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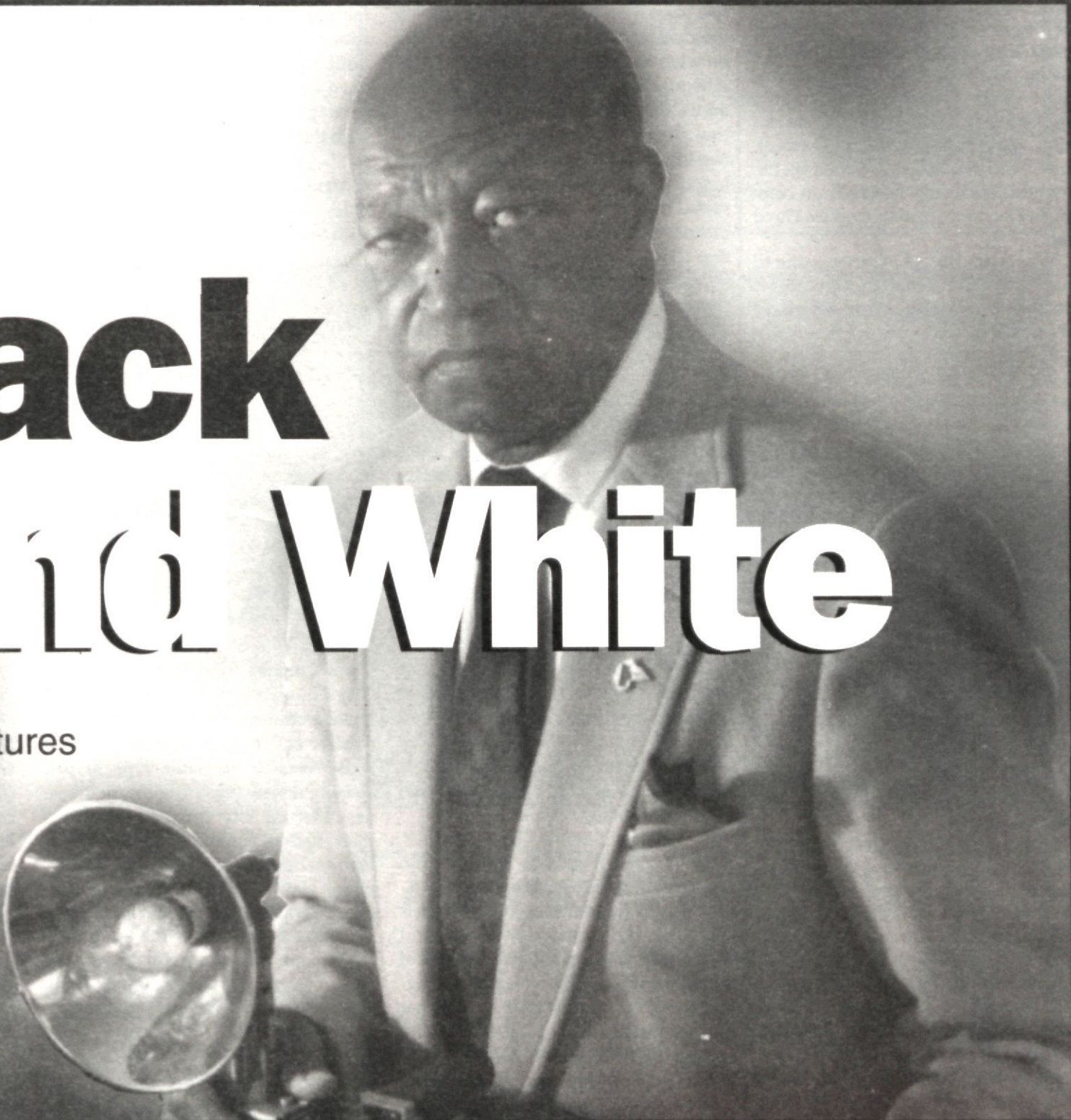
Minority Opportunity News



2730 STEMMONS FRWY. STE. 1202 TOWER WEST, DALLAS, TEXAS 75207
VOLUME 7, NO. 2 February 1998



In Black and White

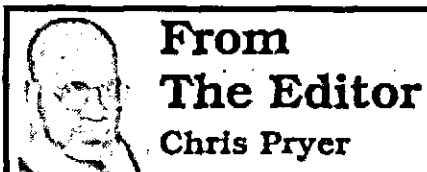


R.C. Hickman's pictures
are repositories of
Dallas' African
American history.

**Mamie McKnight
Remembers
Black Dallas**

**Denzel Washington
Hunts the "Fallen"
In New Film**

**New Arena
To Deliver
"Fair Share"**



**From
The Editor**
Chris Pryer

The courage to lead

The African American Pastors Coalition (AAPC) held its annual Martin Luther King Jr. celebration at the "new and improved" Concord Missionary Baptist Church on January 19. And a rousing, roystering celebration it was, replete with soul-stirring singing, resplendent recitations, and eloquent elocutions. All topped off by a powerful, pointed and challenging sermon by the erstwhile U.S. Congressman from New York and keynote speaker, the Rev. Floyd Flake.

What with the AAPC attempting to assume the leadership so many expect it to in spearheading economic rebirth in Dallas' neglected and economically depressed — meaning mostly Black — neighborhoods, there could have been no more qualified person to speak on this subject than the esteemed pastor of the Allen A.M.E. Church in Jamaica, N.Y.

Of course, his credentials are impeccable. His 8,000-member congregation, with an annual operating budget of over \$4.5 million, has built a 300-unit senior citizen complex; a Christian school that serves over 400 students; and a multi-purpose center that provides the community with health care, Head Start, psychiatric services, and the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program. But the real kicker is that the church has also built 61 affordable homes (with another 49 homes under current construction). The total budget of the church and its subsidiaries is nearly \$24 million and employs about 800 people.

Such an exemplary track record in economic development would seem to dictate to the AAPC that it would be well served to consult with the Rev. Floyd Flake consistently as it charts its own course in addressing the needs of the communities it purports to serve.

All the aforementioned accomplishments notwithstanding, the theme of Rev. Flake's message was not about economic growth. Entitled "The Courage To Go On," Rev. Flake expounded on what real leadership is, saying it is having "the courage to stand up, even by yourself." He talked about how preachers didn't have to wait for the politicians, instructing them that "If the preachers lead, the politicians will follow... You are not the tail, you're the head. Stand up!"

The AAPC can acquire the knowledge. But the courage — well, we'll see.

MON

Editorial

Dallas' minority community leverages votes for piece of new arena project

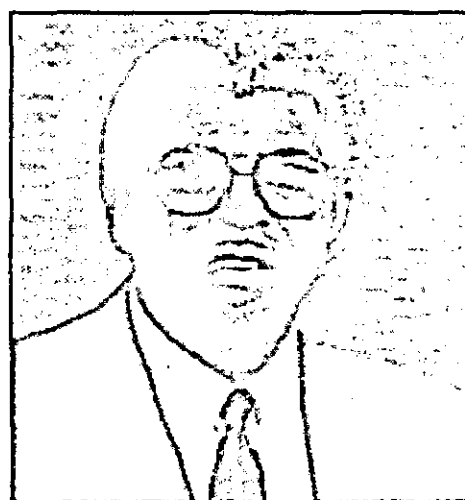
Texas Publishers Assn. Wire Service

Now that the arena campaign has passed on to the world of political lore, we have a few moments to reflect on what the new arena will bring to the African American community. The arena, due in large part to the nature of the private sector/public sector partnership formed to make the deal possible, is not automatically subject to the same minority- and women-owned business purchasing guidelines as is the case with municipal activities. In this deal, the principal private sector partners, namely Ross Perot Jr. and Tom Hicks, owners of the Dallas Mavericks and Dallas Stars respectively, were given the "exclusive" rights to the design, construction and financing of the new arena and its surrounding areas. This exclusivity generated much concern among the advocates for minority- and women-owned firms. Neither Mr. Perot or Mr. Hicks has a long or extensive history of involving or actively soliciting the participation of minority firms in their previous construction and/or business activities. The magnitude of the arena project could represent a major boon for those companies lucky enough to get a piece of the action. However, the sheer size of this construction and development program would seem to militate against including the very contractors that have traditionally been locked out.

The dilemma was obvious. How could safeguards be put into place that would articulate the expectations (from the minority business perspective) for contracting goals and objectives? Throughout the debates of the pros and cons, there has been a significant effort underway to ensure that African Americans and other minority entrepreneurs would be in a position to benefit from the project should the electorate vote yes. Led principally by Lee Alcorn, president of the Dallas NAACP, a "Fair Share" agreement was carefully crafted that would both express the desires of the minority community vis-à-vis the arena construction program and obligate, as well, the partners to a selection and review process for contractor selection roughly equivalent to that currently used by the city. These negotiations had to take place prior to the vote so as to

make the support of the African American community contingent upon some level of commitment and good faith to minority inclusion in the arena construction project. To have waited until after the referendum vote would have resulted in a lost opportunity to leverage the Black vote as Mr. Alcorn, with the help of others, was able to do.

Three very significant events occurred during the campaign that are noteworthy. First, Mr. Alcorn, along with State Senator Royce West, County



Lee Alcorn

Commissioner John Wiley Price, and City Councilman Al Lipscomb, developed a strategy to approach the team owners and request that they subject themselves to the same type of purchasing review (ensuring the inclusiveness that the city currently practices). They had to convince these businessmen that the minority business participation clauses were an essential part of their overall efforts to get the arena project passed. Outside of the support of the African American community, the project would not pass. Ultimately, this realization was shared and the final results is the "Arena Fair Share Agreement," which was approved by the team owners and the NAACP leadership. The agreement requires the Arena Group, (the name of the partnership formed by Messrs. Perot and Hicks to construct the arena) to uphold the following tenants:

1. To commit to employment opportunities at every level of the organization
2. To develop a detailed plan of involvement for minority- and women-owned firms

3. To include African American and Hispanic representation on the board of directors of the Arena Group

4. To ensure the participation of minority- and women-owned firms, through the competitive bidding process, for the duration of the master lease and master agreement with the city

5. To establish and provide adequate resources for a Minority Affairs Office within the Arena Group organization

6. To establish goals for M/WBE participation as follows: construction, 25 percent; arts & entertainment, 25.66 percent; other (professional), 36.30 percent; other services 23.80 percent; and goods, 18 percent

All factors considered, these gentlemen, particularly Mr. Alcorn, should be commended on their foresight and willingness to negotiate this working document on behalf of minority-owned businesses in our community. It is a good agreement that gives them a platform from which to begin work on this major project.

A second point of note is the general support for the arena project shown by the voter turnout in the African American communities of Dallas. For probably the first time in Dallas political history, the southern sector voters won out over the general trend of voting in North Dallas where, by and large, the arena deal was defeated. This reality will be one of the major legacies of this campaign and will hopefully bode well for a greater recognition of the potential clout of the Black vote.

Lastly, now that the arena deal is passed and a number of folks in our community will benefit from the Fair Share agreement, we must ask ourselves, What more needs to be done? At minimum, we would suggest that every African American individual, church, business and organization in the area join the NAACP. Clearly they took the lead in moving forward and taking advantage of a real business opportunity. For this alone, not to mention all of their other good works, they deserve our support, our membership and our gratitude.

MON

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Minority Opportunity News
 2730 Stemmons Freeway, Suite 1202
 Dallas, Texas 75207
 (214) 905-0949 FAX: (214) 905-0949
 E-mail: Minoppnews@aol.com

Chairman Emeritus
 Jim Bochum

Publisher

Thurman R. Jones
 Contributing Editor
 Jason Webster

Editorial Department
 (972) 606-3890

Sales/Marketing Department
 (972) 606-7351

Editor Chris Pryer
 Assignments Editor Cheryl L. Williams
 Contributing Writer Vanessa D. Baker
 Contributing Writer Kamron L. Barton
 Contributing Writer Louise Gordon
 Contributing Writer Marie Sassaman
 Columnist Thomas Muhammad
 Columnist Cheryl Smith
 Account Rep. Kathleen Goolsby
 Production Kevin Pinell
 Photographer Wallace Faggett
 Vol. Community Publicist Charlotte Berry
 Vol. Community Publicist Rita White

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G I P V S

LETTERS...

Ethnic Hunger

I picked up my first copy of MON yesterday at the Barnes and Noble in Richardson. As I was walking past the stacks of free literature, my peripheral vision caught a glimpse of John Wiley Price with the headline "I Am At War".

Immediately, I put the brakes on took a few steps back and said, "Well, Well, it's about time we got some news like this over 'here'. I picked it up with a smile on my face and tucked it under my arm so that I could pour over it later. Since I was seeing my hair stylist later, I thought that would be just the perfect place to puruse my first copy.

The information I received from reading MON just made me "giddy". After I finished reading it, I put what I discovered to work. I phoned three friends and told them to get over to Barnes and Noble to get a copy. I called my Book Club sister and told her that I finally found a paper with the listing of Black Images events in it. We will be attending the February 6th book signing of Diane Whetstone. We are reading her book Tumbling right now for our January selection. She wanted to know I found out this bit of choice information. Of course I couldn't wait to tell her.

PLEASE continue to deliver MON to the Richardson Barnes and Nobles. I am quite sure there are a lot of African-Americans that live over here that are hungry for information about our people like my husband and myself are. We own a computer consulting business and the article "A time for giving" was very informative.

How often does MON come out? I don't want to miss another issue. I was reading in "Pen Notes" about two other magazines I am interested in finding out about. Can you please tell me where I can find Onyx and Our Texas magazine?

It is about 2:00 Sunday morning. But I could not go to bed until I told you what a great source of information I think MON is for the African-American

see LETTERS, page 4

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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AT&T donates \$120,000 education grant for Today's Youth campaign

Campaign to be featured in TPA member publications

By Kathleen Goolsby

Texas Publishers Assn. Wire Service

AUSTIN — AT&T and the Texas Publishers Association are pleased to announce they have begun a professional relationship. Recognizing there is great power in the words printed by newspapers, AT&T approached the Texas Publishers Association about working together in efforts to reach the 12 communities served by member papers. "The TPA is one of the primary information distribution units in the African American network. In an age of information," comments Emanuel Gardner, a vice president and general manager at AT&T, "the more you strengthen the information distribution network, the better informed the community will be. And, with that information, they can make fully informed decisions about the issues that confront them." To that end, AT&T has recently awarded TPA a \$120,000 grant toward its "Education for Today's Youth campaign." One of the focuses of the campaign is a series of infotutorials to appear in TPA member publications during January 1998 - December 1998.

Gardner was recently selected to serve as liaison between AT&T and the TPA. Continuity in purpose and action is an essential ingredient when several parties are involved in efforts toward a particular goal. The role of a liaison ensures concerted action and cooperation. Commenting on his new role as Relationship Manager between AT&T and TPA, Gardner said, "The goal is to help develop a relationship between the

two organizations that will culminate in strengthening the black press in Texas and to share with the TPA some technology that will help TPA become a stronger organization."

Gardner's broad corporate experience, as well as his people skills make him the ideal choice for this important



Emanuel Gardner (center), of AT&T, presents a check to Texas Publishers Association officers (l-r) Mollie Belt, secretary; Thurman Jones, president; Rhonda Pruitt, treasurer; Theodore Lee, parliamentarian.

position. He is the highest ranking African American executive for AT&T in Texas. His background in corporate America includes staff and line positions; operational and analytical work; shaping public policy; advocacy; and lobbying elected and appointed officials on behalf of AT&T. Gardner has earned a bachelor of science degree in business, as well as a law degree, from Indiana University, and a bachelor of science degree in business administration from the University of Detroit. His position as Relationship Manager is particularly vital, as AT&T plans to build on its bond with the TPA

in the future.

AT&T, before its divestiture, owned "Ma Bell" entities, each of which was community focused. Subsequent to the divestiture, AT&T has re-established its community infrastructure. Corporate America, according to Gardner, can do a lot to strengthen communities. President Clinton and Colin Powell currently evidence the importance of focusing on community issues. Within the community there is no group more important than our own youth—our future leaders—upon which to focus this effort. AT&T's education infotutorials in TPA publications will feature information on such topics as financial planning for teens, technical and vocational options, improving verbal and written communication, extracurricular activities, and conflict resolution, among others.

Thurman Jones, president of the Texas Publishers Association, is excited about Gardner's new role. "The interest that AT&T has shown in TPA," he says, "is very flattering. We are pleased to have someone who brings sensitivity and knowledge of how important it is for the Texas Publishers Association to advance in technology and in areas that are vital and germane to African Americans."

Author Arthur Miller wrote that "a good newspaper is a nation talking to itself." AT&T has taken a long stride in walking with the Texas Publishers Association toward a goal of ensuring that the Texas black press "talks" to its three million-plus Texas readers in the best possible way.

LETTERS...continued

community. Please tell Cheryl Smith I have been listening to Reporter's Roundtable on my way to church now for the past three years. She always has such thought-provoking issues. (Yes, sometimes I am late for 8:00 service.) Cheryl Smith is a sistah to be reckoned with. Preach on, my sister. And Kudos to you, Mr. Pryer, for MON.

Each one teach one.

Carla Roberson
Richardson
(via e-mail)

Thanks from TMAC

On behalf of the Field Engineers and our director, Drew Casani, I express sincere thanks for the article in the latest edition of MON regarding the efforts of the Texas Manufacturing Assistance Center. The article was well written and considering the start of the new year, it was timely. Several copies have been sent over to the Fort Worth campus and will no doubt attract some attention.

As we get responses from the article, I'm sure we'll make every effort to provide your newspaper with information about customers we work with that can be shared with the community. As the article stated, so much information and assistance is available but often goes unnoticed or unused because people don't know where to go. Certainly MON is a credible source for information.

Thanks again for the article and exposure given to T.M.A.C. and its efforts.

Jamie Johnson
University of Texas at Arlington

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Community Pulse

Thomas Muhammad

Oh boy! Here we are again. Faced with another month when many Negroes will start pulling their dashikis, Kente cloth and kufi caps from their closets, dusting them off and singing "Say it Loud! I'm Black and I'm Proud!" When, in fact, many do Step-n-fetchit shuffles the remaining eleven months of the year.

Ok, I promise not to be too harsh. After all, what the hell, if it will make them embrace figures like Brother Malcolm X, I guess I too ought to say "Right on!" and "Power to the people!"

But, I'm afraid African Americans would become too naive, if I, and many others in our community, did not remind them to be more attentive to the racist onslaughts on Africans and African American people here in America and in the diaspora.

And, though I believe we should be celebrating Black history year round and

Institutional racism is the problem

not just during February, I believe we should use this time to reflect on the many contributions of our people. As brother Malcolm used to remind us, "A people without its history is like a tree without its roots."

This month can be just as important for our survival as anytime since our existence here. However, our month is fast becoming a time that many non-African Americans are using to introduce a number of evil, white racist programs of division and destruction for our communities—already bombarded by an over-saturation of

sleazy alcohol, beer and cigarette ads.

Programs like "Dallas Acts Kind" divide our uninformed and unsuspecting communities into small, elite, fractional camps that are very detrimental to our African unity. The Kindness program began in February of 1995 to help white Jews in Dallas to get Negroes to ostracize

the Nation of Islam organization. Remember in 1994, when former City Councilman Paul Fielding very vocally advocated cutting city funding for Junior Black Academy of Arts and Letters (JBAAL)? Fielding was upset that JBAAL agreed to lease space to an African American organization to hold a fundraiser for Dr. Khalid Muhammad, the former spokesman for the Nation of Islam (NOI).

Also in 1994, NOI leader Minister Louis Farrakhan held a "Mens Only Meeting" in Dallas. The meeting, attended by more than 1,500 men, upset many in Dallas' white Jewish community. It publicly proved that Minister Farrakhan was well loved and respected by Africans in Dallas. Hundreds of high-profile African American leaders attended Minister Farrakhan's beautiful and inspiring speech.

When Kindness founder Dee Silverstein, a white Jewish woman, first introduced her program, I challenged her to invite members of the NOI to participate since, as she said, "the program is not a political statement but one where everybody who believes and practices kindness could participate."

Although I received an invitation to participate, I was concerned about the

many activities that were being organized at several synagogues, and the mandatory showing of *Schindler's List* at schools in DISD. The only African American church on the tour was St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church. Now, I've attended synagogues before so, no problem. It just seemed like *Schindler's List* was being forced upon African Americans at inappropriate time. After all, this was "BLACK HISTORY MONTH," right?

Many African American teachers were also upset about the forced showing, the wearing of kindness badges and take nearly fifteen days taken from celebrating Black History Month

In fact, last year Silverstein was so upset when she noticed that the three African American board members were not wearing their Kindness buttons, that she wrote a letter of complaint which was printed in *The Dallas Morning News*. The black school board members demonstrated what many informed people know. And that is that the Kindness movement is a racist exclusionist movement—much like what white racist Jews are doing in places like Palestine where they take land to build houses for "white Jews only." Black History Month should be a time for all Africans to reflect and unite—and not let anyone divide us.

Until then, the struggle continues...

MON



Theatre Troupe

Actors, Actresses, Dancers, Story Tellers, Musicians from Benin City, Nigeria—the "Cradle of Black Civilization"



The rich Benin culture, the most sought-after and studied of African culture, is the backdrop for performances by Uyiedo Theatre Troupe, a group of professional and seasoned dancers, singers, story tellers, musicians, actors and actresses. The myths and adventures of Nigerian culture are presented by the Troupe at dinners, weddings receptions, state banquets, festivals; they also produce video and musical cassettes for overseas and home markets. The award-winning group's orchestra uses African musical instruments, the dancers perform native dances, and the actors perform full-length plays, sketches and improvisations from African and European countries.

Since 1992, they have organized the Uyi Edo Annual Cultural Carnival in Nigeria, full of colors, music, songs, dances and pageantry. The three-day affair is exceptionally beautiful and unique. A video entitled, "Leopard at Dawn," was produced from 1996 carnival performances and has won the National Merit Award for Arts and Culture. Sponsorship opportunities for individuals or corporations are available within and without Nigeria for the carnival.

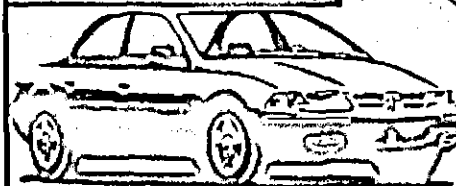
"Ovonramwen Saga," the story of white men coming to Benin, is an intriguing, passionate indictment on the actions of man. It is a tale of prophecy, traitors, chiefs and princes, missionaries, British imperialism, the influence of money, massacre and battles for the throne. This saga is available in a dance musical, as a feature film or home video production. The troupe is open to collaboration ideas and co-production for this multi-million-dollar spinner project.



Uyiedo Theatre Troupe is performing at various churches, schools and civic locations in the DFW Metroplex during February and March. For more information, or to explore sponsorship opportunities, please contact Charles Aghayere at 972-545-4334, or Jim Slater at 214-670-0355.

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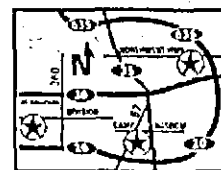
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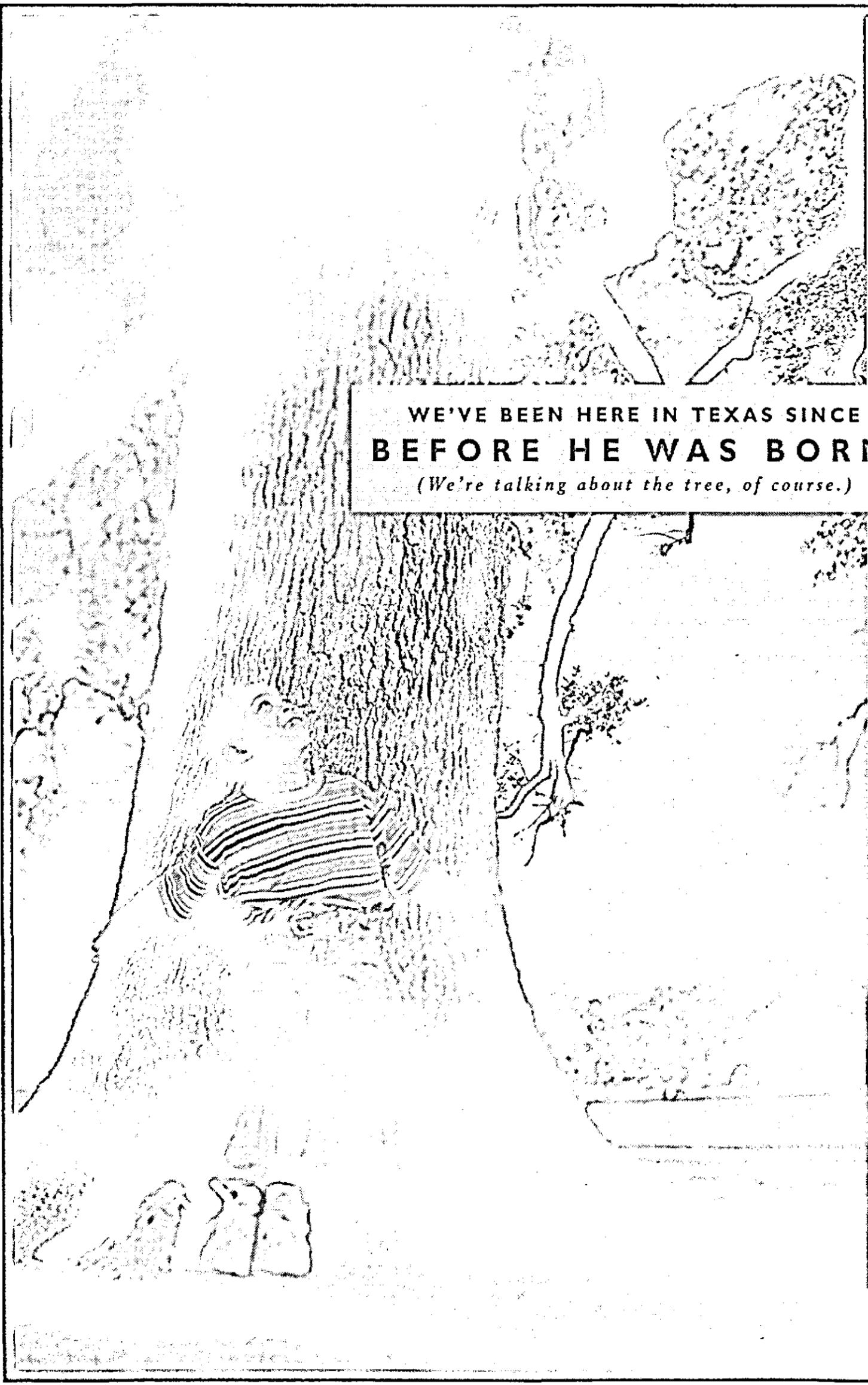
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Pen On Fire
by
Cheryl Smith

Pen On Fire reviews the year 1997

The past year was a very interesting one for media folk. A number of changes were made; however, the more things changed, the more they seemed to stay the same. Still there are concerns about the disparity in numbers of African Americans in management positions.

There were some things that happened in the media that we especially didn't like: Norma Adams-Wade's Sunday column in *The Dallas Morning News* was moved to Tuesdays. It was revealed that Marty Griffin of KXAS-TV (Ch. 5) solicited his friend Dennis Pedini to wear a hidden camera to catch Dallas Cowboy Michael Irvin in illegal drug activity. KXAS-TV was questioned about the lack of African Americans on their billboards. County Commissioner John Wiley Price and the Dallas/Ft. Worth Association of Black Journalist both contacted WFAA-TV (Ch. 8) Sports Director Dale Hansen regarding his comments on affirmative action. Clearly Dale should have received plenty of letters from others with a conscience. Basically, Dale said that the playing field has to be leveled and you can't discount the many elements that have placed African Americans at a disadvantage.

Roger B. Brown, whom you can hear on radio station KKDA-AM or whose reporting you can read in *The Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, had to deal with an employee's nightmare last year. It seemed that Roger's performance review at the *Star-Telegram* referred to incidents that occurred three years and several reviews ago. Interesting.

When WFAA aired a story on crime, once again we saw file footage of African American men in handcuffs! Insiders say the editor for that segment was African American!!! Several "journalists" were quick to call the murder of Lincoln High School student Christopher Ross, "gang-related." Those journalists were wrong. Commissioner Price and others have joined together to devise strategies for holding various broadcast and print media accountable.

We saw quite a few new faces emerging with Brian Custer, Ginger Gadsden and Gwen Tolbart at KTVT-TV (Ch. 11), Angela Davis, Carmen Ainsworth and Yvette Blair at WFAA, Toya Stewart joined the *Arlington Star-Telegram*, Antonya English joined *The Dallas Morning News*, Sweet Willie Mitchell joined the staff of V100, and Duchesne Drew joined *The Dallas Morning News* as an education reporter and Jacqueline Bell

went to work for the North Central Texas Council of Governments.

After an extensive, nationwide search, Paula McClure was selected to replace Deborah Duncan as the host of *Good Morning Texas*. Almost exactly five months after giving birth to her daughter, Casey, Rene' Syler, formerly of WFAA, returned to the airwaves anchoring the noon and 5:00 p.m. newscasts at KTVT. As 1997 came to a close, it was also announced that Rene' and hubby Buff Parham would be welcoming another addition to the family in 1998.

It was quite a significant move for *The Fort Worth Star-Telegram* to bring in Elvis Mitchell, after bringing Golden Child Ken Parish Perkins back to the metropex. Now

the *Star-Telegram* has the distinction of being the only daily publication in the United States to have two African Americans in two very coveted positions where there are very few at all. Ken is the television critic and Elvis is the film critic.

When Drew Barry left WFAA, many wondered if management would have the wisdom to

find an African American replacement. Apparently they did. In came Connie Howard as the assistant news director. Yvette Blair went to work for *City Page Update* as a co-host and associate producer. *City Page Update* is aired on Community Cable Television's, Channel 7. She also joined the staff of *Good Morning Texas* at WFAA.

Several people received promotions in the past year. Kimberly Dunn was named associate producer for KTVT's new show, *Positively Texas*. Over at the Associated Press, Rod Richardson was promoted, and Bob Ray Sanders was named associate editor of *The Fort Worth Star-Telegram*. Lennox Samuels was named Deputy Managing Editor of *The Dallas Morning News*. Kevin Lyons was promoted to assistant sports editor at the *Star-Telegram*. (Later in the year, he decided he preferred to be out in the thick of things, covering sports and relinquished the position.) Gracie Bonds Staples and Dr. Monica Anderson became columnists for the *Star-Telegram*. Michelle Redmond made the switch from executive producer of *Good Morning Texas* to executive producer of *Positively Texas* and Denise Bunkley joined her as a writer. Valerie Moore moved from K104's *Skip Murphy and Company Morning Show* to new classic R&B station KRNB-FM (where she also hosted a public affairs program with Jonathan Hayes) then on to KRLD-AM and Joy 104.9, where she joined Kirkwood Hannah, Karen Harris Haynes, Willie Mae McIver and Kevan Browning. Surprising, by the end of the year, only

Willie Mae and Kevan were still around at the gospel station. Cliff Williams was promoted to chief photographer at WFAA.

It was exciting seeing Brenda Teele substituting as the weather anchor on CBS's morning news program *This Morning*. Former Miss Juneteenth Priscilla Evans is hosting a television talk show in Chicago. Rhonda Guess, formerly of KTVT and Fox-Chicago, is now working for the ABC news magazine *American Journal*. KERA-TV's (Ch. 13) *On the Record* was another show that debuted in '97. *On the Record* features Sam Baker, Regina Montoya, Bob Ray Sanders and Rob Allyn. *High Profile*, featuring Kerri Doyen of KDFW-TV also debuted last year.

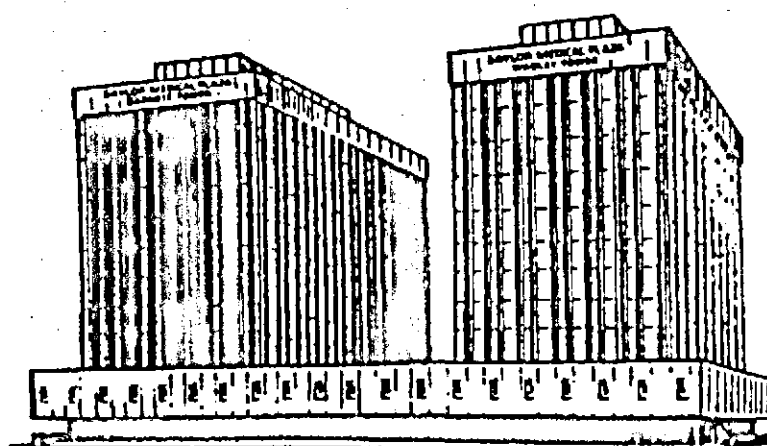
To some we said farewell: John and Robin Yearwood, both of *The Dallas Morning News*, moved to John's home in Trinidad to publishing their own magazine. Gordon Jackson left the *Dallas Weekly* and moved to Denver, where a job in public relations awaited him. Jesse James of *The Dallas Morning News* moved to Washington, D.C. Denise McVea and Kaylois Henry left the *Dallas Observer*. Brenda Teele left the airwaves at KKDA and the weather anchor desk at KTVT as she moved on to host *Positively Texas* with KRLD's Jody Dean. James "Buff" Parham departed from KDFW and, after a brief vacation, joined Univision. Michelle Redmond left as executive producer of *Good Morning Texas*, only to resurface a short time later as the executive producer of *Positively Texas*. Lyle Henderson left Dallas County Community College District and is now traveling all over the world and sharing his expertise in public relations. After years and years with AT&T, Hortense Farley has opened her own business, Advanced Marketing Communications. Other PR folks doing good stuff are: Event Logistic's Rose Gafford, Howland PR's Lyria Howland, MY Enterprises'

Yvonne Gilliam and Southwest Airlines' Ed Stewart. JW Enterprises' Joe Walker is working on a resource guide to Black Dallas. Joyce King of KLIF-AM started a consulting firm, Information King. KKDA's Carmen Pagano said farewell to the Dallas independent School District. She also published a book, "Recipes for a Sensual Bath." KERA-FM's Don Boswell moved to New York to become the president at the public radio station in Buffalo. Veteran journalist Larry Mullins left KTVT.

The *Dallas Weekly* hit the stands for the last time in December 1997. The first issue of 1998 bore the new name, *The Weekly Free Press*. A number of other changes during the year saw Gordon Jackson departing for Colorado, former editor Yolanda Adams returned, Managing editor Calvin Carter left and then returned, Henrietta Price returned, Sherilyn Smith became Assistant to the Publisher/Editor James A. Washington, and Roland Martin was named Managing Editor as the year came to an end... *The Dallas Post Tribune* celebrated 50 years. Greg Grovey departed and Kelvin Bass joined the staff. The Dallas Examiner started doing wonderful things on the Internet, and they sent a journalist to cover the Million Woman March.

Journalism students did very well: Jade Jackson, attending the University of Oklahoma, boasted a 4.0 grade point average. Meyla Hooker finished out her first semester as a member of the softball team and newspaper staff at Florida A&M, earning a 3.83 g.p.a. Her fellow Rattler, Symphony Parson, was named to the staff of FAMU's radio station, WAMF-FM. Gray Hall is very active at Dillard University. His first semester on campus found him working for the radio station and trying to revitalize the National Association of Black Journalists student chapter. Angela Martin,

see PEN, page 27



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A history remembered

Dr. Mamie McKnight refuses to let Dallas' Black legacy be buried

By Cheryl L. Williams

During the month of February when others concentrate primarily on African American history, Dr. Mamie Abernathy McKnight conducts business as usual. As Founding Director of Black Dallas Remembered, Inc., established in 1984, she works year round with volunteers to uncover and preserve the history of blacks in Dallas.

An ongoing project that documents local black history with exhibits, family history books, calendars and a cookbook, Black Dallas Remembered has served as a model for similar programs in other cities. In 1990, the organization was thrust into the spotlight for its efforts to preserve graves from Freedman's Cemetery unearthed during the expansion of Central Expressway. The cemetery operated from 1861 to 1925 and contained the graves of thousands of freed slaves. Preservation efforts for one of the city's largest community of blacks residents and institutions, Old North Dallas (bounded by Leonard Street and McKinney, Washington and Ross Avenues), was also underway.

A native of Dallas, Dr. McKnight attended Wiley College in Marshall, Texas and graduated from Prairie View A&M College, where she received Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Mathematics and Chemistry. She completed advanced studies at the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Wisconsin and later received a Doctorate in Psychological Counseling and Student Personnel Administration from North Texas State University.

Since 1985, Dr. McKnight has served as Consultant to the Chancellor for Community Development in the Dallas County Community College District. Her passion for preservation led to an appointment on the Dallas Landmark Commission on which she currently serves as chairperson. She is also a member of the Review Board of the Texas Historical Commission and was recently appointed to the first Texas Advisory Council for the Trust for Public Lands Field Office. She is currently serving on a Texas Historical Committee to develop a Texas African American Heritage Guide.

MON talked with Dr. McKnight about her efforts to preserve the African American history of Dallas. Following is an excerpt from that interview.

What is the emphasis of Black Dallas Remembered?

Our emphasis for the first eight years was on researching history before World II because that was most in danger of being lost. We wanted to go back, knowing that blacks had been here before this city was ever incorporated—whether as slaves or

as free men. We also have a focus on trying to retrieve the history of the old black enclaves, public segregated enclaves that were here in Dallas. There were approximately 40. We're seeing those communities wiped out. The North Dallas enclave (once bounded Leonard Street and McKinney, Washington and Ross Avenues) was the largest black enclave west of the Mississippi. On the South end at Ross you



have St. Paul United Methodist Church. You have Booker Washington High School, which was sort of the center of the black community. A lot of the houses are still there on Hall and Thomas streets. You have one little point that's a historic district now. Some of the homes are still owned by blacks but for the most part, they've been demolished. A lot of that information we felt needed to be collected. Our major thrust has been to do research, to document and share information with the community since it is a community project.

The other arm is the preservation. I work very closely with the Landmark Commission to identify properties that are historic.

Why did you become involved in the preservation effort?

I have always felt very strongly about the progress African Americans have made in the city of Dallas under the circumstances. I've come through the totally segregated years of the '60s with the desegregation laws both in housing and in education, which I think is very connected as it relates to African American presence and the beginning of the dismantling of the old traditional black neighborhoods. The first effort and successful effort was in the North Dallas area, and that began in the late '60s throughout the '70s with the acquisition by developers of a lot of that property. Our major institutions were at one time centered in that community. It

was sort of a central focus for African Americans from all over the area, not just from Dallas County. A number of African American professionals migrated to that area. Many of the old churches were there, and those were places we would go for recitals and concerts.

We saw the bulldozing of so many of those old structures back in 1979, '80 and '81. I began to talk to several people who grew up in that neighborhood and said 'it's really a shame that we are going to lose all of that history'. It's not like a Pompeii where you can push back all the ashes and still have [your structures]. Nobody was going to do the archaeological survey of that area. I said, 'If we don't do something, nobody else is going to do it.' I started inquiring about possible ways of starting the project. I started to pull a group together and we were lucky enough to get a planning grant. That was the beginning of Black Dallas Remembered.

How did the dismantling of black neighborhoods occur?

We have endangered neighborhoods; some very critically endangered because slowly developers are buying up lot by lot all of the properties around. [North Dallas] was the first one. Many of the homeowners held out, but the pressure gets to the point where on one side you have a vacant lot and someone comes and tears that property down and you're completely surrounded by businesses and apartments. Dallas has some pretty good zoning laws now but, even ten years ago, you didn't have the kind of stipulations about property ownership and codes and enforcement in those areas. [Developers] were trying to get anybody who would to sell their property.

Were developers making property owners offers they couldn't refuse?

They really weren't making them offers they couldn't refuse because the value of the property began to increase and consequently taxes went up. So there are ways sources come together and almost force a person to sell, particularly in neighborhoods where you have aging, retiring residents. They're on fixed incomes therefore they can't do the repairs and everything. Once the codes start being enforced, that means you've got to do whatever repairs are necessary, so there are a lot of forces that operate. Developers and planners worked 25 years to get access to that land. Then, of course, the city has the option of declaring the property unsafe.

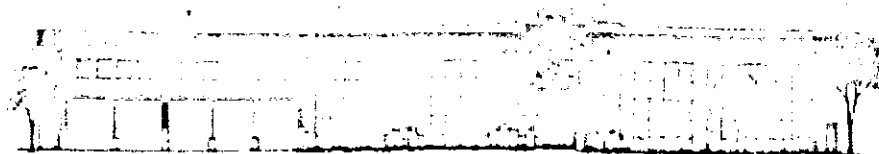
What did Black Dallas Remembered learn about the city's preservation efforts for African American history?

Black Dallas Remembered observed several things. Number one, there was not that much information readily accessible or even available in the major archives of Dallas about the African American presence. It was all in bits and pieces. We knew that the major resources like [African American] newspapers were not preserved. We do have some of them but not all of them. We decided that we had to do it ourselves. When you look in the history books, even in high school, you did not get to Africa in your geography, your history. You never got to it because it was in the back of the book, the little bit that you had. The same thing is true about local history. It mentions certain things but, of course, a lot of things we found were either hidden or information was available but it never had been discovered.

Was there a reluctance to acknowledge blacks' contribution to history or was America simply ashamed of its oppressors?

continued on next page

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continued from previous page
sive treatment of blacks?

No. I think people know that what they write down is going to become the history and [African Americans] didn't understand that for a long time. We started a campaign to encourage people not to give away any of their pictures or anything. If someone wants to use them, then get them to pay to make a copy but don't ever give away your historic family pictures. A lot of people are writing books, but people are never given credit for the information they provided from the family. They never got their pictures back. We get loan agreements rather than take [documents and pictures] them, because that's what we preach against, giving them away. We still lose a lot. We have the African American Museum that does have its archive, and we feel real comfortable with that, but under the same principle. We've had people to go around and say 'take that old box from under your bed. Those are old pictures—they don't mean anything. Give them to us.' That's just a violation of our principles and ethics.

Do you think integration contributed to the demise of the black neighborhoods?

With the desegregation coming in the '60s, [the demise] goes back even further. The demise of those areas started probably in the '50s, even before Martin Luther King and the [national civil rights movement]. From my perspective looking at what happened in Dallas, after W.W. II you had segregated pockets in Dallas. You had North Dallas, and in South Dallas you had small neighborhoods. Most of these neighborhoods grew up where the work was. Deep Ellum was a black community and there was a community we called the Prairie (where the Farmer's Market is). Those neighborhoods were very, very crowded. Housing was at a premium. In the late '40s and '50s, a lot of the veterans who were coming back insisted on adequate housing because they had the G.I. Bill to buy housing. But there was just not any space in those segregated communities. That was the beginning of the movement to really move out of those "designated for blacks" neighborhoods.

What was the nature of the controversy with Freedman's Cemetery during the Central Expressway expansion?

The cemetery officially closed in 1925. It was a four-acre plot. A lot of people who were new to Dallas didn't know there was a cemetery, because it no longer had the features of a cemetery. People who grew up in North Dallas into the '50s knew it was there. It wasn't until 1957 that the city actually took [the cemetery] over and got signatures of some of the descendants of

persons interred there. They were able to get them to sign it over to the city as a memorial park. The agreement called for benches to go into it. Probably in the early 70s, (we're still looking to find records), it was put under the Park Department. They put swings up and made it more into a recreational park. There was only one headstone above ground.

When Central Expressway was built, it took in part of the cemetery. We don't know what happened to the burials that were there. When you look at an overlay of the map after Central Expressway and before, you know that it took in that west side part of the cemetery. Another transaction that occurred on the part of the city was that they moved the route of Lemmon Ave, east and west, so that rather than going at that angled position, it curved and it curved right over a part of the cemetery. So part of the cemetery is under the old Lemmon Avenue. The Jewish Cemetery was right next to it. [Those property owners] purchased from the city a part of Freedman's cemetery that was right on Lemmon Avenue. The city built a road on the south side of the cemetery and that road was the driveway to go into the Jewish Cemetery. Once it was taken up, there were 150 burials under that part.

Did this occur because of a lack of power and a lack of knowledge?

Yes. If you're not at that table, then you don't know what's going on. When you know it, it's already done. We were fortunate this time. Someone reported to the Dallas Historical Commission that five graves had been discovered under Lemmon Avenue. That was in 1985. When they were getting ready to build CityPlace, there were to be two towers, one on the east side and one on the west side, of Central Expressway. On the west side, it was going to be between Central Expressway and Lemmon Ave. They were installing the power lines under Lemmon Avenue when they hit those graves. To this day, we don't know what happened to them.

We have one person who actually saw what was happening. That's when we really started a watch, because the highway department starts 25 years early documenting and purchasing land for the expansion. It appears that they had started talking about the expansion in the late '60s which was about the same time the Park Department took over that land. It wasn't until 1989 that the Highway Department finally published the expansion plan. I wrote a letter on August 3, 1989 to everyone I could send it to, including the city manager, the mayor, the Texas Historical Commission, Dallas County Historical Society and especially to the Texas Highway Department to ask them what was going to happen to Freedman's Cemetery when they expanded the highway.

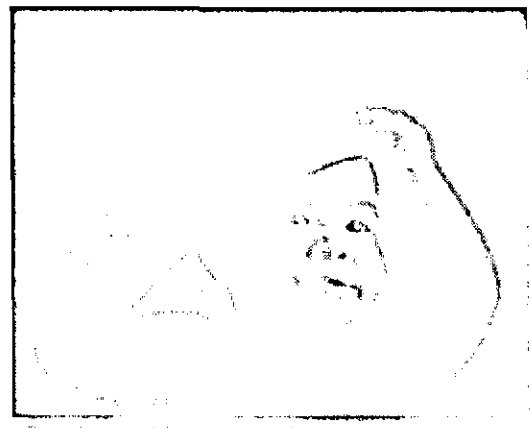
Why is it important to preserve our history?

I guess it's just the old cliché. If you don't know where you've been, you'll never know where you're going. I think, too, it's a wake-up call for us to understand the way decisions are made and how they impact us. I think we're more sensitive to it, now that we know if we don't pull [information] together, people are going to say whatever they want to say happened. Unless we pull together, even just the history of that cemetery, and what actually happened there, revisionist history tells us that somebody is going to revise that and make it in favor of someone else. The highway department is not going to be at fault. The city of Dallas is not going to be at fault. You're not going to see that in those documents but it needs to be documented.

We know how racism works. It's no

secret that it is still alive. Our history get twisted according to the mood of the time which has been within a racist environment. That was another reason that we felt we had to document all those great things that black folk had done here in the city and continue to do, to help our kids to understand that blacks made tremendous contributions to this city that nobody's going to talk about. Nobody's going to talk about the fact that a slave built those cobblestone streets in downtown Dallas. You're not going to hear about the fact that blacks built and owned three hospitals. As we go along, we learn. That's what I say to all of our volunteers. You come into a project like this learning. And what you want to learn are lessons that come from that history, lessons that show how people who had so little did so much.

MON



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Dallas Convention & Visitors Bureau helps minority and women owned businesses access industry

The Dallas Convention & Visitors Bureau recently hosted its First Annual Outreach and Networking Open House as part of an outgoing effort to promote minority and women business development in the hospitality industry. The open house, which included an information session on "Making the Connection to the Convention & Visitors Industry in Dallas," was held at the Dallas Convention Center.

"We're excited about the response and level of participation at our information session," said Dave Whitney, president and chief executive officer of the bureau, adding that, "this is a very positive beginning to a long-term process of introducing minority and women entrepreneurs to our clients, suppliers and service providers."

The open house format is designed to provide vendors with a forum to network with bureau clients and member suppliers. The estimated annual economic impact of convention and tourism on the Dallas economy is about \$5.5 billion.

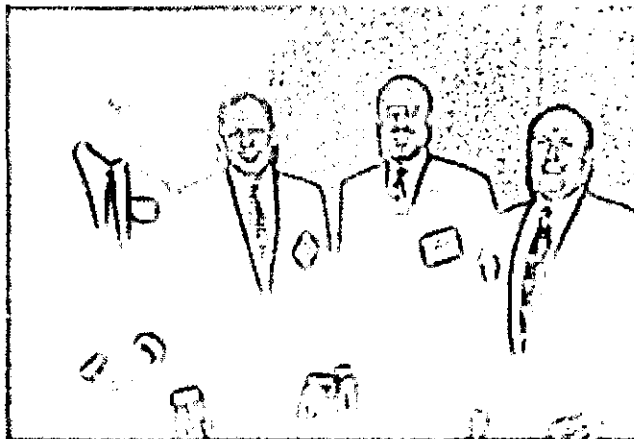
"From our perspective, we've found that minority and women entrepreneurs are eager to provide added value in their quest to become preferred suppliers," said Richard Stouffer, director of minority/women business development, Texas Instruments. TI is a recognized leader in minority and women business development and Mr. Stouffer was the only guest panelist from outside the convention and visitors industry who served on the "Making the Connection" panel.

In addition to the bureau, the open house was supported by the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce, Dallas/Fort Worth Minority Business Development Council, Greater Dallas Asian American Chamber of Commerce, Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and North Texas Women's Business Council.

"We're encouraged by the proactive steps taken by the Dallas Convention & Visitors Bureau in helping minority and women owned businesses gain access to this dynamic industry," said Charles O'Neal, vice-president of business and economic development at the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce. "We're

looking forward to building on this positive beginning in connecting minority suppliers to this lucrative industry."

Several bureau clients and member suppliers attended the networking forum to meet and exchange information with minority and women business suppliers. Vendors were encouraged to get to know

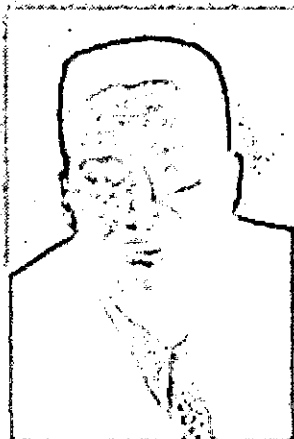


Caption: (left to right) Thurman Jones, president, Texas Publishers Association; Richard Stouffer, director, minority/women business development, Texas Instruments; Charles O'Neal, vice president/business & economic development, Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce; Dave Whitney, president and chief executive officer, Dallas Convention & Visitors Bureau.

the hospitality industry suppliers and find out how they source for subcontractors. "The hospitality industry is extremely widespread," noted Thurman Jones, president of the Texas Publishers Association, adding that "opportunities exist at all levels of service and support."

Political analyst Tavis Smiley to speak at Alpha Kappa Alpha's Image Award Luncheon

Political analyst, BET talk show host and author Tavis Smiley will be the keynote speaker at the 12th Annual Image Award Luncheon sponsored by the Omicron Mu Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. The luncheon is 12:00 noon, February 28 at the Westin Galleria Hotel in Dallas.



Tavis Smiley

Smiley is the host of BET Tonight with Tavis Smiley and author of the crit-

ically acclaimed book, *HARD LEFT: Straight Talk About the Wrongs of the Right*. In addition, Smiley offers political commentary via syndicated radio on the *Tom Joyner Morning Show* and appears regularly on CNN's *Capitol Gang Sunday*.

The objective of the Image Award Luncheon is to raise scholarship money for minority students and to recognize individuals who dedicate their time and efforts to presenting a positive image in the community. This year's luncheon theme is "Networking Toward the Next Millennium: Shaping Our Nation's Future Politically, Socially and Economically."

Tickets to the luncheon are \$35.00 each. For more information call 972-323-1202.

UNT names new Associate VP for Equity and Diversity

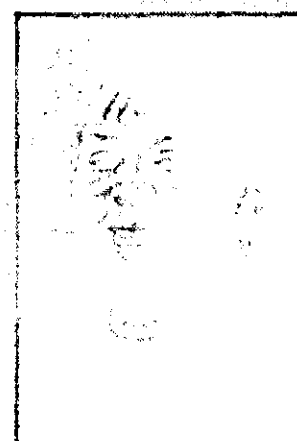
The University of North Texas has named Cassandra Berry to fill the new post of associate vice president for Equity and Diversity, subject to confirmation by the UNT Board of Regents at its February 27 meeting. Berry's appointment and new title reflect a reorganization of UNT's offices of equal opportunity and multicultural affairs, which will now be under

one umbrella: the Office of Equity and Diversity.

Last year, the university conducted a search for an assistant vice president for multicultural affairs. However, UNT Chancellor Alfred Hurley later decided to broaden Berry's responsibilities to include much of the kind of work carried out by the previous assistant vice presidents for multicultural affairs.

Berry joined UNT as an equal opportunity specialist in July 1994. Prior to that she served as an affirmative action officer at Stephen F. Austin University from 1988-91 where she also earned a bachelor's degree in business administration. In addition, Berry worked for the Texas Employment Commission from 1988-91 where she was promoted to employment supervisor.

The office of Equity and Diversity is located in Room 203, Administration Building at UNT, Denton Texas. For more information call 940-565-2456.



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More In The News . . .

Maya Angelou to visit University of Texas at Arlington

The University of Texas at Arlington is sponsoring Maya Angelou for an evening of poetry, prose and music, 7:30 p.m., February 26, in Texas Hall, 701 W. Nederman Drive. The author of *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* and *Even the Stars Look*

Lonesome has a long list of honors and accomplishments as author, poet, lecturer, actress, playwright, civil-rights activist, producer and director.

Angelou became nationally known in 1970 with the publication of her autobiography, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, which was a National Book Award nominee. She then received a Pulitzer Prize nomination for her 1971 book of poetry, *Just Give Me a Cool Glass of Water Before I Die*. In addition to her other interests, she holds a lifetime appointment as Reynolds Professor of American Studies at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C.

Tickets to the performance are on sale at the E.H. Hereford University Center Bursar Services and at Ticketmaster outlets. The reserved seating prices are \$12, \$16, \$20, and \$50. For more information contact EX-CEL Campus Activities at metro 817-272-2963.

KRBV/KHVN sponsors 6th Annual Black Film Festival

KRBV/KHVN presents the 6th Annual Black Film Festival at the Loews Citiplace Theater, 2600 Haskell, Dallas. The films featured are a special collection of movies that highlight historical events, current events, lives and lifestyles of the black experience. They are also either directed by or starring African Americans.

This year the festival will feature Christian Lara, the filmmaker of *Bitter Sugar*, for an on-site question-and-answer session. There is a minimal charge of \$3.00 for adults and \$2.00 for students for each film. All proceeds benefit various university organizations.

Featured films include *Bitter Sugar*, created by filmmaker, Christian Lara, February 1; *Eve's Bayou*, starring Samuel Jackson, Lynn Whitfield and Jurnee Smollet, February 8; *Hav Plenty*, directed

by Chris Scott Cherot and starring Nia Long, February 15; and *Four Little Girls* directed by Spike Lee and starring Bill Cosby, Jesse Jackson, Coretta Scott King and Andrew Young. For more information call Teresa Turner at 214-583-2554.

Dedra Lynn Woods Theatre presents A Woman Called Mae

Dedra Lynn Woods Theatre presents *A Woman Called Mae*, February 13-March 1 at the theatre, 2801 Peabody Street, Dallas. The drama depicts the life of a woman who is determined to escape the bondage of slavery even if it means death.

A Woman Called Mae, directed by Robert Helms, portrays the heritage and strong will of the many black men and women who rebelled against the annihilation and treachery bestowed on such a proud race. Performance times are 8:00 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 3:00 p.m. Sundays.

Ticket prices are \$10.00 for adults and \$8.00 for children. For tickets call Ticketmaster at 214-373-8000 or 972-647-5700. For more information call 214-371-4644 or 214-565-1637.

The Dallas Children's Theater presents Harriet Tubman tale

The Dallas Children's Theater presents *A Glory Over Everything*, A Tale of Harriet Tubman, through February 15 at the Crescent Theater, 2215 Cedar Springs, Dallas. The compelling musical combines dramatic, historical events, rousing spirituals, folk songs and hymns to create an inspirational portrait of one woman's amazing dedication and faith.

A Glory Over Everything blazes with the light of Harriet Tubman's heroism, a shining inspiration to people throughout the world to conquer oppression and fight for freedom and justice for all mankind.

Actress Liz Mikel stars as Harriet Tubman. She is supported by a talented ensemble featuring Billy Jones, Renee Michael, Reggie Hanna, Denise Lee and Jill Leven.



Actress Liz Mikel as Harriet Tubman

Performances are Fridays at 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays at 1:30 p.m. and Sundays at 1:30 p.m. & 4:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10.00 for children and \$12.00 for adults. For reservations or more information call 214-978-0110.

Bank of America presents Black History Chronicles

Bank of America presents the fifth annual Black History Chronicles, February 4 from 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center, 2301 Flora Street, Dallas. Each year the Chronicles highlight African American living legends in various disciplines and kicks off the black History Month observances in the Dallas/Fort Worth communities.

This year's program will honor "Pil-



(l-r) Dr. Mamie McKnight, Judge L. Clifford Davis, Zan W. Holmes, Jr., Viola Pitts

lars of the Community." Dallas honorees include Zan W. Holmes, Jr., pastor of St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church and Dr. Mamie McKnight, founder and executive director of Black Dallas Remembered. Fort Worth honorees are Judge L. Clifford Davis, state of Texas senior district judge and Viola Pitts, Lake Como community leader. A special award will be presented to former Dallasite, actress Irma P. Hall, for her contribution to arts and entertainment.

The Black History Chronicles program was initiated in 1994 and is sponsored by Bank of America. Paula McClure of Good Morning Texas on WFAA-TV/Channel 8 and Scott West, KRBV/V100 FM radio personality will host the event. National recording artist, violinist Jerald Daemyon will perform. Admission to the program is free and open to the public. Seating is limited. For more information call 1-800-TRY-BofA.

City of Dallas offers assistance to homebuyers

The City of Dallas Housing Finance Corporation is offering a 6.78%, 28-year mortgage rate for first-time homebuyers

who wish to purchase a home anywhere within the City of Dallas. The 6.78%, 28-year mortgage rate is also available to non first-time homebuyers who wish to buy a home in a targeted area.

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Dallas Mavericks Foundation seeks to fund local children's charities

The Dallas Mavericks Foundation is in search of worthwhile programs that benefit children. The Foundation is seeking grant applications from programs, especially those designed to help people help themselves.

The Dallas Mavericks Foundation, launched in October 1996, was created to assist young people in Dallas/Fort Worth. Its goal is to build support for programs stressing education, good health and the skills children need to lead successful lives. The Foundation raises money through

events such as the annual Mavericks Tip-Off Luncheon and the silent auctions on the Reunion Arena Concourse during home games.

"Our Foundation's fundraising efforts have been productive this season," said Mavericks president and chief executive officer Terdema Ussery. "We plan on making some substantial grants before the season is over, so we encourage area non-profit groups whose work fits with our mission statement to contact us and apply for a grant. The work of our Foundation is a major priority for our organization. We want to help as many local groups as we can in the most impactful way possible."

In its first year, the Foundation donated nearly \$70,000 to charities such as the YMCA, the Happy Hill Farm Academy, Baylor Health Care System Foundation, Dallas Children's Advocacy Center and the West Dallas Community School. For a grant application or more information call 972-988-DUNK.

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The Legal Status of the African American

How the states addressed Civil Rights

Part 2 of 4

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

Before the Civil War, slaves, and even free Blacks, had very few rights or privileges. This situation remained even after the 13th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which merely prohibited slavery or involuntary servitude except as a punishment for a crime, and which was adopted by Congress immediately following the war. The unequal treatment of Blacks was nationwide, though there were greater inequalities in the South than in the North and West. In sections of the country like northern New England and Wisconsin, where there were almost no Blacks, they were given the voting franchise and other privileges normally denied them in states where they were more numerous.

The apprentice, vagrancy, and other provisions of the "Black Codes" forced Blacks into situations where they would be under the uncontrolled supervision of their former masters or other White men who were ready and willing to exploit their labor. This group of statutes angered the northern people who had no understanding of the true situation in the South, and was one of the chief reasons why the radical element in Congress, led by Thaddeus Stevens and Charles Sumner, was able to get control of the legislative branch of the government. They believed that the Blacks in the South should be allowed to exercise many, if not all, of the privileges the southern White man thought were his alone.

In 1866, Congress passed a civil rights act that gave Blacks citizenship and also included within its terms certain other rights and privileges. Among these were the right to make and enforce contracts; the right to hold and convey personal or real property; a right to sue and be parties in the courts of the nation; and the right to be given equal benefit of the law, to give evidence in those same courts, and to be subject to the same punishments and penalties as White persons, any law to the contrary notwithstanding. The issue concerning the validity of this statute never reached the federal Supreme Court; the 14th Amendment superseded it before the question could be put to that tribunal. The 14th Amendment was adopted in 1868 and guaranteed federal and state citizenship to all persons born or naturalized in the United States. This included former slaves. The civil rights legislation was reenacted in 1870, and some of the provisions of this enactment were not essen-

tially different from the language used in the act of 1866.

Congress later passed the Civil Rights Act of 1875, which provided that all persons within the United States, regardless of race, color, or previous condition of servitude (and subject only to restrictions established by law and applying to all citizens alike), should be entitled to the full and equal accommodations and facilities of inns, public conveyances on land and water, theatres, and other places of public amusement. The act punished a violation of its provisions with fine or imprisonment and a heavy penalty to be recovered by the person aggrieved. In 1883, the Supreme Court held that the 14th Amendment did not authorize direct legislation of this kind against individuals, but only corrective legislation that sought to penalize states or their officials for not respecting the rights guaranteed by the constitutional change, such as the right to life, liberty and property. By this time the Whites had regained control of the governmental machinery in the southern states, and no further attempt was made by Congress to enact federal legislation of this type. It was decided that the South was to be given an opportunity to manage its local problems with respect to the Blacks as best it could (Home Rule 1869).

Before the Civil Rights Act of 1875, legislatures in several of the southern states, dominated by the so-called "carpetbaggers," "scalawags," and Blacks of the Reconstruction period, enacted statutes that were similar to that legislation.

The framers of the Louisiana Constitution went a bit further. They put in a provision that was worded like the civil rights acts of some other states, but it was repealed by homegrown Whites who later regained control and adopted a new constitution in 1879.

Delaware enacted a statute that authorized the proprietor of any inn, hotel, tavern, restaurant, theatre or any other place of public entertainment, refreshment or amusement to decline to serve or accommodate persons who were offensive to the major portion of his clientele. The object of this act was to keep Blacks from entering such places and demanding service.

The New York intermediate appellate court held that the existence of a civil rights act in that state would not prevent anyone who had been refused accommodations by an innkeeper from being successful in a civil action.

To prevent discrimination, the states in the North and Middle West adopted civil rights acts that are very much like the Congressional Act of 1875.

Maine and New Hampshire had legislation that prohibited a place of public accommodation from issuing any notice or advertisement that was calculated to suggest discrimination against any religious sect, nationality, or class.

Eighteen states had civil rights acts that were clearly meant to apply to racial discrimination: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Washington, and Wisconsin. Seven states provided for a criminal prosecution; only one made provision for a civil action alone. Seven allowed for both a criminal action and either a suit for a penalty or a civil action for damages.

The Colorado court held that a bootblacking stand was a place of public accommodation within the scope of the statute of that state. In reaching this conclusion, the Colorado court refused to follow the reasoning in an earlier New York decision: that bootblacking stands not located in barber shops were outside the scope of the Empire State Act.

When Blacks first began to migrate from the South to the northeastern and middle western states, it was believed by many that they would not be able to with-

stand the rigors of the colder climate and that they would die in great numbers. For this reason, certain life insurance companies adopted the practice of charging higher premiums to Black policyholders than what they charged to White ones.

Civil rights statutes in Colorado and Florida provided that no person could be denied a license to practice law because of race, while a North Carolina act stated that no applicant for a license to practice dentistry could be denied the privilege due to race.

A New Jersey statute made it a misdemeanor for anyone to publish, circulate, or disseminate propaganda designed to promote racial or religious hatred.

MON

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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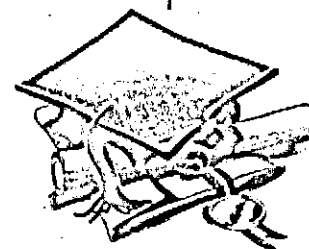
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Comptroller selects African American woman as his second-in-command

Dovie Ellis assumes duties as Deputy Comptroller of Texas

Texas Publishers Assn. Wire Service

AUSTIN — Until now, the office of Deputy Comptroller of Public Accounts of the State of Texas has never been filled by an African American; nor has it been filled by a woman. So Comptroller John Sharp's recent appointment of Ms. Dovie Greene Ellis, an African American, as his second-in-command is an historic first. Having risen steadily through the ranks since joining the comptroller's staff two decades ago, she replaces Billy Hamilton, who has served as Deputy Comptroller since 1991 and now plans to return to the private sector.

The Deputy Comptroller is the state's chief accounting officer, revenue estimator, and tax collector and has full authority to act on the comptroller's behalf during his absence. Ellis will also manage the day-to-day operations of the Comptroller's office and will lend her expertise to a number of ongoing special projects, including the fifth comprehensive Texas Performance Review report to state lawmakers. Her skills, energy and commitment led her to the top. "Dovie is one of my most trusted advisors, and I'm extremely pleased that she has agreed to step into this important new role," Sharp said.

A native of Odessa, she holds a B.A. degree in Business Administration

in Management from the University of Texas (Permian Basin). She attended



Comptroller John Sharp and Dovie Ellis, guests at a recent Texas Publishers Association luncheon.

school at night and on her lunch hours, often taking her small daughter to class when she had no babysitter; her diligence has resulted in exceptional success.

Ellis is a charter member and president emeritus of Black American

Comptroller Employees Association, Inc. and a former Vice President of Programs of Texas Coalition of Black Democrats and the NAACP. She was selected winner of the 1995 Outstanding Women in Texas Government Awards for Outstanding Professional Development and was an honoree of the Black United Fund of Texas, Inc. in 1992. She is a member of the Austin Urban League and a board member and treasurer of the Community Advocates for Teen Parents. Ellis is also an active member of the Mount Zion Baptist Church in Austin, serving on the church's finance

committee, and is a youth sponsor.

Ellis' success, she explains, is based on the guidance and encouragement she received from her Christian parents and family. She learned at a very early age the importance of setting personal goals and that anything is possible and that "one should always put the Lord first, treat others as you want to be treated and work very, very hard."

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African American Summit to be held

Texas Publishers Assn. Wire Service

AUSTIN — Elected officials, religious leaders, business leaders, as well as federal, state and local government employees will gather at the Third Annual African American Legislative Summit February 13-14 at the Capitol Extension in Austin. The theme of the summit is "Strategic Leadership Planning for the New Millennium," and attendees will be examining issues affecting the African American community. The goal of the summit is to develop viable recommendations regarding education, economic development, judicial selection, healthcare reform, human services, criminal justice and gang violence.

Sessions on such topics as creating jobs in underdeveloped communities; rebuilding the African American

extended family; investment in the community: CRA; Welfare to work: is it working; juvenile justice alternative education; and politics and the media are scheduled. Chairpersons for the event will be Senator Rodney Ellis and Senator Royce West.

Co-hosting the event at the Marriott at the Capitol will be The Mickey Leland Center of Texas Southern University. A portion of the proceeds from the summit will go toward The Texas Legislative Internship Program and the Dr. Emmett J. Conrad Leadership Program; both programs offer a uniquely diverse range of opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students.

For more information, contact Annette Holmes at 512-463-0123.

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By Vanessa D. Baker

In Black and White

R.C. Hickman's pictures are repositories of Dallas' African American history

The phrase "in black and white" often connotes stark reality. It also best describes what the famed photojournalist, Rufus Cornelius Hickman, better known as R.C., brought to the fore during his successful reign as one of Dallas' leading photographers. Hickman's photographs are visual storytellers serving as repositories of history. Through the eye of his lens, Hickman preserved African American life in Dallas during the 1940s, 50s, and early 60s.

It was February 1942 in Saipan, an island in the West Pacific. The United States had declared war on Japan and had entered World War II a scant two months before. R.C. Hickman had just reported for basic training in the U. S. Army. "My troop leader worked it so I could get a permit to take official pictures," he recalls. Hickman became a darkroom apprentice with the assignment of developing the reconnaissance images taken by the Army's photographer. Hickman proved to be a quick learner, and the photographer took him under his wing, teaching Hickman all he knew. Little did both realize that the art of photography would shape and change Hickman's life forever. When his tour was completed in 1945, Hickman left the Army as an official photographer and embarked on a career as a chronicler of history.

It has now been 53 years since his departure from the Army, and the walls of R.C. Hickman's comfortable brick home in Oak Cliff bear proof of his commitment to the art of photography.

One September morning, I rang the door bell at R. C. Hickman's home, meeting him for the first time. His warm greeting was as if we'd known each other for several years. I was then working on a previous writing assignment, and it seemed that Mr. Hickman had photo-chronicled much of the information I needed.

"Well, come on in," he said.

I entered and was instantly awed by his mass collection of images bearing familiar faces, familiar times, and familiar situations. Hickman has covered almost every inch of every wall in his well-lived-in home with his famous photos. Yet, this collection is incomplete. Much of his work is still in the form of negatives, and Hickman has carefully labeled and stored some three thousand negatives that were taken during the course of his successful career.

"As we discussed over the phone," I began to explain, "I'm writing an article on a controversial figure who lived in Dallas from the late 40s through the early 60s — Father J. Von Brown. I'm hoping you can help me collect more data." Hickman sort of laughed and acknowledged that he owns a library of information and photos on the late Father Brown. (The photograph of Father J. Von Brown on the cover of *Minority Opportunity News*, November 1997, and all other photographs of Father Brown in the feature article were taken from the Hickman Collection.) He offered me a seat, and

my adventure began.

As I settled in my seat, his photo-filled walls summoned me. The images deserved closer attention. Before I realized it, my eyes were as near to each photo as I could get them and at a snail's pace, I scaled those walls, careful not to touch — careful to give the same respect to his work as when I view a collection at the Dallas Museum of Art. What kept me rapt was what I saw in the eyes of his subjects. Hickman had focused his lens on the innermost souls of his subjects, capturing complete stories from the sets of eyes that had stared into his camera.

Before long, we had entered other rooms of his spacious home, each having one thing in common with the other: wall-to-wall pictures. At any given moment, Hickman was either in front of me or behind me, graciously telling the story of each image I pointed out. All the while, little had been said about the reason for my visit — getting information on Father Brown.

At the end of the interview, I was better acquainted with the Black Dallas depicted in Hickman's photographs. I also acquired much of what was needed for my Father J. Von Brown project. With the aid of a magnifying glass, I had viewed volumes of labeled negatives; I had also enjoyed a plate of hors d'oeuvres, compliments of my host. I look at his walls again, and the eyes of local, national and international celebrities stared back at me: Clarice Tinsley, Zan Holmes, Jr., John Wiley Price, Ron Kirk, Natalie Cole, Ann Richards, LaToya Jackson, Jesse Jackson, B. B. King, Martin Luther King Jr.

As I set another appointment to visit with him the following week, I exited through Hickman's garage and was met with a fresh barrage of clippings and photos: Vanessa Williams being crowned Miss America; Dallas Cowboys star running back Emmitt Smith; and even a group photo of the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders. This memorabilia keeps watch over Hickman's van, lawn equipment, and an assortment of other tools. It is obvious the contents of his garage have been cohabitants for some time.

"The people you see on my walls and in my collection have made a name for themselves, contributing something to our community," Hickman said.

This belief is what led him to author the book, *Behold The People - R. C. Hickman's Photographs of Black Dallas, 1949-1961*. It was a personal duty, he said, based on a moral obligation he felt was owed to a community that, for so many decades, had been shunned.

"The media just ignored us. It is like we did not wake up in the morning, we did not wear clothes, we did not go to work, we did not get married, and we did not die. We did not exist in the White media."

See HICKMAN next page

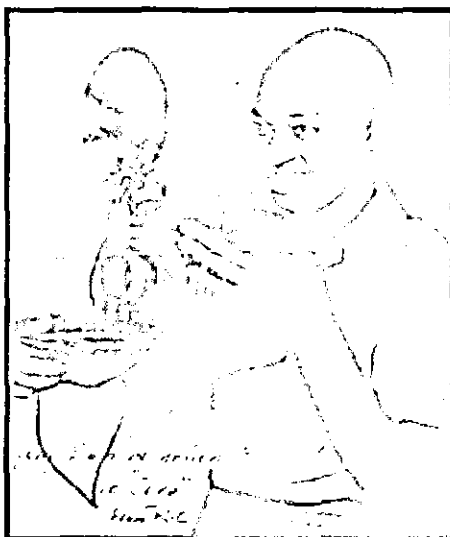
HICKMAN from page 17

Rather than be bitter, Hickman used his camera to prove to America that the African American community cannot, and will not, be discounted. *Behold The People* documents segregated Dallas.

R. C. Hickman was born on August 26, 1922, in Mineola, Texas. Shortly thereafter, his family relocated to Dallas. Following the war, Hickman returned to Mineola to work at The Bar 20, a cafe and store owned by his family since 1938 but which had since closed. Hickman wanted to revive it, and in May 1946, The Bar 20 was reopened. One month later, Hickman married Ruth K. Johnson. After operating The Bar 20 for a year, Hickman transferred the business to his mother, Cora, and, with his young bride, moved to Dallas.

Hickman got a job as a darkroom technician for a photography studio, but this would not do. His interest ran much deeper. Located on Hall Street in the State-Thomas neighborhood — a vibrant area for Dallas' Black businesses — Hickman found the Southwest School of Photography. He enrolled in a two-year program. It paid off. In 1948, Hickman was hired as the only photographer for the *Dallas Express*, a weekly Negro newspaper founded in 1892 and headquartered in Houston.

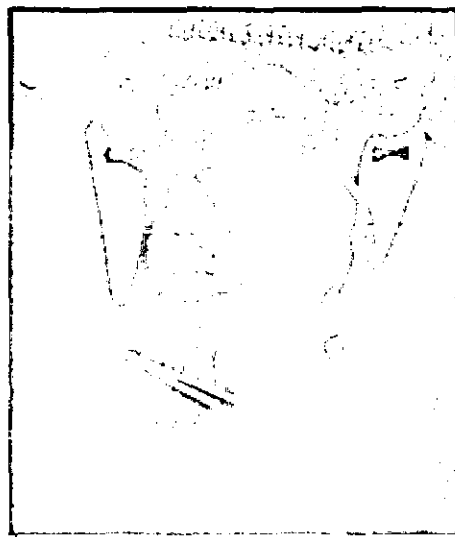
"They could not afford to pay me for photography work only, so I also sold advertising. I worked there around four



Hickman with his Speed Graphic camera, ca. 1949. (No. 7, from *Behold The People*.)

months before joining the Dallas office of the *Kansas City Call*," Hickman recalls. At the *Kansas City Call*, Hickman took pictures of Black Dallas and sold advertising and newspapers.

In 1951, Hickman joined the staff of Dallas' only African American newspaper, and for nine years he worked as a photographer, circulation manager, and advertising representative for the *Dallas Star Post*. To supplement his income, he did freelance work and wedding photography assignments. Soon, he was commissioned by *Sepia*, *JET* and *Ebony* magazines for photo shots whenever Dallas and the surrounding communities



Famed jazz singer Ella Fitzgerald: "When she finished performing at the Music Hall, [she] was like any other Black in Dallas — she couldn't check into the Adolphus." (No. 10, from *Behold The People*.)

were the subjects.

As his opportunities expanded, R. C. Hickman quickly became known as the photographer who captured the everyday lives of young and old in Dallas' Black community. His camera also allowed him access to places that were customarily off limits to people of color.

"When Nat King Cole performed at the State Fair for White people, they let me in because I had this big camera. My camera allowed me to go anywhere.

I sat on the front row and shot all I needed to shoot" (*Behold The People*, p. 107).

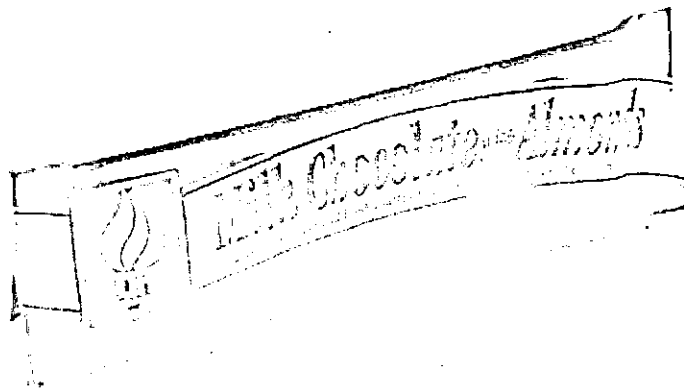
Celebrities such as Lionel Hampton, Billy Eckstine, Joe Louis, Sammy Davis, Jr., and Ella Fitzgerald are part of Hickman's collection. They represent one facet of Hickman's library. He even took a picture of the late first lady Eleanor Roosevelt. Hickman, however, usually focused on more serious issues affecting his community. Many of his photographs depict the disparity between White and Black America.

The unrest in the Black community is highlighted in a Hickman photograph depicting NAACP Youth Council members protesting a State Fair parade in 1955. The protest was in opposition to the State Fair's one-day allotment for African Americans to enjoy the privileges of its facility. Instead of the "one" day that was called Negro Achievement Day, the NAACP fought to have access to the fair ground whenever it was opened.

The Supreme Court ruling that public schools could be separate as long as they were equal was another issue that grabbed Hickman's attention. The "separate-but-equal" doctrine took root as a result of an 1896 court case, *Plessy v. Ferguson*, in which the United States Supreme Court ruled that separation of the races was within the parameters of the Constitution as long as equal accommodations were made for Whites and African Americans.

The plaintiff, Homer Plessy, was a

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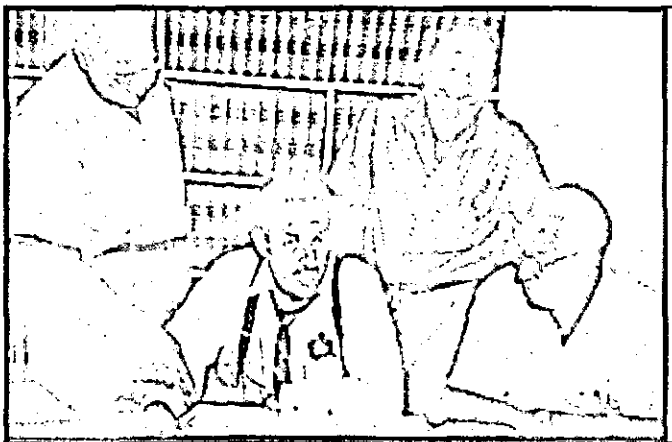
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At Participating Stores



NAACP Attorney Thurgood Marshall (2nd from left) preparing suit to integrate DISD, 1956. (No. 99, from *Behold The People*.)

man who looked White but, because he had a Black great-grandmother, was considered Black. Plessy was arrested when, while traveling on a train from New Orleans to Covington, La., he refused to ride in the "Colored Only" car. He sued the railroad, arguing that segregation was illegal under the Fourteenth Amendment. Plessy lost his case when the Supreme Court countered his argument by invoking the Civil Rights Act of 1875. That law guaranteed all Americans the right to public accommodations, but it did not outlaw separation. "Separate-but-equal" was all that was required of the railroad.

This law later was challenged throughout the South, and Hickman's NAACP involvement and mastery of his

camera allowed him the opportunity to work under the direction of the four lawyers who brought the fight to Dallas. One of these lawyers was the late Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall. Hickman's task was to document and expose, through his photographs, that Dallas and surrounding towns were, indeed, separate but far from equal. In *Behold The*

People, Hickman shows pictures of a "Colored Waiting Room" at the downtown Dallas bus station. This was in 1952. He traveled to Italy, Texas in 1953 and shot a picture of the only existing "Colored City Hall." He photographed the boycott of downtown Dallas' Melba Theater in 1955. And in 1956, Hickman risked his life and went to Mansfield, Texas.

"My editor at the *Star Post* told me that Mansfield Schools had Blacks hanging in effigy, and they were allowing no parts of the media to come in. They didn't want it published.

"Will you go to Mansfield and take [pictures of] those effigies hanging, R. C.?"

"You tell me they are guarding the place and you want me to go in there?"

"Ahh. You know you can do it."

"I tell you what. I'll do it providing I can get John Mitchell (a mechanic friend who had a souped-up, red Buick that could out-run anybody) to drive me.

"Mitchell agreed. We drove by the angry Whites who were sitting on the curbs, calling themselves guarding the buildings where the effigies hung, but they paid us no attention. We were about one hundred yards past them before we were close enough for me to take a picture. I said, 'John, keep the motor running. I'm going to put one foot on the ground, and the other on the running board so I can position myself with my big camera.' I shot one shot [picture] of the first building. It was [sic] two buildings involved. We drove a little bit towards the other building. We were watching them too, you know. By that time, we saw these angry Whites get up and head for their car. I shot that second picture, then jumped on the flat board on the outside of the automobile and hung on for dear life. I said, 'John, let's go, man. Let's go!' We sped away. The Whites gave chase. 'Don't go back to Dallas,' I said. 'Let's go to Fort Worth.' Fort Worth was easier because it was a straight shot. I also knew where we could hide if we went to Fort Worth. Dr. Pinkston, who owned the *Star Post*, had a son who owned a funeral home on Terrell Street. The hearses were kept in a garage, and I counted on the garage door being up. If it was up, we'd be home free. When we turned onto

Terrell Street, we could barely see them. We got to the opened garage door. I jumped out of the car and let the gate down, and they passed right on by us. We lost them."

Hickman sighs today when he tells that story, just as if the event happened as recently as yesterday. The success of this assignment still excites him.

On the educational system, Hickman notes, "Each time the NAACP took a [Dallas area] school district to court that called itself 'separate-but-equal,' we proved through my photographs that the schools were certainly segregated, but not equal . . . The science classes in the White schools had equipment to help them study biology and chemistry, but the Black schools had no such equipment. The Black schools used gym uniforms and furniture from the White schools. I would get kind of nervous going before a judge to explain my photographs. But I just told him that the Black schools had little or nothing. We won 95 percent of our cases."

In 1956, Hickman snapped a photograph that has become one of his prized possessions. Again, his assignment came from the NAACP president, who told him that Martin Luther King, Jr. would deliver the Sunday morning address at Good Street Baptist Church. White leaders were not in favor of King's visit because they were afraid that a race riot would ensue; therefore, there was no fanfare or anything to announce King's pres-

See HICKMAN page 22



"I have a dream...
that little black boys and
black girls will be able to
join hands with little
white boys and white girls
as sisters and
brothers."

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
August 28, 1963

For a copy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s August 28, 1963 speech at the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, come by First National Bank.



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Around Town

February 1

Auditions are being held for *Before It Hits Home*, (produced by the Afro American Artists Alliance) at the Martin Luther King Jr. Center, 2922 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Dallas, February 5 from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. and February 7 from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Five men and two women are needed. To schedule an audition call 214-350-9418.

The Dallas Children's Theater presents *A Glory Over Everything*, a Tale of Harriet Tubman, through February 15 at the Crescent Theater, 2215 Cedar Springs, Dallas. For more information call 214-978-0110.

February 2

If you are an avid reader who likes to exchange views with other readers, then consider the Learning Tree Book Review Club. This coed organization meets monthly. For more information call Sheryl Sellaway at 972-315-6166 or Janice Johnson at 972-293-2738.

Cheatin' Blues, Inc. presents "Blues Cabaret," a live late night Blues Review at Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main St., Fort Worth, every Friday and Saturday night through March 7. Showtime is 11:00 p.m. and general admission is \$10.00. For tickets and more information call 817-338-4411 or e-mail jubilee@startext.net.

February 4

New Image Business Associates, Inc. holds a Small Business Luncheon every Wednesday from noon-1:00 p.m. at the Bill Priest Institute of Economic Development, 1402 Corinth, Dallas. Lunch is \$5.00. For more information call 214-350-9590.

February 5

Sisters on The Move, Inc., a support group that "provides people with a new sense of community," meets every first and third Thursday of each month. For more information call 972-709-1180.

Bickel & Brewer Storefront, PLLC, 2602 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Dallas is sponsoring a business workshop, "State and Minority Contracts; What are They and How to Qualify for Them," from 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. The guest speaker is Senator Royce West. For more information call 214-421-4800.

February 6

James Mardis, editor of *Kentecloth: Southwest Voices of the African Diaspora*, will present a reading and book signing from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at the South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 Fitzhugh, Dallas. The event is open to the public. For more information call 214-939-ARTS.

Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main Street, Fort Worth, presents the play *Madam Queen* from playwright dianetucker. The production, which runs February 6-March 8, takes us to 1904 New York City to unfold the tale of a woman of color who succeeds in a man's world. For tickets and show times or for more information call 817-338-4411.

The Antiquarian, which features rare and first edition books by black authors as well as a variety of other selections, will hold an open house February 6, 7 and 8 at the store, 2609 Routh St., Dallas. For more information call 214-754-0705.

STAAF (Strengthening the African American Family) presents its 9th Annual Conference, "Refocusing on Dad, Mom and the Kids," February 6-8 at the Radisson Hotel, 1893 West Mockingbird Lane, Dallas. For more information call Tonya Sneed at 214-330-1343 or 214-339-4498.

The Renaissance Cultural Center, 2100 Evans Avenue, Fort Worth is sponsoring its First Friday Business Mixer, 5:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Admission is \$3.00. For more information call 817-923-1605.

February 7

Mothers Against Teen Violence (MATV) support group meets the first Saturday of each month at 2:00 p.m. For more information call 214-565-0422.

The African American Museum of Life and Culture, 3536 Grand Ave., in Fair Park, Dallas is sponsoring a Winter Family Day from noon-4:00 p.m. For more information call 214-565-9026.

Need help with your taxes? IRS-trained volunteers will fill out federal income tax returns for free from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. February 7 & February 21 at the Northside Recreation Center, Fort Worth and February 14 & February 28 at First United Methodist Church, Dallas. For more information call 214-767-1424.

The Renaissance Cultural Center, 2100 Evans Avenue, Fort Worth is sponsoring a free Health Fair at the Fort Worth Town Center Mall from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. For more information call 817-923-1605.

February 8

The Third Eye, a Dallas-based educational organization, will review the book *Beloved* by Toni Morrison, 3:00 p.m. at the Black Academy of Arts and Letters, 650 S. Griffin St., Dallas. This event is free and open to the public. For more information call 214-743-2440.

St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church, 1308 Wilcox, McKinney, TX will hold its Annual Black History Program today at 4:00 p.m. McKinney City Manager, Isaac D. Turner, will be the guest speaker. A reception honoring Mr. Turner will follow the service. For more information call 972-542-6178.

February 10

The African American Student Association at Cedar Valley College, 3030 N. Dallas Avenue, Lancaster, presents historian Ashra Kwesi lecturing on "The Origin of Civilization," 11:00 a.m. in the college's Performance Hall. For more information call Kina Brown at 972-860-8147.

The Southern Dallas Development Corporation, 1402 Corinth Street, Suite 1150, Dallas, presents a Loan Application Workshop from 8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. For more information call 214-428-7332.

February 12

The University of Texas at Arlington's annual African American Alumni Reception will be held from 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. in the Bluebonnet Ballroom, E.H. Hereford University Center, 301 W. Second St., Arlington. For more information call Dawn Prejean at metro 817-272-2594.

St. Luke Community United Methodist Church, 5710 East R.L. Thornton Freeway, Dallas hosts author Iyanla Vanzant at 7:00 p.m. For more information call 214-943-0142.

Chase Bank of Texas presents "A Faith Experience" Black History Month celebration, 12:00 noon at the Plaza of the Americas Atrium, 700 N. Pearl St., downtown Dallas. The Chase Bank of Texas Choir will perform gospel and jazz selections. For more information call Jennifer Bryant at 214-965-4186.

The University of North Texas, Denton and the Denton Black Chamber of Commerce present a Gospel Extravaganza, 7:00 p.m. in UNT's Main Auditorium. Tickets are \$12.00. For more information call 940-565-3993.

February 13

Iyanla Vanzant, author of *Acts of Faith* and *The Value in the Valley*, will present a workshop and book-signing, 6:00 p.m. at the South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 Fitzhugh, Dallas. The event is open to the public. For more information call 214-939-ARTS.

The Fourteenth Annual Quest for Success Awards Luncheon will be held 12:00 noon at the Dallas Convention Center. Individual tickets are \$40.00. For more information call Lyria Howland at 972-934-3012.

Soul Rep and Cara Mia Theatre Companies present *for colored girls who've considered suicide when the rainbow is enuf*, Feb. 13-March 1 at the African American Museum, Fair Park, Dallas. Tickets to the play are \$10.00. A free forum and art exhibit will be held 5:30 p.m., February 22 in conjunction with the play. For more information call 214-565-0186.

Around Town cont'd

February 14

The African American Museum of Life and Culture, 3536 Grand Ave., in Fair Park, Dallas is sponsoring an African American History Fair from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. For more information call 214-565-9026.

Francis Ray reads and signs her book *Heart of the Falcon* from 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. and Rudy V, host of KRNB-105.7 FM Quiet Storm reads from *Love After Dark: Passion Poetry* from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at Black Images Book Bazaar, 230 Wynnewood Village, Dallas. For more information call 214-943-0142.

The Renaissance Cultural Center, 2100 Evans Avenue, Fort Worth is sponsoring a Job Fair from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. For more information call 817-923-1605.

February 15

Hollywood Enterprises and CWC Entertainment presents the Fifth Annual "Black & White" (Black Tie Affair) VIP Valentine's Ball, 7:00 p.m. at the Hotel Inter-Continental (formerly The Grand Kempinski), Dallas Parkway at Arapaho Road, Dallas. Advance tickets are \$20.00. For more information call metro 817-355-5004.

February 17

The Renaissance Cultural Center, 2100 Evans Avenue, Fort Worth is sponsoring a Youth Night of basketball/Dallas Mavericks vs. Phoenix Suns. Transportation is provided. Admission is free but pre-registration is required. To register call 817-922-9999. For more information call 817-923-1605.

February 18

Would you like to purchase a home of your own? Learn how at the Texas Federation of Home Counselors first-time homebuyer seminar, 6:30 p.m., February 18 and 9:00 a.m. or 1:30 p.m., February 21. Registration includes a confidential review, with a certified counselor, of the potential homebuyer's credit file. To register or for more information call Ed Harris at 214-421-8342.

The Renaissance Cultural Center, 2100 Evans Avenue, Fort Worth is sponsoring a Youth

Amateur Gospel Talent Competition at 6:30 p.m. The donation is \$3.00. To enter the competition call 817-922-9999. For more information call 817-923-1605.

Bickel & Brewer Storefront, PLLC, 2602 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Dallas will feature Judge Tom Jones, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 7, at its lunch time lecture series from 12:00 noon-1:00 p.m. For more information call 214-421-4800.

February 20

The South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 South Fitzhugh, Dallas kicks off its Black Cinematique series at 7:00 p.m. today. Featured films are *Voices of the Gods*, *The Great Tree Has Fallen*, and *Le Ronde Voudou*. The event is open to the public. For more information call 214-939-ARTS.

The Renaissance Cultural Center, 2100 Evans Avenue, Fort Worth will feature a High School Gospel Choir Concert, 6:30 p.m. The donation is \$3.00. For more information call 817-923-1605.

The South Dallas Cultural Center 3400 South Fitzhugh, Dallas, presents its free monthly jam session, from midnight to 3:00 a.m. A drum set and piano are provided. For more information call 214-939-ARTS.

The Ajamu Collective presents its Second Annual Black History Program "African American Lesbian and Gay History: Together We Can," at the Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road, Dallas. The program begins at 7:00 p.m. Admission is \$10.00. For more information call metro 817-654-7510.

February 21

The Renaissance Cultural Center, 2100 Evans Avenue, Fort Worth presents its 4th Annual Dr. Francine Morrison Gospel Jubilee, 7:00 p.m. at the center. The donation is \$5.00. For more information call 817-923-1605.

The South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 South Fitzhugh, Dallas, presents Composers Showcase, featuring jazz pianist Claude Johnson. For more information call 214-939-ARTS. Composers interested in participating should submit a demo tape, brief biography and program description to Steven Meeks, C/O South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 South

Fitzhugh, Dallas, TX 75210.

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters, 650 S. Griffin St., Dallas presents "The Buffalo Soldier: African American Hero or Indian Extremist?" at 2:00 p.m. This forum examines the Buffalo Soldier's role in the development of the Western frontier. For more information call 214-658-7144.

February 23

Cedar Valley College, 3030 N. Dallas Avenue, Lancaster, presents Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk in celebration of its Black History Month on the campus. Mayor Kirk will speak on the topic, "Diversity Makes Us Stronger," at 1:30 p.m. in the Performance Hall. For more information call Kina Brown at 972-860-8147.

February 24

The Renaissance Cultural Center, 2100 Evans Avenue, Fort Worth is sponsoring an open mike Adult Poetry Reading from 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Admission is free and the public is invited to participate. For more information call 817-923-1605.

February 25

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters, 650 S. Griffin, Dallas is sponsoring a Grammy Viewing Party in honor of five Dallas/Ft. Worth artists nominated for a Grammy award. Tickets to the event, which begins at 7:00 p.m., are \$10.00. For more information call 214-743-2449.

February 26

Maya Angelou will appear at the University of Texas at Arlington, Texas Hall, 701 W. Nedderman Drive, Arlington for an evening of poetry, prose and music at 7:30 p.m. today. For tickets and more information call metro 817-272-2963.

The University of North Texas Dance and Theatre Arts Department presents August Wilson's Pulitzer Prize-winning drama, *Fences*, about a former star of a Negro baseball league. The production runs through February 28. For more information call 940-565-2428.

The Renaissance Cultural Center, 2100 Evans Avenue, Fort Worth is sponsoring an evening of Children's Storytelling from 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Admission is free. For more information call 817-923-1605.

February 27

Relive African American family life, work and leisure activities from the turn of the century to the present at the African American Heritage Festival, 7:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. February 27 and 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. February 28 at Old City Park, downtown Dallas. For more information call 214-421-4500.

February 28

Delsue Odenta Chivers Welch will sign her new book, *Mixed Drinks: A Drink of Poetry*, from 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. at Black Images Book Bazaar, 230 Wynnewood Village, Dallas. For more information call 214-972-0142.

March 1

Soul Rep Theater Company is currently accepting submissions for its 3rd Annual New Play Festival. Playwrights should submit scripts of a one-act play, no longer than 30 minutes, to Soul Rep, P.O. Box 15175, Dallas, 75201, Attention: Festival Coordinator, by March 1, 1998. For more information call 214-565-0186.

March 4

The second annual Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) Basketball Tournament will be held March 4-7 at the Dallas Convention Center. Teams from nine historically black colleges and universities will compete to qualify for the NCAA Tournament. For more information call 214-630-7772.

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:

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Continued from page 19

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"I remember that I was in a hurry. I had a wedding later on that day. I walked in and it just so happened King was at the podium. I snapped one picture, King kept on preaching, and I left. [In 1956] that photograph would sell for \$3.50."

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The world needs more of his work.

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extraordinary people who succeeded in spite of all the obstacles in their paths, and who eventually demanded and, in important ways, won their rights."

Thank you, Mr. Rufus Cornelius Hickman.

MON

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Tribute to African American mothers and Black History-makers of tomorrow

By Marie Sassaman

"Most all of the other beautiful things in life come by twos and threes, by dozens and hundreds. Plenty of roses, stars, sunsets, rainbows, brothers and sisters, aunts and cousins — but only one mother...." So wrote Kate Douglas Wiggin. What mothers do for their children is immeasurable. They take us by the hand and lead us away from danger; they tuck us in bed and make us feel safe. They teach us virtues and values, about laughter and joy, and how to weigh our thoughts. They read to us, console us, spank us and listen to us. And they bandage our scratches. They provide for our needs and our wants. They pray for us and praise us, teach us to share, and show us the real meaning of "rich." Napoleon Bonaparte wrote that "The future destiny of the child is always the work of the mother." Abraham Lincoln said, "All that I am or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother." The influence of a mother surpasses any other person, and her responsibilities are awesome!

The media today presents the black family as being in disarray. Yet, there are numerous success stories and thousands of Dallas women who reinforce positive roles in children. Although they generally do not receive the recognition they deserve, they are quietly and lovingly shaping our future leaders and are making an important impact on our commu-

nity even today.

The Dallas Urban League, committed to "finding the good and saluting them" will recognize and pay tribute on February 11 to 18 women in the African American community in its "Salute to Women." The annual event, to be held at the Great Hall of the International Apparel Mart at 11:45 a.m., honors African American mothers from traditional and non-traditional families (including grandmothers, foster mothers and guardians), who have been nominated by the community.

Iyania Vanzant, author of multiple best sellers including *Acts of Faith* and *Value in the Valley*, will be the keynote speaker for the meeting. Ms. Vanzant, through over 1,000,000 copies of her books, has inspired millions of people to take a stand. She uses her experiences as a teen mother, recipient of public assistance, abused spouse and single working parent to lift the burdens of those in similar situations. Her current books are *One Day My Soul Just Opened Up* and *In the Meantime*. She will be available at 11:00 a.m. for book signing.

Three years ago, McDonald's joined the Dallas Urban League to recognize and honor the winners of "Black History makers of Tomorrow" scholarship essay contest. Ten area college-bound seniors, who possess at least a "B" grade point average and leadership in community service, will be awarded \$1,000 scholarships at the Urban League's Annual Meeting.

"SALUTE TO OUR MOTHERS" NOMINEES

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Yolanda Barrett

Marie E. Ingram

Johnnie Mae Bowers

Mary D. King

Ruth Ola Bussey

Marva J. Miles

Mary A. Fortson

Maggie L. Neal

Brenda Green

Evangelist Mabel Nunn

Erma L. Hammond-Prince

Pennie Pitre

Terri Hodge

Bonnie Proctor

Christine Yealdell

Joan Thurmond

Mary Alice Webb

**We are
finding
the Good
and
saluting
them!**



Join
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(author of *Acts of Faith*)
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1998 Annual Meeting

**Celebrating
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**Presenting the 1998 Winners
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Influence of African American mother changes American History

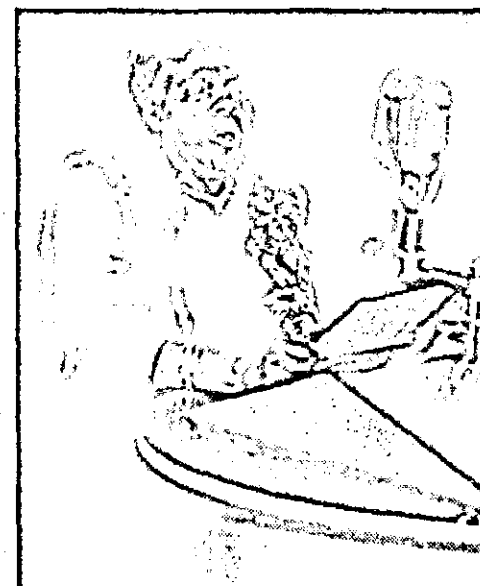
In 1935, the NAACP awarded Mary McLeod Bethune the Spingarn Award, given annually for the "highest or noblest achievement by an African American." She was the first African American woman to head a federal office; was an advisor to President Franklin D. Roosevelt; represented President Truman at the inauguration of the President of Liberia; founded a school in 1904 for African American women to train teachers for future generations; and served in many other leadership positions.

She became one of the most influential women of her times, and the nation honored her achievements with a bronze monument in Washington D.C.; it was the first statue of a woman and of an African American on national park ground in the capitol.

Her success and outstanding accomplishments are due to the early influence of her mother. Bethune was one of 17 children born to slaves in South Carolina. Her mother recognized her potential and made sure she could be enrolled in a nearby mission school. The influence of another woman, one of her teachers, who encouraged her to enroll in Seminary in

North Carolina, is also noteworthy. Without the loving concern of her mother and teacher, Mary McLeod Bethune would most likely have grown up in poverty on a cotton farm, unable to accomplish so much for the rights of black people.

MON



Mary McCleod Bethune, the first black woman to head a major federal office.

Continued from page 19

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Tribute to African American mothers and Black History-makers of tomorrow

By Marie Sassaman

"Most all of the other beautiful things in life come by twos and threes, by dozens and hundreds. Plenty of roses, stars, sunsets, rainbows, brothers and sisters, aunts and cousins — but only one mother...." So wrote Kate Douglas Wiggin. What mothers do for their children is immeasurable. They take us by the hand and lead us away from danger; they tuck us in bed and make us feel safe. They teach us virtues and values, about laughter and joy, and how to weigh our thoughts. They read to us, console us, spank us and listen to us. And they bandage our scratches. They provide for our needs and our wants. They pray for us and praise us, teach us to share, and show us the real meaning of "rich." Napoleon Bonaparte wrote that "The future destiny of the child is always the work of the mother." Abraham Lincoln said, "All that I am or hope to be, I owe to my angel mother." The influence of a mother surpasses any other person, and her responsibilities are awesome!

The media today presents the black family as being in disarray. Yet, there are numerous success stories and thousands of Dallas women who reinforce positive roles in children. Although they generally do not receive the recognition they deserve, they are quietly and lovingly shaping our future leaders and are making an important impact on our commu-

nity even today.

The Dallas Urban League, committed to "finding the good and saluting them" will recognize and pay tribute on February 11 to 18 women in the African American community in its "Salute to Women." The annual event, to be held at the Great Hall of the International Apparel Mart at 11:45 a.m., honors African American mothers from traditional and non-traditional families (including grandmothers, foster mothers and guardians), who have been nominated by the community.

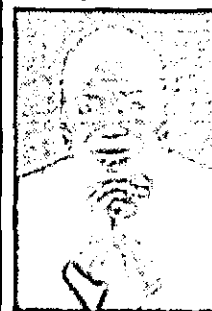
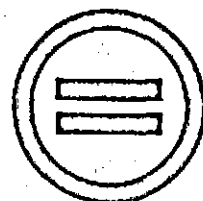
Iyana Vanzant, author of multiple best sellers including *Acts of Faith* and *Value in the Valley*, will be the keynote speaker for the meeting. Ms. Vanzant, through over 1,000,000 copies of her books, has inspired millions of people to take a stand. She uses her experiences as a teen mother, recipient of public assistance, abused spouse and single working parent to lift the burdens of those in similar situations. Her current books are *One Day My Soul Just Opened Up* and *In the Meantime*. She will be available at 11:00 a.m. for book signing.

Three years ago, McDonald's joined the Dallas Urban League to recognize and honor the winners of "Black History makers of Tomorrow" scholarship essay contest. Ten area college-bound seniors, who possess at least a "B" grade point average and leadership in community service, will be awarded \$1,000 scholarships at the Urban League's Annual Meeting.

"SALUTE TO OUR MOTHERS" NOMINEES

Henri Hudson	Yolanda Barrett
Marie E. Ingram	Johnnie Mae Bowers
Mary D. King	Ruth Ola Bussey
Marva J. Miles	Mary A. Fortson
Maggie L. Neal	Brenda Green
Evangelist Mabel Nunn	Erma L. Hammond-Prince
Pennie Pitre	Terri Hodge
Bonnie Proctor	Christine Yealdell
Joan Thurmond	Mary Alice Webb

We are
finding
the Good
and
saluting
them!



Join
The Dallas Urban League
and
Iyana Vanzant
(author of *Acts of Faith*)
at the
1998 Annual Meeting

Celebrating
"A Salute to Our Mothers"
Wednesday, February 11, 1998
11:45 a.m.

Great Hall of the International Apparel Mart
2100 Stemmons Freeway
Dallas, Texas

Reception and book signing at 11:00 a.m.
also

Presenting the 1998 Winners
of the
McDonald's Black Historymakers
Scholarship Essay Contest

For more information
call 214/528-8038

Influence of African American mother changes American History

In 1935, the NAACP awarded Mary McLeod Bethune the Spingarn Award, given annually for the "highest or noblest achievement by an African American." She was the first African American woman to head a federal office; was an advisor to President Franklin D. Roosevelt; represented President Truman at the inauguration of the President of Liberia; founded a school in 1904 for African American women to train teachers for future generations; and served in many other leadership positions.

She became one of the most influential women of her times, and the nation honored her achievements with a bronze monument in Washington D.C.; it was the first statue of a woman and of an African American on national park ground in the capitol.

Her success and outstanding accomplishments are due to the early influence of her mother. Bethune was one of 17 children born to slaves in South Carolina. Her mother recognized her potential and made sure she could be enrolled in a nearby mission school. The influence of another woman, one of her teachers, who encouraged her to enroll in Seminary in

North Carolina, is also noteworthy. Without the loving concern of her mother and teacher, Mary McLeod Bethune would most likely have grown up in poverty on a cotton farm, unable to accomplish so much for the rights of black people.

MON



Mary McCleod Bethune, the first black woman to head a major federal office.



Like a lot of LOTTO Texas winners,
Roy bought a new truck.

A big, red, shiny one.

THE STORY:

*Roy Gomez lived in
Ranger, Texas, all
his life. So he knew how
desperately the fire
department needed to
update their equipment.
After winning LOTTO
Texas he donated a fire
truck in memory of
his son Leeroy Gomez.*

THE MONEY:

\$3,400,000

THE NUMBERS:

7 10 11 23 34 43

**THE NUMBER OF
GALLONS PER MINUTE THE
TRUCK CAN PUMP:**

1,250



OVER 290 MILLIONAIRES
AND STILL COUNTING

Adding "Elegance" to your soiree

Businesswoman cashes in on event planning

By Kamron L. Barton

Whatever the occasion, Ms. Rhonda Chase is sure to add that special touch.

Ms. Chase prepared herself well for business. She graduated from Southern Methodist University in 1986, having majored in sociology and minored in psychology. The same year that she earned a certificate in meeting management/event planning from Richland Community College (1995), she opened Elegant Soiree.

Ms. Chase got her start by selling event invitations and greeting cards. In addition to this event planning business, she also owns two subsidiaries; Wedding Magic and Black Ethnic Solution.

Wedding Magic spun off from Ms. Chase's corporate event planning business. In addition to her selling invitations, she also has a contracted photographer, caterer, and florist for weddings. Because this prevents her from having to consult different vendors every time she plans a wedding, she feels that this produces a "well-rounded wedding."

Black Ethnic Solution originated because of Ms. Chase's desire to "give

back to the community as far as artistry and computer technology are concerned." Through this subsidiary, Ms. Chase sells seasonal and all-occasion greeting cards, as well as African American computer software. Her target markets are small businesses and small shops.

Ms. Chase's goal for Black Ethnic Solution is "to be a supplier of African American novelty items for the metroplex." Concerning Wedding Magic, she simply wants to "help the bride have an elegant wedding on a budget."

Ms. Chase not only does business in the DFW metroplex, but has also distributed African American gift bags

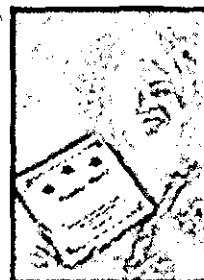
across the United States through MJ Designs. She also has authored a wedding book, also entitled *Wedding Magic*, which costs \$19.95 for her wedding customers, and \$29.95 in bookstores. She has done numerous wedding trade shows and is a wedding invitation consultant for Gingiss Formal Wear as well. By March 1, Ms. Chase will have an internet site at www.AmazingWedMagic.com. At this location, in Ms. Chase's words, "Ten of the best selling African American wedding invitations" will be available. Ms. Chase

TOP SECRET!

Name: Rhonda Chase
Birthplace: Dallas, Texas.
Favorite Food: Chicken
Last Book Read: "Seven"
My friends don't know that: "I really take friendship seriously"

Advice to would-be entrepreneurs:

"Don't give up. Go for your goals. Gain knowledge in whatever you want to do."



Elegant Soiree
P.O. Box 495756
Garland, TX 75049-5756
972-504-6216
Chase@airmail.net

has been featured in Black Economic Times and the Dallas Business Journal.

Her motivation is "being successful, being in the community, and giving it the items that it craves as an African American community."

Ms. Chase said that her favorite thing about her job is "meeting people, talking, and getting to know them... meeting their needs as a business in the community."

Her hobbies are singing and being active in the community. She belongs to the Dallas Urban League, National Association of Female Executives, and Meeting

Professionals International.

Ms. Chase doesn't plan to retire. She "would like to do community service by giving back through financial and personal support, especially with children and teens."

With her educational background and natural interest in people, how can she go wrong?

MON

Kamron L. Barton is a senior at Carter High School in Dallas. She will be a regular contributor to this column.

The Art of Buying a Car

So, you are in need of a new or used vehicle—you know you have credit challenges on your record. Here are a few things that you can do to get that new automobile.

There are several dealerships in the area where you can buy a car, but beware! Excess inquiries can really destroy your rating. Having sold new and used autos for almost ten years, I can help you in more ways than just putting you into a car.

First let's set the groundwork to make this a well-rounded deal. You need to find a dealership that has your best interests at heart, especially if you already know you have problems with your credit. At Toyota of Irving, there are a few things you need to know in advance that will help your purchase through with ease. You will need the following: Proof of all income; five additional references; current bank statement; most current phone bill; proof of residence (mortgage coupon or lease agreement); driver's license; full coverage insurance or the ability

to prove such; complete credit application.

When the above items are received, your individual position will be considered and discretely discussed privately with you.

Now the good part begins—You will have the privilege of selecting your new car! Based on the unit selected, down payment, your ability to make the monthly payments and the amount financed, you can drive home in your new car! During the past year alone, I have helped over 200 people drive off in a new or used auto, and approximately 60% of them needed help in securing their loan.

Everybody does not have poor credit; and everyone needs to be treated properly! I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE! All credit problems will be properly addressed.

Changing times require the willingness to retool and be flexible where needed. Changeless truths require the discipline to resist and fight when necessary.

"Fight the good fight, holding on to faith and a good conscience. Some have rejected these and so have shipwrecked their faith." 1 Timothy 1:18, 19 (NIV).

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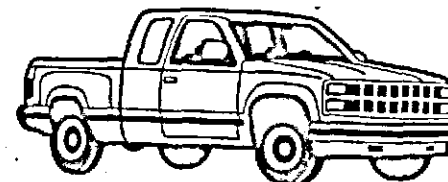
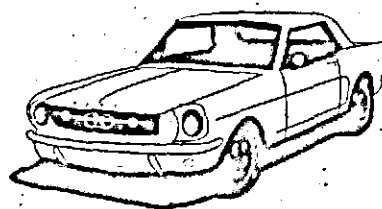
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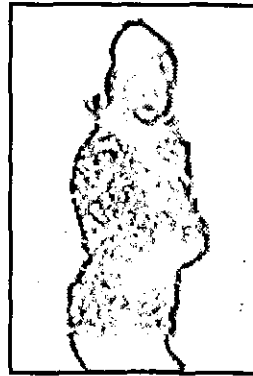
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Tareasha Jackson named Student of Month

The folks at Umphrey Lee Elementary School, 7808 Racine Drive, Dallas, never miss an opportunity to recognize outstanding students at the pre-kindergarten through sixth grade institution. Tareasha Jackson earned honors this

month as the Umphrey Elementary School Student of the Month. Active in the Student Council, the sixth grader presently holds the office of Student Council President.

As a representative of the Umphrey Lee Student Council, Tareasha has traveled to Florida, Louisiana and New Mexico. This year, as student council president, she will travel to Houston, New York and Philadelphia to represent her school and further its educational agenda.



But Tareasha is not all work and no play. Also a member of the Umphrey Lee Drill Team, she has performed with the team on numerous occasions during the past two years. The staff and faculty at

Umphrey Lee Elementary School and Minority Opportunity News congratulate Tareasha, the daughter of Owyazee and Darryl Jackson, for her leadership efforts and commitment to excellence.

MON

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TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATION.

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TODAY FOR INFORMATION

PEN ON FIRE, from page 7

now attending the University of Missouri (thanks to the coaxing of KXAS's Calvin Hughes), received a 3.50 g.p.a. her first semester. Malissa Ellinger graduated from UTA, and also interned at KKDA. KKDA's Doniqua Austin left the station (and Dallas) to pursue her dream of becoming an actress. She's in Hollywood where I am sure she will run into Dallas' own Shuckey Duckey, who is also spreading his talents around.

KKDA's Roland Martin taught students at UTA and James Washington, publisher of the *Dallas Weekly*, taught the inaugural communications classes at Paul Quinn College. Louie White, also known as Da-Wolf, became Dr. Louie White.

We were pleased that Deborah Duncan recovered from an aneurysm and was able to assume co-hosting duties at the Lifetime Channel's *Our Home*. The former host of Good Morning Texas also joined the Willis Johnson Good Morning Show at KKDA-AM, as a co-host. Roger B. Brown, of KKDA and the *Star-Telegram*, suffered a heart seizure but has recovered and is back on the scene, stronger than ever. KVIL's Joyce King increased public awareness about breast cancer and the importance of mammograms. (Joyce has recuperated from the resultant surgery.) KDFW's Marjorie Ford endured surgery, as did her co-worker, Karla Winfrey. Both made successful comebacks. Then off Marjorie went to Africa with State Representative Helen Giddings before moving over to WFAA as the producer of a new public affairs show featuring John McCaa as the host and Gregg Primus as the photographer and reporter/producer Angelique Teje.

In addition to numerous other programs, including hosting the National Association of Black Journalists Regional Conference where NBC's Paula Walker, *Emergence* magazine's George Curry and County Commissioner John Wiley Price were headliners. DFW/ABC also hosted its 16th annual scholarship banquet with noted author and intellectual Rev. Michael Eric Dyson as the guest speaker. The organization hosted several media workshops and a Soul Food Extravaganza at the Black Academy of Arts and Letters. Author LaJoyce Brookshire (*Soul Food*) made an appearance and the gospel group God's Property performed. The culinary delights

see **PEN ON FIRE**, page 37

Education For Today's Youth

Article 2: TAAS Mathematics

Last month we reviewed the importance of the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) test and provided some suggestions on helpful techniques for its reading and writing sections. In this article, we offer some tips for taking the mathematics portion of the TAAS.

The mathematics section of the TAAS consists of three areas: concepts, operations, and problem solving. In the TAAS exit level test, problem solving is emphasized because it will be most useful to you in your life after high school. Whether you are balancing a checkbook, thinking about what career might interest you or deciding whether you can afford to buy a new car, you will need to be a problem solver.

As you prepare for the TAAS, consider these suggestions:

1. Read the problem statement very carefully and completely at least two times before trying to work or solve the problem. Make absolutely sure that you understand what the problem is and what it is asking you to do.
2. Some problems will contain

information or numbers that will contribute nothing to the solution. They are in the test to check your ability to know what is important and what is not.

3. To test your measurement skills, most problems of this type will present the question in one type of "units" and the four answer choices in a different type. For example, the question may be stated in terms of "yards" and all of the answers in "feet." There are many other types, such as: ounces and pounds, meters and centimeters, cups and gallons, so always use the formula sheet provided with the TAAS.

4. Memorize "squares" at least up to "15."

5. In problems involving "right triangles", always look for "3,4,5" or the "5,12,13" ratios of the sides. Learn how to recognize and use their multiples.

6. Most or at least many of the problems will have two choices that are clearly incorrect if you think them through logically. Of the two remaining, one may be based on you making a mistake typical of that type problem.

Triple check these.

7. Never assume that your first solution is correct, even though it seems obviously to be so.

8. If you have not figured out the "approach" to working a particular problem within about 3 to 5 minutes, mark it and move on to the next one; but do not forget these hard ones. Make sure that you get the easier ones done, then come back to the harder ones. You may be surprised that after working the easier problems, you can then work the hard ones.

9. On all geometry and measurement problems, use the formula sheet provided with the TAAS test.

10. Be sure to get plenty of rest the night before the TAAS test and have a good breakfast. It may seem elementary, but it is still wise advice.

The TAAS test is an important milestone in your academic program. With appropriate preparation, you will do well on it and in your future studies.

Presented by:



March

Preparing for High School Graduation



Family Life

Fairy Street Mama

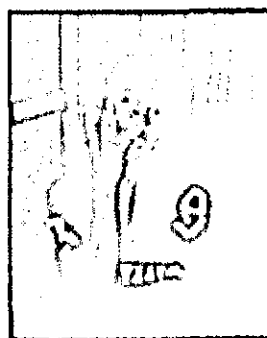
Most adults will agree that violence has taken over our society, our way of life and, unfortunately, our way of looking at life in general. We don't go to some of the places we used to, and, because of the increase in crime and violence in our communities, we even have stopped doing some of the things that may have brought us pleasure. I came across two kids who have definite opinions of their own.

LA'KEA: "... I think that there is too much violence on our TV today ... It's bad for the smaller kids because they don't really know that the negative stuff is bad ... But kids my age know the difference. They know what is right and what is wrong, and they still listen to negative music and watch sexual movies on TV... some of the parents even watch the shows with their kids. ...



La'kea Johnson, 10 yrs. old

They don't think that it's wrong, and I don't think that it's right ... My mother has raised me up in the church and now I know Jesus and I have taken him as my savior and I keep him with me wherever I go, so it's easy to make the right decisions about what I watch ... Not to mention that my mother wouldn't let me anyway ... I'm happy with doing other things ... Since I perform as a singer, it takes up a lot of my time and, when I do look at TV, I make sure that I always watch something positive ... I am never violent to others and I try to stay away from people who are violent."



Demetrius Sanders, 9 yrs old

DEMETRIUS: "I think that there [are] a lot of negative things on TV ... even some of the cartoons I see are real violent, but sometimes I still watch them because they're funny ... My parents and grandparents won't let me watch things that are too violent ... but it's OK because I

Too much T.V. violence?

can still play with my video games ..."

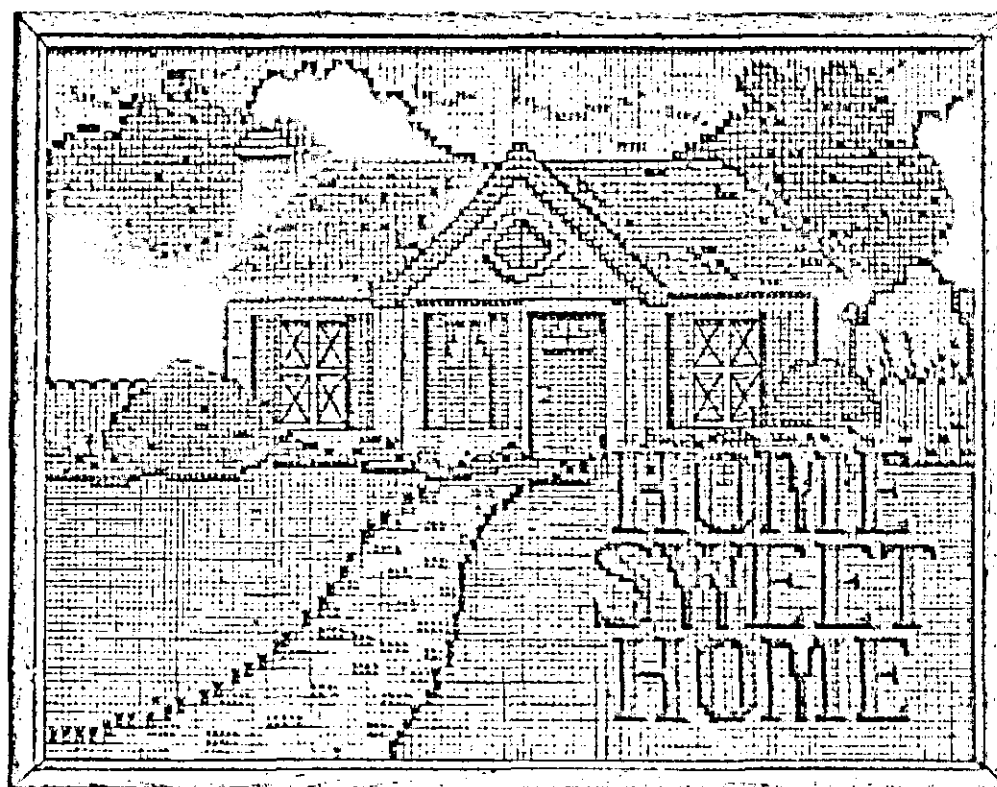
It seems clear that there is an extreme amount of violence on our TV stations that is definitely contributing to the destruction of our kids' social being. Together, we must make rules and laws that will enable them to grow into responsible adults. Children learn from adults; therefore, we adults must try to teach them only positive behavior.

Each of us should be registered to vote and, by voting, take part in the political process that will ensure that laws governing our airways reflect how we, as a

society, feel about this negativity.

MON

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



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Mr. Hollywood

By Louise Gordon

Eleven chairs for guests where John Daniel was bartending at Club New York five years ago just wasn't enough space for the VIP parties he envisioned. He was the highest paid bartender in Texas and had a large following. At that time, he also became fed up with what the TV and radio stations were saying about black youth; he wanted to help kids see their dreams fulfilled. Now he's known as "Mr. Hollywood" and stages standing-room-only entertainment events all over the U.S.

He sold his Mercedes to get it all started. "I tried to get corporate sponsors," he recalls, "and everybody said it was a great idea, but they didn't come up with any dollars." With his initial investment, he originated the Hollywood Enterprises International Star Search Tour. "A kid can do anything, if you just show them how to do it — not tell them — show them. Show them the dream," explains Hollywood. The Grand Champion Winners of his Star Search each year win \$1,000 in cash and prizes, perform at VIP parties, and sign contracts with recording companies and other entertainment companies. Local success stories include Ms. Cory Spencer, the twin McQueen Brothers, and Nick Turale. "It has been my pleasure," Mr. Hollywood says, "to see these kids grow, have success and see their dreams fulfilled. And it's still my main goal to get corporate sponsors."

The 1997 Star Search Grand Champions were selected at a standing-room-only performance on December 20 in Dallas. "It was raining hard, but they still came out," he recalls. "The place was packed, and RCA, Motown, and the playwright, Mr. Shelly Garrett, were there." The 1997 winners have been invited by Garrett to open his current show, *Beauty Shop*.

Years ago, when the Dallas response

to his events was low, Hollywood took his show on the road. The VIP parties and the International Star Searches have been a hit in such cities as Albuquerque, Colorado Springs, Hollywood, Montreal, New York, Baltimore, Washington D.C. and Nashville. Plans for 1998 include a stint in Seattle, Washington. For now, they're back in Dallas, by popular demand to sell-out crowds.

Hollywood Enterprises and CWC Entertainment (Charlotte Woods Clark, Hollywood's "right hand") have selected the Hotel Inter-Continental (Dallas Parkway at Arapaho) as the site for their upcoming extravaganza. Their Fifth Annual Black and White Valentine's Ball on the evening of February 15 is expected to draw well over 500 Dallasites and celebrities such as Dallas Cowboys and Mavericks team members, and Shucky Ducky. The semi-formal event is a place "to see and be seen," to be entertained by seasoned and up-and-coming stars, and to enjoy some romance.

The evening begins at 6:00 p.m. with a stroll through the lobby with exhibitors selling chocolates, roses, and other Valentines gifts, followed by a fashion show presented by Sebastian Fashion Entertainment, a well-known local African American designer. Live entertainment follows, with appearances by surprise celebrity guests, a special guest comedian, and the Grand Champion Winners of the Hollywood Enterprises International Star Search Tour of '97.

Attendees can check into the Hotel Inter-Continental on Valentine's Day and wake up to a champagne brunch before attending the Valentine's Ball on the evening of the 15th. Mention the Hollywood Enterprises VIP Valentine's Ball when you book your room, for a rate of \$119 per night (\$160 otherwise). Call the hotline (metro 817-355-5004) for tickets or for more information about the Star Search Tours.

Fallen

Evil comes in all shapes and sizes. Faceless, limitlessly powerful and ever-present. It has flourished throughout the ages with one defining goal, one reason for its existence: to create chaos from the destruction of good.

Decorated homicide detective John Hobbes (Denzel Washington) and his partner Jonesy (John Goodman) have apprehended a demonic serial killer, been present at the killer's trial and witnessed his execution.

Now the pair is suddenly confronted with a new series of slayings committed in the late killer's same peculiar style. Lieutenant Stanton (Donald Sutherland), the detectives' superior, is unsure whether these new murders are the work of a copycat or a rogue cop. When continuing police investigation uncovers circumstantial evidence implicating Hobbes in the killings, the detective is drawn deep into a baffling mystery that leads him to a the-

ology professor (Embeth Davidtz), whose knowledge of the supernatural issues involved in the case proves crucial. Hobbes' investigation forces the detective to question his belief about the forces of light and darkness and brings him face to face with one overwhelming truth: evil is eternal and knows no bounds.

Photo by Nicola Goode



Denzel Washington (left) and John Goodman star in *Fallen*.

Denzel Washington, John Goodman and Donald Sutherland star in the "R" rated, supernatural thriller *Fallen*, which also stars Embeth Davidtz, James Gandolfini and Elias Koteas. A Turner Pictures Production directed by Gregory Hoblit, *Fallen* opened January 16 at theaters everywhere.

MON

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Feb. 15, 1998



Advance Tickets -
\$2000
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5th Annual Black & White VIP Valentine's Ball

at the exclusive, luxurious Hotel Inter-Continental
Dallas Parkway at Arapaho
(formerly the Grand Kempinski)
Food will be served:

- ♥ 6 pm - Various exhibitors with Valentines gifts for sale
- ♥ 7 pm - "The Hottest Spring Fashion of 1998," presented by DFW's Sebastian Fashion Entertainment
- ♥ 8 pm - Live Entertainment
- ♥ Special guest comedian
- ♥ Grand Champion Winners of Hollywood Enterprises International Star Search of '97
- ♥ DJ - A.J.

Surprise celebrity guest appearances

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Book Review

Angela
Washington-Blair,
Ph.D.

By Maya Angelou
Random House/\$18

How about sitting in an easy chair with a delicious cup of hot tea or cocoa and reveling in its pungent (or buttery) flavors while reading a good book? Or talking with a good friend and not caring about the time, savoring the company and conversation. Which would be more enjoyable? Which would you choose?

This month's book selection will fit the bill in both respects — you supply the java or tea or cocoa, find a cozy nook or cranny, and settle in for a comfortable visit with one of America's favorite poets. Yet, to call her merely "a poet" is to do her a disservice — she also is, undeniably, a gifted wordsmith. Maya Angelou, writer of five autobiographical books, numerous collections of poetry, and President Clinton's inaugural poem, has done it again.

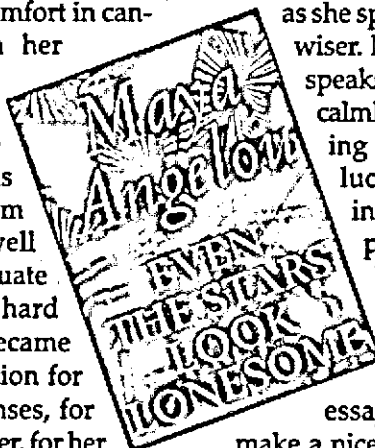
In *Even the Stars Look Lonesome* (Random House, \$18), Angelou dishes up varied fare. Little autobiographical essays and snippets covering the gamut — from race to aging, from sex to teaching, from sensuality to houses, from husbands to sons. She talks about Africa and slavery, dancing and singing, poverty and vacationing. She ends it all by talking about solitude and our need for it sometimes. It matters not that there doesn't seem to be a common thread, other than the fact that Maya has written them all. These are her thoughts, her points of view, and she expresses them with eloquence.

I felt like I was visiting a long lost friend, and I truly did savor Maya's company and conversation. I could picture her sitting across from me on my sofa — no, make that a divan (after all, she is a southern girl who now resides in North Carolina) — as she shared with me her wisdom, her motherwit, her humor, her poignancy, her way with words. I could picture her, carefully measuring her words, speaking slowly and deliberately. As a dabbler at writing myself, I can only pray that someday I will be able to do what all writers long to do: to adequately mix and meld together words to impart not only meaning, but also feeling.

Like the feelings I got from reading Ms. Angelou's book. Maya's 20 autobiographical essays, written with warmth and gentleness, imparted on me a sense of comfort: Maya's comfort. Comfort in growing and knowing who she is in the

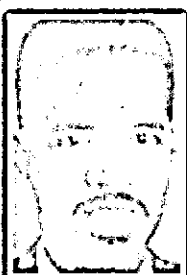
Even the stars look lonesome

grand scheme of things. Comfort in admitting mistakes. Comfort in candor, in letting down her guard so that we can get to know her. Comfort in enjoying the beauty God has given us in life. Comfort from being well-traveled, well read, and being a graduate of life's school of hard knocks. As I read, I became aware of her appreciation for beauty, for the five senses, for her now deceased mother, for her friend [internationally-renowned talk show host] Oprah Winfrey.



There is no inner anguish or turmoil as she speaks of growing older and wiser. No frustrated anger as she speaks of racism and slavery. She calmly speaks her lessons on living in a way that is clear and lucid. These "lessons in living" are a continuation of a previous best-selling book: *Wouldn't Take Nothing for my Journey Now*. The former book has a more somber tone in its 24 essays. Both books would make a nice gift for a friend — or for yourself, as well.

MON



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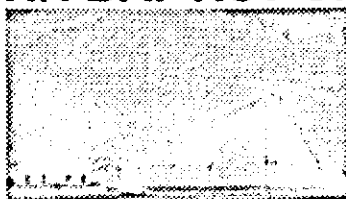


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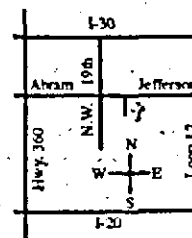
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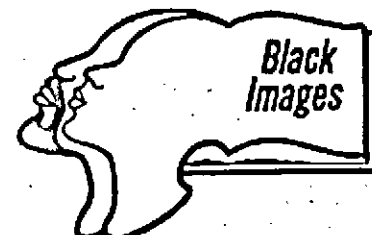
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WINTER FORECASTS 1998

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3 • 6-8 pm
Franklin White, reads from and signs *Fed Up With The Fanny* (\$23. Simon & Schuster) a positive 90's novel. The Page Turners Book Club will host Mr. White.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6 • 6-8 pm
Diane McKinney-Whetstone, reads from and signs *Tempest Rising* (\$23. William Morrow). She is also the author of the bestseller *Tumbling: Sistahs Sippin' Tea* will host Ms. McKinney-Whetstone's book talk.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12 • 7 pm
Iyania Vanzant discusses and autographs *In the Meantime: Finding Yourself and the Love You Want* (\$23.) and *One Day My Soul Just Opened Up: 40 Days & 40 Nights Toward Spiritual Strength and Personal Growth* (\$13. Fireside). Her signing will be hosted by and at St. Luke "Community" UM Church 5710 East R. L. Thornton Freeway (130) - Dallas - Rev. Zan Wesley Holmes, Jr. senior pastor.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14 • 3-5 pm
Francis Ray reads from and signs *Heart of the Falcon* (\$4.99 Arabesque). Romance Noir Book Club will host.

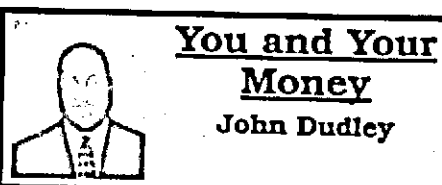
VALENTINE'S DAY • 6-8 pm
Rudy V, host of KRNB - 105.7FM. *Quite Storm*, reads from *Love After Dark: Passion Poetry* (\$10.00).

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18 • 6-8 pm
Hattie Hill discusses and autographs *Smart Women, Smart Choices*.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19 • 6-8 pm
Maurice Harper reviews *Black Wall Street* (\$21.95 BW Publishing). Tulsa had one of the most prosperous African American communities in the 1900's. It was destroyed by hate groups in 1921.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28 • 3-5 pm
Delsue Welch reads from *Mixed Drinks, A Drink of Poetry* (Welch Publishing Co.)

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You and Your Money

John Dudley

It pays to be married. At least now it pays, since the Internal Revenue Service has recently changed an IRA rule. Beginning this year, the maximum annual Individual Retirement Account (IRA) contribution for married couples who file joint returns is \$4,000, up from \$2,250 in 1996. Even if one of you has no income during the year, a maximum of \$2,000 can still be invested in each person's IRA every year. This important change in the tax code was enacted last year by Congress to help encourage people to actively save for retirement, regardless of whether one or both adults in the family work outside the home.

Putting away money now for one's golden years is vital; and, in a marriage the earnings must cover two retirees, not just the ex-wage earner. The new IRA ruling makes room for the couple to build a bigger nest egg. Equally important is taking advantage of opportunities to reap the most from savings strategies. IRAs, because of their unique tax status, offer that advantage through tax deferral. IRAs are among the few accounts available that are tax deferred; that is, the gains on any investments made in the account accumulate free from taxes until money is withdrawn from the account. (Because IRAs are designed for retirement savings, there are, with very few exceptions, penalties for withdrawing funds before age 59-1/2.)

This tax-deferred status really puts time on your side, thanks to the effects of compounding. With no capital gains taxes to pay, more money stays in your accounts, so more is available to invest and continue to grow.

Just how important is compounding? Let's suppose you and your spouse are 36 years old and you opt to take full advantage of the IRA and Spousal IRA with

Tax benefits for marrieds

\$2,000 contributions in each account (for a total annual contribution of \$4,000). Assuming a 10% annual return (the average nominal return on equities since World War II), you and your spouse will have \$650,000 at age 65. That same savings strategy, without the 10% return, would yield the two of you only \$250,000 at age 65.

Another advantage IRAs offer to many people is tax deductibility of contributions. Depending on your income, all or some of your contributions may be deducted directly from your tax bill. There are strict income/deduction limits, though, so be sure to check with a qualified tax advisor to see if you qualify for this feature of the IRA.

Whether or not you can deduct your contribution, using an IRA and Spousal IRA to get going on retirement savings plans is a good idea. And when it comes to investing the funds deposited in your IRA, your choices are virtually unlimited if your account is held at a fully serviced financial institution. Keep in mind that selecting investments is intricately linked with your overall financial objectives and your personal attitudes about suitability of risk. In general, the higher the potential rate of return on

an investment, the higher the risk. A qualified financial advisor can help you determine which investments are right for you and your spouse.

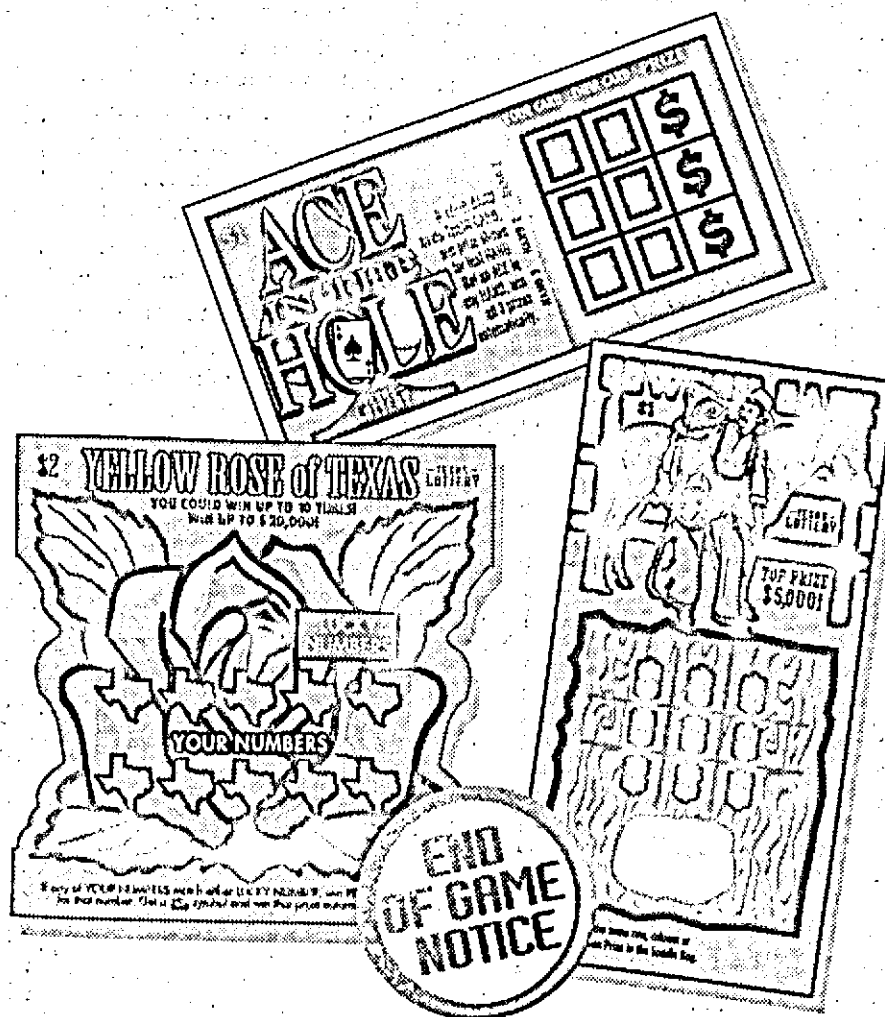
Reaching your retirement savings goal may take some time, but taking advantage

of tax-smart opportunities for you and your spouse — such as the IRA and Spousal IRA — will help get you on the road to a comfortable retirement.

MON

John Dudley is a financial advisor with Prudential Securities. He can be contacted at 214-761-5142.

Hasta La Vista.



No matter how you say it, as of January 30, 1998, it's goodbye for these three scratch games from the Texas Lottery: Ace in the Hole, Cowboy Cash and Yellow Rose of Texas. While we're scratching these games off our list, you can claim prizes through July 29, 1998. You can win up to \$3,000 playing Ace in the Hole, up to \$5,000 playing Cowboy Cash and up to \$20,000 playing Yellow Rose of Texas. 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 regional 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).



SCRATCH OFFS

Overall odds of winning in Yellow Rose of Texas, 1 in 4.77. Overall odds of winning in Ace in the Hole, 1 in 4.92. Overall odds of winning in Cowboy Cash, 1 in 4.96. Must be 18 years or older to play. ©1997 Texas Lottery

PEN ON FIRE, from page 27

of several soul food restaurants were featured, namely Mesia's Black Pot, BB's Cakeshop and Diner, Lisa's Cuisine, Lady Di's, Elaine's Kitchen, Christopher Edwards, Vern's Place, Best Que's Soul Food and Red's Barbecue, featured some of the best food around.

Kudos to Willis Johnson, the recipient of the DFW/ABC's Lifetime Achievement Award. He was also named Humanitarian of the Year by the Dallas Ministerial Alliance. DFW/ABC honored Dr. Marion Brooks by giving him the Distinguished Community Service Award, and educator Laberta Miller Phillips was honored posthumously.

Skip Cheatham and Slamming Sam Macaveli Putney, both of K104 FM received awards from the Young Black Programmers Coalition. Skip was named Program Director of the Year and Sam was named Radio News/Public Affairs Director of the Year. The Dallas Weekly won the A. Philip Randolph Award for excellence in the category of civil rights reporting. Gyna Bivens was named to the board of the Association of Women Journalists.

Arlington Morning News managing editor Lawrence Young was elected to the board of directors of the Robert Maynard Institute for Journalism Education. Dallas Weekly (now the Weekly Free Press) pub-

see PEN, page 37

Health & Fitness

Tyrone Caldwell

Tips for staying motivated

Need motivation? Having trouble finding time to exercise, or just having a hard time getting started? Well, here are some surefire tips to get you on the road to your fitness goals.

Set Goals. Most people take goal setting for granted, but it does work. The goals you set for your fitness program must be realistic. If you set your goals too high, or make the time frame too long, you probably won't stick with your fitness program because you won't see any discernible results. When following a fitness program, the best thing to do is to first set modest short-term goals. For example, make a plan to work out three days a week for two weeks. This is a very realistic goal, because you have seven days to get your three days of working out done, the time period is short, and the goal is reachable. Once you set and reach your goals in this manner, you'll be able to set bigger, more ambitious goals.

Make Exercise Fun. Most people don't enjoy doing exercise to start with. But if you don't enjoy the exercise activity you decide to start, you'll drop out. Some people do certain forms of exercise because it is popular, but they don't have fun doing it. My solution is to find something you enjoy, have fun doing, and stick to it. Remember, the best exercises are the ones you most like doing.

Keep Variety in your Program. One of the main reasons for exercise dropout is boredom. A good way to add spice to your workout is to do the opposite. For example, if you walk every morning, change up and walk during your lunch hour. This will probably cause you to walk faster, since your time is more limited. You can also change the location of your walk: try parks, running tracks, state parks, weekend hiking trips, 5k or 10k walking races. It really doesn't matter what you do; the key is to get out and do something that is out of your routine. Remember, variety is the spice of life.

Challenge Yourself. A good way to add a challenge for yourself is to enter competitions. Don't worry about how you place — the only thing that matters is that you give it your all. Competition brings out the best in most people. You

can learn a lot about yourself in the heat of battle.

Educate Yourself. An effective and inexpensive form of education and training is reading. There are many excellent books, periodicals, and videos available on the subject of health and fitness. Education in exercise can also be obtained through continuing education courses, seminars, health fairs and fitness professionals.

Be Willing to Create and Adjust as Your Needs Change. As your fitness level improves, you will have to change your routine, allowing for more improvement. Doing the same routine over and over will halt your progress. Be creative and come up with new ways to get more out of your activity.

Work out with Others. Working out solo can be like listening to the same song over and over — it gets boring. To get psyched up about exercise, work out in a group setting. Try walking with a couple of your friends, or get two or three buddies to lift weights with you. Other things to try are aerobics classes and indoor stationary cycling.

Finally, motivation can be seen as the internal force that is in all of us. That little voice saying you can do it. Motivation is the process of self-discovery. Motivation makes you find out who you are, and

were you can go. But most of all, motivation comes from within and is transmitted to others. It is actually the transference of energy from one person to the next.

MON

Tyrone Caldwell is a certified personal trainer in the Dallas/Fort Worth area and the founder of Bodies in Motion, which provides one-on-one and group personal training. For more information, call 817-457-1537.

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DART NEWS



■ DART Ridership Up 44 Percent

DART's system of buses, light rail, commuter rail and high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes is racking up ridership records -- carrying some 70 million passengers in Fiscal Year 1997 -- a phenomenal 44 percent increase over FY96. The new year is off to a great start, with more than 200,000 customers boarding DART bus and rail services each weekday during October, a 13.9 percent increase over a year ago.

■ Ten More Miles of Rail Available All Day Long

Full-time weekday service is now available on the Trinity Railway Express serving downtown Dallas' Union Station, the Medical/Market Center and the South Irving Station. New mid-day and evening runs make the service more convenient for lots of passengers, including employees, students and customers of Parkland Memorial Hospital, Children's Medical Center, St. Paul Hospital, and the UT Southwestern Medical Center. For those wishing to take in a Mavericks basketball or Stars hockey game at Reunion Arena, the final train will wait for the last fan.

■ DART Routes will be Easier to Identify in March

A new route identification system will be introduced effective March 30. The method of identifying a bus by route name and number is being replaced by a number-only system. Direction of routes will be indicated by the route's final destination. This route designation system is used by most transportation agencies around the world. Watch for further details or call 214/979-1111 for information on your specific route.

■ Minyard Pass Sales Triple in One Year

Since Minyard Food Stores Inc. began selling DART passes just over a year ago, sales have tripled. DART passes of all types are available at 44 stores throughout the agency's 13-member city service area.

■ DART Crosstown Routes Eliminate Downtown Transfers

Fifteen crosstown bus routes eliminate the need for many riders to travel downtown to transfer from one route to another. So the next time you're heading from one part of town to another, check out these quick and easy crosstown routes -- 28, 41, 45, 53, 66, 86, 88, 304, 351, 352, 375, 400, 405, 409, 444.

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On Real Estate

Curtis Yates

One of the most important aspects of purchasing a new home is obtaining the right home loan for you. Home loan options have changed dramatically in the past few years, and lenders are adding new types of loans daily. Not only are there more loans from which to choose, but they also are changing constantly. Consequently, many lenders are working hard to obtain and maintain the services of experienced loan officers to help you with your home financing needs. At no cost or obligation to you, many approved lenders will consult with you about your home financing needs. Lenders have supervised the approval of hundreds of home loans in Dallas and surrounding areas and have experience with loans ranging from \$40,000 or more. Lenders and real estate agents will help you calculate how much home you can purchase by asking specific questions about you, the prospective borrower. Let's look at certain areas of financing.

First, qualifying income involves annual income, including base pay, bonus pay, commission income, overtime, child support (if court ordered and

Looking at home ownership in 1998

received for at least one full year, documented by canceled checks); retirement income; annuity income; alimony; and 75 percent of rental income. All income is before taxes or other deductions.

Secondly, the amount of debt being carried is considered, including regularly recurring payments for automobile loans; credit card payments; department store accounts; signature loans; installment loan payments; retirement fund payments; student loans; child support, alimony payments; etc. All these are expenses that reduce income.

There are several methods of financing from which to choose. If you are qualified for a loan amount under \$160,950, you may be eligible for Federal Housing Authority (FHA) financing, a government program that reduces the down payment by permitting you to finance some of your closing costs. Additionally, the allowable amount of mortgage payment as a percentage of your monthly gross income is higher than under conventional financing. Veterans Administration (VA) qualified buyers may finance up to \$203,000 with no down payment.

Furthermore, VA buyers may have all of their closing costs paid by the seller (The amount is negotiable.) VA financing is available for active-duty military, retired military, military widows or widowers, and some national guard personnel. Through conventional financing, how much home you can qualify for is determined, in most cases, by the Federal National Mortgage Association (Fannie Mae) guidelines.

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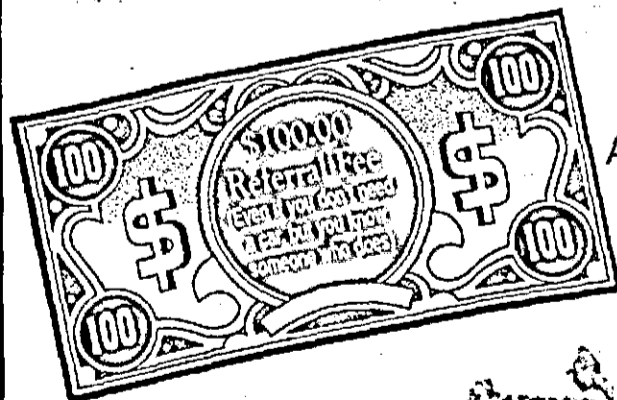
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You and God

Ron Shaw

What's Your Plan?

Proverbs 16:9

As I talk with people of different ages, from a variety of ethnic and economic backgrounds, and from a variety of professions, I have discovered one constant and significant quality that separates the successful from the unsuccessful. In dealing with parents, husbands and wives, employers and employees, friends and family, I find that same distinguishing factor. Even in those who are unsuccessful (or should I say have not yet succeeded), this factor determines whether they continue to be unsuccessful — paralyzed by their setbacks — or finally become successful. As Christians, we should be more proficient at this than any other group on earth because we have the perfect example of what can happen when this is done, using the mind of Christ (the wisdom of God). Our eternal salvation depended on God successfully doing this. What is THIS? Planning! Our text says "We should make plans counting on God to direct us" (TLB).

I'm sure by now you have determined what you want to accomplish this year and what your destination is. Nevertheless, the desire to do something is a good start but not enough to accomplish it. In the 24th chapter of Proverbs, the Bible says through wise planning an enterprise is established. You've heard the saying, "Failing to plan is planning to fail." What does this have to do with us as Christians? First, God is a planner. He makes plans. He is a strategist. He planned for us before we arrived here on earth. We were predestined, the Bible says. This indicates that you are not the product of some accident. God planned on your being here. It's really sad for Christians not to realize this important fact. We tell people all the time, "God has a PLAN for your life." We refer to the method of getting saved as the "PLAN" of salvation. When God conceived of us in His mind, He began to plan for us. Thus, He created the heavens and the earth so we could live in this climate and atmosphere. In Genesis, notice the sequence of creation. Everything was created, and then man. God planned for us to be here. You are not an accident going somewhere to happen. Stop thinking of yourself and treating yourself that way. God carefully, fearfully, and wonderfully made you; that is to say, you were carefully thought out by Him. Your sex, your

ethnicity, your skin tone, your size, your temperament, all were planned with great thought and consideration by God. There's not another person like you in all of creation. There's never been another you before and will never be another you to come.

Secondly, since God is a master planner, He has made available to us His wisdom to do our planning. So my question to you is, "what's your plan for the year?" What is a plan? It's a method of proceeding; a program for making, doing, or accomplishing something; a series of steps to be carried out. God is planning on your getting saved. He's planning on your being happy and successful. What steps are you going to take to get in the flow of His plan for your life? In short, "whatcha' gon' do?"

The prodigal son planned to get his inheritance, go to the city and party hearty the rest of his life. His plan was flawed. He learned that his plan was messed up. He found himself in the hog pen, hungry, alone, friendless, penniless, and desperate. The Bible says he came to himself and said I'll get up, go to my father, apologize, and ask for a job.

What is a plan? Simply, a plan is a series of steps to be carried out. Notice, even after realizing his first plan (really no plan at all) was messed up, the prodigal son devised a second one that worked. Maybe your plans for 1997 were messed up. Maybe your previous relationship plan was messed up. Maybe your previous economic plan was messed up. Well, don't quit. Setbacks and sins are only temporary. If you've messed up, go back to the drawing board and ask God to help you come up with another plan.

About 20 years ago, I had a car repossessed (just one of the many dumb things I've done in my life). I felt like my life was ruined. After I prayed about it, God gave me a plan to rebound from that. It's never happened to me again. Some of you have had your relationships wrecked. Some of you may have wrecked your health. Whatever the case, make plans to get back up. Israel messed up big time with God. Consequently, they were taken captive. Their land was pillaged, their place of worship ravaged, and they were taken off into exile. Finally, God allowed the prophet Nehemiah to return and rebuild. One of Nehemiah's most important acts was to first survey the wreckage and then make plans to rebuild.

If you're shipwrecked from 1997, don't lose heart. Survey the damage. And by all means, make plans to rebuild. Never forget that YOU are part of God's plan. You are a product of His planning and you must make plans in order to get to where He wants you to be.

MON

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



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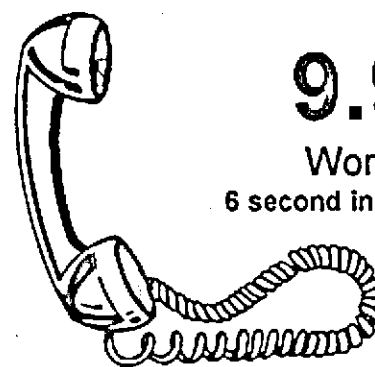
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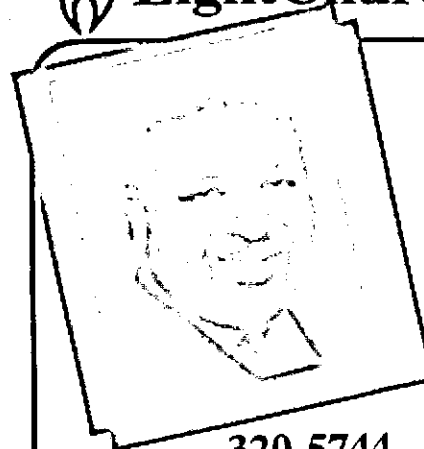
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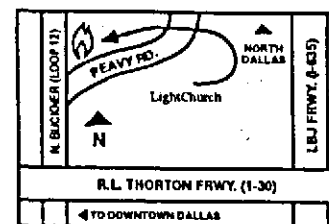
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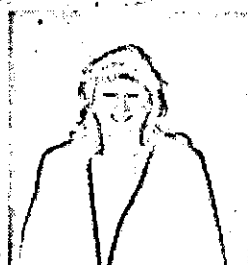
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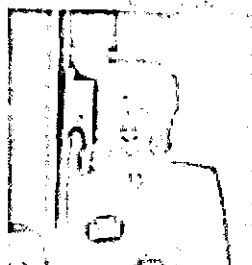
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Purchasing
Manager



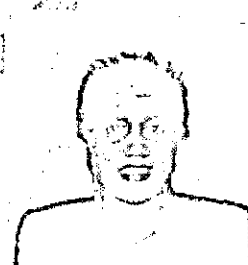
Joe Espinosa

Asst. Director of
Customer Service



Roma Lewis

Executive Director of
Garland Public Housing Agency



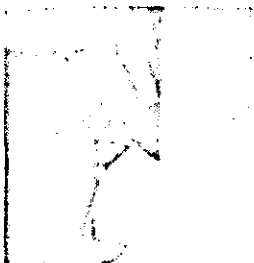
Lavern Slaughter

Recruiting
Manager



Sharmen Fernando

Cashier
Supervisor



Jose A. Alvarado

Community
Relations Specialists



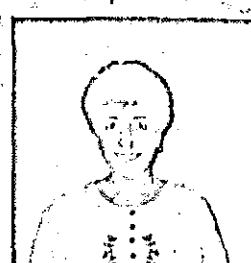
Elina Hernandez

Credit
Supervisor



Pete Martinez

Meter Reader
Supervisor



Carol Clark

Tax Assessor/Revenue
Manager



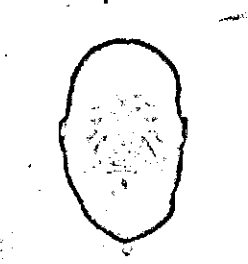
Lonnie Banks

Director of Solid Waste
& Recycling Service



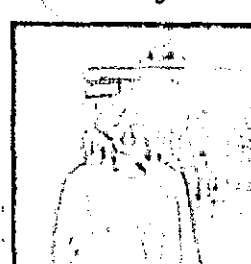
Ronald E. Jones II

Assistant City
Attorney



Al Duffey

Chief Building
Inspector



Felicia Hunter-Brown

Community Development
Planner

City Council

John Montgomery
District 1

Annie Dickson
District 2

Rick Howard
District 3

Ruben Avelar
District 4

Dr. Bob Day
District 5

Harris Hollabaugh
District 6

Richard Fricks
District 7

Jim Spence
District 8
Mayor Pro Tem

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Career Opportunity
Kathleen Goolsby

Terminated!

"You're fired!"

If you never experience being on the receiving end of those two awful words, you can count it a blessing. But many of us have, or will, be booted out the door, final paycheck in hand. Most of us view being fired as failure. In truth, that failure is part of a learning process. It is really no different than the trial-and-error-kind of learning we believe is beneficial in other circumstances. Without the right to fail in business, there is an implication that you only had one opportunity to succeed — and that simply is not so. Remember: you are more than your job, and you can go on to other achievements.

Unfortunately, we tend to forget this when our jobs are terminated. We feel shock. Rage. Anxiety. Self-doubt. And that leads to low self-esteem and even self-pity. We become vulnerable to physical illness. Depression. Addictions.

When you are fired, there are steps to take in the process of claiming unemployment and in looking for a new job. First and foremost, though there are important steps to take to ensure your mental well-being, to halt the self-pity before it leads to something more destructive.

1. Pay attention to what you feed your mind. Read inspirational books or humor books daily. Also, try to learn something new every day.

2. Create wellness by meditating and exercising daily.

3. Realize that, in this world, justice simply does not exist. Change your "It isn't fair" thoughts about being fired to "I'd prefer that..." or "It's unfortunate that...". People who really like themselves don't allow themselves to become distraught when someone else does not play fair.

4. Be sure to have a close friend or family member as someone to whom you can be accountable for your time and daily activities while you are between jobs. This is especially important if you already have an alcohol, drug or overeating problem.

5. Consider that this may be an opportunity to switch careers. Work as a temporary in other fields of interest to get a sense of how much you are likely to enjoy that career.

6. When you are sure you have self-doubt and self-pity under control, examine what happened to cause the firing. Was the problem due to personality traits, lack of skills or knowledge? Make it a goal to improve that "flaw." It not

only will make you more marketable for the next job, but changing yourself for the better and reaching goals will do wonders for your self-esteem.

Norman Vincent Peale wrote, "Change your thoughts, and you change your world." Terminated. It's not failure, nor is it the end of the line. It can be the beginning of some very good things.

MON



Guaranty Federal Bank
8333 Douglas Avenue
Dallas, TX 75225
(214) 360-4894 (fax)

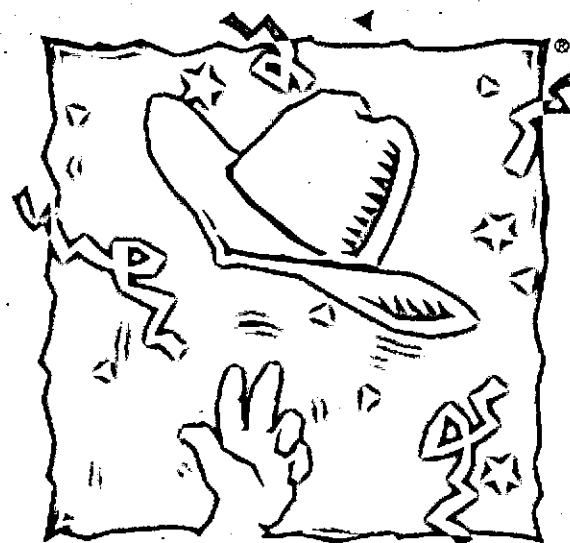
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A Texas Lottery vendor is currently searching for Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs) certified with the State of Texas and experienced in the following areas:

ACRYLIC FINISHING

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

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

WHITE VINYL PRINTING

Printers with capabilities to print four-color process or flat color onto .010

white vinyl material. Must also have die-cutting capabilities. Please submit examples of work, a detailed company history and a descriptive equipment list. Prices must be competitive.

METAL SIGN PRINTING

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

Please respond in writing to:
Minority Development Team
Texas Lottery-DT
P.O. Box 16630
Austin, TX 78761-6630

**—TEXAS—
LOTTERY**

PEN ON FIRE, from page 31

lisher/editor Jim Washington sought the presidency of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, which is comprised of publishers from over 100 Black weekly newspapers. In a close race, Washington was defeated. In an even closer race, KKDA's Roland Martin was defeated in his bid for NABJ parliamentarian. Thurman Jones was re-elected president of the Texas Publishers Association. The *Elite News* began publishing twice each week, and Don McKneely of the *Minority Business News* was honored for his outstanding business coverage. Mary Kay's Adriane Wilson won a car and WFAAs Gary Reaves won the prestigious Peabody Award. Tom Joyner is breaking records all over the place. Tom has also received numerous accolades because of his work promoting Black colleges.

There were several winners of the

MAAT awards at the NABJ Regional Conference: *Our Texas* magazine; Roland Martin, *Minority Opportunity News's* MON II edition; Townview's Jamie Webb; Fort Worth Star-Telegram's Kevin Lyons; Dwain Price for an article in the *Dallas Weekly*; Lyle Henderson, Jesse Hornbuckle and Vonceil Mayes. Diane Beall was named editor of the new magazine, *Onyx*, which debuted in December of 1997. The publication looks great!

All in all, a lot of accomplishments during the year 1997; however, it's clear there is still plenty more work to be done.

MON

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

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It's what powers our success. We're NationsBank, one of the nation's largest and strongest financial institutions. We're assembling a team of individuals who will work together, be focused on the needs of the customer, as well as their own careers. If you have what it takes, we can give you a chance to make an impact on a winning team.

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2. English as a Second Language (Pre K-12)
18 semester hours in English of which 6 hours must be upper division.
3. Secondary Mathematics (7-12)
24 semester hours in math, 12 hours upper level.
4. Secondary Reading (7-12)
12 semester hours in English, 6 hours of which must be in composition.
5. Composite Science (7-12)
48 semester hours in a combination of science courses which must include biology, zoology, chemistry, geology, and physics/physical science, with 24 hours in one of the above areas, 12 of which must be upper level. A minimum of 6 semester hours should be completed in each of the remaining areas.
6. Life/Earth Science (7-8)
24 semester hours in life/earth science. Life science may include biology, zoology, and botany. Each science must include geology/earth science and may include work in oceanography, meteorology or astronomy. Hours must include, but are not limited to six semester hours in each area (i.e., life or earth science) with a minimum of six hours of upper division courses.

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(214) 302-2433 - leave name/address for application packet.

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APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 31, 1998, 5:30 p.m.

(Two official transcripts reflecting all coursework must accompany application)

IF SELECTED, YOU MUST BE AVAILABLE TO BEGIN

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TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR

Duties include developing, planning and implementing goals and objectives for the Traffic and Transportation Department; coordinating departmental activities with other city departments; developing and administering department's budget; reviewing and approving plans, specifications, designs, reports and studies for sound traffic engineering; and coordinating City of Irving traffic and transportation activities with those of other local, county and/or state agencies and organizations. A bachelor's degree or equivalent with a major in traffic or civil engineering and a certificate of registration as a professional engineer in the State of Texas is required. Eight years professional engineering experience including six years administrative and supervisory responsibility is also required. Must possess or be able to obtain a valid class C Texas driver's license. Yearly salary range is \$66,352 to \$96,192. DOQ. Closing date is March 18, 1998. Application available from the City of Irving, 825 W. Irving Boulevard, Irving, Texas 75060, or fax a detailed resume to (972) 721-2582.



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February 13, 1998

1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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To find out more about these opportunities, apply in person to The Visiting Nurse Association of Texas, 1440 W. Mockingbird, Ste. 500, Dallas, TX 75247. Fax to (214) 689-2977, or call (214) 640-4656. EOE.



Visiting Nurse Association



CITY OF DALLAS

Assistant Director of International Affairs

This position has direct responsibility for the development and expansion of Dallas' role in the international business community through international business promotion activities and supervision of the Heritage Alliance Program which maintains close ties with the Greater Dallas Asian Chamber of Commerce, the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce, and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. The incumbent will report directly to the Director of International Affairs, and work closely with the Mayor's office.

Degree in Business or Public Administration, International Business, International Relations, or related, and six (6) years progressive international experience, fluency in one foreign language, and familiarity with multi-ethnic issues. Experience should include two (2) years economic development, finance, trade, sales, and/or marketing. Must have knowledge of international business and trade principles, or knowledge of government operations and procedures. Work or study experience overseas is desirable. Must have the ability to communicate effectively and diplomatically, both internally and externally, at all levels; use independent judgement in decision-making and provide thorough and accurate analyses.

Salary DOQ + benefits.

Interested individuals must submit an application/resume and the names and addresses of three (3) professional references to the following address by Friday, February 13, 1998.

City of Dallas
Department of Human Resources
Staffing Division
1500 Marilla, Suite 6 A North
Dallas, TX 75201

EOE/MFD



DALLAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

1. Sealed bids addressed to the Board of Education of the Dallas Independent School District, Dallas County, Texas, for the addition of approximately 180 ft of Wrought Iron Fencing at Cesar Chavez Learning Center School, Dallas, Texas for the Dallas Independent School District, hereinafter called "District" in accordance with plans, specifications and contract documents adopted by the District, prepared by Hastings, Trevino & Trevino, Inc., will be received in the Purchasing Office, 3700 San Jacinto, Dallas, Texas until 2:00 PM, Thursday, February 5, 1998. At that time, the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud and tabulation will be made to present to the Board of Education at the next regular meeting for consideration in awarding the Contract. Any bid received after the closing time will be returned unopened.

2. There will be a Pre-Bid Conference on Thursday, January 29, 1998, at 1:00 PM at Cesar Chavez Learning Center, 1710 Carroll Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75204, for the purpose of answering questions and walking the site. Bidders are invited and urged to be present.

3. The Contractor shall identify their bid on the outside of the envelope by writing the name of the project on which they are bidding. The name of the project is "BP #116-CD4-Cesar Chavez, Carroll Avenue Fence."

4. Plans and specifications may be examined in the office of Hastings, Trevino & Trevino, Inc., 5050 Quorum Drive, Suite 130, Dallas, Texas 75240, and are on file on January 19, 1998, at:

Dodge Planroom
8828 Stemmons Freeway, Suite 550
Dallas, TX 75247
(214) 241-3411
Attn: Nancy Ebarb

ABC Americas Company
4320 N. Balline Rd., Ste. A102
Irving, Texas 75038
(214) 256-2219
Attn: Terry McAdams

Association of Gen. Contractors
Plan Room
417 Fulton Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76104
(817) 332-9265
Attn: Kim Roberts

Dallas/Ft. Worth Minority Business
Development Center
2720 Stemmons Freeway
1000 Stemmons Tower South
Dallas, Texas 75207-2212
(214) 630-0747
Attn: Bill Hunter

Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
4622 Maple Avenue, Suite 207
Dallas, Texas 75219
(214) 521-6307

Texas Contractor Plan Room
2510 National Drive
Garland, Texas 75041
(214) 271-2693
Attn: Linda Gant

Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce
2838 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Dallas, Texas 75215
(214) 421-5200

AGC/CMD Dallas Plan Room
11111 Stemmons Freeway
Dallas, Texas 75229
(214) 484-2030

5. One complimentary, complete set of Bidding Documents, plans and specifications may be obtained from the office of Hastings, Trevino & Trevino, Inc., 5050 Quorum Drive, Suite 130, Dallas, Texas 75240.

6. A cashier's check payable to the Dallas Independent School District, in the amount of not less than five percent (5%) of the bid submitted must accompany the bid, or an acceptable bid bond in the same amount.

7. It is the goal of the District that at least 30% of the work performed under the Contract will be done by minority or woman owned business enterprises.

8. The District reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to waive any formalities.

9. The District is committed to the ideals of equal opportunity in all its business endeavors.

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AA/EOE/ADA

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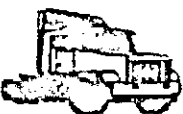
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DALLAS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

1. Sealed bids addressed to the Board of Education of the Dallas Independent School District, Dallas County, Texas, for the addition of approximately 280 lf of reinforced concrete landscaping wall at Cesar Chavez Learning Center School, Dallas, Texas for the Dallas Independent School District, hereinafter called "District" in accordance with plans, specifications and contract documents adopted by the District, prepared by Hastings, Trevino & Trevino, Inc., will be received in the Purchasing Office, 3700 San Jacinto, Dallas, Texas until 2:00 PM, Thursday, February 5, 1998. At that time, the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud and tabulation will be made to present to the Board of Education at the next regular meeting for consideration in awarding the Contract. Any bid received after the closing time will be returned unopened.
2. There will be a Pre-Bid Conference on Thursday, January 29, 1998, at 1:00 PM at Cesar Chavez Learning Center, 1710 Carroll Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75204, for the purpose of answering questions and walking the site. Bidders are invited and urged to be present.
3. The Contractor shall identify their bid on the outside of the envelope by writing the name of the project on which they are bidding. The name of the project is "BP #116-C03-Cesar Chavez, Concrete Landscaping Wall."
4. Plans and specifications may be examined in the office of Hastings, Trevino & Trevino, Inc., 5050 Quorum Drive, Suite 130, Dallas, Texas 75240, and are on file on January 19, 1998, at:

Dodge Planroom 8828 Stemmons Freeway, Suite 550 Dallas, TX 75247 (214) 241-3411 Attn: Nancy Ebarb	ABC/Americas Company 4320 N. Beltline Rd., Ste. A102 Irving, Texas 75038 (214) 256-2219 Attn: Terry McAdams	Association of Gen. Contractors Plan Room 417 Fulton Street Fort Worth, Texas 76104 (817) 332-9265 Attn: Kim Roberts	Dallas/Ft. Worth Minority Business Development Center 2720 Stemmons Freeway 1000 Stemmons Tower South Dallas, Texas 75207-2212 (214) 630-0747 Attn: Bill Hunter
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce 4622 Maple Avenue, Suite 207 Dallas, Texas 75219 (214) 521-6007	Texas Contractor Plan Room 2510 National Drive Garland, Texas 75041 (214) 271-2693 Attn: Linda Gant	Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce 2838 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Dallas, Texas 75215 (214) 421-5200	AGC/CMD Dallas Plan Room 11111 Stemmons Freeway Dallas, Texas 75229 (214) 484-2030
5. One complimentary, complete set of Bidding Documents, plans and specifications may be obtained from the office of Hastings, Trevino & Trevino, Inc., 5050 Quorum Drive, Suite 130, Dallas, Texas 75240.
6. A cashier's check payable to the Dallas Independent School District, in the amount of not less than five percent (5%) of the bid submitted must accompany the bid, or an acceptable bid bond in the same amount.
7. It is the goal of the District that at least 30% of the work performed under the Contract will be done by minority or woman owned business enterprises.
8. The District reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to waive any formalities.
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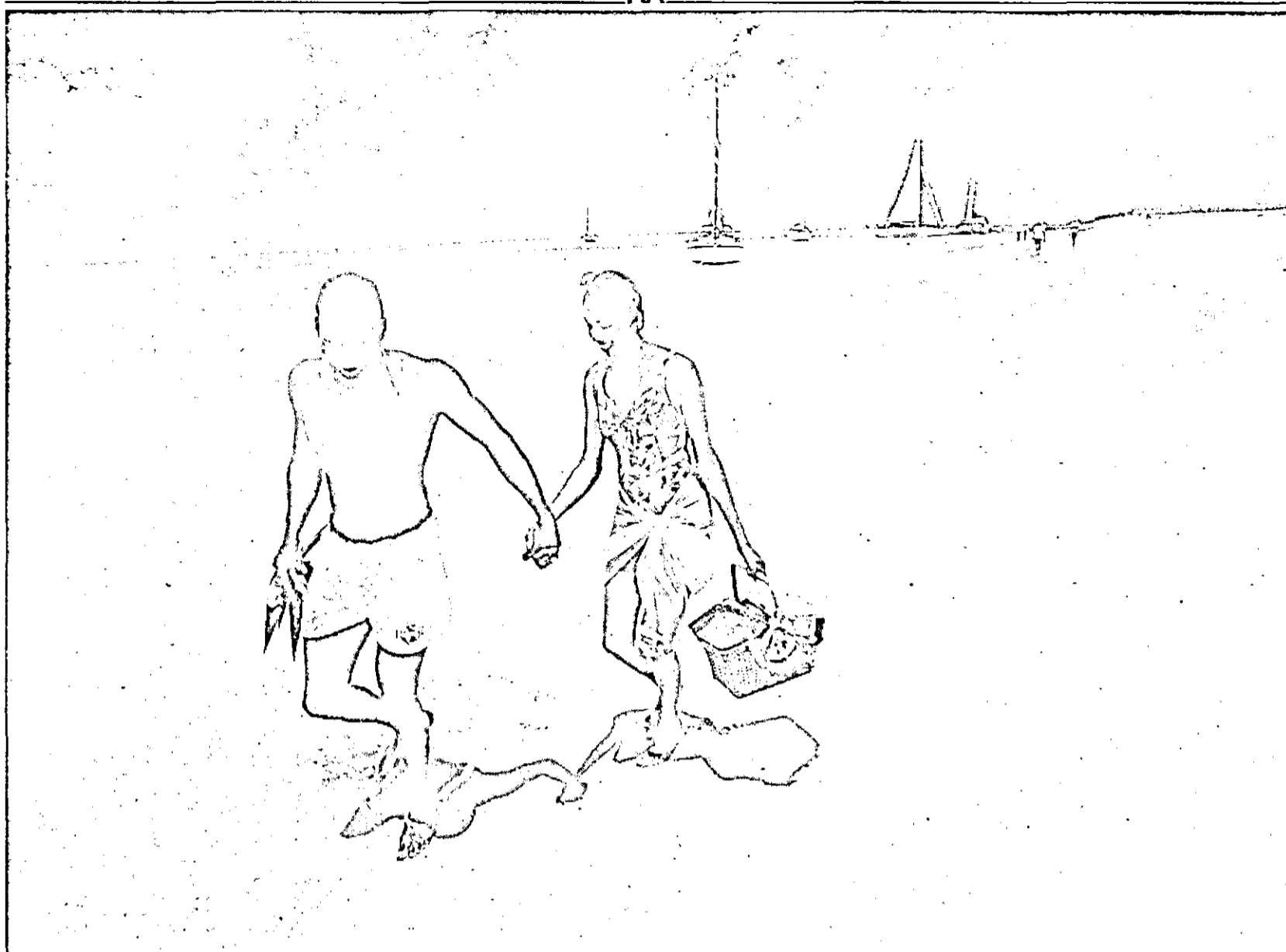
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Personnel Division
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