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Minority Opportunity News

730 STEMMONS FRWY. STE. 1202 TOWER WEST, DALLAS, TEXAS 75207 VOLUME 6, NO. 9 September, 1997

Standard of

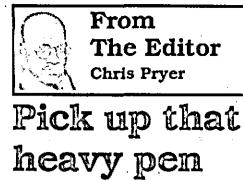
Members of the Republic of Texas put their belicis to the test when they tried to establish a minority owned bank. Now they're going to stand trial for it.

MON Editorial Challenges Community about Gangsta Rap

MON

Inwood Bank: Like a Good Neighbor

MON Talks With Betty Culbreath



"The pen is mightier than the sword." Whoever said that should have added that the pen is also heavier than the sword. Or at least it seems that way, judging by the lack of written responses by our citizenry to the pressing issues of the day. Oh, don't get me wrong, now. We will verbally complain — to our relatives, our neighbors, our coworkers, the UPS man (thank God they're back!), even strangers. But not to the people that count --- legislators, school administrators, civic leaders, the cursed media. Well, we would, if we saw them, personally, in the flesh. But that's unlikely. And there lies the problem.

Since we don't encounter those individual or entities that could maybe actually act on our complaints or concerns, we are left with our frustration — and a couple of alternatives. We can use the phone, the medium of choice to contact them. Of course, the chances are slim to none that we will ever really connect with our quarry. They are soooo busy; the best we can hope for is to contact their "office." And they have people (staff) who take calls for them, kind of like human answering machines or caller I.Ds. Or we can - dare I say it - use the pen. (As we enter the next millennium aren't you just about ready to hurl every time you hear that phrase now? --- any reference to pen is generally assumed to include the computer keyboard. Assume that here.) And, believe it or not, there are some advantages to written correspondence.

First, you don't have to be spontaneous, and therefore, incoherent. Most of us cannot discourse extemporaneously about most matters, if any. Our diatribe would be full of "you know," "like umm," "I mean," and the like. A letter or e-mail provides you the opportunity to contemplate, to line-up your thoughts, to remember everything you want to say. You have all the time in the world — you don't have someone on the line sighing with impatience. Second, letters are tangible. They are your mind, or a piece of it, on paper (or in bytes). Somehow, there is something impressive about that. We are all impressed by someone who "takes the time to write.*

So, for all of us who are compositionally-challenged, let's grit our teeth, flex our fingers, and pick up our heavy pens. They're not as heavy as a sword. And they're oh, so much more powerful. MON

The July edition of Minority Opportunity News featured coverage and editorial comment on the growing concern with the offensive lyrics of much of the gangsta rap music played on local radio station K104. As you may recall, the focus of the MON position was that the community should be very concerned and motivated to address the blatantly vulgar and offensive lyrics that many of our children listen to over this station. The occasion for this chance to send a message to K104 involved the station's application for license renewal to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). We further suggested that, as a responsible organization, the station should take greater measures to ensure that this type

of music is, at minimum, reviewed by a community panel prior to broadcast. . The rap article was not about limiting

the freedom of speech guaranteed to all by the U.S. Constitution. In fact, as a news organization, we fight vigorously to protect this right. However, in the case of K104, this is not a matter of free speech. Rather, we believe that there should always be safeguards in place to shield young people from inappropriate lyrics and messages that advocate drug abuse, unsafe and promiscuous sex and gang violence. The fact that K104 is the most heavily listened to station by African American youth is the basis for our call to action from the leadership of our community to address this blatant problem now.

The article was about this paper being a catalyst for progressive, productive action in combating the insidious message promoted by a certain type of rap. This action could take the form of a panel of concerned citizens who are given the opportunity to sample the new rap music that becomes available for air play from the record companies. This panel should represent a healthy crosssection of adults who feel they have a vested interest in the future of young people. Not only will this serve to allow parents to have a sense of control over what their children are subject to hear over the air, it also decreases their ignorance about rap, thus opening up lines of communication with their kids.

For those of you who either do not believe that a considerable amount of the music played is, in fact, offensive, or elect to disappear when your kids decide to listen to this music, here are a few of the lyrics from several of the top artists on the K104 playlist. (Of course, for purposes of discretion, we have modified the exact presentation of the words but are

Call io Action hopeful that you can literally read between the lines.) MON was trying to eliminate rap music from the airwaves. While we are glad to

dittorial

SCARFACE ("Smile") Smile through all this bull— Fast Cars N' B— Have you ever seen a N—— that was caught in the game F— the World (Note: This song is full of 'Motherf er' and N——)

NOTORIOUS BIG ("Notorious Thugs") Let's ride...Get high...We know Angel

Dust Weed and Lots of Gin...F—ed a Few Females

Cook the Coke, Cut it, then Sell it Smokin' the reefer to ease my mind

We could go on and on with considerably more from artists including Bone, Thugs, and Harmony, Craig Mack, and the Ghetto Twins. If the names don't sound familiar, just ask your kids, and MON is confident that they will be able to tell you who they are. In fact, each of these artists is among the most frequently played and requested songs at K104. Now, perhaps, you can see the magnitude of the issue.

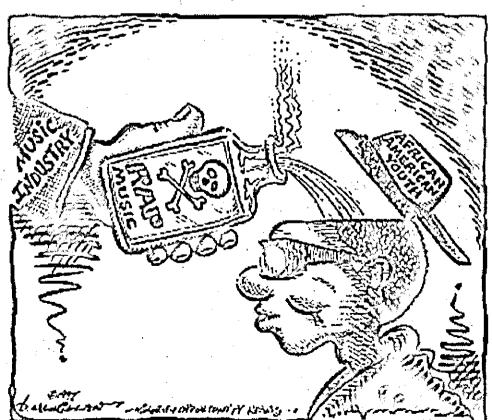
Many of our readers did see the relevance of this concern and contacted us to see what they could do to help. Much to our surprise, there were a number of critical comments from area teenagers who were expressing their concern that MON was trying to eliminate rap music from the airwaves. While we are glad to see these youth among our readers, we had to clarify and suggest that their concerns were misplaced. As a whole, we are not against rap music; rather, we are asking for greater restraint on the part of the station to control the broadcasting of these offensive lyrics.

MON also issued a request to many of the pastors of area African American churches to join us in our campaign to get the attention of the radio station. While we cannot suggest that they have not taken an individual stance against offensive lyrics, we have noted a significant lack of public leadership in this regard. The time is now to make the most significant impact on the programming of K104. Despite this fact, our clergy have again elected to choose the passive and essentially noncommittal route and let this window of opportunity pass by.

MON has a responsibility to the community to raise issues such as the focus of this editorial for the light of public inspection and commentary. In this sense, it provides the forum of discussion required to resolve these concerns. The question that remains is, what is your role and when are you going to do something about it?

Please read about an important rap symposium to be held in the metroplex in October on page 4. Get involved. Call 214-391-1451 for more information.

MON



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LETTERS...

Rap: Pros and cons

I agree wholeheartedly that the overall programming of K104 needs to be significantly changed for the betterment of African Americans in the community the station presumes to represent. I am an 18year-old college sophomore and I grew up listening to all that censored and halfway-censored "music" busting the airways.

I'll admit, I sing along to some of the rap songs. I even dance to some of the rap songs, but that is only because I probably have the tendency to keep an open mind. Even Lil' Kim knows the songs she sings are vulgar and put youth in the wrong mindset. But then, it is "All about the Benjamins," isn't it?

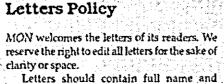
K104 should not be allowed to play music that degrades the entire black community, no matter how hard a time the youth they have brainwashed into believing "it's just music" would have adjusting to V100, 105.7 or their own headphones. I don't see how the DJs can play that music with a good conscience and then make an announcement about helping the youth. If they really wanted to help, they would go off the air or clean up K104, and if the FCC truly wants to help, it would make K104 do what it is supposed to do to uplift the community. Please forward this letter to the FCC.

> Chaz Foster-Kyser Ft. Worth

When will the likes of C. Delores Tucker, William Bennett and the editors of MON realize that there is a market for the type of entertainment they don't approve of? I'm referring to the editorial "Gangsta Rap: Cause & Effect" (August 1997).

I am not going to dispute what the editors wrote point by point; however, I find it typical that those who call for censorship use children as a shield to hide behind. I find that tactic cheap and overdone. All forms of entertainment, whether it's music, movies, or the Internet should not be entertainment just suit-

see LETTERS page 4



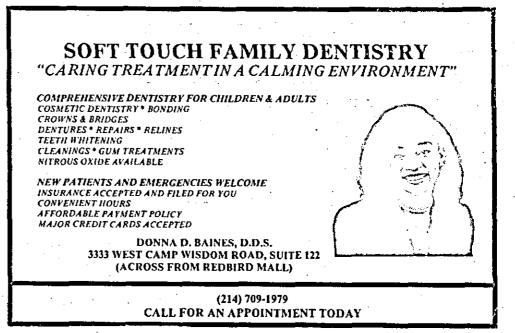
address and daytime phone number so we can reach you for clarification or confirmation. Shorter letters have a better chance of being published.

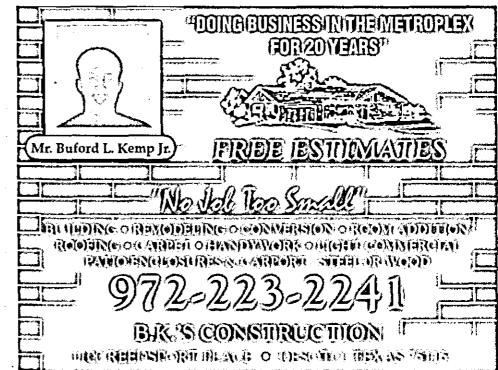
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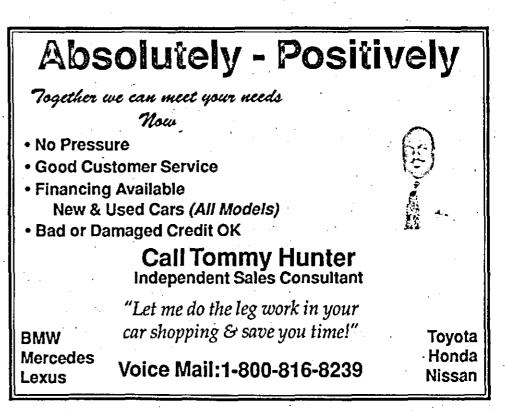
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Minority Opportunity News

page 3 o September 1997

- Silviel

Texas high school coaches hold annual convention

Texas Publishers Assn. Wire service

FORT WORTH—Nearly 12,000 coaches converged on Fort Worth in July for the Annual Convention of the Texas High School Coaches Association (THSCA). During the three-day event, sponsored by Southwestern Bell (SWB), high school sports fans attended all-star basketball and football competitions featuring some of the best high school players in Texas.

The SWB All-Star Football Game drew a crowd of 15,000 die-hard fans at Fort Worth's Texas Christian University. SWB's All-Star Basketball Game attracted 4,000 basketball enthusiasts to Grimes Athletic Center in Fort Worth. A selection committee, appointed by the THSCA board of directors, chose 35 all-star football players and twelve all-star hoopsters for each of the north and south division squads.

Not to be outdone by their players, THSCA also held its 38th Annual Hall of Honor Luncheon recognizing the induction of five exceptional high school coaches into the THSCA Hall of Honor. In addition, the luncheon served to recognize outstanding high school coaches of football, basketball, baseball, track, soccer and golf.

In a moving ceremony, THSCA president Mike Honeycutt told the audience that the inductees epitomized the best of the coaching profession and represented "the state of the art in the coaching ranks." The inductees, Honeycutt said, have shown year after year that coaching is not merely a job or profession, vocation or avocation. Instead, to the Hall of Honor inductees, coaching had become a way of life.

Lubbock Estacado High School coach Louis Kelley, said he was honored to be chosen for the Hall of Fame from among a long list of nominees. "When I found out I was on the list, I was very elated to be among some of the best coaches there ever was," said Kelley. "This is the highest honor that you can probably receive in Texas among high



Hall of Honor Inductee Louis Kelley and wife, Claudier.

school coaches, where you're voted on among your peers. I felt very honored."

During his years at Lubbock Estacado, Kelley, a member of THSCA for 36 years, led his teams to the district championship 12 times, reached the regional and semifinals five times, and made state finals in 1983. Kelley has also been named City Coach of the Year 11 times, District Coach of the Year ten times, and All-South Plains Coach of the Year seven times. Additionally, he served on the board of directors of the THSCA from 1980-1984.

Also inducted into the THSCA Hall of Honor were Lloyd Parker, Dub Farris, Richard Marler and Larry Dippel. Parker's coaching career began in 1949 when he served at Trinity University as assistant football and head track coach. His coaching career spanned 24 years until he left coaching in 1973, with a record of 133-91-5, to become superintendent of the New Caney Independent School District. He served as superintendent until he went into private business in 1987. In 1993, he retired—to the golf course.

Dub Farris landed his first head coaching position at Odessa High School, and later held coaching jobs at John Marshall High School in San Antonio and Dickson High. At Dickson, his teams compiled a record of 72-30-1 and the district championships in 1981-1983 and 1986. He served on the board of directors of the Texas High School Athletic Directors Association from 1994-1996. Currently, he is the athletic director at Northside Independent School District in San Antonio.

As the head football coach and athletic director at Port Arthur's Stephen F. Austin High School since 1975, Richard Marler led his teams to the playoffs ten times. Marler also received the THSCA Service award in 1995 and has been named the Golden Triangle Coach of the Year five times.

The final Hall of Honor inductee, Larry Dippel, is a championship winning coach at Amarillo High School. Dippel achieved an outstanding record of 156-81-5 at Amarillo which includes advancing to the state playoffs 15 times. He has also won 13 district championships in his career and has advanced to the playoffs 17 times. In addition, Dippel is a 1997 THSCA president-elect nominee.

Others receiving honors at the banquet for service and excellence to the coaching/sports profession were Jimmy Don Mitchell, Distinguished Service Award; Richard "Moose" Stovall, Curly Hays Award; Richard Cessna of the Bryan Eagle, Putt Powell Sportswriter of the Year Award; and Corey Holtman of Amarillo High School, Athletic Supply Student Scholarship Award.

The Texas High School Coaches Association, formed in 1930, works to maintain the highest possible standards in athletics and the coaching profession and works for the improvement of conditions for Texas high school athletics. With a 1996-97 membership of 14,000 Texas high school coaches, THSCA is the largest organization of its type in the world.

Rap music symposium to be held

Rap music has come a long way since Curtis Blow, Run DMC and the Fat Boys. The once playful and lightweight rap lyrics have evolved into raunchy, violence-laced tirades by performers barely old enough to vote but just the right age to sway young listeners.

But is rap music really detrimental to America's youth? Dr. Cornell Thomas, author, Texas Christian University professor, and frequent lecturer, examines this issue during an upcoming seminar to be held October 18 at the Ramada Plaza Hotel, 1011 Akard Street in downtown Dallas.

Dr. Thomas, featured in a Minority Opportunity News article "Killer Music" (July 1997), says in today's rap music, many of the messages cause young people to think in negative and excessively aggressive ways. Rap music, he said in the article, glamorizes incarceration, pimping, multi-partner sex, and other socially unacceptable behaviors. Included in the seminar registration fee of \$75 is a full buffet breakfast and lunch and a four-hour workshop with Dr. Thomas. All participants receive an information-packed notebook to keep for future reference. High school and younger students receive a \$10 rebate at the seminar upon showing proof of age.

The registration deadline is September 16 and space is limited. To register, call or write Reginald Rufus Associates, 8315 Grovecrest, Dallas, TX 75217, 214-391-1451, or e-mail him at rerufus@juno.com.

MON

LETTERS...continued

able to children. Those who do not like the music of K104 can listen to V100 or some other urban stations.

Rap artists have their vision of the world—they play it, and people buy it and listen to it. Just like any genre of music, K104 caters to that particular audience and has every right to do so. K104 is in the business of providing entertainment, not educating children. That is the responsibility of parents and teachers.

Whether it's hard core "gangsta rap" or hard core heavy metal, K104 has the right to play any music they want to. We as listeners are free to listen to it or find another station. That's what makes living in an open and free society great. Censorship is not the answer.

> Everette Morgan Garland

Irving Needs Your Help

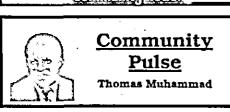
In the Sunday, August 10, 1997, Irving News, Mr. Dan Mahoney, the Executive Director of the Irving Economic Development Foundation, wrote the following: "Being geographically located in the center of the Dallas/Ft. Worth metroplex is proving to be the winning formula for success." Mr. Mahoney went on to detail the economic boom Irving is currently experiencing. In his summation, he writes, "Our best plans are giving back to the community: increased employment, increased property values, and lower tax rates for both corporations and residents." I am similarly pleased with Irving's economic outlook, but I am going to call upon our two big brother cities of Dallas and Fort Worth to help our city truly give back to the community in providing for the low- to moderateincome folk of Irving.

For the 23rd straight year, our economically blessed city of Irving has again passed up nearly \$3 million of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) money and Home money from the U.S. Department of Housing and Development (HUD). Dallas and Fort Worth are receiving these monies and helping many of their low-to mooderate- income residents. Since the money became available to entitlement cities like Irving, Dallas, and Fort Worth, Irving has passed up nearly \$70 million in CDBG and Home monies from HUD.

Dallas and Fort Worth city leaders, is there any way you can provide assistance to those of us here in Irving, who are prodding the city to receive this money in order to help those in our communities who need it desparately?

> Anthony Bond Irving

Minority Opportunity News a page 4 a September 1997



Before beginning this month's column, I wish to express my heartfelt love and extend my forgiveness to young Brother Malcolm Shabazz, the grandson of the late Malcolm X and Betty Shabazz (who is being accused of setting Betty Shabazz' apartment on fire, resulting in her death). Most of us understand the deep-seated pain that has engulfed him and his family for so many years. We can

only hope and that pray almighty Allah (God) will guide him and give him strength to hopefully become the great warrior his grandfather and grandmother were. And we would hope that presiding the judge will follow the suggestion of

attorneys Percy Sutton and former New York mayor David Dinkins: that young Malcolm be sent to Berkshire Farm Center under the capable hands and care of Dr. Rose Washington. (Dr. Washington is the former Dallas County Juvenile Director who was instrumental in creating a youth-sensitive model for Dallas until white racists and their Sambo Negroes ran her out of town.)

Now for our column. You and I both know, dear reader, that you have been thinking about the topic I'm about to express. And I'm quite sure that the *friends* with whom you usually share my columns are probably looking at you this very moment and saying, "I told you that man is a black racist and a separatist!" And, of course, after reading this, you will probably find yourself being hard pressed not to agree with them.

But wait! Before you do anything drastic, dig this: "Everybody plays the fool, sometimes; they use your heart just like a tool, listen baby..."

No, just kidding. I know I can't sing like the "Main Ingredient," but I feel, just as you do, that everybody plays African Americans for fools. As one prominent African American leader once put it, "We have been used as battering rams for everything and everybody's rights. We have been used to bust open doors for women's rights, gay rights, white Jewish rights, Hispanic rights, Asian rights, American civil rights and every other right that you can think of. When in the hell will we ever benefit from working for our own damn rights?"

Anyone reading this could easily dismiss this statement as something they

Should our fights be for African Americans only?

would expect from some of us so-called "radicals," but these statements were made at a recent gathering of integrationist civil rights leaders. At a civil rights conference held by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), a delegate from Phoenix, Ariz., even went so far as to say, "I think we need to work among ourselves and eliminate assistance from

> white people in helping us with our issues...I think they are very often the creator of the problems. They have been insensitive to our needs." And of course, as you can imagine, I agree wholeheartedly. Okay, okay just on

most issues. Hopefully, that satisfies those of you in the Islamic community who are reading this and thinking that Thomas Muhammad has become a separatist. As a Muslim I can't be a separatist, but boy, it sure is hard not to become one in this climate of white racist, Sambo sellouts and the "me too" mentality that's practiced by some Hispanic leaders.

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

Muhammad's commentary are not necessarily

those of the Minority Opportunity News.)

Yeah, that's right, a "me too" mentality. Just pick any issue and it's easy to see that when those of us in the African American community decide to fight racial injustice and to demand our fair share of opportunities, we suddenly look up and see a small handful of Hispanic individuals holding press conferences, screaming, "If you give it to the blacks, we want it too!" The only fighting language they seem to know is "me too, me too, me too!"

The news media has not been helpful either. Sometimes, many of us wonder if there isn't some kind of ongoing plot or conspiracy to confuse or belittle our efforts at all cost. Many times, after we've taken on an issue on behalf of African Americans, and then later hear it covered on radio, see it on TV, or read it in the newspapers, the issue becomes "black leaders ask for more opportunities for minorities." We then look at ourselves and ask, "Who in the hell said anything about minorities??? We were there on behalf of AFRICAN AMERICANS, period!" But the word MINORITY is usually the spin the media puts on it.

On many occasions, so-called minorities have been known to attack us even after they have benefited from our fights.

Minority Opportunity News

Examples that come to mind are people like Gloria Compos at Channel 8, who was promoted from reporter to anchor; Yvonne Gonzales-Lyles, who was brought in after our protest at the Dallas Independent School District; and many more too numerous to name in this column. Then there are some who acknowledge the work that made it possible for them to advance or get opportunity to do so. People like Rene San Miguel of Channel 8 have not been too proud to say thank you to the "Warriors." They, along with County Commissioner John Wiley Price, protested at media outlets and pressured them to provide opportunities for many in the Dallas market. The worst of the "me too" people has been, by far, the arrogant, non-talented, unqualified and lying Yvonne Lyles. By now, unless you've been in outer space with MIR (the Russian space station), you've probably heard about the \$64,000 she spent to renovate her office. This after she told school board members that the renovations would cost under \$13,000. Lyles, at first, tried to blame her subordinates until members of the media found school documents that proved otherwise. She then

had to 'fess up. Such actions make one wonder where in the hell is the REAL Hispanic leadership?

The question of whether or not we should work with other ethnic groups on problems will be a heated debate in the African American community for months to come. The answers won't come easily as the leadership examines affirmative action programs, school desegregation, African-on-African crime, financial reparations, economic development, and other programs seen as solutions to the numerous problems facing people fresh out of bondage from the worst human holocaust known to man.

Who knows, we may just come to the conclusion that even Brother Malcolm X reached after his trip overseas to African and Arab countries. He said, "I'm flexible. I'm for the freedom of the 22 million Afro-Americans by any means necessary. By any means necessary! I'm for a society in which our people are recognized and respected as human beings... So when you ask me where I'm headed, what can I say? I'm headed in any direction that will bring us some immediate results."

Well said, Brother Malcolm. So tell me, dear readers. Should we fight our battles alone?

Until then, the struggle continues....

MON







Pen On Fire Cheryl Smith

Credentials debate unhealthy for black journalists

Editor's Note: See page 15 for missing text from last month's column.

At a time when there are so many more pertinent issues affecting black journalists today, you would think the debate over the credentials of journalists that ply their trade for black media estab-

lishments would be irrelevant. Clearly that is not the case in 1997. Nor is this a debate restricted solely to journalists. In fact, you can still find remnants of the slave mentality prevalent in various arenas today. It has become a way of life for many, stemming from an attitude that was cultivated on the plantations of the sav-

During the era of slavery in this country, when African slave women were raped and African slave men were used as sexual outlets for white women, black people began to show up in a variety of hues. On plantations, and even walking the roads of free northern states, you could find blacks in shades from light, bright, and darned near white to so black they were "blue." Of course, the closer you were to the color of the slave master, the better you were treated. Or so it was believed. Still, there are some historians who say that those who were closer to white had it harder because they belonged to neither world. For the most part, however, history has shown that favor was bestowed upon those who looked most like those in power. During slavery times, the face of power was exclusively white.

As black folk of all colors migrated from the plantations, they carried with them the skin-tone biases that the slave mentality had nurtured for centuries. Those biases were born and nurtured on the plantation, so it's no wonder that blacks and whites alike fell victim to those same biases. It was clear that if you weren't born white, well then, the next best thing was being born light; the lighter your skin, the closer your association with white people and the better you were. You know the syndrome: the house Negro versus the field Negro, or the

1997. bate to you hants ality cious has f life ning that hat

age people who enslaved Africans.

light-skinned Negro versus the darkskinned Negro. It is a mentality that still runs rampant throughout society. Through the media, those in positions of power have been able to feed that bad seed, continuously warping the minds of future generations. Wherever you go, whatever you do, you're sure to be confronted with superior versusinferior, the haves versus the have-nots, the achievers versus the underachievers and the success stories versus the stories of failure. But I'll limit my comments to black journalists; they are the focus of this column.

For years, when some black journalists were asked why they were not members of the National Association of Black Journalists, their response usually centered on their perception that the jour-

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nalists who held power positions in NABJ were elitist and bourgeois. These power-wielding journalists were invariably members of the white or "mainstream" press. Figuratively speaking (and oftentimes literally speaking) I guess you could call them "light-skinned" journalists. Still today,

members of the black press — I guess we can characterize them as "dark-skinned" or "blue" journalists—believe there is the prevalent attitude emanating from the organization that you're not a real journalist if you don't work for the so-called mainstream media. (Remember, the closer to white, the better.)

According to newly-elected NABJ President Vanessa Williams, this is not the mentality you should expect or witness. Ms. Williams, in her inaugural address, set lofty goals for the organization. Emphasis will be placed on retention, as well as recruitment and reclamation, of members. She said there won't be any time for "B.S." And B.S. is exactly what you would call the behavior exhibited by those members of NABJ who are so happy to have a job in mainstream media that they become consumed by their own importance.

Some argue that those black journalists who try to wear their mainstream press credentials on their sleeves are the most dangerous to the African American community, because their hearts and souls belong to those mainstream institutions. This is to the detriment of their people. And themselves.

Still others believe that it's a form of self-hatred.

Those who would like to engage in the entire dialogue of mainstream press versus the black press (light skin versus dark skin?) should be ignored. It is not a

PEN NOTES:

Did you see the July 27 issue of The Dallas Morning News? Well, Linda Jones had a dynamic piece on Black Hebrews in Israel. Accompanying photos by Milton Hinnant were great...Congratulations to Kimberly Dunn. She has been named associated producer for KTVT-TV's (Channel 11) new show, Positively Texas. Brenda Teele will move over from weather to host the show...Guess the topic of judicial appointments is pretty newsworthy. During the National Association of Black Journalists National Convention, 1 asked President Bill Clinton about judicial appointments. He did not answer the question. Well, last month, Ted Koppel led the discussion on that very topic on Nightline. Maybe if some of those seats were filled around the country, more cases would be dispensed and possibly we would see more faces of color wearing those black robes!!! Look for a new general manager in town soon. Word has it that JOY 104.9 (FM) is looking to fill their vocant GM spot. The Gospel station has been making strides in the Metroplex and some of the candidates that have been interviewed should help the station really move forward...Join the Dallas-Fort Worth Association of Black Communicators at the monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 2nd at the African American Museum. The meeting will feature local photographers showcasing their works, Also come and hear about the many projects that are on target for the

healthy one and only diverts focus from one of the main issues affecting our industry: black journalists being treated like second-class citizens. Just turn on the television or radio in various media markets. Just walk into the newsrooms of some publications. Visit the boardrooms or the management meetings. Do a head count. Then stop and think. Where should our efforts really be focused? We can stop the debate here and now.

When faced with those who would place higher merit on their journalistic credentials based on a slave mentality, you need only stop and think of the likes of Ida B. Wells Barnett, Garth Reeves, John Russwurm, Samuel Cornish, Lerone Bennett, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, Marcus Garvey, John H. Sengstacke, Louis Martin, Carl Murphy, C.B. Powell, Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., Dennis Schatzman, Carlton Goodlett, Thelma T. Gorham, T. Thomas Fortune, and other journalistic warriors. They are just a few of the mighty who were better journalists than some of us will ever be.

And guess what? They were not what you would call "mainstream" journalists.

Then you have Lee Thornton, Chuck Stone, Vernon Jarrett, Les Payne, Acel Moore, Robert Maynard, Max Robinson, Carol Simpson, Phyllis Crockett, and many others. They are also just a few of the mighty who are (or were) better journalists than some of us will ever be.

And guess what?

They are (or were) NOT what you would call members of the "black press." That oughta tell you something! The organization. You can also get your applications for the 1997 Griot Awards, honoring excellence in journalism. The deadling for entries is October 5, 1997, and the awards ceremony will be held in December. Surely we will see entries from some of last year's winners, including Karla Winfrey, Rochelle Brown, Marjorie Ford, Gemeral Berry, Valerie Fields, April Washington, Our Texas, The Dallas Weekly, The Arlington Morning News, Reporters Roundtable, The Dallas Morning News, Adrienne Wilson, Roger Campbell and a host of others, Editorial from September 30, 1996 through October 1, 1997 will be judged. Also stay tuned for more information as DFW/ABC goes "Back to the 70s." You gotto be there!!! Michelle Smith of the JC Penney Company is the "Webmoster" for DFW/ABC. She is really taking core of business. Check out our website at www.dfwabc.org... Have you tuned in to Our Home on the Lifetime cable channel? Deborah Duncan is doing a wonderful job as the co-host of the show. It airs weekdays at 9:00 a.m. Deborah returned to New York on Sunday, August 24, offer a summer of cohosting the Willis Johnson Good Morning Show... A big congratulations to Bob Ray Sanders, newly appointed associate editor of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram...Ako April Washington of The Arlington Morning News is moving to The Dallas Morning News-Fort Worth bureau.

greatness of ALL these folk is very significant.

CS

It also tells me that what you do will determine what you are—no matter where you are.

As during slavery times, the schisms caused by skin shade differences among blacks is still one of the methods used to keep them separated. Skin tone is neither a valid issue, nor is it even worthy of discussion. Likewise, debate over credentials based on where you work is also invalid. The discussion is unhealthy and does nothing to move black people forward. To those who feel compelled to extol the virtues of their professional credentials over another (whether it be in the field of journalism, or any other profession), the message should be clear: don't believe the hype! Don't become so overly consumed with your own importance that you take on the ways of the oppressor.

You don't have to stand on another person to uplift yourself. You don't have to put someone else down to make yourself look good. In fact, if you know your history, if you know a higher being, you also should know better! There is a common denominator present between black journalists who work in the mainstream media and black journalists who work with the black press. If you don't know what it is, then therein lies the real problem!

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.

MON



The "First" Lady of Dallas Betty Culbreath talks about her professional and private life

By Cheryl Williams

Betty J. Culbreath has made a habit of being first. She is the first ever director of the Dallas County Health and Human Services Department, the merged product of the Dallas County Human Services and Health Departments. She was the first African American chairperson of the Dallas City Plan Commission and was the first African American director of the Dallas County Department of Human Services. She currently serves as chairperson of the DFW Airport board, the first African American female from Dallas to do so.

In a Dallas Observer article (March 27 -April 2, 1997), Ms. Culbreath came under fire, enduring criticism for being dictatorial in her management of the new county agency she heads and lacking medical credentials thought necessary to effectively run the department.

As Ms. Culbreath approaches her first anniversary as Health and Human Services director, MON talked with the "first lady" about how she answers her critics, juggles numerous civic and professional responsibilities and negotiates the trappings of success. The following is an excerpt from that interview.

Q: As head of the Dallas County Health and Human Services Department, what problems have you encountered? What adjustments have you had to make to be successful?

We streamlined some processes. We made some things better. We upgraded some nurses' positions. It's been a better operation and I feel good when we get letters. I got a letter from a paramedic the other day saying that he normally makes all the runs to the jail with inmate response and that in the past 12 months, things have really improved and medical services in the jail have really improved. Their calls to the jail now are basically for really critically injured inmates versus the routine type stuff that used to go on. I think that all that is attributed to the fact that we took a hard look at every aspect. I believe in problem solving first, then everything else. So we looked at the crucial areas in the Health Department first, the ones that got the most complaints.

I looked administratively about reorganizing. I did that by January (1997) and then looked at some of the critical areas where we needed to do something. To me, a direct indicator is where you have a lot of complaints and a lot of lawsuits. Those are problem areas. So the jail was one of our top priorities. Then I put in a director of nursing over the whole of the Health Department's nursing unit. At first they had a director here and a director there. [Now we have] one director of nursing who supervises every nursing unit. Then we have a medical director who supervises other doctors. Together, we have the medical director and the director of nurses, with an administrator (the deputy director) who coordinates the day-to-day activities for those units, who reports directly to me. We have a better working structure.

Q: How did you discover that the jobs you eliminated in the streamlining



process were not contributing to the effectiveness of the department?

I did a survey. I asked [employees] to define their jobs and to describe what their jobs were and what they did on a day-to-day basis. Then I had their immediate subordinates write what they did. I went from the program manager tosupervisor to supervisor. When we compared it, program managers said that they were doing exactly what first-line supervisors were doing. Then I compared how much time the program managers were staying in the office to the time the supervisors stay in the office. I compared the amount of conferences attended and their relevance to the duties here. I discovered, more or less, people promoting merely themselves and their names around the industry. And their jobs just did not justify that kind of pay so we did not justify the jobs. That's why I opted to have a director of nurses for those first-line supervisors to report to in all of those components versus having a program manager over TB (tuberculosis), a program manager over immunization, a program manager over STD (sexually transmitted diseases). We had \$60,000 program managers over every health

component. Totally unnecessary.

Q: How do you answer your critics who say you are not qualified for this position because you aren't a doctor. What can you do more effectively than a doctor?

I bring a management skill to this position, and that's important because you need a good manager to enable the doctors to perform to their best. That's too much talent to be wasted worrying about getting something from the Commissioner's Court or dealing with the personnel department or dealing with the county auditor or dealing with a vendor. I don't think doctors should have to be bothered with that. I think there is the fact that I have been involved in this community, that I have good rapport with the Commissioner's Court and I understand them. It is incumbent upon me to fight the cause for the doctor with the Commissioner's Court. That means the doctor doesn't get entwined in some political rhetoric that ultimately ends up with the doctor being disgusted and not being able to do his doctor duties. It strengthens the doctors' positions to have a person who can articulate their issues and make it easier for them to practice medicine. There is a grave difference between a political reason you do something and a medical reason. The doctors don't do very well in articulating the medical reason to politicians. So it takes a good administrator who both understands the medical rationale for it and the political ramifications of it to get it done.

Q: It's been almost a year since you took over the reigns of the combined departments. What do you think have been the benefits of the merger?

I think there is more of an awareness on the Health Department's side of what the Human Services area does. Now the Health Department is using the services of the Human Services part. Patients in the TB clinic and some of the other clinics who need financial assistance or help are getting help during their visit. In Human Services we have case workers who will go up to the TB unit to interview clients they think need help versus a TB client having to go to the TB clinic, get on the elevator, go to Human Services, and go wait in the waiting room because TB is a highly contagious disease. We've made arrangements to go into that contained the apparatus to clear out the air. It's more of an awareness on both parts and more of an integration of staff. We've been able to cross train some people in both departments. Even when it comes to the receptionist answering incoming calls, people now know who to call, how to direct a person, and keep the public

and clients from being transferred from one phone to another. It's more direct access to those services and a more cohesive existence among staff.

Q: Knowing what you know now, if you were just coming into the position of Health and Human Services Director, would you do anything differently?

Probably negotiate a higher salary. I did not realize the magnitude of the Health Department. It is a major operation. Just in the Health Department side alone, we have approximately \$20 million in grants. In Human Services, we have \$10 million in grants. Those are just grants. We have a baseline budget of \$12 million with the combined departments, it's almost a \$50 million dollar operation.

Q: In addition to heading the massive Health and Human Services Department, you're president of the DFW Airport board and you have your own radio show. How do you manage your life with all of the activities you're involved in?

My job comes first. Secondly, comes my volunteer contribution to the DFW board. Serving on the board is an asset because Dallas County and the city of Dallas receive a great deal of indirect revenue as a result of DFW Airport. Volunteering is a release valve, but at the same time it gives me a chance to interact with Ft. Worth City Council, Dallas City Council, Ft. Worth County Commissioners and Dallas County Commissioners on a different level and yet remain objective enough so that I can deal with all these groups of people and not let any bias play in. The focus is DFW International Airport, and my duty and responsibility is to DFW as well as the fact that the "D" in DFW means Dallas, and Dallas is in Dallas County. So it all fits in somehow. I'm able to play politics and enjoy it. It enhances my ability to do my job because a lot of times we deal with these same people in other situations. Because I get along with both entities (Dallas and Ft. Worth), a lot of time I'm a neutralizer volunteer in what could sometimes be some turbulent dealings.

Q: What are some of the issues that you talk about on the radio program?

arrangements to go into that contained area that is heavily monitored and has the apparatus to clear out the air. It's more of an awareness on both parts and more of an integration of staff. We've been able to cross train some people in both departments. Even when it comes to the receptionist answering incoming calls, people now know who to call, how to direct a person, and keep the public

Minority Opportunity News

When they first approached me about doing the radio program I had never been in broadcasting. After I did the first show, it was a release. You would go into the studio, sit down, and do what you wanted to do and say what you wanted to say. Nobody is close to you to attack you. They're over the air. As much as I read the paper, as much as I listen to the news, I did not realize how powerful media is until I started doing that radio show. I don't care where I go, people in the grocery store who have never seen me before will say, "I know you. You're that lady on the radio." They recognize and remember your voice. I did not know that that many people listened to the radio, but they do. I'm happy with the show. I'm in my third year. I pick my own topics. A lot of times they may be more conservative than most folks, but I just speak to the issues.

Q: You worked on the George Bush for President Campaign. Why do you support the Republican Party?

I was the state-wide coordinator for Black Texans for Bush. My biggest argument is with black folks who want to be democrats. Democrats have been in charge of Dallas County for 50 years. The democrats didn't appoint in 50 years any black judges to anything. The first black judge that the democrats ever appointed was Berlin Brasher to a misdemeanor bench. Democrats were in charge of Congress all these years and they never did redistrict to include black congressional districts until the Republican Party and some Negroes sued to get some congressional districts drawn. It wasn't the democrats. The republicans wanted to do all of this, rightfully so, to get some more republican districts, but they at least were willing to give some black ones in the process. Democrats never had been willing. I don't want anybody telling me that democrats are for minorities. Democrats want black folks to stay beholding to them because they give them some banquet tickets and a job. Republicans give opportunity. Under Richard Nixon, blacks got more small business loans and got more opportunity to make money than in the history of any democratic president that has ever been in office. I went to the Republican Party because they believed in equal opportunity about the dollar. But I still vote for some democratic candidates.

Q: As a black republican female representing the Health Department, how do you remain unbiased?

I try to be as fair as I can be being a woman and being a minority. I understand how discrimination has affected me in the past and I really try not to do that to other people. It is difficult, but I try to be fair. I try to use the way I was treated as a guide as to how not to do other folks. I really try to conscientiously look at all sides of the story.

Just like at DFW [Airport], we've been able to open up that whole procurement process to minorities and women and we did not exclude anybody. We just had to put a process in place. Part of the reason minorities had been excluded in the past was that there was no process. It was a good old boy type situation and whoever was there got there and stayed there. We put a process in that didn't eliminate people but gave opportunities for other folks. Everybody is talking about affirmative action, but any time you've had 100 percent of anything, you ought to be willing to give up 30 percent. Every time somebody comes up to me and says something about that, I always tell them that you're not attacking that 80 percent that you've always gotten historically.

Q: What advice would you give to someone who wants to achieve the type success that you have?

You have to be sincere. You have to be honest and you can't have any other ulterior motives other than you want to serve. I'm just now coming into all this spotlight and all this glory. But when I was fighting and marching and talking and negotiating at night, nobody knew about any of that. You have to do your homework. You have to know what you're talking about. You have to be willing to make sacrifices and my personal life has probably suffered most because I'm divorced now. There's not a lot of time to spend with family, and then you're doing an outside job where you're paid, and then you're doing volunteer work.

Q: Are you happy with that choice to devote so much time to your job and volunteer work?

It was a choice that I made to pursue and do all these things professionally. I did . not know until now that that is why my personal life had suffered. I always blamed my husbands. But now, when I got involved in an Al-Anon group because of my son's condition (Ms. Culbreath's son is a recovering drug addict), I finally took responsibility, and now I realize that I could have stayed with my first husband had I known that my commitment to my job, my public, and my work was in fact affecting my home life. I didn't know that. I thought as long as I kept the house clean, cooked, and did those things that was enough, but it wasn't. I was tired, not because of what I had done at home; I was tired because of what I had done all day at work. So now that I am divorced a third time and older, and having worked through this [Al-Anon]

program, I now know that I was partly responsible for what happened, because I was too dedicated to all this other stuff. It's not to say that people can't have careers and successful marriages, but you've got to have your priorities straight. First of all, you have to recognize that you are overworking everywhere else and underworking at home. I just thought my husband should understand that I was tired. I'm 56 years old and I just understood that I had some really good husbands.

Q: Would you have cut down on activities outside of the home?

I would have done something differently. I would have involved them in it, but I didn't involve them. It was my own world. I think they would have been amenable to it. I think part of my problem is that they felt shut out. It's like I had a world over here. I did that unconsciously because I thought they weren't interested. As I worked through the Al-Anon and the self awareness programs, that's when I figured that's what happened. I shut them out. I got addicted to my politics and my job.

Q: How do you keep balance in your life now?

Well, I'm by myself. There is no significant other. But I want one. But now they're all scared of me. I can't meet anybody because everyone thinks there is somebody. But there is nobody. It's lonely, too.

MON



Many of the health-related situations that can threaten the quality of life and personal independence of the patient are preventable.

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News In The

Vines named GM of Ramada Inn-Market Center

Career hospitality veteran Lamarr Vines has been appointed General Manager of the Ramada Inn-Market Center, announced the Madden Group of Fort



Walton Beach. Florida, owner and operator of the property. Vines, who

joined Ramada after his most recent position as general manager of the Holiday Inn Select, has a total of 25 years experi-

ence in the hospitality industry. Prior to working at the Holiday Inn Select, Vines served as General Manager for the Clarion Hotel and the Radisson Hotel and Suites.

The Ramada Hotel has 360 guest rooms and 24,000 square feet of meeting space including two penthouse level ballrooms, a full service restaurant, lobby bar, sports bar, pool/sauna and tennis courts. Visitors can expect the usual personal service from Mr. Vines and his staff. For more information, call 214-634-8550.

Teen Wise Centers offer programs for "at risk" teens

The Dallas Public Library's two Teen Wise Centers, located at Highland Hills and Lakewood Branch Libraries, will initiate their fall programming in September. The teen centers were formed last fall in an effort to provide traditional and nontraditional library programming for

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"at-risk" young people in Dallas. Thus far, over 2,000 teens have been impacted by the Teen Wise Centers with over 44 programs offered since the program began in January 1997.

Teen Wise Center programming includes monthly youth forums and career programs, ESL computer programming, peer tutorials, employment seminars, job fairs, a youth outreach/volunteer group, and an annual "Summer Jam," offered in cooperation with the city's park and recreation department.

Some programs will be at Tommie Allen recreation center in Oak Cliff and Zaragoza-Ignacio recreation center in East Dallas. The Teen Centers will also sponsor two free matinee performances of Soul Rep Theatre Company's new play, Slim, about HIV/AIDS in the African American community. Make reservations by October 5 for the performances, scheduled 2:00 p.m., October 17 and 24 at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, downtown Dallas.

For more information, call the Teen Wise Center coordinator at 214-670-1207.

African American Museum accepting nominations for . A. Maceo Smith Award

Nominations are being accepted for the 20th annual A. Maceo Smith Community Service Award. The Award Brunch will be held October 18, 1997 at 10:00 a.m. at the Wyndham Anatole Hotel. The award is named in memory of the late A. Maceo Smith, who had a long distinguished record of community service.

A man described by the late Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall as "one who left big prints to walk in," A. Maceo Smith is celebrated as one of the greatest African American leaders

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in Dallas history. The African American Museum Guild has presented the A. Maceo Smith Community Service Award Brunch for the past 19 years.

The award is given annually to an individual in Dallas County who has given distinguished volunteer service to the Dallas African American community. All nominations should be mailed to: Smith Award, P.O. Box 150153, Dallas, TX 75315-0153. Nominations must be received by October 1, 1997. For more information, call JoAnn Brown at 214-565-9026, ext. 308.

Dallas gospel artist headlines Rejoice '97

Gospel enthusiasts will have the opportunity to experience the musical gifts of Dallas award-winning gospel artist Carnell Murrell. Rev. Murrell headlines "Rejoice '97" at the State Fair of Texas in Dallas, September 27, at 8:00 p.m. Also appearing will be the legendary Pops Staples of the Staple Singers.

Murrell, a singer, composer, director and musician, has captivated audiences across the country with his unique ability to bring the joy of God's blessings and love to all generations. A remarkable and sincere man of God, his multiple talents have earned him Male Vocalist of the Year, Artist of the Year and Album of the Year in 1993 at the Texas Gospel Music Awards. Murrell has also won numerous other awards, including 1992 Stellar and Soul Train Gospel Award nominations.

Critics say that Murrell is no doubt on his way to winning gospel music award nominations with his newly released CD, The Prodigal Son. The CD epitomizes Murrell's gift for blending contemporary and traditional gospel music into his own unique sound. Hailed as his best CD yet, this project introduces a new flavor and energy level for Carnell

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More In The News

Murrell & Company, aka C-MaC. For more information, contact Denise Sharpton at 214-821-9000.

Austin appointed to Tarrant County 911 board

Jim Austin was recently appointed to the Tarrant County 9-1-1 Emergency Assistance District Board by the city council of the City of Fort



Worth. The five-member will board manage an annual budget of \$1.3 million each year.

"The mission of the 9-1-1 board is to provide the most reliable 9-1-1 telecommu-

nications system possible to all persons within the Tarrant County 9-1-1 District. The objectives and duties include providing leadership in the areas of legislation, regulation and technology and to ensure adherence to federal and state communications laws and requirements. The Tarrant County population served is 1.6 million.

Mr. Austin is a graduate of Howard University School of Business and is president of Austin Company Real Estate located in Fort Worth, Texas. For more information, call Jim Austin at 817-923-9305.

Rep. Giddings sponsors "Read to Succeed" contest

State Representative Helen Giddings, D-Dallas, is encouraging students to enter the "Read to Succeed" contest to design a new license plate. The "Read to Succeed" program was authored by Rep. Giddings during the past legislative session. The specialty plate will raise funds for the reading diagnostic program proposed by Govenor George Bush and authored by Rep. Giddings. These roving advertisements for reading will appear on automobiles all over Texas on December 1.

The contest begins September 1. All Texas school children, grades kindergarten through twelve, may submit a logo design for the plate that is related to the theme (i.e., books, children, etc.). Drawings should be placed on an 8-1/2" x 11" sheet of white paper.

Participants should include their name, address, telephone number, school and grade. Entries must be postmarked and submitted to their local newspaper or mailed to TDNA/TPA Read to Suceed,

816 Congress Avenue, Suite 960, Austin, Texas 78701 no later than September 16. For more information, refer to web page www.tenent.edu/read2succeed or call 512-463-0953.

Dallas high school student to serve as Congressional page

DeMarcus Ward, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Ray Sherrar of Dallas has been appointed as a Democratic Congressional page for the United States House of Representatives, sponsored by Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson. Mr. Ward is currently a 15-year-old junior at Town-

view Magnet and Law Center in Dallas. Mr. Ward's appointment in Washington will begin Sep-

tember 1, 1997 and conclude January 24. 1998.

Appli-

Demarcus Ward cants must be

juniors in high school and maintain at least a 3.0 academic grade point average in their major subjects during the ninth and tenth grades. They are selected by the member of Congress in their district and, in this case, can only be appointed by Democratic leadership. While carrying out their tasks on Capitol Hill, they also take classes at House Page school.

"He will be a great addition to the program," Congresswoman Johnson said.

Mr. Ward said he would "have more

opportunities in education and in my career. Having that on my resume will be great for educational opportunities and help me in the future for jobs and pursuing a career in criminal justice."

For more information, call Eric Foster at 202-225-8885 or Congresswoman Johnson local office at 214-922-8885.

Dallas Post Tribune celebrates 50th anniversery

The Dallas Post Tribune will celebrate its 50th anniversary and scholarship banquet, 7:00 p.m., Saturday, September 12, 1997 at the Fairmont Hotel, 1717 N. Akard Street, Dallas.

The newspaper was founded in 1947 by Bert C. Muse and was called the Tyler Tribune. Mr. Muse moved the publication to south Dallas in 1950 and the one-man ownership was changed to a corporate husiness.

In 1962, the ownership changed again, with Mr. Lee J. Davis, Mr. T.R. Lee, Mrs. Dickie Foster, Mr. J.H. Glenn, Dr. Judge Page, attorney C.W. Asberry, Mr. J. Graham, Mr. H.L. Logan and attorney Fred Finch, Jr. as the persons in charge. The Dallas Post Tribune, now an award winning weekly that serves the black community, is published by the Post Tribune Publishing Company.

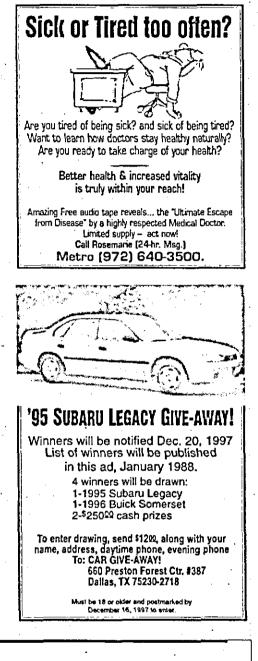
The Reverend Dr. Sheron Patterson, senior pastor of Jubilee United Methodist Church in Duncanville will be the featured speaker at the banquet. Other honored guests include Mr. Thurman Jones, publisher of Minority Opportunity News; Ms. Cheryl Smith, columnist and KKDA-AM radio host; Ms. Norma Adams Wade, columnist and writer for The Dallas Morning News; and Dr. and Mrs. Theodore Lee,

- MANGARA 1974 King Air C90 The Texas A&M University System & 7800 TTAF, 5578/5280 TISN, One Owner, Very Conservative Operation, Always Hangared, New Paint August '93, New Interior September '92, New Boots, Airconditioning, Dual King and Collins Equipped, Primus 200 Color Radar, Century IV AP/FD, De-Ice, More. For More Info and Bid Instructions, Contact Robert McCreight, System Aircraft, College Station, TX 77843-1589, (409) 845-8181. A CONTRACTOR

president and vice president of The Dallas Post Tribune.

Tickets to the 50th anniversary scholarship banquet are \$35. For more information, call 214-946-7678.

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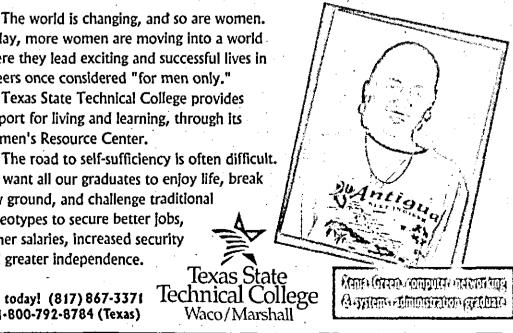
WOMEN CHANGING THE FACE OF THE WORKFORCE

The world is changing, and so are women. Today, more women are moving into a world where they lead exciting and successful lives in careers once considered "for men only."

Texas State Technical College provides support for living and learning, through its Women's Resource Center.

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Raising the value of your home is a snap with Comerica's Home Improvement Loan. This tax deductible' fixed rate, simple interest installment loan can cover from \$500 to \$100,000 worth of home improvements. Whatever their shape and size, the loan application you need to go through is the same: a

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Mammy Pleasant This little-known 19th century black woman was a driving force in business and politics

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

Editor's Note: See page 15 for missing text from last month's column.

Mary Ellen "Mammy" Pleasant was, without a doubt, one of the unique and amazing women in American history. While serving as a cook and housekeeper for one of the richest men in San Francisco, she became a dominant figure in politics and white high society. She is also said to have been the chief financial backer of the infamous radical abolitionist John Brown, whose raid on Harper's Ferry in Virginia brought the discussion over slavery to a showdown that ended in the Civil War and the eventual emancipation of the slaves.

Mammy Pleasant's power, it is said, originated in her voodoo practices and her sale of love charms to wealthy white debutantes and their mothers. As a midwife for these families, she also acquired secrets that gave her power over them.

Mrs. Pleasant was one of the more politically powerful persons in the history of California. Arriving there during the gold rush in 1849, she grew up with the state to become a noted businesswoman who warranted the respect of every figure of importance for her involvement in real estate as well as her influence on many of their private lives. "Mammy" Pleasant, as she became known, was famous chiefly for her contribution to the rise of the Barbary Coast. Taking a cue from the rough-riding white men who amassed fortunes by any and all means, Mrs. Pleasant plunged into Barbary Coast commerce, and became wealthier and more influential than most of her mentors. Despite this notoriety, she will doubtless be remembered chiefly for the contribution that was the high mark of her life: her association with the commander of the Harper's Ferry expedition.

Mary Ellen was born in Philadelphia, Pa., probably in the year 1814, a free black. Her mother was a Louisiana black and her father a Kanaka Indian. At the age of seven, she was sent to Nantucket where she was placed at work in a huckster shop. This early experience seems to have set the tone for her later business sagacity. Later she went to Boston to work, and this city, with its flourishing abolition movement represented a turning point in her life. While employed as a boot-binder and vest-maker, she met and married her first husband, a wealthy Cuban named James W. Smith. Smith was an abolition sympathizer and a friend of William L. Garrison, Wendell Phillips, Lewis Hayden, and others. Often the abolition leaders came to the

Smith home, and Mary naturally became absorbed in the question of the freeing of her people. Mr. Smith died in 1844, and his last request was that his wife devote a portion of the money that he left to the cause of emancipating slaves. As a result of the sale of bonds bequeathed to her, Mary came into possession of about \$45,000.

A few years later, in 1848, she married John J. Pleasant. Together they went to California, where they invested the



Mary Ellen "Mammy" Pleasant

money in real estate. Mrs. Pleasant operated a boarding house in San Francisco, and to this board came Newton Booth, one of many men afterwards distinguished in the economic and political scene. Booth was elected Governor of California even as he stayed at the Pleasant home.

Throughout this period Mrs. Pleasant kept in touch with the East Coast Abolitionists, Garrison and Phillips. She subscribed to *The Liberator*, and studied carefully the methodology of John Brown in Kansas. In 1858 she decided to go east and meet the "Old Man" (Brown) and give him funds to continue his work. It is doubtful whether she knew, then, that Brown was contemplating any raid in Virginia.

It is a matter of record that she drew a large-sized United States treasury draft early in the spring of 1858, and that she sailed to the east. She arrived in New York, converted her draft into a Canadian draft, and immediately headed for Chatham, Canada. She wrote to persons who could place her in touch with John Brown, and soon a meeting occurred. According to Mrs. Pleasant, one night in her room she turned over the whole amount of her check to John Brown and his son. How much she donated is not known.

After the capture of John Brown, Mammy Pleasant returned to California, keeping her part in the affair a secret. The federal government was rounding up all who had aided Brown. Mrs. Pleasant ascribes her escape from being connected with Brown to the fact that in a letter she had written to him promising "more money and help," her signed initials "M.E.P." were mistaken for "W.E.P." She made her "M" like an "W."

Mammy Pleasant kept the secret until the last years of her life. On October 20, 1901, she sent a telegram to Sam P. Davis, editor of the Carson City (Nevada) Appeal and comptroller of the state of Nevada, asking him to come to California. Davis had been writing stories of her behind-the-scenes role in coast politics. It was to Davis she told her story.

Said Earl Conrad, a writer for the Negro Digest: "Sam Davis checked on her story." Davis hunted down Jason Brown, John Brown's son, then living in California, and Jason said that it was true that his father received a considerable sum of money from a colored woman in Chatham in 1858. Davis visited Sarah Brown, a daughter of John Brown and also living in California. She, too, confirmed that John Brown had received a large sum of money from a colored woman at that time and never revealed the woman's name. Davis wrote to Chatham, Canada and learned that there was on file a deed showing the transfer of property-four lots in September of 1858 to Mary Pleasant. There was another record showing that in 1872 the property was conveyed to James Handy, a San Francisco man.

Mrs. Pleasant said to Sam Davis, "I felt very bad over the failure of my mission, but never regretted the time or the money I spent on the trip. It cost me, all told, about \$40,000. It seemed at first like a failure, but time proved that the money was well spent. It paved the way for the war, and the war freed the slaves. I always felt that John Brown started the Civil War and that I helped Brown more than any other one person financially. I wish I had given more. When I die, all I want on my tombstone is: "She was a friend of John Brown."

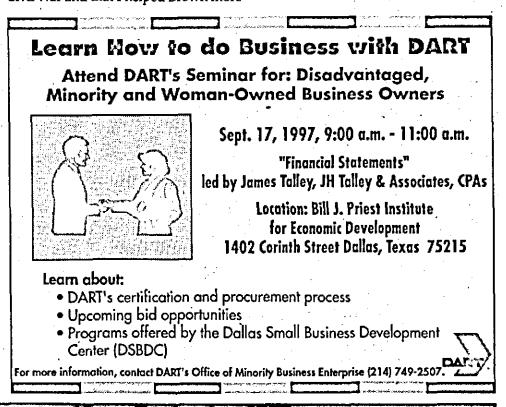
Then came her death and burial. If a tombstone is placed over her grave, with the inscription that she desired, there was no sign of it in recent years.

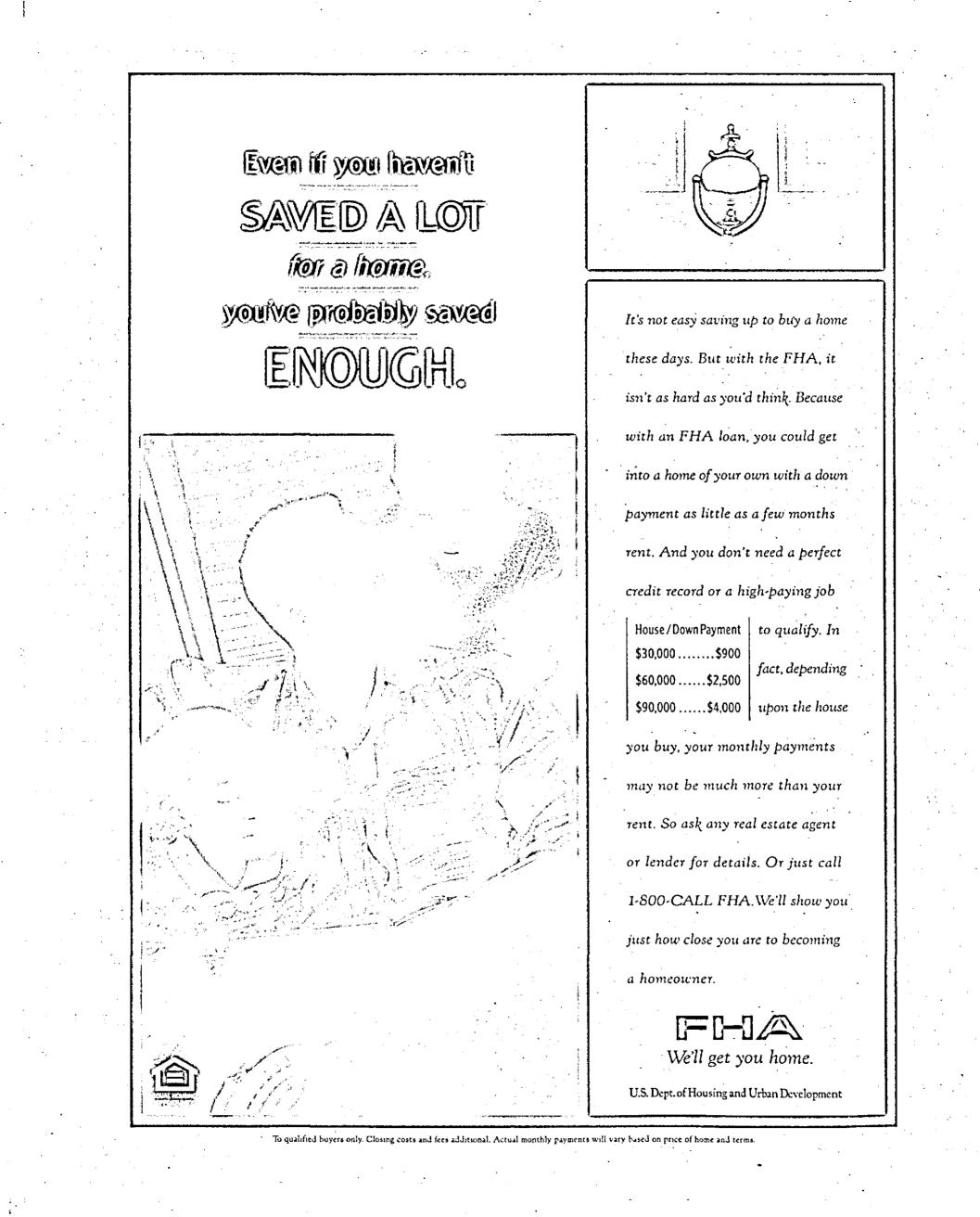
As a "mystery" woman with a background reaching back into misty legend, Mammy Pleasant's career in California has caught the imagination of novelists, playwrights, and newspaper feature writers. There's Charles Dobie's Less than Kin, a romance with a "Mammy Pleasant" plot that has gone through several editions. And who has not seen The Cat and the Canary on the legitimate stage or in one of its several movie productions? Mammy Pleasant is the black housekeeper who appears here and there when least expected and it is this character that holds the lines of melodrama together.

But as a character who exerted a powerful influence on affairs on the West Coast, and on the anti-slavery contest in the east, she might have been neglected for all time except for one woman, a white woman, who had a vague memory of Mammy Pleasant as she moved about San Francisco just before the close of the old lady's long life. Compelled by a great curiosity, this writer, Mrs. Stella Ingrim Brown of San Jose, Calif., began to gather every scrap of information available about the activity of the colored woman who wielded power and wrought so strongly three quarters of a century ago. The untimely death of Mrs. Brown cut short the definitive work on the life of the most unusual black woman of the Pacific Coast, a contemporary of Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth, though working at a different venue.

MON

Russell D. Shockley is the director of Ethnic Notes. For lecture or presentation information, call or write Ethnic Notes, c/o MON.





Hands Multishers

Where to go from here

By Kathleen Goolsby

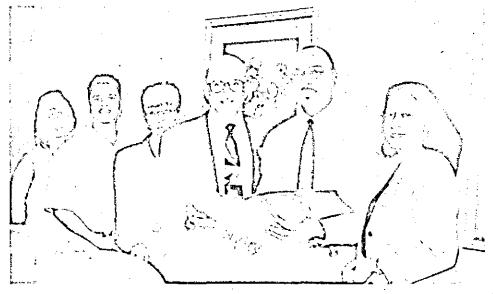
Texas Publishers Assn. Wire Service

San Antonio—Alice, in the story Alice in Wonderland, asked the Cheshire Cat, "Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?" "That depends a good deal on where you want to go," said the Cat.

Where the publishers of the African

Omar Shakir, of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, gave the invocation; and acknowledgment of attendees was presented by Zarinah Shakir, hostess for the TPA meeting and publisher of the San Antonio Observer.

TPA president Jones, who publishes the (Dallas) *Minority Opportunity News*, says African American publishers must face the challenge of identifying and creating opportunities for empowerment, whether those opportunities are in housing, employment or business. He personally challenged his fellow publishers to "print fewer wire stories and to publish more stories that reflect the communities in which we reside." Now serving his



(L-R) Zarinah Shakir, Francis Page, Jr., Rhonda Pruitt and Mollie Belt (far right) look on as Councilman Marlo Salas (fourth from left) presents TPA president Thurman Jones with official "City Proclamation."

American press of Texas plan to go is far beyond mere survival; they are taking steps to enter confidently into the advanced communications age of the 21st century. It is not enough for them simply to present timely information and truths to their 3 million readers. "Members of the black press," comments Thurman Jones, president of the Texas Publishers Association, "have a great responsibility to do all we can to improve the situations we report about." What those situations or issues are, and how to improve them, was the focus of the Texas Publishers Association's business meeting and luncheon held August 9, 1997, in San Antonio.

Twenty TPA-member publishers and five non-member publishers attended the forum, which was sponsored by Frost Bank and the Texas Conference for Homeowner's Rights. Community leaders participated with the publishers in a healthy discussion of several issues affecting each of their communities... affirmative action, how non-profit businesses can get their messages published, AIDS...with economic development being the prevailing issue facing each community. Joe Walker, of JwE Group, moderated the panel discussion; Imam second term as TPA president, Jones says the African American press of Texas can build strong ties within the community and enhance African American lives through the creation of jobs in the publishing industry, mentoring youth, and offering vital information to the public. He adds, "Many of our publishers personally vowed to go back to their respective communities with a more diligent eye toward serving their communities and helping to meet their needs."

"The Gateway to the Future," an Internet seminar, was presented by AT&T during the conference. Jason Baird, AT&T Internet Specialist, and Hortense Farley, of AT&T Public Relations, guided the Texas publishers through questions and answers about news, consumers, and the Net. AT&T's corporate support of TPA also includes a \$100,000 award given earlier in 1997 to help member newspapers upgrade technology and lead them into advanced communications.

The diverse community of San Antonio warmly welcomed the publishers. Councilman Mario Salas opened the meeting by presenting an official proclamation on behalf of the Mayor, City Council, and citizens, extending best wishes for a successful meeting. "We were so well received," adds Jones, "that the TPA has awarded its 1998 convention, to be held next spring, to San Antonio."

Jones advocates taking a proactive stance in generating more advertising dollars and strengthening ties with corporate sponsors and advertising supporters. With member publications in 12 cities (Austin, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Fort Worth, Greenville, Houston, Longview, Rusk, San Antonio,

Corrections

Last month (MON August 1997), we inadvertently left out the last portion of Russell Shockley's Ethnic Notes, *The History of Race, Part 4* and Cheryl Smith's Pen On Fire, Oh Mr. Shabazz, you were so right. We sincerely apologize for the error.

The following is the excluded text from both columns:

Ethnic Notes

Stoddard's central theme was that the white races, particularly the Nordics, were in danger of being inundated by the "inferior" races, who had a much higher birthrate. Why the Nordics had been unaware of their position of utmost danger was that they had been lulled by the false doctrines of Jean-Jacques Rousseau. What Rousseau had done was introduce the concept of the "Noble Savage", an idea which led him naturally to the assumption of "the natural equality of all men." This, in turn, fostered the erroneous belief in the "absence of inborn differences between either individuals or races" and a faith in "the infinite power of laws, institutions, and other environmental factors to mold human beings, regardless of their origin or antecedents." Wedded to "sentimental abstractions," the social thinkers influenced by Rousseau had tended to "ignore those factors of race and culture which are the eternal, unchangeable basis of the entire prob-

Stoddard was one of the most active propagandists for racism this country has produced. He wrote numerous articles for popular magazines, like Collier's and *The Saturday Evening Post*, and 22 books. His one great theme is that the Nordic has within his blood an almost Texarkana, Tyler and Wichita Falls), Jones believes the African American press of Texas has the collective clout to demand the respect from advertisers that the black consumer market and publishers deserve.

It is a fact of life that the doors of opportunity are usually marked "Push"...and that is exactly what TPA's publishers have taken the responsibility to do for the betterment of their readers and communities.

MON

exclusive power for civilization and progress. He has "clean, virile, geniusbearing blood, streaming down the ages through the unerring action of heredity, which, in anything like a favorable environment, will multiply itself, solve our problems, and sweep us on to higher and nobler destinies."

In the Japanese defeat of Russia in 1904, "far-seeing white men recognized...an omen of evil import for their race-future." Whether the white man could hold his own in future conflicts with the colored races was an open question.

"The Russian people are made up chiefly of primitive racial strains, some which (especially Tartars and other Asiatic nomad elements) are distinctly 'wild' stocks which have always shown an instinctive hostility to civilization," stated Stoddard.

He did speak vaguely of the necessity for an understanding within the "white world" over the dangers which would arise from the increased political aspirations of the colored peoples, in Asia, Africa, and in Latin America, but he had no concrete program to advocate.

Stephanie Beach contributed to this story.

Pen On Fire

The media and the courts have made this virtually impossible for this young 12-year-old. In this case, even those who are in positions of responsibility have opted to abdicate their responsibility to others.

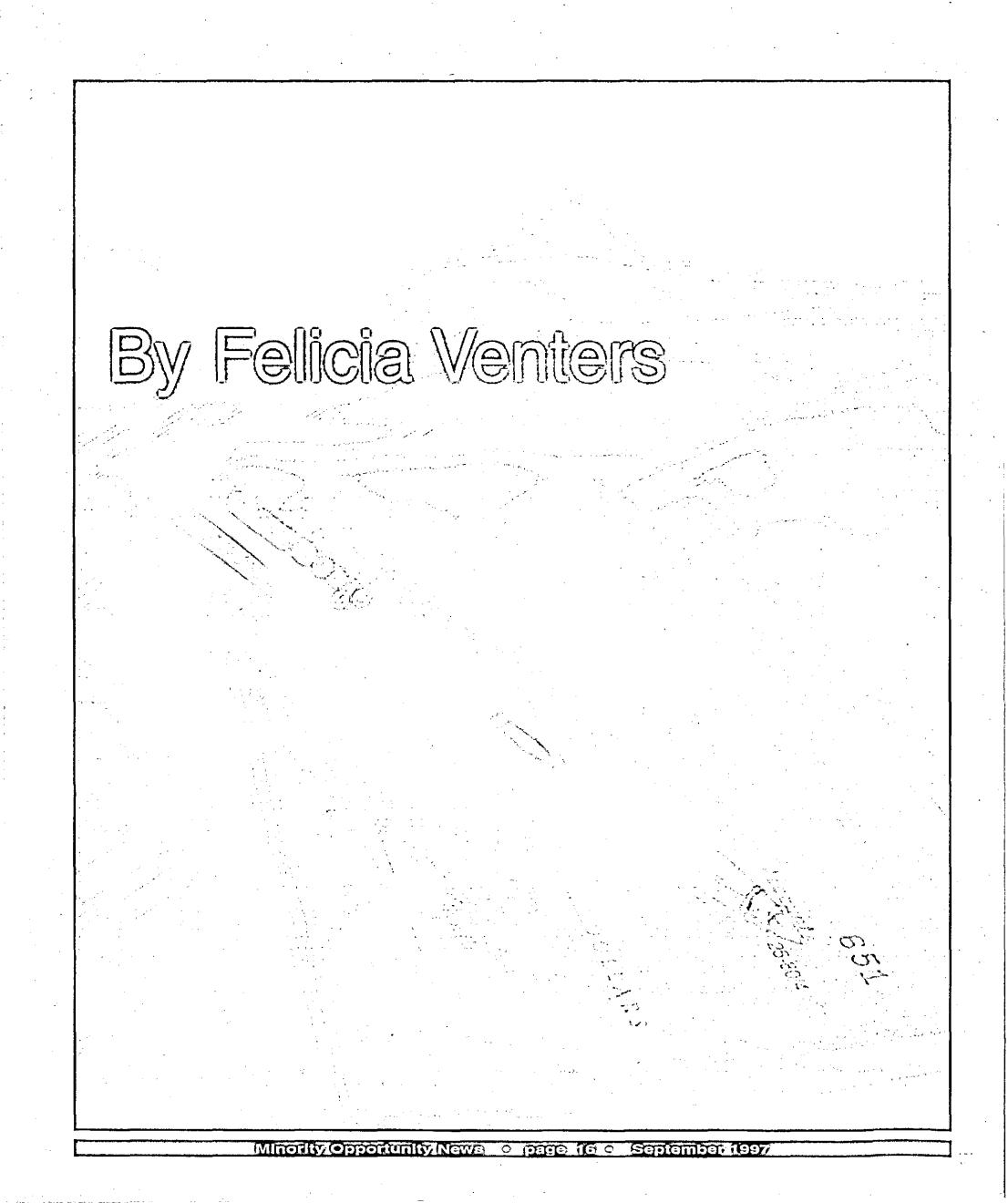
And this is sad because the list of victims continues to grow, and sound reasoning, along with investigative reporting and fulfilling moral obligations, seems to be non-existent.

And if we feel powerless, how do you think a 12-year-old feels?

MON



Minority Opportunity News o page 15 o September 1997



Members of the Republic of Texas put their beliefs to the test when they tried to establish a minority-owned bank. Now they're going to stand trial for it.

> teven Crear Sr. sneers at the slightest mention of United States patriotism. No longer does he salute the American flag, stand during the national anthem or participate in the pageantry of Independence Day. For the past year, Crear has pledged allegiance, not to the Stars and Stripes, but to the David G. Burnet flag – banner of a decidedly militant cadre of right-wing separatists who argue that the 1845

annexation of Texas was unconstitutional; hence Texas is a sovereign nation. The group known as the Republic of Texas boasts its own presidency, cabinet, courts, and military. The 36-year-old Crear became the ROT's official vice president on August 3, 1996, following a majority vote taken by leaders of its predominantly Anglo citizenry.

"For this, I am being persecuted," says Crear, Christian evangelist and executive director of Spearhead Ministries in Oak Cliff. "At what time in history have you ever heard of a black man in this type of leadership position? The federal government couldn't rest until it brought down the Republic and paraded the four black men and one Hispanic man before the world to say, 'Look, we got'em. We got those Republic of Texas guys.""

On October 6, Crear and four area businessmen – Jasper Edward Baccus, Erwin Leo Brown, Joe Louis Reece and Mark Anthony Hernandez – will stand trial in U.S. District Court before Judge A. Joe Fish on charges of conspiracy to commit bank fraud and mail fraud, and aiding and abetting. They are accused of passing more than \$2 million in phony financial documents that resemble cashier's checks but were purported to be warrants drawn on the Republic's treasury.

What resulted in the men's current legal woes began as a vision to create a minority-owned financial institution at 3333 Commerce Street near downtown Dallas. The proposed South Dallas Republic of Texas Bank intended to offer interest-free loans of \$50,000 while earning profits largely from transaction fees. Bank deposits would be secured by \$10 million in silver and gold bought by the Republic of Texas. Organizers say they also planned to open land centers where new and prospective bank patrons would receive training on how to manage their finances. Baccus paid ROT Treasurer Darrell Dean Franks \$2,000 for a bank charter last summer. In December, he was granted \$2,525,000 in supposed warrants and a signed copy of a treasury certificate indicating \$77.8 billion had been deposited in the treasury.

In July 1996, the Texas banking commissioner Catherine Ghiglieri warned Baccus that the Republic of Texas had no authority to issue a charter for the proposed bank. He was further advised that he and his emissaries could be fined up to \$25,000 a day pending closure of the institution by the state Attorney General.

Despite Ghiglieri's warnings, Baccus and the others continued to announce plans for the bank and solicit support from the community.

"I didn't know that I was doing anything illegal, and I still don't," explains Baccus, 68, owner of Baccus 50-minute Cleaners in South Dallas and board chair-

man of the Pylon Salesmanship Club, an African American business organization founded 39 years ago in Dallas. "I got interested in it and felt that by me opening up a bank for the community, this would take a lot of people off welfare." Says Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Uhl, who is prosecuting the case, "They should have done their homework." Uhl declined further comment.

Despite the severity of the charges against them, all of the defendants except Hernandez have opted not to hire legal representation. They've chosen, instead, to argue their own case with the aid of professed legal experts in the Republic. The cornerstone of the men's defense is their assertion that they've fallen victim to no less than 13 violations of due process perpetrated by Judge Fish, Asst. U.S. Attorney Uhl, and U.S District Attorney Paul Coggins. They insist that hiring an attorney would be detrimental to their case.

"The courts that we're under are actually military courts," says Joe Louis Reece, a car broker and business consultant based in Fort Worth. "An attorney is part of the corporate United States. So, if we get an attorney, we would be transgressing to the jurisdiction of the corporate United States; we become corporations. In court, they would have a right to do whatever they want to do to us."

Among the defendants' list of grievances are: no arrest warrants were issued prior to their being taken into custody; no preliminary hearing was held to determine probable cause; they were not brought before a federal magistrate. They claim not to know who their accusers are; therefore, they've not been given the opportunity to cross examine witnesses against them. They challenge whether federal courts have jurisdiction over the Republic, a self-proclaimed independent government. No identity hearing was held.

Dr. Allen Saxe, a professor of political science at the University of Texas in Arlington, says the concept of due process is rooted in the Magna Charta, a thirteenth-century English document in which King John promised to obey the law of the land. This meant that the nation's legal process always had to be followed. If the law called for certain procedures, then those procedures had to be adhered to, or the king's actions were illegal. From this evolved the United States' constitutional provisions binding the government to follow the mandates set down in its own laws.

Neither Uhl nor Coggins would agree to be questioned regarding the men's defense claims.

"We did not understand the nature of the accusations that were being put against us," Crear says. "By coming at us with those fraudulent indictments and saying, 'Here they are'... no, that's not right. "

Perhaps the most controversial of the defendants' assertions is that their rights as men of so-called Indigenous Aboriginal Heritage have been violated. Baccus, Crear, Reece and Brown claim dual citizenship to both the Republic of Texas and a sovereign concentrated in the Carolinas called the Washitaw Nation. The Washitaw, or Ouachita, are individuals of Aboriginal and Indian heritage who have been formally recognized by the United Nations as an indigenous people. The group's

see next page

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leader, Verdiacee Tiari Washitaw, signed a peace treaty with the Republic.

An excerpt taken from the document reads, "You desire freedom to govern yourselves to which you have every right, as a sovereign province in the Empire...May the sovereign people of the Emperial Washitaw Nation and the sovereign people of the Republic of Texas forever live in peace in the enchanted lands of the Empire, reaching out with genuine love to resolve the differences that naturally arise between humans on this earth, before the sight of the One and Only Creator."

Edwin Leo Brown, a 34-year-old computer programmer and native of Alaska, says, "I understand indigenous status to mean that we are not bound by state or federal law."

According to officials with Amnesty International in New York, a draft of the Declaration of Rights of Indigenous People was considered by government officials and representatives of indigenous organizations at two regional meetings held last November at the headquarters of the Central American Parliament in Guatemala the Texans." City, Guatemala and the Simon Bolivar

These meetings were spawned by a series of meetings conducted by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) over the past year.

Based on the decisions made in Guatemala and Ecuador, the IACHR revised the draft declaration and referred it to the OAS General Assembly for consideration at its session held in Lima, Peru, last June.

Part I, Article 4 of the latest draft states that indigenous people have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, economic, social and cultural characteristics, as well as their legal sys-

tems ..." The notion that Texas was illegally annexed has

been disputed by myriad Texas historians, including T.R. Fehrenback, author of "Lone Star: A History of Texas and

"There's no question in my mind as Andean University in Quito, Ecuador. to the legality of the annexation," he

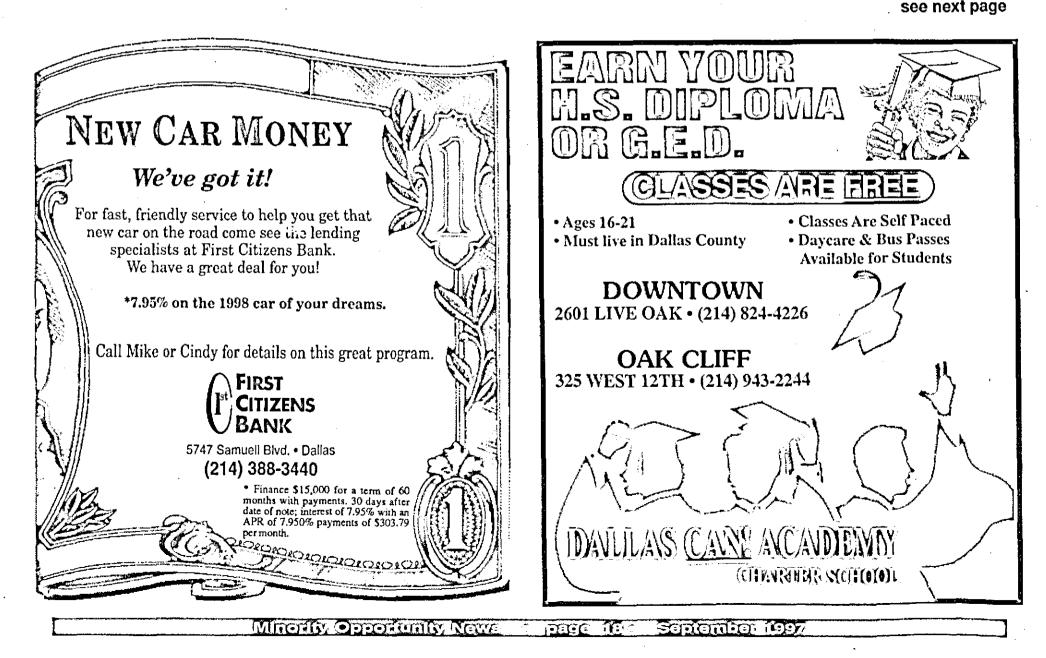


From left to right: Erwin Brown, Jasper Baccus, Steven Crear Sr., and Darrell Dean Franks.

said, citing the 4,254-257 vote taken by Texans in 1845 approving the annexation-

Baccus says he conducted what he deemed extensive research into the ROT before joining the organization and entering into an agreement to open the bank.

"They had all of the documentation that I needed to read about doing things legally," he says, producing a copy of the one-page application he submitted



continued from previous page

to the ROT for a bank charter. "I found that everything they were talking about ... the laws were still on the books. So I thought it would be a good chance for me to do something to help the people. I just fell in love with the program."

Besides, says Crear, "We don't have to follow state rules for opening bizarre ideas that border on the comical," a bank, because the Republic has its own rules."

Documents provided by the Texas Banking Commission, however, state that an application for a state bank charter must be made under oath and in the form required by the banking commissioner, accompanied by all charter fees and deposits required by law or regulation. It further states that a state bank may not engage in the business of banking until it receives a certificate of authority from the banking commissioner. Conversely, the banking commissioner may not deliver the certificate of authority until the bank has received cash for the issuance of all authorized shares or participation shares in the full amount subscribed.

In July 1996, the ROT faxed notices to hundreds of banks, thrifts and credit unions ordering them to switch to the charter it had created.

"We will assume if you do not

respond within 30 days from this notice that you will be preparing to terminate your operations, and your banking file with the Treasury will be posted to be closed," wrote Darrell Dean Franks, the group's treasurer.

"They're a strange lot with a host of says Ron Dusek, spokesman for state Attorney General Dan Morales.

In synopsis, the ROT's philosophies include:

• The federal government owes the ROT \$92 trillion in reparations for grievances perpetrated during the Civil War.

The gold-fringe around the American flag as seen in many courthouses is a military flag, meaning that the courts don't operate under civil law, but admiralty law.

•When a government agency prints a person's name in capital letters, it means that person is considered a corporate entity rather than an individual. Since corporations aren't protected by the Constitution, a person on trial in the American judicial system forgoes his or her rights.

•President Franklin Roosevelt took the United States' currency off the gold standard in 1933 so a group of bankers and a secret society known as the Illuminati could control everyone.

•The unexplained red, white and green lights that appear in the night sky over Marfa, Texas, are a manifestation of an grid under the earth. energy : Government officials are harnessing the energy grid for Star Wars research with the help of alien technology. This secret plan is funded by the Pentagon's Black Budget.

•The IRS is an outlaw organization•

Dusek said the ROT also has engaged in what he terms paper terrorism, filing thousands of questionable liens in Texas courts against Governor George Bush and others. Last year, the A.H. Belo Corporation, which owns The Dallas Morning News and WFAA-TV (Channel 8), spent six months and \$12,500 in legal fees fighting off a \$1 billion lien filed by the ROT. A lien is a legal hold on property, usually intended to cover an unpaid debt, and the property cannot be sold in Texas, and most other states, if a court rules that a lien is valid.

Additionally, the group filed an International Eminent Domain lien against the State of Texas' assets and ordered the eviction of Gov. Bush and other state legislators. Eminent domain refers to the right of government to take private property for public use.

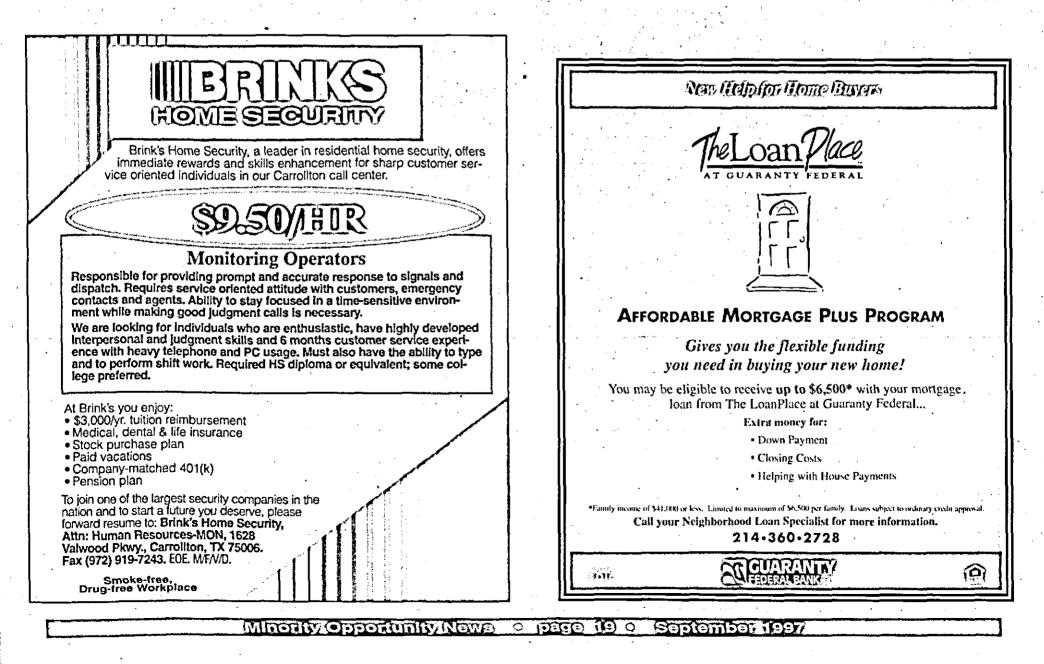
Last April 27, ROT members declared war against the United States when its self-proclaimed president, Richard McLaren, took a couple of hostages at the ROT's makeshift "embassy" in the Davis Mountains of West Texas, resulting in a seven-day standoff with more than 450 law enforcement officials. The group finally surrendered on May 3.

The only recorded casualty during the highly publicized conflict was Michael Matson, 48, of Chicago, who was killed by police as he attempted to flee the compound. Matson had hitchhiked to Texas three months earlier to serve as a bodyguard for McLaren.

At press time, McLaren was yet being held in a Presidio County jail in Marfa, indicted on federal charges of fraud for allegedly issuing \$1.8 billion in bogus financial documents. Like Baccus and the others, McLaren, his wife Evelyn, and five cohorts are charged with printing and passing worthless ROT checks purported to be warrants drawn on the Republic's treasury.

Judge Fish continued Evelyn McLaren's bail of \$20,000 and ordered her to stand trial with Baccus and the others next month.

MON





September 1

Southwestern Bell Wireless is seeking nominations for its second annual "Youth in Action" Awards which rewards the oftenoverlooked volunteer activities of youth ages 18 and younger across the Metroplex. Nomination forms can be obtained by calling the "Youth in Action" hotline at metro 214-354-9444 or visiting the Southwestern Bell Wireless homepage at http://www.sbwireless.com. Nominations will be accepted through September 12.

* * * * *

Jidera Communications is accepting nominations for the "Bridging the Gap Awards" which recognizes "companies and individuals in the public, private, charitable and business communities that contribute to the empowerment of positive diversification." The deadline for nominations is September 19. To obtain a nomination form or for more information call Jidera Communications at 214-467-0393

* * * * *

The Texas Black Sports Hall of Fame is accepting nominations for the 1997 inductees. The deadline for nominations is September 15, 1997. The Texas Black Sports Hall of Fame was established to chronicle the contributions that African Americans who were born or played in Texas, have made to the history of sports. For a nomination form or more information call 214-565-9026, ext. 311.

Dallas Black Dance Academy is now enrolling for the fall session in Ballet, Modern, Jazz, Tap and Ethnic. Classes began August 26 at their studio located at 2627 Flora Street, Dallas in the Arts District. Call 214-871-2387 for more information.

* * * * *

Brighter Tomorrows Women's Resource Center and Emergency Shelter sponsors a support group for survivors of sexual assault and sexual abuse Tuesday evenings from 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. at the Women's Resource Center, 1417 Densman, Grand Prairie. Group meetings this month are scheduled for September 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30. A separate group for male survivors is available. To reach the

Around Town

See Ella Patterson live as you've never seen

her before! Ms. Patterson will be presenting a

fun and empowering seminar. "Finding, Get-

ting & Keeping the One You Love," at the

from 6:30 p.m.-10:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in

advance or \$15 at the door. For more infor-

mation call Dana Marruffo at 310-914-5259.

INROADS Dallas/Fort Worth Alumni Asso-

ciation presents the Third Annual INROADS

Scholarship Golf Tournament at Riverchase

Golf Club in Coppell, Texas. For more infor-

mation contact Angela Williams at 972-273-

The Center for Nonprofit Management, 2900

Live Oak St., Dallas, presents the Manage-

ment Institute Seminar, "To Be Or Not To Be

A 501(c)(3)," 9:00 a.m.-noon. The class will

walk you through the myriad of IRS forms,

board questions and legal issues that must be

considered in setting up a 501(c)(3) organiza-

nerships Educational Seminar, from 7:30

a.m.-2:00 p.m. at the IC Penney headquarters

in Plano, Texas. The seminar provides a

forum where women business owners can

meet corporate representatives and partici-

shops. For more information call Penelope

Do you have legal questions? Get answers

through the Dallas Bar Association's

LegalLine from 5:15 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Septem-

ber 10 and September 17. Just call 214-969-

7066 on these days and volunteer attorneys

pate in business-related educational work-

information call 214-826-3470.

Sevtember 10

Logan at 214-428-1990.

* * * * *

tion. The cost is \$45. To register or for more

Westin Galleria, 13340 Dallas Parkway, Dallas

2970

* * * * *

September 8

September 9

Center's 24-hour hotline call 972-262-8383. For further information call 972-263-0506.

September 3

New Image Business Associates, Inc. cordially invite you to their Small Business Luncheon every Wednesday from noon-1:00 p.m. at the Bill J. Priest Institute of Economic Development, 1402 Corinth, Room 202 A&B, Dallas. Lunch is \$5.00. For more information call 214-350-9590.

September 4

The fifth annual Hispanic Media Fair, titled Connect with the Media," will be held today from 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. at the Center for Community Cooperation, 2900 Live Oak Street, Dallas. The event is free and open to the public. For more information or to register call Maria Diaz at 214-821-0911.

September 6

The Dallas Metroplex Council of Black Alumni Associations will hold its Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) "College Forum and Fair" from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Select, Mockingbird and Stemmons, Dallas. High school students, parents and counselors are welcome. For more information call Edwin Moore at 972-475-7469

* * * * *

The Plano Community Forum (PFC) invites you to its 15th Annual Awards Banquet, 6:30 o.m. at the Plano Civic Center. Plano, Texas. The event also features a silent auction, a high energy fashion show and an awards presentation. Tickets are \$40 per person and proceeds from the event benefit the Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Fund. For tickets or more information call 972-618-5416.

* * * * *

St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church will hold its next economic development meeting today at 9:00 a.m. at the church located at 5710 East R.L. Thornton Freeway, Dallas. The guest speaker will be Robert

Turner, president of Lucre Internet Technolo- will answer questions and provide resources gies, Inc. For more information call 214-821-

The Dallas Association of Real Estate Brokers (DAREB) is sponsoring a Leadership Lun-cheon honoring Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk and Dallas City Manager John Ware. The luncheon, which will be held 11:00 a.m. at the Regency Ballroom of the Fairmont Hotel, downtown Dallas, will feature Dr. Tony Evans as guest speaker. Proceeds from the event will help fund DAREB's Upfront Cost Assistance Program that helps low to moderate income home buyers purchase their first home. For more information call DAREB president, Paul E. Lewis, at 214-339-1799.

* * * * *

The Dallas Public Library's Teen Wise Center at the Lakewood Branch is sponsoring a Life Skills workshop, 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m., every Thursday from September 11 - October 16 for youth ages 12-18. Youth will participate in discussions and excercises pertaining to self-esteem, goal and decision making and HIV/AIDS and STD prevention. To register or for more information call 214-670-1207. j

Live Oak St., Dallas, presents the Management Institute Seminar, "ABCs of Grantwriting," 9:00 a.m.-noon. Participants will learn the basic components of a good grant request, how to do the research and how to match your project to the right funder. To register or or more information call 214-826-3470.

The North Texas Women's Business Council will hold its second annual Harvesting Part-* * * *

Attention Sales Professionals. Career Concepts USA, Inc. presents the Sales and Management Job Fair, 1:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., September 11 at the Westin Galleria, 13340 Dallas Parkway, Dallas. For more information call 1-888-757-5627

for virtually any area of the law. Spanishspeaking attorneys are available.

September 11

The Center for Nonprofit Management, 2900

September 13

The Black Citizens for Justice, Law and Order, Inc. (BCJLO) is sponsoring "Racism: Denial and Myths" Conference and Seminar at the

"Your Friendly Neighborhood Global Communications Company." Southwestern Bell

Around Town cont d

Doubletree Hotel, Campbell Centre, 8250 N. Central Expressway, Dallas. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. The conference is from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Psychotherapist, Dr. Robin Smith will be the keynote speaker. For tickets and more information call 214-328-3722.

* * * * *

The African American Museum, Fair Park, Dallas, presents The Shirley McFatter Jazz Festival at 6:00 p.m. For more information call 214-565-9026.

* * * * *

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Family Clinic is sponsoring "New Beginnings to a Healthier Community Health Block Party" from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. on Oakland Avenue between Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. and Pennsylvania Ave., Dallas. Proceeds from the event will be used to support the clinic's medical services and equipment needs. For more infor-mation call 214-426-2686.

* * * * *

Teach youth how to build self esteem. Staff Ministries, Inc. and Sisters on the Move, Inc. present their Fifth Annual Self-Esteem Seminar, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at Professional Plaza, 4650 South Hampton Road, #224, Dallas. Admission is \$5.00. For more information call 214-331-0480 or 972-709-1180

September 16

The Dallas, Ft. Worth, Grand Prairie, and Denton Hispanic Chambers join together for an evening of networking opportunities from 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Call John H. Martinez at 214-523-3411 for more information

September 17

Would you like to purchase a home of your own? Learn how at the Texas Federation of Home Counselors first-time home buyer seminars held September 17 and September 20. Registration includes a confidential review of the potential home buyer's credit file with a certified counselor. To register or for more information call Ed Harris at 214-

* * * * *

421-8342

(TxDOT), Business Opportunity Programs Office, is sponsoring "Building Profitable Partnerships for the 21st Century," TxDOT Annual DBE/HUB Conference, September 17-20 at the Austin Convention Center,

Austin, Texas. Conference participants include Maynard Jackson, Dennis Kimbro, Durie White, Gordon Linton and Luz Hopewell. For more information or to register call Berdell Collins at 512-305-9592 or Betsy Paez at 512-936-0929.

September 19

The second annual "Evening with St. Luke" fundraiser benefiting the Wilkinson Center will be held today at East Dallas Christian Church located at Peak and Junius streets. The event begins at 6:30 p.m. with dinner. At 8:00 p.m. St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church's 70-voice choir will perform. Tickets are \$15 each. For tickets or more information call Carreen Carr at the Wilkinson Center, 214-821-6380.

September 20

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Inc., 650 South Griffin Street, Dallas, presents "NOMMO Promo" which opens 8:00 p.m. today in the James Kemp Gallery, the Clarence Muse Cafe and in the academy's lobby. NOMMO, some of Dallas' most soulful spoken word artists, musicians, dancers and painters will address the political, personal and profound aspects of Black culture. Tickets are \$10.00. Call 214-743-2440 for more information.

* * * * *

An unveiling ceremony for a mural created by Sacremento artist, Chris Herod will be held from 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. at the African American Museum, Fair Park, Dallas. The mural was created for the museum by Herod, a member of the Soul Rep Theatre Company. For more information call Soul Rep Theatre Company at 214-565-0186.

September 22

The Southwest High Tech Career Fair will be held 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m., September 22-23 at the Infomart, 1950 Stemmons Freeway, Dallas. The career fair is free and open to the public. A free seminar 'Career Trends & Tips" will be presented at 10:30 a.m. For more information call 800-593-The Texas Department of Transportation 0101 or visit their internet homepage at www.cfcjobs.com.

September 24

The Center for Nonprofit Management, 2900 Live Oak St., Dallas, presents the Management Institute Seminar, "Marketing Plans That Make a Difference," 9:00 a.m.-noon. The session provides a basic nuts and bolts "howto" review of developing a basic marketing plan including presentation, research and documentation. To register or for more information call 214-826-3470.

September 25

Find out how you can make a difference in your community. The Volunteer Center of Dallas County is sponsoring a free community volunteer orientation, "Discover the Possibilities. Volunteer," from 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. at Mountain View College, 4849 W. Illinois, Dallas. For more information call 214-826-6767, ext. 330

September 26

Hear local and national business leaders give proven techniques for working and living in a diverse society. The Bridging the Gap Awards Advisory Board presents Diversity-The Focus, "A Working Conference," 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m., at the Center for Nonprofit Management, 2900 Live Oak St., Dallas. To register or for more information call 214-467-

The Celebrating Life Foundation presents the "Celebrating Life Golf Tournament," in sup-port of breast cancer awareness, at the L.B. ouston Golf Course, 11223 Luna Road, Dallas. Tee time is 8:00 a.m. The registration fee is \$65 per golfer and golfers can register as single players or teams. To register or for more information call 972-271-6244 or 972-501-9981, ext. 110.

September 27

Dallas award-winning gospel artist, Carnell Murrell & Company will headline Rejoice '97 at the State Fair of Texas, Fair Park, Dallas. The legendary Pops Staples will make a special guest appearance. For more information call Denise Sharpton at 214-821-9000.

* * * * *

The Black Business Information Service will host its "Black Economic Independence Eco-

nomic Development & Empowerment Sen nar" from 7:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. at the Black Business Market, 4124 Wichita Street, Fort Worth, Texas. The seminar features two wellknown speakers and includes dinner. Tickets are \$20 per person and proceeds from the event benefit the Black Corporation Trust Fund. For tickets or more information call metro 817-695-1411.

September 28

The Third Eye, a Dallas-based educational organization, will lead a review of the book, Destruction of Black Civilization: Great Issues of a Race From 4500 BC to 2000 AD by Chancellor Williams. The event, which is free and open to the public, will be held 3:00 p.m. at the Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Inc., 650 South Griffin Street, Dallas. Call 214-743-2440 for more information.

September 29

The Irving Branch of the NAACP holds their general meeting 7:00 p.m., the last Monday of each month at the Shadygrove CME Church, 3537 W. Gilbert Rd., Grand Prairie, Texas. For more information call Reginald Titus, President; Vicki Goodnight, Press and Publicity chair; or Lori Owens, Branch Secretary at 972-888-8822.

September 30

Clean South Dallas/Fair Park Inc. needs volunteers for its annual fall cleanup to pick up litter and help senior citizens with minor home repairs. This is an excellent opportunity for individuals or groups to help a community in need. For more information or to volunteer call Clean South Dallas at 214-421-1662

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

> tunity News ns Frwy



2-

Like a good neighbor, Inwood Bank is there Neighborhood bank is committed to investing in surrounding community

By Joy Tillerson

Photos by Chris Pryer

ames Sanford, a long-time resident of the Northpark/Love Field neighborhood in Northwest Dallas, has seen a fot of things change over the years in his Northwest Dallas neighborhood — some good and some not so good - but one thing that stands out is the neighborhood revitalization efforts of Inwood National Bank.

Inwood National Bank, long regarded by African Americans as a bank that demonstrated no interest in the community, has in recent years dedicated itself to preserving the area, residents and civic leaders say.

"In the past ten years or so, the bank has really responded to the needs of the community," says Mr. Sanford, who for 24 years owned an exterminating business a block away from the bank. "These days there are a large number of community residents who have really nice accounts with the bank. Prior to the early nineties, most people went to the bigger banks."

Green Williams, a 40-year resident of the community, says he has seen the change. "It's a whole new breed of people running things there. They are now try-

ing to do everything in the world to help this neighborhood."

Joyce Lockley, a Greater Dallas Community Relations Council neighborhood representative, said the change in Inwood's attitude can be attributed to several things, including the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) requirements, as well as the chang in the bank's man agement.

"Since grabbed hold and pliance officer. embraced the neighbor-

hood as much as a financial institution can," says Ms. Lockley.

Some of the assistance provided by Inwood Bank includes making a \$5,000 contribution to the neighborhood recreation center for an outdoor sign and the purchase of a \$4,000 scoreboard for the

gymnasium. The bank has also participated in neighborhood rallies and just recently had a booth at the Northpark/Love Field neighborhood Night Out.

"The bank has been very supportive of the neighborhood's revitalization plan, which includes dealing with code standards, crime prevention, and infield housing," Ms. Lockley says.

A recent CRA evaluation and current Home Mortgage Disclosure Loan Application Register data indicates INB has performed satisfactorily in meeting the needs of the community. A June, 1996, evaluation rated the bank as satisfactory under criteria set forth in the CRA:

• Loan to deposit ratio --- The average quarter-end loan to deposit rate since the last CRA evaluation (March, 1993) was 76.31 percent. The actual loan to deposit ratio as of March 31, 1996 was 82.46 percent. The loan to deposit ratio is a measure of the bank's lending activity as a percent of total deposits received by the institution. These ratios reflect an increase in lending levels since the previous evaluation. The quarterly average ration compares favorably with institutions of similar size and market demographics within seven miles of the

5.

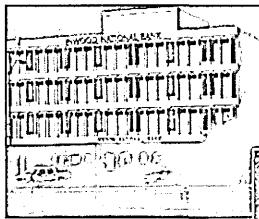
the Bob Ivey (left), executive vice president of inwood changeover, the bank has National Bank and Roger McLaren, the bank's com-

bank.

 Lending within the assessment area --- The bank's geographic distribution of credit reflects reasonable dispersion throughout the assessment areas. A majority of both the number of loans and the dollar amount of loans

are made within the bank's assessment area. INB originated \$93,025,000 (68 percent) inside the assessment area; \$16,489,000 (12 percent) outside the assessment area; and \$26,881,000 (20 percent) outside the MSA.

 Lending to borrowers of different income levels and businesses of different sizes - Overall, the information reflects a reasonable penetration for lending among individuals of different income levels. The asset/loan



mix denotes that HMDA and installment loan products represent 63 percent of the total loan portfolio, which are significant loan categories for this institution.

• Review of complaints and fair lending evaluation - No formal complaints were filed with the OCC, other federal agencies or in the bank's public file concerning CRA performance. The bank is in substantial compliance with the provisions of the anti-discrimination laws and regulations governing fair lending practices. The fair lending sample found no evidence of discriminatory treatment in granting of credit. The bank's internal audit procedures governing the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (ECOA) are consistent with the procedures of the OCC. The bank also has a second review process in place to ensure equitable and fair lending of all applicants.

Also, information from the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act data for 1995 and 1996 shows that African Americans who applied for loans were approved ---although the number of applicants was low. The approval rate of African Americans was higher than the percentage of white applicants. In 1995, four African Americans applied for standard conventional loans; all were approved. Of the 17 white applicants, 11 were approved. Four of five African-Americans were also approved for home improvement loans, compared to 30 of 34 white applicants. In 1996, there was a 100 percent approval rate for African-American home loan applicants (five applicants); 88 percent of

whites (fifteen applicants); and zero percent of Hispanics (three applicants).

"The staff of Inwood National Bank is proud of [its] performance under the Community Reinvestment Act and the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act," says Roger V. McLaren, Inwood's compliance officer.

Although the number of loan applications for African Americans and other minorities are low, bank officials say that they are making a greater effort to get the

information out and bring these groups into the bank.

Inwood National Bank, nestled in the city's Northpark/Love Field neighborhood, has made substantial contributions to the surrounding community.



"The bank is making substantial efforts in getting the word out about its loan program," says the Rev. Albert Haynes, pastor of Bethany Missionary Baptist Church. "The bank has been encouraging our young couples in the church to invest in the community by applying for loans there."

Bank officials attribute the low number of African American and other minority applicants to the fact that Inwood does not offer the traditional permanent mortgage products, such as fixed-rate mortgages for 15 to 30 years. The majority of the loans made have terms of less than five years.

INB is unlike many of the larger financial institutions in the area in several ways, according to Bob Ivey, Inwood's executive vice-president. "We originate our loans here and we keep them here. The loans are not sold to outside mortgage companies, so we can't make the long-term mortgage loans," he says.

The bank's loan portfolio is made up of mostly secured loans, with unsecured loans representing only about one percent of all loans made. The bank does not offer credit cards or check cashing debit cards, although it inherited credit card customers after its acquisition of Commercial National Bank.

"When you come to inquire about a loan at Inwood, you won't find interest rates such as 18 percent or higher,

see INWOOD BANK next page

page 22 a September 1997

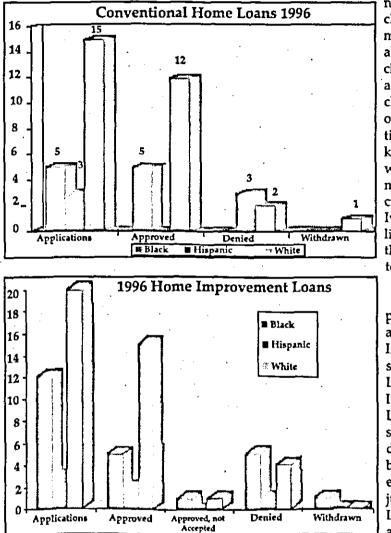
Signal

Inwood Bank

continued from previous page

because we just don't do that type of lending," says Mr. Ivey.

"However, we recently initiated a program with several permanent mortgage lenders to assist applicants in their efforts to obtain long-term residential mortgages," Mr. McLaren says. These loans are not reflected in the HMDA data



Conventional home loans (top) and home improvement nately loans made by Inwood National Bank in 1996. SOURCE: Home Mortgage Disclosure Act data.

because INB assists in the application process, but does not originate the loans.

Another contributing factor for the low number of African American Ioan applicants is the high number of older residents living in the Northpark/Love Field neighborhood, bank officials and neighborhood leaders say. "The older people living in the area usually keep their properties in good shape and don't have a desire to take out loans for improvements," Rev. Haynes says. "They have done a pretty good job of keeping their homes over the years."

"The neighborhood is getting up in age and these people can't get the type of loans available at Inwood," says Mr. Williams. "This is why we are trying desperately to get a new breed of residents to come in here to do what we can't."

applicant is the same as most small banking institutions --- a person who is creditworthy. "The loan applicant must demonstrate a history of paying his or her bills. We are in the business of providing loans to those who are creditworthy, whatever race they are," says Mr. McLaren.

Another area in which Inwood has become active in is the financing of

African American neighborhood church improvements. There are about ten black churches in the "Most area. churches hope to operate for a long time. We try to keep them that way by trying to meet their financial needs," Mr. Ivey says. "We financing like things people like to keep."

North-The park/Love Field area serviced by INB is triangular shaped with Lovers Lane, Inwood Road and Lemmon Avenue serving as its borders, with the bank itself situated on Inwood Rd. just south of Lovers Lane. The area is predomi-African

American, with a higher median age than Dallas

County collectively. The bank's service area contains, based on 1990 census information, the following income census tracts: 87 upper, 53 middle, 33 moderate, 15 lower and four that are not applicable. The area has a large populous of middleand upper-income neighborhoods, with pockets of low- and moderate-income neighborhoods. The 1990 census bureau median family income was \$38,754. The area's population totals approximately 351,500 persons with 351,030 households, according to the 1996 CRA report.

As of March 31, 1996, Inwood National Bank's total assets were approximately \$195 million. The bank increased its asset size with the acquisition of Commercial National Bank. There are currently six branches, including one in Richardson and in Pleasant Grove. The

What Iwood looks for in a credit - primary business focus of the bank is retail oriented, with a small concentration in church lending. The bank's primary marketing efforts in gathering deposits and extending credit are geared toward two defined areas: Northpark/Love Field and Richardson.

Inwood offers the following types of credit to qualified customers in its defined communities:

· Consumer Loans. Secured and unsecured loans to individuals for personal, family or household purposes, such as automobiles, home and property improvement, boats, recreational vehicle and other personal, family or household needs. Personal loans of less than the normal lending minimum (\$2,000) are made when such loans are secured by depository accounts in Inwood National Bank. • Real Estate Loans. Secured loans to individuals and businesses to construct, improve, or purchase real property. These types of real estate loans include semi-permanent mortgage loans and interim construction loans.

 Small Business Professional and Executive Loans. Secured and unsecured loans to small business owners and middle market professionals and executives, such as accountants, attorneys, doctors, etc. These loans are for the purchase of equipment or to finance leasehold improvements, inpractice loans or acquisition loans and secured loans to businesses and professional corporations.

 Commercial Loans. Loans secured primarily by accounts receivable, inventory, and equipment.

Meeting community needs

Inwood National Bank recently put together a marketing strategy designed to build greater awareness of its financial products to businesses as well as to lowand moderate-income neighborhoods. It has implemented many recent marketing efforts in residential real estate lending, including home improvement loans in the neighborhood, according to Mr. McLaren.

"Officers have taken the opportunity to speak before churches and community groups in an effort to effectively market the products offered by INB," says Mr. McLaren. "We advertise through our customers. We do not spend a lot of dollars on advertising like the larger banks," Mr. Ivey says.

Inwood's board of directors put together a five-member Community Reinvestment Act Committee that includes one director, two lending officers, a marketing officer, and a credit analyst to ensure the bank is pursuing a vari-

What is CRA?

The Community Reinvestment Act (CRA), established by Congress in 1977, requires federal financial supervisory agencies to supervise the banking practices of financial institutions. They are to assess an institution's record of meeting the credit needs of its entire community. including low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, and ensure that it is consistent with sound and fair operation procedures. Upon conclusion of such examinations, the agency must prepare a written evaluation of the institution's record of meeting the credit needs of its community.

Prior to 1993, banks were evaluated based on 12 criteria, but after responding to concerns raised from financial Institutions, bank regulators reduced the criteria to five, which are the following:

·loan to deposit ratio

In assessment area

·lending to borrowers of different incomes and to businesses of different sizes

•geographic distribution of loans response to complaints.

J.T.

ety of appropriate measures to meet the banking and credit needs of the community it serves.

The board then developed a Community Development Advisory Council, which is made up of a diverse mixture of people from the delineated communities. The primary purpose of the council is to advise the bank on how best to meet the financial service needs of the community. The council meets at least eight times a year.

The creation of a Community Development Advisory Council was a key indicator of the bank's commitment to serving the neighborhood, Ms. Lockley believes. "The bank has been very responsive to the advisory council. Every time we have gone to them with concerns and the desire to meet and discuss these issues, [bank officials] have responded," she says.

Mr. McLaren says the bank has hosted, and continues to host, a series of receptions from various cross-sections of the Inwood community. These meetings are designed to hear what the credit needs are for a particular segment of the community.

An advisory council member since 1993, the Rev. Albert Haynes says, "The development of this council has helped a lot of neighborhood issues get [resolved]. The bank officials have always been responsive to our concerns."

Minority Opportunity News page 23 ° September 1997

Actually not every "Yahoo." member of the Lane family said "Yahoo" when they won LOTTO Texas. One 99 66 or two of them may Yahoo. have said "Yippee." ۍ کې (رينۍ) 99 Prize \$10,789,254.90* ¥ Winning Numbers: "Yahoo." 1 3 10 18 19 46 99 Their System: O TO D 66 Number of grandchildren, I. Her age, 3. Her birthday, 10/18/91 "Yahoo." (91 became 19) and Lou and Butch's age when she was born, 46. THE LANE FAMILY ¥ First Purchase: Five new trucks. T Best Part About Winning: OVER 200 MILLIONAIRES "Now I can starch AND STILL COUNTING my overalls. I thought that was a little touch of class,"-Butch Lane *Paid over 20 years. 01996 Texas Lottery

Making homes healthy Entrepreneur believes in caring for those who can't care for themselves

By Whitney Larkins

Some of her patients ask for the "Dictator," "Baby," or just Belinda when they call for Belinda Glenn, owner and administrator of Genesis Home Health Care in Duncanville, TX. Genesis' licensed staff of forty care for people

who cannot help

TODID

themselves, providing them

with

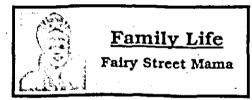
health care, medications, and physical and speech therapy. Home visits are made to help feed and clothe patients who are physically

home

and clothe patients who are physically unable to do so. Housekeeping and other necessities are also provided by the staff.

A personal relationship with her patients is imperative for Glenn. "The patients know they can talk with me. I've gone out and done visits with almost all of my patients," she says.

Glenn has worked in the health field for seven years and has learned a lot. "What I've learned the most by being in



Being a single parent myself, I realized early that life with my only child (a daughter) was not going to be easy. Financially, it was difficult at times to give her all of the things she needed, wanted or deserved. While talking with a single mother last month, I decided to ask her about her life with her son and their times together. This is what she had to say.

SHIRLEY WHITE SIMS:"I must say that I have not had that hard of a time with my son. Fortunately, his father IS in his life and he has helped me to accomplish goals for him, and has been there to also help me out financially. I really think that life would not be as easy if my son's father was not in Miracle's life ... it's good to get the money, but there are more important things that I want my son to learn from his father and from other male role models as well. I would hope that his father would continue to teach our son respect for himself and for women as well. Mothers can teach some things, but I feel that if both parents can be in the child's life, then they should Since we

. . .

home health is to give back to the community. It upsets me when I find out how some families treat their elderly. There is a need for home health care in the community," she says.

As a Christian, spirituality is an important part of Glenn's life. She credits her success to God. "If God didn't live in me, I wouldn't be able to do what I have done," she says. She also feels her staff can remain focused if they believe in God. "I feel people who know God

God. "I feel people who know Gou perform better at their work." Glenn advises those who are interested in the home health field to get

> involved in the community. "Don't get in it for the money. If you treat people right, they will come...the real interest should be helping the community," she says. "I would like to open up a training school and work with people on welfare, to help get them off welfare and get them jobs in the medical business."

	Name:	, Belinda Glenn	
ł	Birthplace:	Augusta, GA	
ł	Favorite Food:	Italian	
1	Last Book Read:	"The Bible"	
	My friends don't know that: "I have a keen sense of humor."		
	Advice to would-be entrepreneurs:	"Once [you] set a goal, [you] don't need to let anything stop [you]."	



Genesis Home Health 607 N. Cedar Ridge Drive, #200 Duncanville, TX 972-296-4804 office 972-572-2166 fax

As a wife and mother, Glenn remains active in her daily life. Whenever she finds spare time, she enjoys skating and attending church softball games. In the future, Glenn hopes to open another branch to "add on" to the Duncanville and Mesquite branches. "We're growing fast. I hope to open a new branch every year and a half within the next five years."

MON

Whitney Larkins is a freshman at the University of North Texas.

How hard is it being a single parent?

know now that a child can be forever traumatized by parents not being around, we should make sure that the children who do not have both parents in their lives also have those who can serve



Shirley White Sims, a resident of Oak Cliff, with 4-year-old son Miracle (Inset).

as role models to help steer the kids in the right direction."

Minority Opportunity News

Fairy: Although times may have seemed hard, it was very easy to love my daughter and for us to stay in happy spirits. Having said that, I must also thank God for making life as pleasant as it was for me. But I also must admit and be aware that other parents, especially single ones, have not, and are not, having things go as well for them. The saying, "It takes a whole village to raise a child," is certainly true; therefore, we, as a community, must help those that live with, around and near us to take responsibility for our children and make an honest and consistent attempt at making sure that our children have a shot at the best that life has to offer. Remember kids are our future, and if we don't try to keep them on the right path, those same kids can grow up and stray into negative activity. Then what would you have to say?

ON

September 1997

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.

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Linter tamment

Event Horizon

The year is 2047. A rescue mission is sent to the outer reaches of our solar system to salvage the Event Horizon, a prototype spaceship missing for the last seven years. As the crew members search



Laurence Fishburne, Sam Neill, Kathleen Quinlan and ers of the famed expedi-Joely Richardson star in the Paramount Pictures pro- tion that crossed North duction of Event Horizon.

for survivors, they discover the terrifying secrets that lie within the mysterious spaceship.

Laurence Fishburne, Sam Neill, Kathleen Quinlan and Joely Richardson star in the Paramount Pictures production of Event Horizon, directed by Paul Anderson and written by Philip Eisner.

Aboard the Daylight Space Station orbiting Earth, Dr. William Weir (Sam Neill) awakens suddenly from a nightmare about his dead wife, Claire (Holley Chant). Weir, a brilliant but troubled scientist, has been haunted for years by his wife's suicide...and the disappearance of the Event Horizon.

The Event Horizon, a prototype spaceship, was designed by Weir to reach distant stars. Instead, the ship and its crew simply vanished without a trace. Now, seven years later, an emergency beacon indicates that the Event Horizon

has abruptly reappeared near the planet Neptune. The message, presumably, has been sent by someone aboard the ship. A mission is launched to salvage the Event Horizon and, hopefully, rescue any survivors of its crew. The ship assigned to the mission is the USAC (United States Aerospace Command) Lewis & Clark, a search and rescue ship named for the lead-America in 1805. The

Lewis & Clark has just returned from a mission, and her crew was looking forward to a well-deserved leave. The order to head out toward Neptune is not welcome news, but Captain Miller (Laurence Fishburne) and his team of seasoned professionals - navigator Starck (Joely Richardson), emergency technicians Peters (Kathleen Quinlan) and Cooper (Richard T. Jones), engineer Justin (Jack Noseworthy), doctor D.J.

(Jason Isaacs) and pilot Smith (Sean Pertwee) --- accept their orders and embark with Weir on the 56-day journey to reach the Event Horizon.

Only when they are in deep space does Weir divulge the secret of the Event Horizon. Weir reveals that everything they have ever heard about the fate of the ship is a lie, but they are also completely unprepared for the truth. He explains that the Event Horizon was the first spaceship designed for faster-than-light travel, a concept that they all thought was physically and technologically impossible. The ship disappeared without a trace when the gravity drive, her revolutionary engineering process, was engaged. Uneasiness becomes anxiety when Weir plays the brief, fragmentary recording that is the only clue to the ship's fate—a recording of terrifying, inhuman shrieks and wails.

At last they reach the Event Horizon, an eerie, cross-shaped vessel ominously looming against the cloudy atmosphere of Neptune. Biomonitors (used to search for signs of life) give strange, abnormal readings. The would-be rescuers board the ship as vast and silent as a deserted cathedral. Within its snaking corridors and containment chambers, they find hints of the nightmarish fate that overtook its vanished crew-and discover a horror no one ever imagined, even in the deepest reaches of outer space.

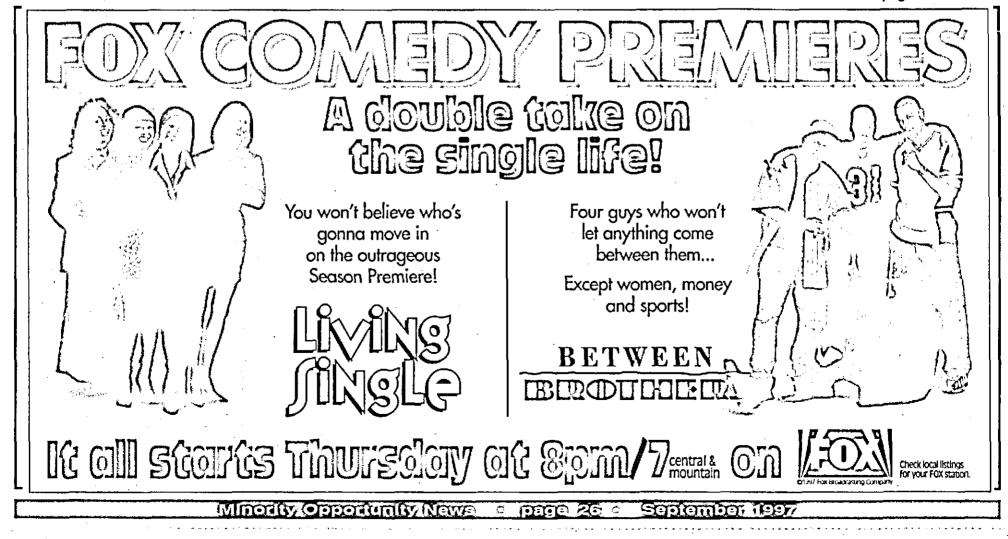
Event Horizon opened August 15 at theaters throughout the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex.

A Smile Like Yours

Danny Robertson (Greg Kinnear) and his wife, Jennifer (Lauren Holly), seem to have it all: a strong marriage, good jobs and wonderful friends like Nancy Tellen (Joan Cusack), co-owner with Jennifer of an aroma-therapy shop, and Harris Steve (Jay Thomas), Danny's coworker at a construction site. Danny is hesitant to Lauren Holly and Greg Kinnear

add a baby to the mix-until adoration of his wife prompts him to tell her he wants a baby with "a smile

like yours." Smiles begin to dim, however, when continued on next page



continued from previous page

Jennifer's inability to get pregnant results in a series of awkward tribulations at a fertility clinic. With the stress of the ordeal and the temptation of affairs threatening their once-perfect marriage, the couple will discover that love holds a few surprises of its own—and that 'baby makes three' may arrive in the most unexpected way.

Paramount Pictures and Rysher Entertainment present, A Smile Like Yours, A David Kilpatric Production starring Greg Kinnear and Lauren Holly.

Lauren Holly starred with Kinnear and Harrison Ford in Sabrina following her role opposite Jim Carrey and Jeff Daniels in Dumb and Dumber. Her other films have included Beautiful Girls and Down Periscope, which she made while playing the role of 'Max' in the acclaimed CBS series Picket Fences. She most recently appeared in the feature film thriller, Turbulence.

Holly's other film credits include The Adventures of Ford Fairlane and Dragon: The Bruce Lee Story, in which she played Bruce Lee's wife, Linda Lee.

Greg Kinnear made his film debut in the Sydney Pollack directed remake of *Sabrina*, in which he starred with Harrison Ford and Julia Ormond. Kinnear recently completed filming James L. Brook's Old Friends, opposite Jack Nicholson and Helen Hunt.

First gaining prominence as a wisecracking host of E! Entertainment Television's *Talk Soup*, Kinnear soon captured the attention of NBC executives searching for a replacement for Bob Costas in the coveted late-night franchise period. Shortly thereafter, as the host and executive producer of *Later with Greg Kinnear*, he managed to increase the ratings of the show despite its late time slot.

A Smile Like Yours opened August 22 at theaters throughout the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex.

Montage '97 returns to downtown Dallas Arts District

MONTAGE '97, held in the downtown Dallas Arts District along Flora Street, kicks off with a smooth jazz 107.5 Oasis concert Friday, September 5. The



Paul Taylor



Jonanthan Butler

jazz concert opens with Mesa/Bluemoon recording artist Jeff Golub and Avenue Blue followed by headline entertainer Rick Braun also a Mesa/Bluemoon recording artist.

The festival continues Saturday, September 6 at 10:00 a.m. and is open until 11:00 p.m. with evening concerts that include renowned jazz N2K recording artist Jonathan Butler who will open for I.E. Music legendary jazz musician Lee Ritenour. On Sunday, September 7, gates open at 11:00 a.m. and stay open until 7:00 p.m. with featured Jazz Unity recording artist Paul Taylor in concert.

Co-presented by The 500, Inc., The Dallas Morning News and 107.5 The Oasis, MONTAGE '97 is a family festival of music, food and fun. It includes a large interactive arts and crafts area just for children, five stages with continuous musical entertainment (including jazz, blues, rock and roll and classical) and street performances by many of The 500 Inc. beneficiaries.

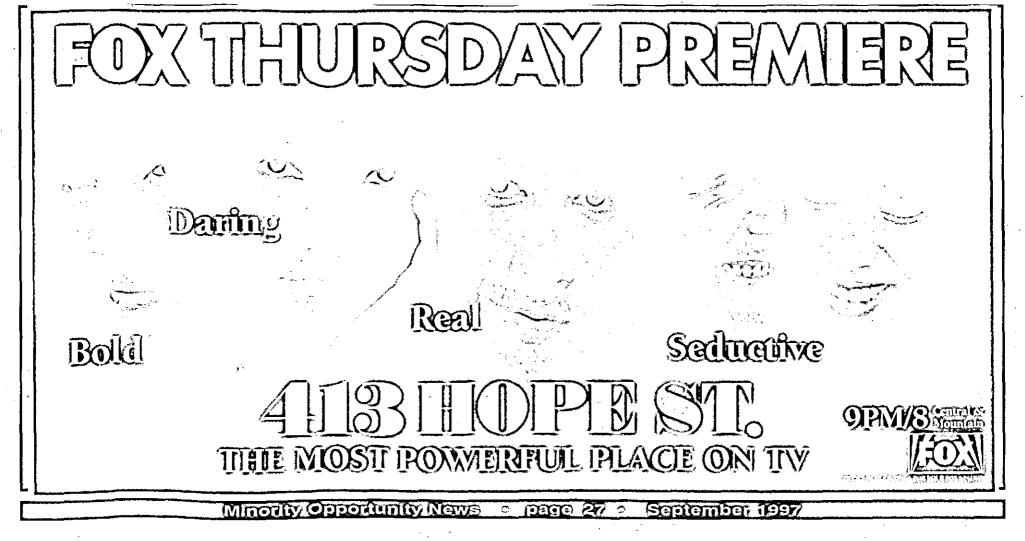
Tickets are \$5 in advance, \$6 at the gate. Children four and under are admitted free. All proceeds from MONTAGE benefit The 500, Inc., which is the oldest arts fundraising organization in Dallas, has contributed more than \$11 million to the city's cultural arts. For more information call 214-369-0500.

Fox's new Thursday nite lineup

Two comedy series about the single life, followed by a one-hour drama series head up Fox TV's new Thursday night schedule. Between Brothers and Living Single will bring you humorous and outrageous moments of single life from both male and female perspectives. 413 Hope Street is the bold new drama about a teen crisis center in New York City, where the kids who come through the doors are searching for compassion as well as shelter from the harsh streets. Focusing on the power of strong relationships, the impact of positive role models, and the struggles of misguided youth, the show holds true to its name and brings viewers a heartwarming message of hope.

Richard Roundtree plays Phil Thomas, the founder of 413 Hope Street, who opens the facility on the site where

see FOX next page



Entertainmen Lont i

FOX from previous page

his son was senselessly murdered for just a pair of shoes. To assist him in his quest to make life more tolerable for the street kids of Manhattan, he has assembled staff members including a psychologist torn



work and his new marriage, a no-nonsense counselor, a former addict-turnedcounselor who oversees sports program, and a feisty attorney brings relief to the ten-

Richard Roundtree

the office. Kids who turn to the center for help include a young man trying to come to terms with the fact that he is HIV positive, a drug addict who must kick his habit for the sake of his baby, and a young gay man.

Award-winning talent is directing and producing the show. Damon Wayans, who is best known for his comedic characters on FOX's In Living Color and for starring in the feature films Beverly Hills Cop and Mo' Money, among others, is creator and executive producer. Executive producer and director is Eric Laneuville, who earned an Emmy Award for his directorial efforts on the series 1'll Fly Away; he has also directed other TV series, including ER, Doogie Howser, and Equal Justice. Henry Bromell is executive producer of the show, and served in the same role on Homicide: Life in the Streets.

Richard Roundtree, best known as John Shaft in three feature films, as well as for co-starring in City Heat, Day of the Assassins, Once Upon a Time When We Were Colored, and this summer's George of the Jungle, and Steel, leads the cast of stars. Co-starring as his staff members are Stephen Berra, Kelly Coffield, Michael Easton, Shari Headley, Vincent Laresca, Jesse Martin, Karim Prince, and Dawn Stern.

Oct. 4, 7:00 p.m.

Cotton Bowl

mail to:



MINORITY Opportunity News 5 (DECE) 28 0 September 1997



Dance my babies.

Dance.

No work for you.

No fear.

Laugh and shimmy.

From your twirling feet

to the tickled fancy of

the sweet trusting dreams

you keep.

No pain.

No grown-up rain.

Know it not.

Dance long. Dance free.

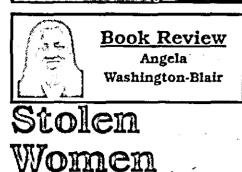
As you should.

As it should be.

This Is Your Time To Dance.

As the African proverb goes, no tree can flourish without roots. At AT&T, we continue to support organizations that work on behalf of children, like The Children's Defense Fund and California's Children Now. By giving our children a good foundation, we're helping to give them the freedom to discover and enjoy the rich cultural legacies that strengthen for life.

ATET



By Gail Elizabeth Wyatt John Wiley & Sons/\$24.95

"Let's talk about sex..." is a line from a song I've heard bits and pieces of here and there (you know, from commercials).

Sex. We think about it, talk about it, are involved in it, and, in the case of this month's book review, some of us even write about it.

Stolen Women: Reclaiming Our Sexuality, Taking Back Our Lives is not a book for the prude of heart. It is a blatantly graphic and explicit book about the sexual experiences of the black woman and is written by Dr. Gail Elizabeth Wyatt, who is considered to be the "nation's leading expert on black female sexuality."

This book is not a how-to manual, but rather a research study that purports to "shatter centuries of myths, misconceptions, and misinformation." Not just about the sexual behavior of black women, but the sex roles of black women as well. Wyatt's research consisted of using a questionnaire to survey hundreds of women. Some of their case studies are also detailed. The author's disclaimer at the beginning of the book states that the book is not about sex-related racial differences but is about the life- . long effects of sexual experiences.

One of the strongest parts of the book is the historical section. It tells of social behaviors in Africa and the horrors endured by enslaved women once they were brought to America. It tells of horrible rites of passage procedures. It tells of death and survival.

Wyatt's book lists and describes the stereotypical sex roles traditionally ascribed to black women: the promiscuous woman, the mammy, the workhorse, and the she-devil. The statistics and case studies are given to prove that these roles are largely false, even though the media, including television and movies, would have us believe otherwise. Wyatt admonishes us not to be captive to these stereotypes.

The next section of the book is about understanding our sexuality, from childhood to adulthood. The final section is about responsibility and affirmation. That section is especially useful and admonishes mothers to pass wisdom on to daughters. There is even a quiz about sexual responsibility.

Guess what? I felt uncomfortable reading this book. Not that I'm a prude-

even have a degree in biology.) But Wyatt, in providing supporting material for her book, has includtolen ed, in my humble opinion, descriptions and excerpts that Wom are offimes vulgar and unnecessary to make her point. Even the "f" word was there. We have many bodily functions-yes, they are natural. But do we need to discuss every minutiae? Can nothing be discreet? Yes, we are all products of sexual unions, but where has modesty

I used to work in a medical profession. (I women being strong and not being victims of abuse. I'm all for women making wise choices, especially in this age of AIDS and other diseases. I don't believe in hiding my 20 head in the sand. I even engage in discussions about sex with my female family members and friends. Our Sunday school class (hopefully yours, too) has discussed the Biblical context of sex. Call me old-fashioned, but sex, in an ideal world, goes along with gone? I'm all for responsibility. I'm all for love and marriage. After reading this

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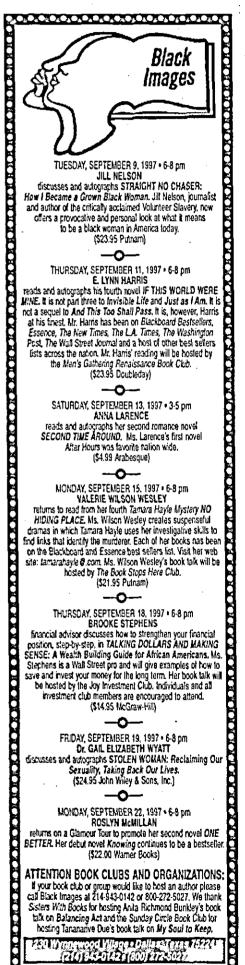
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ed to credul approval. Other conditi

book, where sex is totally removed from that realm and examined microscopically and clinically, I might say that a college class on sexuality would be a good forum for discussing this book. Whether or not a woman would be wiser and more responsible after reading it remains to be seen.

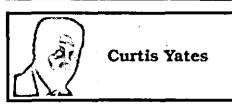
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Minority Opportunity News ୁ ପରି ଭାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ୍ September 1997

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This column is dedicated to all AIDS victims who have found it somewhat difficult seeking housing, with or without the help of others. Their physical health notwithstanding, AIDS victims still need housing. This column is written in hopes of offering some guidance toward housing assistance for people with AIDS.

One program that provides housing assistance for people with AIDS is the Housing Opportunity Program for Persons With AIDS, established by the AIDS Housing Opportunities Act and administered by the Office of Community Planning and Development. This program gives states and localities resources and incentives to devise long-term comprehensive strategies for meeting the housing needs of persons with AIDS or related diseases and their families. Except for the receipt of housing information services, community outreach, and educational activities, beneficiaries of this particular program must be low income.

It's important to mention that there's a growing need for various social entities to take on the challenge of seeking funding to assist those with such housing

Housing Opportunities for persons with AIDS (HOPWA)

needs. The Department of Housing and Urban Development awards funds appropriated for any program through an allocation formula and a competitive grant process. Applicants for formula awards are the eligible states and the most populous city in the eligible metropolitan statistical areas that qualify (90 percent of appropriated amounts). Applicants for a competitive grant may be a state, a unit of general local government or a nonprofit organization (in cases of projects of national significance, 10 percent of appropriated funds).

Though grants may be used to provide for many forms of housing assistance — emergency housing, shared housing arrangements, apartments, single room occupancy (SRO) dwellings, and community residences — none surpass the need by AIDS victims. Appropriate supportive services must be provided as part of any assisted housing, but grants may also be used to provide services independently of any housing activity. Numerous activities may be carried out with grant funds, including housing information and resource identification; acquisition, rehabilitation, conversion, lease, and repair of facilities; new construction (for SROs and community residences only); project- or tenant-based rental assistance (including assistance for shared housing arrangements); shortterm rent, mortgage, and utility payments; operating costs; technical assistance; administrative expenses; and supportive services.

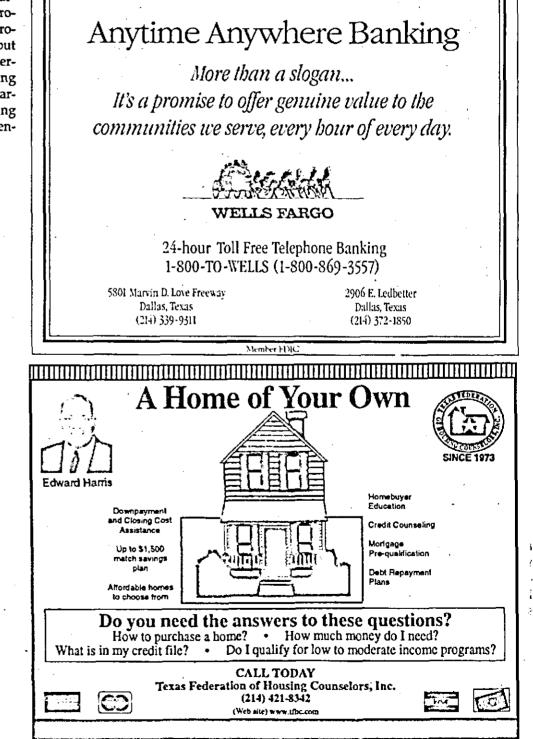
Each person receiving rental assistance under the program, or residing in housing assisted under the program, must pay rent (including utilities) based on income under the same formula as tenants of public housing or Section 8 assisted housing. For more information about the AIDS Housing Opportunities Act in the city of Dallas, please contact: Office of Community Planning and Development at 214-670-3086.

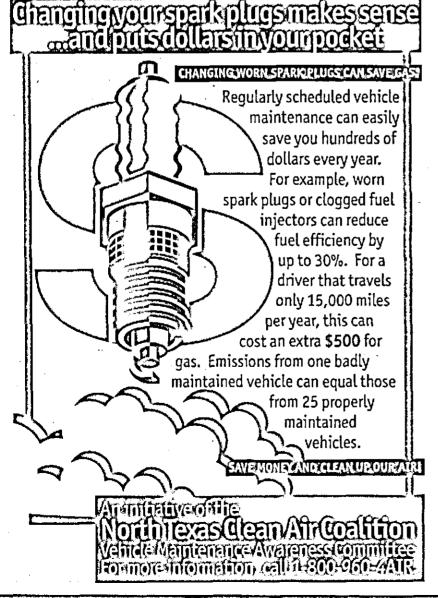
Always look for the latest issue of *MON*, where you'll find informative residential real estate information about public housing.

MON

Curtis Yates is the owner/operator of REAL ESTATE STATUS QUO; 8131 LBJ Frwy, Ste. 800, Dallas, TX 75251-1333; Ph. 972-702-0151; Fax 972-934-2706; Email statusqu@flash.net; Promotion Web Site: http://www.flash.net/statusqu/.

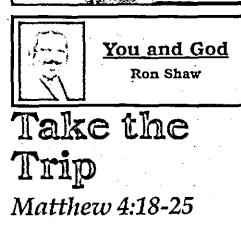






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Sinder



Last year I had the opportunity to vacation in Hawaii (everybody ought to go at least once). I visited the big island of Oahu, then went on to Maui. I took the helicopter tour, and then the tour of the Dole Pineapple Plant. Of course I did the scuba diving thing and the submarine rides and the whale-watching tours. Snorkeling, shopping, eating, luau—you name it, I did it. The hotel we stayed in had its own private beach and resort right out on the ocean. It truly was a taste of heaven.

This June I spent a few days in Cancun (everybody ought to go at least once). In December of '95, I went skiing in Steamboat Springs, Colo. (everybody ought to go at least once). I drove through the mountains of Colorado and passed the rippling streams and brooks as I entered Steamboat Springs. During December the snow-covered roads and hillsides make for a gorgeous winter wonderland. I went skiing and bobsledding. You name it, I did it.

As I thought about all of the places God has blessed me to go, I asked myself the question, "What was the most enjoyable part of all those trips?" It dawned on me why I had so much fun in each place. It was because I was with friends. Each place I've visited was great, not solely because of the place, but because I was with others who I love. Life is a journey that is best enjoyed when accompanied by friends and people who we love.

Consider our text. Jesus was walking along the beach beside Lake Galilee and saw two brothers. He called out to them, "Come along with me and I will show you how to fish for the souls of men." A little farther up the beach, He saw two other brothers and He called to them to come also. It was obvious that Jesus was not just soliciting assistance, but inviting people to take a trip with him. He knew the journey He was on would mean nothing if taken alone. He came for mankind. He lived for mankind. He died for mankind. I've heard many successful people say "it's lonely at the top." That's only because they refused to take someone along with them.

Many people are depressed and suffer a variety of emotional disorders because they have not yet discovered the key to making life enjoyable. It's not making money or building a successful

career, but the people you take the trip of life with. I meet some incredible people in a variety of places. But it's not just the people I meet; it's the people who are taking this trip with me.

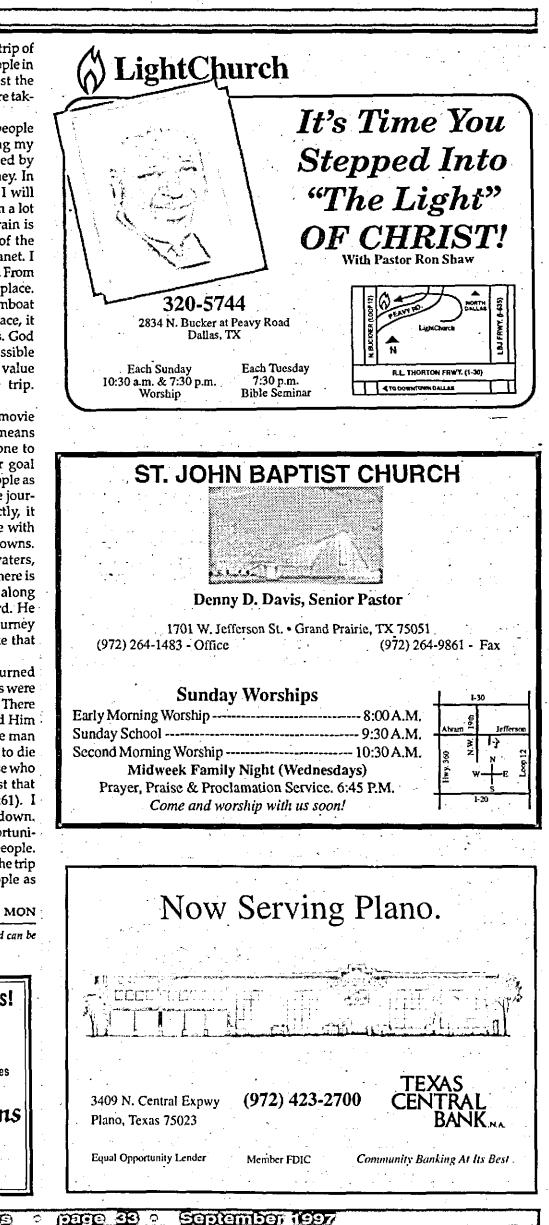
My goal is to make as many people successful as I possibly can during my lifetime. I intend to be accompanied by thousands of people on this journey. In order to make others successful, I will continue to need and get help from a lot of people. That means that this train is constantly filling up with some of the most wonderful people on the planet. I do not intend to go to heaven alone. From what I've heard, it's an awesome place. But just like Hawaii, Cancun, Steamboat Springs or any other incredible place, it won't be the same without friends. God plans on having as many as possible show up in heaven. He knows the value of having others along on the trip. Shouldn't you realize that by now?

Let me borrow a line from the movie Mahagony that says, "Success means nothing if you don't have someone to share it with." As Christians our goal should include taking as many people as possible with us on this incredible journey. If we read Psalm 23 correctly, it describes a journey the sheep take with the shepherd. There are ups and downs. There are green pastures, still waters, steep cliffs, enemies, valleys. But there is also the presence of other sheep along with a loving friend, the shepherd. He has invited us to take a fantastic journey with him. I encourage you to take that journey.

There were several who turned down being with Jesus; their names were never recorded for us to remember. There is the rich young ruler who turned Him down (Mk.10:21). Then there is the man who wanted to wait for his father to die first (Lk.9:59). There were even those who were so preoccupied with the past that they turned Jesus down (Lk.9:61). I encourage you not to turn Him down. This life presents wonderful opportunities to meet and touch some great people. Make it a part of your plan to take the trip with someone. Take as many people as you can with you on your journey.

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

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The Huffines family knows cars

1927, the Huffines family of auto dealer- teen additional mechanical service bays ships knows what it takes to run a

inning h winning operation. Impeccable customer service and high ratings from customer surveys has resulted in Ø numerous awards from both Chevrolet and Chrysler.

Five dealerships located in Plano, Lewisville and Denton comprise the Huffines Auto

Group. The Plano operation includes Ray need for convenient dealership services, Huffines Chevrolet Geo and Huffines Chrysler Ply-

mouth Jeep Eagle Hyundai, located at Coit Road and Plano Parkway.

To better serve its customers, Huffines expanded in 1996, with a \$1.2 million, 2.4-acre Dale E. Nero

effort for Ray Huffines Chevrolet Geo. The expansion doubled the Chevrolet parts storage

In the automobile business since capacity and added 35 service bays. Fifbrought their total to 40, and the

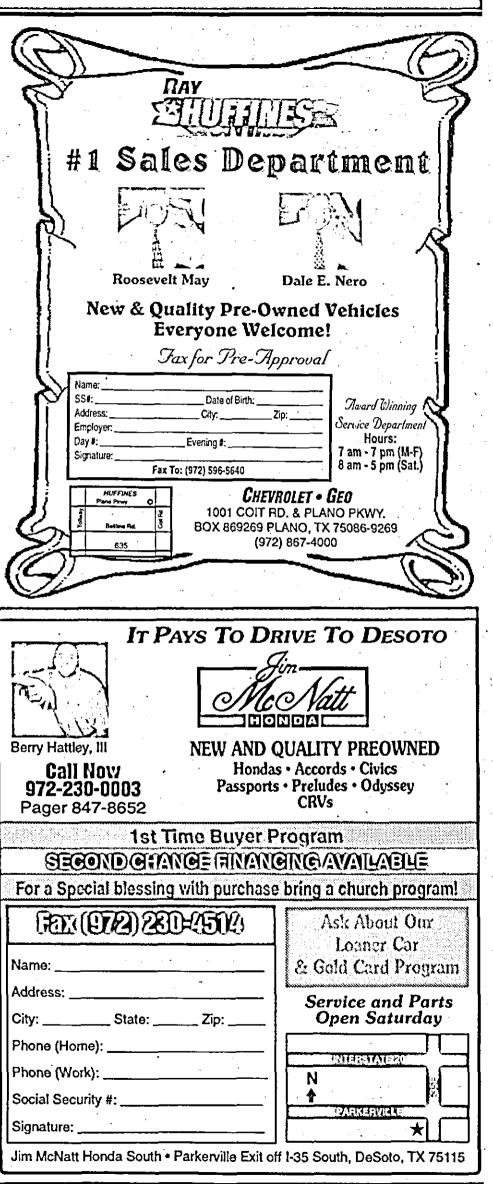
body shop added 21 service bays for a total of 42. With the addition of Chrysler and make-ready services, the Ray Huffines Auto Center now has a total of 139 service bays to provide unrivaled service to its customers.

Seeing Plano citizens' Huffines started the Plano business in 1984 with Chevrolet. In 1986, Chrysler Plymouth was added. Expansion continued with the addition of Hyundai in 1991 and Jeep Eagle in 1992.

Owner Ray Huffines says, "Our team members' caring attitude for our customers created the word-of-mouth advertising that has spurred the growth for the dealerships, combined with the popular products our dealership represents. We expect increases in each department and are in a position to handle the increases-in new car sales, used car

see HUFFINES next page





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Credit Corner

Over 1.4 million families will file personal bankruptcy in 1997, another four to six million families are on the verge of bankruptcy, and two million families are struggling to pay their credit card debt. If you are experiencing money problems, you're not alone! Ideally, it is best to prevent debt problems, rather than to have to solve them later; but research indicates that 90 percent of adult Americans have never been taught the basics of wise money management.

Consumer Credit Counseling Service (CCCS), a non-profit organization established in 1951, works with over two million people each year, solving debt problems through free, confidential counseling and also educates consumers as to wise money management and successful home ownership.

Counselors work with families in person, by mail or by phone to create budgets; suggest ways to solve debt problems; negotiate a reduced repayment plan with creditors; give advice prior to housing purchases; and assist with mortgage default advice and IRS debt installment agreements. All of the counselors are HUD certified and have been trained to help stop foreclosures. CCCS is not a government agency and does not lend money to people; counselors help people to use their own money to reduce debt and plan to avoid

debt for future purchases.

The economic realities of the 1990s find families spending more than they earn. If two or more of the following descriptions describe your situation, you may be headed for trouble:

 using credit cards for items you used to buy with cash

 at or near the limit on your credit cards

 an increasing percentage of your monthly income is going to debt payments

•only able to make minimum payments on your revolving credit cards •savings cushion is inadequate or nonexistent

 taking out a new loan before your old one is paid off

• if you lost your job, you would be in immediate financial difficulty

CCCS counselors are available throughout the Metroplex, with 33 offices in Dallas, 37 in Fort Worth, and 17 in North Central Texas (which includes Allen, Denton, Frisco, Lewisville, McKinney, Plano, The Colony). To find the nearest office to your home or workplace, call the toll-free number: 1-800-388-2227.

Coming in future issues:

 How to request credit reports · How to control credit cards How to save for the future

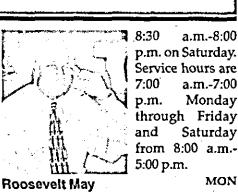
Eclipse Coupe 3000 GT Coupe **Kevin Foster** VM- (214) 825-7377 Mirage Coupe 3000 GT Spyder Diamante Darnell Anderson Mirage Sedan **FIRST TIME BUYERS** Call Us Now!!! Montero from ^{\$}**0** - ^{\$}**250** Down Montero Sport Ōan Kerring **Credit Applications By Phone** (214) 372-7850 3520 S. Marvin D. Love Frwy., Dallas Mon-Sal BAM - B PM + Service Mon-Sal 7 AM - 6 PM

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HUFFINES from previous page

sales, parts, service and body shop." Ray Huffines says that his customers' satisfaction is his utmost concern, and he is always willing to talk personally with any customer.

There are 264 well-trained members on staff to handle every customer's automotive needs. Sales hours are 8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and





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Technical education is a working education

By Jafus Cavil

Consider this: Technologies have advanced farther in the last 50 years than in all previously recorded history, and this rate of advancement continues to accelerate.

By 1995, only two out of every ten jobs in the United States required a fouryear college degree; more than 60 percent of the jobs that will be available by the year 2000 haven't even been created yet. And these new jobs will be the result of advanced and emerging technologies.

For more than 30 years, Texas State Technical College in Waco has been a state and national leader in technical education by preparing students who work with advanced technology. Today and for the future, the college's tools of excellence in education and intense skill development teach students to face new challenges in an ever-changing technical world.

Driven by the computer and its ability to integrate information, technical areas no longer exist in isolation. The blending and melding of the work floor environment, coupled with the demand for a more sophisticated workforce, creates new types of technical operations and occupations. This new workforce requires technicians who can apply advanced technical processes, can work as team members to solve problems, as well as have a fundamental understanding of several technologies — the technoprofessional.

Graduates of Texas State Technical College are the professional technicians who help business and industry compete in the marketplace. TSTC's graduates are often leaders on the work floor, as a result of their education in quality decision making and work with other professionals. In providing the best in technical education, TSTC puts students on the leading edge of their chosen technical careers by exposing them to the latest technical applications, equipment and processes. Graduates enter the workforce armed with the latest technical knowledge and skills, the latest advances in their chosen fields, and a thorough understanding of the concepts behind the technology.

In addition to the world-class laboratories at TSTC, the college also has made a major investment in electronic connectivity, using fiber-optic cable which connects instructional labs, the library, administration and student apartments. In bringing the world of information to the public's door, TSTC students and employees have access to the Internet — the electronic highway of research and information.

In preparing its students for a new world, TSTC has created four centers of excellence. These centers represent career areas in manufacturing, environmental science, information presentation and aerospace.

Each Center of Excellence is designed to promote interdisciplinary participation across a wide array of technical programs and to introduce quality philosophies that are so much a part of the work world today.

In addition to these showcase areas, the college offers programs in transportation, computer science, electronics and service/business technologies. In fact, the college offers associate degrees and certificates in more than forty technical areas. Each of the technical programs offer the student hands-on learning opportunities. TSTC students spend approximately sixty percent of their time in instructional laboratories learning on industry standard equipment.

Texas State Technical College is the only state-supported technical college system and consists of three campuses and four extension centers to serve the citizens of Texas and her businesses and industries. With an average job placement rate of 85 percent, students secure employment upon graduation or soon after. Many departments report three to four job openings to every graduate because the demand for technicians far exceeds the supply.

The techno-professional is not an employee of the future — he or she is an employee for today. And the technical fields are for today's ambitious individuals who are looking for challenges and rewards. Contact TSTC at 1-800-792-8784 for more information.

MON

Jafus Cavil is Coordinator of Multicultural Services, Texas State Technical College, Waco,

CERTIFIED PEACE OFFICER

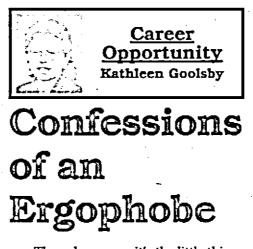
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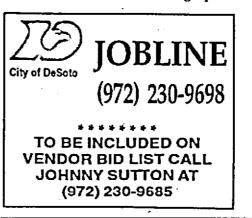
They always say it's the little things that count, but I guess I really didn't believe it. When I entered the conference room for the company's annual process of employee performance reviews, I was confident that I would be promoted to a senior position, as had been rumored. My smile and nodding head showed I was pleased as the company acknowledged my organizational skills, diligence, creativity, sense of humor, and communication skills. They stated I had good leadership ability and, yes, in many ways I was a "model" employee.

So it was a stunning blow when the personnel director informed me that not only would I not be promoted, but I would not even receive a raise! How could they possibly believe I was "not a loyal employee" and "not dedicated to the company's best interests?"

"You are late for work several days a week," she said, "and you frequently return late from lunch." "But I always make up that time in the evening," I protested, "and I always meet the deadlines. Everybody just stands around the coffee bar chatting until after 9:00 anyway. Besides, no one told me until just now that this was important..." But my protests were useless.

Though I had knowledge, skills and valued qualities, excellence was defined by the company; and I had just found out the hard way that being on time was crucial to excellence. I could not always blame my lateness on the rush hour traffic jams or the weather. It was simply that being precisely on time did not seem very important to me, and I simply did not make the effort. Something unscheduled always caught my attention and delayed my arrival by about 10 to 15 minutes. I was a classic ergophobe.*

Success comes first through plan-



ning for it. As noted in MON's July 1997 editorial, the employment ethics and etiquette of African American youth are often inadequate for individuals to remain employed, and tardiness is a frequently mentioned problem.

To the business world, time is money. When an employee is habitually late, it is almost as though he or she is stealing the company's money. Ongoing tardiness indicates to the company's management that the employee is not willing to be held accountable, is not self disciplined ... and even may not be reliable. At the very least, that employee is someone who does not hesitate to ignore, or even abuse, company policies or standards. Additionally, if one is not at work on time, another employee may have to cover that position until arrival; that will not help to build a good reputation or good professional relationships, which are usually based on trust.

Actions have consequences. Thinking that tardiness is just a "little thing" is only the flawed thinking of an ergophobe. If you commit to being on time, you'll succeed where others blunder and fail.

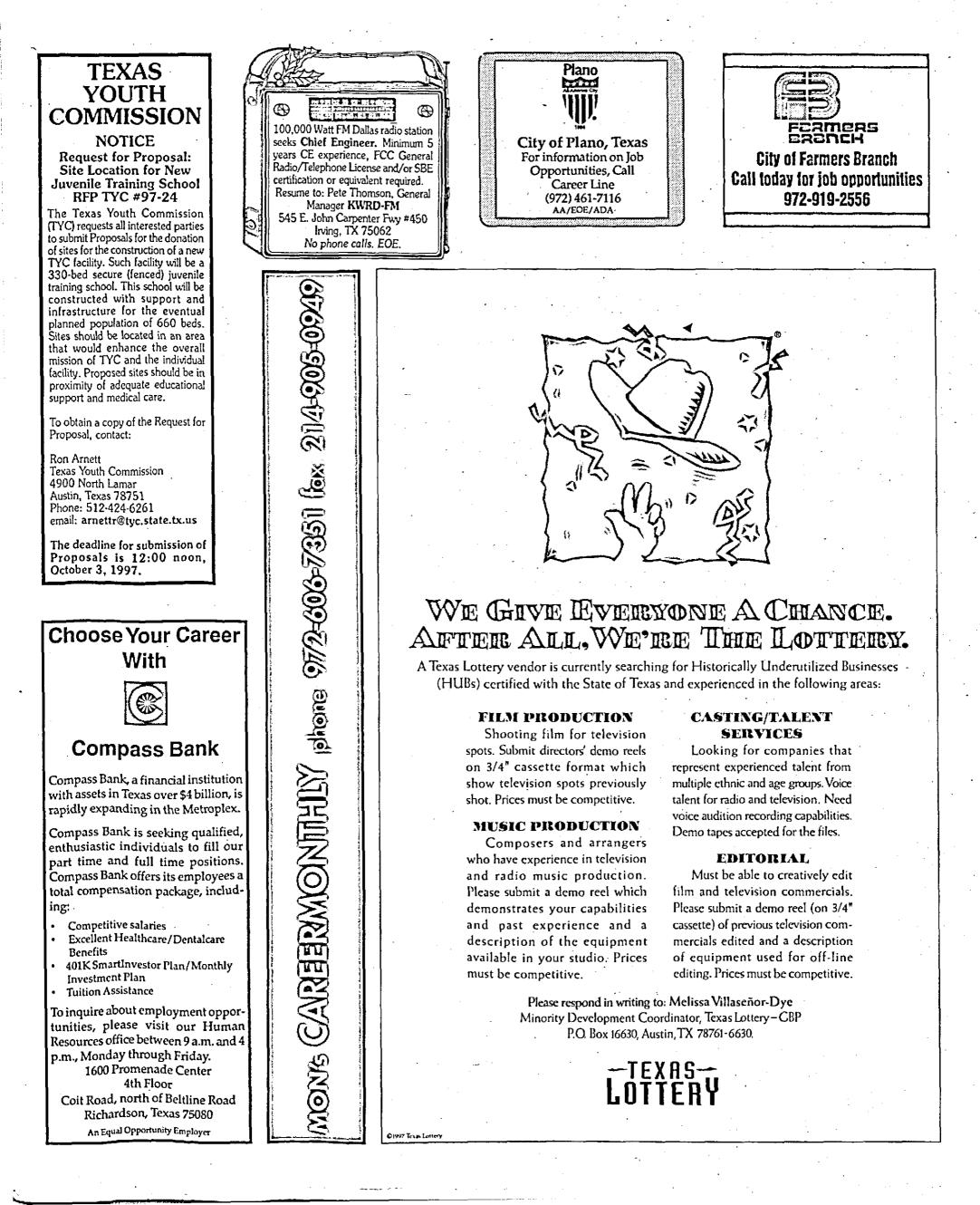
(* Ergophobe: an employee interested in everything but making an effort to be at work, from Dimboxes, Epots, and Other Quidams — Words to Describe Life's Indescribable People, by David Grambs, 1986, Workman Publishing.)

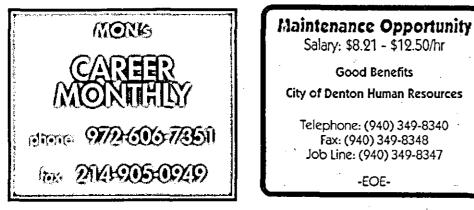
MON

Kathleen Goolsby is an account executive for our Career Opportunity section. For information about Career Opportunity advertising, call her at 214-905-3260.



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PUBLIC NOTICE

Salary: \$8.21 - \$12.50/hr

Good Benefits

City of Denton Human Resources

Telephone: (940) 349-8340

Fax: (940) 349-8348

Job Line: (940) 349-8347

-EOE-

The Cedar Hill, DeSoto, and Duncanville School Districts jointly announce their intent to purchase the following categories of personal property and services during the coming twelve months. The districts are soliciting the names, addresses, telephone and fax numbers of vendors interested in being included in their respective vendor lists for potential sealed bids, requests for proposals, written and/or telephone quotations for any of the following items. Interested vendors should submit separate information to each district at the following addresses:

Cedar Hill ISD Purchasing Office, P.O. Box 248, Cedar Hill, TX 75106 DeSoto ISD Purchasing Office, 200 W. Parkerville Rd., DeSoto, TX 75115 Duncanville ISD Purchasing Office, 307 Crankshaft Dr., Duncanville, TX 75116

AC/Parts, Supplies, Equipment, Services; Laundry Equipment, Athletic Supplies, Equipment; Athletic Uniforms, AV Supplies, Equipment; Auto Parts, Supplies, Equipment, Services; Award Items; Band Instruments, Sup-plies, Repairs; Band and Choral Music; Band and Choral Uniforms; Building Material and Supplies; Classroom Instructional Equipment, Supplies, Furniture; Computer Equipment, Software Supplies, Furniture, Repair Parts, Service; Concrete; Fencing; Roofing; Dry Wall; Paving; Irrigation; Portable Buildings; Fire Alarms; Intercom Systems; Turf; Custodial Equipment, Supplies; Electrical Parts, Supplies, Equipment, Service; Floor Care Equip-ment, Supplies; Floor Coverings, HVAC Parts, Supplies, Equipment, Service; Industrial Supplies, Tools and Equipment; Library Books, Supplies; Equipment, Services; Furniture; Locks; Magazines; Maps and Globes; Mechanical Repair Parts, Supplies, Equipment, Services; Paperback Books; Pest Control Supplies, Services; Plumbing Parts, Supplies, Services; Printing Services; Printed Business Form; Security System Equipment, Services; Sound System Parts, Equipment, Services; Telephone Equipment, Services; Uniforms (Custodial, Maintenance); Vehicles; Wall Coverings; Yard Equipment; Parts, Supplies; Consultant Services; Abestos.



Director of Byanti Sarvices & Culturell Alterns

The City of Dallas is seeking candidates to fill the Director of Event Services & Cultural Affairs position. This position is responsible for overall management administration, operation and maintenance of the Dallas Convention Center, Reunion Arena, Farmers' Market, WRR, Union Station and Office of Cultural Affairs to maintain a self-sufficient enterprise posture. This includes directing the coordination of events and contracts with various organizations, community businesses, entertainment/theatrical promoters, broadcast and print media groups, professional colleagues, city officials and other city departments to ensure success of events. Candidates will also lead the programs, facilities, and services for cultural affairs such as the Meyerson Symphony Center and other city-owned cultural centers, and performs as a liaison with the Cultural Affairs Commission to provide cultural education and entertainment for citizens, Other duties involve negotiation of all types of contracts between the city, tenants, contractors, cultural organizations, concessionaires, management companies, and professional NBA/NHL teams.

Applicants must have a Bachelor's degree or equivalent in business or public administration, public relations, marketing, finance, accounting or a related discipline plus ten (10) years of planning, organizing, and executing entertainment programs, events and trade shows. Three (3) years must have been at a management level. Principles, practices, and techniques used in managing a large multi-purpose auditorium, arena or large public facility personnel management, management labor relations laws and ability to supervise a large work force; and contract regulations for municipal governments and contract negotiations are also required. Must possess excellent oral written communication skills and work with a diversified group of individuals.

Salary is commensurate with education and qualifications.

Interested individuals should submit an application and may attach a resume by October 10, 1997.

> Human Resources Department Staffing Section 1500 Marilla St., Suite 6AN Dallas, Texas 75201

> > eeo/mfd



Dictoroficonomic Development

The City of Dallas is currently seeking qualified applicants to fill the Director of Economic Development position. Responsibilities of this position include planning, marketing, directing and implementing the City's Economic Development program, which promotes business investments, encourages the location of businesses to Dallas, creates jobs, and increases the City's tax base through investments. This position also supervises the City's Building Inspection Division.

Qualified applicants must have a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Public Administration, Urban Planning, Economics or a related field and seven years of senior level management related experience acquired as an economic development department director or assistant director. This position must have a thorough knowledge of supervision principles; thorough knowledge of the principles, practices and techniques of various aspects of Community Development, such as housing, community retail development and neighborhood redevelopment. Knowledge of Economic Development programs, business development, public and private real estate financing tools and the funding mechanisms of federal programs including Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), plus international trade relations, international corporate recruitment and capital investment is also desired.

Salary commensurate with education and experience.

Individuals interested in this position should submit a resume and/or application including current salary and the names and phone numbers of three professional references by October 3, 1997.

> Human Resources Department Staffing Section 1500 Marilla St., Suite-6AN Dallas, Texas 75201

> > eeo/mfd



DictorofilitumentResources

The City of Dallas is seeking qualified candidates for the Director of Human Resources position. This position is responsible for overall management including planning, organizing, directing and controlling all aspects of personnel management to ensure an effective personnel system for the City of Dallas, an organization of 13,000 employees. Responsibilities include wage and salary administration, employee selection and staffing, health benefits administration (a self-insured and self-administered health program), employee training, employee relations, risk management which includes safety and workers' compensation, general liability and insurance and adminis-tration of the deferred compensation program.

Qualified applicants must have a Bachelor's degree or equivalent in Public Administration, Business Administration, Personnel Management or a related field. Master's degree is preferred. Must have seven years of personnel management experience with authority for program direction and budget administration, or for coordination and supervision of such functions. Must have demonstrated ability to manage complex human resources issues. Must have a thorough knowledge of the principles and practices of municipal human resources administration.

Starting salary range is from \$61,256 to \$64,318. Hiring above the starting range will be considered based on education and experience.

Interested individuals should submit an application and the name and phone number of three professional references by September 30, 1997 to:

City of Dallas Human Resources Department Staffing Section 1500 Marilla, Suite 6AN Dallas, TX 75201

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER M/F/H

Please indicate on your application or resume that you are applying for the Director of Human Resources. Conser Upportunity (revel

MONTS CAREER MONTHLY phone 97/2=000=7351 (bx 2114)=905=0949

POLICE OFFICERS Starting salary \$2,368/month

plus Comprehensive Benefits Package

The City of Lewisville is seeking applicants for the position of Police Officer. Minimum requirements include: 21 years old, high school graduate or GED, no class A or B misdemeanor convictions, driving record in compliance with City policy, ability to successfully pass reading comprehension and writing skills exam, validated physical agility test, video assessment, background investigation, polygraph, physical, psychological, drug test, vision correctable to 20/20 binocular, ability to distinguish between red, green and yellow.

Applications accepted until all positions are filled

City of Lewisville

Human Resources Department 1197 W. Main/ P.O. Box 299002 Lewisville, TX 75029-9002 EOE Job Line (972) 219-3454 (972) 219-3450

Job Fair Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie Saturday, September 13 10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie, the nation's newest and fastest growing horse racing facility, will be hosting a Job Fair on Saturday, September 13, from 10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. We offer the opportunity for on-the-spot hiring in a variety of full-time and part-time positions, including:

Admissions Kitchen Prep Valet Parking Customer Service Security Housekeeping Retail Sales

Food & Beverage Service Dishwashers Mutual Tellers Concierge Engineering/Maintenance Parking Attendants Shipping/Receiving

Here's your opportunity to work in an exciting, fast-paced environment in the heart of the Dallas/Ft. Worth Metroplex.

The Job Fair will be held on the first floor of the Grandstand, which is located at 1000 Lone Star Parkway in Grand Prairie. Exit Belt Line Road off I-30, and go 1/2 mile north on Belt Line, turn right onto Lone Star Parkway off of Belt Line Road and follow the signs to parking.



An Equal opportunity employer committed to a drug-free work place

Accountant

Viacom Retail Stores, Inc., a division of VIACOM, is spearheading the development of a worldwide chain of Entertainment stores which will include merchandise from Nickelodeon, Star Trek, Nick-at-Nite, MTV/VH1 and Paramount Pictures. We are seeking exceptional professionals to join us in our new Corporate Headquarters in Dallas, TX. If you are interested in getting in on the ground floor with an entertainment industry leader, consider joining us in the following area:

STAFF ACCOUNTANT

Responsibilities for this position include sales processing, managing accounts payable for merchandise inventory, monthly close of stock ledger, journal entries, account reconciliation and special projects. The qualified candidate will possess an Accounting degree and 3-5 years' work experience with knowledge of retail accounting desired. In addition, the ability to work independently, good problem solving skills, and experience with Excel, Word and Systems are a plus.

Viacom Retail Stores, Inc. offers highly competitive salaries and exceptional benefits. Please send/fax resume and salary history to: Viacom Retail Stores, Inc., Attn., Human Resources-Corp., 1201 Elm Street, 22nd Floor, Dallas, TX 75270. Fax 214-854-4972. Viacom Retail Stores promotes a smoke-free and drug-free environment. EOE.

VIACOM

After you've said "I do"

By Kathleen Goolsby

For most couples, the closest they'll ever come to idyllic, sensual bliss is on their honeymoon. In bygone times, when marriages were "arranged," the honeymoon period was usually just a time for the bride and groom to get better acquainted. Today's honeymoons are a getaway from the couple's individual pasts and from their daily cares, providing a romantic interlude with exciting memories that will last a lifetime. The destination and choice of accommodations (with intimate seclusion, no hassles, luxury and beauty) matters more on a honeymoon than on any other trip.

American Airlines has selected popular destinations in Hawaii, Mexico and the Caribbean and has designed packages at first-class resorts cater-

ing to your every whim in its Fly AAway Vacations Honeymoon Program. American Airlines is eager to help you travel comfortably to your honeymoon resort on one of its daily nonstop or connecting flights. Every activitiy under the sun is

yours to enjoy at these luxury resorts, and nearly all of them include champagne, fruit baskets, daily American-style breakfasts, tennis courts, and exercise facilities.

Hawaii greets honeymooners with flower leis and with spectacular scenery...sunrises against black volcanoes, golden beaches by turqoise waters, towering palm trees and waterfalls. Hawaii's only all-suites luxury resort is on Maui, and the villas have private pools, full-service kitchens, and home entertainment centers. The honeymoon resort located on Oahu sits on a lagoon teeming with tropical fish, near 62 acres of exotic gardens and wildlife. On Waikiki's best beach, a two-acre resort boasts catamaran sailing, Atlantis submarine dives, and complimentary hula lessons.

History buffs will love visiting the ancient ruins of Mexico's early Mayan and Aztec civilizations. At one of Cancun's resorts, the vacation package includes unlimited drinks and all meals and snacks. Another Cancun resort adds a tropical disco and seven different dinner show theme parties to the package. At the most seductive resort in Mexico, Las Brisas, high on a hill overlooking Acapulco and the bay, you'll have a jeep, your own private casita and flowers in your own private pool, a daily breakfast delivered to your casita, and a special wedding gift.

You can even get married at Ciboney Ocho Rios in Jamaica, the Caribbean's highest rated romantic resort. Nearby is a waterfall where water tumbles over wedding-cake-tiered rocks into the Caribbean. Every honeymoon villa provides a private pool, bar, and stocked kitchen. Super Clubs Breezas includes a free wedding or renewal of vows at Montego Bay or Runaway Beach. Free weddings or renewal of vows aboard Princess Grace's honeymoon yacht are a feature of the Grand Lido resort and of the Sans Souci Lido Ocho Rios, where there are European-fashion mineral springs and spas. (If you wish to be married at your honeymoon location, be sure to check with your travel agent as to local laws regarding length of stay before the wedding.)

Swept Away, in Jamaica, is a romantic fitness resort where you can enjoy all water sports, a jogging track, dancing, a veggie bar and beachside grill, and a spa.

St. Thomas in the U.S. Virgin Islands, known for its nightlife and duty-free shopping, has villas with breathtaking views overlooking neighboring islands. Puerto Rico's three resorts boast worldclass pampering among tropical splendor.

Amidst the Dutch charm and windmills of Aruba, the beach resorts feature

casinos, and the honeymoon packages include casino chips, coupons, or Scratch 'N Win cards. One resport includes all meals, ice cream specialties, and a cruise aboard the Bahia; another provides tshirts, a candlelight dinner in the room, and a sunset sail cruise. All you can eat and drink are part of a stay at Aruba's Bushiri Boutry All-Inclusive Beach Resort; it also offers a complimentary 5x7 honeymoon photograph, t-shirts, a romantic sailing and snorkeling cruise, glass bottom boat trip, scuba clinic, theme parties, island tour, kayaks, and paddleboats.

Last, but not least, among the destinations selected by American Airlines, is beautiful, enchanting Bermuda. Recently rated as the best foreign island in the world, it is known for pink sands, clear cobalt blue water, and bright flowers. The Bermuda honeymoon includes a candlelight dinner in your room, paddleboat and moped rentals, use of a beach cabana, and the gift of a cookbook.

A "marriage made in heaven" deserves a magical honeymoon. Call your travel agent or American Airlines (1-800-321-2121) for complete details and for reservations for your romantic getaway soon!

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Of All Our Destinations Worldwide, Our Favorite Is Still Home.

ades American Eagle service. American Airlines and American Eagle are registered trademarks of American Eagle is American's regional airline associate.

No matter where we go. No matter how far we fly. One place still remains our favorite. That place is Dallas/Fort Worth. And the reason is simple. More than seventeen years ago, Dallas/Fort Worth became the home of our corporate headquarters. Since that day, our local employee roster has grown to over 29,000. And Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport has expanded to become the main hub of our entire system. With service

to nearly 260 cities worldwide.* Including destinations throughout the U.S., Europe, Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, Latin America and Japan.

Without question, the people of Dallas/Fort Worth have been good to American Airlines. Which is why we work so hard to give them our best. After all, for us, DFW is more than just another destination. It's our home.

American Airlines[.]

American