

Fort Worth Community Development Corp. Makes A Difference

Ethnic Notes Explores Race Theory KRNB Challenges V100

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# The Tiger is Black

Of course the whole sports worldheck, even the sports oblivious-has been abuzz about the feat of Tiger Woods at the 1997 Masters Golf Tournament in August, Ga. Mr. Woods won golf's most prestigious tournament by a whopping 12 shots while shooting an incredible 18 under par-both tournament records. Most newsworthy of all, though, is the fact that Tiger became the first "person of color," "African American," "black," "Cablinasian," "Negro," "colored," "Soul Brother," "home boy," "Blood," "non-white," "whatever," to win a major golf event, let alone the Masters.

Indeed the Tiger grabbed the course at Augusta National by the throat and shook it like a ragdoll. His deadly accurate long game "shrunk the course" in golfers' parlance. His total dominance of the competition under extreme pressure-despite his relatively short time on the professional tour, he was the favorite to win-surely had several of his more seasoned and heretofore confident brethren suddenly doubting their career choice.

But of course such a crowning moment for the new prince of the links is being plagued by the issue of race, that most persistent and antagonistic of American preoccupations. This is not a new development, by any means. It has only gotten more intense, more conspicuous as his notoriety increases. Along these lines are some observations I'd like to share.

Black folks see Tiger as black. So would most others (despite a vague cognizance of some other ethnic mixture), including your average, garden-variety, grocery-store-in the hood-owning Asian.

But it's a little more complicated than that. Tiger's exact ethnicity is 1/4black, 1/4 Chinese, 1/4 Thai, 1/8 American Indian and 1/8 Caucasian. He maintains that regarding himself as solely black denies the other parts of his heritage (of which is mother is vehemently opposed). However, many of us are more than meets the eye, ethnically speaking. Color is what we live by, judge by, discriminate by.

So, for the Tiger, being black will have to do. Now, it doesn't much matter to me what he calls himself. I don't need his achievements to validate myself as a black man. However, for his sake, I hope he realizes he is black; life won't let him forget it.

MON

torial

# City still plagued by racial disharmony

The lead news stories of the last few weeks have been an interesting indication of the state of race relations in Dallas. Ironically, one of the stories, which appeared in the Dallas Morning News, examined the public's perceptions about the improvement (or lack thereof) of relations between the various racial groups in our city. The article indicated that a large number of survey participants believed race relations in Dallas were no better now than a few years ago and that news report on a local African American the 14-1 Dallas city council system had done little to improve things. Why anyone would think the city council's configuration would have had anything to do with the state of race relations in our city is intriguing. However, the story's findings reflect other divisive conditions in Dallas.

First are the continuing feuds at DISD. While the problems at the school district, in a very fundamental sense, have less to do with race relations or even education as much as it has to do with the billion dollar budget, the race issue is still relevant and apparent. There was a clear indication of this problem at last month's school board meeting, where among one of his final acts as board president, Mr. Keever found it necessary to remove NAACP President Lee Alcorn from the meeting.

Apparently, this exchange began with a memo circulated by Mr. Alcorn in which he quoted DISD Superintendent Yvonne Gonzales as having stated her intentions to divert resources away from areas that have historically benefited African American students to a more specific focus on Hispanic students. Somehow, Mr. Keever construed this as a personal attack on the Superintendent and immediately had Alcorn removed. Whatever the reason, there was little to indicate either respect, appreciation for differing opinions and/or the needs of the constituencies whose rights were supposedly being fought for. Obviously, the race debate at DISD is long from over.

The second big topic of concern is where (or where not) an African American mayor should play golf in Dallas. All indications seem to suggest that this is not the greatest racial issue in our fair city. Nonetheless, for those four or five of you who really care whether or not Northwood Country Club or Dallas Country Club admit African Americans, this too is an indication of race relations in our city. We all had to tolerate the absolutely idiotic explanations of the Northwood manager who felt that the lack of blacks at the club was not necessarily problematic because "there are more white people in Dallas than blacks anyway." The sad truth of this situation is that it reminds all of us that, irrespective of the wealth and/or success that one might have achieved, if you are black, you still have problems being accepted in certain corners (and we do mean corners) of our community.

In fact, a local television station did a corporate executive who had tried unsuccessfully for more than a year to join Northwood Country Club last year. Ultimately, he became the "first" African American to be allowed to join Royal Oaks Country Club. This is the same Royal Oaks Country Club, by the way, that gained some notoriety several years ago for not allowing country singer and millionaire, Charlie Pride, to join. Secondly, it may also suggest that we have to wait until we get another African American mayor of Dallas before he or she can gain membership in this club. We'll keep you posted.

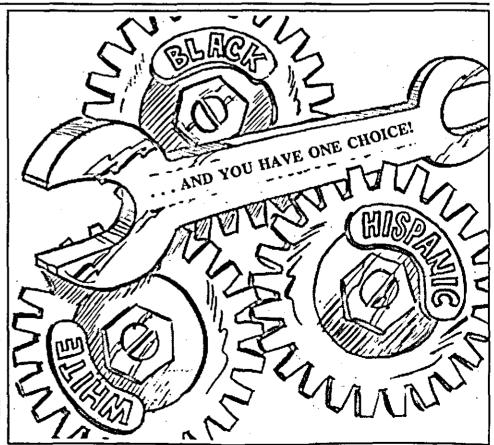
The last example of race issues in Dallas ironically sprang from an article in the current issue of Ebony magazine that lists the 100 most influential African Americans in the country. There was only one African American on this list from Dallas despite the fact that this city is considered a major center for African Americans nationally. Perhaps the answer to

this absence also reflects one reason why race relations here remain in turmoil.

I specifically refer to the fact that in order to make the Ebony list, one must have shown both leadership and a history of accomplishments. Unfortunately, our examples of these criteria are far and few between, especially when you eliminate from consideration (1) those individuals who have been "chosen" as leaders either in the business or civic sense, (2) folks who jump into the leadership light because of what they can get out of the situation, (3) those who forget that being appointed or elected to a position does not automatically grant you wisdom or even a fundamental knowledge of what you are supposed to do, and (4) the number of business and civic leaders that seem to have forgotten (or never known) the Bible scriptures that state "faith without works is dead."

Sadly, race relationships in Dallas are at an all time low and the continuing friction with the Hispanic community is making this situation even worse. Despite the efforts of groups such as the Dallas Together Forum or the "Bridge Building" work of the Dallas Urban League, we are not together and the work is not complete. In the midst of the confusion though, the response is the same--we have more meetings, drink more coffee and eat more chicken dinners at awards banquets.

MON



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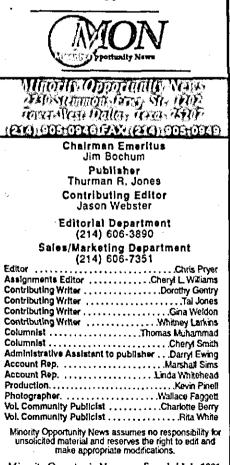
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# LETTERS..

### Hope for reconciliation

Mayor Ron Kirk and Commissioner John Wiley Price are both members of St. Luke Community United Methodist Church. As their pastor, I invited them to meet with me to pray together and to begin a meaningful dialogue that would enable them to share their honest disagreements and seek ways to deal with them in a productive manner for the sake of justice and peace for everyone in our city and county. I am pleased that they both graciously accepted my invitation.

Whereas the details of much of our discussion were not intended for public consumption, I have gained their permission to share the following information:

Although they have not yet resolved \_ all of their differences, they now understand that they are committed to some major common goals.

They both agree that the protest picketing at Mayor Kirk's home will now cease so that their efforts can be directed to a new and neccssary level of dialogue, cooperative action and responsibility for genuine solutions to our common ills and support of our common progress.

I thank God for all who have felt the pain of the recent conflict and were thereby moved to pray for reconciliation with justice and peace. Indeed I dare say that anyone who may have rejoiced over the conflict did not have at heart the best interest of Commissioner Price, Mayor Kirk, or the city and county of Dallas. Nevertheless, the good news is that we have evidence that God is still at work in spite of everything that happens.

> Rev. Zan Holmes Dallas

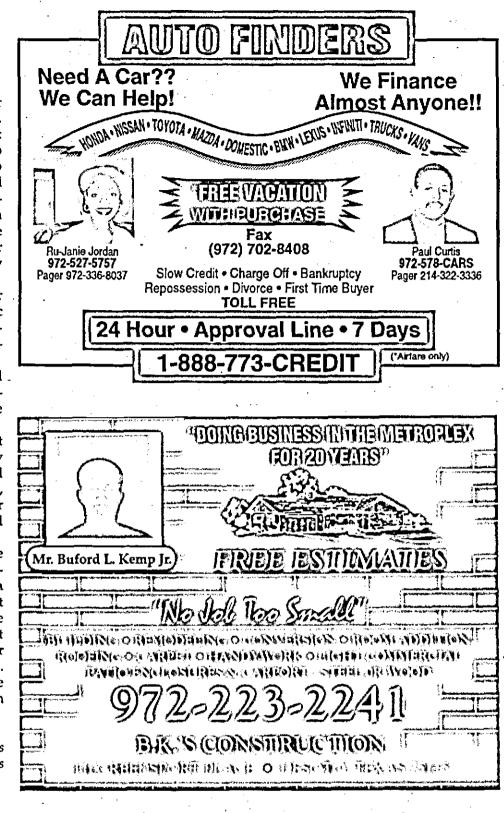
#### Re: Thomas Muhammad

I am writing in response to the article written by Thomas Muhammad, entitled Kathlyn Gilliam: An Ageless Jewel in our Midst, in the April issue of MON.

I agree with Mr. Muhammad when he says one day Ms. Gilliam will have to move on. May 3rd will be that day. He is also accurate in stating, it would be helpful knowing the district is in the hands of an individual that understands the huge sacrifice and commitment necessary in serving the constituents. Ms. Gilliam's opponent for the Dallas School Board, District 9, Ron Price is that individual.

Mr. Muhammad and I disagree on one key issue and that is his reference to Mr. Price as a "token Negro." What this choice of words implies is that Mr. Price did not reach the level he has based on his own dedication, hard work and merit, but based on some white racist establish-

continued on page 4



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#### VIEWWWWWWW

## The Volunteer Summit: A stand for justice? Gathering in city of brotherly love may not be enough

If the old saying, "It takes one to KNOW one" is to be considered an undeniable prerequisite for understanding, perhaps the pristine elite of our own nation's leadership assembling today in "The City of Brotherly Love," Philadelphia, Pa., for the Volunteer Summit (for the proposed purpose of redirecting the misguided steps of some 15 million of our nation's poor and underprivileged minorities between the ages of 15 to 18) should well review, if possible, some of the deceiving injustices so long perpetrated by some segment of our nation's "elite" whose very seeds (or should it be said—DEEDs!) have harvested the rather pitiful state of so many of our nation's misguided youth. One certainly cannot disavow the suggested proposition in light of General Colin Powell's background as it equates to himself being a minority with Negroid characteristics and whose parents were immigrants. These facts lend a hopeful tone to the outcome of the general's noble efforts.

Probably the most solid support of the truth of the proposed proposition is that which is proclaimed by genuine Christians. Their champion lived and died for the only true justice they will tell you. Even though their doctrine of turning the other cheek and not resisting evil presents a dilemma unlike any in other religious precepts and their founder's own earthly mission records that he was born in a stable and that during the height of it stated that he had "no place to lay his head." He lived mostly among the poor and "common" folk says scripture. It is believed that Jesus Christ clearly exposed injustices being dished out by those supposedly most responsible for administering justice at the time of his mission. He severely upbraided them for what he perceived to be prejudicial, selfserving administration of God's laws. The high priests and lawyers that he confronted had, according to Jesus, perverted those laws governing the people. His actions on the part of the underprivileged, despised, and dejected eventually led to his execution by crucifixion. This was the price to stand for truth and justice then and the price remains to same.

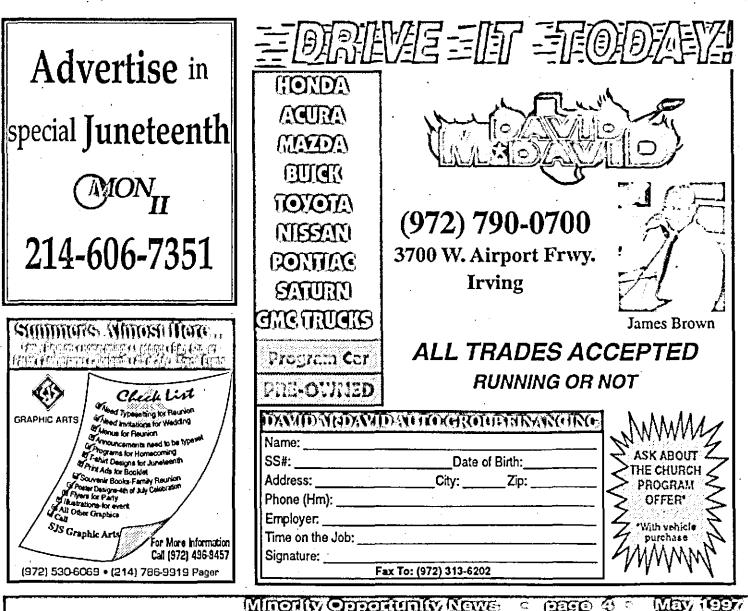
Today our world is probably more rampant than ever with inequities and

injustices. Those who claim to be real followers of Jesus Christ should really consider deeply his recorded invitation to "whosoever" desires to follow him." to be his disciple." Surely this is a hard prerequisite. However, those genuine followers of Jesus will be known by their "fruit." And they will be standing for justice still.

One of the best known of the early Christians, the Apostle Paul, exhorted all followers to "have no fellowship (silence is agreement) with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them." Ephesians 5:11. Then, another famous apostle, James wrote "faith, if it has no works (actions) , is dead." James 2:17.

Leaders of our generation such as the late Dr. Martin Luther King have also paid the price of standing for truth and justice. To some the resounding words of Jesus ring out: "If the world hates you, you know it hated me before." Let all of those leaders of THE VOLUNTEER SUMMIT, as well as those they are trying to attract consider if they have forsaken "ALL." For "whosoever has ears, let them hear."

MON



## LETTERS. continued from page 3

ment simply recruiting him as a candidate. We all know this is obviously false. Mr. Price's track record speaks for itself. He is his own man and he does what he does because it needs to be done. Also, if "the black community always overwhelming chooses Ms. Gilliam," why was the previous voter turnout so low?

Finally, Mr. Muhammad, it is not the white racists who want Kathlyn Gilliam out. It is people like myself, an African American mother and social worker who lives in and works at one of the schools within her district, who recognize the need for change!!

> Loreal D. Smith Dallas

### North Hills School

Just a short note to thank you again for writing your wonderful story about the North Hills School in Irving.

Saturday was our Community Event at the Studios of Las Colinas. All of our founding members and Catherine Dikes, our Chief Education Officer, were there to answer questions and to meet the perspective families. There were people from all areas of Dallas. There was one family in attendance that I thought you'd like to hear about. They had come to our event from reading your article and were very enthusiastic about finding this school. It seems they are a perfect match for the school. The parents have been searching for such a school and were just not satisfied with the school selection in their area. It always amazes me when working parents are willing to sacrifice their early morning (the most hectic time of the day) to get their children to a school not conveniently located to their home or office.

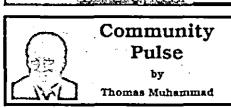
I just want to thank you so much for your article! I know that sometimes writers never get to hear any result of their story. You did help one family open up their selections of schools and helped our school find a wonderful perspective member of our scholastic team. We'll try to keep you updated as to the development of the school.

By the way, we did just receive a \$100,000 grant from the Challenge Foundation plus an additional \$25,000 matching technology grant. The \$100,000 grant is intended to help us prepare a firm foundation for the International Baccalaureate Program; \$30,000 of this grant is to be used in content mastery to help children needing extra assistance.

> Joan C. Kilanowski Dallas

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A few months ago, yours truly wrote a cover story for *Minority Opportunity News* entitled "Islam: Is it on the Rise?" The story attempted to document the growth of the Islamic movement from its inception until today. I was hoping to dimystify a way of life that has spread to nearly every corner of the globe and had risen to as many as over one billion people. The story drew praises from local Islamic scholars as well as Christian and Black Nationalist leaders throughout the Metroplex.

T must humbly say that I really do appreciate those of you who have called, written and stopped me on the street to express your support for the story and your desire for me to do more. However, all thanks really should be

addressed to MON for providing me the opportunity to show some talent that Inever knew I had. You can send a thank you to our Publisher Thurman Jones who continues to ride the heat for the many "controversial" things I say as a columnist each month. Thank our editor Chris Pryer, who's always patient in trying to understand my twisted view of today's racial problems. And of course our assistant editor Cheryl Williams, whose hands probably tremble and shake for days as she attempts to make sense out of what I'm writing about. Please give a shout out to them and the many wonderful fine staff people at MON who work tirelessly to make each paper a great success.

However, there were a "small handful" of individuals who were not too pleased with the story. In fact, the words "pissed off" would be a more fair description of their anger. The story drew sharp criticism from a columnist who writes for none other than the Final Call newspaper. The Final Call is the news organ for the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan, leader of the Nation of Islam (NOI). The columnist, a Minister Abdul Allah Muhammad, sought to compare yours truly with a list of other nefarious cnemies whose soul purpose in life is to attack "his" Nation of Islam. (There are four Nation of Islam organizations in America—Minister Farrakhan leads the largest one.)

Using only one example of the many fallacies he believes were in my story,

# The Nation of Islam: To be or not to be

Abdul Allah Muhammad tried to prove to me, and others, that Brother Malcolm X did not create the "Fruit of Islam (FOI)." He said that, in fact, it was Master Fard Muhammad (a person whom members of the NOI believe is/was God in person) that created the FOI, and the first captain Fard chose was the late brother of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad.

Now I didn't take issue with the brother trying to get me the "straight dope" as it were on whether Malcolm did or didn't start

> the FOL But it was the list of nefarious individuals that he put me in that forced me to respond to his attack. And you know me, I'm like Malcolm, who said, "We don't have a 'turn the other cheek' reli-

gion. Our religion teaches us to be peaceful, obey the law, respect everyone. But if someone puts his hands on you, send him to the cemetery!" So out of respect for brother Malcolm, this time I'm going to put just a *little* hurt on you Brother. Abdul Allah Muhammad. But next time I promise I will show no mercy.

First, your name should be properly spelled "Abdullah" Muhammad, not "Abdul Allah" Muhammad." According

No *true* Muslim uses a Bible to be a Muslim. The Bible is a Christian book! Muslims use only the Holy Qur`an!

to the proper edicts of Arabic, the name Allah should not be used as a stand-alone for a human being. The word Allah, on its own, can only be used for God. Someone of which you are not and can never be! I'm sure that even you can figure out the "rest of this puzzle (smile)."

But just in case you didn't get it, let me break it down to you this way. NO TRUE MUSLIM USES A BIBLE TO BE A MUSLIM. THE BIBLE IS A CHRISTIAN BOOK! MUSLIMS USE ONLY THE HOLY QUR'AN! And if members of the

Minority Opportunity News

use the Qur'an more, most of their confusion would be cleared up immediately. One NOI member took issue with my referring to Minister Farrakhan as a Black Nationalist leader and not a Muslim leader. Yes! Minister Farrakhan is very good interpreting the words of the Bible, but so was Malcolm and Elijah Muhammad. However, to be a Muslim leader you must use the Qur'an only as your holy book if your desire is to be a Muslim leader. Muslims respect the Bible and other revealed books from God, but our holv book is the Our'an. If you really want to hear a true interpretation of Islam from a Muslim leader,

Nation would put down their Bibles and

pretation of Islam from a Muslim leader, I suggest that you tune in and hear Imam Warrithudeen Muhammad, the son of Elijah Muhammad. Imam Muhammad was chosen by all NOI ministers (including Minister Farrakhan) in 1976 to lead the Nation of Islam. His father, Elijah Muhammad, hired a Palestinian to teach Arabic to Muslim students, especially his sons, whom he hoped would learn the true meaning of the Holy Qur'an by reading it in its original language.

The success was mixed. His last two children by Clara Muhammad (Imam Muhammad and Professor Akbar Muhammad) discovered new insights, but the truth they found did not corroborate Fard's teachings. Such findings led to division within the family. In fact, Elijah Muhammad, on three occasions, denounced Imam Muhammad.

In his latter years, Elijah Muhammad began to show some doubt in what he himself was teaching. Yusuf Shah (then head minister of the Nation of Islam directly under its leader) played a recording of a lecture given by Imam Muhammad to Elijah Muhammad. When he heard the text which his son had skillfully worded to bring his followers to the true teachings of real Islam, he was overjoyed. His face brightened, and though he was in the last stages of terminal illness, he jumped to his feet and, with face flushed and tears in his eyes, said before his top officials, family, ministers and laborers, "I thank Allah for my son. This is what Clara and I prayed for."

Shortly thereafter Elijah Muhammad appointed Imam Muhammad to lead the community. The Honorable Elijah Muhammad's statement was corroborated by Minister Yusuf Shah before a meeting of local, regional and national officials in November 1974. It is noteworthy that the Honorable Elijah Muhammad made no more public statements after hearing his son's lecture.

Imam Muhammad has received the

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recognition and assistance of many countries, leaders and organizations. He is also the only African American Muslim leader to serve on Rabita (the Muslim World League with offices throughout the Muslim world and headquartered in Mecca, Saudi Arabia). He is the only African American Muslim religious advisor to President Bill Clinton and has been a frequent White House guest under many presidents for over twenty years. In fact, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad once said "I wish I were the man that my son is. He can take what he is teaching and preach it anywhere in the world."

The points I made in this column were not meant to put down the leaders or members of the Nation of Islam. I have respected the Nation and supported Minister Louis Farrakhan in the past, and will continue to do so in the future. But I must be true to the real way of Islam. Even the Honorable Elijah Muhammad never taught that he was the messenger of The One God Who Created the heavens and the earth, but that he was the messenger of Fard Muhammad.

I call on all brothers and sisters in the Nation to put down your Bibles and pick up your Qur'ans only. If not, the Qur'an offers us this solution: "Say 'Oh ye That reject Faith. I worship not that Which ye worship. Nor will ye worship That which I worship. And I will not worship That which ye have been Wont to worship. Nor will ye worship That which Tworship. To you be your Way (Religion) and to me mine.'" Amcen.

Until then, the struggle continues... MON





(Editor's Note: The opinions expressed in Mr.

Muhammad's commentary are not necessarily those of the Minority Opportunity News.)

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**Metrople: Media** 



My phone began to ring and I don't think it ever stopped until about 2 a.m. People from all over were calling to either tell me about or verify the information they heard regarding the hospitalization of WFAA-TV's Deborah Duncan.

Yes, the reports were true.

While on the set of her new job as host of the cable pro-

gram Our Home, Deborah came down with an excruciating headache. She consulted the set doctor and was immediately taken to the hospital for tests.

The diagnosis was frightening. The doctors detected a small aneurysm.

Just think, not too long ago, it was announced that Deborah was leaving WFAA-TV's Good Morning Texas to move

## I'm sure Deborah and Roger ... realize the importance of managing their jobs, as opposed to those jobs managing them!

to New York where she would become the host of a show on the cable channel Lifetime. Everyone was excited for Deborah. In fact, many expected the news because it was clear that Deborah was destined to move up and on.

Some hoped that WFAA would replace her with an African American. We're still waiting for that announcement.

Deborah and her husband, Roland Martin (news director for radio station KKDA-AM), were riding high, excited about the future. But, all so suddenly, those dreams could have dissipated.

New information brought a collective sigh of relief. The aneurysm was located in the sinus cavity and appeared to be manageable. After surgery, Deborah was expected to convalesce for a month before returning to work.

#### What a blessing.

And while this drama was unfolding, there was another one over at KKDA with sports anchor and Fort Worth Star-Telegram columnist Roger B. Brown. Roger had to be taken to the hospital after suffering a heart seizure.

Talk about frightening.

After convalescing for about two weeks, Roger returned to the airwaves and the newsroom at the Star-Telegram. One thing is clear. I'm sure Deborah

and Roger have put things into better perspective and realize the importance of managing their jobs, as opposed to those jobs managing them!

But what must also be realized?

Well, it's simple. Tomorrow is not promised to any of us; therefore we must live each day as though it is our last and

> we must treat ourselves and one another better.

Maybe if we had to stare death in the face more often, we'd find a better way of living our lives. We'd enjoy a 'better quality of life. We'd have fewer wrinkles and upset stomachs.

We'd pray for one another all the

time and not just during a tragedy. We'd remove many of the things that cause stress in our lives, because we'd realize that some things are just not that important in the whole scheme of things.

Sometimes it isn't necessary to come up with more words to express a sentiment. I guess Donny Hathaway and Roberta Flack said it best in their song For All We Know:

For all we know, We may never meet again. Before you go, Make this moment sweet again.

We won't say goodnight, Until the last minute. I'll hold out my hand, And my heart will be in it.

For all we know, This may only be a dream. We come and we go, Like the ripples of a stream.

So love me, love me tonight. Tomorrow was made for some, Tomorrow may never come. For all we know.

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Cheryl Smith is the host of Reporters Roundtable on Superstation Soul 73. Tune in on Sunday mornings at 8:00, immediately following Minister Louis Farrakhan's address.

Minority Opportunity News

#### PEN NOTES:

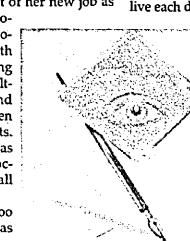
Lawrence and Margie Young hosted a going-away reception for John and Robin Yearwood recently. The Yearwoods are leaving the Dallas Morning News to begin publishing a magazine in John's home, Trinidad. We wish the Yearwoods much success and we're glad they will remain active members of the Dallas/Fort Worth Association of Black Communicators. A number of friends turned out to wish the couple well and enjoy food catered by Dickie's Barbecue. Anytime you're at D/FW Airport, stop by Dickie's at Terminals 2E, 3E and 4E, where African Americans are the owners!!! Well, it's about that time. Time for the Don't Believe the Hype Celebrity Bowl-a-thon. Mark your calendars for June 28, 1997 and call 972-263-9911 to request a registration form. The Bowl-a-thon is sponsored by American Airlines, Eller Media, Mesa National, KKDA/K104/KRNB, Black United Fund of Texas, AT&T, Dickie's Barbecue @DFW Airport and Sherman Studios and will be held at Don Carter's West, 10920 Composite Drive in Dallas. This is a family affair. Mayor Ron Kirk is the honorary chairperson and celebrity bowlers include: Senator Royce West, Rev. Frederick Haynes, Dick Gregory, Rep. Helen Giddings, Malik Farrakhan, Minister Jeremiah Muhammad, Gyna Bivens, Rene Syler, Buff Parham, Paul Turner, Baby-Fase, Steve Crocker, Sage, Joyce Ann Brown, Gorby, Dr. Brenda Wall, Norma Adams Wade, Clif Caldwell, Ramona Logan, Carmen Pagano, John McCaa and many more...Congratulations to Gina Redmond and her husband. They are the proud parents of a beautiful baby girl...Welcome to Dallas

Duchesne Drew, the new education reporter at the Dallas Morning News. **Congratulations to Lennox Samuels of** the Dallas Morning News on his recent promotion to Deputy Managing Editor... The DFW/ABC Scholarship Banquet will be held on Friday, June 20 at the Radisson Hotel in Fort Worth. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Michael Eric Dyson and over \$35,000 in scholarships will be awarded to area students. One lucky student will be on his/her way to Africa with Emerge magazine editor-in-chief George Curry. George will be conducting a week-long journalism workshop for African and African American students...There's a lot of planning going on as two DFW/ABCers get ready for their September wedding. We're anxiously awaiting that date for Tracy Jackson and Quinton Browder...The next DFW/ABC meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 6 at the Dallas Morning News at 6:30 p.m. Bob Ray Sanders of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Ramona Logan of KXAS-TV, Kevin Blackistone of the Dallas Morning News and Rominal Cage of the Interracial Family and social Alliance will participate in a panel discussion on the coverage of Tiger Woods. You need to ask yourself, "If Tiger Woods were to get arrested, how would they list his ethnicity on the arrest report?" Would the report say 1/4 this and 1/4 that and a piece of this and a piece of that? Come to the next meeting of DFW/ABC and see what journalists have to say... We understand that Channel 8 has selected a new host for Good Morning Texas. Stav tuned!...Next month: Why ∴is out at Channel 11.

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#### The In News

## KERA/KDTN unveils new weekly public affairs show

Weekly local public affairs programming returns to public television with the May 9 premiere of On the Record. The new series from KERA/KDTN will air Fridays at 9:00 p.m. on KDTN Channel 2 and Sundays at 11:00 a.m. on KERA Channel 13, with a second broadcast Sundays at 5 p.m. on Channel 2.



Sam Baker (2nd from left) is joined by On the Record panelists (I-r) Regina Montoya, Rob Allyn and Bob Ray Sanders.

KERA 90.1's Sam Baker will host On the Record. Each week Baker, who will continue in his role as host of Morning Edition on KERA 90.1, will interview North Texas newsmakers about topics

ranging from politics and religion to business and the arts.

Commentary and analysis will be provided on a regular basis by Rob Allyn, Dallas public relations and political consultant; Regina Montoya, Dallas attorney and business consultant; and Bob Ray Sanders, columnist for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

For more information contact Dorothy Gentry at 214-740-9242.

## Dallas Telco CU makes large deposit with Common Ground CU

Dallas Telco Federal Credit Union (DTFCU) joined a growing list of financial institutions in the Dallas Metroplex to make a \$100,000 deposit with Common Ground Community Federal Credit Union. The deposit will help Common Ground increase the size of its assets and subsequently, its lending power in the community that it serves.

The African American Pastors Coalition announced sponsorship of Common Ground in July 1996 and have actively and successfully procured financial support from a myriad of interests. Their expressed purpose for taking on this





(I-r) Mable Haynes, Dallas Telco FCU Board; The Rev. Zan Holmes, Jr., President, African American Pastors Coalition; Charles English, Chairman of the Board, Common Ground Community FCU; Vin- and former faculty member cent Hall, Chairman of the Board, Dallas Telco FCU: in the management depart-Chris Henderson, President, Dallas Telco FCU; Linet Crawford, Dallas Telco FCU Board.

responsibility is to expand financial opportunities for families and individuals in the inner-city.

For more information call Vincent Hall at 214-806-8100 or 214-397-2607.

## MLK Jr. Family Clinic gets new Director of Development

Althea Satterfield White, former Advancement Director at St. Philip's School and Community Center, was named the Development Director of the newly formed Office of Development at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Family Clinic. She will be responsible for fundraising and marketing.

Ms. White, a native of Chicago, Illinois, is a graduate of Atlanta Clark University with an M.B.A. in Marketing. She obtained her undergraduate degree in Economics and Marketing from Fisk University.

Before coming to St. Philip's, Ms. White was employed with IBM for 11 years. Currently, she serves on the boards of Camp Jubilee and Adopt-A-Block and volunteers with several other organizations. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority and St. Luke "Communi-

ty" United Methodist Church. The Martin Luther King, Jr.

Family clinic is a non-profit federally-funded primary care program. Its goal is Althea White

to provide high quality, comprehensive primary health services to the medically underserved population and to families in the South Dallas/Fair Park area. For more information call 214-426-3645.

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Satterfield

May 1997

## Jones named to UTA Advisory Council

The University of Texas at Arlington College of Busi-Administration ness (COBA) has named Nathan Iones, owner and professor of the Entrepreneurial and Small Business Academy in Dallas, to its Advisory Council.

Jones, a UTA alumnus ment at UTA, is also president of NDJ Associates, Inc., a small business management consulting firm he founded in 1977.

He received both

B.B.A. and M.B.A. degrees from UTA and a Ph.D. economics in Virginia from Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blackburg, Va. He is currently serving on several boards,



including Dallasbased Pro-Line Corporation and NDJ Associates, Inc. For more information call the College of Business Administration at metro 817-272-2881.

## "Sunday Evening Jazz" at Dedra Lynn Woods Theatre

The Dedra Lynn Woods Theatre introduces "Sunday Evening Jazz," with the John Lewis Quartet, 7:00 p.m., on Mother's Day, May 11, 1997 at the theater, 2801 Peabody Street, Dallas, Texas.

The John Lewis Quartet features John Lewis, piano; Jay Gewerts, drums; Jeff Pickering, bass; and Ron Jones, saxophone. Lewis is the co-leader of the Paradiso Band that has performed at, Starplex and Caravan of Dreams and has opened for headliners Seal and Maceo Parker,

The Sunday evening performance of the John Lewis Quartet kicks off the first.



Minority Opportunity News

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# More In The News

in a series of "Sunday Evening Jazz" sets performed by local artists. For tickets and more information call the theatre box office at 214-565-1710 or 214-371-4644.

## Theatre on the Hill presents musical Shenandoah

Theatre on the Hill presents the beautiful musical Shenandoah through May 11 at the Corner Theater in Town Center, 211 East Pleasant Run Road, DeSoto, Texas.

Set during Civil War times, the play is the story of a Virginia farmer and his six sons who try to remain neutral during the conflict. However, they are forced to leave home in search of a younger son when he is kidnapped by the Confederate Army and forced to fight.



4th grader Josh Balthrop (left) of Talenton Private School in Duncanville and 6th grader Robert Hudson of Lancaster Middle School rehearse lines.

The production includes many choreographed dance sequences and inspirational songs such as Freedom and Why Am I Me. The largely male cast is drawn from Arlington, Dallas, DeSoto, Duncanville, Irving, Lancaster, Lewisville and Waxahachie. Directing the production is Theatre on the Hill Artistic Director, Shelley Aubrey of DeSoto along with Music Director, Jarry Taylor of Duncanville.

Tickets are \$10.00 for adults and children older than 12 and \$8.00 for senior citizens and children 12 and younger. For reservations and more information call 972-291-6383.

## Dickey's Barbecue Pit franchise opens at D/FW Airport

Airport Restaurant Management Corporation (ARMC), a partnership of three

African American entrepreneurs, and Dickey's Barbecue Pit joined to compete for three airport barbecue restaurant concessions. AMRC became one of 25 companies selected to operate a D/FW food and beverage concession.

As successful bidders, AMRC will own and operate Dickey's Barbecue Pit in terminals 2E, 3E and 4E. Although Dickey's Barbecue Pit presently has 14 metroplex locations, this franchise represents the first one owned and operated by African Americans. Dickey's Barbecue Pit was started by Travis Dickey in 1941. The company has been managed by his sons, Roland and T.D., since 1967.

AMRC's principals, Harlon Brooks, Dr. William Hill and Anthony Morris, have over 30 years combined restaurant experience in the food service industry.

Mr. Brooks, a native of Nacogdoches, Texas is the CEO of the largest blackowned barbecue chain in Texas with seven locations in the Houston metropolitan area. Dr. Hill, a mathematics Doctorate and a CPA, has been a Dallas businessman for over 20 years. He is a native of Sherman, Texas. Mr. Morris has successfully operated airport concessions for over 10 years. He hold a bachelors degree in Business Management and Marketing from North Central College in Naperville, Illinois.

For more information contact Lue Calhoun at 972-380-2319.

Dallas Park and Recreation Dept. unveils Golf Dallas '97 passport

The Dallas Park and Recreation Department recently unveiled the Golf Dallas '97 Passport Program at each City of Dallas golf course.

The passport program rewards golfers who play at Cedar Crest, L.B. Houston, Stevens, Tenison East, Tenison West and Keeton with free rounds of golf and other prizes.

This is the second year the Park and Recreation Department has implemented the passport program as a way to increase play at each of the city's six courses. Last year, golfers played more than 10,000 rounds.

This year golfers who have their passport stamped when they play each course before August 31, 1997 will be awarded with free rounds and a chance to win a free one-year, no-restrictions golf pass at any City of Dallas course.

Passports are available at all City of Dallas courses. For more information call Andrea Hawkins at 214-670-4678 or Jere Mills at 214-670-6680.

Minority Opportunity News

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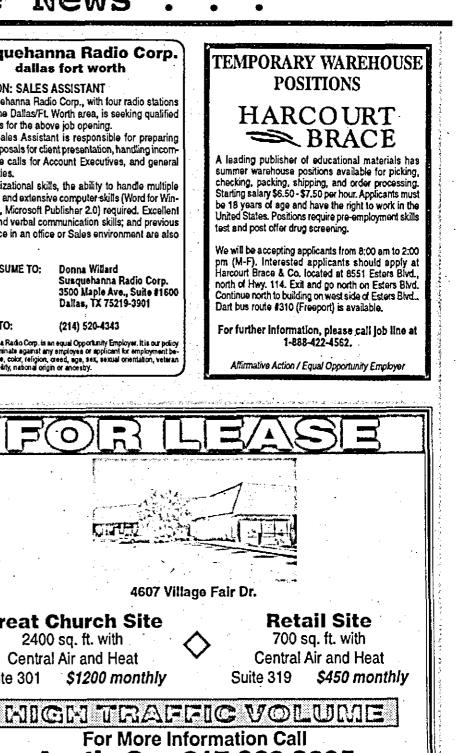
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# **Black** Publishers hold successful convention

#### By Dorothy Gentry

#### Contributing Writer

#### Texas Publishers Assn. Wire Service

Words from Gov. George Bush, presentation of awards and the election of officers were just some of the highlights of the Texas Publishers Association (TPA) 11th annual convention held last month in Austin.

The importance of education and tax reform were the subjects of Gov. Bush's banquet keynote address. Bush stressed the need to emphasize to Texas school children once again the basics-reading, writing and arithmetic. Bush also discussed the growing presence of "alternative" or charter schools and that they need to be held accountable to our children and to the parents if they are to exist.

The breakfast keynote address was given by the Rev. Denny Davis, pastor of St. John Missionary Baptist Church of Grand Prairie, Texas. Rev. Davis' sermon, "An Episode of Enlightment," focused on the need of the black press to exist and serve as an alternative view and a source of enlightenment for its readers.

Several awards honoring individuals committed to the African American community were presented during the convention. The following are the awards and their winners: Community Hope Award, Gov. George Bush; Community Spirit Award, Sen. Royce West; Strategic Alliance Award, Southwestern Bell President David Cole; Trailblazer Award, Southwestern Bell's Maureen "Mo" Sepulveda; Faith Award, AT&T Corporation; Civic Achievement Award, Sen. Rodney Ellis.

Also announced during the convention was the formation of the Frances Lavern Pierce Memorial Scholarship, Ms. Pierce, who died last year, was a TPA officer and founder of the Smith County Her-



Governor George W. Bush accepts the Community Hope Award from TPA. From left to right are Rhonda Pruitt, Mollie Belt, Francis Page, Sr. and Thurman black newspapers is not Jones.

ald in Tyler. Ms. Pierce was very involved in community and civic affairs throughout her lifetime.

The TPA will award this scholarship annually to a student who embraces the ideals held so dearly by Ms. Pierce: commitment to family and friends, service to the community and excellence in the performance of these duties.

Elections were held during the convention and the following officers were elected for the 1997-98 term: Thurman Jones (Minority Opportunity News, Dallas), president; Francis Page, Sr. (Houston

Newspages), vice president; Mollie Belt (Dallas Examiner), secretary; Rhonda Pruitt (La Vida News, Fort Worth), treasurer; Dr. T.R. Lee (Dallas Post Tribune), parliamentarian.

After being re-elected as president of TPA, Jones took an opportunity to share with the conference participants his vision for the future of the black press.

"The African American press of today, while continuing to dispel myths and uncover truths, is still faced with a harsh challenge; transition," he said.

"The black press must

keep up with the times. "The black press was founded during the abolitionist movement, in which it had a life or death mission," he continued. "It served as a conduit to expose evils and reveal the truth. But as the thread that holds the African American community together, black newspapers are needed now more than ever."

Jones said the challenge today for publishers of so much mere survival as

it is to create opportunities for empowerment. "We clearly have a role in being vigilant in identifying opportunity, whether it is in housing, employment or busines.

"With a readership of more than 3 million, TPA member newspapers must find creative ways to more effectively serve our constituency. We can build even stronger ties with the community through the creation of jobs in the publishing industry, providing mentoring opportunities with youth, offering vital information to the public and helping African Americans enhance the quality of their lives."

Black papers, Jones believes, can begin to define the black consumer market, take a proactive stance in generating more advertising dollars and, at the same time, strengthen ties with their advertising partners.

"With member publications in 12 cities, we have the collective clout to demand the respect from advertisers that our readers and we, as publishers, deserve."

The TPA, established in 1985, is an association of African American newspaper publishers in the state of Texas that offers professional development services and support to its members. It is made up of 22 of the 35 black newspapers publishing in the state.

The founding newspapers were the Dallas Post Tribune, Dallas Weekly, Houston Flame, Houston New Age, Houston Sun, Houston Informer, Muhammad Speaks (Houston), San Antonio Register, Southwest Digest (Lubbock), Snap News (San Antonio), Texas Times (Fort Worth), Tyler Tribune (which later became the Smith County Herald), Villager (Austin) and Waco Messenger.

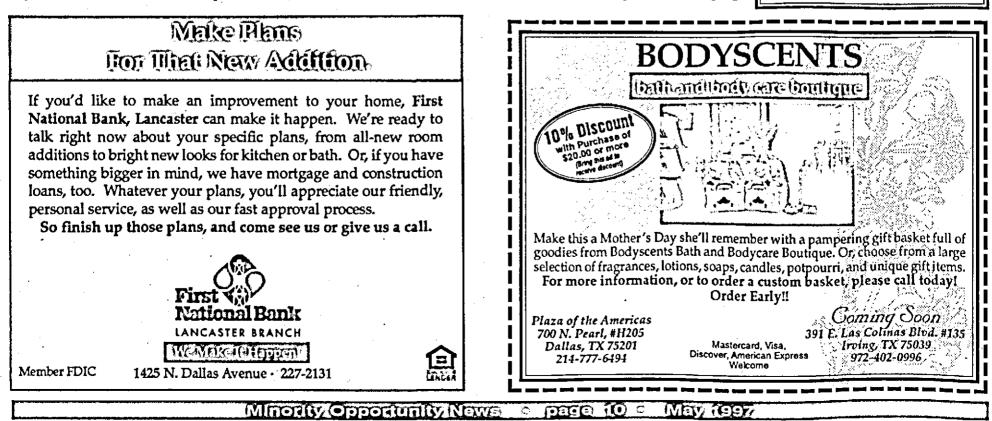
The TPA's first president was Tommy L. Wyatt, publisher of the Villager.

The goals of the organization are to promote the print medium and provide news and information that African American readers can use and trust. In addition, the TPA helps develop member newspapers with technical support and increased advertisement sales.

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## AT&T receives award at 11th Annual **Texas Publishers Assn convention**

Texas Publishers Assn. Wire Service

AUSTIN-The Texas Publishers Association acknowledged AT&T with the "Faith Award" at the 11th Annual Texas Publishers Association (TPA) Convention banquet held here on April 11.

Given in honor of AT&T's exemplary

commitment to help improve the quality and profitability of the African American Press of Texas, the award also recognized AT&T as a leader in efforts to support the African American community. In February, AT&T Thurman Jones (right) presents Faith partners." awarded the TPA Award to Hortense Farley (3rd from left) of \$100,000. With the AT&T. Looking on (from left to right) are corporations award from AT&T, Rhonda Pruitt, Francis Page Sr. and Mollie were hesitant to the Texas Publish- Belt. Association ers

plans to upgrade technology at the member newspapers and help chauffeur members into an age of advanced communications.

Thurman Jones, recently elected for a second term as TPA president, views AT&T's commitment as an impetus to gaining the widespread corporate support that has eluded the black press. With a combined readership of more than 3 million African Americans and member publications in 12 cities, including Austin, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Fort Worth, Greenville, Houston, Longview, Rusk, San Antonio, Texarkana, Tyler and

Wichita Falls, Jones says the TPA has the collective clout to attract major advertis-"As publishers, our challenge is

build even stronger ties with the community by offering vital information to the public and helping African Americans enhance the quality of their lives,"

EXAS PUBLINIERS AND CARDA

re To Serve ... "

Jones said. "As this occurs, we can begin to define the black consumer market and take a proactive stance in generating more advertising dollars and strengthening ties with our advertising

"When other

invest in the future of the

black press, AT&T had the faith and insight to partner with the TPA," Jones continued. "I'm confident that AT&T's efforts in support of the black press and the community it serves will lead to a strong and mutually beneficial alliance."

The Texas Publishers Association, established in 1985, offers professional development services and support to its members and serves as the association's advertisement representative agency. It represents 22 of the 35 African American newspapers in Texas.

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## **Texas Publishers Assn. awards** outstanding publications

#### Texas Publishers Assn. Wire Service

pers received top honors at the 11th Annual Texas Publishers Association (TPA) Convention held April 11-13, 1997.

Judged for the second year by George Silvie, assistant professor in Journalism at the University of Texas at Arlington and colleagues, Griff Singer, Robert Jensen, Dave Garlock, Nick Lasora and Gene Burd, the contest generated competitive entries in a variety of categories.

"When selecting the newspaper of the year, we judged overall content, layout, depth of reporting and types of stories," said Silvie, "[In other categories], we looked for good strong writing and good reporting presented in an interesting manner."

Garnering six awards each, the Dallas Examiner and the Houston NewsPages AUSTIN-Eight member newspa- also received recognition for outstanding community service. Fort Worth-based LaVida News also received honors in this category.

Minority Opportunity News took first place as Newspaper of the Year, with the Houston Newspages and Austin-based Nokoa—The Observer winning second and third places respectively.

A complete list of winners follows:

Newspaper of the Year: 1st place, Minority Opportunity News; 2nd place, Houston NewsPages; 3rd place, Nokoa-The Observ-

Community Involvement: 1st place, The Dallas Examiner; 2nd place, LaVida News; 3rd place (tie), Minority Opportunity News and Houston NewsPages

Best Sports Feature: 1st place, Minority Opportunity News; 2nd place, The Dallas Examiner; 3rd place, Houston Defender

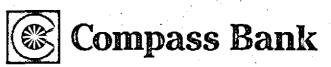
Best Sports Photo: 1st place, Houston NewsPages; 2nd place, Nokoa-The Observer; 3rd place, TheDallas Post Tribune

Best Layout & Design: 1st place, Houston NewsPages; 2nd place, Minority Opportunity News; 3rd place, Houston Defender

Best Editorial: 1st place, Minority Opportunity News: 2nd place, Nokoa-The Observer; 3rd place, The Dallas Examiner

Best Church/Religion Section: 1st place, LaVida News; 2nd place, The Dallas Examiner; 3rd place, The Dallas Post Tribune

Best News Story: 1st place, Houston Defender; 2nd place, Houston NewsPages;



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Minority Opportunity News

page (ii) o May 1997

3rd place, The Dallas Examiner

Best Original Ad: 1st place, Houston NewsPages; 2nd place, Kuumba Heritage News; 3rd place, The Dallas Examiner

The Texas Publishers Association, established in 1985, offers professional development services and support to its members and serves as the association's advertisement representative agency. It represents 22 of the 35 African American newspapers in Texas.



#### Sector Strange

# Race: The History of an Idea Part 1 of 4

#### By Russell D. Shockley, B.S.Ed.

Who said what? When did they say it? What did they say?

How often have you heard the rumors about the African American? How often have you heard it whispered about a certain philosophy that expounded upon the theory of black inferiority? And, how many times have you yourself said, "What was actually and truly said?

In this 4-part series titled "Race: The History of an Idea," ETHNIC NOTES will attempt to present some definitive answers to these long-standing questions.

When European explorers first landed in these United States, they immediately encountered the Indians, which were considered a "race problem." In a few years the English imported another race problem when, in 1619, the first boatload of black indentured servants arrived. The history of ideas about race are mainly the result of revolutions of thoughts in biology and anthropology, which took place in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Our tendency to seize upon racial differences as the badge of innate mental and temperamental differences is not limited to modern times. In Egypt, there is an indication of the early recognition of race differences in the portraits on the walls of tombs from as early as 1350 b.c. Four colors were used for the complexions of the peoples represented: red for the Egyptians themselves, yellow for their enemies to the East, white for people from the North, and black for Africans. Color prejudice, says one writer, depended on which ethnic group held sway.

The most famous example of racism among the Jews is the legend which grew concerning Ham. There is some confusion in the account in the Biblical book of Genesis because it is not clear whether the curse was to be visited upon Ham or Canaan (the son of Ham). Nothing is said about the descendants of either Ham or Canaan being black. This idea did not surface until the oral traditions of the Jews were collected in the Babylonian Talmud from the second century to the sixth century A.D.

Julian questioned the idea that all mankind is descended from a single pair. However, St. Augustine of Hippo, Africa, and an African himself, proclaimed a doctrine totally opposite to that of Julian's racism:

"Whoever is anywhere born a man, that is a rational mortal animal, no matter what unusual appearance he presents in color, movement, sound, nor how peculiar he is in some power, part or quality of his nature, no Christian can doubt that he springs from

that one protoplast. We can distinguish the common human nature from that which is peculiar, and therefore wonderful."

In a North American Indian legend, both the black man and the white man were created before God had mastered his technique. In baking the first man, God cooked him too long and he emerged black. The white man, also a culinary failure, had not been baked long enough. It was only with his third



Las Casas, a thoughtfgul man, saw Indians as human beings with a right to fair treatment and freedom.

attempt that God was able to produce the properly golden brown "Indian."

Among ancient peoples, discrimination against minorities was less often based on race than might be supposed. In Greek civilization, we find that there was apparently no relationship between slavery and race. In neither Greece nor Rome does there appear to have been much prejudice against blacks because of their race.

Late in the history of Rome, a theory of race developed which might, under other circumstances, have become immensely powerful. It was that of Julian the Apostate, who succeeded Constantine as emperor in the fourth century A.D.

During the "age of exploration," an even more explicit racism developed from the contacts of Europeans with native peoples all over the world. In Spain a debate continued throughout the sixteenth century on the question of whether the Indians in the New World were really men or whether they were beasts or perhaps beings intermediate between beasts and men.

The great Spanish opponent of Indi-

an slavery and of the theory that Indians were beasts rather than men was Bartolome de Las Casas, the Bishop of Chiapas, known to posterity as the "Apostle of the Indians." Las Casas came to Hispaniola as a conquistador in 1502. Eight years later, he entered the priesthood, being the first to take holy orders in the New World. At first he did not question the institution of slavery; in fact, he owned slaves himself. In 1514, he experienced a change of heart preparing a sermon, when his eye fell upon a verse in Ecclesiates: "He that sacrificeth of a thing" wrongfully gotten, his offering is ridiculous, and the gifts of unjust men are not accepted." Las Casas decided "that everything done to the Indians thus far has been unjust and tyrannical." He immediately freed his slaves and began to preach against the institution of slavery.

After years of effort, Las Casas was able to secure the support of both the King of Spain and the Pope in his battle against the enslavement of the Indians. In 1530, he obtained a royal cedula prohibiting slavery in Peru. In 1537 Pope Paul III, largely because of the efforts of Las Casas, issued a proclamation that the Indians are "truly men" and should not be treated as "brutes" or deprived of their freedom or property. In some Spanish colonies, slavery was abolished outright because of Las Casas. In many of them, however, every device which the local authority could utilize to prolong the institution, in fact, if not in name, was adopted.

"Primitive peoples come of a stock altogether separate from that of Europeans," stated Parcelsus. Parcelsus also declared in 1520, that "the children of Adam occupy only a small part of the earth and that the blacks and other peoples have a wholly separate origin. In 1591, Bruno asserted that no thinking person would imagine the Ethiopians had the same ancestry as the Jews. Lucilio Nanini argued in 1619 that the Ethiopians must have had apes for ancestors because they were the same color as apes. Undoubtedly, he added, the Ethiopians had once walked on all fours.

In 1655 Isaac de la Peyere, a French Protestant, published a book in which he argued that there had been two separate creations of human beings. In the first chapter of Genesis, a man and a woman are given dominion over every living thing; the second chapter tells of the creation of Adam and Eve. Peyere argued that "a race of men must have existed before Adam." It was from this race that Cain had chosen his wife when he was cast off by his own people for the murder of Abel. It was the pre-Adamite races from whom the natives of Africa, Asia, and the New World were descended.

Both astrology and theories of the separate origin of races, however, were

in time repudiated by the Roman Catholic Church. In 1559 Pope Paul IV placed astrology and other methods of divination, such as the cult of physiognomy, on the Index. The Church acted even more strongly against the theory of separate origin of primitive peoples. Vanini and Bruno were burned at the stake for their various heresies. Peyere was imprisoned for six months and released only on condition that he retract his heretical beliefs, particularly his belief in pre-Adamite races.

Leonardo da Vinci, who was certainly no awe-struck believer in the authority of the church and was perfectly capable of contradicting its dogma when he felt it appropriate, was convinced that mankind really is unified and that physical differences among races could be explained by environment.

Race theory and race prejudice were by no means unknown at the time when the English colonists came to North America. The first contacts of the Spanish with the Indians in the Americas can now be recognized as the beginning of conceptions of the nature of primitive peoples, which has not yet been wholly settled.

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Russell D. Shockley is the director of Ethnic Notes. For

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# Fort Worth CDC takes care of business

Wm. Mann Community Development Corp. is lifeline to budding entrepreneurs

#### Glenda Williams Goodson

#### **Contributing Writer**

Do you have an idea for a new restaurant? How about selling auto parts? Or owning a fabrication plant? If your business is located in Fort Worth, the William Mann, Jr., Community Development Center is poised to assist you in taking your business to the next level. Since its inception in 1994, it has successfully made loans to nineteen businesses.

Daniel T. Villegas, the 29-year-old executive director of the CDC, is a man who is not afraid to take risks when he believes in a cause. When he was just a young lad, his parents wanted him to attend Catholic high school. However, he insisted on attending Paschal High, and believes his involvement with the organization called "Latinos in Action" while there "introduced me to the culture and helped me become involved in community service."

His parents, first generation entrepreneurs, saw their wishes come true when Villegas enrolled in the University of Notre Dame, a Catholic university. Villegas, a native of Fort Worth, completed his degree in accounting and got a job with the Southern Dallas Development Corporation (SDDC), where he learned about economic development. In fact, the WMCDC is modeled after one of the SDDC subsidiaries. His experience in community service serves him well as the head man at the William Mann Community Development Corporation.

William Mann, for whom the center is named, was a retired federal employee who spoke five languages and specialized in economic development in Mexico. After retiring he worked with the Black Chamber of Commerce in Fort Worth, with a vision to open a private forprofit organization that would assist minority entrepreneurs in developing economic prowess. Mr. Mann died in 1993 but his vision is being realized through his namesake organization. The mission of the WMCDC is to "assist economic development initiaves by providing debt/equity financing in conjunction with investor banks, for small, minority [and] women-owned businesses..."

Mr. Villegas says that he wants to follow the ideals of Mr. Mann in making loans available to all who are eligible. "While we target Southeast Fort Worth, the \$437,000 in loans and \$764,000 leveraged from banks have been approved for black-, women-, Hispanic-, Native American- and Asian American-owned companies."

Research shows that small businesses make up 70% of American jobs. While some say that corporate downsizing has run its course, companies continue to downsize and the forecast is that more Americans will join the ranks of the

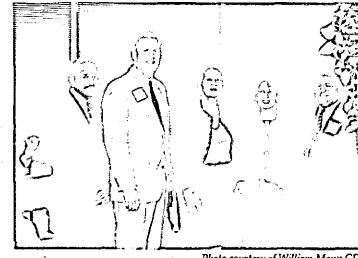


Photo courtesy of William Mann CDC

From left to right: Glenn Forbes, Board President, WMCDC; Tim Carter, Chairman, Texas Commerce Bank in Fort Worth; Mrs. William Mann Jr.; Ms. Iris Mann; Danlel Villegas, Executive Director, WMCDC.

entrepreneur. Valerie Session, owner of a Subway franchise and Theo Rolfe, owner of two Schlotzsky's restaurants, are typical of those who are helped by the WMCDC. After taking early retirement from GTE Ms. Session received a \$90,000 SBA backed loan from Bank One. The WMCDC provided additional funds of \$25,000.

Theo Rolfe, already a successful Schlotzsky's franchise owner, was ready to expand his business by adding a second location on Eastchase. He could get a \$216,500 SBA loan from Wells Fargo Bank, but the extra push from WMCDC took him over the top. "The SBA monies you are responsible for are 20% and even at that you're looking at a substantial amount...The CDC loan made it easier for me to qualify and gave me flexibility (for signage, working capital, construction overruns, etc.).

The WMCDC takes leadership in knocking down barriers to economic development so that all groups will have parity and access to the creation of wealth. Twelve companies received loans from WMCDC in 1996. For anyone keeping score, the ethnic distribution of loans

was 34% Black, 25% Hispanic, 25% White, 8% Native American and 8% Asian American. Manufacturing companies comprise 42% of companies approved for loans followed by retail business (33%).

Woven inside the social fabric of America is the ability to face difficulties and make appropriate adjustments. Some individuals (or institutions) are forced into taking a stand while others (the pragmatists) find creative ways to diversify and make money. Fort Worth banking officials view what goes on at WMCDC as good for business and are very supportive, according to Mr. Villegas. Glenn Forbes of Bank One and president of the WMCDC board of directors, says that "we believe we can assist...sig-

nificant economic victories...in Fort Worth, and more specifically, Southeast Fort Worth," Banks also receive CRA credit for investing with the CDC.

In addition to providing loans to CDC clients, Bank One subsidizes the office space that houses WMCDC, NationsBank donated the furniture and loan servicing is donated by Overton

Bank and Trust. The Rev. Ralph

Emerson, pastor of Ft. Worth's Rising

Star Baptist Church and a board member, lauds WMCDC's efforts. "These local banks have taken an interest in economic development in (Ft. Worth's) minority community...and the [WMCDC] board is

willing to take a risk."

Rev. Emerson says that with the opening of the CDC in 1995, minority business can expand and existing business can stay afloat because "WMCDC cuts out a lot of the red tape." He also explained that all the communities (black, white, Hispanic) have committed themselves to working together. "As of now there is no problem with anyone saying that one minority community is getting more funding than the other."

**Executive Director Daniel Villegas** says that "we take the approach that we would rather find a way to approve a loan than to find a way to turn one down." He explains that the WMCDC looks favorably at persons who:

• Have reasonably good credit (they understand that existing business sometimes have temporary setbacks)

• Shows management skills (call the Fort Worth Business Assistance Center for technical training)

• Has a tight business plan (Business Assistance Center can also help here) Has financial information

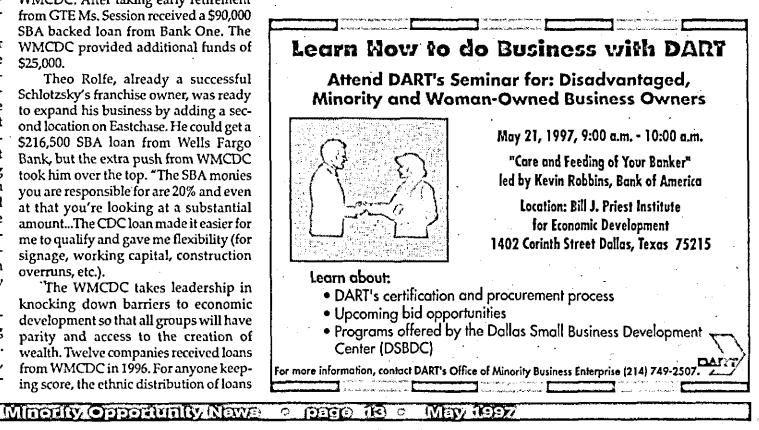
Will make an economic impact

with their business (the Schlotzsky's franchise created 13 positions)

 Promotes minority opportunity development (the Subway franchise owner is African American)

Mr. Villegas, the first staff person hired at WMCDC, takes his job seriously. In addition to making loans, he also finds time to make presentations to civic groups, schools, minority networking events and businesses. If you are looking to expand or start a new business, give Mr. Villegas a call at (817) 534-2423. The WMCDC is located at the Bank One Building, 2001 Beach St., Suite 109, Fort Worth, Texas 76103.

MON



# The murder of Vikki McGruder

After almost 5 years, there still is the question of who snuffed out a life gone bad

By Felicia Venters here Vikki Marie McGruder lay—her worn, mutilated body slumped over a styling chair in the hair salon that had been her lifeline for some 15 years.

6

There was no sign of forced entry; the killer was likely someone she knew. The day was July 10, 1992.

For several months, suite 140 of the Wynnewood Village Professional Building also had been Vikki's home—light years from the four-bedroom estate at 2131 Oak Valley, where she once lived in the sprawling Elderwoods community of southwest Oak Cliff. Vikki's once-enviable existence as a celebrated icon in hair design had begun taking a downward spiral in 1981, some say, because of her affinity for the fast lane and all the trappings that it offers. The early-warning signs for what friends and family would later describe as Vikki's descent into depression and dependency were barely discernible at first. But by the end of 1989, drugs' grip on her was tightening. She began losing weight, hanging with a questionable crowd, withdrawing from public life. By the time of her death, at age 53, Vikki had lost or sold many of her most valuable material possessions—her home, her diamonds, even the signature black-and-gold, classic Rolls Royce that she styled around town during her heyday.

And there she was that hot July evening: Her stomach had been stabbed so viciously that the knife's blade splintered her spinal cord. The stench of death would linger in the air for weeks after police and medics cleared the scene.

"That odor was so foul. Sometimes I can still smell it," says Vikki's daughter Roslyn Echols, who made the gruesome discovery. "I still can't believe how something so horrible could happen to someone so wonderful."

Once, the sky seemed the only limit for Vikki Marie, as she often was called by family members. She was the first graduate of the noted Velma Brooks Beauty Academy in Dallas to go into business. She broke new ground in 1973, when she became the first African American technical advisor for Revlon Products Incorporated in Manhattan, New York. Her responsibilities included organizing beauty shows and conventions nationwide to showcase the company's products, and to instruct industry representatives in hair design.

. Later, Vikki launched her own makeup and hair care line, "Reflections," which—though short-lived grossed upwards of one million dollars by 1980.

In 1976, Vikki and her sisters—Thelma Johnson and Maxine Coleman—opened a salon in South Dallas. But by 1985, the salon had closed; Vikki and her sisters branched out and each opened their own beauty establishment.

Recognized nationally as a trendsetter in the cosmetology industry, Vikki's hair designs had been featured in *Essence* and *Shop Talk* magazines. Her very name became synonymous with asymmetrical cutting and blowstyling, which she introduced to the Dallas beauty scene in the late 1980s. Her small "Reflections by Vikki" salon drew its distinction from many of Dallas' black elite. Among them were Rochelle Brown, executive producer of KDFW-TV's *Insights*, and former state Rep. Fred Blair.

How this talented, high-profile woman met her death remains a mystery for her family and Dallas police. However, neighbors, colleagues and others claiming to be in-the-know share intriguing theories about who killed Vikki McGruder and why. They offer up dark tales of love and betrayal, substance abuse and organized crime.

Perhaps the most shocking notion is that one, or both, of Vikki's own daughters—Roslyn, 35, and Brandi Dayn McGruder, 21—may have committed the heinous crime in a fit of jealousy over Vikki's alleged indiscretions with their boyfriends. The public's attention had been focused on the younger Brandi as the likely killer.

The siblings quickly dismiss such talk as malicious conjecture. And Dallas police detective Linda Erwin, who is investigating the case, confirms that neither Roslyn nor Brandi is considered a suspect.

"At the time of Vikki's murder a Brandi in McKin-



When Vikki McGruder was found stabbed to death in her beauty salon on July 10, 1992, her once-promising life was already spiraling out of control.

ney was charged with killing her parents, and I think some people in Dallas confused the two cases. That's how the rumor got started in my opinion," Erwin explains.

"I heard that Brandi was serving time in prison for the murder," says one former colleague of Vikki's, who asked not to be identified. "Those girls had a lot of run-ins with their mother over each other's men and stuff. Besides, Vikki was real tough on those girls; they had to be grown long before their time."

As early as age 14, Roslyn says she was traveling to and from New York and Los Angeles, helping her mother organize hair shows for Revlon Products. Among her responsibilities were screening models, developing itineraries, managing the finances and baby-sitting her younger sister. After Roslyn received degrees in marketing from the University of North Texas and Southern Methodist University in the mid-1980s, Vikki relied on her to craft promotional strategies for the family enterprise.

"It got to be overbearing at times, but I thank my mother for the experience. I learned a lot about discipline and responsibility. She demanded that we be the best and, in turn, we had the best of everything—material things, education, just everything," says Roslyn. "Given all that, how could people say the things they do about me and my sister?"

Roslyn adamantly dismisses the notion that Brandi was party to the crime. Though she claims to have her own theories about who may have killed Vikki, Roslyn refuses to divulge names, saying only, "I don't think that would be a safe thing for me to do.

"Without really thinking, I could come up with ten people, but Brandi wouldn't even be in the picture. It's not like they had an argument at the time. And, nobody had a lot of money anymore," she says. Brandi, however, concedes that she and Vikki had a volatile relationship, characterized by frequent bouts over curfew, school, household chores and—most often—Brandi's associates.

"We weren't really getting along," Brandi says sadly. "It seemed like we would be more compatible when I was staying with my sister. When I'd stay over there (at home), she'd be wanting me to clean up and do stuff. She didn't care for many of my (male) friends, because she thought they were either too old or not up to her standards.

"Inever disrespected my mother, though. She always told me that a disobedient child [would] not live long."

In response to rumors that she killed her mother, Brandi says, "How cruel the world is to say things like that about me. I'm just a baby. I mean, people do things like this all the time. But, it's scary to hear that people are saying things about me. It's hard enough for me to cope without a mother."

Says Roslyn, "The emphasis shouldn't be on me or Brandi, it should be on the real killer. I don't feel that solving my mother's murder is a priority with the police. I don't know if it's because she was black, or because of the drug thing. But I want it to be solved."

Yet to be claimed is the \$1,000 reward that the Pylon Salesmanship Club offered in 1993 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person, or people, responsible for

Vikki's slaying.

Even at her worst, Vikki was a striking woman, with her flawless skin, cleft chin and crown of shocking gold-dyed hair. She was sassy, nonconforming—an indicated by the trendy hairstyles and revealing clothes that became her trademark.

"It wasn't unusual for Mama to come up to my school in cut-off shorts and tight tops," says Brandi. "She had it going on, and she didn't mind showing it off. But, that was my Mama and I love her."

Brandi and Roslyn Iend no credence to gossip that Vikki had affairs with their boyfriends, although each describes Vikki as more than a little flirtatious with men of all ages.

"My ex-fiance, Robert Prince, used to visit her at home alone and I had no problem with that," says Roslyn. "The last rumor that I heard was that she slept with one of Brandi's boyfriends. We never, ever had any kind of conflict like that."

Recalls Debra Powell, 39, Vikki's friend and personal assistant, "She used to say, 'I just ain't satisfied until I look like a ho.' She worried that her daughters were resentful, and just a little embarrassed, by her sexuality. But it was all fun-and-games to her; she never showed any real interest in the men.

"Vikki's sexuality was a strong issue for me when we first met. But as I came to know her better, I felt more secure."

Powell, a free-lance fashion designer and writer, met Vikki 15 years ago while on assignment for *Expressions* magazine,

See VIKKI page 16

#### VIKKI from page 15

"This (Vikki's murder) is a crime that probably will never be solved. It's like the Tupac thing. People won't talk because they know that if they do, they might end up six feet under. It's that simple."

----- Jay Lee Franklin, former friend of Mack McGruder. deceased ex-husband of Yikki McGruder

a now-defunct local fashion tabloid. When they met, Vikki recently had closed her South Dallas salon and was working temporarily at Head Hunters Cuttery on Camp Wisdom Road in southwest Dallas, while the suite that would house her salon—Reflections—was being renovated. The two women became fast friends, Powell says, because they had "similar styles."

"We were very private; we didn't frequent many places together. Either I would invite her to my house, or I'd go over to her house," she says, adding that Vikki had few female confidantes. "I feel lucky to have been considered a friend. When Vikki died, I felt a strength from her—like she had passed her power to me

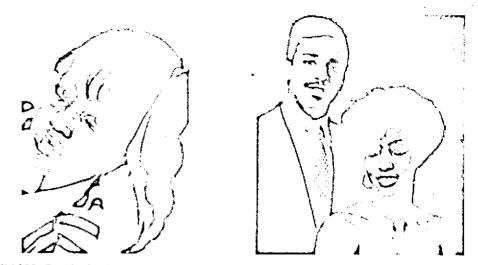
"My only regret is that I didn't reach that (financial) stature where we could be one-on-one."

Powell says she last saw Vikki alive one week before the murder. Vikki had been staying in a motel, which Powell declines to name, and she was driving a rental car. She says Vikki talked of immediate plans to travel to Los Angeles with Brandi to "mend some fences." It seems that Vikki was hurt because Brandi, who was a student at Lincoln High School, had not invited her to Career Day. Most of the other students had invited their parents, but Brandi didn't even tell Vikki about the scheduled event.

"It seemed to just confirm what Vikki had always feared—that her children were, somehow, ashamed of her.

"I didn't talk to Vikki again after that conversation. I learned of her death after reading an article in *The Dallas Morning News* a day after her body was found. It was a total, complete, utter shock."

Powell's theory on who killed Vikki involves an unidentified man who had threatened to sue Vikki after he fell in her garage while helping her move from her home on Oak Valley. The man left town after the murder, but not before telling Powell that he knew who committed the crime. "He didn't name anyone, even though I pressed for information. He was very nervous, then he just left," she says.



Vikki McGruder's daughters: Brandi (left) as a youngster, and Rosalyn, with an unidentified man.

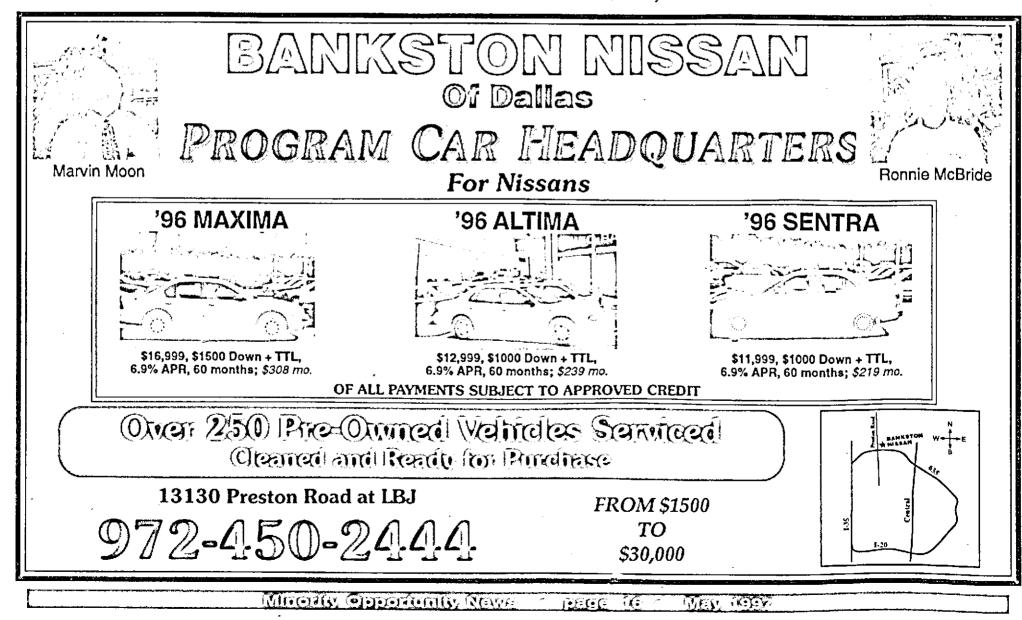
The killer aside, perhaps the last person to see Vikki alive was Pam Mathys, property manager at Wynnewood Village Shopping Center. Mathys says she saw Vikki standing in the doorway of her salon Wednesday, July 8, at about 6 p.m. She says Vikki told her that she was waiting on one of her daughters—she didn't say which one—to come by for a business meeting. Vikki detailed an advertising campaign that she and Roslyn had devised to resurrect her business, which had begun to dwindle as a result of her struggles with substance abuse.

"She seemed anxious, and I had things to do. So, we soon ended our conversation," Mathys recalls. Both Roslyn and Brandi deny having had a meeting with Vikki that day.

"I hadn't seen my mother for at least a week before she died," says Brandi, adding that she had been living with Roslyn for several weeks prior to Vikki's death.

Brandi is the mirror image of her mother and sister. She speaks in long, rambling sentences—one idea seemingly calling forth another so quickly that often the connection is unclear. She says she last spoke with Vikki by phone the Wednesday before the murder, regarding Brandi's plans to take a weekend trip to Galveston Island with some of her class-

#### **Continued on next page**



#### mates at Lincoln.

"She told me to be safe and to call her, but that was the last time I heard her voice," Brandi recalls. "The next thing was when Roslyn told me that she had been killed. I was like, 'not my Mommy.' I just couldn't believe it."

From her office at Pro-Line Corporation in Dallas, where she is international marketing manager, Roslyn recounts in grueling detail the day she found her mother's dead body.

It was Friday, July 10, and Roslyn had not heard from Vikki for two days. That was unusual since they usually spoke to each other by phone often, sometimes several times a day. Roslyn says she had last talked to Vikki the previous Wednesday, when she called her mother upon returning from visiting relatives in Louisiana. During the brief conversation, Vikki asked Roslyn to come by the salon and pick up the rental car she'd been driving so it could be returned the next day. Roslyn, however, said she was exhausted from her trip and suggested that Vikki drive the car to her apartment and spend the night.

Vikki said she would think about it and call back. She never did.

When Vikki failed to call by Friday, Roslyn drove to the salon, arriving at about 6:15 p.m. Through a tiny opening in the partially drawn blinds to the left of the salon door, Roslyn says she could see Vikki reclined in a styling chair near the rear of the room. She knocked repeatedly,

but go no response.

"At first, I just thought she was sleep or had worked real hard that day and was—you know—relaxing or something, and she didn't hear me knocking," she explains.

Next, Roslyn lifted the maildrop flap below the peephole on the door and called out to Vikki. Still, no answer.

"What happened is I could smell a bad odor when I opened up the little flap. And so, you know, I did kinda' think she was hurt or something. I didn't think it was serious."

Before going for help, Roslyn says she slid underneath the door documents that she says contained information about her working there three days a week for the following three months to help her mother revive the business. Roslyn then left the building and went to her aunt Thelma's house nearby to see if she had a key. She did not. But the two women returned to the scene, accompanied by another woman whom Roslyn refuses to identify.

Roughly 35 minutes had passed by this time, according to Roslyn.

"I still didn't really think that anything was wrong. But she (the aunt) kinda' got panicky," she says.

After several more attempts to roust Vikki by knocking on the salon door, Roslyn called building security. Minutes later, the police and fire department officials arrived. A preliminary medical examiner's report indicated that Vikki had been dead for several hours.

She was eulogized five days later at Freedom Missionary Baptist Church before hundreds of mourners. To the shock and surprise of many, Roslyn mustered the composure to style Vikki's hair and apply her makeup for the ceremony.

"I don't ever remember delivering a eulogy to such a large, not to mention emotional, crowd," says the Rev. Mack Flemmings, pastor of Freedom Baptist. "Vikki walked with kings and the downtrodden; that was apparent by the wide range of people who were there."

Flemmings says he and Vikki met in the 1950s while attending Booker T. Washington High School in Dallas. Their friendship continued through Flemmings' ordination into the Baptist ministry until the time of the murder. Vikki and her daughters had been members of Flemmings' church since 1981.

"Vikki didn't allow herself to be confined by societal norms and values," he remembers. "She was unique. You had to either follow her or get out of her way, because she wasn't going to follow anybody."

As Vikki's self-described spiritual advisor and friend, Flemmings says he was entrusted with information not known to Vikki's own family. Yet, he offers few insights into what may have led to Vikki's murder.

"I have to say that I was hurt, but not shocked, at the news of Vikki's death," he says. "Because of the person she was—good, bad or indifferent—she made some enemies along the way. I loved her, but she was a very colorful person."

Says Velma Brooks, who gav Vikki her start in the beauty industry, 'Like Mack (her ex-husband), Vikki got drawn into the fast life. She started out a poor country girl, then she got a taste of the big city and all its temptations."

Nothing about Vikki was ever boring or without flair. She was born Vikki Marie Holden in Zwolle, La., on April 17, 1939, one of five children born to sharecropper parents. Her father, Matthew Holden, earned extra income doing freelance fix-it jobs, and her mother—Lillie cook and cleaned for wealthy, white townsfolk.

When the Holdens divorced in the 1950s, Miss Lillie packed up and headed for Dallas, with Vikki and the other children in tow. The family settled on Roper Street in Ellum Thickett, where Lillie would later meet and marry H.V. Miles now deceased. The couple had four children.

"Vikki was always the lively one, and the other children always looked up to her," says Miss Lillie, as she rocks back and forth on the edge of her bed in her tiny frame home on Biglow Street in South Dallas. "She was a smart girl; she learned to sew on her own. And sweet—

See VIKKI page 20

WHEN YOU CAN OWN! *\$1,000 DONATED	DALLAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS 1. Scaled bids addressed to the Board of Education of the Dallas Independent School District, Dallas County, Texas, for RENOVATIONS to William H. Abwell Fundamental Academy, T.W. Browne Middle School, Carpenter Elementary School, Stemmons Elementary School, and Thomas A. Edisan Environmental Science Academy, Dallas, Texas for the Dallas Independent School District, hereinaliter called "District" in accordance with plans, specifications and contract documents adopted by the District, prepared by The Architects Studio, AJR, will be received in the Purchasing Office, 3700 San Jacinto, Dallas, Texas until 2.00 PM, Thursday, Way 29, 1997. At that time, the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud and tabutation will be made to present to the Board of Education at the next regular meeting for consideration in avarding the Contract. Any bid received after the closing time will be returned unopened.
To Church of Your Choice with purchase	purpose of answering questions and waiking the site. Bidders are invited and urged to be present.         3. The Contractor shall identify their bid on the outside of the envelope by writing the name of the project on which they are bidding. The name of the project is "Renovations to Atwell/Browne/Carpenter/Stemmons/Edison."         4. Plans and specifications may be examined in the office of The Architects Studio, AJR, 4523 Holland Avenue, Baltas, Texas 75219, and are on file on May 5, 1997 at Dodge Plannoorn 8828 Stemmons Freeway, Suite 550         2510 National Drive       ABC/Americas Company 4320 N. Beftline Rd., Ste. A102         Daltas, Texas 75247       Garland, Texas 75041         (214) 241-3411       (214) 271-2693         Attn: Nancy Ebarb       Attn: Linda Gant         Hispanic Chamber of Commerce       AGC/CMD Daltas Plan Room 2720 Stemmons Freeway         4622 Maple Avenue; Suite 207       Daltas, Texas 75219         Daltas, Texas 75219       Daltas, Texas 75229         Callas, Texas 75219       Daltas, Texas 75209         Oxo Stemmons Freeway       1000 Stemmons Freeway         1214) 4521-6007       1214) 484-2030         1214) 4521-6007       1214) 484-2030         1214) 4521-6007       1214) 484-2030         1214) 75219       Daltas Black Chamber of Commerce 2838 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.         Association of Gen. Contractors       Daltas Black Chamber of Commerce 2838 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
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# **Around Town**

## May 1

The Trinity Chapter of Links, Inc., the Dallas Community College District and the Texas Association of Developing Colleges are sponsoring, "Do the Bright Thing," a College/Career Recruitment Fair, 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m., at the Red Bird Mall in Dallas, Texas. For more information call 214-630-2511.

Harcourt Brace & Company, a leading call 214-371-2024. publisher of educational materials, is currently accepting applications for summer Find out what happens when aliens Free assistance in filing Forms 940, 941, warehouse positions at its Irving Distribution Center. Starting salary is \$6.50-\$7.00 per hour. Applicants must be age 18 or over. Apply Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at Harcourt Brace & Com- 428-5555, ext. 392. pany, 8551 Esters Blvd., Irving, Texas. For \*\*\*\*\* more information call the Job Line at 888-422-4562.

rent American Red Cross lifeguard certification, are needed to work as lifeguards at 22 City of Dallas swimming pools in South Dallas, West Dallas, Oak Cliff, East Dallas and North Dallas. Pools open May 24. To apply call the Dallas Park and Recreation Department at 214-670-4100.

Shenandoah, a story set during the time of 214-565-9026. the Civil War. The musical, which runs through May 11, has performances at 8:00 p.m., Thursday-Saturday and 2:00 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for children and senior citizens. For more information call 972-291-6383.

## May 2

Soul Rep ends its spring season with the performance of George C. Wolfe's satire on black life in America, The Colored Museum, May 2-4 and May 9-11 at the \*\*\*\*\* African American Museum, Fair Park, Attention all Sisters, ages nine to adult-Dallas. Tickets are \$10.00. For more infor-

mation call Soul Rep at 214-565-0186 or the museum at 214-565-9026.

The Texas Chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and the African American Pastors Association present the "Drum Major Mass Meeting," 7:00 p.m. at Carver Heights Baptist Church, 2510 E. Ledbetter, Dallas, Texas. Rev. Dr. Emmanuel Cleaver will be the keynote speaker. For more information more information call Clarene Whitfield

invade earth at one of three new presen- and 945 is available through the Voluntations featured at the Science Place Planetarium now through May 29. For more information call the planetarium at 214-

ArtServ, Inc. and the ARTTIX ticketing be held at the Bill Priest Institute for Ecoservice announce the relocation of their offices to the historic Majestic Theatre, Individuals ages 16 and older, with cur- 1927 Elm Street, Dallas. For more information call ARTTIX at 214-871-2787

## May 3

The African American Museum presents its 13th Annual Ball and Auction, 6:00 p.m. at the Fairmont Hotel, 1717 N. Theatre on the Hill presents the musical Akard, Dallas. For more information call

> Feel the rhythmic flow of Capoeiera, the Afro-Brazilian Martial Art. Workshops, with instructor Prof. Dennis Newsome, from 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. and May 6 from 409-9554. 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. For prices and more information call 214-343-2043.

hood. Attend the 12th Annual Adolescent

Symposium, "Cultivating the Fruit of merce meets from 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Righteousness," 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., at the Church of Christ, 1013 South Greenville Ave., Richardson, Texas. For Akinmulero at 214-631-1616. more information call 214-644-2335. \*\*\*\*

The Dallas Urban League and Nations-Bank hosts a home buyer seminar at the Dallas Urban League, 3625 N. Hall, #700, Dallas, from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. For at 214-528-8038.

teer Income Tax Assistance Program for May 7 employers with less than 10 employees. The Business VITA, sponsored by the Internal Revenue Service and the Dallas Small Business Development Center, will nomic Development, Room 202A, 1402 Corinth, Dallas, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon. \* \* \* \* \*

May is National Arthritis Month. The Arthritis foundation will co-sponsor public forums with The Osteoporosis Center at St. Paul Medical Center on May 3, Charlton Methodist Hospital on May 16, and Baylor Tom Landry Center on May 17. For more information call 214-826-4361 or 1-800-442-6653.

## May 4

The Dallas Alumnae Chapter of Delta will be held at the South Dallas Cultural Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. presents "The Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh, Dallas, May 3, Secret Garden," a spring fashion show from 1:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. and May 4 from and brunch, 3:00 p.m., at the Frederica 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. In Fort Worth, work- Chase Dodd Life Development Center, shops will be held at the Sycamore Recre- 1401 South Akard Blvd., Dallas. Tickets ation Center, 2525 E. Rosedale, May 5 are \$10. For more information call 972-

#### May 5

The African American Chamber of Com-

today at 8585 N Stemmons, #835, Dallas. For more information contact Senmi

The University of North Texas Press is accepting previously unpublished submissions for its 1997 edition of Kente Cloth: Southwest Voices of the African Diaspora, The deadline is May 15. Send submissions to James Mardis, P.O. Box 190841, Dallas, Texas 75219. For more information call 214-368-5953.

New Image Business Associates holds noon luncheons every Wednesday at the Bill J. Priest Institute, 1402 Corinth, Dallas. For more information call 214-350-9590 \* \* \* \* \*

Bickel & Brewer Storefront, PLLC's, 2602 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Dallas, Texas presents a judicial lecture with Judge Sally Montgomery of the 95th District Court, from 12:00 noon-1:00 p.m. Lunch will be served. Please RSVP by May 1. For more information call 214-421-4800.

## May 9

The Dallas Museum of Art, Arts and Letters Live will host author J. California Cooper, 8:00 p.m. at the museum, 1717 N. Harwood, Dallas. For tickets and more information call 214-922-1219 or 214-922-1200 \* \* \* \* \*

Former president George Bush will give the keynote address for the 1997 Dallas Ambassadors Forum, 12:00 noon at the Fairmont Hotel, Downtown Dallas. The Forum helps create international business opportunities for Dallas companies. The Forum weekend will conclude with the annual Mayor's Ball on May 10. For

May 12 Bickel & Brewer Storefront, PLLC's, 2602 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Dallas, Texas presents a Business Workshop, "How to Market Your Business," from 12:00 noon-1:00 p.m. with guest speaker Alfred Herron. Lunch will be served. Please RSVP by May 8. For more information call 214-421-4800.

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Minority Opportunity News • page 18 • May 1997

#### Around Town cont<sup>\*</sup>d

more information call Anne Harding, Greater Dallas Chamber of Commerce, at 214-746-6619.

The International Council of Cultures presents the Mayor's Festival of Cultures, May 9-11 in Artist's Square, Dallas. More than 150 groups of various ethnicities will be educating and celebrating at the festival. For more information call Cathy Ritchey at 214-953-1411.

#### May 10

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The Smithsonian traveling exhibition "Wade in the Water: African American Sacred Music Traditions" opens at the African American Museum, Fair Park, Dallas, and runs through July 6. The museum will also host "Wade in the Water" Family Day from 12:00 noon-5:00 p.m. For more information call Kandace Barnett at 214-565-9026.

Y.O.U.T.H. 2 Y.O.U.T.H. Inc. presents a youth rap session, WHATZ UP "Teen Talk" and Menz of Valour, a Youth Male Fashion Showcase, 1:00 p.m., at Red Bird Mall, Dallas, Texas. For more information call Adren White or Freda Reese at 972-228-4593.

hosting a Mother's Day "English Afternoon Tea Party" from 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. at Cretia's Flour & Flowers Tea Room, 215 West Camp Wisdom Road, Duncanville, Texas. Tickets are \$20.00 per person. To RSVP and more information call 972-709-1180.

## May 14

Tarrant County Employment Network hosts a free resume/application workshop for adults, every other Wednesday from 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. at the Welcome Center of the Resource Connection, 1100 Circle Drive, Fort Worth, Texas. While parents sharpen their resume skills, their children, ages 4 and older, can attend an art class sponsored by Very Special Arts Texas. An additional workshop is scheduled for May 28. For more information call 817-531-7600.

## May 16

Local Designer, Leonard Nolen, invites you to a Fashion Extravaganza featuring his Summer Vacation Composition, 7:30 p.m. at the South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh, Dallas. Tickets are \$7.00. For more information call Mr. Nolen at 214-327-4563

## May 17

The Dallas Urban League and Nations-Bank hosts a home buyer seminar at the Martin Luther King Community Center, Room 150, 2922 Martin Luther King Blvd., Dallas, from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Sisters on the Move (S.O.T.M., Inc.) is For more information call Clarene Whit- May 23 field at 214-528-8038.

> If you have stake in a business partnership, you can learn the basic tax requirements affecting your business at the 1997 Small Business Workshops presented by the Internal Revenue Service and the Dallas Small Business Development Center. The workshop will be held at the Bill Priest Institute for Economic Development, Room 202A, 1402 Corinth, Dallas, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.

## May 18

The children of Watoto Shule present a "Gospel Fund Raising Brunch," from 1:00 information call Kandace Barnett at 214p.m.-4:00 p.m. at Stephanie's Collection 565-9026.

of African American Art, 6955 Greenville Ave., Dallas, Texas. For more information call 214-913-0419

## May 22

The University of North Texas Health Science Center, 3500 Camp Bowie Blvd., Forth Worth, Texas presents its annual Economic Opportunity Forum, from 2:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Learn state bidding requirements, HUB certification procedures and more. Spot and future bid opportunities will be available. For more information call Faye Landham at 817-735-2684 \* \* \* \* \*

Five Seniors from David W. Carter, Justin F. Kimball, South Oak Cliff, DeSoto and Duncanville High Schools will be awarded scholarships sponsored by Powell Chevrolet Oldsmobile, for outstanding achievement on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). The Annual Awards Reception, which is open to the public, will be held from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at Powell Chevrolet Oldsmobile, Highway 67 at Wheatland Road, south of I-20. To RSVP or for more information call 972-298-4911 June 2

the Caravan of Dreams. Tickets to the 7:00 p.m. or 10:30 p.m. performances are \$32.00. For more information call (817) 877-3000.

## May 24

NationsBank and the African American Museum present the Texas Black Invitational Rodeo, 8:00 p.m. at the Fair Park Coliseum. In conjunction with this event, the museum will host a Rodeo Camp for kids from 3:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. in the Creative Arts Building at Fair Park. For more

## May 30

The Oasis 107.5 presents "Guitars and Saxes" featuring Peter White, Richard Elliot, Craig Chaquico and Rick Braun, May 30-31, 7:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. at the Caravan of Dreams. Tickets are \$33.00 For more information call (817) 877-3000.

## May 31

Sole Proprietors can learn the basic tax requirements affecting their business at the 1997 Small Business Workshops presented by the Internal Revenue Service and the Dallas Small Business Development Center. The workshop will be held at the Bill Priest Institute for Economic Development, Room 202A, 1402 Corinth Dallas, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.

## June 1

Summer Camp begins at the African American Museum, For more information call Kandace Barnett at 214-565-9026.

The Dallas/Fort Worth Minority Business Development Council, Inc. will hold its Annual Trade Show and Professional V-100 presents Regina Belle in concert at Services Forum June 2-3 at the Arlington Convention Center, 1200 Ballpark Way, Arlington, Texas. To register for the trade fair, Metroplex ACCESS '97, call Fina, Inc. at 214-750-4100. For more information call Margo J. Posey at 214-630-0747.

#### ATTENTION:

If you're interested in placing your event in our events calendar, send it to us by mail or fax no later than the 21st of the month preceding blication to.

rity Opportunity News

( Southwestern Bell Telephone

#### VIKKI from page 17

I tell you—she always wanted to take me out to dinner."

She pauses, bows her head and smiles wistfully.

A neighbor recently said that Vikki used to come by late at night and sit in her car while watching house, Miss Lillie says. Vikki always worried about her being home alone at night. She knew, however, that her mother was too proud to complain. So she would sneak over in the middle of the night and guard the house from her car, as Miss Lillie slept inside.

"People say such mean things about Vikki. But she was a good girl. She sho ain't hurting nobody now. I wish they'd just let her rest in peace," she says. Miss Lillie's eyes tear and her lips tremble as she recalls the last day she saw her daughter alive.

Vikki had come by Wednesday at around 8 a.m., just as Miss Lillie was taking her breakfast rolls out of the oven. She brought with her two hens, one red and one black, to keep her mother company around the house. She also brought a pair of white pants for her mother to bleach and to hem.

As the two women sat at the breakfast table laughing and reminiscing, Miss Lillie says eerie thoughts came to mind. "I remember saying to myself, `If anything ever happens to Vikki, I'm going to keep those little biddies (hens) as long as I can to remember her by."

Something even more puzzling, if not foretelling, happened the next afternoon around 3 p.m. Miss Lillie was relaxing on her back porch, tossing feed to the hens and watching the pants she'd hemmed and bleached for Vikki blow in the wind on the clothesline. As she glanced to her left across the yard, she says she saw what can be likened to an early morning frost covering the ground and the fence.

"I blinked and rubbed my eyes because I thought I was imagining things," she says. "I looked again, and it was back to normal.

"The next day, my baby was gone." Miss Lillie dissolves in tears.

Vikki married twice. Her first husband was Herman Echols, with whom she had Roslyn. But Vikki is most often associated with her second husband, Shirley "Mack" Roosevelt McGruder, whom she divorced in 1975. Though an ordained Baptist minister and graduate of Bishop College (now Paul Quinn College) in Dallas, McGruder reportedly made his living as a hustler and slumlord. He was a reputed drug dealer and owner of the former Plush Pup and Flying Fox nightclubs in South Dallas. He also owned several properties in lowincome areas of Dallas, including the former Big D Apartments on Grand Avenue.

Mack McGruder was gunned down on May 19, 1987, in the parking lot of the Country Creek Condominiums in Oak Cliff.

"I used to take a drink or two, and I often partied at McGruder's clubs," says Francis Hill Burns, a lifelong resident of Dallas. "Though McGruder was what he was, he had a softer side too. There were times when I was down on my luck, and he came to my aide. I'll always remember and respect him for that. He was a very benevolent man."

Following Mack's murder, Roslyn says Vikki became acutely depressed and began drinking heavily. Her associations gradually shifted from what Roslyn defines as the "champagne-and-caviar" set to the "40-ounce guzzling" crowd, many of whom where homeless.

"I never saw my mother use drugs. But I know that for people who drink as much as she did, sometimes that (drug use) is a part of it, too," she says.

Sherry Thomas, 34, a hair stylist at Crawford's Unisex Salon in Oak Cliff, was a key prosecution witness in the trial of Mack's accused murderer, Sherman Nealy. Thomas lived next door to Mack at Country Creek in a condo that she was renting from Roslyn. She was at home in her kitchen fixing a sandwich the night of May 19, 1987, when she says shots rang out from the parking lot. Thomas says she ran outside in time to see Nealy crouched over Mack's bleeding body with a shotgun cradled in his arm.

Mack later died at Charlton Methodist Hospital of gunshot wounds to the abdomen.

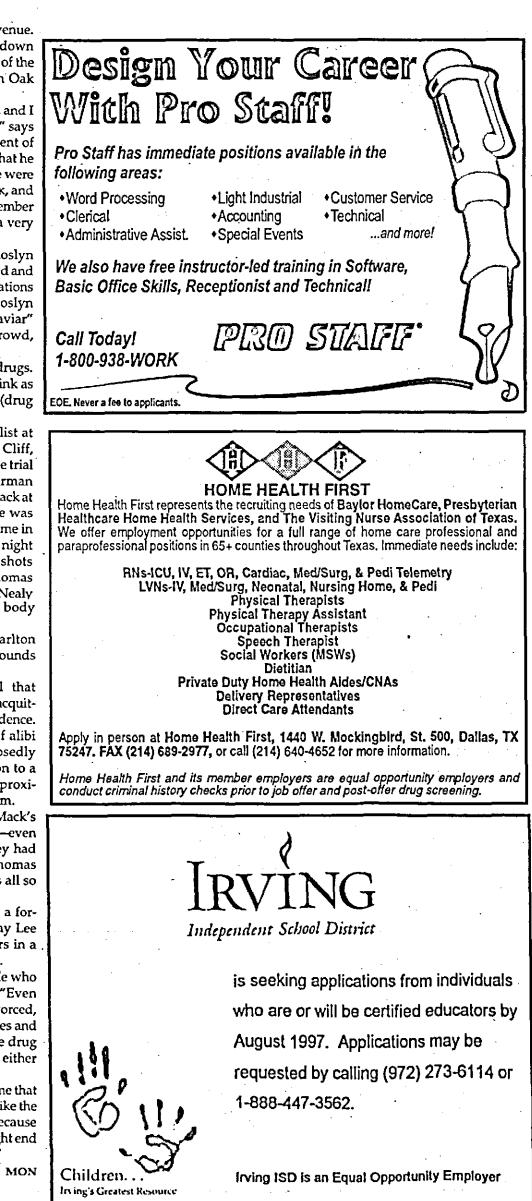
Following the murder trial that began April 25, 1988, a Dallas jury acquitted Nealy for lack of sufficient evidence. Court records show that his chief alibi was a phone call that he supposedly placed from his home in Arlington to a relative in Miami, Fla., at the approximate time of the shooting—8:28 p.m.

"It's very likely that some of Mack's drug cronies killed Vikki because—even thought they were divorced—they had some of the same associates," Thomas says. "It's hard to say, though. It's all so complicated."

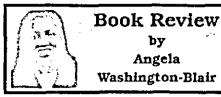
Sharing similar sentiments is a former friend of Mack McGruder, Jay Lee Franklin, 58, who served 12 years in a Florida prison for drug trafficking.

"I'm convinced that the people who killed Mack killed Vikki, foo. "Even though Vikki and Mack were divorced, they still traveled in the same circles and a lot of their associates were in the drug scene, on one end or the other ... either they were users or suppliers.

"This (Vikki's murder) is a crime that probably will never be solved. It's like the Tupac thing; people won't talk because they know that if they do, they might end up six feet under. It's that simple."



#### MONLibrart



## Loose That Man and Let Him Go!

By T.D. Jakes Albury Publishing, \$11.99

T.D. Jakes, renowned minister of the Gospel (Jakes, by the way, is now based in Dallas) is the author of several books, including Woman Thou Art Loosed (have you heard the recording by that same title?); Naked and Not Ashamed; and Can You Stand to be Blessed?.

In this era of downsizing, cult-joining, drug-sniffing, gang-joining, violence and general confusion about who we are and what our purpose is in life, Jakes has cut to the chase and speaks to all men (and women) so that they may "become all that God has created them to be." Jakes really has been blessed to know the human condition. He doesn't preach pie in the sky and everything is coming up roses. Quite the contrary. He knows the troubles of society, he knows the trouble black men face, he knows what troubles white men face-in a nutshell, he knows men.

Jakes starts at the beginning: childhood. Yes, childhood. Because everything we are (each of us) was begun in our childhood. We were each uniquely and wonderfully made (the Bible tells us). We each have our own personalities. Those things come from within. Yet there are those forces that come from "without"-those influences of our families and society that help shape us into who we are as adults, whether good or bad.

Jakes commands men to confront the child within them. Wait, before you dismiss this as more psycho babble, read on.

Better still, men, read the book. Anyway, Jakes discusses how an abusive father, an absent father, an angry father, or a supportive father can shape a child. He wants men to be honest with themselves and see that character flaws may stem from some dark past. He wants them to acknowledge those things and move forward

He then admonishes men to celebrate their masculinity. He says, for example, that women celebrate their femininity. We have make-up parties. We wear nice looking clothes. He wants men to see that being a man is something to be desired. He gives Biblical examples of men throughout this book. Real men. Men with problems. Men facing challenges. Men with bad marriages. Men facing death. Men with deformities. Men after God's own heart.

Jakes uses the death metaphor as the premise for this book. If a man is stuck in a place in his life where he is not growing spiritually, where he hasn't confronted childhood abuses, where he is angry, where he has not given his life to God-then it's like he is dead. He's like Lazarus in the Bible. Just like Jesus commanded his dead friend Lazarus to be loosed and TIDAUNARS come forth, so too, does Jakes to men everywhere.

Jakes talks

about the toys men use to escape facing their pain or problems. For the rich it's yachting; for the poor it might be basketball. For the rich it's a martini; for the poor it's a bottle in a brown bag. He cuts across racial lines to show the commonalties. Jakes gives practical suggestions on gaining strength; on becoming real men; on becoming fathers or surrogate fathers; on enjoying your elderly father.

He closes by giving examples of prayers for purity, salvation, restoration of marriage, for a prisoner, for a businessman, for a single man. There is so much practical information in this book that, along with a Bible, it is well worth reading for all men-and women. MON

**THOMAS LAW OFFICES** H. Byron Thomas Attorney & Counselor at Law Licensed by the Supreme Court of Texas Personal Injury Divorce Criminal Defense Social Security Claims Immigration 4131 N. Central Expressway, Suite 900, Dallas, Texas 75204 (214) 599-9009 Not Certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization Presented by Black Images Book Bazaar Black Komance Images SLAM-JAM CRUISE Departing PORT CANAVERAL FLORIDA (ORLANDO, FLORIDA) JULY 27 THROUGH JULY 31, 1997 Cruisin' on the Sea of Love with ANGELA BENSON • MACCIE FERGUSON • GWYNNE FORSTER LAYLE GUISTO • DONNA HILL • ANNA LARENCE • FRANCIS RAY AND MORE The Third Annual Romance Slam Jam Presented by Black Images Book Bazaar (Dallas, Texas), is a showcase network of African American Romance novelists from around the country who come together each year to mingle and personally share writing and experiences with readers and lovers of romance. This year the ROMANCE SLAM JAM "takes to the high seas" and you are invited to come along. Join us abroad CARNIVAL Cruise Line's Fantasy Cruise Ship for 4 FUN filled Nights!!! AN UNFORGETTABLE EXCURSION ... DON'T MISS THE EXCITEMENT For more information call (800) 861-7435 **Uptown Cruise Events** 

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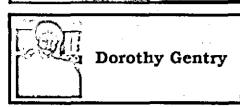
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Hachladio



#### By Dorothy Gentry

#### **Contributing Writer**

K104 was knocked (though just barely) off its throne by top 40 station KHKS-FM (106.1) as the No. 1 station in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex, the latest Arbitron ratings show.

The winter ratings, which cover the time period January 2 through March 26, were released by Arbitron on April 21. K104 fell from No. 1 to No. 2 by one-tenth of a share in the overall 12+ category.

The Oasis tied with Mix 102.9 for 10th place. KRBV-FM (V100) finished the overall ratings in a surprising 17th spot. However, V100 remains the No. 1 Adult R&B station.

"Every station will go through ups and downs in the ratings. We remain very confident in our audience base and we will continue to focus on them," says Thomas Bacote, V100 program director. "KRNB is a new product and people will always sample a new product. The pie is just being shared," he said of the station's biggest competitor. KRNB plays "smooth and classic R&B."

Speaking of KRNB, the nine-month old station did not place in the top 20 overall but posted significant increases in each hour of adult programming.

"We have a positive reaction to what has happened with our station," says program director Jo-Jo Davis, who also does the 3-7 p.m. drive home slot. "We have increased in every adult demographic. We are happy and glad to say that we are here to stay."

Rudy V's The Quiet Storm, heard seven days a week from 7 p.m. to midnight, is KRNB's highest rated program.

Davis said station officials are excited about the gains they made overall, "but there is always room for improvement. Since we've been on the air, we have tried to provide the best smooth and classic R&B and our audience responded to that."

They don't just play rap. They don't just play gospel. They don't just play

R&B. They play rap, gospel, R&B, Latino, reggae and more. KNON-FM 89.3 is a "something for

everyone" kind of station. And they want you to listen.

The 24-hour community radio station, run almost entirely by volunteers, has been around for years. Many of the

# V100, KRNB vie for R&B lead; **KNON offers "real" variety**

top local DJ's got their start at KNON support KNON, call 972-263-5305. including K104's Nippy Jones and V100's Keith Solis and Sweet Willie Mitchell.

But what's so different about this station is that just about everyone-including the DJs-are volunteers. Also, the station is listener supported and survives, in part, through donations from the public.

"The more support we get from the community, the better the chances we have of being on the air. Everyone here has a passion for radio and for music," says Victor Malone, program director for KNON. "Real radio is having fun and

playing music that people like to hear and we try our 260 best to bring people music they love." )) IIIOA Malone says KNON is KHAYY also an outlet for local ROL. artists and those musicians that normally don't get any

exposure. For all you rhythm and blues lovers,

the station is now advertising itself as the "home of the new R&B mornings." From 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., Monday through Friday, you can hear your favorite old and new R&B music. Everything from Al Green to Mary J. Blige to Toni Braxton to Aretha Franklin.

Here is the current line-up of their R&B morning programming. Mondays are "R&B review days" with Big Daddy G; Tuesdays and Wednesdays are "Sultry Soul" days with Victor Malone.

On Thursdays Lady E. plays "classic and smooth" R&B grooves. Fridays are "Strictly Blues" with Greg Smith. And for the hip-hoppers, Saturday nights from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. are reserved for the best in old, new and underground rap music.

The station plays various types of music in addition to R&B including Ethiopian and other African music, Latin music, reggae and tejano.

According to Malone, the tejano block of music, weekdays from noon to 4 p.m., is the station's largest block of programming. "They are fortunate to have more hours because they have the support from their community," he said.

'We would have a better chance of expanding our hours beyond from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. if we get more public support for our music," Malone says of the station's R&B block of programming.

KNON has its roots in the community and, as such, they will hold an internship program this summer for high school students interested in careers in radio.

For more information on the internship or to inquire about how you can help

Legendary radio personality Tom Joyner is making history. The popular national host of The Tom Joyner Morning Show, heard locally on KRBV-FM (V100), and his entire morning crew will broadcast live from South Africa May 5-9 (Monday-Friday).

. . . . .

Joyner is the first radio personality to broadcast from the Motherland and, as such, received a big send-off from the community during a special reception April 30 at the African American Museum in Fair Park.

Mark your calendars for May 25-30 as KKDA-AM (Soul 73) presents the annual Bishop Five Plus One Revival at Friendship West Baptist Church. "Slipping into Darkness," "When God Meets You at the End of Your Rope" and of course, "Creeps and Silly Women," were just some of the titles of last year's sermons. So you know you can't miss this year! For details call 972-263-9911.

. . . . .

Former KNON on-air personality Francis Jaye is now working weekends at KRNB-FM 105.7.

. . . .

Eva Gray of KRNB, Kim Jackson of KEGL and Barnale Thomas of KERA took time out of their busy schedules last month to participate in the forum, "Women in Radio." The forum was held during the April meeting of the Dallas/Fort Worth Association of Black Communicators. The ladies talked about the pressures and responsibilities of being black women in radio.

• • • • •

Russ Parr is back. Check out his On The Move syndicated radio show Sundays at 10 a.m. on KKDA-FM (K104).

. . . . .

V100's Sunday Summit can be heard at 7 a.m., not 7 p.m. as reported last month.

. . . . .

Sam Baker, host of KERA 90.1's Morning Edition, has been named host of

KERA/KDTN's new weekly public affairs series, On the Record. It premieres Friday, May 9, at 9 p.m. on KDTN Channel 2 and will air Fridays at 9 p.m., Sundays at 11 a.m. on Channel 13 and Sundays at 5 p.m. on Channel 2. Panelists will be Bob Ray Sanders, Regina Montoya and Rob Allyn.

V100's Keith Solis will host the May 16 "Love Clinic" at Jubilee United Methodist Church in Duncanville. The topic is "Living Black, Loving White."

. . . . .

KRNB is introducing a new Sunday morning two-hour call-in talk show. Family Values premieres Sunday, June 1 at 6 a.m. and features social workers/counselors Barbara Gold and Linda Mims.

Gold, a Licensed Masters Social Worker from State University of New York-Stonybrook, will host one hour and Mims, who has her MA in counseling from Amber University, will take the second. KRNB program director Jo-Jo Davis, who is also a social worker with an MSW from the University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia), will occasionally join the two hosts.

Family Values will tackle issues important to both suburban and urban audiences, Davis said. These include family dynamics, issues of character and virtue, religion and more. Tune in Sundays at 6 a.m. beginning June 1.

On the heels of its successful town hall meeting on rap music, V100 will continue with a town hall on public schools and the state of education, May 8 at Dunbar Elementary in Dallas. Call 214-630-3011 for more information.

. . . . .

This is my last "Black Radio" column for Minority Opportunity News. I would like to thank the readers for making this column so enjoyable and fun to write, And thanks for the many phone calls I have received regarding this column.

A special thanks goes out to the following people who have made writing this column just a little bit easier.

From V100: Keith Solis, Sandra Daniels and Thomas Bacote; from The Oasis: Diane McKenna and Skip Schmidt; from K104: Lenny Whiteside and Ken Dowe; from Soul 73: Willis Johnson, Roland Martin and Cheryl Smith; from Heaven 97: Drew Dawson; from KNON: Victor Malone; and from KRNB, Eva Gray and Jo-Jo Davis.

MON

See ya around town!

# Murder at 1600

#### Starring Wesley Snipes

Set in the highest circles of power in Washington, D.C., Warner Bros.' suspense thriller, *Murder at 1600*, starring Wesley Snipes follows homicide detective Harlan Regis (Snipes) who is called into the White House when a woman is found murdered there.

As Regis attempts to solve the case, he finds himself confronted, misled and even targeted for assault by various members of the government's numerous elite policing forces. With the unexpected assistance of Secret Service agent Nina Chance (Dianna Lane), Regis is finally able to pierce the veil of secrecy and intrigue that conceals the real killer.

Snipes most recently starred oppo-



site Robert DeNiro in *The Fan*, directed by Tony Scott. His film career began in 1985 with Wildcats, followed by Streets of Gold; Spike Lee's Mo' Better Blues and Jungle Fever; Major League; New Jack City; The Waterdance; Passenger 57; Rising Sun; White Men Can't Jump; Demolition Man; Sugar Hill; Drop Zone; To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything, Julie Newmar; and Money Train.

*Murder at 1600,* which is rated R, opened at Dallas/Fort Worth area theaters on April 18.

# Breakdown

### Starring Kurt Russell

What happens if your car breaks down on one of the west's remote back roads and you are stranded alone in the desert under the merciless sun? *Breakdown*, starring Kurt Russell, J.T. Walsh and Kathleen Quinlan is a taut, suspenseful action thriller that cleverly preys



upon our paranoia of being stranded miles from any vestige of civilization.

When Jeff (Russell) sets off crosscountry from Boston to San Diego with his wife Amy (Quinlan), he thinks he is leaving his troubles behind and moving on towards fantastic new beginnings.

Then, while taking the scenic route through the beautiful but vast, desolate spaces of the desert Southwest, their car breaks down. Jeff and Amy find themselves stranded on a seldom-traveled road, many miles from the nearest human habitation. Fortunately, help appears at hand as an 18 wheeler semi truck comes into view on the horizon.

The driver, Red (J.T. Walsh), an over the road trucker, is immaculate and professional. He offers the couple a ride to a nearby diner and Amy reluctantly agrees to accompany him while Jeff stays with the car. In the meantime,

Jeff locates the car's problem, fixes it and makes his way to Belle's diner but Amy isn't there.

The diner isn't a bustling place, yet the bartender and customers claim they never saw either Amy or Red. Jeff's growing anxiety is only made worse by his gnawing suspicion that they aren't telling the truth.

Getting back on the road, Jeff searches for Red's truck, but when he finds it, Red denies ever having seen Jeff or his wife. The police are of no help, as they view Amy's disappearance skeptically.

With nowhere and no one to turn to, Jeff sets forth on his determined, increasingly desperate search for Amy, who has vanished utterly into the immense, sun-baked emptiness of the West.

The Paramount Pictures presentation, in association with Dino De Laurentiis and Spelling Films, is directed by Jonathan Mostow and Sam Montgomery. The film opens soon at a theater near you.

# Father's Day

### Starring Robin Williams

Robin Williams and Billy Crystal star together onscreen for the first time in this comedy directed by Ivan Reitman and produced by Reitman and Joel Silver.

When sixteen-year-old Scott Andrews (Charlie Hofheimer) mounts a motorcycle with his girlfriend and roars down the street after a bitter fight with his father Bob (Bruce Greenwood), his mother Collette (Nastassja Kinski) is terrified he's gone for good. But Bob is sure the boy will be back, and the police agree. A spoiled Beverly Hills brat throwing a tantrum—they've seen it all before.

Collete however is desperate to find her son. The glimmer of plan stirs her. She telephones Jack Lawrence (Billy Crystal), a fussy, self-motivated, highly successful lawyer with whom she'd had a romance years before when they were both still single. Hopong to persuade him to help, Collette reveals that Scott was conceived when Jack and she were dating.

Jack's not so sure. Furthermore, he has no desire to complicate his life or his marriage to Carrie (Julia Louis-Dreyfus), his third wife. So Collette tries again with Dale Putley (Robin Williams), another old flame of the same era. An insecure, unproduced San Francisco playwright who is the author of "the world's largest collection of suicide notes," Dale regards Collette's plea as a reprieve. Paternity gives him a reason for living so he sets out to find the boy.

The first person Dale encounters, however, is Jack, who's been suffering second thoughts. What if he is the boy's

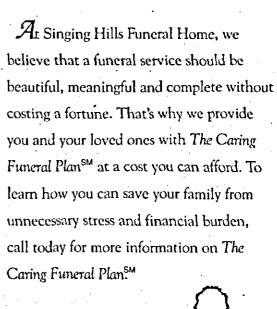


dad? The would-be fathers team up to locate Scott and determine which of them really is the father. In the process, they land smack in the middle of the boy's racy romance and a set of responsibilities neither of them had ever imagined before they assumed their new potential parental roles.

A Northern Lights/Silver Pictures production, Father' Day opens May 9 in theaters throughout the Dallas/Ft. Worth metroplex.

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Minority Opportunity News c page 23 c May 1997

# Umphrey Lee students aim high for the future Students vie for essay awards

As adults, the greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that our aim is too low and we reach it.

Fortunately, children still dream. And as long as they believe their dreams can come true, vivid and lofty aspirations persist.

Therefore, to encourage students to set goals and plan for their future careers, Minority Opportunity News held a Writer's Workshop in March for fifth and sixth grade boys at Umphrey Lee Elementary School. We invited the students to utilize their newly acquired skills by participating in an essay contest with the topic, "What career will I have in the year 2010?" Looking thirteen years down the road, when most of the boys would be turning 24 or 25, MON asked them to share their goals.

The following essays stood out. In appreciation of their efforts and strong ambition, MON declared Jamile Dickson the first place winner, second place went to Bruce Loyde; and Mark Roberson placerd third. Prizes of \$50, \$35 and \$15 respectively will be presented to our top three essayists at a celebration later this month that will also honor Umphrey Lee faculty and U.S. Air Force volunteers who helped build, as well as participate in, this mentoring partnership.

## Jamile Dickson, Grade 5 First Place

I'm a drummer. Just personally, I play for my grandfather. I'm a great player, I can even play some songs. I was born in Dallas, Texas. I am 10 years old and I am 5 feet 5 inches tall. I have a mother, two brothers and a grandfather. My grandmother died four years ago.

I don't have a father. He's in prison now for smoking dope and doing drugs. You see what happens when drugs do

stuff to you. I'll never do drugs. They can mess up your life. My parents influence me by telling me when you do something you like, don't stop until you want to stop.

Now let's get back to my life. I'm interested in playing drums for someone. Do you know how much time I spend when I play my drums? An hour and a half. I think I can

have a career and earn a living too. Do you know how big and important it is to have a career? It's important just as a job is. Having a career would be kind of great. You'd make lots of money. Then once you get the hang of it, you'd like it.

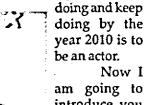
If you want to be a drummer, you gotta know skills. I already have a band teacher and he teaches how to do a flan, ruff, roll. He taught me at Umphrey Lee School.

There will be a great need for my career because my mom is sick and in the year 2010 she won't have enough money to pay for her doctor bills. I know I'll have enough money then because I'm going to keep my career for life. Now I am saving money for some new drums.

I know my money will be needed. Believe me, I know. But you have to keep your mind on making good grades and to stay in school. Education is cool.

## Bruce E. Loyde, Jr., Grade 5 Second Place

Hi, my name is Bruce Edward Loyde, Jr. and I was born in Germany. I have wavy black hair and black eyes. I am 4 feet 4 inches. There's a mole on my nose and I am a little skinny. I like to play football, baseball and basketball for the fun. But what I would really like to start



introduce you to all my family members. There's my dad on one hand makes that things easier for

Bruce E. Loyde Jr.

me to understand. He also takes us out. Then it's my sister that always complains about things. But she's someone you can count on most of the time. My dad is 5 feet 10 inches and my sister is five feet tall.

The most interesting thing I can remember is when I went to the amusement park and went go-cart riding. It was me, my dad, his friend and his wife, his wife's friend, her son and her daughter's husband.

At the year 2010, what I would be doing is acting. It is so important to make a living because you can't make a living without something to live for. I would have to go to school, acting school, save up money to go to Hollywood, California. From there, I would have to get an agent, and sign a contract. Then I would do whatever I'd have to do from there.

The skills I would have to use are acting skills. I would have to practice until I succeed with my goal. It's not going to be easy reaching my goal. I can't just get the job, just like that. I have to work hard to succeed at the job. I will need help to acquire those skills. It's not one way. I can

raise over a \$1,000 to go to California. I would need the money from my dad. He would help me with it. And I would get the money from Dallas, Texas.

There would be a great need for my career. I would also make good money. The money is so important that it will be useful in my life. I plan on having a child.

There are a whole lot of things I am doing to reach my goal. I'm looking at commercial advertisements, earning money, doing chores and most of all, getting an education.

That is what I plan to do come 2010 and how I plan to get there and succeed at my goal.

## Mark Roberson, Grade 5 Third Place

My name is Mark James Roberson. I was born in Dallas, Texas. I have black hair, brown eyes, and brown skin. I have two sisters, three brothers, a mother and a father. Only one of my sisters lives with me.

ス 1.....

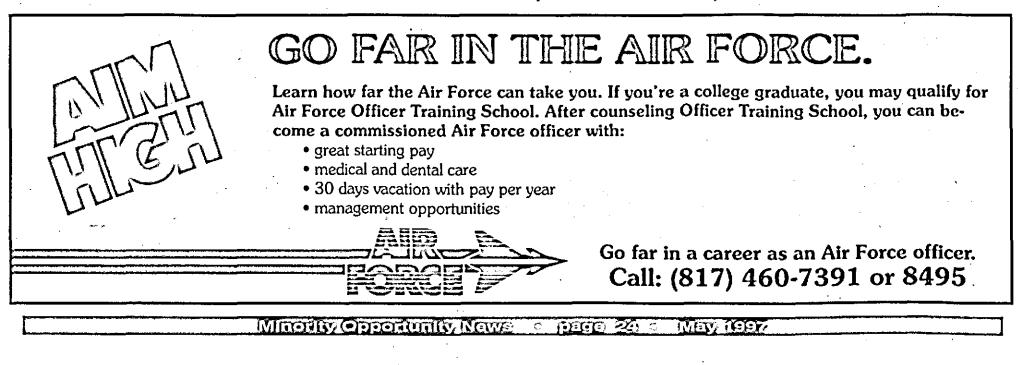
I like to play football and baseball, I played have baseball for two years but I will play football this year. For my career, I hope to play football. would like to play football because I like

Mark Roberson

the sport and it pays lots of money.

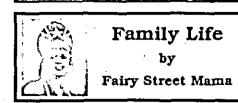
Since I want to play football, I must have speed and strength. I will need help from trainers. There will be a great need for my career in football. Playing football will help me do something with my life I enjoy. I know it will pay a good salary. I will play football this year. I will try to be . a running back.

MON





#### Instite Romandia



It seems that we don't respect each other anymore. We seem to have lost or forgotten what respect really means. We hear much too often of conflict and confrontations that result from lack of respect of our fellow man. Even countries are at war with each which usually boils down to something arising from disrespect. I spoke with two ladies from different parts of Dallas and of different ages who have similar view regarding respect.

#### KIM TIMBERLAKE: "Respect is one of the most important personality traits that a person can have...I have 3 children and



teaching them to be polite to each other so that hopefully they won't disrespect others when they are older. We do things together as a family and we try to instill good morals within our children...We try to show them as

I have begun

Kim Timberl Garland

much love as possible and we let them know that we are there for them if they need us...Since my oldest son is a little older than the twins who are not quite a year old, we also teach him to look after his brother and sister and show them respect as well, although they are only babies."

CHRISTI, 18: "I think that it is very important to respect yourself first...I know people (whom I don't associate with) who do not show respect to anyone



...They are very rude and mean to other kids and adults ... I feel that you can't succeed in life if you don't show others respect because God will not

bless you ...

Christl Caldwell, Dallas

My grandmother taught all of us from a young age that we would have to not only respect her, but our brothers and sisters and our cousins as well..."

Back when Aretha Franklin released her hit single *R-E-S-P-E-C-T*, the world seemed to love each other and showed

# Respect: What does it really mean?

more respect to each other. Now-a-days, we seem to be more disrespectful in ways such as cutting in front of other while we're driving, not saying excuse me, not holding the door open for the person behind you and talking bad about people in the presence of children. If we think about what we are going to say before we say it, we will find that more positive words will come out of our mouths because a better feeling of love for other will really be instilled in our hearts.

MON Fairy Street Mama can be seen on cable Channel 23b on Tuesday at 4 p.m., Thursday at 5 p.m. and Saturday at 10 p.m. Also, viewers can see her live or call every 4th Wednesday from 8-9 p.m. For more information, call (214) 561-2002.

Advertise in special Juneteenth 214-606-7351 MON<sub>II</sub>

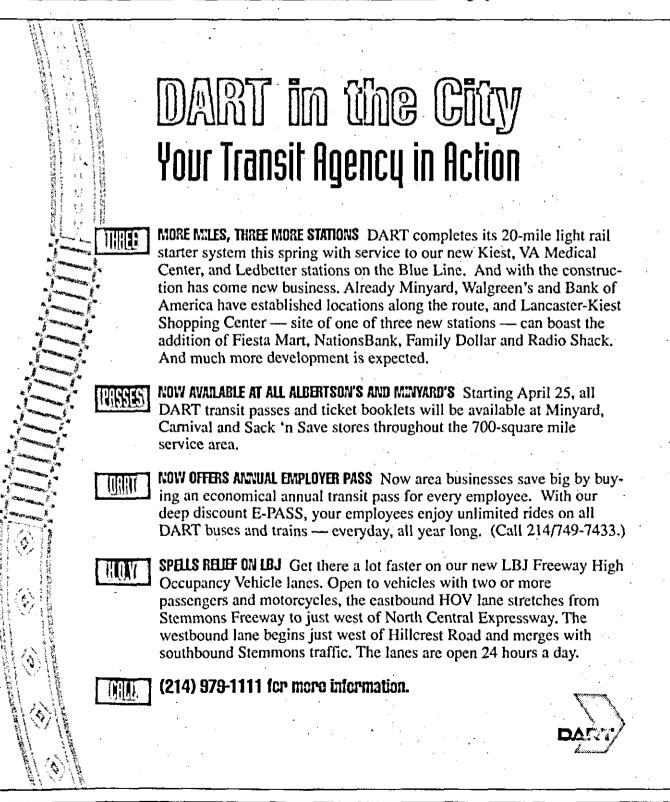
Minority Opportunity News c page 25 c

## Photo School holds workshop

The Texas School of Professional Photography just completed a week-long concentrated workshop, entitled "Less Flair, More Profits."

This is the 22nd annual Texas School of Photography, and the 20th school cosponsored by Sam Houston State University. Dr. Emmete Jackson. SHSU photography program coordinator, reported that over 300 professional photographers from 24 states took part in this year's program.

Derrick Waiters, a local free-lance photographer, completed the workshop and earned one achievement merit towards his Master of Photography degree, awarded by the Professional Photographers of America.



May 1997



#### Intrepreneurship

# She's "All In Stitches"

#### **By Whitney Larkins**

Sewing has turned from a hobby to a way of life for Lou Ann Larkins, seamstress and owner of All in Stitches. All in Stitches is a business that specializes in alterations and pattern designs.

When Ms. Larkins was a teenager, she began to realize

her love of sewing. started sewing when I was 14 years old. I had a neighbor whose daughter sewed, and I would watch her."

By taking home economic classes in high school, she then began to develop more of an interest in her hobby. As the years progressed, Ms. Larkins decided to establish her own business in June of 1996.

"I decided to start my own business so I could put my daughter through college. This is also a way for me to supplement my income," she said.

Ms. Larkins is the mother of two daughters, Kelli and Whitney. Kelli, a college student, is working to receive a

degree in accounting. Whitney, a high school senior, is preparing for college. She also has a twin brother, Richard, who resides in Jacksonville, Fla.

Ms. Larkins, who has made clothes for church groups, is currently working on prom dresses. She doesn't take the task of sewing lightly. "When it comes to my sewing, I'm very detailed about the look of the finished garment. I take an extreme amount of pride to have them look ready-made."

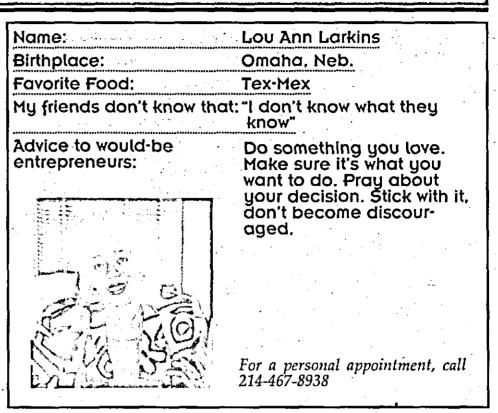
Ms. Larkins feels that nothing should stop you from reaching your goals. "If it's something that you want to do, you can't let the opinion of others stop you. You have to try. I would much rather say that I tried than never try."

SILCIRE IS'IL'S In about five years, Ms. Larkins would like to expand her business.

"I would like to expand into a shop

with at least 12 employees working. I would like to be contracted out to do design work for anyone who wants to give me the business." She would like to remain in the Oak Cliff area when the business expands.

For anyone who is interested in the sewing business, Ms. Larkins offers some advice. "Make sure it is what you want to do, it takes time. Discuss it with your family. It's going to involve family sacri-



fices for the business in order for it to work."

God and spirituality are motivation for Ms. Larkins on a day-to-day basis. She is a member of Fellowship Baptist Church of Oak Cliff, where A.W. Brown is senior pastor. She holds various leadership roles in church. She states that God is the provider of all.

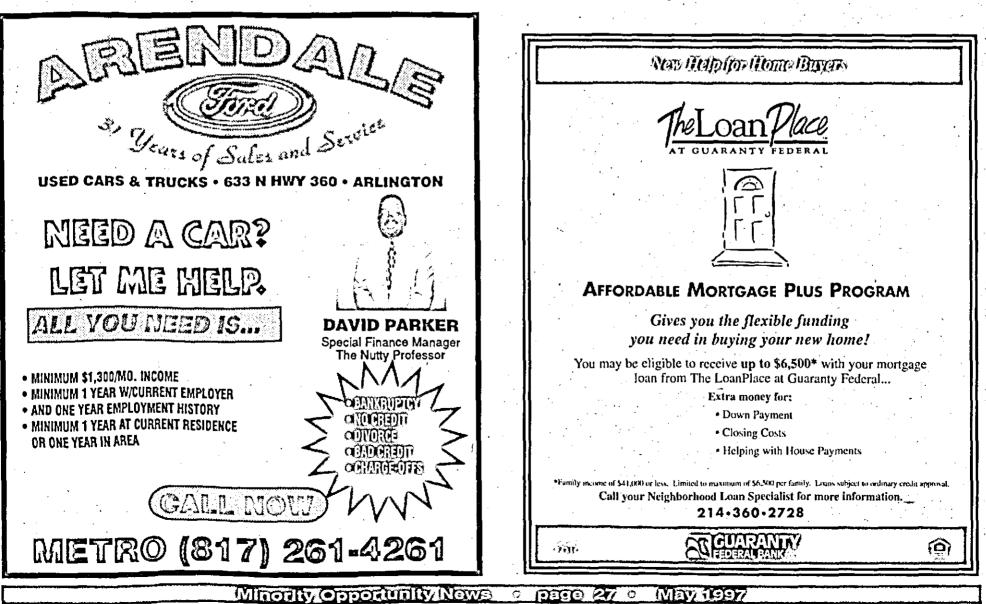
"I've developed a gift from God. My faith in God has made this possible. I Whitney Larkins is a senior at Duncanville High School.

know through him, all things are possible," she said.

When Ms. Larkins first got the idea for her business, it didn't take long to come up with the name.

"Everything I do is tied together by the stitches. Whether by hand or machine, it's All in Stitches."

MON



"We went to the store for sour cream and to check our numbers. We never did get the sour cream."

> Prize: \$4,823,749.44\*

> > ×

*Winning Numbers:* 1 6 29 37 38 50

Their System: "I picked the first and last number, the age of my sons, how long we've been married and the number of grandkids."

*First Purchase:* "I bought a tiller."

What She Did With Her Ticket: "I signed it immediately and took it home and put it in a sealed plastic bag."

\*Paid over 20 years.

"I saw that all six numbers matched, and I just went to dancing."



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# Investment clubs

In forming an investment club and entering into a marriage contract we find that they operate on parallel playing fields. Compatibility, education, friendship, honesty, luck, survivorship and trust are some of the necessary ingredients needed to make each successful. In one there is a single partner; the other, multiple partners. Let's address the more difficult of the two, the investment club.

I am not a proponent of investment clubs, but it can be a nice way to learn about stocks. When you have numbers you have problems. There are so many variables.

The smaller the group, the better, but not less than ten. At times it can become trying for two people to think alike, let alone ten or more.

One must ask, What are my goals? Am Laggressive, patient, conservative, or passive? Do the others have the same investment philosophy as I? Are we close in age proximity? Am I going to put in the time or let the next member carry the load?

There is NOTHING romantic about an investment club. It is plain hard work, but rewarding. Like anything else, to be successful you have to work at it.

Fortunately, for the uninitiated, you can obtain some guidance materials published by the National Association of Investor Corporations (P.O. Box 220; Royal Oak, MI 48068; 810-583-6242.)

They issue a free informational start-up kit. The cost for clubs joining the association is \$35, \$14 for individuals.

Investment clubs, many of which have monthly dues of at least \$20 (after an initial ante) are definitely for the long term. Bear in mind that an individual is expected to contribute EACH and EVERY month.

There are several alternatives that can be applied in conjunction with the investment club. You can learn about stocks through your monthly meetings, in addition to reading various periodicals. The application of your available funds do not all have to go into an investment club, especially if you have anxious fingers and want to receive immediate gratification.

One scenario would be to set aside \$100 per month of which half (\$50) would go into the investment club and the remaining stored in your coffers until you obtained a sufficient amount (\$500) to purchase stocks outside of the club. One would have it both ways. You would be learning about stocks through your club and putting to practice the knowledge gained from this procedure.

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Herb Beckford is a successful personal investor. To contact him for investment advice, send a SASE c/o MON or email him at herb@evergreen.com



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## Home Business by Angela Robinson

As promised, this issue will continue to list additional home-based businesses with a start up cost of \$100 or less. The businesses listed are potential gold mines that can be achieved on a part-time basis if you have the business savvy and endurance and can stand up to the challenge. And as we all know, in the business world, those who conquer the challenge usually reap financial rewards! This is an ideal list of businesses for those of you who enjoy a good business challenge. And now on to the list:

1. Tax Preparation (RAL). As a tax preparer you would help to prepare and file individual income tax returns for a fee. This has been a growing industry, especially with a larger portion of the population being forced to work. Another option available (but with strict limitations) is companies who will pay you a commission to do rapid refunds by simply preparing the taxes and faxing them to their company to process for a fee (charged to the tax payer for getting their money in one to three days). Commission paid is usually about 40 percent for each tax return processed.

2. Public Seminars. Many companies and organizations will pay for an individual's expertise on a certain subject. There are many seminar buffs who are making in excess of \$100,000 a year sharing their knowledge in a particular field. With the age of computer technology upon us, technical advice is in great demand. However, any subject from pottery, crafts, cooking, to installing satellite dishes are all areas in which I personally know people who are making a decent living. The average cost of a seminar is about \$40 to \$1,500 per person depending on the demographics, the subject and whether you are targeting an individual, a small group or a corporation.

3. PC Maintenance. Speaking of the 21st century, computer technology is introducing another field which has grown by leaps and bounds. PC repair is putting a lot of individuals with technical inclination into business for themselves. Many home PC users and businesses large and small are in constant need of technical assistance and upgrading of their machines. This field can yield from \$20 to \$60 an hour.

4. Business Plan Preparation. You prepare business plans for businesses or people who are looking to going into business, such as yourself. These plans are most often used to obtain loans and credit for start-up ventures. It is crucial

# 9 profitable, home-based businesses for under \$100

in this business to have a computer, as there are many formatted business plan programs which can make your endeavor a smashing success. The earning potential ranges from \$300 to \$500 for a simple plan to as much as a \$5,000 fee for a more detailed plan asking for \$50,000 or more in funds.

5. Second Mortgage Broker. You would find funds for second and third mortgages for homeowners who are in need of capital. You could also act as an agent for such firms seeking homeowners to loan money to. Either way, it is a commission paid business in which you would receive 5 percent of the first million dollars in second mortgages you place, 4 percent of the second million placed, and so on.

6. Carpet and Drapery Cleaning. First you would service the homeowners market to establish a track record, then move into the arena of commercial establishments like hotel chains and other businesses. You can lease your equipment and do your best to develop a track record honesty, dependability and punctuality. Working alone, the earning potential can go as high as \$50,000 a year with hard work. With a crew of cleaners, your earnings can rise to \$150,000 or more annually.

7. Grant Writer. With the proliferation of nonprofit organizations, there is great demand for capable people who can solicit funds. Grant writers gather information on the client organization's needs, what they intend to do with the money, and other pertinent information into a well-written proposal for sub-

mittal to government agencies and other foundations who are potential money donors. Your earnings could range from \$12,000 to \$40,000 a year preparing short proposals, \$80,000 and up if you share proceeds of the grant on a percentage basis.

8. Money Charge-off Broker. With the loss of jobs and financial security on the rise, this business is in great demand. In this business, you buy and sell money chargeoffs offered by banks and other lenders. Then you would sell them to companies that buy bad debts. These companies then turn around and offer the debtor an opportunity to show the loan as current with the credit bureau by lowering the payment amount (plus a premium).

For example, if you purchased \$31.5 million in charge-off credit card debt from XYZ Savings and Loan at a negotiated price of three cents on the dollar, then sold them to DOC Financial Group for four cents on the dollar, your gross profit would be \$315,000 (\$31.5 million times one cent). My suggestion is to start small until you learn the ropes, unless you are pretty crafty with finances.

9. Foreclosure Locator and Advisor. With job instability and other financial pitfalls come foreclosures. This is a tough business, as many look upon it in the same light as the "attorney who chases the ambulance." But reality has it that it is a money-making business and someone is, and will continue to, make money doing it. In this position you could act alone or as an agent for different investment groups who are looking for such opportunities. You would locate foreclosed property through government listings, by placing ads in local and regional newspapers and through driving around scouting various neighborhoods. Banks and other institutions are also good sources of information. Once you find these properties, you would then contact different investment groups and negotiate a dollar figure for your listings, or contract on the purchase price of the property once purchased. The latter lends a higher return, as you are gambling on whether the deal will go through between the investor and the company or person holding the note to the foreclosed property. The average earning potential can range from \$20,000 to \$70,000 a year.

This list should present somewhat of a challenge to the real entrepreneur-ofspirit in that it is a list of businesses that require no degrees, licenses or major capital outlay. However, it does require some ingenuity and raw courage; but the rewards are always well worth the effort.

#### MON

Angela Robinson is owner/operator of Dal-Tex Computer Learning Center for Children & Adults. The center is located at 8928 Lake June Rd. in Dallas. For more information, call (214) 398-4749.

Chronology of		
Home Businesses		
NovemberBefore You Start		
January		
February Making Money 🗖		
MarchMoney on the Internet		
AprilMail Order Businesses		
MayStart-ups for under \$100 🗖		





Minority/Opportunity/News o page 30 c May 1997



# Homebuying cash shortage

When trying to buy a home, and you're short of cash, you may want to consider an FHA(203b) acquisition loan over a conventional one. While a prospective borrower is not allowed to include his or her closing costs as part of their loan with conventional financing, a significant advantage in using FHA loans to finance transactions is the ability to include closing costs in the loan.

Now, the 100 percent of actual closing costs to be charged to the buyer can be "rolled into" FHA loans. The inclusion of closing costs in an FHA loan is known as the "acquisition method." On October 16, 1992, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development prepared "Mortgage Letter 91-39" for disbursement to all approved mortgagees. The subject: "Single Family Loan Production-Elimination of limit on financing closing costs."

Prior to issuance of this letter, only 57 percent of closing costs could be financed into an FHA loan. However, to quote the HUD letter itself: "This Mortgage Letter alerts lenders and Field Office staff to the enactment of legislation removing the 57 percent limitation on financeable closing costs."

The 57 percent limitations on financeable closing costs, implemented by Mortgage Letter 91-24, has been repealed by recent legislation. Effective immediately, borrowers may include up to 100 percent of their reasonable and customary closing costs in the calculation used to determine the maximum mortgage amount. However, the mortgage amount is still restricted by the 97.75 percent of the sales price when the sales price is \$50,000 or more and 98.75 percent of the sales price when the sales price is less than \$50,000 loan-to-value limits applied to the appraised value (HUD still retains authority to approve the acceptability of any charge, including appraisal, inspection, and other fees).

Just what does this mean to you as a borrower? Well, cash that you would normally have to pay "up front" can now be rolled back into the loan. This in effect, creates less cash out-of-pocket that you would otherwise need to close the transaction. HUD emphasizes that the calculation of closing costs "rolled into" the Ioan be actual amounts. It is not always possible to determine the "exact" amount

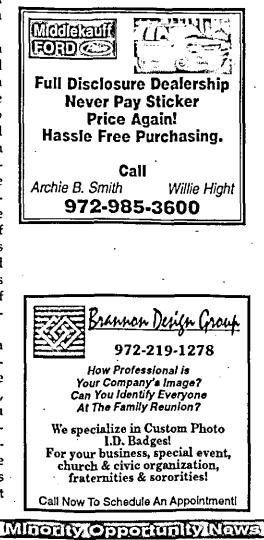
of all charges at the time of preparing the contract for sale. A real estate agent would generally state clearly to you that your closing costs are only estimates.

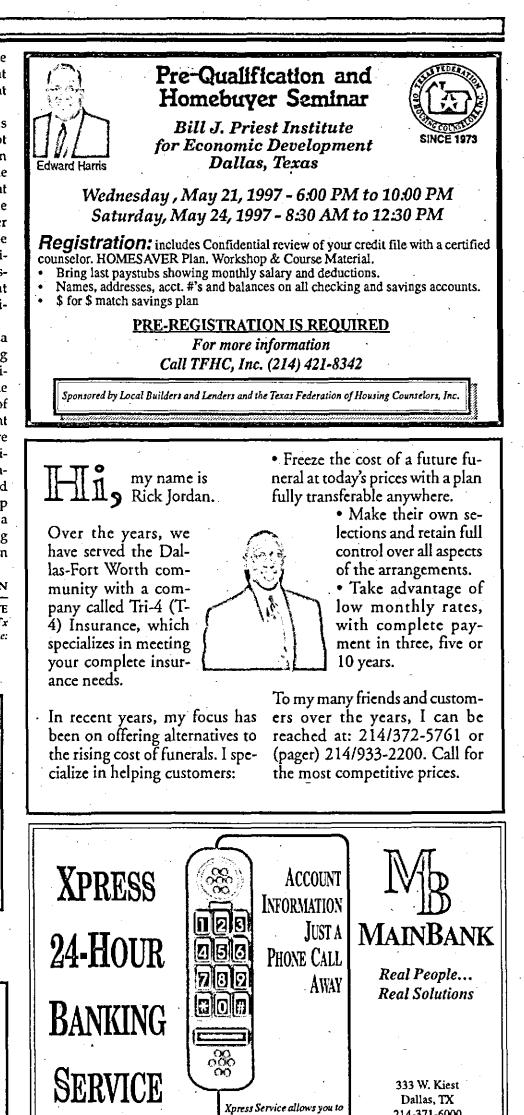
However, this is not a problem as long as the "estimated amount" does not exceed the actual amount by more than \$250 because the title closer can make the necessary adjustments to the contract at closing and have the parties initial the changes at that time. The HUD letter states: "The closing costs (meaning the amounts used in calculating the maximum mortgage amount during processing and underwriting) should be that amount shown on the good faith estimate."

HUD expects this amount to be a reasonable reflection of actual closing costs at the time of settlement. If the estimated closing costs used to calculate the mortgage exceeds by more than \$250 of the actual charges, the mortgage amount must be recalculated and reduced before settlement. It is the lender's responsibility to assure that the loans closed in compliance with this requirement. If you find yourself faced with a shortage of "up front" funds when trying to purchase a home, and there's no public financing available, you might consider an FHA(203b) acquisition loan.

MON

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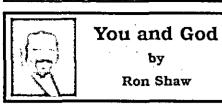
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#### Similar



# What Do You Do Best? Romans 12:6

One of my gifts is helping people to find their God given gifts and abilities. It's one of the things I do best. As a pastor, I have observed that in our society we try and push everyone into a box and try to make them fit. In our schools we demand that everyone learn the same way. In the marketplace we demand everyone look a certain way. This thinking always makes people miserable and unproductive, not to mention being detrimental to any society that would be great.

Even in the church community we try and cut out people to fit our model. One of the greatest lessons I've ever learned is from a simple story of some animals who got together to form a school. The curriculum included running, jumping, swimming, climbing and flying. To abbreviate the story let me just say that the teachers demanded that the duck stop spending so much time swimming and work on his running, which resulted in him wearing out his feet so that he began to get poor grades in swimming. They required the rabbit to take more swimming classes and less running classes. The result was he not only got poor grades in swimming, his muscles were so fatigued that his running speed decreased. The eagles dropped out of school because they insisted on getting to the top of the tree their own way instead of the prescribed way (climbing). What is the lesson to be learned here?

We all have strengths that are Godgiven. We must discover them and develop them instead of trying to get better at our weaknesses. Keep in mind I'm talking about gifts, not character. I approach teaching from this perspective.

Our text (Rom 12:6-8) says God has given each of us the ability to do certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, then prophesy whenever you can—as often as your faith is strong enough to receive a message from God. If your gift is that of serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, do a good job of teaching. If you are a preacher, see to it that your sermons are strong and helpful. If God has given you money, be generous in helping others with it. If God has given you administrative ability and put you in charge of the work of others, take the responsibility seriously.

How many people do you know that have been greatly discouraged because they were not encouraged to develop the talents they were good at? Instead, what they were probably told was since they were good at it, they didn't need to spend any time working on them but rather spend time working on their weaknesses.

Again, consider our text. It definitely emphasizes the fact that God has given us all strengths that we must develop. It says nothing about working on our weaknesses. I discovered that successful people find the few things they are good at and stick with them. Then they partner with people who are good in areas where they are weak. My question to those who may be miserable in life and are looking for direction is "What do you do best?"

Find the thing that you do well; the thing that you like to do; the thing that gives inward satisfaction; the thing that produces great people and great results, and develop it. If you know you like cooking and you cook very well, then don't enroll in mechanics school. I think the greatest thing a school can do for us is to first help us find out where we fit. Wouldn't that be better than taking our money and spending years in school and not knowing where we are going in life? If you are going to make it successfully through life, you must be better than you've ever been before. That's what God told me at the beginning of this year. Unfortunately, too many don't know what they should be getting better at. If you do know what you do best, how can you get better?

Allow me to share with you three helpful hints on discovering your gifts. 1) Ask God. According to the Bible, we are all gifted. Our text says we all have been gifted. There is no such thing as a Christian without a gift. You may not have discovered it yet, but you do have at least one and He's the one that gave it to you so ASK HIM! 2) Seek them out. Remember, they are in you and if you are unaware of them, you have to look. Start with the things you like to do. Then look in the things you get good results in. Then look where you feel or sense an inner comfort or flow of confidence. 3) Knock. Knocking has to do with you actually practicing and doing what I've just described.

None of us ever actually became great just sitting around waiting on "De Lawd" to do something for us, in us or through us. We had to get moving doing something. It's your gift that He gave you that should provide self satisfaction and purpose in your life. It should provide you with significance as well as financial security.

MON

Ron Shaw is the pastor of LightChurch and can be reached at (214) 320-5744.



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#### LECTER AND DECEMPTORES A AND DECEMPTORES AND D



# Manufacturing tech every five jobs by year 2000. In 1989, employshortage predicted

There are forces at work dramatically altering employment needs of American industry. Forces like the end of World War II and the baby boom call for a paradigm shift in our understanding of employment and higher educationspecifically technical education.

Texas manufacturers recently met at Texas State Technical College in Waco to discuss the future of their work force and how to meet industry requirements. TSTC's industry advisory committee, a group of business leaders who helped develop curriculum for Manufacturing Engineering Technology (MET), commented on the problems they encounter and solutions that work.

John Hardage of Centex Machining in Round Rock explained, "The problem is easy to define. Manfacturers will have many jobs available in the future than qualified people to fill them." According to a report from the Texas Employment Commission (recently folded into Texas Work force Commission), manufacturing will add almost 75,000 additional jobs in Texas by 2000. The TEC report states, "Professional and technical occupations. Texas' largest and fastest growing occupational group, will account for one of

ment numbered almost 1.5 million. That figure is expected to increase by over 400,000, a 28 percent

On the other hand, the Texas Board of Education reported that in 1998, 61 percent of the state's high school seniors failed to take an adequate number of math and science credits to even enter a four-year school, community college or a technical college. The implication is obvious; many more jobs, and much fewer students creates demand.

growth rate.

Wesley Walker and Felix Bargas of Intermedics Orthopedics, Inc., agreed that shortages are a symptom of a complex problem and added, "unfortunately, the solution is equally complex. It involves industry working with colleges like TSTC to ensure that skills we need today are taught today. Further, colleges must work with high schools to ensure that students interested in technical education take math and science courses early."

Bargas, who works with specialty implants at Intermedics, added that "while technology allows America to remain globally competitive, it also forces business to adapt very quickly to change and requires constant training and retraining." So much so that American industry spends \$30 billion a year on formal classroom training for about 10 per- to me about a job." cent of the work force, according to Anthony Carnevale, chief economist for the American Society of Training and Development and author of America and the New Economy.

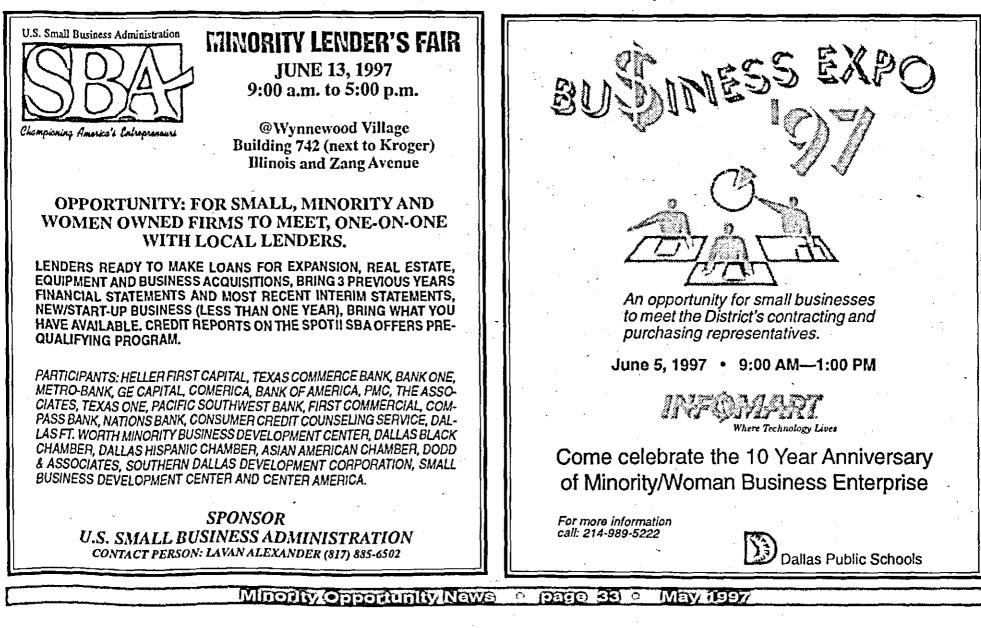
Coupled with another \$180 billion spent for basic on-the-job training, industries' price tag to train or retain employees is about \$210 billion a year. "Unfortunately, on-the-job training is expensive and companies do a poor job training the basics," claims E.E. Strahan, labor relations manager for Reed Tool Company, the third largest manufacturer in the market. "We can teach a specific task, but when the company progresses through technology, the employee can't go further. I won't hire a person without an education in the field anymore because it's much more technical now and we don't have the resources to train like we used to. The need for college-educated technicians has me worried about the future. The average employee's age at Reed is 55-years old. The average seniority is 22 years. I'm hiring all I can to keep up with growth right now, but in four or five years, I'm going to have a major segment of my work force retiring. Yes, I'm worried about the future supply of manufacturing employees. Students think they can get training they need from the company. I'm here to tell them they can't anymore. Go back to school and get a technical education before you come talk

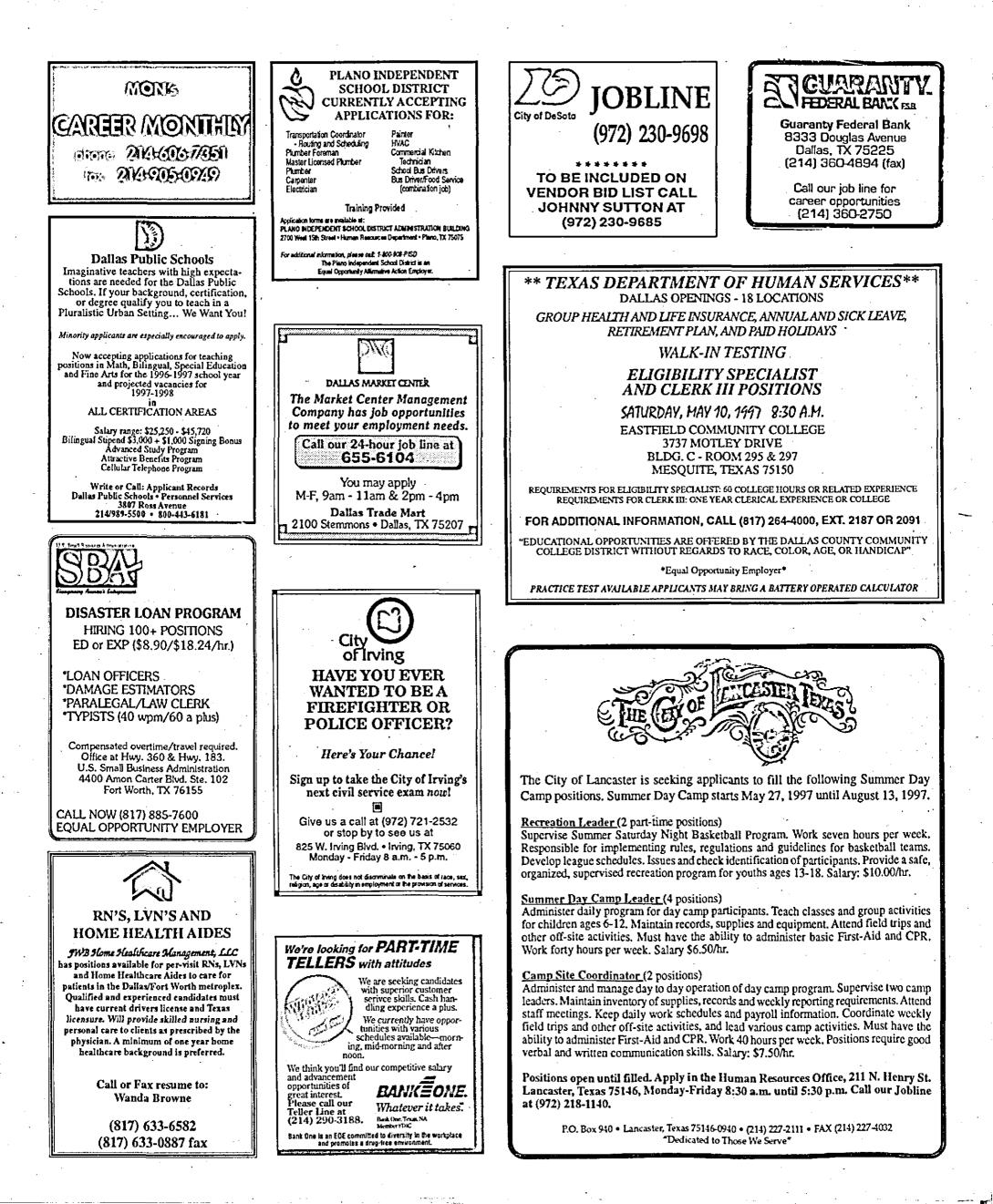
That's what the 85 students currently enrolled in the Manufacturing Engineering Technology department at TSTC are doing. With a 100 percent placement rate, these students have excellentemployment possibilities. Reed is one of the companies waiting for graduates. "At the end of each quarter, I give the college a call and hire as many graduates as I can over the telephone," said Strahan. "I'm better off investing money in a technical college and its graduates than I am hiring experienced workers off the streets. The field has changed too much."

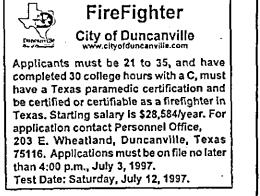
The field has changed dramatically since the end of World War II, when the market was saturated with militarytrained machinists. "Now, our students are taught everything the machinist needed to know 10 years ago," says George Gray, department chair for MET. "They then move on to what they need to know today to be competitive.

The one message that comes across loud and strong from Texas manufacturers to high school seniors is "stay in school." Whether it's for a baccalaureate degree from a university or an associate's degree from a junior college or technical college, in the words of the great Yankee, Yogi Berra, "When you come to the fork in the road, take it!"

For more information call 1-800-7992 (8784) or 1-817-867-4833.







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**NTHINNOW** 

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214-00-7351

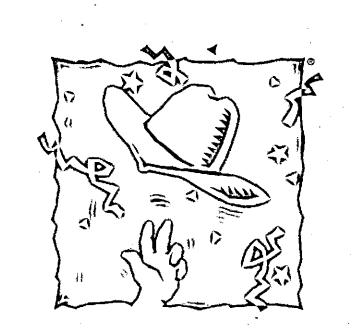
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DIW7 Texas Lotter







## WE GIVE EVERYONE A CHANCE. AFTER ALL, WE'RE THE LOTTERY.

A Texas Lottery vendor is currently searching for Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs) certified with the State of Texas and experienced in the following areas:

> -TEXAS-LOTTERY

#### ACRYLIC FINISHING

Acrylic finishers with capabilities to die-cut and print on acrylic. Please submit examples of work, a detailed company history and a descriptive equipment list. Prices must be competitive.

#### STATIC CLING PRINTING

Printers with capabilities to print four-color process or flat color onto static cling material. Please submit examples of work, a detailed company history and a descriptive equipment list. Prices must be competitive.

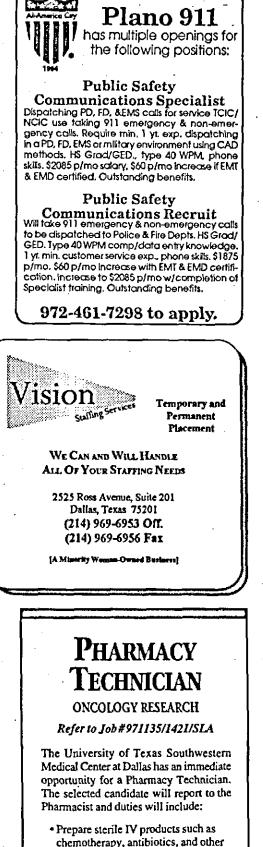
#### WHITE VINYL PRINTING

Printers with capabilities to print four-color process or flat color onto .010 white vinyl material. Must also have die-cutting capabilities. Please submit examples of work, a detailed company history and a descriptive equipment list. Prices must be competitive.

#### METAL SIGN PRINTING

Printers with capabilities to fabricate metal brackets and print on metal wall signs and curb signs. Please submit examples of work, a detailed company history and a descriptive equipment list. Prices must be competitive.

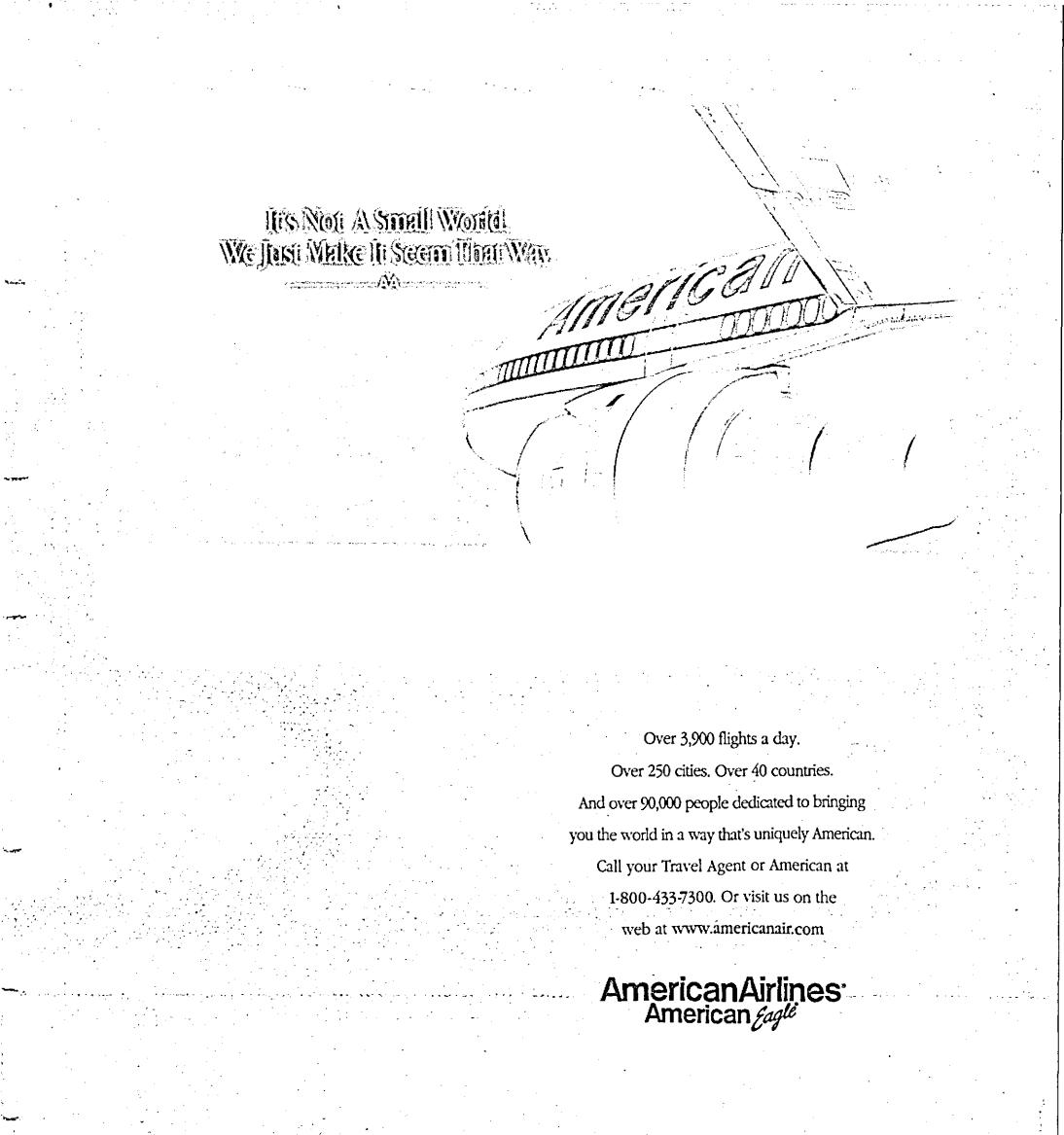
> Please respond in writing to: Melissa Villaseñor-Dye, Retailer and Minority Development Supervisor, Texas Lottery-GPP, P.O. Box 16630, Austin, TX 78761-6630.



- chemotherapy, antibiotics, and other drug therapies under the supervision of the pharmacist as mandated by Texas State Board of Pharmacy law,
- Generate labels and documents necessary for production and preparation of compounded products and other drug therapies.
- Perform proper packaging and labeling of products and subsequent storage prior to delivery to patient.
- Assist pharmacist with accountability, recordkeeping, and documentation related to investigational drugs.

We require a high school diploma or GED with a minimum of 3 years of directly related pharmacy experience to include intravenous admixture.

Please send resume to: Associate Dean for Research, UT SOUTHWESTERN, 5323 Harry Hines Blvd., Dallas, Texas 75235-9007, Fax (214) 648-8805. An equal opportunity employer.



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