



VOLUME 1, NUMBER 6

2730 STEMMONS FRWY • 1100 TOWER WEST • DALLAS, TEXAS 75207

JUNE 1992

Townsell Tackles DFW Issue



"The Bishop Five" - page 9



Frank Wise - Page 13



Mrs. Jackie Townsell being sworn in by Mayor Bobby J. Rapper - page 8



Joseph J. Rhoads - Dr. Roscoe Smith, Principal - page 9

THURMAN JONES Publisher

Must Adhere to Protocol

African American Leaders

Recently, Al Lipscomb called fora public rally in support of the recent not guilty verdict found on behalf of Commissioner John Wiley Price. This rally, held at the offices of the Dallas County District Attorney Mr. John Vance, was initially intentioned to be both a celebration of the verdict as well as a call for an increased focus on justice and the rights of individuals in the minority community. For sometime, there have been a substantial base of concerns regarding the methods and issues of selective prosecution on behalf of the district attorney's office. There have been those who have suggested an intentionally racist attempt to single out our community leaders, most notably Commissioner Price. This rally then would have been an effort to acknowledge the concerns regarding the district attorney and called for a renewed agenda to improve the execution of justice in Dallas.

Α particularly interesting phenomenon did occur as related to the whole rally. As I am sure that many of you watched, the local media covered the rally and events surrounding it in some considerable detail on the evening news. Not only were there very visible signs of anger and frustration on the part of those individuals participating in the rally, but the point was made by Councilman Lipscomb that a meeting would need to be held with District Attorney Vance to address the concerns of the community. Mr. Lipscomb took a leadership role in initiating the rally with the support of the Black State Employees Association of Texas headed by Dr. Darien Reagan.

During the rally, there apparently were a number of discussions between rally participants and staff members of the district attorney's office. Councilman Lipscomb requested on behalf of the group for a meeting with Mr. Vance. After several requests, Mr. Lipscomb was apparently informed that Mr. Vance was not in the office and therefore no meeting could be scheduled at that time.

I go through this background to really get at the heart of my concern with the events that transpired shortly after the rally. Specifically, I would remind you that Mr. Lipscomb was the leader underlying the initiative to approach Mr. Vance for the meeting regarding community issues. When it was apparent that no meeting was to take place during the rally, Mr. Lipscomb had further requested that he be contacted to schedule a meeting with Mr. Vance as soon as possible.

Publisher continued to page 11

IN THE NEWS . . .

<u>C.A.R.E. Fair '92</u>

Advancement The Career Renewal Employment (C.A.R.E.) Fair '92 will be held June 4-5 in the Dallas Market Hall, 2100 Stemmons at Market Street in Dallas. Times for the fair are 11:00 am - 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm on both days. Admission is free for all that attend. The emphasis of this event will be to balance companies' full-time staffing needs with contract, outsourcing and part-time employment needs. Corporations will be seeking full, part-time contract and support personnel and outsourcing services and consultants. The fair is sponsored by the National Technical Association, National Association of Telecommunication Professionals in partnership with the Greater Dallas Chamber of Commerce. For more information, call 214 741-5434. * - #

Volleyball & Basketball Tourney

LPS, Inc. presents its 1st annual volleyball and basketball tournaments on Saturday, June 27, from 11:00 am - 6:00 pm at the West Plano Athletic Club, 6300 A Independence Parkway; Plano, Texas 75023. The entry fee is canned meat items and new clothing items, both to benefit Saint Phillips Episcopal School and Community Center and the Emergency Assistance Center of South Dallas. To gain admittance, you must bring a canned meat item or a new clothing item. There will be a reception to follow, from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm. RSVP through Lee's Personnel Service, Inc.-Linda Jackson at 214 343-3223.

* * *

Social Development Forum

The Southern Dallas Development Corporation, City of Dallas and the Bill J. Priest Institute for Economic Development invite you to a Southern Dallas Community Economic Development Forum on Saturday, June 13, 1992. Registration and continental breakfast is from 9:00 am - 9:30 am and the program is from 9:30 am - 12 noon. Featured speakers on the topic of Housing and Economic Development are: Louis Planning SDDC Salcedo, and Committee; Barbara Development Cassell, Enterprise Foundation; John Fullinwider, Common Ground; Bennett Traditional Development Miller. Company; Lester Nevels, Oak Cliff Development Corporation and Darren Reagan, Black State Employees Association. There will be free covered parking in Bill J. Priest Garage, Gould Street entrance. RSVP your attendance to: 428-7332.

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St. Luke Youth Leaders Reception The St. Luke Youth Parents Committee cordially invites you to attend a reception in recognition of the St. Luke youth leaders. The reception will be held Saturday, June 6, 1992 from 7:00 pm -10:00 pm at Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. 308 South Akard (3 Bell Plaza) 12th floor auditorium. There is no cost to attend, however an RSVP is necessary. Please RSVP with Shirley Black at 214 330-0078 (recorder).

National Black Chamber of Commerce Conference

The Fort Worth Metropolitan Black Chamber of Commerce invites you to attend the National Black Chamber of Commerce 5th Annual Conference on June 17 - 21, 1992 at the Worthington Hotel in Fort Worth. For more information, call 817 531-8510. For vendor booth information, contact Wyntress Ware at 817 293-3318.

·*·* * * *

B.S.E.A.T. Activities

The B.S.E.A.T. Annual Job Fair will be held Saturday, June 6 at the Redbird Recreation Center, 5150 Mark Trail Way in Dallas from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm.

The B.S.E.A.T. Legal Fund Inc., a subsidiary of the B.S.E.A.T. Inc. is here to provide free legal assistance/referral service. Potential Foundation Funding coming in June. For more information on either of these services, call 214 371-7710.

Small Business Seminar

Texas Commerce Bank, Texas Christian University's Charles Tandy American Enterprise Center and area chambers of commerce will sponsor a one day seminar with tips on management and finance for small business operators. "Financing and Managing Small Business" will meet from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm June 4 at Fort Worth's Holiday Inn-North, 2540 Meacham Blvd. Registration is \$25 for members of area chambers of commerce, the fee for non-chamber members \$35. is Reservations are available by calling Mary Richey at 817 469-3101.

Carlo Pezzimenti Performs

Internationally acclaimed classical guitarist Carlo Pezzimenti will perform a free concert performance at the South Dallas Cultural Center on Saturday, June 6, 1992 from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Pezzimenti holds faculty positions at the University of Texas at Dallas, Texas Womens University and Brookhaven College. The South Dallas Cultural Center is located across from the Fair Park Starplex at 3400 South Fitzhugh. For more information, call 670-0314. African Extravaganza Dance

The Brothers of Alpha Iota Iota chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated would like to invite you to share in the festivities of its "African Extravaganza Dance" benefitting the Alpha Iota Iota Foundation Scholarship Fund. The Extravaganza will be held Saturday, June 13, 1992 from 8:00 pm -2:00 am at the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza, Midway Rd. At LBJ (I-635) Frwy in Dallas. The cost is \$30 per person or \$300 per table (10 people/table). Live music will be provided by the Network Band. There will also be a fashion show and a presentation by the African Dance Troupe. A full course dinner will be served and there will be a cash bar. Vendor booths are \$30. Souvenir Booklet Ads are also available. African oriented attire is encouraged but not mandatory. Contact Bro. Ashford at 767-7930 or any member of Alpha Iota Iota Chapter.

Freedom Awards Banquet

The Dallas County Whiterock, NAACP is holding it's Ninth Annual Freedom Awards Banquet on June 6, 1992 at 7:00 pm at the LeBaron Hotel in Dallas. The keynote speaker for this event is Dr. Leonard Jeffries, former chairman of African Studies at City College of New York. Donations are \$25 per person. For ticket information, call 235-5826 or 307-1031.

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Dallas Minority Business Development Breakfast

The Minority Business Development Agency will host the Dallas Minority Business Development Breakfast on June 18, 1992 from 7:00 am - 8:00 am at the Clarion Hotel located on the corner of Mockingbird and I-35. The breakfast will allow minority entrepreneurs the opportunity to network with major public and private buyers and purchasers of goods and services. For more

In the news continued on page 3

MINORITY OPPORTUNITY NEWS				
(214) 905-094	4 (214) 905-0949			
PUBLISHER	EDITOR-IN-CHIEF			
Thurman R. Jones	Jim Bochum			
Business Editor Staff Writer				
Staff Writer	Cherita Montgomery			
Staff Writer	Angela Racacomo			
Staff Writer				
Salco				
Sales.				
Photographer	Dorryl R. Barace			
Typescier				
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Minority Opportunity News



TEXAS ACADEMIC SKILLS PROGRAM

Part 1 By Juanita Austin

The Texas Academic Skills Program (TASP) is an instructional program designed to ensure that students attending public institutions of higher learning in Texas and students entering teacher preparation programs in Texas have the necessary academic skills to perform effectively in college-level work.

Students lacking proficiency in an academic area are required to participate in remedial activities. TASP includes a testing component designed to provide information about the reading. mathematics and writing skills of students entering public colleges, universities, and teacher preparation programs in public institutions.

Prior to receiving an associate degree or certain certificates from a two-year college or taking upper level courses beyond 60 hours at a four-year college, students must pass all three sections of TASP. In the reading section of TASP, approximately 40 multiple choice items are asked about written passages. The passages are taken or adapted from college-level reading passages. The mathematic section consists of approximately 40 multiple choice items and the writing section consists of a writing sample assignment to which the examinees construct a response as well as approximately 40 multiple choice items associated with written passages. Students are allowed four hours to complete all three sections of the test.

Community colleges traditionally a comprehensive array of offer the developmental courses. Among various levels of offerings are reading, writing, developmental mathematics, English as a second language, and study skills courses. These courses incorporate all the sub-skills included in TASP as well as other college survival skills. To determine if developmental courses are needed, community colleges offer assessments in the three skill areas and will place students in the appropriate level course.

Part II of this column will discuss strategies for passing the TASP.

Juanita Austin, Dean of Developmental Education at Collin County Community College.

information, contact Mr. Raymond Cervantes of the Dallas Regional Office at 214 767-8001.

Herb Williams All-Star Basketball Camp

Dallas Maverick Veteran Power Forward Herb Williams will be hosting the second annual "Herb Williams All-Star Basketball Camp" sponsored by American Airlines, Mt. Valley Water, Academy, Lexington 100.3 JAMZ/KHVN, Gatorade and IDS Transportation. The camp is for boys and girls ages 7-17 and will be held July 13-17 in Dallas and July 25 in Ft. Worth. The Dallas Location is the Downtown Dallas Roper Street in Dallas. Auditions will be YMCA, 601 N. Akard and the Fort Worth June 13, 20 and 27th at 11:00 am - 2:00

In the news continued from page 2 location is the Downtown Ft. Worth pm. Auditions will also be held at Willie YMCA, 512 Lamar. Cost of the week camp will help establish the "All-Star Scholarship Foundation" to benefit youth in the Dallas/Ft.Worth Metroplex. Applications may be requested by calling 214 867-1223. They should be returned to 1900 Preston Road #267, Suite 108 Plano, Tx 75093. Interviews with Herb may be scheduled by calling Rick Williams at 214 867-1223.

Allstars Talent Show Network

The Allstars Talent Show Network will be auditioning in the month of June at the K.B. Polk Recreation Center at 6801

B. Johnson Recreation Center, 12225 long camp is \$100 and the one day clinic Willowdell in Dallas. Auditions will be in Ft., Worth is \$35. Proceeds from the held June 22 and 29th from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm.

Juneteenth Scholarship Pageant

The official Third Annual Miss Juneteenth Scholarship Beauty Pageant will be held Saturday, June 13 at 7:30 pm at the Hilltop Inn on North Central Expressway and Mockingbird Lane in Dallas. Admission is \$15 and all contributions are tax deductible. For information, call 214 827-4100.

June 2, 1950 US Supreme court outlawed segreation of dining cars in interstate transportation



Segar Page 3

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Minority Opportunity News



RANDY LUSTER **Business Editor**

BUILD BLACK PEOPLE, BUILD

The secret to the Sphinx is that our people did this and we can do this again. Build Black People, Build.

Our ancestors were architects, scientists, and engineers of the highest order. Build Black People, Build.

We can and must reshape our living spaces and places, improve them and beautify them, striving to always leave them more advanced than when arrived.

We need to leave behind a thousand more Great Pyramids with mathematical precision to the inch.

It is a slave-a-ration to suggest that we have trouble with numbers and science. Remember the ancients, our ancestors taught Phthagoras and Plato. We never thought the world was flat, nor were we ever afraid to fall off.

This is not racial flattery, it is simple facts of life and history. Our heritage includes a structure whose base measure the years, whose corners points the compass, whose insides hold secrets yet untold.

As the saying goes "Out of Africa, always something new." Build Black People, Build. You are Africa and the world needs US to be - Something New! Author Unknown

I believe this poem expresses what is required of us. We have identified our problems, the causes of those problems, and our collective goal, but one of the most important questions has been over looked. Where is the plan?

> **Carillon Tower West** (Preston @ Alpha)

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Dallas, TX 75240

(214) 387-2244

Suite 309-W

I here politicians calling meetings, and out of that meeting special task forces are assigned to address this and that concern. These task forces identify the cause, but there is little to no corrective action plan nor a strategy for implementation. It is sad that twenty plus years has passed since the uprising in the sixties and the same problems that were identified then as causes, can be attributed to the recent Los Angeles riots. This should tell us something.

As politicians continue to identify the same old problem, derive the same old causes, and implement the same old solutions - Rhetoric, History will definitely repeat itself. Meetings are fine and talk is cheap. Meetings need to occur, but nothing new ever comes out of them! The problems that were the impetus for the first people continue to remain in that same old economically depressed state with a different flair.

As the poet states, "Build Black People, Build. You are Africa and the world needs us to be something new!" How can we be something new when all we do is meet? What should be the result of these meetings? Do you have a plan, if so call me at 214-492-8724.



From the Editor's Desk

Opportunity News Minority wishes to correct the perception that we are a "free" newspaper. MON is not a free publication. Like any new business trying to establish itself, we are doing this by distributing complimentary copies. Our

supscription patrons grow with each passing month.

Let me take this "opportunity" to invite you to subscribe to MON. An annual subscription fee is \$15 (coupon page 15). For those who cannot afford a subscription, complimentary copies will continue to be distributed at the churches listed on page 16 of this issue. In addition, we invite your letters telling us what you like or dislike about MON. Your comments will enable us to be more responsive to the community.

So please, think of us as your opportunity to access the community. We encourage you to support the businesses that have taken ads out in MON and keep the dollars flowing and the jobs growing in OUR community.



DALLAS URBAN LEAGUE PAVES WAY for JOBSEEKERS

Interview by Jim Bochum - Editor in Chief

Story by Rosalyn Hill

The Dallas Urban League Institute for Minority Males began as the brainchild of Louis Sullivan. It was to be an initiative program for ininority men to combat unemployment, underemployment, health risks, low self esteem and hopelessness. Continuing in that tradition, Eric Anderson, Project Director and Marvin Jones, Employment Specialist, and leaders of the institute, have focused on training and inspiring groups of Dallas men who have long since given up on the system.



Eric Anderson

Marvin Jones

"Our target group is perhaps one of the most interesting and unique parts about the program," said Anderson. "We've accepted the challenge to forward and enable minority males from ages 17-35."

Anderson contends that most self help programs are catered to the younger people. Seemingly, because modification of behavior is easier at a younger age. Sadly, many people have written off African American men at that age. "No one want to deal with them, the institutions have failed these men." said Anderson.

However, the institute has discovered the hidden talent that is lost in minority males in this age group. During a four month period of training, the men learn the basics about restarting their lives and begin on the path of opportunity and productivity. The men are trained in five basic areas: self esteem and self health education. empowerment, academics and job readiness. Instead of the idea of just going out and getting a job, the institute tries to instill in the minds of men the idea entrepreneurship and taking control of their lives. After the training months, the men are assigned a mentor which is perhaps the prime aspect of the program.



Vincent Parker, instructor and IMM students.

'It's one thing to get information, but it's another to see it lived out in other men's lives," said Anderson. He also explained, Before we became such a transient society, we had those mentors at home (fathers and grandfathers). However, now there is a lack of male role models (especially for African American men). I think one of the biggest ways to make an impact in the community is to take a man and teach him how to be a man, so then he can go back and lead his family. You've not only impacted him, but you've influenced an entire family - then subsequently the community."

The institute is a federally funded program, stemming from the office of Minority Health and Human Services. According to Anderson, it was found that men in this age range (17-35) in Dallas have high health risks. Collaborating with the Dallas Urban League in the prospering of the institute is: Parkland Hospital, COPC, the YMCA, AAMES American Males: (African An Endangered Species) and Paul Quinn College. The institute also works with the Private Industry Council (PIC) by funnelling people to them after they've completed the program. Graduates are also referred to positions offered by the city.

The significance of Paul Quinn College's involvement with the institution stems from its atmosphere. For some men, it is their first time in a college environment. According to Anderson, the men are getting the exposure of a college environment and a learning environment all at once. The atmosphere is also conducive because the men are among their peers. Other men with the same problems and same concerns. So far, the institution has had one graduate enroll in Paul Quinn College and others become perspective college students.

"We deal with men who've virtually given up on life but who have a lot of potential," said Anderson. "During our pre-assessment of applicants, we found men whose education level was higher than a lot of peoples. They have the skills and the creativity (for self-empowerment).

The program works because it allows the Dallas Urban League, without government intervention, to create a program where they (Dallas Urban League) devise interference strategies to salvage this target population. It is found that programs such as the institution interact better with the men and are better able to find out what their needs and desires are. Thereby helping them find better and effective solutions.

The institute is available for all minority men. Their approach is to send these men back in today's society. "We want to develop that kind of net worth with men who want to make some sort of contribution to the community . . . " said Anderson.

The men in the institute are from all backgrounds, are talented and gifted, and are looking for something to belong to. Most learn of the program through

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agencies, probations departments, churches and intervention programs. The institution intervenes so that hopefully, the men will not stay in that cycle of chemical dependency. "We need to mature, educate and come together in this community," said Anderson.

"We've always tried to help men individually empower themselves to serve their full impact as American citizens." said Jones,

"That's what makes our program different," said Anderson, "we've identified groups and we're attempting to meet their specific needs." So far, the institution has done just that.

For more information on enrollment in the Dallas Urban League Institute for Minority Males, contact Eric Anderson or Marvin Jones at 214-376-0396.



Inoratulation

Dr. Zan W. Holmes

Autographing new book

Holmes, Jr. on your election to the

Judicial Council (The Supreme Court of

United Methodism).

Congratulations to Dr. Zan W.

Dr. Holmes is the author of a

SCLC FORGES COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

By Agaitha S. Richardson

THE STRUGGLES IS NOT OVER, captivates the essence of the SCLC (Southern Christian Leadership Conference). African-Americans have fought hard and long to obtain the rights set forth in the Bill of Rights. The recent election for governor in Louisiana is an example of how a racist campaign can achieve legitimacy.

Under the presidency of Rev. Hank Wilkins, Dallas chapter of the SCLC, emerges as a viable organization that seeks to eradicate racism, poverty and violence in our society. The SCLC was founded by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1957. The national president is Dr. Joseph E. Lowery of Atlanta, GA.

SCLC developed a non-violent frame of mind described in the six principles of non-violence and six steps for non-violent social change. The six principles of non-violence are: 1) agape 2) beloved community 3) civil disobedience 4) creative synthesis %) creative tension and 6) direct action. The six steps for non-violent social change are 1) information gathering 2) education 3) personal commitment 4) negotiations 5) direct action and 6) reconciliation.



Problems from the 50's and 60's remain today. We now have the right to vote, but have not registered, we now

have the right to live on the other side of town; but not the means. The SCLC in Dallas will implement a direct action program to build self-help in Dallas. The program's objective is to weed out drug infestation and seed in new opportunities, such as developing positive self-esteem and employment positions. The program is sponsored by the U.S. Justice Department.

Prior to this program, SCLC assisted in the de-railment of DART's proposal that excluded African-American contractors. "We played an organizing role contacting other organizations, DART staff and city council members," explained Wilkins. "Out of that meeting," he continued," came a unity of spirit and a mandate to take whatever action necessary to stop this slap in the face to minorities."

Currently, the DART board has a \$1.5 million proposal to assist minority contractors to be bonded to do business with DART. SCLC's watchful eye is on DART.

In addition, Rev. Wilkins emphasized SCLC's stance on the Rodney King verdict. "The beating of Rodney King was deplorable and unacceptable use of excessive force by the L.A. police. The verdict is an example of the insensitivity of a lot of people in this nation, who are not members of a minority group, and have not experienced violence at the hands of police. They fail to recognize how devastating that can be on a minority."

However, SCLC was saddened by the violence that erupted after the verdict. "I think the fever that happened in L.A. and that spread across the country is still on people's minds. My hope is that White America becomes more synthesized to African-American communities, and that positive and serious action be taken to eliminate racism in the U.S."

"The church must take a

pro-active role in the community to help people deal with the various issues," expressed Wilkins. Today church folk should be concerned with not only its members, but the community at large. The leadership of pastors will be crucial to making this effective. Gone are the days when Black pastors can show up and preach on Sunday and not shop up again until next Sunday. A message of voting and education must also be heard from the pulpit, then the preachers must come out of the pulpit and come to council meetings, DART meetings, and become enlightened to community events. Finally, Wilkins pointed out that in his unsuccessful bid for city council, it became necessary to put self-interest aside and work with that person who did win the election.



When one enters Rev. Wilkins' pastoral office at Highland Hills, the first thing you notice are the numerous plaques and certificates of recognition on the walls. These instruments come from governors of various states as well as the mayor of Dallas. Rev. Wilkins received his masters degree from St. Paul School of Divinity in Kansas City, MO. He and his wife Phyllis have two sons, Hank V and Wesley Edward, ages 10 and 5. On June 17, he will begin his appointment as pastor of the Holy Covenant United Methodist Church in Carrollton. The Rev. Derrick Wright from the New Horizon

Methodist Church of DeSoto will be appointed to Highland Hills Methodist Church.

Rev. Wilkins stressed that this new appointment would not change his active role in the community. He also extended an invitation to any person looking for a community based organization, where everybody is somebody, to become a member of the SCLC. For more information on the SCLC, you may call 214-225-1096.



Left to Right - Daughters Felicia Taylor, Shelisa Taylor and Dr. Marvin Edward, DISD Superintendant

DISD HONORS CAROLYN BOCHUM 1949-1989

J.L. Long Middle School, one of the original 10 School-Centered Education sites, has designated a special room to be used in a variety of activities designed to support and enhance the instructional program. As part of its SCE plan, the Long Staff Development Subcommittee has created a center which contains periodicals, research information, curriculum, and multicultural materials in a site where parents and teachers can work together in development and training activities.

Since May 12, 1992, the school-community family has called the facility the Carolyn Bochum Research and Development center in honor of a teacher who worked at Long for 17 years. The late Mrs. Bochum was a language arts teacher who started the Y-Teens Program at Long and was beloved by all who came in contact with her.



RED OAK BANK : WORKING *WITH* THE COMMUNITY

By Margaret Brooks

Turning a failing institution into a thriving and solvent business establishment is becoming a specialty at The Red Oak State Bank.

In mid-1987, the newly formed ROSB Bancorp, Inc., led by the former chairman and chief executive officer Ken Ward, was awarded the bid on the failing Red Oak State Bank, which was renamed The Red Oak State Bank.

Then, in 1988, the same corporation acquired Guaranty Bank in Oak Cliff, renaming it The Red Oak State Bank - Dallas location. Somewhere in between the two acquisitions came the opening of the Ennis location of The Red Oak State Bank.

All deposits of Guaranty were acquired by The Red Oak State Bank, thus there was no loss suffered by depositors. Takeover from Guaranty came swiftly and easily, without interrupting business at all, attested Jerry Burnett who is now Chairman and CEO of all three locations. A banker for 24 years, 21 in Oak Cliff, Burnett was top officer at Allied Bank, now First Interstate, before joining Red Oak Bank.



Billie Story (standing) and Margaret Brooks (seated).

"We're extremely happy with our future outlook," says Burnett. "The Oak Cliff location is excellent - right in the middle of the area, easily accessible with plenty of parking space. We offer a more personal banking service for people, helping them with their personal and business banking needs.We are strong financially and proud of our involvement

MEET DALLAS' FINEST

By Sonia Jordan

You have not met Dallas' finest until you meet Mrs. DeLois Thomas, affectionately called "DeDe" at the Police Academy where she works as a Defensive Tactics Instructor.

The Longview native has been a peace officer for close to 16 years. But, the uniform alone does not make her Dallas' finest. Check out the physique. The lady is also a body builder.

After seeing her first body building contest in 1986, Mrs. Thomas decided that bodybuilding was something that she wanted to do and within a month she picked up her first barbell and was well on her way.

In 1987, Mrs. Thomas won first place in the Texas World's Gym Bodybuilding Middleweight Class. First Overall in the Southwest America Novice and First Middleweight/First Overall in the North Texas Bodybuilding Championship.



Mrs. Thomas is also a wife and mother. She has a lovely 11 year old daughter named Jacqueline Ledbetter who spends a lot of time at the gym with her mom. Is she thinking about following in her mother's bodybuilding footsteps (or should I say triceps)? Hmmm, maybe.

The loving husband and devoted personal trainer to the "Iron Lady" is Mr. Alton Thomas, a Dallas firefighter, who deserves a lot of the credit for helping Mrs. Thomas win those championships.

In 1993, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas plan on entering as a couple in the Police and Fire Games to be held in Colorado Springs, Co where she will compete to keep her title as World Game Champion in that competition.

In her office at the Academy, the walls are covered with various certificates of merit and training. These certificates signify the hard work she has done as a member of the law enforcement profession. Then you notice the beautiful black and gold license plate with tiny barbells on it. A gift from her husband and personal trainer.

Mrs. Thomas is definitely one of Dallas' finest. Shy, sincere, intelligent, and most important of all - DRUG FREE. Good luck "Iron Lady" in your future competitions.

in the Oak Cliff community."

Bank services at The Red Oak State Bank include: individual and commercial accounts, NOW accounts, IMPACT automated teller machines and access to a senior citizen program.

Open to persons 55 or older, The Gold Plus account members pay a nominal service charge, have no minimum balance, can have direct deposits, notary services, photocopying and cashier checks and/or money orders free, also travelers checks and safety paper checks.

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Mrs. DeLois Thomas

In addition, senior customers deal with the same personnel each time they visit the bank and qualify to attend special events and trips organized by the bank.

Lobby hours at the bank are from 9 am - 3 pm Monday - Thursday, 9 am -6 pm Friday. Drive-in lanes are open from 9 am - 7 pm Monday - Thursday, 9 am -7:30 pm Friday, and 9 am - 1:00 pm Saturday.



June 1992

Despite the low percentages of African American women in upper level banking, Margaret G. Brooks has worked her way up to Assistant Vice President/Loan Officer at The Red Oak State Bank, Dallas Branch.

She was referred to the bank through the network system of Urban Bankers of Dallas. Don Jackson, Chief Operations Officer at Red Oak Bank (formerly known as Guaranty Bank) pretty much created a position in the accounting department to get her in the door. She started her career with the bank in September 1984. From there, Brooks moved to teller supervisor and then to her present position.



Ms. Margaret G. Brooks

As a loan officer, Brooks assists customers in acquiring personal, automobile, new business and consolidation loans. Since 1989, there has been a noticeable decline in the demand for loans, Brooks said. Because of the economy, people are not borrowing. She said the money is available, but the economy is too unstable and potential loan candidates are not borrowing.

Ms. Brooks started her banking career in Washington, D.C. over twenty years ago. One of the advantages she enjoys is working with the public and doing for others.

In addition to regular banking services, Red Oak Bank donates on a regular basis to various organizations and churches. It has also adopted Lisbon Elementary School.

Jerry Burnett, Chairman of Red Oak Bank said, "We offer a more personal Brooks continued on page 11



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IRVING CITY COUNCIL WOMAN MAKES COMMUNITY CHANGES

By Angela Ransome

The sign on the building reads "Townsell Grocery," after all these years.

Jackie Townsell, who owns the store with her husband, Jimmy, says they feel somewhat like "a bird out of a cage," since the store stopped selling groceries six years ago. But like the West Irving community that surrounds Townsell Grocery, Townsell herself, is used to change - but not at all passive about it.

When she's not cooking and serving food at Townsell Grocery, the restaurant, Jackie Townsell is serving on the Irving city council as the first and only African American in the history of Irving, to be elected to a council seat. The way she got into the restaurant business, she says, is the same way she got into politics - somewhat by accident.

"The way the cooking part of the grocery store started is when we used to live in the store, I would be cooking stew or something and people would come into the store and ask 'what smells so good' and ask for a taste," Townsell says. "After a while, more and more people would come in because they'd heard about my cooking, so by the time my husband got home, there would be nothing left in the pot." she laughs.

That's when Townsell says she started "adding more to the pot" and selling it. But with the increase of major grocery chains to the Irving area, Townsell, the grocery store was eventually phased out.

Although she didn't enter the political arena until 1977, Townsell says she started out at an early age performing public service work in the community, her church and the Parent-Teacher Association. With encouragement from the local community, she ran and was elected to the Irving City Council in 1977. Since then, there have been no other African Americans to serve in Irving.

It was never a desire of mine to be a public official until the community influenced me, but now that I'm in, I really enjoy doing what I'm doing."



Mrs. Jackie Townsell speaking at the capital (1973).

Currently, Townsell serves as chairperson of the Community Service Committee, and as a member of the Public Works Committee, both by mayoral appointment. In the past, she's held such prestigious positions as Mayor ProTem and Deputy ProTem.

It is not uncommon, at least not for Townsell, to bring her city council work home, no matter how tedious or controversial it may be. One issue she's been struggling with in recent days is the very controversial Dallas/Ft.Worth Airport expansion plan. For the city council, it's a struggle because if affects the city of Irving, but for Townsell it goes deeper - because if affects the Bear Creek community, her home since 1949.

"The thing is, I'm not trying to stop the expansion; I'm just trying to get compensation for the people most affected by it," Townsell explains.

With the 1988 announcement by D/FW Airport officials that the airport would be expanded, several red flags went up. The current expansion plan calls for a 8,000 cubic foot runway where a 5,000 foot runway now lies.

Under this plan, several communities in the Irving area will be affected. One such community is Harrington Heights, which sits just off Valley View Lane. This community will have to be completely uprooted and removed to make room for the expanded runway.

"Sure, they are going to buy the people out who have homes in Harrington Heights, we just want to make sure they give them a fair amount."

"D/FW is going to be taking all of these tax dollars from the Irving tax roll, but who's gonna take up the slack for the city? The airport board doesn't want to do it."

In addition to the plan to remove Harrington Heights, the D/FW Airport Board has what is known as a "mitigation plan," which will pay a 25 percent compensation fee to residents affected by the noise and pollution the expansion will bring. The West Irving community of Pioneer Vallev is the focus of the mitigation program, and this, Townsell says, is where the controversy begins.

"Pioneer Valley is a predominately white community which is right across the street from here (Bear Creek). The airport is willing to pay them over there, but not us over here because they say we don't get the same noise and pollution they do."

"But," Townsell adds, "how can that be when only a fence divides us? This is a problem and this is why I'm taking a position on this issue and standing up for my people."

One plan of action Townsell will take in the upcoming weeks is to file formal complaints with the Justice Department, and with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). In addition, she will send letters out to the Federal Aviation Administration, various congressmen and senators, and even the President of the United States – all in an effort to get the D/FW Airport Board to reconsider the Bear Creek community in its mitigation plan.

"I'm contacting as many federal officials as I can because afterall, the

airport will be utilizing federal funds. I'm trying to reach anyone who I think may be of some help in this cause."

Townsell says the D/FW Airport issue is such an important issue and a personal mission for her not only because Bear Creek is her home, but because the community is so rich in African American culture.

"A lot of people don't know," she says "but this community is over 150 years old and was first settled by freed slaves - before Irving or the airport or anything was here." "In fact, some of the descendants of those

slaves are still living here to this day."

Townsell, herself, moved to the Bear Creek community in 1949 when she was just 10 years old. Now 56, this mother of two and great grandmother says she is taking a stand and making an effort to re-plant some of these roots by building a Black Heritage Park in the community. In fact, the City of Irving has



Mrs. Townsell at the Tom Landry "Christian Breakfast" (1981).

already purchased property and started construction on the park, which will consist of two, donated homes to be restored and placed at the park site.

"The community is very excited. The land has already been leveled and we expect completion of the park by this year - the fall or early winter."

"One of the houses being restored," Townsell adds, "was owned by Josie O. Davis, an old school teacher for whom the school and street were named after. The Green house is the other one, owned by one of the community's settlers, Mr. Green. Both houses were donated by their families."

As far as the airport expansion is concerned, Townsell says, "I'm not sure when the dirt will start flying or what the end result will be, but I plan to do everything I can possibly do to make sure the people of this community get a fair shake."

In the meantime, Townsell will continue to wait; watch and experience change in the West Irving area – change she won't, never-the-less, be passive to.

You can contact Jackie Townsell at 214-790-0207.

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Learning About Lupus by Marsha D. Prophet, Ph.D

Lupus is a chronic inflammatory disease that affects the body's immune system. It causes the immune system to form antibodies that attack healthy tissues, organs, and cells. Over 500,000 people in the United States have lupus, and more than 16,000 Americans develop lupus each year. It is prevalent in African Americans, Asians, and certain Indian tribes, most of whom are women of child bearing age. Lupus is more common than leukemia, muscular dystrophy, cerebral palsy multiple sclerosis, and cystic fibrosis.

Symptoms include depression, Edema/swelling, swollen glands, fatigue, Raynaud's-fingers turning white and/or blue in the cold, chest pains, rashes after exposure to the sun or ultra-violet light, and arthritis of two or more joints. These symptoms resemble a variety of other diseases, therefore, diagnoses through laboratory tests, such as the antinuclear antibody test (ANA), urine tests, and other types of blood tests should be done to detect lupus.

There are three types of lupus; they include Cutaneous Lupus or discoid lupus, Drug Induced Lupus, and Systemic Lupus Erythematosus.

Cultaneous Lupus or discoid lupus affects the skin. It causes a rashlike appearance on the face, neck, scalp or other areas of the skin exposed to ultraviolet light (e.g. sunlight, fluorescent light). Persons with Cutaneous Lupus may experience baldness or permanent scars if the lesions are not treated.

Drug Induced Lupus is the result of certain prescribed drugs that create a lupus-like syndrome. Hydralazine, which is used to treat hypertension and Procainamide, which is used to treat irregular heart rhythms are drugs that commonly cause drug induced lupus. While this type of lupus very rarely affects the kidneys or the nervous system, it mocks the symptoms of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus. Once the medications are stopped, the lupus symptoms no longer exist.

The third type of lupus is Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE). SLE is usually more severe than Cutaneous Lupus because it can cause inflammation of the kidneys, brain, lungs, skin, heart, and joints. For some, this may mean involvement of the skin and joints, while for others it may mean a problem with a combination of the kidneys and lungs. A person with SLE

Lupus continued on page 14

Minority Opportunity News

Joseph J. Rhodes

By Mark A Knight

In the words of the late, great Malcolm X, "Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today." This year at Joseph J. Rhodes Learning Center located at 4401 Second Avenue, we have continuously strived to develop that educational passport that Malcolm X spoke of nestled within a newly renovated building, the students and staff have been busy molding stories of success.

There are many accomplishments that we are proud of for the 1991-92 school year at Joseph J. Rhodes Learning Center. The Community Involvement Committee of the Dallas Regional Chapter of the National Alliance of Black School Educators was proud to present that our school was piloted as a RCS Beautification Model for a Self-Improving Community. In light of the fact that our school is located within the highest, most violent crime beat in Dallas, it makes us proud. We have also been selected as a "School Centered Education" school for the 1992-93 school year.



Music Room

In addition, we have had teachers and community volunteers to win awards. Sandra Booker, an outstanding 5th grade Language Arts teacher was awarded an American Airlines Mini Grant. Evelyn Dickerson was a Teacher of the Year nominee for 1992-93, and she was selected as one of the semi-finalists. Also, Ella Bright, one of our community volunteers who owns a barber shop across the street, received the "Outstanding Volunteer Award" from J.C. Penny Co. and she donated the \$1000 award to our school. Yes, she is heaven sent!

The students have been outstanding in their accomplishments and recognitions. Our children drew a mural to enter the Fair Park school history competition. The theme, "Standing Proud" received a 1st place, \$2000 prize. The mural stayed on display for some time at the D.I.S.D. Administration



Auditorium

Building Auditorium. Our school also won 1st place in the "Clean South Dallas" public relations contest and has been recognized at several Clean South Dallas meetings. The band students won 1st place at Sandy Lake Fun Fest and six Joseph J. Rhodes students will participate in the state track meet. Many other organizations and clubs were implemented this year so that students could have an extra-curricular outlet, like the Girl/Boy Scouts, Cheerleaders, Jr. Police Academy and basketball. We believe in success in and out of the classroom.



Cafeteria

Lastly, we celebrate our heritage positively everyday, but during African American History month, we made strides once again. We were quite proud of our Family Day Celebration which featured Dallas Black historian Dr. Pearl Walker McNeill. Reviewed films and book reviews were presented. Our highlights of the day was the food and the entertainment which was provided by our own Velma Chaney Boy's Choir, our Faculty Choir, and students from Booker T. Washington Performing Arts. Also, on a separate occasion, we were honored to welcome Dr. Ben Carson, the renowned neurosurgeon, to speak with our students, staff and community friends.

As one can see, we have made many accomplishments this year at Joseph J. Rhodes Learning Center. Although many say that in cannot be done within the South Dallas community, we are doing it everyday on Second Avenue. We are looking forward to an even better year in '92-'93 and we know that we cannot do it without our community's support. Together we can make a difference. Continue to help us "Save Our Children, Stop the Violence and Keep the Peace." In the meantime, we will continue to live up the famous Joseph J. Rhodes Motto: "If it is meant to be, it's up to me."

For more information, contact Mark A Knight, Community Liason at (214) 565-6490.

From: The Goof Department

In the May edition of Minority Opportunity News in the PIC ad, we mistakenly spelled Mayor Steve Bartlett's name incorrectly. Also, in the PIC story, we mistakenly identified funding for the city - \$1.4 million and for the county -\$8.5 million. It should have read: for the city - \$8.5 million and for the county -\$1.4 million.



"The Bishop Five" - K.D. Wesley, Anthony Sharp, Denny Davis, Jeffrey Johnson and Frederick Haynes III.

THE BISHOP FIVE DELIVER POR PAUL QUINN By Cherita Montgomery

The last week of May marked a critical time for the city of Dallas. It had nothing to do with city hall, local elections, or inequality in the city's justice system; yet it brought thousands of Dallas African Americans together for a common cause: raising money to support their own.

While there had been much talk about the need for the community to come to the aid of Paul Quinn College, not much had been done. So Willis Johnson of KKDA-AM radio took it upon himself to spearhead an effort to turn words into action. Johnson, along with four of the city's prominent Baptist pastors, all whom graduated from Bishop College (known today as Paul Quinn); organized a week long fundraising revival.



Rev. Karry Wesley, one of the contributing pastors said, "We wanted to do what we could to show society that we as African Americans could come together as a people, make a difference." He said "This event symbolized the passage over in Acts Chapter 2, where it says 'they were in one place on one accord."

The participating pastors, their churches were: Rev. Denny Davis, St. John Baptist Church; Rev. Frederick Haynes III, Friendship West Baptist Church; Rev. Jeffrey Johnson, Eastern Star Missionary Baptist Church in Indiana; Rev. Anthony Sharp, Goodwill Missionary Baptist Church; and Rev. Karry Wesley, Antioch Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church.

All five sermons are available for \$20. Call or come by the Friendship West Baptist Church 616 W. Keist, 371-2029.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of BLACK ACCOUNTANTS. INC. (NABA)

By Joan Cox, CPA

The National Association of Black Accountants, Inc. is an organization whose mission is to address the professional needs which enable minorities to maximize their career potential in the accounting profession. NABA was founded in December 1969 by nine African American accountants in the New York area.



NABA members: Nolan Scales, Anthony McNeal, R.Dale Dowell, Nora Ramzy, Angela Barrow The primary goal of NABA is to

unite accountants and accounting students with similar interests and ideas who are committed to professional and academic excellence. Since it's beginning with the first chapter in August 1970, the membership has grown to over 3,000 members in over 120 active professional

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Student programs are designed to students access to professional give members and others in addition to obtaining practical insights into what lies ahead for them as Black accountants after they graduate. Scholarships are a major part of meeting the specific goal related to encouraging minority growth in the accounting profession.

NABA's goals include promoting public confidence in our members and their services and providing opportunities for members to fulfill their civic responsibility. To meet these goals, NABA participates yearly in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offered by the IRS and provides accounting for the United Negro College Fund (UNCF). Comment allowing and

Promoting and developing the* professional skills of our members is accomplished through speakers at the monthly membership meetings as well as seminars designed to increase technical skills and general business knowledge.

Members are encouraged to assume leadership positions within the organization to develop managerial and planning skills which they might not use in their current occupations.

In the current economic climate of are being established which require accounting expertise. NABA is positioning the organization to assist these businesses

in developing competitive advantages by providing accounting professionals.

NABA held their Seventeenth Annual Scholarship and Awards Dinner on Saturday, May 30 at Union Station. This event provides an opportunity to acknowledge students receiving scholarships who have demonstrated academic achievement and financial need. NABA also recognizes members who have excelled in their field of business as well as community leaders and corporations who have supported the goals of NABA.



1991 National Convention Award Winners

Planning for the next fiscal year and creating long range strategies for the challenges in future years is the responsibility of the newly elected officers and directors. Officers are: President: Robert Glenn, President: Nora Ramzy; Vice President Administration: Lee Anderson, CPA;

Secretary: Angela CPA: Barrow; Treasurer: Anthony Brown, CPA; Current President: R. Dale Dowell, CPA.

NABA's monthly meetings take place on the second Thursday of each month at Union Station, 300 Houston St., Downtown Dallas; second floor. Meeting times are from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. As a practicing accountant, you can't afford not to be a member of NABA. For membership, please contact Joan Cox, CPA at (214) 328-0760.



Steve thinks he knows what's going on! Thank goodness Mr. Harvey reads MON.



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Brooks continued from page 7

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with their personal and business needs." We are strong financially, and proud of our involvement in the Oak Cliff community.

Brooks took courses at the American Institute of Banking here and Washington, D.C.. She is a member of Cornerstone Baptist Church where Dr. Robert H. Wilson is pastor. She is chairman of the Trustee Board and a Sunday School teacher. This Bryan native is a graduate of E.A. Kemp High School. She has one daughter, Kimberly.

You may contact Ms. Brooks at 372-7650 for more information.

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Carruthers, a recent graduate of Lancaster Hish School. Lisa was honored during Commencement Exercises, May 30 at Duncanville High School Auditorium.

Publisher continued from page 2

Sometime after the rally had concluded Mr. Vance apparently took the initiative to contact Mr. Lipscomb regarding the meeting with himself and representatives of the Young Black Panther Party to discuss their particular sets of concerns. When approached for this meeting, Mr. Lipscomb had a conflict in his schedule which prevented him from meeting at that appointed time. In that Mr. Lipscomb was the individual who called for the meeting initially. I think it is fair to assume that for most individuals this would have been a matter to be resolved between Mr. Lipscomb and Mr. Vance as it related to the scheduling of the meeting. Unfortunately, this is not what occurred. As it is explained to me, someone from Mr. Vance's office then contacted Mr. Victor Smith of the NAACP to request that a meeting be set up to discuss the issues. Mr. Smith then apparently took the lead to call in several other individuals to meet with Mr. Vance including Mr. Darien Reagan of the Black State Employees Association of Texas, Hispanic Attorney Adelfa Callejo, Reverend Marion Barnett. and Councilperson Charlotte Mayes.

Well, at best, from what I can gather, these individuals met with Mr. Vance for approximately one and one-half hours. I am not fully aware of all the sets of topics that were covered in the course of this conversation. But I like you did see the news reports later that evening where all of these participants left the meeting with broad smiles, and joining in their collective support of Mr. Vance and

the apparent concurrence that in fact the actions of his office were not racially motivated.

the apparent concurrence that in fact the To me, this whole scene was disturbing for several reasons. anite First, I fail to understand why Mr. Smith felt himself in a role to be able to call for this discussion in the absence of Mr. Lipscomb. As a matter of political protocol, Mr. Lipscomb should have been given the opportunity to have participated in the meeting in that he was the lead individual on calling this group together in the first place. In subsequent discussions that I have had with Mr. Lipscomb, he has assured me that he neither agrees with the fact that the meeting took place nor with the apparent supportive outcome for Mr. Vance that the meeting suggested.

Secondly, for the life of me, I cannot begin to comprehend how five or six years of numerous complaints of racial discrimination and selective prosecution on the part of the district attorney's office could be totally wiped out in the span of a ninety minute conversation with Mr. Vance. Either Mr. Vance is an extraordinarily compelling individual or we had the wrong set of folks representing the issues of the Afro American and minority communities at this meeting. The scenes of the smiling faces and words of support for the district attorney's office were at best flabbergasting.

I am by no means suggesting that the individuals that participated in the

Publisher continued to page 14

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WDCC: RITES OF PASSAGE PREPARE YOUTHS FOR TOMORROW

By Allen R. Gray

When Africans were brought to this country hundreds of years ago, they were stripped of a key element of life and family. It was not necessarily the enslavement that was the root of the problem. Many cultures have been enslaved. It may not necessarily be the disenfranchisement of the family unit. Many families have been dysfunctional and have weathered the storm. The key element that they were stripped of may arguably be their self-esteem, a sense of being and self worth.

The West Dallas Community Centers' (WDCC) Rites of Passage Project seeks to restore the African-American children of West Dallas, ages 9-12, with that sense of self-worth. The WDCC Rites of Passage Project, now about to start its second year, was created with the aid of a \$1.4 million federal demonstration grant from the Office of Substance Abuse designed to nurture youths over a five year period.

Originally, attempts were made to address the drug problem of West Dallas with traditional text book methods. Zachary S. Thompson, Program Director, and his staff found that those traditional methods were failing. Young men and women were still turning to drugs as a means of escape, or as an answer to their problems. Young girls were still becoming pregnant during their teen years. Young people were still dying.

Feelings of inadequacy are not easily defeated. A new plan had to be formulated -- one that would combat the problems of the West Dallas youths head to head. Thompson recognized that unlike other cultures, such as the Jewish bah mitzvah, for African American youths there was no rite of passage, a formal point at which adolescents are inaugurated into adulthood. To fill this void, members of the West Dallas Community Centers

felt that an Afro-centric approach would be the most effective way.

Nonetheless, this point of realization was reached only after frustrating conditions.

"There were times when there was only myself, one recovering addict, and one mother whose child was addicted to crack (cocaine)," revealed Thompson, reflecting on the times before the Rites of Passage Project, when he oversaw a drug support program. "After about two or three weeks, our ranks grew to about 25 people."



Zack Thompson with Rites of Passage students.

The lack of interest from the community has made Thompson and other members of the West Dallas Community Center realize that something more than the substance abuse had to be cured.

"Essentially we feel that it's more than just the substance abuse. It's violence, the whole destructiveness of an individual that leads to his downfall."

It was eventually discovered that building the resiliency of the youths of West Dallas will restore directions, goals, and work ethics. Thompson suggests that a programmatic cultural scheme can best be utilized to accomplish this objective.

"Not from a fad standpoint, where an individual is wearing the 'Kunta Kinte' clothes and 'Malcolm X t-shirts'," Thompson says. "We are grounding people in the information. Not only the young people . . but their families, too, are an integral part of this whole program. We know that it (the family's involvement) makes a difference."

For the Rites of Passage Project, two curriculums have been developed by Dr. Edward Sims. The first eight part curricular study deals with ancient African tribes and customs. The second eight part curricular study focuses on the African American experiences during the years 1900 through 1992. A third in the set of curriculums is being developed.

After only two years of existence, Thompson is proud to state that parents have already begun to notice a difference in the behavior of the forty youths (20 boys and 20 girls) who attend the program. But not only the parents, representatives of the Dallas Independent School District, which the children all attend, have also noticed a change and have made visits to the program.

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Elmer Scott Learning Center

Project Evaluator, Dr. Shirley King, University of Texas at Arlington, makes her assessment of the program from an Afro-centric view, rather than from a traditional means of evaluation.

"What most people want to look at is a high-tech solution to the issue of the African American youths," Thompson notes. "There is no high-tech solution. It is the basic common sense approach that



Zack Thompson instructs the young men of Rites of Passage.

will address and solve the problems."

To get back to these basics, the forty youths (initiates) meet weekly to receive training and guidance in all areas, which places Africa and its culture at the center of the adolescent's philosophies, thoughts, and actions.

In African American history, initiates discover the history and accomplishments of African leaders, thus increasing their awareness of the African origins and civilization.

Family trees are designed in family history. This makes the initiates aware of their place, responsibility and importance in family, community and race.

Sex education is usually trught from a Euro-centric view. Rites of

Passage concentrates more on information and the attitudes of initiates rather than on human sexuality. Knowledge of the physiological and physical changes of the male and female bodies will be gained.

Spirituality teachings give the initiates an understanding of spirituality and how it continues to work in the lives of African and African American people.

Rites continued on page 13



Page 12

Rites continued from page 12

They also come to know the distinction between religion and spirituality.

Other areas of discipline and training are: Taking Care of Self, Housekeeping/Finance, Assertiveness/Leadership, Values

Clarification, Time Management, Vocational Exploration, Institution of the Streets, Mentors, and Council of Elders.

If the staffers at the WDCC are successful in supplying the initiates with these eleven basic principles and the project proves to be effective overall, not only will the Rites of Passage Program be re-endowed, but similar programs will be established throughout the United States.

Thompson explains when the initiates complete the program, and when a Rite of Passage occurs.

"There is no definite time." said Thompson, "There is no definite age. When all these components are learned, then a rite of passage will occur." For more information, contact Zach Thompson at (214) 630-0006.

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FRANK WISE - "CRUISE HOLIDAYS OF DESOTO" By Sonia Jordan

Former Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Dallas, Mr. Frank Wise is now a business owner. He admittedly enjoys his business, Cruise Holidays, Int.

A native of Norfolk, VA, Mr. Wise received his undergraduate degree from Ohio University and his graduate degree from Howard University. He has worked in city governments for over 20 years. Eight of those years was with the City of Dallas, first as Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation to Director of Parks and Recreation.

Before coming to Dallas, Mr. Wise was City Manager in East Cleveland, OH and Assistant City Manager in Savannah, GA.



Choosing the private sector, Mr. Wise is still active with the public sector by volunteering with the DeSoto Independent School District. He is involved with the Scholars Program which is designed not just for the highly academic student, but the average student as well. A wonderful program that allows the student to make choices and decisions about their education. Why volunteer with a district with so few African American Students when Dallas has such a great need for positive role models? The answer was simple. Mr. Wise believes that there are no minority role models in the DeSoto School District. Where DISD has many programs and many volunteers for the African American student.

Also active with the DeSoto Chamber of Commerce, he has volunteered to work with the Chamber to be sure that there is minority input for that program.

What about the switch from the public sector to entrepreneurship? Mr. Wise says he had been planning on leaving the City, but when he put out feelers to companies looking for someone with good, sound management skills, no one was hiring. The recession was in full swing. He was told to hang in with the City for a while longer.

Then an incident at one of the recreation centers, involving gang activity helped him come to the decision to leave the City as Director of Parks and Recreation. Bored with lots of time to do nothing, Mr. Wise found himself at the Infomart during one of the franchise shows. Believing that he was much too independent, too used to running his own show, Mr. Wise had doubts about such a venture. Upon further investigation into franchises from golf to mailboxes, he settled on Cruise Holiday, Int. This franchise offered Mr. Wise the chance to get into a business that he could continue to work for years to come. Laughing, Mr. Wise says he had considered the tree and shrub business which he was also familia with because of his previous job with the City of Dallas. But he says he can just see the time when a worker does not show up nd he has to strap on a belt,

climb a tree, and trim it in all kinds of weather. Not exactly a job you can do after retirement age.

"The real key is that I just love parks and recreation. I love helping people do things to enjoy themselves," says Mr. Wise.

He believes that 98 percent of those that take cruises enjoy them. Also, becoming a part of the private sector, he had control over choosing the vendors. Mr. Wise says that though the public sector did choose minority vendors on occasion, in his own business he would not be limited to the rules that govern. In his own business he could choose the vendors that he wanted to use. Such as advertising in minority newspapers such as MON or buying computers from Joyce Foreman, a minority owned office supply company.

Being the first African American to own a Cruise Holiday franchise and choosing a location such as DeSoto, one would wonder if there is ever a problem when people walk in and realize that he is an African American. Mr. Wise believes that there may be a problem on occasion, but people prefer using an agency such as his where they will received personalized service as opposed to remote service from some of the other companies. Sixty percent of his clients are African American and forty percent are not. Business, he says, is good.

Remember the Love Boat? It's real. The cruise ships have names such as "The Princess Line," Windstar, Jubilee, Crystal Harmony and many more. The actual cruises go anywhere from the Caribbean to Alaska. From Disneyland to Europe and just about anywhere else you can imagine. According to Mr. Wise,

Wise continued on page 14

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Minority Opportunity News

for



THE INTERVIEW by Susan Lee

There are several types of interviews. The interview process often depends on the size and type of organization. Many organizations have rigid hiring practices and a very structured interview format. However, the informal interview may vary according to the pressures to fill the position and the style of the interviewer. Three interviewing techniques are outlined below.

1) The preliminary or the screening interview - This type of interview will be from six minutes to an hour. This interview is from the Human Resources Department or the staff manager of the department with the vacancy. We have also noticed that some organizations will use this type of interviewing technique in the final stages of the reduction process to reduce the number from seventeen to nine or from nine to four. Those applicants remaining after the cut then go on to the next stage of the selection process. The preliminary interview is often used in small companies.

2) The secondary interview - This interview is not an elimination interview. The secondary interview is used to provide the hiring manager with an extra insight of opinion and to involve other departments. Each individual you will meet in this process will forward their opinions to the hiring authority. Their

opinion will influence on the selection of the applicant tremendously. Obviously you will have to play the game according to the latter possibility.

3) The final interview - The final interview is the culmination of all your efforts to obtain the position. Before you enter the room you will know the emphasis will be on your confidence, your ability to relate, your interest in the organization and your general attitude. Be prepared to answer questions about your choice of a new career direction, especially if there is a significant change in career. If you have interviewed with several people, the odds are that the final will be with one person. That will probably be the person with the power to make the final choice.

Most corporations will use a two-interview process, the preliminary and the final interview. Whatever type you encounter, be prepared to express yourself well and most important, relax.

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June 19, 1865 Emancipation Day in Texas. Honors emancipation of slaves in Texas

Publisher continued from page 11

meeting with Mr. Vance have not made continue to make significant and contributions to the minority community, I must, however, suggest that in this particular instance they collectively blew it. They never should have met with Mr. Vance, especially in the absence of Mr. Lipscomb. Further, I would suggest that they never should have come out, even if they were impressed, with such a vocal level of support for Mr. Vance before they had the opportunity to meet and discuss the points he covered and their real implications for the minority community of Dallas. To do less than either of these points, has given the



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Bill Russell, basketball player for Boston Celtics, named "Player of

Lupus continued from page 8

may experience frequent "flare ups" and

While the cause of lupus is still a mystery, research has proven that it is not a contagious disease. Studies indicate that in some people with lupus, genes are carried that indicate that there may be a defect in the production of suppressor cells which causes the immune system to function properly. In others, a defect in the cells that normally make antibodies

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