that in all the demands placed on a pastor such as scheduling, ministering and appearances," says Drake. "Sharon is an awesome mother and wife. She carools and is active in her children's school and still finds private, quality time to spend with her children and her husband. And to add to all that, Sharon is funny and just a joy to be around."

Reverend Patterson has written several books including, *The Single Woman's 10 Step Guide to Power*, *365 Meditation for Mothers of Young Children*, *The Love Clinic: Is There a Doctor in the House*, and her most recent endeavor, *New Faith: The Black Christian Woman's Guide to Revival, Renewal and Reformation, Recreation and Resurrection*. "My latest book takes a new look at the scriptures," shares Patterson. "Jesus did not call us to take crap from anyone. We are daughters of the King. The problem is that we have been taught incorrect meanings of the Scripture. And this book is a 112-page attempt to correct that."

In addition to pastoral duties, Patterson provides relationship counseling. "We as a people are still nervous about seeking counseling and therapy, when in fact, a lot of people need to get on someone's therapeutic couch and address those issues that prohibit them from fostering and maintaining healthy male/female relationships."

Reverend Patterson is very active in the community and affiliated with several Metroplex organizations. She is a board member at Greenhill School, where her children are students, and Charlton Methodist Hospital. She is a member of the Dallas Summit, a racially diverse group of 75 women. She's a member of Jack and Jill of America and is a charter founder of the Beta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta.

While it is evident that Patterson leads a very busy life and carries quite a load, she's not yet ready to slow down or stop. She will

continue to ensure that anyone who walks through the doors of Jubilee United Methodist Church feels the love and warmth that is present. Plans to extend the Love Clinic are under way. Patterson wants to utilize other forms of media and present the Love Clinic in other arenas such as Black colleges. She envisions that the Internet magazine, *TLCMag.com* will continue to grow and inspire people and at some point be the one-stop place for individuals who want to be in healthy relationships.

Patterson says the mission of the United Methodist Church is "to make disciples of Jesus Christ by proclaiming the good news of God's grace and thus seeking the fulfillment of God's reign and realm in the world." In alignment with the church's mission, Patterson concludes, "I am going to keep making advances in the area of relationships and single ministries. I will continue to be obedient to God."

DART News

DART UPDATES

Zoological

Now you can ride DART Rail to the Dallas Zoo and see all the critters for half price. On Mondays and Tuesdays through February 2001, receive 50% off adult or child admission to the Zoo with a valid same-day DART rail ticket or DART pass. One discount per pass. Call 214-670-5656 for details.

DART to Olympic Wrestling Gold

Don't let traffic get a half-Nelson on you. Save parking fees and escape traffic jams by riding DART rail to Union Station for the 2000 Olympic Wrestling Team Trails at Reunion Arena, June 22-24. The \$99 Coca Cola Family Night Package, June 24 only, buys you four tickets, four dogs and four cokes. Bring a camera and pose on the gold medal podium. Call 214-373-8000.

Do your share for clean air

Riding DART is the environmentally-friendly thing to do — especially in summer when harmful pollutants can saturate the air we breathe. DART has joined with the North Texas Clean Air Coalition, the Fort Worth Transit Authority (The T), TXU and WFAA Channel 8 to increase ozone awareness. As ozone levels fluctuate, warnings are issued utilizing the EPA's color coding: green for no restrictions — yellow, orange, red and purple, respectively, to indicate moderate to very unhealthy ozone levels. On these days, citizens should ride DART and delay mowing and filling gas tanks.

NEW AND IMPROVED SERVICE

Express Bus extends to International Airport

Express Bus Route 202 to the North Irving Transit Center now extends to Terminals A and E at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport. Between these destinations, the fare is \$1. From downtown Dallas, the fare is \$2.

New downtown Trolley-Bus route

A new, more frequent weekday north/south downtown Dallas Trolley-Bus shuttle (Route 706) complements rail service, connecting the Convention Center and St. Paul Stations with The Crescent. Stops include Nieman Marcus, City Hall and the Arts District. The shuttle will run every 10 minutes during rush hours and every 15 minutes midday, weekdays only.

Improved service to East Plano

Bus Route 511 from Park Lane Station to Richardson to Plano now has more frequent midday, runs and extended Plano service during peak periods.

For more information on DART Service Improvements call DART Customer Information at 214-979-1111 or visit our website at www.DART.org



We'll Take You There

DCCCD administrator promoted to educational director

By Lakeesha Joe

Dr. Corina Gardea, who spearheaded the community outreach initiatives for Dallas Community College District's Rising Star Scholarship program, has been promoted to executive director of Educational Partnership for the Dallas County Community College District (DCCCD).

"Rising Star would not have been the success it is without Dr. Gardea's excellent leadership as the director of the program," said Betheny Reid, executive director of the DCCCD Foundation.

Gardea was formerly Vice President of Community Outreach at Mountain View College for 9 years. She has also served as an administrator



Dr. Corina Gardea

at Cedar Valley and Richland colleges. Gardea is a native of the El Paso area and has resided in Dallas for 14 years. She received her bachelor's degree from Texas Women's University and her master's and Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin.

"My new job officially started in March," said Gardea. "I'm very excited about the position." In her new position, Gardea will continue to oversee the Rising Star program in addition to being responsible for community development, educational partnership with business and industry and alliances with K-12 and university systems.

...continued on page 28

Around The Town

On-going

Miracle on Wheels is making available Power Wheelchairs to non-ambulatory Senior Citizens at no out-of-pocket expense for those who qualify. For more information call 1-800-749-8778 or visit www.durablemedical.com.

The New York Poetry Alliance is sponsoring Poetry 2000, a free contest open to everyone. The deadline for entering is July 3, 2000. For more information e-mail Dr. John Cusack at john@mighy.net.

The Brady Center, 4009 Elm Street, Dallas, is sponsoring an Older Adult Program for people 60 years and older, each week day. For more information call Ella Talavera at 214-826-8330.

Castle Peak Hospice is seeking volunteers to participate in the team care of terminally ill Hospice patients. For an application or more information, call Tom Files at 972-285-3713.

The Ms. Black Texas State Scholarship Pageant sponsors are taking application for contestants. The pageant is open to ages 0-26. For more information or an application call Mrs. Lynch at 972-291-9454.

June 15

Ft. Worth Citizens Concerned with Human Dignity are holding a "Five Day Juneteenth Extravaganza" at the Ft. Worth Convention Center June 15-19 including a parade, 5K run, job fair, prayer breakfast, and other events. For more information call Opal Lee at 817-335-1866.

June 16

The Plano Community Forum will hold its 3rd annual MLK Golf Classic at Plantation Golf Course, 4701 Plantation Lane, Frisco, TX. The tournament begins at 8:30 a.m. For more information call Jimmy Dismuke at 972-260-4208.

Charles S. Moffett, co-chairman of Impressionist, modern, and contemporary art, will deliver a special evening lecture at the Kimball Art Museum at 7:00 p.m. For more information call 817-332-8451.

The Women's Council of Dallas County is holding a Champagne Tea featuring author Bertice Berry from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Baron House, 5950 Deloache, Dallas. For more information or to purchase tickets call 972-308-8454.

June 17

West Dallas Neighborhood Development Corporation (WDNDC) is holding a homebuyer's forum from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the corporation's offices, 2907 N. Hampton Rd., Dallas, in the conference room. For more information and to register call 214-688-1596.

June 18

Shirley and Milton Pace and the Bass Performance Hall will present A Gospel Extravaganza at 2:00 p.m. following and awards ceremony at 1:00 p.m. as the conclusion of Ft. Worth's Annual Juneteenth Celebration. Tickets are available at no cost by calling 817-335-1866.

June 19

The Exchange Club Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse of DFW, Inc. (EXCAP) is holding an orientation to its Parent Aide Program 6:30-8:30 p.m. at its offices, 2820 Swiss Avenue, Dallas. For more information call 214-370-9810.

New Mt. Zion Baptist Church, 9550 Shepherd Rd., Dallas, is holding its Vacation Bible School June 19-23 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. For more information call 214-341-6459.

June 21

Southern Dallas Development Fund, Inc., Dallas Business Finance Corporation and the Texas Mezzanine Fund, Inc. will host and annual gala from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at the Infomart, 1950 Stemmons Freeway. For more information call 214-428-7332.

June 22

The world's greatest wrestlers convene for the 2000 U.S. Olympic Team Wrestling Trials at the Reunion Arena June 22-24. For information or tickets call 1-800-752-2332 or 214-571-1352.

The Dallas Urban League will hold its Annual Career Expo at the Dallas Grand Hotel, 1914 Commerce St., downtown, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more information call DUL at 214-914-4600. Prior to the event a resume-writing workshop will be held at the Dallas Urban League Office, 4315 S. Lancaster Rd. For a date and time of the workshop call Yvonne Young at 214-915-4682.

June 24

Fair Park is hosting the annual "A Weekend in Fair Park" June 24-25 with the institutions open during regular hours.

Each institution of Fair Park will host special attractions and events with reduced or free admissions. For more information call Liz Bleiberg at 214-428-5555, ext. 308.

GRIOT Productions will be holding an open call audition at the Black Academy of Arts & Letters, 650 Griffin Street, Dallas Convention Center from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The audition is for the upcoming production of "Climbing: Changes". For more information call Dee Dee Gibson-Moreland at 972-520-5111 or Linus Lynell at 972-354-2520 ext. 9349.

June 25

Child-Grandparent Access, Inc. and Texas Fathers for Equal Rights will hold its next meeting at 2:00 p.m. at Texas Land & Cattle Steak House, 2009 E. Copeland, Arlington. Associate judge Diane Haddock will be the featured speaker. For more information call Alexandra Fincher at 972-394-6896 or Gloria White at 972-372-6931.

June 26

The Minority Business Development Council (MBDC) is holding seminars and networking sessions for minority owned businesses across the metroplex at the Arlington Convention Center, 1200 Ballpark Way, Arlington. For more information call 214-630-0747.

KZPS 92.5 Classic Rock is sponsoring their second annual blood drive in conjunction with Carter BloodCare June 26-July 2 at The Stars Club, south side of Reunion Arena and The Ramada Plaza Hotel, Commerce and Main Streets, downtown Ft. Worth.

Beginners Missionary Baptist Church, 3610 Hancock St., Dallas, is holding their Vacation Bible School June 26-30 from 6:00-9:00 p.m.

June 27-July 2

The Washington-Lincoln Alumni Association of Dallas, Inc. will host its 24th annual Convention at the Crowne-Plza Dallas, LBJ & Coit. For more information call Myrtle Salone at 214-352-5682.

June 29

The National Association of Health Services Executives, Dallas/Ft. Worth Chapter is holding a general body meeting at Methodist Medical Center, Hitt Auditorium, 1441 N. Beckley Ave, Dallas. For more information or to RSVP call Kate Thummel at 214-947-2508.

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**John
Dudley**

Tax-Deferred Annuities and Your Retirement

Investment planning for a secure retirement involves many difficult decisions. Should I invest in stocks or bonds? Do I have enough money to retire? Will I run out of money because of inflation and rising healthcare costs?

Investors want their retirement income to keep up with the rising cost of living. They also need to minimize taxes. This article discusses an investment that can help you grow your money and control taxes: tax-deferred variable annuities.

Tax-deferred annuities are similar to IRAs in that all taxes on capital gains, dividends and interest are deferred until money is withdrawn at retirement. This tax-deferred growth can make an enormous difference. Over a 20-year period, a \$100,000 investment growing at 10 percent annually will grow to \$672,750 in a tax-deferred account—versus \$365,838 in an investment taxed at 33 percent, and only \$320,713 for an investor in a potential 40 percent marginal tax bracket. The higher tax rates rise, the more valuable tax-deferral becomes.

Variable annuities have been increasingly popular over the past two years because of interest rates for CDs and money-market funds. In addition to attractive returns, variable annuities include features such as:

- Multiple fund options. Choices can include stock, bond and balanced funds, and even international stock and bond funds. Changes in the investment mix can be made with a phone call. Within a single variable annuity, changes can be made with no cost and no tax—for maximum flexibility to respond to changing market conditions.

- Top-notch money managers. Fund managers available through annuities include Wellington Management, Capital Research (American Funds), Fidelity Investments, Van Kampen Merritt, MFS and Roger Engeman Management (Pasadena Funds).

- Dollar-cost averaging. This proven investment method allows you to commit a sum of money to a fund in equal installments over time, so you're buying more shares when the price is low and fewer when the price is high. Your insurance company will move your money into the fund(s) of your choice over 12 months.

- Guaranteed death benefit. When the owner dies, the beneficiary receives the account value or the invested amount—whichever is greater—less any withdrawals.

- Systematic withdrawals. In retirement, you can automatically withdraw income—monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually. The amount can be increased or decreased, depending on your needs. Taxes are paid on income withdrawn—not on what is earned. If the growth in the annuity is greater than the income distributed, the excess continues to grow tax deferred.

The minimum investment in a variable annuity is typically \$1,500 or more. There is no maximum contribution—and no sales charge unless you withdraw your money within the first six or seven years of the program.

Invest in Your Future

If you're thinking ahead and have money set aside for retirement, consider investing in a variable annuity. It can deliver a combination of growth, safety and tax control that you can't find elsewhere.

For more information on a particular variable annuity—including investment results, fees and a prospectus—talk with your financial consultant.

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

First Union Securities does not provide legal or tax advice. Be sure to consult with your own tax and legal advisors before taking any action that would have tax consequences.

Annuity products are available through insurance companies and may not be available in all states. Investors considering any annuity should request its prospectus. The prospectus contains complete information, including charges and expenses. Please read it carefully before investing or sending money. Because of the special tax treatment for annuities, the federal government does impose a 10 percent excise tax, in addition to ordinary income tax, on withdrawals prior to age 59 1/2 as in an IRA.

Economist predicts financial futures

By James Hart

(NNPA)—Gracefully you climb out of your Pearl Black, 600 SL Mercedes Benz. You are stylishly dressed, wearing an exquisite Cartier watch and \$500 Italian loafers. You pause and admire the white belden brick, mature landscaping and trees outside of your beautiful, custom-built home. You can taste the salt in your tears of joy.

As you gently open your wood-grained double-door, family and friends greet you in a gorgeous, octagon-shaped room. Each one is amazed by your success. Their love, hugs and kisses are as warm as sand under your bare feet on a beach in San Tropez. You excuse yourself and go upstairs and down the marble foyer into your master bedroom, which includes: two full baths, Jacuzzi, and a marble onyx fireplace. Slowly you undress and gaze through your large picture window. You are absolutely hypnotized by a spectacular, majestic sunset and mesmerizing ocean view. With money in businesses, banks, and brokerage houses, you feel as lucky as a Las Vegas casino owner.

Incredible? Indeed. Impossible? Not at all. You can achieve fabulous comfort and enjoy the wonderful toys that come with it. Perhaps you will soon reign among America's newest millionaires. Conversely, maybe you need more knowledge. After all, it is written that my people perish for a lack of knowledge. Knowledge, wisdom and vision are needed. You agree? Good. Then read on, and discover a secret most millionaires know and understand.

First, complete this sentence: In three years I want to achieve _____. Second, list two major obstacles and two financial weaknesses you have to overcome to be successful. Briefly describe your future if you don't resolve all four of your concerns. Third, answer the following questions:

- Are you paying double-digit interest rates on any credit/charge card(s), loan(s), or a mortgage? If so, the interest expense alone is costing you a thousand to several thousand dollars a year. What are you doing about it?

- Do you have a retirement plan?

And, do you know exactly how your money is invested? What real control (if any) do you have over it? Have you set-up a financial legacy for your children's children?

- Most millionaires have seven or more sources of income. How many sources do you have? What is your (monthly) percentage of debt to net income? Financially speaking, are you worth more dead than alive?

- Can you define inflation? Real assets? Liabilities? A balance sheet? Since knowledge is the currency of the information (age) economy, how much is your knowledge about making money worth? Based on your financial knowledge and track record, should you continue as your own financial advisor?

A Season for Everything

A circle of light is upon you. You are either as uncertain about your financial future as a man preparing to catch a nuclear missile between his teeth, or confident and secure as Microsoft's Bill Gates. And truthfully, based on the way you responded to the previous questions, you and I both can predict your financial future with the accuracy of a Bible prophet.

To financially change your life, examine your three-year goal. Analyze your obstacles, weaknesses and the consequences. Finally, reflect on all of your answers to the previous questions, and take action now!

And for more information on this subject, send for the free report entitled, **ECOKNOWLEDGE®: Financial Power to Change Your Life®**. C.E.I.T at (213) 427-0020. A prudent man sees danger and takes refuge, but the simple keep going and suffer for it. —Proverbs

Note: The survey you completed was created by behavioral psychologists and given to 100 people; all of whom were struggling financially. The group's progress was then carefully monitored.

...continued on page 30

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Betsey Brown

By Ntozake Shange

(St. Martin's Press, \$8.95, paperback)

By Delmetria L. Millener

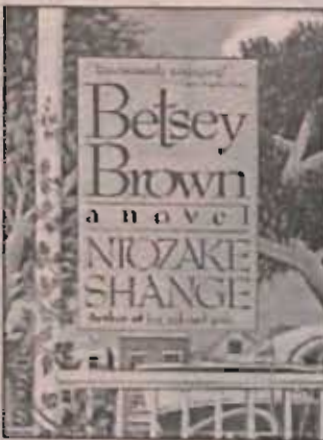
The novel, *Betsey Brown*, by famed author and poet, Ntozake Shange, is a refreshing story. The author of *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enfu* has struck gold with this beautifully penned novel. Filled with scenes of nostalgia that will leave you breathless, the story will have you craving the days and times of your childhood and memories gone past.

During an "Indian summer" in a colored neighborhood in St. Louis, the author tells a dramatically intense story of a young, thirteen-year-old Betsey Brown caught in the transition of sweet childhood fantasies and bittersweet romance and political changes that adulthood reluctantly welcomes. The time clings to the skirt-tail of 1959, while change reluctantly introduces integration into society.

That year, 1959, was also a time when Betsey Brown began noticing changes about herself, and in other people around her. She recognized warm feelings that engulfed her body when Eugene came around, and she noticed how independence crept into her soul and forced her to take responsibility for her actions.

This time brought about confusion for little Betsey both personally and socially. Since no one really understood the changes or why they had to be made, Betsey had to rely on experience to pull her through it.

Page after page, Shange lyrically pulls her readers into the warmth of the beautiful, Victorian house that the Browns call home. Readers will smell the aroma of the meals Grandma prepares each morning as she sends Betsey and her siblings off to school. And unlike many children of today, Shange's readers will respect the authority of the children's father, Greer Brown, appreciate the femininity of the children's mother, Jane Brown. They will marvel at the reminiscence of the childhood games of



old.

While reading Shange's story, readers will see the shops and black-owned businesses the author tells about, and hear the laughter of the adults and children. But Shange's readers will also feel hot tears from the cries of a race being snatched into unfamiliar space, and cringe at the tragedy of all that had to happen for our society to become racially equal.

An outstanding storyteller, Shange weaves her readers through the complex maze of Betsey's very intriguing and innocent life. She paints portraits of real characters, familiar to us from our own memories.



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TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

Temporary employment agencies needed. If your company can provide service in Austin, Houston, Irving or San Antonio, we'd like to hear from you. Please submit a detailed company history for consideration.

Please respond in writing to:

Minority Development Coordinator

Texas Lottery - GT P.O. Box 16630 Austin, TX 78761-6630

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Rules and Regulations

1. Lady like characteristic(s) are expected - (I.E. - poise, outgoing personality, and self confident).
2. Dress in a professional (tasteful) manner.
3. Be responsible,Be on Time.
4. Must be able to attend all rehearsals.

CALL (817) 355-5004

TO SCHEDULE YOUR AUDITION/ INTERVIEW

...continued from page 22

"In this position, I want to develop internships and employment opportunities for Rising Star recipients," said Gardea. "I also want to promote information available about scholarships because it doesn't get disseminated. People make the assumption that everyone knows that thousands of scholarships are available."

Because of the work that Gardea has done in the Southern Dallas County High Schools, lack of applicants for scholarships will no longer be a problem.

In its first year of existence, the Rising Star Scholarship program granted 693 full two-year full scholarships to southern Dallas County high school students who had graduated in the top 40 percent of their class and had financial need. Eighty-eight percent of those students were minorities and more than 80 percent were the first in their family to attend college. The Rising Star program is funded by a \$32 million endowment. Over 1,000 students have already applied for Rising Star Scholarships this year.

A Rising Star Scholarship will pay the tuition, fees and books for a two-year DCCCD education. The scholarship can be applied to academic, technical or trade programs. It can also be used to pay for training at DCCCD's Bill J. Priest Institute for Economic Development.

During the next two years, Gardea and the DCCCD foundation will be raising funds for a \$30 million endowment to ensure that every eligible Dallas County high school graduate with financial need who wants to earn a two-year college degree at one of DCCCD's seven colleges can also earn a scholarship.

The DCCCD Foundation is a non-profit organization that was created in 1973 to enhance achievement and excellence in DCCCD by providing student scholarships, supporting the professional development of faculty and staff and fostering innovation in the DCCCD. In its first years, the DCCCD Foundation built its assets from an initial gift of \$12,000 to more than \$6 million, while disbursing more than \$15 million in scholarships and grants to thousands of students and professionals.

The Dallas County College District is a comprehensive two-year system with seven campuses that include Brookhaven, Cedar Valley, Eastfield, El Central, Mountain View, North Lake, and Richland colleges. The district also operates the Priest Institute for Economic Development, a job training and business services center, and the R. Jan LeCroy Center for Educational Telecommunications which provides distance learning products and services to educational institutions, business and industry and individuals worldwide.

Make time for yourself Earn your UNT degree in Dallas



Even though work and other responsibilities keep you busy, now is the time to accomplish your education goals. Taking courses at the University of North Texas System Center at Dallas is easier than you think.

Many classes are offered in the evenings or on weekends, so you can attend school after work or on your days off. You can complete your bachelor's degree or earn your master's degree from the University of North Texas. Plus, scholarships for part- and full-time students are available.

Summer II and Fall 2000 terms are starting soon. To talk to someone about enrolling in courses, making your degree plan, or applying for financial aid and scholarships, call (972) 228-8100 or attend a special registration session.

**Summer II
registration session**
Tuesday, June 27, 2:30-7 p.m.
UNT System Center at Dallas

**Fall
registration session**
Thursday, Aug. 17, 2:30-7 p.m.
UNT System Center at Dallas

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management
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development
Rehabilitation studies
(minor in chemical
dependency and
addiction studies)

Graduate programs

Information science
Library science

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resolution certificate
Diversity certificate
Information processing
technology teaching
endorsement
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certificate

New programs beginning Fall 2000

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PAGE 2/20 (00-2000)

Department of Health awards Paul Quinn innovation grant

Paul Quinn College, the Texas Department of Health (TDH) along with the support of State Rep. Helen Giddings (D-Dallas), a member of the House appropriations committee, presented a \$500,000 grant award to Paul Quinn to improve public health "outcomes at the community level, using innovations that can be replicated throughout Texas.

Paul Quinn College will use the grant award to study the root causes of intentional injuries among minority youth. This study will develop a perspective, which will provide a better understanding of the incidence of youth violence that currently exists in the minds of public health officials and the general public. The research study is designed to develop the understanding of violence and the role it plays in behavior patterns in the black male youth. The study will examine patterns of behaviors, peer pressures and identity problems that plague African-American youth.

African-Americans make up 12 percent of the Texas population and 19 percent of the Dallas population. However, according to the 1990 Census, the black male life expectancy rate is 65 years of age-much shorter than black females at age 74, white males at age 73; white females at

age 80. In Texas in 1996, homicide was the second leading cause of death among 15 to 24 year olds. African-Americans had the highest homicide rate at 19.6%.

In the attempt to prevent violence, using a public health approach, researchers have attempted to examine correlations between the incidence of youth violence and various psychological and social factors that underlie the victimization.

"This study is very significant in addressing just one of the health issues affecting African-Americans," says Dr. Iose E. Monroe, president of Paul Quinn College. "The study is part of the continuing effort of Paul Quinn to serve and provide the necessary research data that will facilitate substantive changes in the communities we live," said Dr. Monroe.

Funding for this project was created by the 76th Texas Legislature through House Bill 1676 from tobacco settlement funds. State Rep. Giddings was significant in ensuring these funds would be used to bring about improvements in health status that are demonstrable or measurable at the community level.

"This grant is not only timely but appropriate in light of all the recent and not so distant acts of

youth violence that have impacted us all," said Giddings. The research that Paul Quinn performs will benefit Texas and the entire nation as we seek to gain a better understanding of what various psychological and social factors underlie these acts of victimization. Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUS) are a tremendous resource in seeking solutions to urban problems. Unfortunately, HBCU's are seldom tapped."

Out of an applicant pool of 300, the TDH announced the Innovations Grants Awards (Permanent Fund for Children and Public Health) to 43 selected applicants. Total requests totaled almost \$60 million, compared to the \$8.4 million available as reported by TDH.

Paul Quinn College is the state's oldest HBCU west of the Mississippi River founded in 1872 and is one of 39 member institutions of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF). The college is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools and the Texas Education Agency. For additional information, please view the web page at www.pqc.edu or call the office of Public Affairs at 214-302-3579.

Congrats!!



Minority Opportunity News Chairman Emeritus, Jim Bochum poses with scholarship recipient Janell Gray. Gray received the scholarship during a ceremony at St. Luke Community UMC. MON has pledged \$10,000 over the next five years to endow a scholarship for seniors within St. Luke's congregation.

Photo by Wallace Faggett

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Get Real ... Fast!

 Texas State Technical College

...continued from page 13

Dallas, Texas. Despite his long list of hit records, he remains perhaps the most underrated recording artist of all time.

Another legendary that left her mark on the music industry was Josephine Baker. She faced many obstacles because to the color of her skin, but did not let discrimination hinder her success.

Baker's life began far from the glitz and glamour of show business. She was born in the slums of St. Louis and grew up sleeping in cardboard shelters. She left her parents' home at 13 and became a waitress, and soon married her first of four husbands, Willie Wells. After a divorce she joined the Jones Family Band and had her stage debut at Booker T. Washington Theater in St. Louis. By 18 she had been discov-

ered in New York and was performing with several troupes Paris.

It was in Paris when her transformation began. Baker was an entertainer and dancer known for her striking ebony features and cross eyed face she made. Baker toured Europe, during the early 1930s, recorded songs for Columbia Records and starred in two films "Zou-Zou" and "Princesse Tam-Tam".

Later she left France to search for her fame in the United States. However, American audiences were not ready for an African-American woman with such grace and presence.


She returned to Europe and engaged in undercover work for the French Resistance during World War II and became sub-lieutenant in

the Women's Auxiliary of French Air Force.

Baker was also a civil rights activist. Refusing to perform for segregated audiences and integrated the Las Vegas nightclubs. Baker adopted twelve children from around the world and referred to the children as her "Rainbow Tribe."

Baker died in her sleep in 1975, after a large party given in her honor.

Many African-American entertainers have faced battles to live their dream pave the way for others. Unfortunately, several of them are no longer here to see the results of their labor. Nevertheless, their spirit and legacy continues with the success of each new artist.

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Atlanta	68		
Dallas	58		
Houston	58	11810 Preston Road Dallas, Tx 75230 972.239.4028	
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...continued from page 24

Seventy-three percent of the group's participants positively addressed every aspect of the survey, and experienced a meteoric rise to wealth and financial security. Fifteen percent showed dramatic improvement and achieved middle-class status; and lastly, 12 percent continued as they were and showed no improvement. James Hart is chief economist at Credit Suisse Acceptance Trust, and a sponsor of: From the Plantation to Prosperity* Contest ... The sur-Thrivor series*. No entry fee required. For more information, (310) 289-2212.

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

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE CONTRACT (S)

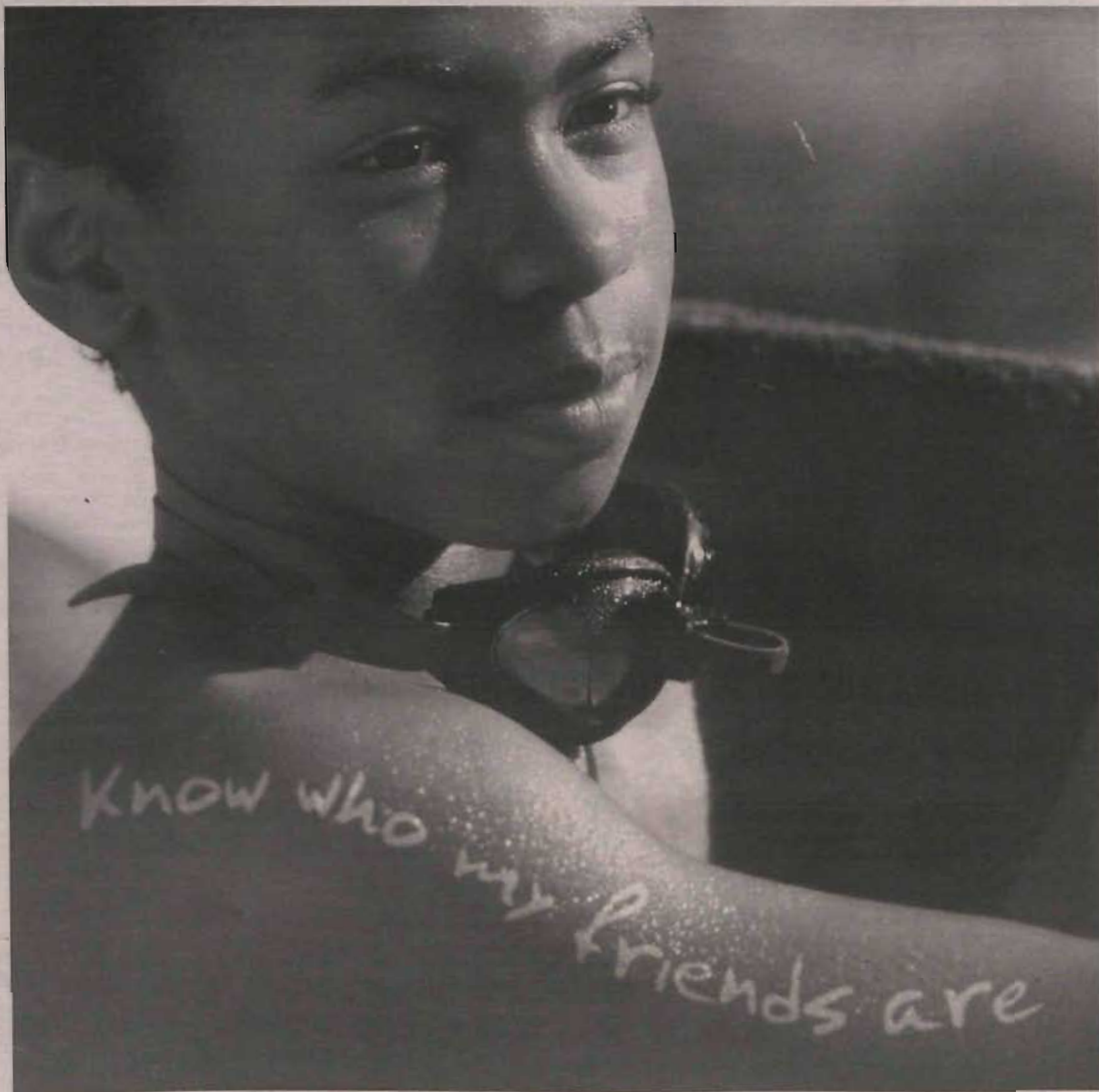
District: Dallas
 Contract 0196-03-209 for INCIDENT, DETECTION AND RESPONSE SYSTEM in DALLAS County will be opened on July 12, 2000 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.
 Contract 2374-01-123 for RESTRIPIING AND REPLACING MBGF TERMINALS WITH SGT in DALLAS County will be opened on July 11, 2000 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.
 Contract 2964-01-025 for FULL DEPTH CONCRETE REPAIR IN DALLAS County will be opened on July 11, 2000 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.
 Contract 3000-01-006 for WIDEN EXISTING 4 LANES TO 6 LANES in DALLAS County will be opened on July 12, 2000 at 1:00pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or District 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 at reproduction companies in Austin, Texas at the expense of the contractor.

State Office
 Construction Division
 200 E. Riverside Dr.
 Austin, TX 78704

District Office(s)
 Dallas District
 District Engineer
 4777 E. Hwy 80
 Mesquite, Texas 75150
 Phone: 214-320-6100

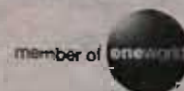
Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.



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Office of National Drug Control Policy
Partnership for a Drug-Free Texas and America

For information or assistance, call:
Greater Dallas Council on
Alcohol and Drug Abuse
214-522-8600



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