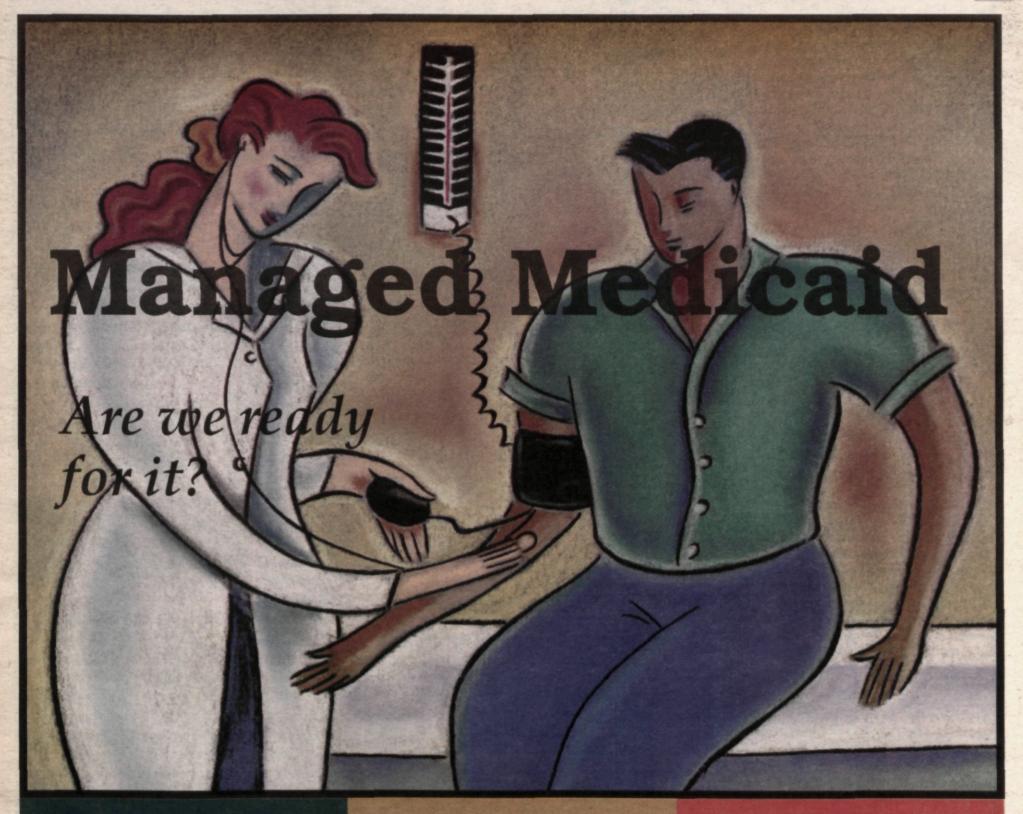
# Minority Opportunity News

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VOLUME 7, NO. 15 December 1-15, 1998





Why Volunteer For Medical Research?

Books To Give For Holiday Presents Out Of Africa:

A

Pictorial



#### From The Editor Chris Pryer

#### Showing them the money

A couple of weeks ago a small business lending conference was conducted with the noble intention of educating and assisting minority/women small business owners—and would-be small business owners-in underserved markets on how to secure financing for their business ventures. The conference, held at Union Station in downtown Dallas and sponsored by Guaranty Federal Bank, South Dallas Development Corporation, city of Dallas, and the U.S. Small Business Administration, to name just a few, consisted of a series of panel discussions on "Government Support For Small Business Lending," "How Credit Scoring Influences Your Ability to Borrow," "Positioning Yourself to Get a Loan," and "Contract Financing Opportunities For Underserved Markets.

By rough estimate, I'd say there were between 75 and 100 people in attendance at the conference when the first panel discussion got underway at about 8:30 in the morning. It was a good mixture of Blacks and Whites, young and not-so-young, male and female—there might have been one or two Hispanics there—all hoping to hear that key bit of information that will help them either realize their dream of self-employment or greater business growth. In addition to the various panels, made up of lending professionals from federal, state and local agencies, as well from banks and community development corporations, there were booths set up by participating entities with plenty of the requisite literature outlining how they can assist individuals in realizing their business

As I sat in on the morning sessions and listened to the various panel members talk about all of the help available for minority business start-ups, it appeared that there is no lack of programs and initiatives in existence to increase the number of minority business owners, either locally, state-wide or nationally. And while a number of these programs have been in existence for several years (with new ones being started and funded all the time), it does make one wonder why there hasn't been more progress made in the growing of viable, competitive and self-sustaining minority-owned businesses, especially in what is being increasingly described as the fertile, "underserved" inner-city environment. It also made me wonder whether

See EDITOR on page 3

## Balitorial

## NAACP showed decisive action—finally

In 1909 W.E.B. DuBois, the great African American intellectual and advocant for racial equality, supported by a group of educated, principled and civic-minded contemporaries, helped found the first national organization formed to combat the growing violence against African Americans. Less than a year after its inception, the National Association for the

Advancement of Colored People began field operations. A former school teacher named Kathryn Magnalia Johnson is credited with the efforts that led to the establishment of local NAACP chapters scattered throughout the states, particularly those located in the South and West.

after the demise of Jim Crow, and long after the enactment of historic federal civil rights legislation that legally guaranteed entrée into any and all professions and walks of life previously closed to African Americans—even the most brilliant of minds like that of NAACP co-founder W.E.B. DuBois Dr. DuBois-in a leading southern metropolis such as Dallas, this very same august and revered civil rights organization would fail to honor the very principles on which it was established.

How ironic it is that long

Of course we refer to the recent and surprisingly highly publicized (for an election of its kind) controversy surrounding the upcoming vote for the next president of the Dallas chapter of the NAACP. It does a gross disservice to Dr. DuBois, the aforementioned Ms. Johnson, Ms. Mary White Ovington (a wealthy White woman who helped conceptualize the organization), Roy Wilkins (a former executive secretary of the NAACP) and every person who believes in decency, dignity and honor.

nation's history when vicious attacks on people of color had the unanticipated effect of bringing them closer together. The actions of the Ku Klux Klan, White Citizens' Councils and the infamous "night riders" so terrorized people of color that they were forced to turn to one another for assistance, comfort and understand-



It would indeed be a horrible tragedy if African Americans' only catalyst for cooperation and respect among themselves would come from overt and violent acts perpetrated against them by other racial and ethnic groups. (Not to mention those who are so hungry for power that they would betray their own people.) What were the demonstrations, the marches, the legal challenges for if not to gain full and equal participation for everyone? In 1998, what are the real stakes in the Dallas NAACP presidential election?

Rodney King's now famous question, "Can't we all get along?" ought to be posed to the Dallas NAACP. Why can't people who

There was a time in this claim to believe in freedom and justice find a way to get along? What has become of the NAACP's purpose here in Dallas? Is the local chapter's hierarchy so preoccupied with parochial fiefdoms that preserving a proud heritage and harnessing its resources to forge economic empowerment not worth its time and energy? If not fairness, justice and equality, then

> what are the guiding forces of activity and interest?

And most importantly, if the NAACP still stands for advancement, why is it that so many local officials appear confused? Why, after two terms of service, is Lee Alcorn's eligibility to do a job he has been doing for the past four years now being called into question? What has

Perhaps the real question is who has changed. Who is it and what is it that now makes a membership vote such prominent news in the major media? Since only members can vote in this election, what

is the point of an outdoor advertising campaign?

Minority Opportunity News applauds the NAACP's national office for their proper—albeit somewhat delayed and not altogether staunch—support of Lee Alcorn's right to be on the ballot. Like a responsible parent disciplining a bad-behaving child, national stepped in and administered the obligatory spanking.

When responsibility is taken seriously, leadership emerges. Here's hoping much more than a vote tally will emerge with the assistance of the national office. Let leadership, not confusion, run the upcoming election.

MON

#### TABLE OF CONTENIS

#### Cover Story

16......Are We Ready For Managed Medicaid?

#### **Editorials**

02.....NAACP Leadership

#### Special

13.....Out Of Africa

#### Columns

02......Editor's Comments

05......Community Pulse

07.....LifeStories

09.....Ethnic Notes

20.....Book Review

21.....Entertainment

23.....Personal Finances

24....Living

25.....Spiritual

#### Recurring

04......Around the State & Nation

08.....In The News

14,15....SWB Community Calendar

27.....Emporium

27......Career Opportunities



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C P V S

#### Editor

continued from page 2

sessions like this conference really connect with those thousands of individuals that have the dream of self-employment but continually struggle in the shadow of disfranchisement.

Attendee Reeta Braggs seems to be a typical case study of the kind of individual that this conference was designed for. A single mother of three children (ages 17, 19 and 20), Ms. Braggs has been trying to get her own travel agency off the ground since 1995. She is certified to be an agent in various types of travel and has spent about \$6,500 to attend an aviation travel academy. Ms. Braggs works her travel business from out of her home but, because of the inability to generate enough revenue to sustain it, has had to take temporary jobs to make ends meet. (At this point, she can't even afford a computer, which would seem to be essential to her business.) While she concedes that being in business for herself is "more difficult than I imagined," Ms. Braggs is hopeful that the various avenues available for getting financing discussed by the panelists at the lending conference will be the big break she needs to really get her business going.

The fact that someone like Reeta Braggs has been in business (of sorts) for three years without having any knowledge of the seemingly plethora of government and private enterprise programs existing to help budding entrepreneurs like herself begs the question, Is the biggest problem one of not enough help, or not enough publicity? Or is it a matter of many fledgling, would-be minority business owners not doing their due diligence, and, therefore, forgoing much-needed financial, and other, assistance?

My guess is that it may be a combination of both. If that's so, then all parties involved have their work cut out for them. And maybe more lending conferences should be part of that work.

MON,

#### Letters Policy

MON welcomes the letters of its readers. We reserve the right to edit all letters for the sake of clarity or space.

Letters should contain full name and 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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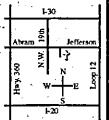
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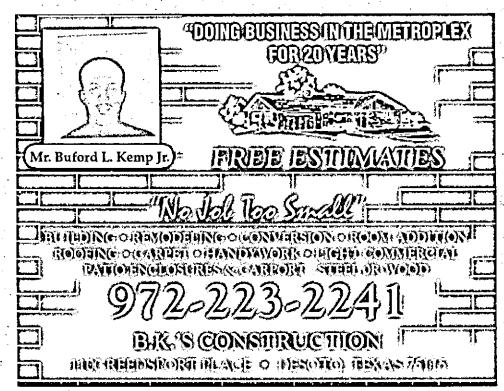
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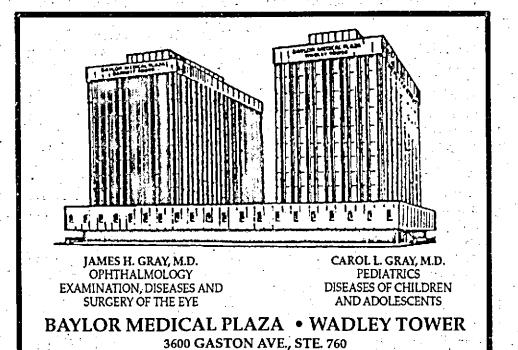
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Second	9:00 A.M
Third	
Sunday School	

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Prayer, Praise & Proclamation Service. 6:45 P.M.
Come and worship with us soon!







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## Ten-digit dialing begins Dec. 5

The Texas Code Administration reminds customers to dial ten digits on all local calls in Greater Dallas. Mandatory ten-digit-dialing, when callers must begin using all ten digits to complete calls, begins on Dec. 5 in Greater Dallas. Callers who dial seven digits or the wrong area code will receive a recorded announcement or a wrong number.

The Texas Code Code Administration has been authorized by the Public Utility Commission of Texas to implement the recommendation of the telecommunications industry for an area code relief plan. Geographic boundaries between 214/972 in Greater Dallas will be eliminated on Dec. 5. The new overlay area code will have the same geographic boundary as the existing codes. As a result, ten-digit dialing will be required on all local calls. However, no customers will be required to change their phone numbers.

For more information, contact the local telephone company or access the official Texas Code Administration web site at www.texascode.com.

## Johnson elected 1st vice chair of Congressional Black Caucus

\*\*\*\*\*

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson was recently elected by her colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus as first chair of the caucus. Before the official start of the 106th Congress, the CBC held an organizational meeting for selecting its new leadership. Johnson thanked her colleagues for supporting her candidacy.

"I would like to thank my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus for their faith and support in my candidacy as first vice chair. The CBC is approaching the millennium as a unified caucus, ready to face the challenges that the 106th Congress and the eve of the 21st century will bring," the congresswoman remarked.

Currently second vice chair, Congresswoman Johnson is looking forward to moving up in both responsibilities and duties as the first vice chair. The first vice chair position is the next immediate post to CBC chair.

"As first vice chair, I will work closely with my friend and new CBC Chair Congressman James Clyburn in strengthening the goals and activities of the caucus that are crucial in expanding progress and opportunities for the African American community. In addi-

tion, I look forward to helping the entire nation during this next session of Congress. I am confident that the caucus will continue to improve upon the strides we have made in health, technology, education and job training ... and ensuring the excellence and quality of the CBC programs, initiatives and priorities that are a part of our agenda," Johnson stated.

Before her positions as CBC second vice chair and first vice chair-elect, Johnson served as CBC secretary and whip.

## Welfare reform hurting poor

According to a major report released at the National Monitoring and Advocacy Summit in Fort Worth Nov. 20, many families who leave welfare are not escaping poverty, but falling farther into poverty and destitution.

The reported, which was coauthored by the Children's Defense Fund and the National Coalition for the Homeless, is the first comprehensive overview of the well-being of families leaving welfare since the enactment of the 1996 welfare law. The report presents new data from nationwide surveys and from smaller community-based monitoring projects.

"Political leaders of all parties have been declaring the welfare law a success," said Cheryl Amey, coordinator for the CDF's Gommunity Monitoring Project. "But the evidence we've seen is not so rosy."

The studies show that many families have gone from welfare to work, but most are earning too little to support their families, and as many as half aren't working at all right now. Specifically, only 8 percent of former recipients have jobs that lift them out of poverty.

"We see a lot of folks driven off the rolls because the welfare office made mistakes or didn't explain things well. Or didn't help families find child care. Or just plain wouldn't hand out the application forms," said Liz Wolff, Texas director of the Association of Communities Organized for Reform Now (ACORN). "Even good policies are not being implemented to help families support their children. Among the specific findings of the study:

- Although overall child poverty was down nationwide in 1996 and 1997, the number of children, living below one-half of the poverty line (a more meaningful indicator of welfare changes) rose in both years.
- Work alone does not put food on the table. Among former recipients who work, one in six (17 percent)

could not afford food since they left welfare, about the same portion as for jobless former recipients (18 percent), South Carolina officials report. More than one in four families in South Carolina (29 percent) were unable to pay for housing sometime since leaving welfare.

- In an informal survey by human service providers in six states, clients who recently left welfare reported such hardships as inability to buy food or provide medical care for children. Those leaving welfare are also suffering two consequences of unaffordable housing having to move because they could not pay rent and having to make their children switch schools when they move that are known to be associated with learning problems and school completion problems for children.
- One in eight homeless families in a Los Angeles shelter survey (12 percent) attributed their homelessness directly to their loss of welfare benefits.

Work is not enough to ensure that families succeed, the report concludes. In part this is because most of the new jobs for welfare recipients pay far below the poverty level. While the proportion of recent welfare recipients who have jobs has risen (from less than 21 percent in March 1990 to over 32 percent in March 1998), five-sixths of this employment growth is in jobs paying weekly wages below the three-person poverty line, according to new analyses of Census Bureau data presented in the report.

Equally important, the report says, many families do not get urgently needed help paying for child care, medical care, transportation or housing assistance that would compensate for the increased costs of going to work and allow them to keep working steadily. "In theory families can get Medicaid, child care, housing subsidies and other help," said Mary Gleason, director of the National Coalition for the Homeless. "But that's often not the reality."

The report praises numerous promising state and local practices that support struggling working families and urged that these practices be replicated to help more families succeed. Exemplary innovations include: continuing cash assistance (free of time limits) to recipients who work at very low wages in Illinois; putting child care at convenient transportation hubs in Ohio; providing access to community college in California; and comprehensive job preparation and retention programs that keep in touch long after former recipients have found their first job in Chicago and elsewhere.

But the report blames other state policies and practices for prematurely driving families off the rolls – and into deeper deprivation.

## Dallas and Garland receive federal grants

Housing and Urban Development Secretary Andrew Cuomo and Deputy Secretary Saul Ramirez Jr. said \$5 million in federal grants announced Nov. 20 by Vice President Al Gore for the cities of Dallas and Garland will help people move from welfare to work and teach skills that can help them retain good jobs.

Gore announced that the Dallas County Local Workforce Development Board will receive \$5 million in competitive Welfare-To-Work program grants.

"Helping families move from welfare to work is a sound investment," Cuomo said. "It rewards men and women who are willing to work hard to climb out of poverty under their own power."

The philosophy of the projects in Dallas and Garland County, Texas is to provide access to employment and support where the participants live, creating a village cluster concept to mentor, coach and educate them. The project provides participants with case management, job readiness classes, job placement, community support teams, child care, transportation, job coaching, basic education, English-as-a-Second Language and GED classes, and occupational training skills. The project uses a holistic process to help participants integrate all aspects of their lives with their employment. The program will encourage participants to build a community for positive change in their

Public housing residents and welfare recipients in the city of Dallas and the suburb of Garland will be served.

"These important dollars are an excellent complement to the fine work that the DCLWD is doing through partnerships with groups such as the Dallas Housing Authority, the Garland Housing Agency, and the city of Dallas to provide recipients with the tools they will need to meet self-sufficiency and provide themselves and their families with an opportunity for an improved quality of life."

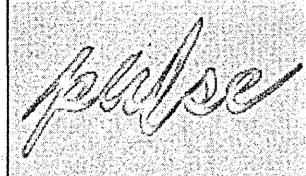
Nationally, Gore announced \$273 million in grants to 75 projects around the country from the Department of Labor. The grants, which come from \$3 billion in Welfare-To-Work funds that President Clinton won in the 1997 Balanced Budget Act, will go to communities in 44 states with 61 percent for urban areas, 15 percent for rural areas and 24 percent for areas that include both urban and rural communities.



#### Community Pulse Thomas Muhammad

As usual before beginning my column I need to make a small commentary on a pressing current subject. I don't know what it's going to take for African Americans to realize that we are in dire straight. Can you imagine what it must be like to be former Illinois U.S. Senator Carol Moseley-Braun? She was the first African American to win a senate seat since reconstruction. Did you

Negroes would be excited, feeling vainglorious, extraordinarily happy! No! These Negroes joined racists in attacking sister this because she had nerve to go



(Editor's Note: The opinions expressed in Mr. Muhammad's commentary are not necessarily those of the Minority Opportunity News.)

to Nigeria and pay respect to an African leader. Regardless of what this brother has been accused of (as if the American government with its brutal slavery past can be believed when they make accusations against Africans). He should still be given the honor of dignity and

To put it another way, listen to an African American sister as she exited a poll in Chicago. A radio reporter asked her why she was supporting Sen., Braun even though she had made two trips to Nigeria. The sister said boldly, "There is nothing wrong with Sen. Braun going to Nigeria. It's the same as an Irish descendent going to Ireland. Hell! She should, it's part of our mother land!" And for this you Negroes will cost us our ONLY damn Senatorial seat in the country! But what should we expect from self-hating Negroes whose only meaning in life, it seems, is to carry water for their White racist slave masters at the expense of having nothing for themselves.

However, for those of us who are truly liberated I will say this in memory of Sister Carol's service "Carol, you did us proud. Please forgive us for our short-comings, our Steppin Fetchit outlook on life and our continuing attitude of embarrassing those of you who try to assist us in spite of all these."

## Speaker Newt gets the boot

and he'll tell you that, man, when it rains, it pours. Who'd have ever thunk it! That we would be sitting here watching the return of Connie Chung and the demise of Newt Gingrich. You remember Chung, don't you? Chung formerly anchored the CBS news program Eye on Connie Chung. Chung aired an interview she did with Newt's mother, who said some very nasty things about his child-

hood. After spot aired, Newt raised much hell it cost Chung her job. After nearly four-year absence, Chung has resurfaced as a regular on ABC's 20/20.

there's Bill "The Comeback Kid" Clinton, who has beaten Gingrich so many times we've lost count. It seems each encounter with Clinton leaves Gingrich looking stupid. And proving true that old axiom that says whenever your enemy is making a fool of himself, get out of the way.

Let's take a stroll down memory lane and recount the many times stupid Gingrich did just that. Remember the time Gingrich threw a fit when he was given what he considered a "second class" seat on Air Force One to attend the funeral of the murdered Israeli (Is-itreal) prime minister Rabin? Gingrich was so angry he led his Republican colleagues in shutting down the U.S. government for several days. That stupid mistake cost the Republican Party a few house seats in the 1996 elections and Clinton was re-elected to a second presidential term. Then came the infamous "Monica Lewinsky" scandal. Many political insiders believe that the scandal was really being driven by Gingrich, who had reasoned that an American public upset with the thought of Clinton performing sex in the White House's Oval Office would be so outraged that they would force him out of office.

At the time it was the investigation of President Clinton's sex life that forced us to speak on the subject. We felt we Now to the column. Just ask Newt needed to point out the gross hypocrisy

in the investigation. I mean, everyone knew the way Gingrich treated his wife in asking her for a divorce as she lay in the hospital near death. And at the time he was sleeping with his other woman. We clearly acknowledge that Clinton is definitely a scoundrel, but should a sexual encounter between two consenting adults be a reason to overturn a popular election? We don't think so. Besides, as the investigation began to unfold, we discovered even more scoundrels, greater than Clinton. There's Lucy Ann Goldberg, who advised Linda Tripp to secretly tape her conversations with Lewinsky. How many of you knew that Goldberg's consultant was Mark Fuhrman? Yeah, the bad guy from the OJSimpson case. Then there's the notorious Ken Starr, whose credibility has been so damaged because of his many conflicts of interests, he could find Clinton standing over a dead body with the murder weapon in his hand and still he wouldn't be believed.

Gingrich has tried everything within his power to get the president, but nothing seems to stick. The last midterm November elections were the last straw for the Republicans. Some political observers have reported that even Texas Gov. George W. Bush placed a call to top Republican leaders the night of his re-election bid and demanded that Newt be let go!

He did not want to make a bid for the presidency in 2000 with Newt hanging around his neck. The word was "Newt thanks for your service but good-bye! Fall on your sword! Take a poison pill! Be a stand up guy and get lost! Or, as we say in the Lone Star State,

Gingrich put even his redneck friends back home in real bad shape because, as a result of his stupid folly, his home state of Georgia is no longer the Republican stronghold. It also cost Rep. John Linder of Georgia his National Republican Congressional Committee leadership post. The irony of it all is that it may very well have been the African American voters Gingrich demonized after coming to power that caused his downfall. By all accounts it was the Black vote that helped the Democrats win because of their large turnout. Black voters, who accounted for 11 percent of the vote, voted 90 percent for Democrats according to many

I guess it just goes to prove that, as usual, those of us who have come from powerful ancestors have so much knowledge to assist even racist with many easy answers to their problems. Take this sex thing, for instance. Had they asked us, we could have shared with them something that we've known for centuries. (And this could help Bill Clinton as well, because God knows he damn sure needs this one.) In the African tradition, it is believed that sex organs are made for procreation and the orgasm/excitement that men/women experience is just the Creator's pleasant way of rewarding you for trying to do your job. OK Bill, Newt, Hyde, and Burton, got that! Is anybody listening out there?

Until then, the struggle continues...



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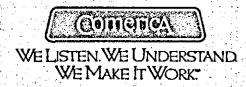
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#### LifeStories Cheryl Smith

What a difference a decade makes. Some people look at their lives in terms of decades, making a determination of which decade was actually the best.

Next year will mark a ten-year anniversary for Joyce Ann Brown. It will be an anniversary she will always remember.

The last nine years for Joyce Ann Brown have been unbelievable. Never in her wildest dreams could she have imagined the impact she would have on the lives of others. She has gone to work for one of the most high-profile African American-elected officials in the state, Dallas County Commissioner John Wiley Price. Starting out as a receptionist, Joyce climbed the ladder to finally become his chief administrative assistant.

Joyce has played an important role in her daughter's life the last nine years, helping her raise her two daughters while also serving as a mother figure to so many

Meanwhile, she wrote a book, organized a nonprofit organization, bought a home and took off on the speaking and talk show circuit.

She has been the keynote speaker at a number of local functions. Her face is a regular fixture in area schools. She's a favorite on college campuses and at churches around the country. Many have seen her on a number of television talk

## A comparison of times

shows: the Jerry Springer Show (before the show's format changed to an hour-long fist fight and cussing match); Sally Jesse Raphael Show; The Montel Williams Show; Maury Povich Show; 60 Minutes; Inside Edition; Geraldo; Leeza; Jenny Jones; The Gordon Elliott Show; Prime Time Live; Good Morning America; A Current Affair; Donahue; and Extra.

Her face has graced the pages of a number of publications, locally and nationally, including Ebony magazine.

Most recently, she appeared as an actress, receiving rave reviews for her role as MaDear in the play, I Can't Stand the

Quite a bit more has happened during the past nine years. But they were nothing like the previous nine years, when Joyce had no control over her fate, totally closed off from those she loved.

She had been wrongly convicted of murder and sentenced to 20 years as inmate #314036 in the Texas Department of Corrections prison system. The sentiment regarding prisoners was if you are in prison, you had to be guilty. Joyce had no rights. Instead of getting up when she wanted to, or going to bed when she was tired, someone else told her when to close her eyes for the day and when to open them to begin the next one.

Joyce loved to cook. Well, when it came to cooking and eating whatever her taste buds craved, Joyce found herself dancing to someone else's tune.

Luckily, some members of the prison

staff were nice to her; they believed that she was innocent and was serving a prison sentence for a crime she did not commit. Because of that, she did enjoy a

But there's nothing like having your freedom. The freedom to choose and to do whatever you want-when you want. Being able to come and go as you please is precious, especially when it is no longer

Yes, freedom is oh so precious.

That is something Joyce didn't have for exactly nine years, five months and 24

But when that day came, in 1989, and she was released, boy, did the celebrating begin. And it hasn't stopped.

"I celebrate everyday and praise God," she said recently, adding that during troubled times when she wondered why she sat behind bars, it was her faith in God and the support she received from her family that enabled her to not only maintain her sanity, but to maintain hope for the future.

It is that hope that fuels her to do the things she does today.

Next year, on the anniversary of her release, a big celebration is expected.

But guess what? Although Joyce has enjoyed the past nine years a lot better than the nine before, she does have some fond memories of that time in her life. In fact, she's not even angry about the nearly decade-long imprisonment.

Could she do the time again?

Hopefully she won't have to, but, should something happen, she's not afraid to go. She's been through it all, languishing in prison because a district attorney wanted to close the books on a crime. She said they (prison officials and the district attorneys) taught her how to do time.

Many would get upset at the thought of going to jail for a mere unpaid traffic fine; however, Joyce would go back willingly if need be. "So long as I go back fighting for something I believe in," she

Is she bitter?

She doesn't have time to be bitter. She's busy working to change a system that has imprisoned others without just

"If they sent me to jail tomorrow, I'd cry because I'd be angry," said Joyce. "But I would go in and see what they aren't doing within the jail and [l'd] fight them from there.

"There comes a time in your life when you think back to your forefathers and mothers and think, they couldn't have been afraid of dying. So where do I get off being afraid to do time? I am going to continue doing what I think is right for those who can't help themselves."

So, because she suffered injustice, many others will benefit from her efforts.

Cheryl Smith is president of the Dallas/Fort Worth Association of Black Communicators and the host of Reporters Roundtable on KKDA-AM (730). Tune in on Sunday mornings at 8:00, immediately following Minister Louis Farrakhan's address.



## Some Things Are More Important Than Driving.





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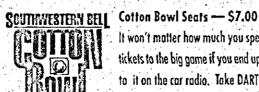
Catch the midnight train to Irving. Leave your briefcase at home, grab the family and get on board. The Trinity

Railway Express isn't just for work anymore. Saturday service between South Irving Station and Downtown Dallas, begins December 5, 8 a.m. to midnight. See a movie, grab a bite, catch a hockey game, then get on the midnight train to Irving.



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It won't matter how much you spend on tickets to the big game if you end up listening to it on the car radio. Take DART's Cotton Bowl Flyer from six convenient park and

ride locations, and for only \$7 (\$6 for seniors and children under 12), we'll make sure you make it to the Cotton Bowl, even if your favorite team doesn't. Call (214) 979-1111 for more information.

Out of the loop: white parts some Bus, you won't be for long. We've got three (loops that Out of the loop? With DART's Downtown Dallas Trolley is—A, B and () to get you to work, to lunch, to shopping and the arts. Plus, with improved light rail connections at Pearl Station, getting around Downtown Dallas is now as easy as A, B or C.

Now arriving. Route 316 is now serving businesses along International Parkway and Plano Parkway, as well as the West Plano Transit Center. From there, connections can be made with Downtown Dallas, Collin Creek Mall and Prestonwood Transfer Point with routes 210, 350, 351, 352, and 356 Getting to work.

Attention shoppers: Route 511, serving the East Plana Transit Center and Park Lane Station, has extended late night service to the Target Store at U.S. 75 and Parker Road and to Collin Creek Mall, with continuing non-stop service to Park Lane Station. Shop 'til you drop. We'll pick you up.

#### In The News

#### Patterson, Johnson join Southern Dallas Chase offices

Chase Bank of Texas recently appointed two Chase bankers active in the Southern Dallas community, to new positions.

Ronald Patterson, vice president, has been named small business development officer. He will focus on developing small business clients in Southern Dallas and now offices at both downtown Dallas and Southeast Oak Cliff branches.

Darrell Johnson, vice president, will now manage two of Chase's Southern Dallas Branches - Chase Wynnewood and Chase Southeast Oak Cliff. Johnson and Patterson will work as a team to offer financial solutions to small businesses in Southern Dallas.

A Chase banker for four years, Patterson holds both a bachelor's degree and an MBA from Stephen F. Austin State University. He is a graduate of the Stonier Graduate School of Banking in New Brunswick, NJ. Patterson is the chairman of the finance committee and board member of the Moorland Branch YMCA. He also serves on the boards of the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce, the African American Museum and the Dallas Black Dance Theater.

Johnson has 10 years of service with Chase Texas. He is a graduate of the Business Management Center and attended Eastfield Community College. The recipient of numerous Chase associate recognition awards, Johnson actively participates in Chase's mentoring program. He serves on the advisory board of Marketing Education for the Dallas Public Schools.

Chase Texas is part of the Chase Manhattan Corporation, one of the largest U.S. banking organizations with more than \$300 billion in assets.

#### Robinson GM of Sheraton Suites Market Center Hotel

Elaine Robinson has been named the new general manager of Sheraton Suites Market Center Hotel in Dallas. The New York native most recently was the executive assistant manager of the Lowes Hotel in

Robinson brings over 17 years of hospitality experience to her new position, having worked in a number of areas including hotel operations, marketing and human resources. She has also managed luxury, resort and convention hotel properties ranging from 150 to 1,400 rooms. Robinson started her career in hospitality as a management trainee with the Sheraton Hotels in Bal Harbour, Fl.

I am excited about being in Dallas," she said. "You immediately feel the opportunity to make an impact."

A graduate of Simmons College in Boston, she is president-elect of the college's African-American Alumni Association. Robinson formerly served on the Board of Directors for Network of Women in Hospitality, New York City Chapter and the Harlem Dowling - Westside Center for Children and Family Services.

#### Kroger opens newest store in DeSoto

Kroger recently opened its newest signature store, located on I-35E at Pleasant Run, with a ribbing-cutting ceremony. Officials from DeSoto and surrounding communities welcomed the new store to the Southern Sector and expressed their appreciation and excitement about Kroger's commitment to the area.

According to Kroger officials, area res-Idents answered questionnaires to provide input for the types of products and merchandise in the store, services provided and layout of the store. The final store development was based on the community's needs and desires.

The 61,000 square foot facility features a full-service deli, bakery and pharmacy. The store also includes an FTD floral ship with an on-site floral designer, a video rental center and a meal center with preseasoned, fully-cooked entrees and vegetables. Huggieland, an in-store super-



Booker Johnson and Yvonne Davis.

vised children's play area, is one of the store's best amenities. Parents can watch their children while they shop on any of six Huggie View monitors conveniently located throughout the store.

Booker Johnson, an African American, 19-year veteran with Kroger, will manage the new Signature Store.

"I'm excited about managing a store that will offer so many amenities to our diverse customers," Johnson said.

During his tenure Johnson held eight positions in the grocery store, climbing from courtesy clerk to store manager. He also worked in the Irving office as a category manager, deciding whether to stock new items and negotiating prices.

"Booker has distinguished himself by his outstanding work within the Kroger family," said John Flora, senior vice president for Kroger. "We are fortunate to have such an experienced person to manage our newest Signature Store."

Also attendance were Kroger President Bob Zincke, DeSoto Mayor Richard Rozier and State Representatives Helen Giddings and Yvonne Davis.

Greyhound gives Urban Leage \$1,000



Greyhound presents a \$1,000 check in support of the National Urban League Black Executive Exchange Program (BEEP). (left to right): BET Sportscaster Charlle Neal, Haley Peoples, Dallas Urban League BEEP Program and author Michael Hurd, Black College Football 1892-1992 (Revised).

#### Seven organizations benefit from grant

The Real Estate Council Foundation has recently awarded more than \$200,000 to seven local, community-based non-profit organizations committed to community and neighborhood revitalization in Dallas.

The TRECF is an association of more than 1,100 commercial real estate professionals in the greater Dallas area dedicated to influencing action and supporting change to accomplish long-term growth and enhanced quality of life in Dallas.

In addition to the financial assistance, the foundation also provides volunteers to help these organizations succeed by sharing their technical expertise, raising money and cleaning up neighborhoods.

This year's grants enabled several well-established community development organizations with financial support to continue developing housing that is affordable for lower-income families.

This year's grant recipients are: Communities in Schools is an on-campus stayin-school program that works directly with students in public schools. La Calle Diez Community Development Corporation is a community development organization committed to revitalizing a 15-block area in Oak Cliff by making home ownership a reality for many residents.

Maple Avenue Economic Development Corporation is dedicated to revitalizing the Maple Avenue neighborhood. Mi Escuelita Preschool, Inc. is a successful preschool program whose students are primarily Hispanic children. Operation Relief Center Community Development Corporation is a community development organization that produces quality housing that is affordable to lower-income families.

Short North Dallas Community Development Corporation/Associate

Leadership Council 1998 Legacy Project is one of the first community development corporations in Dallas, the South Dallas/Fair Park ICDC spearheads projects to spur economic and community development in the South Dallas/Fair Park area.

#### Black named to TU Electric advisory board

Albert C. Black Jr. has been appointed to TU Electric's Dallas Advisory Board. Black is founder, president and CEO of On-Target Supplies and Logistics, Ltd. His eight-year-old company, with sales of more

than \$10 million last year, distributes copier and computer paper, custodial supplies and computer product equipment. It also administers the logistics of warehousing and delivery.



Albert C. Black Jr.

addition to his business expertise, he is significantly involved in the community through memberships on the boards of the Greater Dallas Chamber of Commerce, Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce, Methodist Hospital, Dallas Citizens Council an Paul Quinn

Texas Utilities has three Advisory Boards - Dallas, Fort Worth and Regional, They provide valuable input to TU's electric and gas companies (SESCO, TU Electric and Lone Star Gas) regarding operations, practices and direction. Advisory Board are composed of community leaders from through TU's service areas.

## The Harlem Renaissance Part 1 of 4

#### By Russell D. Shockley, BS.Ed.

Editor's Note: Last issue, Minority Opportunity News presented what was incorrectly designated as the first of two instalments about the Harlem Renaissance. Actually, it was the third of what should be four parts. In this issue we will present the correct first instalment of this most exciting series and proceed to publish the remaining three parts in their propersequence. We sincerely apologize for the error.

In the mid 1900s Harlem occupied less than two square blocks of Northern Manhattan. It was roughly composed triangle bounded to the west by St. Nicholas Avenue, running from 114th Street to 156th Street, and to the east by the East River.

The poorest and most crowded section of New York, Harlem was nevertheless the most livable of the cities ethnic ghettoes. It was mostly free of the smoke and grime that plagued the lower East Side. It featured broad avenues, flanked by solid brick and brownstone buildings erected by early German and Dutch settlers. Its streets were animated by a parade of brightly dressed residents from the South, the West Indies and from Africa. Harlem offered a kaleidoscope of literary, political and hedonistic activities unmatched anywhere in the United States.

In the fall of 1928, in the heart of one of Harlem's toughest neighborhood streets, A'lelia Walker transformed her Stanford White Townhouse into a parlor saloon. She named her extravagant establishment "The Dark Tower," after a newspaper column written by the Black poet, Cuntee Cullen. Walker's guest list of notable patrons read like a blue book of seven arts. Many young Black writers and singers mixed quite readily with European royalty and Broadway performers.

Walker also served the best bootleg liquor and champagne-this was during the

prohibition era; alcoholic beverages of any kind were illegal—and her guests could either remain downstairs or they could ascend to the third floor where the more intellectual conversations were conducted.

A few blocks north, the two-year-old Savoy Ballroom was teeming. Its blocklong, highly-polished dance floor, filled with its Lindy hoppers and slim-slammers, was inspired by a pair of battling bands such as Fletcher Henderson and Jimmy Lunceford versus King Oliver and Fess Williams.

This uptown answer to the Roseland Ballroom—Whites only—held 4,000 people. It featured the most uninhibited social gathering in the northeast corner, known as "Cats Corner," where their gyroscopic routines brought not only applause, but occasional tips from the White spectators. "At the Savoy Ballroom," observed the Amsterdam News, "social, racial and economic problems fade away to nothingness."

The stylish (White) crowd from downtown took the A train north to Jim Crow speakeasies along 133rd Street's "Jungle Alley." Here resided the Cotton Club and Connie's Inn, where persons like Cab Calloway and Duke Ellington performed their music while waiters and waitresses danced through the crowd spinning their trays seemingly without spilling a drink.

Less affluent Harlem residents, the laundresses, cabbies, numbers runners and domestics paid anywhere from a dime to a half dollar for entrance into impromptu gatherings called rent parties. They were staged in apartments to raise the monthly rent before the furniture was thrown out in the streets on Monday morning (a regular practice of many landlords).

Six days a week Seventh Avenue was Harlem's Fifth Avenue. After church,

Harlemites promenaded in their Sunday best on the stretch between 138th and 129th Streets. Many wore only the most elegant or extravagant clothes, even though many of them, working as waitresses, red caps and stevedores, earned less than \$100 a month. As novelist Rudolph Fisher observed, "Indeed, even Fifth Avenue on Easter never quite attains such stature as Harlem's 52 Easter's a year."

What we now call the Harlem Renaissance flourished from the early 1920s until the onset of the Depression (1929-1930). It was then known as the "New Negro Renaissance." Black progress was apparent before these years, but many of the writers and authors who found voice during the 1920s produced very significant works in the years following.

The New Negro movement embraced more than literature; it included race-building, jazz, poetry, progressive or socialists politics, racial integration and the musical and sexual freedom of Harlem's night life.



**Langston Hughes** 

Primarily, the Harlem Renaissance was a literary and intellectual movement composed of a generation of Black writers born around the turn of the century.

Amongst its best known figures were Langston Hughes, Zora Neale Hurston, Countee Cullen and Claude McKay. These were not the first noteworthy Black writ-

Continued on page 26



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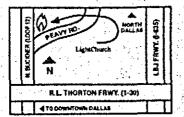


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# Volunteers for medical research can reap many benefits

Maybe you've heard the ads on the radio, or read them in a local paper:

"The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center is looking for volunteers..."

Maybe you've been tempted to call, but were concerned, or even afraid. Are there safeguards to protect people from harm or abuse? Who decides which studies are allowable? What if I change my mind? These are all very important questions, and I hope to answer some of them here.

Why should you be a study volunteer? Some of the reasons given to me by patients over the years have included: being interested in new treatments; not having health insurance; having insurance, but not wanting certain information in their medical records; the opportunity to assist in research; curiosity! There's a particular need for volunteers who are members of a minority. According to the 1990 census, Texas has an African American population of almost 12 percent, they comprise a significantly smaller percentage of all participants in pharmaceutical research. Many government agencies are concerned about the lack of adequate representation by minorities, not only to assess the safety of medications being studied, but also to provide the benefits of research to an under-represented population.

It's important to note that there are safeguards to protect anyone who participates in a study. Every study that is done, at Southwestern or elsewhere, must be approved by an Institutional Review Board (IRB), sometimes referred to as an Ethical Review Board (ERB). IRB's are usually made up by people who conduct research, like Medical Doctor's, but more importantly they include members of the community from other fields. Their job is to read the instructions for the research, known as the "protocol", and decide if it is necessary and protects the participants involved. They also require that you are informed of your rights as a participant, and that your records are kept confidential.

A lot of work goes into the protocol before it ever gets to the IRB. Pharmaceutical companies look over past and current research, balancing their need for information with the needs and well-being of the volunteers. In some studies, the focus is on side effects and safety, as when the drug is very new and there isn't much information about it yet. Other studies are conducted later, some even after the medication is on the market, when they want to know if it can help with a different disease or disorder.

All studies carry with them at least some risk. Anyone doing a study is required to let the volunteers know what these risks are, like potential side effects of the medication. Look at the label on a bottle of pain reliever or cold medicine. All those side effects that are listed were observed in, or reported by, someone during a study, or to the pharmaceutical company after the drug went on the market. The information about the particular medication being tested must be on a consent form, written clearly and understandably. Other risks, like the discomfort of having blood drawn for a lab test, for example, should also be included. It must also clearly state that the volunteer may stop being a part of the study at any time, for any reason. You should receive a copy of the consent form after it has been signed.

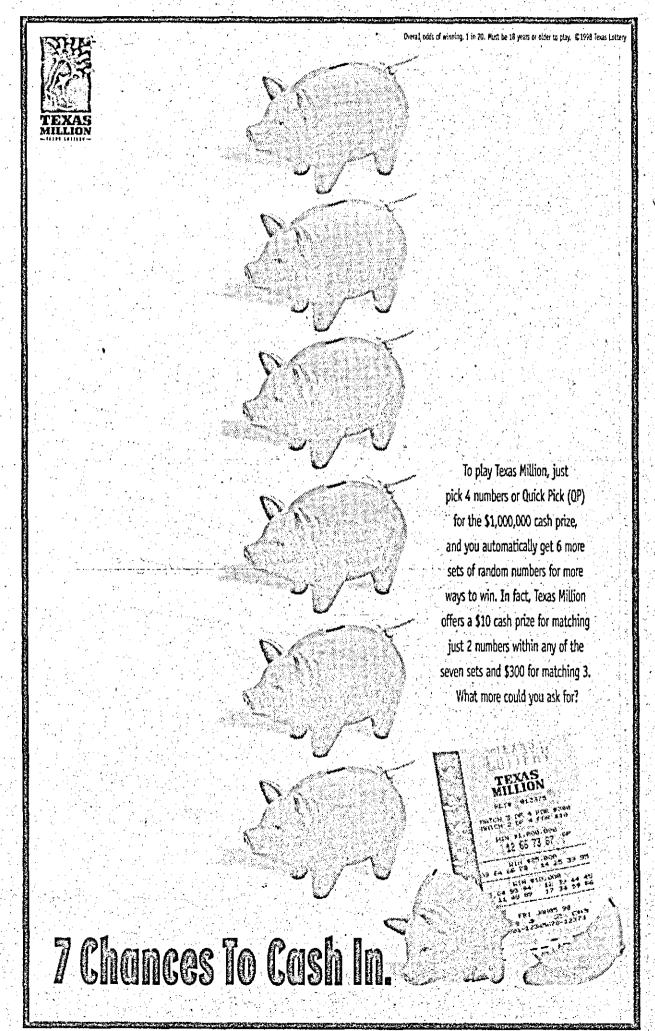
But why, if there are risks, would anyone want to do this, you ask? There are also benefits: being able to take a new medication that is not yet on the market; having a very thorough examination for the specific disease being treated; your health being closely monitored, with more frequent visits with the doctor or staff than usual, so that data can be collected; and contributing new information that may benefit others in the future.

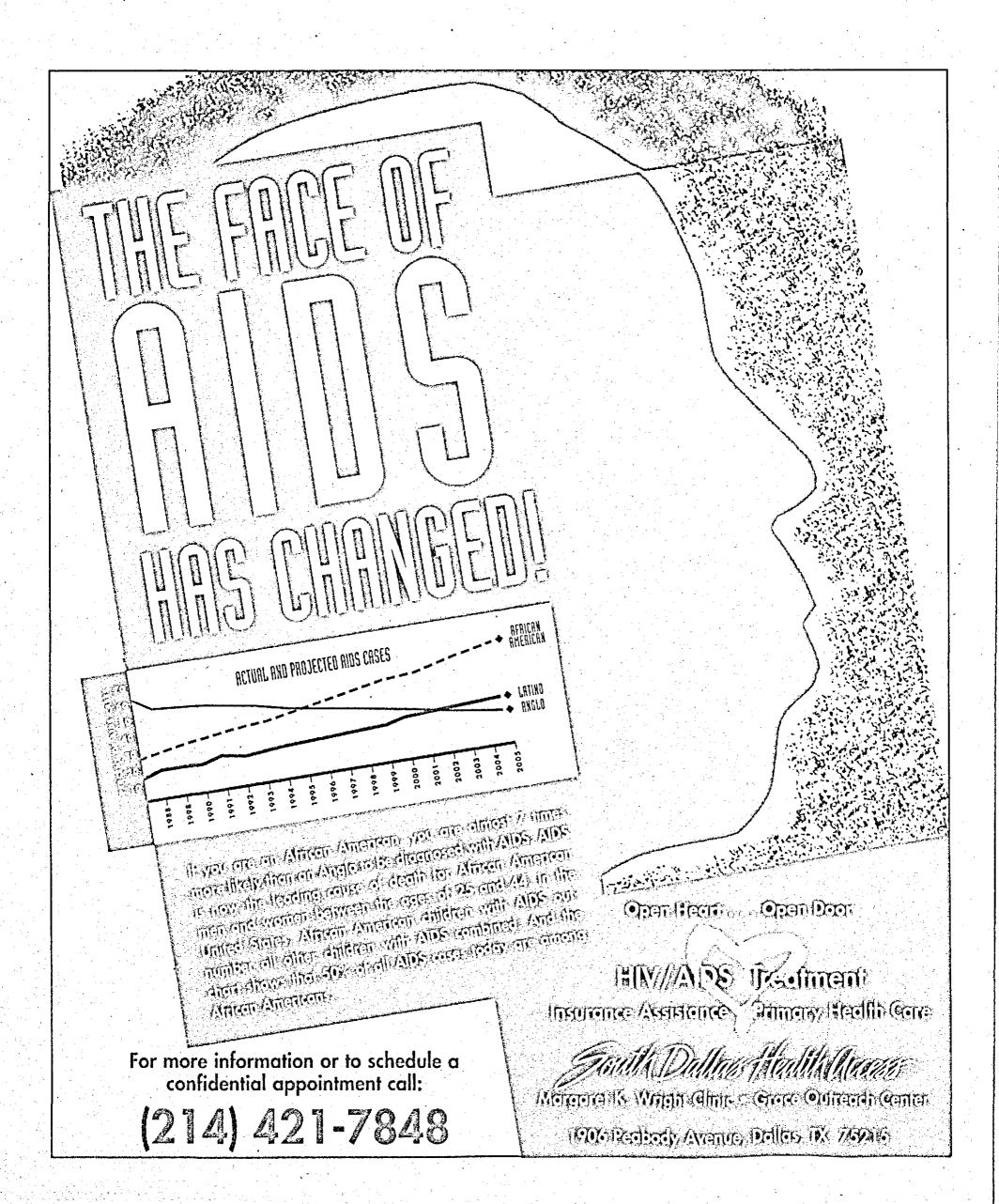
You have nothing to lose by calling the person or department listed in the ad! Even if you decide the study is not right for you, the staff may be able to send you information on your disease, or referrals to a specialist.

Mary Pennington and Cindy Kidner are research coordinators at University of Texas Southwestern

Medical Center at Dallas, Department of Psychiatry. Their clinic is currently conducting research in Depression, Post-partum Depression, Panic Disorder, Premenstrual Syndrome, Generalized Anxiety Disorder, and Trichotillomania (compulsive hair-pulling).

For more information call: Mary Pennington, RN at (214) 648-0792.





#### Out of Africa

#### Heritage Day in the Northwest Province

By Eve Reed

Photos by Sherilyn Smith

Editor's Note: Special thanks to Eve Reed and Sherilyn Smith for sharing with us some of their recent trip to Africa.

Heritage Day was established as a way to pay homage and respect to all those who established their area or fought in war or political battle. In 1994 the city of Taung in the North West Province began the Calabash Celebration. At that time, it was a one-day event. Since then, the event has grown



into a week long celebration filled with indigenous art forms including:drama,dance, music and fine art.

For the first time, groups from all over the country were invited to perform at the Calabash Celebration. One of those groups was the Dallas

Black Dance Theater. Through a partnership with the ICAN foundation and the financial sponsorship of various corporations and entrepreneurs, the DBDT was

able to do what they do best in South Afrika -dance!

In addition to dancing,
the troupe provided workshops and seminars for the people of the cities
of Taung,
Vyburgh and

Spring. The workshops included going through the basic vocabulary and technique of modern contemporary dance led by Melissa Young and Allen Gartrell.







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 Shirley Vaughn
 972-606-4117

 David Silva
 972-606-3374

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Sherry Ghafar pgr 972-933-9999

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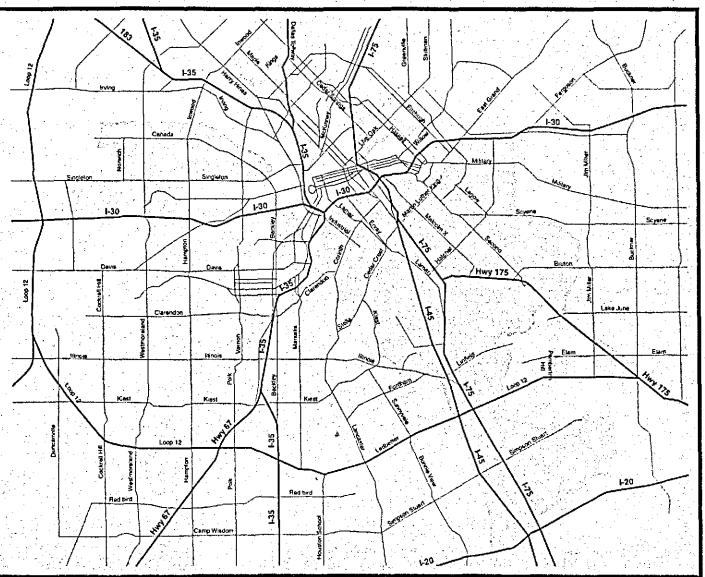
Joe Bazan or

 Virginia Minter
 972-778-8800

 Mike McDonald
 972-498-9130

Financing made possible by the City of Dallas Housing Finance Corporation. For questions, contact the Dallas Housing Finance Corporation, at 214-670-0682 or 214-670-3601.

Target Area





#### December 1

Head Start of Greater Dallas is seeking donors to participate in the annual Adopt-A-Family campaign which is going on through Dec. 14. Head Start of Greater Dallas serves 3,700 children and families whose income falls beneath the poverty line. Many of these children will do without this holiday season because their parents are unable to provide them with the traditional holiday trappings. Adopter will receive a family profile that includes clothing sizes and special requests. For more information on how to adopt a family this holiday, call 214-634-8704 ext. 410.

Stage West Theatre's production of "The Mysteries: Part 1" is continuing through Dec. 27 at 3053-33 S. University Drive in Fort Worth. Single price tickets are \$14-18. The Mysteries are a collection of biblical tales that were originally produced for theatrical performance in medieval times. Through song, dance, magic and farce they tell of the Creation, Adam and Eve, Cain, Abel, Lucifer's fall from grace, the birth of Christ and much more. For

more information, call 817-784-9378.

Sportsfest will take place Dec. 1 from 6-10 p.m. at the Bronco Bowl, 2600 Fort Worth Avenue, in Dallas Sportsfest is a charitable fund-raiser/toy drive benefiting the Martin Luther L. King Jr. Community Center. The event features athletes, team executives and sports media personalities in a variety of sport activities such as bowling, billiards and arcade games geared toward family entertainment. Admission to Sportsfest is \$5 with a new, unwrapped toy and \$10 without a toy. The goal is to collect 2,000 toys and to

raise \$20,000 to supplement the King

## **Around Town**

West will serve as honorary chairman.

The New Car Dealers Association of Metropolitan Dallas "Christmas is for Kids" toy drive is currently taking place . . . donate a new-unwrapped toy. Four area organizations will receive the gifts that list of those dealerships, call 214-637- 350-9590.

Exall Recreation Center needs new or gently worn children's and adult coats can be taken to the recreation center at 1355 Adair at Live Oak Street or to the first floor lobby at Dallas City Hall, 1500 Marilla St. To arrange a pick up for large donations, the public can call the center at 214-670-7812.

#### December 2

The University of Texas at Arlington's Automation and Robotics Research Institute sponsors the Enterprise Excellence Workshop Series. The breakfast meetings

competitive edge. The Dec. 2 meeting will be "Facilitation: Developing the Skill Everyone Needs." For more information, call 817-272-2761.

across the metroplex. Participating deal- New Image Business Associates invites erships are requesting that citizens the public to its weekly small business luncheon every Wednesday at the Bill J. Priest Institute of Economic Develop-NCDA collects: the Child Guidance ment, 1402 Corinth, room 202 A&B, in Center, Girls Incorporated, Jeffries Street Dallas, from noon-1 p.m. Lunch is \$5 per Learning Center and the YWCA. For a person. For more information, call 214-

....

The Undermain Theatre presents "A Por Quinly Christmas" at The Basement Space, 3200 Main St. in Dallas. The story in all styles, sizes and colors for it eighth centers around a boy's disillusionment annual coat giveaway. The center is with the holiday season and his hilariaccepting donations until Dec. 10. Items ous friendship with a talking Christmas tree. The play will preview Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 4 at 7:30 p.m. and will open Dec. 5 at 7:30 p.m. It runs for two weeks Wednesday through Sunday from Dec. 6-20. All tickets are \$12. For reservations, call 214-747-5515.

#### December 4

The Dallas chapter of the National Con- The Renaissance Cultural Center, 2100 ference of Black Lawyers will meet the Evans Avenue in Fort Worth, will mark first Wednesday of the month at the Mar- its seventh anniversary with a gospel tin Luther King Jr. Center, 2922 MLK Jr. concert and toy drive Dec. 4. The Blvd., in Dallas. For more information, evening will begin at 6 p.m. with the annual toy drive, followed by the concert at 7 p.m. featuring LaKea Johnson, J Mac Youth Choir, Richard Hawkins and the Israelites Gospel Choir, New Voices of Christ and Victor Speedy McCray and the Dallas Anointed Voices. Donations are \$5. Tickets can be purchased at Sam

Center's programs for at-risk youth. start at 7 a.m. at ARRI, 7300 Jack Newell Records 817-921-2017 and Langley Phar-Michael Irvin will again serve as the offi- Blyd., in Fort Worth. The workshops are macy 817-921-5449 or at the door. All cial spokesman and state Sen. Royce designed to help small business gain a proceed benefit the United Negro College Fund. Please bring an unwrapped toy or children's mittens. For more information, call Gloria Reed at 817-922-9999.

The Dallas Children's Theater will present its production of the perennial favorite "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever," Dec. 4-20 at El Center College, Main and Market streets in downtown Dallas near the West End. The play is about the Herdman family, known as "the worst kids in the whole history of the world," who are rehearsing for a local church's Christmas pageant and the havoc they create as they and the congregation discover the true meaning of Christmas.

Casa Mañana Children's Playhouse presents the holiday classic "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer," Dec. 4-5, 11-12, and 18-19. Performances are Friday evenings at 7:30 p.m. with Saturday matinees at 2 p.m. A special performance has been added on Saturday, Dec. 19 at 6 p.m. All tickets are \$8 and are available by calling 972-647-5700, any TicketMaster outlet or the Casa Mañana box office.

The Creative Arts Theatre and School. 1100 W. Randol Mill Road in Arlington, presents the holiday favorite "Frosty the Snowman" Dec. 4-19. For tickets and additional information, call 817-861-CATS or metro 817-265-8512.

#### December 5

KRBV/KHVN (V100 and Heaven 97) will host the Fifth Annual For Sisters

American lifestyle event in the South- Neighborhood Touring Program artists west. The event features major R&B and on Dec. 5 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Majesgospel concerts, celebrity appearances, tic Theater, 1925 Elm St. The OCA will self improvement and financial semi- showcase over 60 artists from diverse nars, a literary area, fashion shows, busi- cultural backgrounds, all of which are ness expo and healthcare outreach pavil- available for residencies, workshops and ion sponsored by Parkland Hospital. performances to community groups, at Parkland will offer 40 healthcare screen- no cost to the community host ( a comings, including mammograms, diabetes testing, healthy cooking demonstrations community and cultural centers, schools and more, all free of charge to attendees.

The city of Coppell will host its annual Christmas Parade at 3:30 p.m. This year's theme is "Christmas Around the World Parade." Event organizers plan to December 6 have the diverse metroplex communities represented in order to promote unity. There will be an open house at Town Center, 225 Parkway, following the parade.

The Dixon Avenue Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Saturday from noon-1 p.m. at the Larry Johnson Recreation Center, 3700 Dixon Avenue, in Dallas. Presently the only AA meeting in South Dallas, the Dixon Avenue Group encourages those who might need help to attend. For more information or directions, call 670-8495.

The Mid-Cities Chapter of Amnesty International will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights Dec. 5 at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. The program, held 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in the campus student center, will feature panels, speakers and discussions aimed at sharing information on children's rights, race relations and cruel and unusual punishment. For more information, call 817-467-5784 or 817-261-5128.

Only '98 Dec. 5-6 at Dallas Market Hall. Affairs is hosting a day of free perfor- feature Bob Stewart and Company with munity host includes recreation centers. and churches. For more information, call Ronnie Jessie at 670-4081 or Sharon Williams at 670-3777.

Masjid Ansar-Allah presents the Leadership Awards Banquet '98 Dec. 6 at the American Woodmen Center, 4400 S. Malcolm X Blvd., at 7 p.m. The banquet will honor national and local leaders for their outstanding contributions to society. Guest speakers will be Ambassador S.A.H. Ahsani, Lee Alcorn and Evelyn Akram. This year's theme is "Leadership and Morality" Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$12 for children under 12. Free baby sitting provided. All proceeds will go toward construction of the Islamic Center Family Life Center of Dallas. For more information or to purchase tickets, call Ansar - Allah at 214-565-9225.

The White Rock Marathon, internationally recognized as one of the premier marathons in the United States, winds its way through downtown Dallas and around White Rock Lake. For more 1162. information, call 214-528-2962 or 214-526-5318.

The Tarrant County Black Historical Society presents the "Jazz Fling" Dec. 6 from 5-9 p.m. at the Fort Worth Town The City of Dallas Office of Cultural Center Auditorium. The evening will

The annual event is the largest African mances and exhibitions provided by Rachella Parks on sax and Robert Sanders on piano. Tickets are \$15 for singles and \$25 per couples. Tickets will be

The Writer's Garrett and Writers' Block presents "Letter of the Law" Dec. 6 at 4 p.m. Two local writer-lawyers, Paul Coggins and Bernestine Singley, along with SMU Law Professor Tom Mayo will talk about and answer questions on the legalcrime novel genre. The Writers' Block is part of an ongoing series the first Sunday of the month. The programs are free (although donations are accepted) and always take place upstairs at Paperbacks Plus, 6115 LaVista, one block northeast of the Skillman/Live Oak intersection. Parking is plentiful.

#### December 12

The Southeast YMCA Star Time Talent Show will take place Dec. 12 from 1-5 p.m. at the City of Fort Worth Botanic Garden Auditorium, 3220 Biotanic Garden Blvd. Representatives from the entertainment industry will be on hand to view the vast array of youth and adult talent as well as preview new, unreleased music. Register by calling 817-534-1591 or stop by the Southeast YMCA at 2801 Miller Ave. in Fort Worth. The cost is \$25 for amateur entries. General admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children.

holiday plays, "The Children's Christmas

Carol" and "The Best Christmas Ever!"

Show times are Dec. 11-20, Fridays and

Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 3

p.m. General admission tickets are \$10,

teens, KERA members, senior citizens

and stage members are \$8 and children

12 and under are \$5. For reservations,

call 972-680-4466 or metro 817-784-6671.

In-Unity Inc. presents its 1998 Holiday

Affair Dec. 11 from 9 p.m.-1:30 a.m. at the

Ramada Plaza Hotel, 1001 S. Akard St.

Tickets are \$25 per person. Child care

services will be provided at a cost of \$10

per child, payable in advance. For tickets

or more information, call 972-603-7585 or

972-603-1102. Proceeds benefit the schol-

arship fund at Paul Quinn College.

## 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* publication to:

Minority Opportunity News 2730 Stemmons Frwy

#### December 10

Learn the newest and most effective marketing, sales and advertising strategies for business today at the Market your Marketplace workshop Dec. 10 at the D/FW Hyatt Hotel. For more information, call 972-262-6263.

sent the free seminar "Refinancing Your

Consumer Credit Counseling will pre-

Home" Dec. 10 from 6-8 p.m. A panel of mortgage brokers and lenders will discuss refinancing alternatives in today's real estate market and answer questions from the audience. Seating is limited so advance reservations are required. For more information, call 214-638-2227 ext.

#### December 11

The Corner Theater in the DeSoto Town Center, 211 E. Pleasant Run, presents two

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Things are about to change for Medicaid recipients providers in the Dallas area.

The long arm of the HMO is reaching into the Medicaid system in Texas, and things will never be the same.

Managed care already dominates private health care. As of April 1999, Medicaid recipients in a Dallas-centered seven-county area will have similar choices to make, selecting one of four participating HMOs and a primary care provider. The change will not decrease benefits; in fact, depending on the provider, benefits may increase.

Unfortunately, the choices will spell a certain amount of confusion for Medicaid recipients accustomed to just showing up at any clinic that accepts Medicaid. If they don't select an HMO, one will be selected for them based on location.

Ask almost any provider about the

be eligible to see [some patients]-and they might have to find another doctor to treat them," Blair said while allowing that managed care wasn't the worst system in the world.

"There were times when they (patients) were frustrated and confused, and there were times when we (care providers) were frustrated and confused, but for the most part we dealt with it.

"The good thing about managed care is you are only allowed to change physicians so many times a year; it does force continuity of care, and that has its advantages," Blair added.

The recently appointed executive director of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Family Clinic in Dallas, Joyce Tapley, formerly worked with a Fort Worth-area hospital that had many Medicaid patients.

"It didn't work the way the state said it was going to work, so we'd have

to get on the phone, with the patient standing there in front of you. It takes some time, and it causes frustration. In addition to that, the HMO plans were supposed to provide us with a listing of all the patients, and we wouldn't get that until the middle of the month or the end of the month. We had two ways of being able to verify who the patient was assigned to and neither one of them worked consistent-

"Money was lost because we saw a lot of patients not assigned to us. Most of the time, we wouldn't know until after we treated the patient that he was not ours," Tapley recalls.

However, there were some good points to the system, according to Tapley. "I think one of the good things that came about was that the patients got a chance to see

the doctor they were assigned to. And having the primary care provider being the primary person responsible for that person's care meant the specialist and the primary care provider have to talk to each other," she said.

Tapley has already started the education ball rolling with her own staff. She is preparing information packets for them to give to clients, and will actively pursue all opportunities in the future to educate clients on how to enroll and how to use managed care for their own beneAbout managed care

name in the Lone Star State. It's the State of Texas Access Reform (STAR) program will roll out in seven Dallas area counties handle their enrollment by phone. beginning in April, 1999.

Sen. Royce West and hosted by Betty Culbreath, executive director of Dallas Coun-Services, was designed to inform doctors, clinics and other health care providers of new procedures they will need to follow in order to provide services to Medicaid recipients.

"I have worked hard, along with my colleagues in the Legislature, to make certain that those providers who have stood by Medicaid recipients in the past are included in this change," West said.

In managed care, each client may choose (or they will be assigned) a primary care provider (PCP) who is responsible for insuring the continuity and quality of care. The PCP is also responsible for administering preventive and primary care, including medical screenings and immunizations. When specialized care is necessary, the PCP serves as the manager of care by referring the client to other health care providers for those services.

The primary care provider, however, will have some restrictions: instead of and then billing Medicaid a fee for services rendered, providers will need to be sure the patient has selected an HMO to be paid for the service provided.

been added.

the slogan for the rollout. A six-minute Traditional Providers, those having a ceravailable for community organizations. patients. Medicaid clients will also receive infor-

The new face of Medicaid has a new mation in the mail in the spring letting them know about the changes.

A call center with an 800 number will -that's short for managed care, which be available, and clients will be able to

Through coordination of medical A November meeting set up by state services, the program is designed to improve access to care, improve quality of care, improve client and provider satty Department of Health and Human isfaction, improve cost effectiveness and improve health status.

As the director of client services for the Texas Department of Health in Arlington, Jan Havins pointed to improvements the system will bring for Medicaid clients.

"There are some differences in a Medicaid managed care than in the private sector managed care. The clients will keep all their benefits. They even may have some more benefits, which is a wonderful thing. While there may be a change in the utilization of services, they will also be adding some value-added services and clients will have an opportunity to get to know their own provider under managed care, "Havins said."

The four finalist HMOs are Americaid Texas Inc., AmeriHealth HMO of North Texas, Rio Grande HMO/HMO Blue and Parkland Community Health Plan. In addition, a fifth option will be the familiar system of being able to treat administered by the state of Texas-the any patient who is eligible for Medicaid Texas Health Network, a primary care case management model.

Current and future primary care providers, physicians and clinics seeking plan the doctor is registered with in order to serve Medicaid clients will need to ally with one or more of the HMOs, which The new managed care system will will mean meeting certain standardized apply to medical care and behavioral criteria, including having an admitting health care. So far, dental care has not relationship with a hospital. Some providers will be "grandfathered" in on "Your Health Plan, Your Choice" is the basis of designation as Significant video, posters and brochures will be tain number of preexisting Medicaid

Dr. Don Blair - Managed care system there kept some patients from seeing him.

Medicaid managed care rollout in Fort Worth, and they will groan—and roll out their own horror story. By most accounts, it didn't go well.

When a new Medicaid model was "rolled out" in Fort Worth, there was a lot of confusion, according to several health care providers.

Obstetrician Don Blair moved to Dallas from Fort Worth a year ago, and found that the managed care system there kept some patients from seeing him.

"If I wasn't on their plan, I might not

The biggest difference between the Tarrant County rollout and the Houstonarea rollout was in the amount of awareness generated among Medicaid clientele. In Tarrant County, just 16 to 20 percent of the clients took advantage of their ability to choose a primary care provider instead of the state choosing one for them. In Houston, after extensive community-based information activities, 80 percent of the clients took the reins to decide who their primary care provider

Melinda Metteauer is deputy project manager for Maximus, the national health and human services government

contracting firm that has taken over brokering enrollment services for the State of Texas Access Reform (STAR) program. With a budget of \$30 million and careful planning, Maximus will conduct a fullblown media and community awareness campaign in the Dallas rollout area that will include print and electronic media outreach geared to informing all segments of the Medicaid client population.

Community forums and community awareness events are already being planned, with a heavy emphasis on the April-to-August rollout implementation periods.

Continued on next page



Joyce Tapley, recently appointed executive director of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Family Clinic in Dallas.

Continued from previous page

"We will actually be locating a

regional management office in the Dallas area, with office space, outreach and educational staff. We will be looking to hire people from the communities that we will be serving to better reach them through people knowledgeable in their community. We will work with communitybased organizations to host enrollment events." Metteauer said.

"It will be a full-fledged community outreach effort to make sure that every Medicaid client that will be impacted will have an opportunity to know what choices are available from the HMOs, and that they make the choice for their medical care and their family's medical care," she added.

As far as Blair, a physician who has practiced in Fort Worth under the rollout and now has a practice in

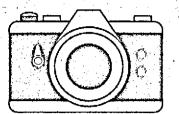
Dallas, is concerned, the jury is still out on the overall benefit of managed care in Medicaid.

"In theory, that's what managed care is supposed to do. Does it pan out that way? I hope so," Blair added.

"Sometimes you can pay more for the management of the managed care than for the actual management of being seen. You can pay more for the management than for the medicine, and that can be frustrating for those of us who are. health care providers," Blair said.

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oh thank heaven

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As a former teacher, it's no surprise Lozelle De Luz, Ph.D., helps prepare neighborhood students for college. Although she owns three McDonald's in Wilmington, Detaware, she also finds time to get involved in the community on a state and national level. Lozelta mentors minority student athletes for college and helps to feed the homeless through annual programs she helped establish as External Vice President of the National Black McDonald's Operators Association. Her faith in the potential of every person makes a difference in the lives of everyone Lozelle touches.

Reggie Webb makes a world of difference in people's lives everyday. As President of the National Black McDonald's Operators Association, he helps get minority vendors into the McDonald's system, helping African-American businesses to succeed. Owning live McDonald's in southern California keeps Reggie busy, too; but he's never too busy to help someone else achieve their dream of success.

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**Book Review** Angela Washington-Blair, Ph.D.

This review includes four books that will make excellent Christmas or Kwanzaa gifts, and will help you prepare for the busy holiday season ahead. Included are two cookbooks, a children's book of Bible stories and a Christmas and

Kwanzaa anthology.

In Merry Christmas, Baby by Paula L. Woods and Felix H. Liddell (HarperCollins, \$27.50), the authors have compiled a rich collection of stories, poems, essays and recipes to warm the heart, enrich the spirit, and provoke the mind. Delightfully illustrated with reproductions of African American art, this collection of 50 literary pieces is as diverse as our people themselves. You'll recognize some of the names: Dorothy West, Nikki Giovanni, Martin Luther King, Jr., Langston Hughes, W.E.B. Du Bois and Sandra Kitt. Others may be less familiar, but their writings are no less meaningful. The settings are both historical and contemporary; the

masterful writings often painful and profound. Included are prayers and a soulful rendition of the Christmas story. You'll want to put this book near a cozy spot around a fireplace or on your nightstand for bedtime reading. Adults and children alike will enjoy reading the entries in this unique holiday treasure.

Let My People Go: Bible Stories Told by a Freeman of Color by Patricia and Fredrick McKissack (Atheneum, \$20) is an incredible storytelling effort by the award-winning husband and wife writing team. Using a fictionalized abolitionist character named Price Jefferies, they retell twelve best-loved Bible stories, from Genesis to Daniel, by providing a simultaneous account of a similar incident in the African American experience. When Jefferies' daughter, Charlotte, wants to know how God can allow a cruel evil like slavery to exist, he responds by telling the story of the Israelites' exodus. Throughout the book, the parallels between the story of the Jews and African American history are illuminated. Stunning color illustrations add to the book's value as a work demonstrating how faith, hope, and love are the glue that hold a people together and help that people survive.

A book that will help feed your stomach as well as your mind is Soul Food: Recipes and Reflections from African American Churches by Joyce White (HarperCollins, \$25). The author, a food editor at a major women's magazine,

## Books about holiday celebrations and food go hand in hand

offers more than 150 recipes for foods that worshipers can look forward to after church services. No mere cookbook, this book provides nostalgic comments from African American churchgoers in Amer-

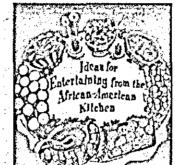
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Chief Herry Johns

go hand in hand. "The comforting blend of cooking and fellowship that feeds both the body and soul" is what this book offers. This melding of faith and food will give you recipes for breads,

vegetables, peas and beans, fish, poultry, meat and desserts, including homemade vanilla ice

To prepare celebratory, bountiful, and stress-free feasts for all those notable and not so notable occasions in our community, you'll need to pick up Angela Shelf Medearis' Ideas for Entertaining from the African American Kitchen (Penguin, \$14.95). This book provides a month-bymonth calendar of celebrations, such as Emancipation Day and Martin Luther King Day in January; Juneteenth in June; Young Adult Rites of Passage in August; and Christmas and Kwanzaa in December. Ideas for having that Afro-centric baby shower are also included. Medearis gives good pointers on



ica on how food and church fellowship giving a great party—it matters not the

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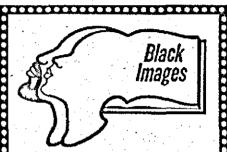
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size of the apartment or house or the thickness of the paper plates—and says there is no excuse not to have one. What matters is that you have good food and have fun with your friends and family. Party planning tips and menus are provided in this book that is part recipe and part history.

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#### DECEMBER 1998 **FORECASTS**

Sunday, December 6 • 3-5 pm The Black Dallas Remembered historical organization presents holiday tasting party with the reissue of the BDR Heritage Cookbook (\$15.00). The secand edition of the cookbook has been revised and expanded.

Tuesday, December 8 • 6-8 pm Jewel E. Dearman reviews Unyielding Bronze (\$26.95 Darklove Publishing). Victor becomes a lover, mend, companion to four women. Friends, Helen and Carolyn agree to share him for convenience without his knowledge. UB is a story of who's playing who.

Sunday, December 13 • 3-5 pm Tiny Hawkins presents Strong Family Ties: The Tiny Hawkins Story as told to Debra L Winegarten and Ruthe Winegarten (\$18.95 SocioSights Press). Mrs. Hawkins has a distinguished career in the health care industry as the owner and administrator of the South Dallas Nursing Home. She has received innumerable awards for community service.

Saturday, December 13 • 2-4 pm Poetry by Texas authors Nosa Eke, Marilyn Donahue, Kwin Cecellia, Jake Rousseau, Shia Shabazz Barnett and guest Nichola Shields of Chicago.

#### Electronic Urban Report

### Newsbits

This is a partial reprint of the Electronic Urban Report, free, factual, online infotainment on the hottest celebrities, events and issues in urban/Black entertainment. Visit their web site at http://www.eurweb.com.

TLC is set to release "Silly Ho." Is this a daring musical self-portrait? No! This is the title of a very early sneak preview single from their forthcoming album "Fan Mail." The single is now being shipped to radio stations and clubs everywhere. The "Fan Mail" CD is set to



be released in February. The group is calling "Silly Ho" a tease saying the best is yet to come.

Fans of late, great trumpeter Louis Armstrong can look for "Louis Armstrong: An American Icon," a 60-song collection of recordings from 1946-68 assembled by Grammy Award-winning jazz-producer George Avakian. The recently released collection features such Armstrong classics as "What A Wonderful World" and "Hello, Dolly!" as well as duets with jazz legends including Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday and Duke Ellington.

Somebody's trying to put an old Dogg out of his misery. Well, that's what concert goers at London's Grove Subterrania thought after Snoop Dogg's soldout show was interrupted by what witnesses thought was a gunshot. The incident happened thirty five minutes or so into his set. There was a loud bang. He kept his cool and finished the set. When he came back onstage at the end, Snoop said: "I'm offering a thousands pounds for anyone who can f'ck up the m\*\*\*herfu\*\*er who fu\*\*ed up my show." (Go Dogg!) According to Scotland yard, police were not called and there are no plans at present to investigate the incident further.

DJ King Britt let loose with De La Soul and DJ Jazzy Jeff in his Philadelphia studio recently, where the five hip-hop artists worked on a track for Britt's

Minority Opportunity News

upcoming CD, "Re-Members Only," out sometime next year on Columbia Records. Britt enlisted the rapping talents of De La Soul and the scratching talents of DJ Jazzy Jeff for the as yet untitled track. In addition to De La Soul, Britt has also tapped former Yaz lead singer Alison Moyet, who will sing on a track called "Skipping Stone" for the album.

Timbaland is currently at work on a film that he plans to release next year, a movie which will tell the story of his music family—which includes Missy Elliott, Ginuwine and the Legion of Doom, among others.

"The film is really just different type stuff, it's not a hip-hop movie, but a movie that's real life, with a lot of stuff that happens in the industry that nobody talks about," said Timbaland during a recent MTV interview.

A businessman convicted of seconddegree murder in the drowning death of the ex-wife of Jackson 5 member Tito Jackson was sentenced to 15 years to life in prison Monday. Donald Bohana, 61, listened as Jackson family members urged a lengthy prison sentence for the boyfriend convicted of killing Delores "DeeDee" Jackson. Bohana was then ordered to serve the maximum term for the August 1994 drowning at his Ladera Heights, CA home.

Many in the hip-hop community agree that rap producer Deric "D-Dot" Angelettie's alleged involvement in the assault of Blaze editor Jesse Washington last week is cause for concern. But some say Washington's statement to the Associated Press that Angelettie's anger was inspired by a published photo revealing him to be the Madd Rapper is more ironic than anything else. Ironic, they say, because the character's allure wasn't his mystery within the hip-hop world, but his mockery of it, including its violent

stereotypes.

Motown is at war with itself (sort of). Motown Records and Motown Beverages are currently entangled in a fierce legal battle over the commercial use of the Motown name, according to Motown Beverage, a minority-owned soft drink distribution firm. The Polygram Records Division of Philips Electronics, owner of Motown Records, filed a complaint against Motown Beverage.

\*\*\*\*

"In essence we're being told that the City of Detroit's nickname, Motown, is

Continued on next page



#### Continued from previous page

not available for us to use in business. They're trying to remove it from the public domain," said Dr. Boyd, the African American owner of Motown Beverage. The case could take another turn with the pending sale of the Motown trademark to Seagram's, the spirits and entertainment company.

\*\*\*\*

For the first time ever, a major record label will solicit advance sales of an upcoming release by initiating a monthlong direct-to-consumer e-mail campaign. For rap artist Busta Rhymes' upcoming album E.L.E. - The Final World Front, Elektra Entertainment will utilize a2b MAIL, a2b music's breakthrough direct-to-consumer e-mail marketing application, to raise fan awareness for the December 15 release, giving them a chance to have a "sneak peek" of new music while offering a pre-order bonus. For the next four weeks (beginning November 20th), a different Busta Rhymes/a2b MAIL will be sent to registered fans. (Things are a changin'!)

#### Other News...

Although anti-Semitism among Americans has declined, a new survey by the Anti-Defamation League finds that Blacks are four times as likely as Whites to hold prejudiced views of Jews.

"We do not pretend to fully understand why the discrepancy between White and Black attitudes exists," said Abraham Foxman, national director of the ADL, which released the report Monday.

The survey divided respondents into three categories based on their answers: Not anti-Semitic, most anti-Semitic and those in the middle. Among Blacks, 34 percent were listed as most anti-Semitic, down slightly from 37 percent in the ADL's 1992 survey. The latest survey listed 9 percent of Whites as most anti-Semitic, down from 17 percent in 1992. Twenty-one percent of Blacks were listed as not anti-Semitic and 45 percent were in the middle.

Foxman said he has contacted NAACP officials and other Black leaders to discuss the findings. He blamed Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan and others for promoting anti-Semitism.

For the survey, a national telephone poll of 999 people was conducted Oct. 12-21 by the Boston firm of Martilla Com-

munications/Kiley & Co. The margin of error is plus or minus 3 percentage points.

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#### You and Your Money John Dudley

#### **Discussing Family** Finances

Whether you are a child watching your parents grow older or a parent watching your children mature, you may have concerns about how your loved ones have planned for their future financially. An open and honest discussion about family finances could ease your concerns.

But how often do you get the opportunity to talk to your whole family? Many families only get together once or twice a year during the holidays. These occasions are usually reserved for celebration, and few family members will want to disturb the traditions and values of a holiday by prompting a conversation about serious family issues that are difficult to raise—like the legal and financial aspects of retirement, long-term health care, and estate planning.

One solution is to plan a dinner immediately after a holiday while family members are likely available. Setting aside a day for the discussion in advance gives your family time to prepare and may even relieve tension at the holiday feast.

But before sitting down to this conversation, you will need to prepare yourself. A discussion about money, wills, and inheritances easily can become a heated argument that drags up ancient history, rivalries and conflicts. Begin with the following:

Find a reason to introduce the topic. Current news coverage about retirement and estate planning, health care, or longterm care gives you a ready-made reason to talk about your family's plans. The reason for bringing up the topic should not be based on your own financial situation, but relevant to the family members you are trying to help.

Offer a rationale for the conversation. You might explain that in the day-to-day rush, we don't always look ahead. Explain how careful planning could benefit all members of the family.

Plan ahead. Think about what you want to say and the most thoughtful way to say it. Put yourself in their place. How will each family member react to a frank, open discussion about financial plans, hopes and expectations? What are their fears?

Clear your thoughts of any resentments or expectations. This will help you keep an open mind and make you a better moderator for the discussion. Remember your intent is to help ensure that the family is prepared for the future.

Introduce possible scenarios. Present various situations, beginning with what may be the least threatening, such as savings and pensions plans. Will there be enough for the future? Lead up to more difficult issues, such as planning to cope with a spouse's death or failing health, building strategies for financial resources and eventually distributing assets.

Remain neutral if controversial issues surface. If the conversation becomes too emotional, postpone it for a while, or consider including an objective advisor. Sometimes the presence of an "outsider" can keep the discussion objective and less emotional.

During the discussion, you may want to cover a range of issues that lead to the creation or the amendment of four legal and financial documents:

A durable power of attorney is a legal document that appoints someone to make financial decisions for an individual or individuals should they become ill or incompetent. A person with durable power of attorney can pay bills, sign tax returns, and perform other functions.

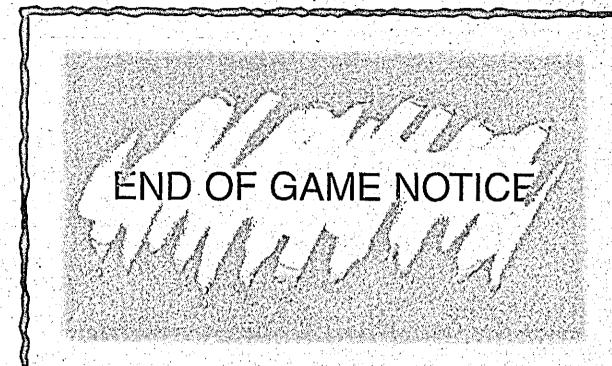
A legal will stipulates how an individual wants their assets distributed after death.

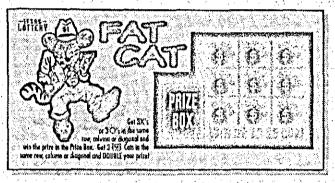
A health care proxy statement, or living will, specifically states the measures each parent is willing to take to prolong life. The proxy will also name a person who is authorized to ensure that the statement's provisions are followed.

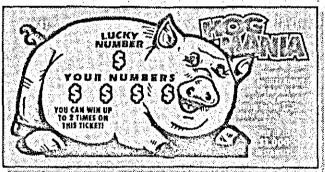
A list and location of assets should include bank accounts, savings accounts, pension plans, IRAs, and insurance policies. It should also include money due from all sources, including any loans made to children or other family members but never repaid, and an estimate of the date of purchase and price of major assets for tax purposes. This information will be needed to settle

If you need more information about the creation of financial documents or general estate planning information, contact your financial advisor.

John Dudley is a financial advisor with Prudential Securities. He can be contacted at 214-761-5142. Prudential Securities is not a legal or tax advisor. However, its Financial Advisors will be glad to work with you, your accountant, tax advisor and/or attorney to help you meet your financial goals.







Two of the Texas Lottery's instant games will close on December 31, 1998: Hog Mania and Fat Cat. You have until June 29, 1999, to redeem any winning tickets. You can win up to \$1,000 playing Hog Mania and up to \$5,000 playing Fat Cat. You can claim

prizes of up to \$599 at any Texas Lottery retailer. Prizes of \$600 or more are redeemable at one of the 24 Texas Lottery claim centers or by mail. Questions? Just call the Texas Lottery Customer Service Line

at 1-800-37-LOTTO (1-800-375-6886).

Overall colds of winning Hog Mania, 1 in 4.60. Overall colds of winning Fat Cat, 1 in 3.03.

Must be 18 years or older to play. © 1998 Texas Lotters



#### Health & Fitness

Tyrone Caldwell

## The most important meal of the day

Are you one of those people who can't, or won't, eat breakfast for one reason or another? Well, haven't you heard the old saying, "Breakfast is the most important meal of the day?" Did you know eating breakfast can help you lose weight (or add muscle if you're trying to build up). A good nutritional morning meal will boost your energy level and increase fat metabolism. But your breakfast need not be limited to the same old boring traditional meals of oatmeal, grits, pancakes, bacon and eggs. With a little imagination and creativity, you can wake up your taste buds and spice up your morning.

#### YOU NEED FOOD FOR ENERGY

If you are like most people, you probably skip the morning meal, which will cause your mental and physical performance to suffer. This is especially true for people who perform physical or mentally stressful jobs. Studies indicate that those who eat a good nutritious breakfast are more alert, show higher productivity during late morning hours and fatigue less rapidly. Skipping breakfast will rob your body of essential nutrients that you need to carry out your daily tasks. After you've gone eight or more hours without foodassuming you do sleep at night—breakfast is the wake up call your body needs. But if you don't have the time or can't stand eating in the morning, here is a tip to help you get that first meal in: DRINKIT. That's right, a smoothie for breakfast may be just what you need. Using your imagination, the sky is the limit when putting together a great nutritious tasting smoothie. Actually, drinking your meal will allow the nutrients to reach your small intestine (were food is absorbed for energy) must faster than a solid food meal. The only kitchen equipment your need is a blender. Most smoothies start with a base of liquid (fruit juice, water, soy milk, milk, rice milk or yogurt), then leave it up to your creativity. Here are a few examples to help you get started.

#### GOOD MORNING SMOOTHIE

4 ounces apple juice

4 ounces water

1 ripe banana

4 frozen strawberries

1/4 cup oatmeal (uncooked)

1/3 cup soy protein powder or try some spirulina.

#### PEANUT BUTTER SMOOTHIE

8 ounces soy milk (or your favorite type of milk)

2 frozen, ripe bananas

1 big spoonful of all natural peanut butter

#### PINEAPPLE DELITE

4 ounces apple juice

4 ounces water

4 frozen strawberries

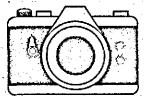
1 ripe banana
2 slices of pineapple
Spirulina or protein powder

Blend until smooth, drink, and enjoy!
Until next time, GET FIT, STAY FIT, BUT DON'T

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Tyrone Caldwell is a certified personal trainer and founder of Bodies in Motion. Call him at 817-457-1537 or e-mail him at T-well@juno.com. MON needs a freelance photographer to shoot BIG events!

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#### Your Phone Bill:

What Do All Those Charges Mean?

If you're confused about some of the charges on your phone bill, you're not alone. Sometimes it seems as if you have to be a rocket scientist to figure out your monthly bill.

Here is a quick guide to the various charges.

It starts with local charges, which include dial tone, plus unlimited local calling. But the charges begin to add up, beginning with an "expanded local calling service surcharge." This allows small town residents to call other small towns in rural Texas by paying a flat monthly fee instead of long distance charges.

Many customers also pay local "optional services." This includes a variety of services such as call waiting, caller ID, call forwarding and three-way calling. Similarly, some customers have "InLine," a monthly fee in the form of an "insurance policy" to maintain in-home wiring and keep down the customer's cost of repair calls, if they're ever needed.

Then there is the "911 service fee." This benefits residents in the 24 major counties in Texas that have their own 911 system. Phone customers in the other 230 counties benefit from a "911 equalization surcharge."

Another state-related charge is the "Texas poison control surcharge." This is a surcharge on all long distance calls within Texas. The six poison control centers across Texas provide assistance on poison problems to callers.

And there are the federal-related charges. The Federal Communications Commission's "Approved Customer Line Charge," which goes to the local phone company, is charged on a per-line basis.

Of course, there are taxes. They can include gross receipts taxes, municipal taxes, state taxes, local taxes.

If your phone bill seems long and complicated, take heart. The Federal Communications Commission in September offered proposals to make them easier to understand. The FCC proposed that phone companies be required to provide a summary page of charges, use plain-language descriptions of charges and report the name, address and phone number of each company posting a charge on the bill. For their part, the telephone companies are also considering how to make their bills more customer friendly.

When it comes to reading your phone bill, it shouldn't take a rocket scientist.

Darrick Eugene AT&T Government Relations - Texas



This culumn is part of an onyoing series sponsored by AT&T to educate Texans on telecommunications issues,



#### You and God

Ron Shaw

#### Compensation/Confrontation

#### 1 Samuel 17

I talk to a lot of people these days about their financial welfare. We have financial counselors at our church to help those who desire help with budgets, personal planning, savings, checkbook management and a number of other issues that affect a person's prosperity.

I am told one of the most common discoveries made when helping people in this area is that God actually has provided what they needed (and most times some of what they desired). The issue is not Him – but them. They usually mismanage what they have. Another common mistake is poor decision making. They go after the wrong things, buy at the wrong time, buy the wrong things, or listen to the wrong people.

Well, most of the questions I get have to do with getting more. Everyone is concerned with having "mo' money." Most are so focused on getting more that they miss an important key to prosperify. It's no secret to those who know me. I preach that if you were poor and broke when you came to Christ, and start living by His word, your life should get better, financially and otherwise. I don't mean to say that He's going to give you a million dollars. But you certainly should have a better quality of life.

Many times I find that people want compensation and all the benefits that accompany it without confrontation. As Christians, we should not make compensation the top priority in our lives. The cause of Christ should be uppermost in our lives. Jesus said not to worry about stuff because God knows you need stuff to get along in this world. Our goal should be to seek His Kingdom and its righteousness.

I've been spending a lot of time studying David. He intrigues me because there are so many truths to be learned from his story. In the story of David's battle with Goliath, there are some issues I want you to see. The King promised that whoever would go up and fight Goliath would gain his father's house, free and clear, get his daughter's hand in marriage—thus becoming a member of the royal family—and become rich. First, realize that every man in the army knew what the rewards were but was unwilling to take the risk. There are a lot of people who never take any risks; consequently, they receive few rewards. I'm amazed at how many people never realize there can be no dividends without an investment. The reason they don't get any dividend checks is because they don't invest anything. Growing up in Hamilton Park, I realized that the guys who always had the prettiest girls were the guys who were not afraid to run the risk of being turned down. Many people, when faced with challenges, ask, "What if I lose?" Eventually they do!

Others see a challenge and ask "What if I win?" Eventually they do!

Secondly, don't be compensation-minded. Be victory-minded. A lot of people only think about monetary compensation and end up losing. I've been told that only those who are below average achievers want guarantees. A person who is winning-conscious never needs a guarantee because he or she knows they will eventually end up with everything they ever wanted. David had asked, "What did the King promise the person who would go get Goliath?" David's love for God caused him to be offended at Goliath's insults. He wasn't money-minded or prestige-minded. He was victory-minded. If you are victory-minded, you don't have to worry about stuff because it will come. On your job. In your home. Wherever you find your challenges, learn this principle.

Thirdly, always run toward the confrontation rather than the compensation. If you handle the confrontation right, the compensation part will take care of itself. After David defeated Goliath, he was richly compensated. The Bible says David ran toward Goliath. While he was running toward him, he wasn't thinking "mo' money, mo' money." He wasn't thinking about the King's daughter, singing, "She's a Brick House." According to the Bible, David was thinking that the battle was the Lord's and, therefore, the victory would be his. Handling the confrontation right released all the compensation he could ever ask for. Concentrate on being victorious in every confrontation and in every challenge and you'll eventually end up with more compensation than you'll know what to do with

Finally, don't let your belief in God get in the way of your belief in the God in you. What I mean is, most Christians have no problem believing in God, that He is able, that He can do anything we ask. Anything, that is, except work through us. David didn't pray. He pursued. When we believe in God, we don't do anything but sit and wait on God to do something:

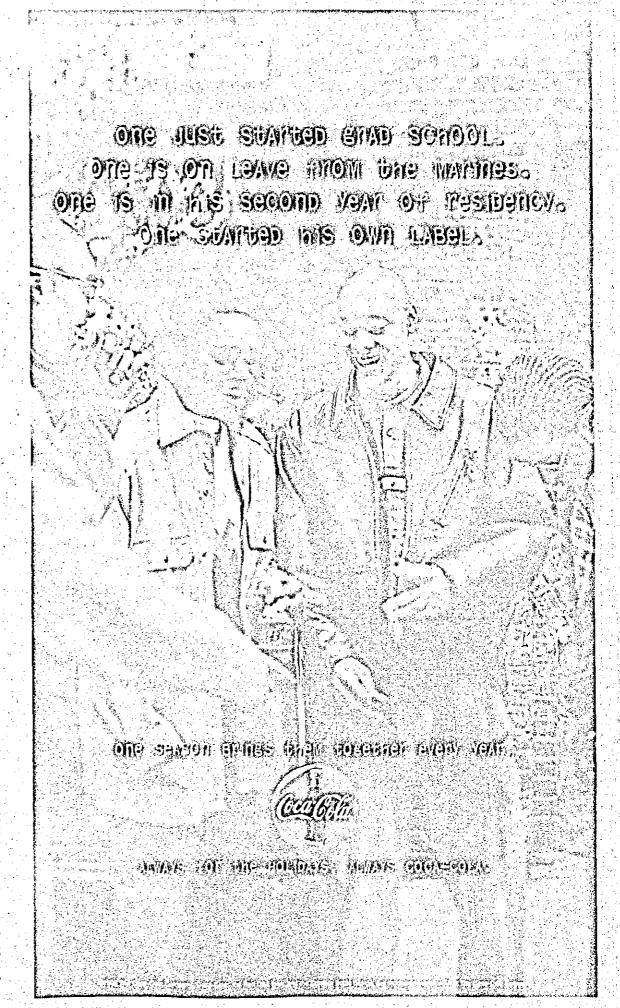
thus victory escapes us. When we believe in God's ability to work through us, we run towards our enemies with the confidence of knowing He will give them into our hands. David had to pick up the rocks! David had to fire the rocks from his sling! David had to go get the sword. And David had to cut Goliath's head off. That's believing in God's ability to use you and work through and in you.

So stop being money-minded and become vic-

tory-minded. The successful confrontation of your challenges and problems, though they be giants, will release the compensation you need. More than what you desire!

MON

Ron Shaw is the pastor of Light Church and can be reached at 214-320-5744.



#### Continued from page 9

ers in America; novelists Charles Waddell Chesnutt, James Wendell Johnson and the poet Paul Lawrence Dunbar had preceded them.

The younger writers, however, constituted the first self conscious Black literary constellation in American race-building, using art and literature. So a dual mission was thrust upon these writers. They were simultaneously charged with creating art and bolstering the image of their race. Ster-



**Author Zora Neale Hurston** 

ling Brown, a lesser known Renaissance writer, identified five themes animating the movements: Africa as a source of race pride; Black American heroes; racial and political propaganda; Black folk traditions; and candid self-revelation.

Evoking these themes, the Renaissance authors produced a body of literature that was not only exemplary in itself, but also paved the way for the succeeding generations of Black writers who invoked the Harlem Renaissance as the roots of

their cultural tradition. Adding to the visibility of the literary phenomenon were jazz, musicians, producers of all Black cast revues, and uptown bootleggers, along with a supporting cast of editors, patrons and hostesses (Black and White) who greased the movements operation and trained a spotlight on its accomplishments.

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

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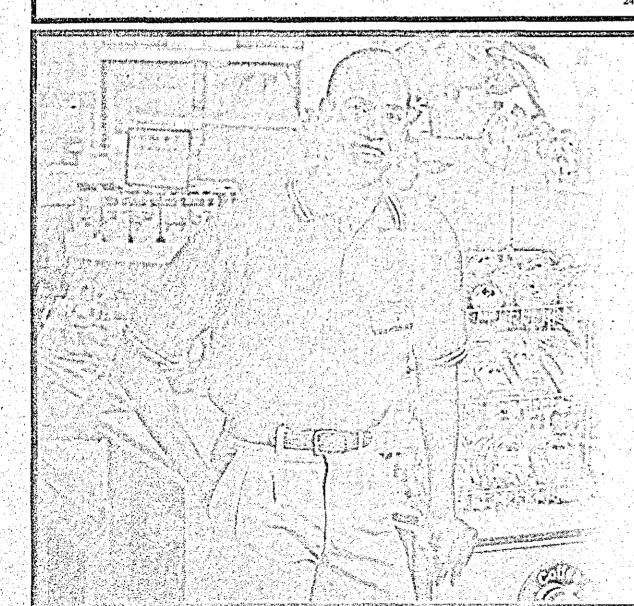
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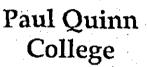
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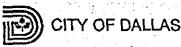
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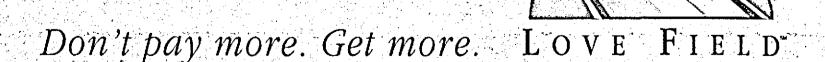
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