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Minority Opportunity News



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VOLUME 7, NO. 4 April 1998



Oasis of Editentient

The local organization The Third Eye provides a forum for African literature, thought and history.

Why Dispute Mediation Is Catching On

Cheryl Smith On DFW/ABC Journalism Workshop

Things Your Kids
Can Do
This Summer



From The Editor Chris Pryer

A bullet we can't dodge

Even in this, the most violent industrialized nation in the world, our collective sensibilities were shocked last week when the news broke about yet another multiple shooting of young people by a juvenile. In this case, two boys, each wearing camouflage clothing, had positioned themselves in the woods adjacent to the middle school they attend in Jonesboro, Ark., and, after one had set off a fire alarm to lure students and teachers outside, began shooting at them with rifles. Four students and a teacher were killed; nine other students and a teacher were wounded in the coldly calculated sniper attack. The boys, each facing five charges of capital murder and 10 counts of firstdegree battery, are 11 and 13 years of age.

With this latest tragedy hot on the heels of the West Peducah, Ky., assault—a 16-year-old boy is in custody for killing three fellow high school students and wounding five others—and the Stamps, Ark., shooting incident, where a 14-year-old was arrested for shooting two students outside a school, we are literally drowning in a tidal wave of fear, consternation, anger and helplessness about just what is happening with our children.

This latest lethal attack, in particular, brings into full focus a vexing, two-headed conundrum: 1) What can be done to protect our youngsters (and ourselves) from such eruptions of violence and 2), How do we punish and rehabilitate such young offenders?

While question number two must be addressed in the short term, the greater, more profound question is the first. In the ensuing days after the Jonesboro shootings, I have heard experts grapple with the question of how we can better prepare for such acts of wanton violence, whether they be random or calculated. We all desperately hope we can uncover some way to foresee such acts — to identify the signs of oncoming antisocial behavior. Then we would feel less vulnerable, less at risk.

Truth is, there's no sure-fire way to predict such behavior, to prepare for it in advance. What we need is an inside-out approach — investigate the psychology behind the murderous, spasmodic actions of our youth and, as parents, be prepared to do whatever is required of us to counteract them.

This is the bullet that we, as a society, seem determined to dodge — the bullet of parental responsibility.

Bditorial

Now is a good time for Pastors Coalition to put the money where the mouth is

The Christian community throughout the world is currently celebrating the season of Lent. It is this period that allows followers of Christ to give of themselves sacrificially to show their love and appreciation for all that the Lord has done, and continues to do, for them. Lent also reaffirms the need for self-discipline and being the best stewards of the gifts, time and talents that we are blessed with. Many of these same principles are consistent with the tenets of other religions as well. Self-sacrifice,

renewing the covenantal nature of our relationship with our Higher Being, and reaffirming our commitment to use our God-given resources to the best of our ability are fundamentals of a religious life, irrespective of Christian denomination or religious belief.

A large part of our ability to be responsive to religious directives is realizing that just understanding the literal words of the path we should follow is not enough. In other words, much more is required than just knowing what man Jones, Cecl we are supposed to do; rell Pemberton. rather, it is incumbent upon each of us to follow through with

upon each of us to follow through with the obligations before us.

Now, before you start to feel as if MON is exploring a new career as an adjunct to closest let us share the context.

MON is exploring a new career as an adjunct to clergy, let us share the context of our reasoning. As you probably remember, three years ago the African American Pastors Coalition held its first annual community service celebrating the life and accomplishments of the Rev. Dr. martin Luther King, Jr. During this and each succeeding event, a progress report is given to the African American community. We hear of the successes, the works in progress and the exciting plans for the coming year. We hear outstanding preaching exorting the Black community to rise to the examples and lofty standards set by Dr. King. We also receive a status report on the priority project(s) selected by the Coalition. Notable in this regard, over the last two years, has been the embracing of the Common Ground Credit Union — a

The Christian community throughout the world is currently celebrating the season of Lent. It is this ern sector areas.

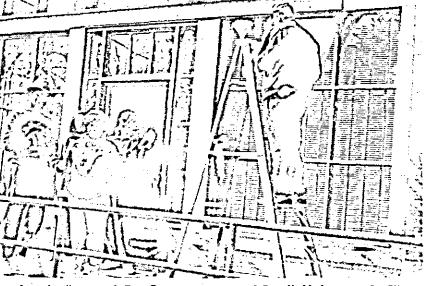
Despite the Pastors Coalition's proclamations to the African American community to do all it can to support Common Ground, it has come to MON's attention that, at present, none of the funds collected during the offerings at the MLK Day services have been deposited at Common Ground Credit Union. Rather, as MON understands it, the Coalition elected to deposit these

at minimum, obligated to tangibly show its support of the "project" institution it selected — Common Ground Credit Union — by putting not only the total amount of the funds collected at the MLK Day services into the Common Ground vaults, but some of its own funds as well.

At the last MLK Day service, the Coalition promised to provide an additional part-time teller — at its own expense — to improve customer service and help streamline operations. Three

months have passed and still no teller, in spite of the obvious

We often hear people bemoan the fact that there is no Black bank in Dallas. The fact is, Common Ground Credit Union is here and is able to meet many of the financial needs of our community — with proper support, of course. Common Ground could be a conduit to facilitate and advance many of the clergy's programs support for the credit union grows, it will be



much more is required Cleaning the "grounds" at Common Ground Credit Union are, I-r, Thurate the local churches. than just knowing what man Jones, Cecilia Flowers, Edna Pemberton and (on ladder) Rev. Darate Furthermore, as the we are supposed to do; nell Pemberton.

runds in one of Dallas' large, non-minority-owned banks. A fundamental question arises, both from the Coalition's seemingly contradictory decision, and the scriptural references made earlier: Would the Coalition have the Black community to follow its lead as stewards of the funds collected from that very community attending the services? Is the Black community being encouraged to gather up its financial resources and then take them to the downtown financial institutions for safe keeping? Is this how it is to interpret the Coalition's leadership?

To paraphrase a quote from our well-known county commissioner, "If we don't support the credit union, then who the hell do you think will?" Or, are we hearing this message from the Coalition: "Do as we say, not as we do"? These phrases take on real meaning in light of the Coalition's responsibility to the African American community. It is,

able to add services such as checking and credit cards. However, before any of this can happen, we must realize that this is not a "chicken or the egg" argument. First, the Coalition must show real leadership and, with its dollars, truly support Common Ground. Secondly, as a community, African Americans should do business with Common Ground. The offerings collected at the last three MLK Day services should not just be another passing of the plate, not just another love offering; rather, these are dollars given by us, for us and should, therefore, be maintained with us. A sense of accountability should motivate the members of the Coalition to provide a full accounting of the funds collected and deposited, their current status, and how they are being used to better the lot of our community.

What better time than Lent for our pastors to reaffirm themselves to stewardship.

MON

TABLE OF CONHENTS

Cover Story

18......The Third Eye is an Oasis of Enlightenment

Editorials

02.....Pastors Coalition

Features

08......Q&A with Gleniece Robinson

16.....Dispute Mediation

Special

42.....Dallas Plan

Columns

02.....Editor's Comments

.05......Community Pulse

07.....Pen on Fire

15.....Ethnic Notes

27......Fairy Street Mama

27......Proprietary Information

28.....Youth Watch

31.....Book Review

32.....Entertainment

33......Personal Finances

34....Living

35.....Real Estate

36.....Spiritual

Recurring

03.....Letters

04......Viewpoint

10.....In The News

21,24.....SWB Community Calendar

37.....Career Opportunities



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LETTERS...

Two Cities

I just happen to pick up your newspaper for the first time while I was banking. I was delighted, informed and ashamed of myself for not knowing that this paper existed. It addressed things that I wondered about (re: growth in southern Dallas and more). I have always wanted to start a business in this sector and wondered if there was a need for it. Your paper (the response to Cheryl Smith's article by Mr. Willie Pryor and the [cover story] by Glenda Williams Goodson, "A Tale of Two Cities") affirmed that there is a need and gave me hope and a starting point. I am doing my homework and trying to make contact with the right people. Hopefully it's not too late to try and get in on the ground floor as property is being bought up as we speak. I would appreciate any and all assistance that you and other business people can give to me.

I stopped taking *The Dallas Morning* News years ago, but I would like to subscribe to your paper.

Please let me hear from you soon.

Brenda Grant Hutchins, TX

What would Dr. King say?

I just finished reading an article entitled, "If King Were Alive Today, What Would He Say?" in the April issue of Ebony magazine. It spurred me to write my sentiments in answering that question.

Dr. King said numerous times that, "the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." I am a 48-year-old black man and I vividly remember the life and aftermath of the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. I believe if Dr. King were alive today, he would be disappointed in the overall quality of life for the masses of black people in our nation.

He would be appalled at the percentages of young, black men in our prisons. He would be appalled by the governmental involvement in channeling drugs into predominantly black neighborhoods. He would be appalled by the

see LETTERS, page 4

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

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

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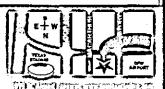


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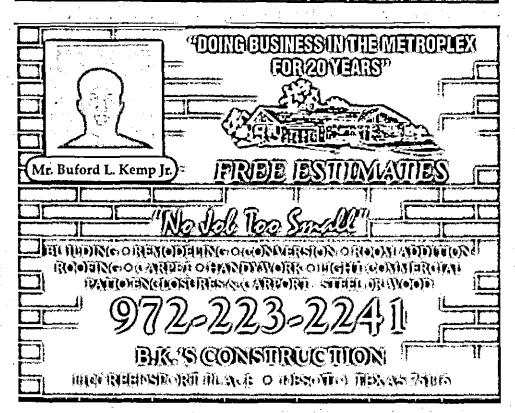
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Guest Viewpoint Raymond Nowicki

Debates are often held about The social science curriculum in public school. Minority groups clamor for studying their cultures exclusively. Conservatives clamor for only studying about the great white men of history. Professors in prestigious universities say we are losing our western culture because we are not reading the great works. What is the truth? What should one know in order to be able to exist within our society and culture? Who are the important figures? How should they be presented?

Just a few years ago there was a heated debate at the university level about what to do with Thomas Jefferson. Here was the man who penned the Declaration of Independence, one of America's founding documents, and certainly one that deserves study. Yet, Thomas Jefferson presents a problem. I think I can safely say that Thomas Jefferson is an enigma.

My problem with Jefferson is that he was the creator of the Declaration of Independence. Studying this document, one comes to the conclusion that this one individual understood more clearly than most of his contemporaries that man was a special creature endowed with rights given by a Creator. This included slaves. Yet Jefferson did not lead any charge to free slaves. He himself maintained his slaves until his death. Only when he could no longer utilize their services were they freed. How can I admire a man who understood the institution of slavery was wrong yet did nothing to bring about its demise? He didn't have the courage to free his own slaves when he was alive.

Jefferson was certainly a man of great brilliance; but he was not above his time. Thomas Jefferson is a person of history who has many sides to his personality, not all of them admirable. This is how

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What Should We Study?

I view Jefferson. Yet, if I were to walk into a public school classroom in Texas, I would be unable to find such a presentation in any textbook. One textbook, written by Harvard University professor Howard Zinn, is even banned from public school libraries. Isn't this a shameful thing? I thought freedom to explore ideas should be encouraged. I guess not.

Then we come to persons of history. We are afraid to put into our textbooks the contributions of persons from different cultures. White people are afraid to acknowledge the contributions of others in this society. We denigrate many parts of the social order in order to raise the level of a few. This seems wrong.

Everyone needs to understand that Blacks, American Indians, Latinos and Asians all made positive contributions to the growth of America. If it weren't for the efforts of everyone, then we would not be the successful nation we are now. If we only concentrate on the literature of the dominant portion of the population, then we miss out on the beauty and fullness that other portions contributed to this nation.

Also, by allowing ourselves only a singular point of view, we can continue to stereotype those groups we do not normally associate with in our daily lives. If

we understood the various groups, then we would be less inclined to denigrate them due to ignorance.

Years ago I worked in a special job for the Cook County Department of Public Aid (Chicago, Illinois) and knew that I was going into parts of the city and county where I could make a cultural mistake and cause unintentional harm. I decided that if I were employed by the State Department and was shipped off to a foreign nation, they would give me a training session about cultural no-nos. I did the same type of preparation to find out how I could better serve the community.

We should all study African American history. We should all look into the rich culture of the Native American society. All of us should be interested in the rich and beautiful heritage of those who resided in Mexico, Central and South America. Students should thrive to understand the rich and colorful history of the African continent. Asia is a continent with a long and illustrious past. To only look at Europe does not allow us to understand that, as a human world, we have so many rich and wonderful ideas that abound around us. This is what we should all be studying.

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Raymond Nowicki is a local educator.

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LETTERS...continued

Sunday church hour still being the most segregated hour in our daily existence. He would be appalled at the level of disinclusion of blacks in all aspects of American life such as jobs, housing, annual incomes, healthcare, family togetherness, education, etc.

If Dr. King were alive today, I would join him in the "unfulfilled" poor people's march on Washington D.C. If Dr. King were alive today, I believe he would say there is a true urgency in attacking the level of poverty we still have present among us. I believe just like God sent Jesus Christ my Lord, God sent Dr. King to serve the poorest of the poor. I believe Dr. King would continue to say we must fight for "justice for all" in America.

Anthony Bond Irving

Racism-business as usual

I wish I could just make a wish and all people of goodwill would come together to confront this horrible crisis of racism. I wish I could just mix up some kind of magical concoction and spread it across the land that would bring us all together to fight this monster. It will take all of us, together, to defeat this abomination, and even then it will be difficult. If there is any hope for the future, this is something that must be done.

There was a time when I thought that racism would be defeated. Now I know we are locked in an epic struggle whose saga may continue for eons. We must not let this make us waiver. We must be undaunted, and we must be committed to do whatever we must to achieve freedom, equality and justice.

It goes without saying, these are worthy goals. No one would argue that—except those who strive for supremacy at the cost of the destruction of humanity. If one family of humanity strips another family of humanity of their humanity, then this act forfeits theirs. To allow this to happen, knowing you should have acted to stop it, is enough to put your humanity in jeopardy too.

We must find a way to come together. We must put all petty differences aside to prepare to meet and defeat this insidious evil known as racism, yet still daring to embrace the "Dream." We have not lived up to the terms of the "Agreement"—to love your neighbor as yourself.

I know the problems of humanity should be solved. I know the problems of humanity could be solved. Yet we shake our heads and agree that it's impossible. Nothing changes, business as usual.

> Rob Johnson Duncanville



Community Pulse

Thomas Muhammad

So much is being made of President Bill Clinton's immoral sexual behavior these days that I thought it best that someone remind us of how interwoven the president's current behavior has been throughout American history. In fact his behavior is very normal when one examines Western societies as a whole.

To prove my point, one has only to travel on or near Harry Hines Blvd here

in Dallas to witness the many topless clubs, massage parlors, and strip joints that saturate the communities in the Bachman Lake area.

Add to that the numerous adult book and video

stores and it becomes pretty obvious that Anglos, particularly western Europeans, seem to have some strange fixation with sexual organs and body parts. And, I might add, not in the name of scientific research!

Yeah, I know, I can hear it already. "See, that Thomas Muhammad is a Black racist, and if that's not true, then why does he fail to mention Clarence Thomas, Mike Tyson, Major Eugene McKinney and others? He just singles out Whites!"

I acknowledge that there are some

Clinton's sexual behavior normal for Americans and Westerners

poor Negroes who fall into the same category as Europeans; however, it is my firm belief that these Negroes are influenced by European behavior. You know, "The oppressed take on the ways of their oppressors." And NO! Not all Europeans are sexually irresponsible!

But again, when looking back at both European and American history, one is forced to believe that immoral,

> sexually deviant behavior was worn like a badge of honor. Total "pubnudity lic" seems to have been the ultimate expression of "true" freedom. The sad part about all of this is that it

appears that European Americans, as well as Europeans throughout the world, do not seem to remember their history lessons very well. The one thing that they seem to have forgotten is that America is quickly following the path of ancient Rome. Much like America now, Rome, too, had developed into one of the greatest war machines of its time. So much so that it was seen as invincible and capable of imposing its will on any nation in the world whenever it pleased.

But even Rome was finally defeated.

Tell me, did you ever stop to ask yourselves how? Well, allow me to assist you with the answer. It was SEX! Oh, I know you don't believe me. I'm not a White man. But that's okay. You'll believe me when you find yourselves falling apart because of some sickness you've never heard of before. And if sex didn't destroy the Roman Empire, then please tell me what did? And no, you won't find this in any school books, but independent research will lead you to the same conclusion that many others have reached. What happened to the Romans would make Sodom and Gomorrah look like a picnic. This pervasive sexual attitude has been a European problem for centuries and will more than likely take America to hell as well.

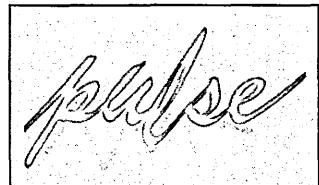
Hard to believe, right? One only has to watch soap operas, movies or scan the magazines and newspapers at the checkout counter to be reminded of how overwhelmingly a part sex plays in American society. Clinton's disgusting sexual lifestyle, if true, is no different than that of George Washington, Phil Gramm, Newt Gingrich, Thomas Jefferson, Bob Packwood, Gary Hart, Mary Albert, Henry Tatum and a host of others that should be listed here. But I won't bore you with those. I think you get the picture. To me, Clinton's sex life has no bearing on the one thing that is more important to me than any other subject in the world — when will his administration pay more attention to Africa. After all, as I said earlier, Clinton and the rest of the politically powerful American White folks' sexual attitudes are going to take America to hell in a hand basket. Knowing that, I believe those of us who are powerless should be doing all we can to create an alternative place to go because, believe you me, it's going to happen.

So, if these sexual allegations are true, Bill Clinton is not doing anything wrong — after all, he came by it honest-

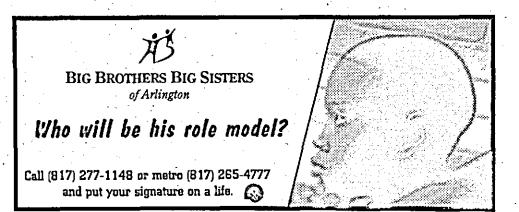
Until then, the struggle continues...

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Editor's note: This column was written before President Clinton and the First Lady embarked on their current tour of Africa.



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





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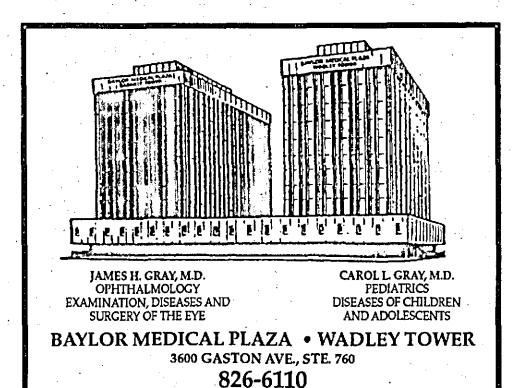
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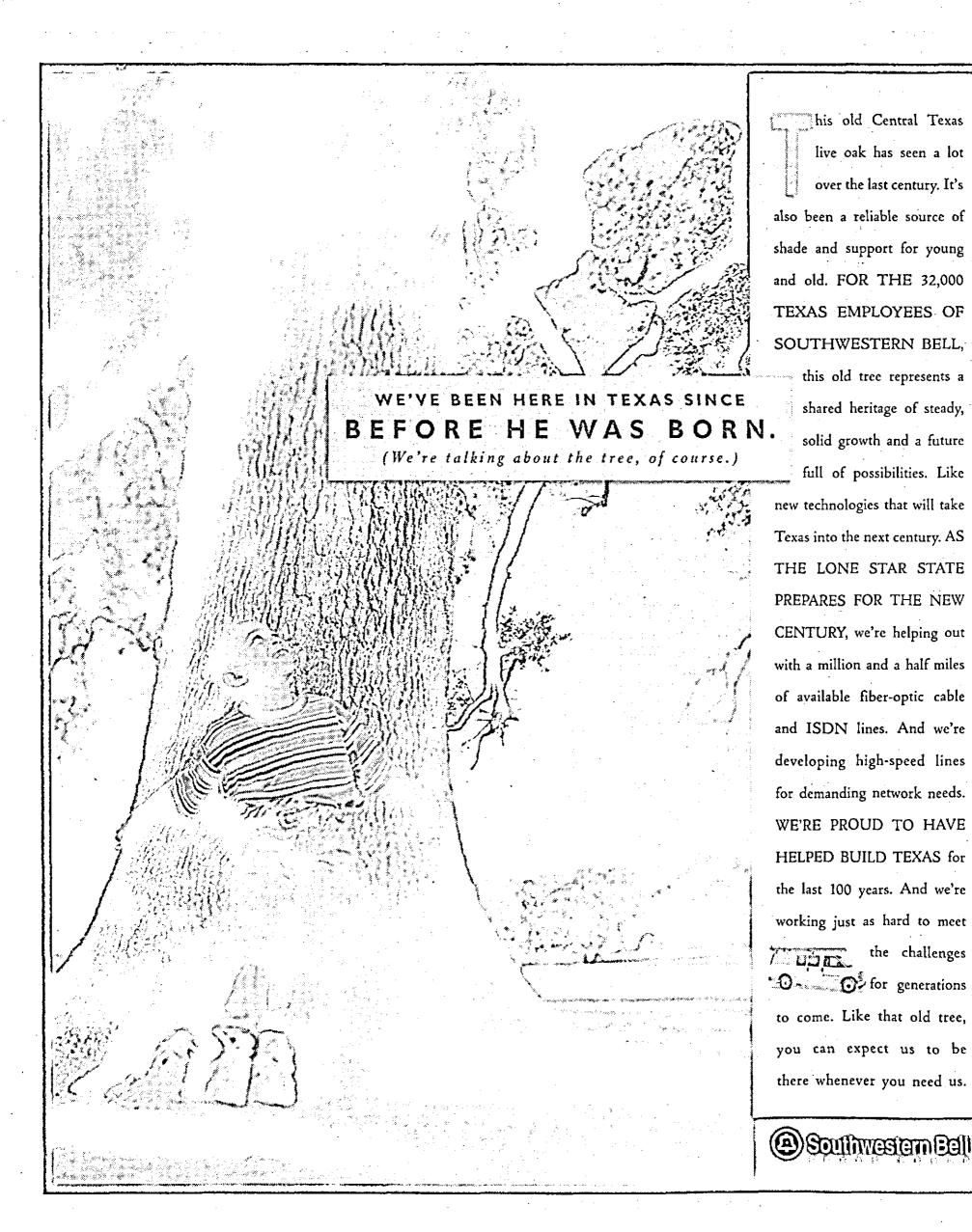
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Pen On Fire Cheryl Smith

Other professions should start workshops

When the Dallas-Fort Worth Association of Black Communicators (DFW/ABC) first presented the Urban Journalism Workshop, it was under the direction of Rochelle Riley, who at that time was an editor with *The Dallas Morning News*. The Urban Journalism Workshop was the brainchild of *Emerge* magazine's editor in chief, George Curry. While working in St. Louis, George and members of the local chapter of the National

Association of Black Journalists began the workshop, which is now held in over a dozen cities throughout the country. In fact, plans are now underway to start a workshop in Trinidad under the direction of former Dallas Morning News staffer and former DFW/ABC president John Yearwood.

Let me tell you about the DFW/ABC Urban Journalism Workshop.

For approximately 10 consecutive Saturdays, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., both high school and college students gather at Dallas' Lincoln (High School) Humanities and Communications Magnet to learn about the world of journalism. Thanks to Arlington Morning News Managing Editor Lawrence Young, KERA's Dorothy Gentry and other members of DFW/ABC, the students are introduced to an entirely different learning experience.

Initially, the workshop was designed for high school students; but after careful observation, it was determined that college students could also benefit from the workshop. (As a matter of fact, we even had an 8th grader take part in the workshop — who are we to turn away any child who commits to 10 weeks of intense classes on SATURDAY mornings?)

So, for the past nine years, hundreds of young people have participated in the program. They learn about ethics. They discuss current events and the basics of journalism, photography, public relations and broadcasting. They participate in mock job interviews and press conferences. The sessions are intense and many students leave the program with a better perspective about the field of communications.

Over the years, the workshop has brought in numerous speakers: Dallas County Judge Lee Jackson; Dallas Police Chief Ben Click; city of Dallas mayoral

candidates; Dallas County Commissioner John Wiley Price; film producer Haile Gerima; Dallas Weekly publisher/editor James A. Washington; Dallas Morning News columnists Steve Blow and Thor Christensen; author Joyce Ann Brown; Mothers Against Teen Violence founder Joyce Strickland; George Curry; Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk; KXAS-TV general manager Doug Adams; Dallas Morning News executive editor Gilbert Bailon and assistant managing editor Vernon Smith; author A. Peter Bailey; Fort Worth Star-Telegram columnist Bob Ray Sanders; and University of Texas (at Austin) professor John Hanson.

Journalists from almost every media outlet in the metroplex have visited the workshop and acted as mentors to the participants. During the 10-week work-

shop, students can learn the mechanics of public relations from Lyria Howland of Howland PR, or Valorie Burton of Burton PR. And it was Tamara Jenkins of Moroch and Associates who gave the students their first exercise in marketing a product.

When Bob Ray Sanders or James Ragland (The Dallas Morning News) led the

discussion in ethics, the students were sure to find themselves embroiled in heavy debate. The mock job interviews, conducted by Lawrence Young, ABC Radio's Dewayne Dancer, Dallas Morning News reporter Selwyn Crawford, and a host of others, provided many of the students with their first "real" job interview.

Joyce Ann Brown moved many to tears as she told of her nearly 10 years in jail for a crime she didn't commit. Deneen Robinson, who tested HIV positive after coming into contact with contaminated blood at work, caused many to rethink their position on pre-marital and unprotected sex as she candidly discussed the AIDS virus.

I could go on and on about many other people: consultant Ester Davis; Mary Kay representative Adriene Wilson; NBC's Paula Walker; or the many others who donated their time to share their experiences and knowledge with the students.

But there's more to the whole picture. There are many more young people out there who need mentors. Just imagine, if every profession offered a workshop for high school and college students. Imagine if we had more workshops getting our children out of the house and off the streets, getting them to look to the future.

DFW/ABC doesn't do it alone. Major sponsorship has come from The Dallas Morning News and, in the past, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Kroger Foods, The Dallas Weekly and the Minority Opportuni-

PEN NOTES:

Condolences to the families of the following: Dr. Napoleon B. Lawis, former principal of Lincoln Humanities and Communications Magnet. Dr. Lewis died on March 27 and his funeral was held on April 1 at the Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship. He was a friend, father figure, educator and mentor, as well as a source of support to so many. He received the educator's award from the Dallas-Fort Worth Association of Black Communicators in the early '90s and offered Lincoln as the home for the Urban Journalism Workshop. He was an inspiration to me. I love him and will always remember what a wonderful person he was; Rolanda "Trina" Terrell on the death of her father. Trina is a post Dallas-Fort Worth Association of Black Communicators (DFW/ABC) scholarship winner (4 times) and a participant in the Urban Journalism Workshop (3 years). Tring is the past student representative for the Hatianal Association of Black Journalists, Her father taught at Jackson State University; James Ragland, of The Dallas Morning News, on the death of his ount: and Tachia Williams of KKDA-TV, on the death of her father, Taschia attended UT Arlington and she is the executive producer of Roger B. Brown's Talking Sports.... Special Thanks to: Brenda Teele of Pasitively Toxast, Duchesne Paul Drew of The Dallas Morning News, Kimberly Jackson of KEGL: Philip Pyle of Lennox International; Jim Washington of The Weekly, and Lawrence Young of the Arlington Morning Naws for helping to sponsor students for the NABJ Region VII Conference in Houston. The Conference was held Thursday, March 19 - Sunday, March 22, at the Red Lion Hotel-Galleria and 19 students from the Urban Journalism Workshop attended, along with one parent. Sarah Artis, who went along as a chaperone...Kudos to John Yearwood, former president of DFW/ABC. John and his wife Robin, both former Dallas Morning Newstaffers, are about to start an Urban Journalism Workshop in Trinidad, Hopefully, they will be sending for me to come and help out for a few sessions...Kudos also to Kimberly Jackson, Joycelyn Johnson, Roland Martin, Lyria Howland, Duchesna Paul Drew, Norma Adams Wade, Ramona Logan, Steve Crocker and Thurman Jones for the wonderful presentation at the "Meet the Press" forum sponsored by the Center for Non profit Management, the Volunteer Center and DFW/ABC...The "Don't Bolieve the Hype" Celebrity Bowla-thon will be held on June 27, 1998, at Don Carter's West. We're gonna have a good time with Dick Gregory and we're gonno have a big party celebrating the birthdays of someone we all know and Motown! Each year, \$1,500 is

more information. Africa Care Academy, also a beneficiary of the Bowl-a-thon, will hold its Educational Awards Banquet on Friday, May 22, at Friendship West, 616 W. Kiest Blvd. 7p.m. The dynamic Rev. Frederick D. Haynes III will be the speaker. Call 214-941-1511 for tickets... Congratulations to Fort Worth Star-Telegram writer/columnist Gracie Bonds Staples. Recently her column was moved to Sundays. Congratulations Gracie. Just wish we could get The Dallas Maraing News to move Norma Adams Wade back to Sundays!!! Webmistress Michelle Smith is enjoying her new position at Fleishman Hilliard. She's also planning for that big wedding in the fall...Congratulations to veteran journalist Robin Boyce, who recently joined the staff at KDFW-Fox Kews...Brian Custer is doing well as the weekend anchor at KTVT-Channel 11. The former president of the Columbus, Ohio Association of Black Journalists is an active member of DFW/ABC... Well it seems like there is a new trend sweeping the notion. Radio is everchanging, with companies providing weather traffic and news.....Have you checked out Metro (with John McCaa, Angelique Teje, Marjorie Ford Gregg Primus, and our Urban Journalism Workshop participant Tonya Chambers [intern])... Another Workshop participant, Natasha Abdallah, is interning at Onyx magazine...Constable Burl Jernigan should be commended for his continued commitment to serving the community. He denated deputy constables to provide security for the nineweek duration of the journalism program at Uncoln High School, at no cost... Rose Galford of Event's Logistics, is running things at the Texas Black Expa, which will be held at the Dallas Convention Center, April 4-5. Tickets are \$6 for adults. Call 972-222-2733. You can still get a booth! Entertainment includes: Cameo, The Clark Sisters, Tamia and Public Announcement... Norma Adams Wade and Rochelle Brown will be honored by Girls Inc. on April 7 of the Anatole Hotel. They will receive the "She Knows Where She's Going" Award at the annual luncheon...The Dallas-Fort Worth Chapter of the Florida A&M University Alumni Association will present the movie Chocolate City at the Granada Theater on Greenville Avenue, Salurday, April 18. There will be two showings and the cost is \$5 per person...Get your tickets for the DFW/ABC Scholarship Banquet, featuring keynote speaker Barbara Reynolds on Saturday, June 13, at the Adams Mark Hotel...Don't forget the next DFW/ABC meeting will be held on April 7 at The Dallas Morning News at 6:30 p.m. Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk will be addressing the group.

donated to DFW/ABC from the Bowl-a-thon. Stay tuned for

ty News have given their support. Most recently, the Dallas Examiner has started showcasing the students' work on the Internet.

At the end of the program, a graduation is held. At the ceremony, scholarships of up to as much as \$5,000 are awarded and the students present their projects: television and radio news broadcasts, and a newspaper.

So, DFW/ABC is working on producing future journalists, showing the importance of ownership, management, creativity, networking, mentoring and building. We're trying to ensure that our future journalists will have a strong foundation and, because they will have worked with some of the best in the business, they will understand their importance in the field of journalism.

It would be so wonderful if, just as future journalists can attend workshops, the future doctors, lawyers, accountants, educators, dentists, bank executives, engineers, pharmacists and managers also had an opportunity to attend similar workshops in their respective fields...Do you see the big picture?

We just need the commitment from professionals. If those who have the knowledge are willing to share it, I'm sure there are young people out there who would welcome the opportunity.

Anybody out there interested?

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.

Books, books, and more books

Gleniece Robinson, Dallas Library's asst. director for public services, knows where the "info" is

By Cheryl L. Williams

There is a saying that if you give a man a fish, he'll eat for a day, but if you <u>teach</u> a man to fish, he'll eat forever. In that sense, Gleniece Robinson wants to teach every man, woman and child how to fish—for information. And the library, she says, is just the place to do it.

Ironically, Robinson, who holds a Ph.D. in Library and Information Science, did not set foot in a library until she was in college. Growing up in rural Alabama while George Wallace was governor, she remembers that blacks simply were not allowed in these public institutions. But when she finally got a taste of the power that libraries contained, she was hooked. After graduating from Alabama State University with a degree in English/Psychology, she continued her education, attaining certification in Archival Administration and a Master's degree in Library and Information Science. Robinson also interned at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

Now, as assistant director of Public Services at the Dallas Public Library, Robinson facilitates library-related services that go directly to the public through a number of public service outlets. She also provides leadership and support in administering human resource services to over 300 employees.

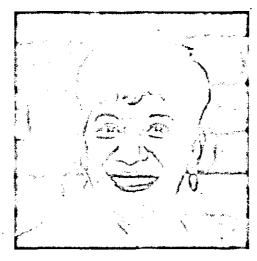
As the demographics of Dallas change, Robinson's challenge is to meet the information needs of a diverse population. One of the ways that she is accomplishing this is through her membership in the Texas Library Association, a state agency. Recently, she learned that she was selected the 1998 president-elect of the nearly 100-year-old organization, becoming the first minority to achieve this victory. Through her position, she hopes to increase recruitment of minorities into the information services field and, consequently, promote library services to those who, traditionally, have not been library users.

MON talked with Gleniece Robinson about the importance of library use and information retrieval. The following is an excerpt from that interview.

As assistant director of Public Services for Dallas Public Libraries, what services do you coordinate?

I coordinate, facilitate services that we provide that go directly to the pubic and I do those through a number of public service outlets, including 22 branch libraries, 11 central library subject divisions, central circulation, interlibrary loan and literacy programs. [These areas] provide a service that is a direct response to the public's demand for information. One of our special initiatives that I'm extremely proud of is the Teen Center project,

which is located at Highland Hills and Lakewood Branch Libraries. That program was initiated from the observation that we were not serving, as well as we could, the youth population. We got federal funds from the Community Development Block Grant fund and we targeted two particular neighborhoods. We conducted a needs assessment among the kids, found out what their needs were,



and constructed the program based on that, and it has been highly successful. In the first year, we projected that we would serve about 1,073 kids. We reached over 3,000 kids. In our second year, our projection was about 2,000 kids. In the first quarter of the fiscal year, we had reached over 2,000 kids already. We feel that we can also be good role models for kids and we can provide something that, in our opinion, some kids don't get — that is a level of affection and love and trust. Another program that we have is the poetry competition called "Express Yourself." Again, it is an effort that is in response to the needs for youth to be more involved. During the first year of that program, we had 1,600 kids to regis-

I deal not only with the direct public service effort, but I deal with all if those elements that impact the public service effort, such as the facilities and staffing. I do a lot of community meetings. I do a lot of programs. I do a lot of statistics and I do a lot of gathering of information upon which to make these kinds of decisions to design new programs in response to community needs or to enhance or improve the programs we already have.

What is the benefit of having branch libraries, and how are libraries structured to meet the needs of the community they serve?

Dallas is a very diverse community of people with varying kinds of needs. What

the library has done is to look at the city overall and make decisions about where we wanted to place branch libraries, because we understand that given transportation and various kinds of needs that people have, not everybody can come to the downtown library. Within a 3- to 5mile radius, you should find a branch library somewhere, and it is more tailored to that particular community. The communities are different so the collections vary depending on the community needs. The staffing would vary depending on the community needs. The programs would vary depending on the community needs. We use a lot of demographic information to make our decisions and that information is used again to make the decision about the collection, because people are interested in what they need in their own communities.

How can African Americans effectively utilize the services libraries have to offer?

The primary way is to find out what services we have. We are always trying to figure out better ways to market our services. We try as much as we can to get the word out that the best deal in town is at your local library—all the way from services for your children to services for older Americans.

When you talk to some people about libraries, the first thing that we start talking about is that we want kids to start reading early and to understand that reading is fun. But I am in a community where I'm dealing with the basics of life, not fun and leisure. I'm dealing with core essentials and survival for my life. I grew up very poor. I was not interested in reading for fun. I needed to be reading to make better decisions in life, so I could enhance the quality of my life. I think that if we would start focusing on why reading is important for things other than fun, we might be able attract more people to read. If your home is in dire need of improvement and the Federal government and the city of Dallas has money that you can borrow, then you're not interested in me talking to you about reading for fun; you want to know where you can go to get more information to apply for the loan so that you can get some money to improve your house. I think that's the part that we are missing at the moment. Of the million people we serve in Dallas, they're all at a different level, so we have to figure out how to get the broadest message out there, saying to all million of them, we have something that will meet everybody's need if we can figure out how to best articulate to you that we've got it.

Is the library intimidating to some people?

Yes, I think it's very intimidating to some people. I think one reason for that is

[African Americans] have not been, traditionally, library users. We were not [always] able to go to libraries. I did not set foot in a public library until I was in college. I grew up in rural Alabama, with George Wallace as governor, in an era of segregation. We were not allowed to go. When you put those things together, then yes, you have a community of people who are not traditional library users and do not feel these places belong to them. Then, when some people make the effort to go to a public library, in some cases, (I'm told by my public) they're not always greeted with the response that we really want them to have. So they don't have that positive experience the first time they go. That's why we're also now involved with outreach. We have five persons who do community outreach so that they can make some personal contacts with the

When we look at the Dallas demographics and how Dallas is changing, we have a whole new group of users that we've not had before. Not only the African Americans who are becoming more in tuned to library services, but the Hispanic and the Asian populations. They also come from a culture where they may be intimidated by governmental services, not just library services. They see us as a bureaucracy sometimes, and in some countries where library services [are] not free, they also think they have to pay when they come. That is another barrier that we try to overcome. This is a free public library service.

You've been instrumental in establishing church libraries around the country. Why is it important for churches to have libraries?

What I truly want is for all citizens to use their public libraries where they have spent their public dollars. That's an idealistic view because I also understand, looking at my background and the background of others, we are not traditional library users. So the question is what is one thing of many that we can do to introduce us to library services and the whole world of information. One of the best ways to do that, in my opinion, is through church libraries. We may not go to a whole lot of other things, but we go to church. So when you go to church, then you have a captive audience. So what do you do with them? In my case, I dump library services on them. I love it and they are beginning to love it to.

So what happens at a church library can be any number of things. One is you introduce them to the service. We do a lot of referrals so they have direct contact with a particular public library. Once they go [to the public library], they become frequent users of the public library. They went, found what they wanted and it was easy. So what do they do next when

somebody starts talking to them? They tell them, go to the public library.

What is the Texas Library Association and why is it significant that you will serve as the organization's first minority president?

Every state has a state library agency and most states have a library association. That association helps with the continuing education needs of the professional, helps with the recruitment and helps with programming. It also helps give direction to the library profession in general. The state association has a natural link to the American Library Association. We have people who serve on the American Library Association council and they provide direct information back to the state level. The Texas Library Association's mission is to provide services to citizens of Texas through all of the libraries, not just the public libraries.

[The TLA] has done several studies on recruitment, trying to figure out how to get minorities into the profession. The association is near 100 years old and they've never had a minority to head the organization before. I think it is appropriate and fitting that as we approach the year 2000, the association says in a very significant way that we are trying to adapt and meet the changing needs of the community. And one of the ways to do that when you start talking to communities is role modeling. We want to recruit minorities into the profession. There is a natural link from recruitment into leadership of the association. I'm not sure I necessarily agree that it takes a person of the same race to provide the best service to that race, but I think for some people, it will make a significant difference. They have a better relationship and a better rapport with a person from their own race or at least they perceive that they have anyway. So that person is able to meet that need on a far different level than a person of a different race. The demographics of Texas is changing and we are moving in the same direction as the community that we are trying to serve.

Why would anyone be attracted to this field and what are you doing to attract more African Americans?

This profession is attractive in a number of ways. One of the primary discussions that is going on in the library profession is the word "library" itself. You think boring; you think a warehouse; you think of storage; you think of the little ladies that they say sit at the desk with the glasses on and the buns and say 'shhhh!' It has never been that, but that is the perception. In the library profession, when you transition from library to information, then what is it that people use to make every decision that they make? It's information. In the library profession, the

information world, you have the power to impact every decision that is made. You have this great sense of power and responsibility. The library profession opens avenues to all other kinds of jobs. You can go into it as an information specialist; you can become an information broker; you go into consulting or you can go into continuing educating and training. You can do all of that by being a librarian. It also means you can provide visibility. You can impact the political arena because we also work with legislation.

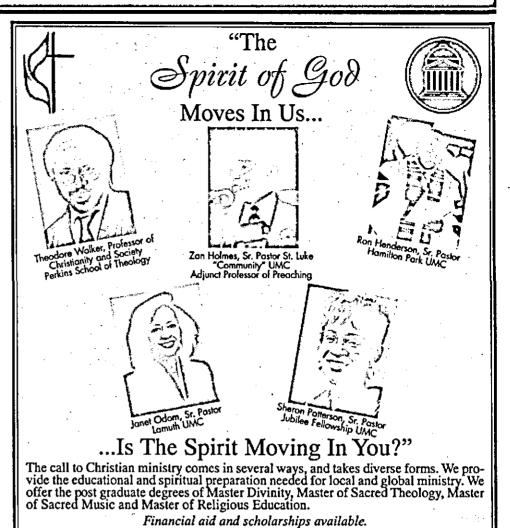
If you want millions in the information world, it is the place to be. Look at all these people who have information companies. Again, it all comes back to some association or affiliation with libraries. We say to people, go into the library field to not only fulfill your personal mission in life but so you will be one of the people who can not only produce information, but also retrieve and store that information.

What are your current priorities?

In addition now to dealing with how I am going to manage TLA, a mobile learning center [is one priority]. What we have realized in hearing from our community is that we have some places that we need to provide additional services. In some cases, the community may say we've not provided services at all. So to address some of those needs, we have embarked on a mission to try to get mobile learning centers. These are not the same as the old bookmobiles. These are interactive mobile learning centers that will have computer equipment as well as the traditional print materials on board. They are not designed to replace the branch library. They are designed simply to introduce people to what we have so that they can understand what a library has and see the value for themselves, and then take the initiative to go to their nearest branch library.

In conjunction with that, I talked about outreach services and again, as the demographics and the face of Dallas changes, we are trying to respond to those needs. We have those five outreach specialists in the five service areas for the city of Dallas. Each one of them is trying to make contacts with the community to say we have a library which is probably just around the corner. We have services that can help you in your life. Whether you're at the level where you're reading something for fun; or whether you're reading for basic improvement; or whether you're trying to continue your education; whether it's life long learning; whether it is consumer information or business information, we have something that you can use. Those two are the primary things that I'm interested in right now.

MON



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In The News

depressed Hispanic communities and

founder of the Anita N. Martinez Ballet

The award honors women for their

Four to be honored at 1998 "She Knows Where She's Going" Awards Luncheon

Girls Incorporated of Metropolitan Dallas announced the winners of the 1998 "She Knows Where She's Going" Award. The recipients will be honored April 7, 1998 at the 10th Annual "She Knows abilities to overcome personal obstacles, Where She's Going" Awards Luncheon at take control of their lives and demon-

the Anatole Hotel in Dallas.

The winners are: Norma Adams-Wade. columnist and staff writer at The Dallas Morning News who was one of the first African Americans in the newsroom of The Dallas Morning News: Rochelle Brown, Fox 4 affairs community director and executive producer of Insights, affairs show; Karen L.

Jenson, entrepreneur, community volunteer and date rape survivor who has mentored numerous girls and women in personal and leadership development; and Anita N. Martinez, the first Hispanle woman to sit on a major U.S. city council (Dalias), avid advocate for Dallas'

Folklorico.

one of the nation's (I-r) Norma Adams-Wade, Anita N. Martinez, Rochelle longest-running public Brown and Karen L Jenson

strate concern for girls and young women. Girls incorporated is a national nonprofit agency whose mission is to empower girls to take charge of their lives. For more information call Brenda Snitzer at 214-654-4536.

he received a B.B.A. in Accounting in

FINA, inc. through its subsidiaries, engages in crude oil and natural gas exploration and production and natural gas marketing; petroleum products refining, supply and transportation and marketing; and chemicals manufacturing and marketing. For more information call 214-750-2400.

April 28 deadline for bidding on forfeited state land

A catalogue listing 198 tracts of forfeited state land reserved exclusively for bids from Texas veterans is now available from the Texas Veterans Land Board (VLB). Bids will be opened on April 28, 1998 at 1:00 p.m. The catalogue, which contains bidding instructions, can be ordered by calling 1-800-252-VETS.

Located in 90 Texas counties, the tracts range in size from five to 200 acres. The tracts, known as Type 1 tracts, can be purchased with no payment down. Bids are restricted to eligible Texas veterans.

The VLB will finance the entire loan amount of all winning bids. Texas veterans will receive a 7.64 percent interest rate with a 30-year assumable fixed-rate loan. A \$25 non-refundable fee for each

bid is required. There is no limit on the Deion amount loaned or on the number of tracts that an individual can bid on. However, eligible Texas veterans are limited to one purchase in the sale.

All bids must be received by April 28 at 1:00 p.m. Details of the sale can be obtained by calling 1-800-252-VETS. For more information contact Ron Calhoun or Steve Speir at 512-463-5339.

Austin honored as African American hero

James N. Austin of Fort Worth, Texas was honored recently as one of the 1998 KKDA radio/Coca-Cola African American Heroes. Austin, a real estate broker and president of the Austin Company of Fort Worth, is a graduate of Howard University and also the co-founder of the Renaissance Cultural Center, a nonprofit community service organization located in Fort Worth, Texas.

Each year, KKDA radio recognizes individuals who have contributed to the empowerment of the African American community and the city in which they live. Also inducted were attorney Bobbie Edmonds and gospel artist Kirk Franklin, Bishop T.D. Jakes and Dallas Cowboys

Sanders. The banquet, which was held at St. John Family Life Center in Dallas, featured Rev. Frederick D. Haynes, III, pastor Friendship West Baptist



James N. Austin, Jr.

Church as the keynote speaker. Willis Johnson of KKDA radio served as master of ceremonies. For more information call 817-922-9999.

The Dallas Convention Center will be transformed into a spectacular African American showcase April 4-5 with the debut of the Texas Black Expo 1998,

Chase Texas announces second annual grant to Southeast Oak Cliff

Chase Bank of Texas in Southeast Oak Cliff is accepting applications for its sec-

FINA appoints Estes new manager of corporate insurance

FINA, Inc. announced recently that it has appointed lames Earl Estes manager of corporate insurance. Mr. Estes will be responsible for developand ing implementing



James Estes

a property and casualty insurance risk management program. he will also work with FINA operations personnel to identify and quantify risks and assist in the development of loss control and prevention programs.

Mr. Estes joined FINA's Internal Audit Department in March 1997 and has held senior positions in accounting and finance for companies including Southern Dallas Development Corporation, Atlantic Richfield and W.R. Grace. He is a graduate of East Texas University where



The News More In

ond annual community grant program to Southeast oak Cliff civic projects and community organizations.

Chase Texas made a commitment when it opened the southeast Oak Cliff location in November 1995 to give back to the community ten percent of annual branch earnings or a minimum of \$10,000. The full-service banking facility is located at 4435 S. Lancaster Road, directly across from VA Medical Center and the Dart light rail stop.

In 1997, 31 community organizations benefited from the grant program, including the I Am That I Am Training Center, an after-school program for abused and neglected children aged 7 to 17.

The grants must be used to impact the Southeast Oak Cliff Branch's immediate trade area. Grant applications are available at the branch or from a member of the branch's Community Advisory Council. Applications must be received by 3:00 p.m. April 30, 1998. For more information about the grant program, call 214-302-1200.

Shepherd of Hills Clydesdales visit Alexander Elementary School

The Shepherd of the Hills Clydesdales were featured during a visit last month to Birdie Alexander Elementary School, 1830 Goldwood Dr., Dallas. The purpose of the visit was to introduce the children to Harold Bell Wright's The Shepherd the Hills, the fourth most widely read book in publishing history, and to give the students a chance to stand hoof to toe with a Clydesdale.

The Clydesdales have become the goodwill ambassadors of Branson, Missouri as they embark on their Clydesdale Tour '98 with visits to several schools throughout the nation. Accompanying the Clydesdales were Keith Thurman, director of the Shepherd of the Hills nightly Outdoor Drama in Branson; Larry Wayne Hull, director of the park's Historic Tours given during the day; and livestock manager Terry Fullerton.

For more information call Victor Smith at 214-989-8329.

Primary Care Clinic focusing on seniors now open near Fair Park

Physicians Caron A. Houston, M.D. and Muriel P. Cyrus, M.D. are helping to lay the foundation for healthy senior years at the new Baylor Senior Health Center. The clinic is temporarily located in Bay-Ior's Doctors Building, 3707 Gaston Avenue, Suite 403, Dallas. The clinic's medical staff focuses its services on the primary care needs of senior adults age 65 and older.

Caron A. Houston, M.D. received her medical degree from The University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, and completed her internal medicine

internship and residency at the University of New Mexico. Her special interests are diabetes mellitus and preventative medicine.



Muriel P. Cyrus, M.D. received her medical degree from Yale University School of Medicine in New Haven, Connecticut. ed her intern-



She complet- Muriel P. Cyrus, M.D.

ship and residency at the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinic, Iowa City. Dr. Cyrus is board certified in emergency medicine and internal medicine.

In addition to physician's care, patients at the center receive the services of a dietitian, pharmacist, home health nurse and social worker. The Baylor Senior Health Center at Fair Park is one of 13 Baylor Senior Health Centers. For more information call 214-887-8089.

UTA honors outstanding African American alumni

Sonia Williams-Babers, owner and chief executive officer of The Black Bookworm Bookstore and Imani Travel in Fort Worth and Walter Lewis Price, owner of Price Evaluation and

Training in Dallas received The University of Texas at Arlington's African American Outstanding Alumni Awards.

Williams-Barber received a B.A. degree from UTA in political science in 1979. After graduating, she was appointed the first African American editorial assistant for Boys Scouts of Ameri- Walter Price and Sonia Williams-Babers ca National Headquar-

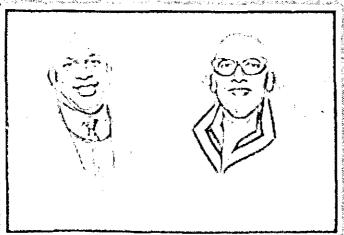
ters' Boys Life and Scouting magazines. She opened The Black Bookworm in 1992 and Imani Travel, a fullservice agency in 1995.

She received the Eagle Award from the Fort Worth Metropolitan Black Chamber of Commerce's Women's Division in 1997 and the 1996 Quest for Success Award, Williams-Babers and her husband, Elvis Babers, live in Fort Worth.

Price received a B.A. degree from

UTA in 1985. He earned a M.S. degree from Amber University.

A motivational speaker, facilitator, trainer, negotiator and manager, Price has been a trainer for Harvard Univer-



sity School of Public Health, the Texas Attorney General's Office and the Texas Education Agency. Before forming his own company, Price was a manager of education and employment for the Dallas Urban League.

Price and his wife Henrietta Harris-Price have one daughter and reside in Dallas. For more information call 817-272-2594.

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TPA holds annual convention

SAN ANTONIO—The Texas Publishers Association met here March 13-15 for its 12th annual convention. The conference was held at the Camberly Gunter Hotel.

The theme of the conference was "Essentials of the Black Press." Workshops were held on a number of topics,

TPA is the African American press of Texas, with 22 member newspapers representing virtually every area of Texas. The president is Thurman Jones, publisher of the Minority Opportunity News in Dallas.

The election of officers was held during the organization's convention. Jones

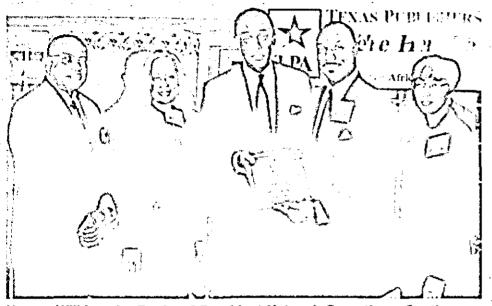
the granddaughter's efforts and have raised concerns that the granddaughter's failure to save the newspapers could also mean the end of Black ownership. Reports are that some are even preparing their own purchase plans should Myiti Sengstacke fail. Many thought the newspapers would remain under Sengstacke's control well into the next century.

Acting as a proxy for her brothers and sister, Myiti Sengstacke said remov-

ing Northern Trust "is in the best interests of the family."

The Defender was founded in 1905, when the late Robert S. Abbott, the son of former slaves, drew up the first issue with 25 cents worth of pencils and paper. He was soon to become one of America's first Black millionaires, as the Defender became a national voice for African Americans.

MON



Horace Wilkins, Jr., Regional President-Network Operations, Southwestern Bell (c) receives award from TPA President Thurman Jones while TPA officers (I-r) Dr. Theodore Lee, Mollie Belt and Rhonda Pruitt look on. (Photo by T.L. Wyatt)

including Billing/Accounting, Journalism, and Marketing.

Convention participants included Horace Wilkins, Jr., Regional President-Network Operations, Southwestern Bell; State Comptroller John Sharp; Pastor Jonathan Ellis, Greater Lincoln Park Temple Institutional Church of San Antonio; City Councilman Mario Salias; and Phyllis Thompson, program coordinator, University of Texas-San Antonio Minority Business Affairs.

was reelected president; Reginald Blow (North Texas Journal, Wichita Falls) was elected vice president; Mollie Belt (Dallas Examiner) was reelected secretary; Rhonda Pruitt (LaVida News, Ft. Worth) was reelected treasurer; and Dr. Theodore Lee (Dallas Post Tribune) was reelected parliamentarian.

The publishers closed the meeting out with and awards dinner and dance.

MON

Family battles to keep control of newspapers

By Kendall Wilson

Philadelphia Tribune Staff

The granddaughter of the late John Sengstacke, longtime chairman of Sengstacke Enterprises Inc., publishers of the pioneering daily *Chicago Defender* and a chain that includes several other newspapers, is engaged in a desperate battle to keep the newspapers in the Sengstacke family. But Myiti Sengstacke, 26, faces a difficult battle because the chain's board of directors, including Sengstacke's son and her father, Robert, and its minority shareholders voted to sell the business to pay off some \$4 million in estate taxes.

Sengstacke Enterprises was quickly

taken off the auction block when Myiti Sengstacke dismissed the Northern Trust Co. as the family trustee, fearing that its commitment to Mr. Sengstacke's instructions — that his heirs have maximum financial security — would result in the sale of the newspapers.

She is in the process of seeking another trustee, investors to help pay off the tax debt, and looking into possibly reorganizing the company under either a merger or issuance of additional stock.

The Sengstacke chain, with weeklies also in Detroit, Memphis and Pittsburgh, is valued at \$10 million to \$12 million before taxes.

Black business and professional leaders in Chicago are cautiously watching

Southwestern Bell, *Our Texas* magazine sponsor Young Essayist contest

Southwestern Bell and Our Texas magazine are putting up \$4,000 in scholarship money for Texas high school students who can write the best essay.

Scholarships of \$2,000, \$1,200 and \$800 will be awarded to the first-, secondand third-place winners respectively. To be eligible for the essay contest, the following criteria must be met:

- Contestants must be Texas high school seniors.
- Essay must be 500 words or less and pertain to African American history in Texas
- •Essay should be typed and double-spaced.
- Essay will be scored on creativity, continuity and grammar.

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- •Essays of more than 500 words will not be considered.
- •The awards will be rendered for admission to and attendance at any college or university.

Entry forms can be obtained from high school counselors and should be mailed to:

Southwestern Bell/Our Texas Young Essayist Contest P.O. Box 4463 Dallas, TX 75208

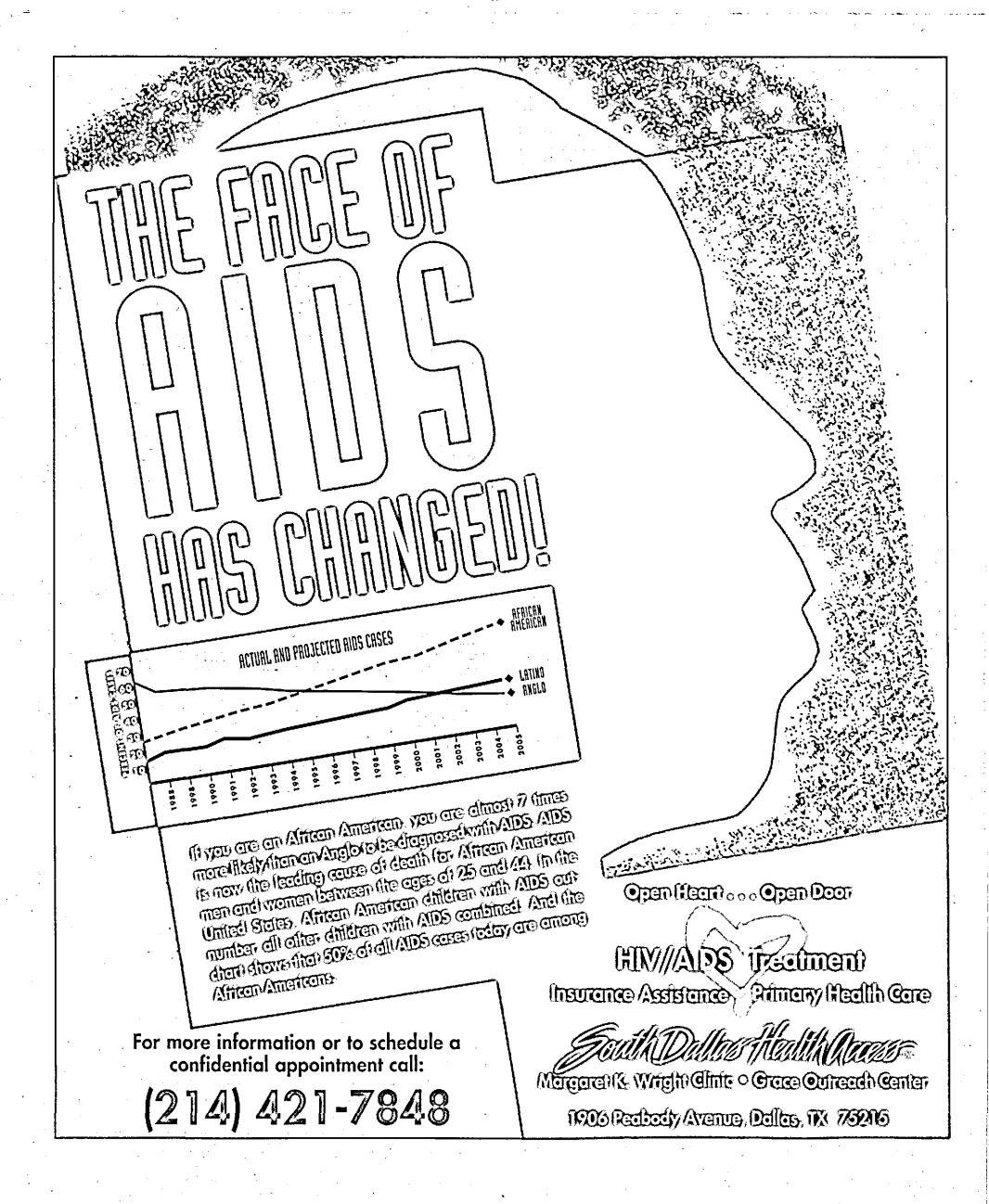
Winners will be announced in the June issue of Texas Publishers Association publications. For more information, call 1-800-766-7710.



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The Legal Status of the African American

The voting rights franchise
Part 4 of 4

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

In considering the topic of voting rights, the information falls into four categories: (1) before the Civil War and the adoption of the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments to the United States Constitution; (2) the construction given these amendments in the courts, the efforts to enforce the statutes enacted by Congress in pursuance of the power given by the amendments, and limitations engrafted on the power of Congress in this respect by a strict judicial construction; (3) an analysis of the constitutional and statutory provisions adopted by the southern states, with a view toward Black disfranchisement; and, lastly, (4) efforts made to deny the vote to Blacks by those who believed, sincerely or not, that they were not, as yet, ready to be entrusted with the franchise. (The White primary was one of the most effective of the instruments employed to accomplish this purpose.)

In 1860, even free Blacks were disfranchised throughout the South, and the same applied to almost all of the North and West. However, all New England, with the exception of Connecticut, permitted Blacks to vote. New York granted Blacks the suffrage if they owned a specified amount of property, a qualification that state law did not require of Whites. Wisconsin extended the suffrage to Blacks in 1849. Several northern and border states, where Blacks had previously not been explicitly barred, disfranchised them from time to time: Delaware in 1792: Kentucky in 1799; Maryland in 1809; Connecticut in 1818, New Jersey in 1820, and Pennsylvania in 1838. The voting question arose in the constitutional conventions of Tennessee and North Carolina in 1834 and 1835, respectively, where it was decided that the voting franchise should be limited to the "White race." (North Carolina's free Blacks had been granted the privilege of suffrage under the provisions of the state constitution of 1776.) Virginia disfranchised the free Blacks by constitutional provision in 1830 without opposition.

The Illinois court decided that anyone who came within the statutory qualifications of being a White male 21 years of age could vote; likewise for South Carolina, which reserved voting rights for White men only—no Blacks, Indians or mulattos.

Northern opponents of Black suffrage were attempting to take advantage of legal technicalities in order to keep the Blacks from the polls. First, it was ruled that, although the word "White" before the word "freeman" in the suffrage provision of the Pennsylvania Constitution had been left out by the constitutional convention,

this was not to be construed as giving free Blacks the right to vote; the omission was to prevent dark-complexioned White men from being embarrassed at the polls. In the Wisconsin Constitution, the legislature could extend suffrage to any group by submitting the question to a referendum. This was done in 1849 with respect to Blacks. At the ensuing election, the proposal received a majority of votes cast on that particular issue, but the opponents of the measure claimed that the proponents had not carried the election because the proposal had not received a majority of the votes cast on all subjects submitted for the people's approval at the election.

In 1865, the 13th Amendment abolished slavery. In their efforts to deal with the serious situation confronting them, the southern legislators enacted the so-called Black Codes (these were meant to control and limit the movements of Blacks), thereby precipitating the overthrow of Presidential Reconstruction and the adoption by Congress of the ultraradical policies of men such as Thaddeus Stevens and Charles Sumner. The 14th Amendment guaranteed Blacks citizenship and the privileges and immunities thereof, together with the equal protection of the laws and the right not to be deprived of life, liberty, nor property by any state without due process of law. The 15th Amendment mandated that neither the United States nor any state could abridge the right to vote on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude. Each of these amendments contains a provision giving Congress the power to carry out its mandates by appropriate legislation.

The 14th Amendment changed the law in the famous Dred Scott case, where the court had decided against Black national citizenship. However, in a Michigan case where a Black slave couple had migrated from slave territory to Canada before 1860 and then returned to settle in Detroit, a peculiar situation arose. The court held that their offspring was not a citizen of the United States because he was born in Canada; hence, he did not come under the first section of the amendment. This section provided that all persons born or naturalized in the United States were citizens thereof and also citizens of the state in which they resided. The parents might come back and become citizens, but their child could not claim the same privilege because of their previous condition as slaves, and because they had moved out of the country while the law was in accordance with the Dred Scott decision. The fact that this case was contested is an indication that there still existed a sentiment, even as far north as Michigan, against Blacks exercising their

right to vote.

The 15th Amendment put an end to all the state constitutional and statutory provisions limiting the elective franchise to persons of the White race only.

The portion of the Reconstruction laws which punished any conspiracy to prevent any citizen who was lawfully entitled to vote from giving his support to a lawful and qualified candidate for a seat in Congress — the means employed being force, intimidation, or threats — was given the approval of the courts. The provisions of the Enforcement Act of 1870 were enacted for the ostensible purpose of enforcing the guaranties of the 15th Amendment. Congress evidently had no idea that the amendment did not give it the authority to enact direct legislation punishing interference with the voting of the newly made citizens.

It was decided in the civil rights cases of the United States v. Reese and the United States v. Cruikshank that the 15th Amendment did not actually confer the right to

vote on the Black population, but only vested citizens with the right not to be discriminated against on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude in the exercise of the voting privilege.

Section six of the Enforcement Act allowed for punishing a conspiracy to threaten, injure, oppress, or intimidate any citizen in the free exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege secured to him by the United States Constitution. The statute also contains an inconspicuous clause providing punishment for those who go in disguise on the highway or onto the premises of another with intent to prevent or hinder the free exercise of any right or privilege so secured. This portion of the statute evidently was intended to curb the activities of the Ku Klux Klan and other negative social

MON

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

Notice To Bid

The Texas General Land Office, the School Land Board, and the Boards for Lease of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department will hold a scaled bid Oil and Gas lease Sale for Permanent School Fund lands and agency lands at the General Land Office in Austin, Texas on April 7,1998 at 10:00 a.m..

For a list of lands call (512) 475-1512, or write to Mineral Leasing, Room 600, 1700 N. Congress, Austin, Texas 78701.



Don't litigate. Mediate

Alternative to settling disputes also a growing business opportunity

By Gina Weldon, J.D.

ne of the growing problems in today's legal arena is the number of lawsuits being filed and the resulting overflowing court dockets. Many solutions have been proposed to stem this tide, some of them ranging from limiting the types of cases that can be filed to the development of more courts and more jails to fill the growing needs of our society. Another development has been the movement towards mediation as an alternative method of dispute resolution. Simply put, people are looking towards mediation as an alternative to litigation.

When you ask what mediation is, you may get a different definition depending upon with whom you are speaking. Joyce Jones, assistant executive director of the Dispute Mediation Service here in Dallas, gives her basic definition as mediation being where "two parties who have a conflicting issue come together with a neutral third party to arrive at a solution or settlement." Adding to that definition, Greggory Barker, a mediator with Archer's Mediation Services, Inc., is quick to add that "the neutral third party, the mediator, actually facilitates communication between the parties to assist in the settlement or their coming to an understanding." Although there will be rules by which the parties must agree to abide by, the process itself is a lot less formal and structured than time-tested court-run liti-

Used in a variety of settings, mediation has been used as part of family counseling, as part of the civil court system where parties to already-filed lawsuits are aided in settlement negotiations, and in many large institutional settings where mediation is used a method to ensure that problems are resolved rather than ignored. It has been used in the political arena to prevent war or to help warring countries find peace. Can it be used now in the African American community as a method to assist in conflict resolution or to provide business opportunities to our growing body of entrepreneurs?

The basis and foundation of the mediation process is the mediator him (or her)self. The mediator, or facilitator, must be impartial and must protect the integrity of the proceedings. Mediators come from all walks of life and all professions. Through structured mediation training, however, they are all then able to assist persons in developing solutions to a myriad of life's situations. Ms. Jones is a native Texan and product of the Dallas Public Schools who worked her way through the Dallas County Juvenile Department,

where she was originally trained in mediation. Now the Assistant Executive Director of Dispute Mediation Service, she also acts as the Clinical Director for The Texas Wesleyan University School of Law Mediation Course in Dallas. Mr. Barker, a local Dallas businessman, decided to add mediation to his arsenal of business skills and services, and was trained through Dallas Baptist University's mediation course. His new business, Archer's Mediation Services, specializes in family law matters but also offers mediation services in landlord/tenant disputes, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission procedures, consumer complaints, and neighborhood disputes. Both Ms. Jones and Mr. Barker are involved in continuous education courses to stay abreast of ongoing developments in the field.

Contentious parties come to the mediation table in two ways. They may be court-ordered to mediation, or may decide on their own to attempt mediation to resolve personal conflicts. Barker allows that one benefit of mediation is that, "Unlike litigation, after the mediation process, the parties usually have a

more cordial relationship than they would have if they had gone through the trial process. Through mediation, the involved parties are able to express their opinions about the issues at hand; everything is put out on the table." Busi- L nesspersons, legal professionals, and persons simply aware of the vagaries of the legal system all doesn't happen; Services, Inc. the trial is bound

by certain rules and traditions which limit what can and cannot be said. Ms. Jones states that Dispute Mediation Service (DMS) receives a large number of its cases from the Dallas County court system. Says Jones, "DMS, which is funded through the County, charges a nominal intake and mediation fees for its services. On a community-based level, if two parties desire mediation, they can call in themselves to arrange the mediation."

know that, in trial, Joyce Jones, asst. executive director, Dispute Mediation Serthis oftentimes vice and Greggory Barker, mediator for Archer's Mediation doesn't happen: Services, Inc.

One extremely important factor in the success of mediation is that both parties must be willing to participate in the process. Many times, in court-ordered mediation, the parties are not happy to be there because they feel forced, and sometimes do nothing to assist in the process. The mediator will then report back to the court that no settlement of the matter was reached. The mediator must always

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remain neutral; they report only the results, not the proceedings. At DMS, the settlement rate is around 65 percent, an excellent rate for matters not needing further court oversight and supervision.

You may ask the question, Why should I opt for mediation rather than suing for what I consider "my rights?" Well, there are several reasons: It is generally less time consuming; there is no need to wait for a court date which, due to already crowded court dockets, can be quite lengthy; it is more cost effective than litigation, generally running approximately \$350 for a half-day session. As Barker points out, mediated parties are generally more satisfied personally after a successful mediation session. Jones agrees, saying, "Mediation is considered a win-win situation. Clients are able to write their own ticket by ensuring that their major concerns are voiced." Additionally, the proceedings of mediation are confidential. In litigation, the trial transcript is accessible and the proceedings are public. In mediation, all process notes are destroyed and only the settlement agreement remains. There are no areas of conflict that mediation cannot cover. Family matters, business disputes, disability claims, and EEO and discrimination problems are all par for the course, as would be simple disputes among neighbors. The settlements reached through mediation are as legally binding as court orders; legally enforceable agreements are signed by all parties. Another plus is that, in mediation, readjustments can always be made without the long and sometimes drawn-out process of legal motions and maneuvering.

Of course, the movement towards mediation has not been without opposition. Since mediation is viewed as an alternative to litigation, attorneys have mixed views towards this growing phenomenon. Many attorneys have taken mediation courses and have added mediation as parts of their practices. Locally, Texas Wesleyan University Law School has a mediation track available for its law students, in order for them to have a wider variety of services available to their clientele. Chuck Phillips, a Texas Wesleyan law student who is involved with the mediation course, says that the process is woefully underused. "It (mediation) gives me ten-fold the amount of weapons I have to be an effective advocate for my clients. It saves the clients money and allows them to maintain relationships with the people they may have conflict with. It also allows me to analyze my cases better. I'm able to see the issues from several perspectives, instead of just one." There are, however, attorneys who voice objection to mediation as an alternative to tradition courtbased settlement. One of the most often heard objections is that mediation is not a "professional" process. Attorneys have pushed for mediators to be licensed or to undergo some sort of certification process

by the state. An ironic note, however, is that many of the mediators themselves are attorneys. At DMS, which has been in operation since 1980, attorney-mediators number one-third of the total list of mediators the service has on call. Because the role of the mediator is non-adversarial, there is a total change of mindset necessary for an attorney to switch to the neutral facilitator role of the mediator.

Mediation training is becoming more widely available in the metroplex for persons interested in joining this growing trend. Though there is no state-mandated course of study for this profession, locally there are a number of educational institutions and businesses offering the basic 40clock/hour course in mediation. Additional hours can be obtained for specialization in a particular area, such as family or business law. Dallas Baptist University and the University of North Texas are the local higher-education institutions offering mediation training. Ms. Jones is quick to point out that Dispute Mediation Services not only offers the training but something else that no other facility can match: hands-on experience. "While other facilities charge from \$700 percent upward for their mediation training, DMS has a track where we offer the same training for approximately \$350 percent and the \$350 percent balance is paid off by commitment to the community through volunteer mediation services by the trainee. It allows the community and the trainee both to benefit from the learned training in mediation."

Mediation has also opened up new avenues of entrepreneurship for African Americans. At present there are only a small number of local African Americanowned mediation services. Three of the more well-known practitioners are Mr. Barker's Archer's Mediation Services, Mediation Business Associates, and Mediation Services and Instruction (MSI). Dispute Mediation Services, has a roster of over 1,000 mediators on-call (350 of those being active), 18 percent of whom are African-American.

Mediation is also being utilized very effectively in many of the Justice of the Peace courts serving minority communities in Dallas County. Ms. Jones has instituted on-site mediation programs in Precinct 8 (Judge Charles Rose), Precinct 7 (Judge Thomas Jones, no relation to Ms. Jones), and Precinct 3 in Richardson (Judge Martha Ritter). There are 14 JP courts in Dallas County and Ms. Jones is committed to expanding the programs throughout the system. "Judges like mediation because it reduces their overcrowded dockets and is effective in peaceably handling community problems without the use of law enforcement." Ms. Jones has volunteer mediation court coordinators who serve in the JP courts to administer the weekly programs.

It appears that mediation can contribute valuable solutions to many of the issues facing the African American community. Ms. Jones is adamant in her belief that mediation is for all persons, not just attorneys or those already working in the legal system. "It is a way to empower people to get what they want without someone else (in a black robe) dictating what the solution should be. It allows people to take their fate and destiny into their own hands rather than in the hands of the judge." Says Greggory Barker, "The key

word is communication . . . when things get out of focus, generally the problem is a lack of communication. Even if an agreement is not reached, the issues and feelings get out on the table and genuine communication can then take place."

MON

Gina Weldon is lead consultant at Weldon Communications, which specializes in nonprofit organizational management and development, public relations, EEO investigations, and writing and editing services.

DART MANS

• DART Adds Bus Service



DART's major bus route improvements hit full stride in April, including more service to employment centers. Highlights include Route 202 (new 7-day service) to the D/FW International Airport North Shuttle Lot, Route 409 (new Sunday service) to the D/FW South Shuttle Lot and new Saturday service to the Freeport area via Route 310 (6-day service). New weekend service from downtown Dallas includes expanded service to the Midway and Beltline corridors via Route 31 (7-day service), to the Preston and Parker corridors via Route 36 (weekend service), and to the Stemmons area via Route 49 (new Saturday service). Other improvements include direct service to the Baylor Medical area via Route 44 (7-day service) and 6-day service to the South Garland Transit Center via Route 466, (currently Route 66). In Oak Cliff, Route 548 will be extended to the Stonebridge Business Park on weekdays. Look for free ride offers in your next ValPak.

DART By Numbers

As part of DART's spring upgrade in bus service, bus routes will be identified by a number-only system instead of a number and a route name. For example, the old 42-Elmwood will be identified solely by the number 42. And the number stays the same -- no matter which way the bus is traveling. Signs on the front of buses will display the route number and the final destination of the bus -- just the way DART trains do now. This new system is used by most transit agencies around the world.

• DART Bus Signs Get Color Coding

In response to suggestions from bus riders, more than 14,000 new bus stop signs with color-coded route numbers and printed route information are being installed across the DART Service Area. The signs will match new color-coded timetables and identify destinations (like "to downtown") and times of service (like "weekdays only").

DART Focuses on Employers

People are three times more likely to use mass transit if their employer subsidizes their bus fare, recent research shows. To capitalize on that, DART is adding bus service to many employment centers and launching a major effort to enroll companies in corporate transportation programs such as E-pass, the deeply discounted annual pass, or FareShare, the monthly pass. Anyone interested may get more information by calling (214) 747-RIDE.

Free Parking for Love Field Fliers

Southwest Airlines passengers at Dallas Love Field now have a new source of free parking. The location is DART's Mockingbird Station Park & Ride, where Bus Route 539 now connects to Love Field every 30-40 minutes via Lovers Lane. The bus route, which takes about 30 minutes between Mockingbird Station and Love Field, operates Monday through Friday from 5:45 a.m. to 10:40 p.m.

214-979-1111



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By Vanossa D. Bake

The Third Eye is oasis of enlightenment

Local organization provides forum for African literature, thought, and history

By Vanessa D. Baker

That we wanted was an organization that would disseminate information on African culture and history - whether ancient or modern - and a forum for the scholars of African descent to come and present their work and their ideas on various issues of the day. What we've done over the past 14 years is choose a topic, then bring in scholars to highlight their ideas on that particular issue."

Thus speaks James Tyler, a single parent, teacher in the Dallas Independent School District, and one of the founding members of the organization called The Third Eye. During the 14 years of its existence, The Third Eye's goals have remained the same — to disseminate cultural, historical, and intellectual data, and to function as a university without walls where people can come in and gain a knowledge of the African tradition.

A hunger shared by Tyler and 'a small group of people 14 years ago led to the inception of The Third Eye. There were no organizations in the north Texas area back then that were promoting the culture and history of the African people in a positive light, and they felt the void.

Normally, in a large urban setting, you have a number of organizations like The Third Eye, in addition to more responsible public institutions," says Tyler, who serves as publicist and spokesperson for the organization. "Communities generally depend on municipal governments, historical Black colleges, and other universities to offer extensive Black studies or Africana study programs. Those are the institutions that provide opportunities for people to become acquainted with the prominent Black leaders of our time, their significant contributions, and the intellectual debates that are currently taking place. There were no such organizations here. Bishop College was closing. A vacuum existed."

A small group (about four or five conscientious brothers and sisters), embarked upon a journey. They traveled to other cities and participated in programs that were designed to maintain a heightened level of cultural awareness. Their travel eventually took them to Atlanta, Georgia. This was in 1984. The event was the Nile Valley Conference. At this conference, African historians from all around the world, and some white Historians as well, concentrated on the origin of African civilization along the Nile River Valley. Their goal was to reach a consensus as to what the aspects of the Nile Valley civilization had been. The . conference, which was a tribute to the

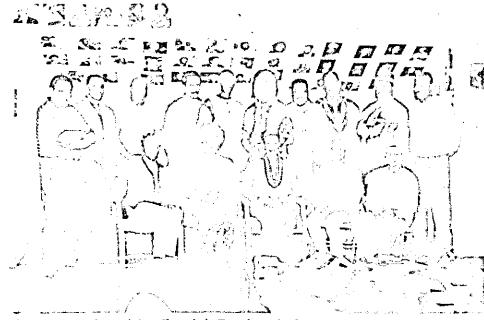
penings of a progressive stance, interpreting and highlighting the African community's cultural history; thus, it dispels negative connotations that exist about Black people. "We've always felt that one of the

things lacking in our lives is the knowledge of who we are," Tyler emphasizes.

Our intellectual tradition as African people is the oldest in the world, starting with the origin of written literature. So we're talking about over six thousand years of recorded philosophy and intellectual practice."

All of this, Tyler says, has implications for economic, political, and social

Photo by Wallace Faggett



Third Eye members (standing, I-r): Ron Lynch, Grady Simpson, John Howard, Norman Slack, James Tyler, Michael Watkins, Alvin Blakes, Casey Thomas, Thabiti Olatunji, Willie Mayo; (seated, I-r) Benita Maxie, Marilyn Clark, Sobande Fagbenro, Shawn Campbell, Rita Phillips.

premiere African historian, Cheikh Anta policies. Diop — author of Cultural Unity of Black Africa — was a success.

For the handful of Dallas participants (Tyler, Emma Rogers of Black Images Book Bazaar, Armon Morgan, and others), an epiphany occurred; thus the genesis of The Third Eye. Being enthusiastically rapt in the quality of information presented, as well as with the panel of experts from all around the world, the small group felt that there needed to be some organization in the Dallas area providing a program agenda of similar type. They came home and organized, formulized their mission, and invited other friends and acquaintances of like minds.

The members of The Third Eye search for those who they consider special people. They seek those who have devoted their lives to scholarship, and who have been committed over the balance of their lives to legitimize and validate the significance of the African race. In addition to a forum, the organization operates as a think tank, presenting issues papers, press releases, and hap-

The name, "The Third Eye," is not original. Its origin is in Egypt. According to the Egyptians, the "eye" represents the all-seeing eye of God; it is symbolic of enlightenment.

Shobonde, one of the organization's members, describes it this way: "The two eyes see the physical. The third eye sees the mythological - not what is - but what can be.

What this organization wants to do is create a new African personality that resurrects the old African personality where the people exist in communal mind, thought, and knowledge. The members want to stimulate and bring about a new awakening -- a new consciousness for people of African descent.

Shobonde continues: "We want to bring in our Black African scholars to speak on our issues and address our needs, then present problem-solving

The symbol representing the organization has an African origin as well. Drawings of the Egyptian temples, Egyptian jewelry, and artifacts were studied, and the symbol was borne out of an artist's depiction.

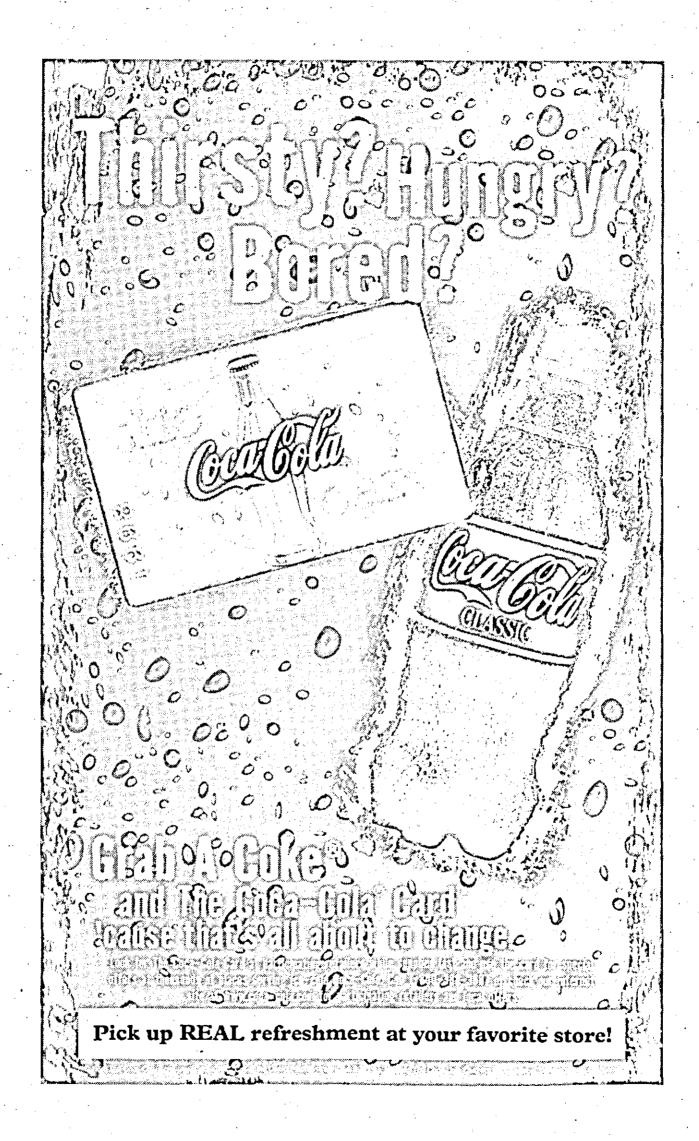
In its 14 years of operation, The Third Eye's membership has remained small (roughly twenty active members). And while it is often believed that strength comes in numbers, The Third Eye is an example of the opposite. This group, which manages without a hierarchy in terms of formal structure, has been successful in reaching the masses. Out of the labor of organized committees and the centralized group that runs the organization, hundreds attend their African Awakening Conferences held in the fall, and their Spring Rising Conferences held in April. In addition to the conferences, The Third Eye hosts the city-wide Kwanzaa celebration. They also reach the public through their radio spots, school visits, and sponsorship of drum and dance programs for recreation and aerobics. The drum and dance participants learn about Africa's historical purpose for drumming, what the drum rhythms mean, and why the drums were such a significant part of African life. By taking part in the drumming and dance programs, the community is acquainted with the culture of Africa.

Revenue for the organization comes from contributions from outside supporters who sometimes donate materials at discounted prices or at no cost at all; from conference participation; from the sale of audio and video tapes of the conferences; and from membership dues. Eventually, the writings generated from the conferences will be published.

The headquarters for The Third Eye has also been provided through contribution. One of its members, Dr. Richard Wedgeworth, who grew up in the house at 2503 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., has made arrangements for the members to use the house for its meetings and intellectual study groups. Dr. Wedgeworth says that he wants the house to be used for the good of his people.

When asked what is the difference between The Third Eye and other established groups such as the Nation of Islam and the NAACP, Tyler replies, "The Nation of Islam is a religious-based group. Unlike the Nation of Islam, we are non-sectarian. We want our membership to be open, with people coming from whatever religious arena they choose, whether it's from an Islamic, a Christian, or a non-Christian setting. We do, however, share some ideological beliefs with the Nation of Islam. We believe in selfsufficiency, self defense, and other aspects of Black Nationalism. But we do not have a religious dogma that governs us. The NAACP is a legalistic-based group which brings to the fore Civil Rights issues. The resources from which they operate and of which they generate

see THIRD EYE on page 25





April 1

Volunteers are needed for the Clean South Dallas/Fair Park Annual Cleanup, April 4 and April 11 from 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon. All volunteers will be served lunch from 12:00 noon-1:00 p.m. For more information on how you can help, call 214-421-1662.

* * * * *

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

* * * * *

The Dallas Chapter of the National Conference of Black Lawyers meets 7:00 p.m., the first Wednesday of each month at the Martin Luther King Jr. Center, 2922 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Dallas. For more information call 214-426-2755.

* * * * *

Having Our Say: The Delany Sister's First 100 Years will be performed at the Kalia Humphreys Theater of the Dallas Theater Center, April 1-26. Adapted from their best-selling memoir, this stirring saga portrays American life as seen through the eyes of two remarkable black women. For tickets and more information call 214-522-TIXX.

April 2

The Nova Dance Company presents "Rite of Spring," 8:00 p.m., April 2-4 at the South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 S. Fitzhugh, Dallas. For more information call 214-939-ARTS.

* * * * *

Adults and children can plunge into a low-cost lifeguard certification program that could help get them summer jobs at one of the City of Dallas' 22 community swimming pools. For details about lifeguard certification and other employment opportunities, call 214-670-1923.

April 3

Bridge into the 21st Century, Inc. presents the third annual "Bridging the Gap" Awards Lun-

Around Town

cheon at the Melrose Hotel. The emcees for the luncheon will be Paula McClure and Todd Whitthorne of Good Morning Texas and Scott West of V100. The awards customarily go to individuals and corporations for demonstrating leadership in promoting diversity. For tickets call 214-467-0393.

* * * * *

Jubilee Theatre, 506 Main Street, Fort Worth, presents an adaptation of the African folktale, Zimwe and the Drum, which runs April 3-May 3. Updated with a lively score by Joe Rogers, Mekana, a young Xhosa warrior, searches for his love, the girl in the drum. For tickets or more information call 817-338-4411.

* * * * *

Iota Phi Lambda Sorority Inc., Psi Chapter is sponsoring a Youth Talent Summit, April 3 at Cedar Valley College in Lancaster. The event salutes and promotes the musical, dance and literary arts as well as free expression works of youth. For more information call 214-339-

* * * * *

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.

* * * * *

The Renaissance Cultural Center's monthly "First Friday" Business Network Mixer will be held from 5:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at the Renaissance Center, 2100 Evans Avenue, Fort Worth. The public is invited to attend. A \$3.00 donation is requested. All proceeds benefit the Girl Scouts. For more information call 817-922-9999.

* * * * *

The Jackson State University National Alumni Association, DFW Chapter, is holding its Southwest Regional Conference themed, "Historically Black Colleges/Universities Strive to Survive-A Challenge for the 21st Century, April 3-5 at the Center for Non-Profit Management, 2900 Live Oak, Dallas. For more information call John Brooking at

April 4

214-388-8115.

Iota Phi Lambda Sorority Inc., Psi Chapter is sponsoring a free seminar on the benefits of stress-free planned retirement from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon at the Hosea Navarro Elementary School, 3530 Kingsbridge St., Dallas. This seminar will help you plan retirement in a quick and easy cost effective way. For more information call 214-375-3577.

* * * * *

The Texas Black Expo 1998, "Building Better Communities," will debut April 4-5 at the Dallas Convention Center. The consumer expo is designed to provide opportunities for self-improvement and economic self-sufficiency in the African American community in Dallas and the state of Texas. Admission is \$5.00. Children six and under are admitted free. For more information call 972-222-2733.

* * * * *

Twin Bible Chapel Baptist Church, 271 W. Camp Wisdom Road, Duncanville, presents its Easter program, "Daddy said, 'Jesus Died For Me.'" Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m. and morning worship service starts at 11:00 a.m. For more information call Pastor E.B. Gassaway at 972-298-8875.

* * * * *

The 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 Emerging Woman Ministries is hosting an arts, crafts, collectibles garage and bake sale, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. at the Word of Life Center, 2504 W. Illinois, Dallas. The event will feature free health screenings and consultations. For more information call Carolyn Myers at 972-289-7999.

* * * * *

Persons wanting to learn how to pursue a college education are invited to attend The University of Texas at Arlington Educational Opportunity Center's Career and College Fair from 9:00 a.m.-noon in the Community Room of the East Arlington Police Station, 2001 New York, Arlington. For more information call the Educational Opportunity Center at 817-272-2506.

* * * * *

The Fellowship Baptist Church of Oak Cliff, 3607 South Westmoreland, Dallas, will begin a month long celebration of its 10th church anniversary, beginning at 10:00 a.m. with a parade followed by a worship service at 11:00 a.m. with the Salem Baptist Church of

Omaha, Nebraska. For more information call 214-330-8625.

April 7

Toni Morrison is the featured author in the Colloquium Series presented by the Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture. The class will start with *The Bluest Eye* and move through all of Morrison's novels. Additional class dates are April 21, 28 and May 5, 12. For more information call 214-871-2440.

April 10

The St. John Christian Theater Ministry will present its Easter production, "Converted By Passion," 7:30 p.m. at St. John Missionary Baptist Church, 2600 S. Marsalis Avenue, Dallas. Admission to the original musical drama, written and directed by Selmore Haines III, is free. For more information call 214-375-4876.

April 11

Persons Synonymous and Family Development, a non-profit organization, is sponsoring a Bookmobile Bazaar and a 3K Run, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon. The race begins at I-20 and Lancaster Road in Dallas and ends at the Dart Rail Station at Lancaster Road and 56th Street. To register or volunteer for the 3K Run of to donate books, tapes, etc. to the Bookmobile call Joel Johnson at 972-224-9034.

* * * * *

The Fort Worth Museum of Science and History presents "Kites, Balloons and Flying Machines." Kite makers and enthusiasts will fly their unique kites and demonstrate kite making and maneuvering. Kite-making activities will be set up for kids of all ages. For more information call metro 817-654-1356.

April 15

Would you like to purchase a home of your own? Learn how at the Texas Federation of Home Counselors first-time home buyer seminar, April 15 at 6:30 p.m. or April 18 at 9:00 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. Registration includes a confidential review, with a certified coun-

Continued on page 24

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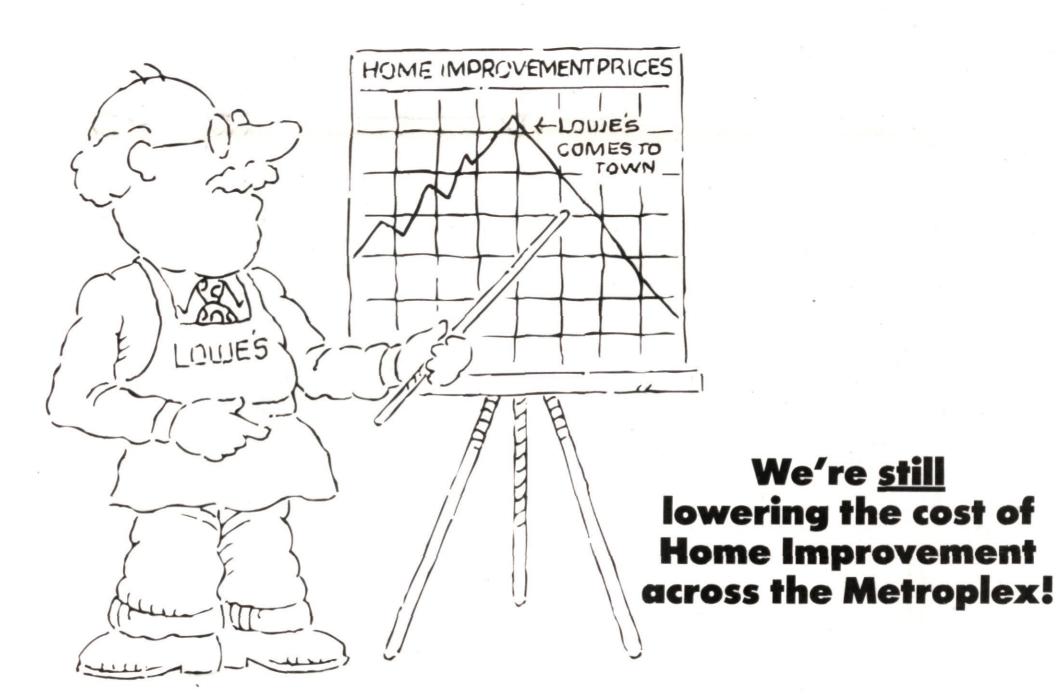
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selor, of the potential home buyer's credit file. To register or for more information call Ed Harris at 214-421-8342.

April 16

Bernice Montgomery, internationally exhibited Dallas artist and muralist, exhibits her latest work, April 16-May 23 at the South Dal-las Cultural Center, 3400 South Fitzhugh, Dallas. The exhibit, entitled "Funky City," consists of mixed media paintings and sculptures that examine urban living. For more information call 214-939-ARTS.

Find out how you can make a difference in your community. The Volunteer Center of Dallas County, 1215 Skiles, Dallas, is sponsoring a free community meeting from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. at the Greenhill School, 4141 Spring Valley Road, Dallas. Visit representatives from nonprofit agencies and browse the Volunteer Center's database of 7,000 volunteer opportunities. For more information call 214-826-6767 ext. 330.

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice-Parole Division is holding its third annual Job and Resource Fair at The Grand Place Building in Fair Park, Dallas. Area businesses are invited to attend and present employment information to parolees and probationers who are seeking to reintegrate successfully into the community. For more information call Cornelius Moore at 214-428-8338 or Jamie Hawkes at 214-330-0800.

April 17

The South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 South Fitzhugh, Dallas showcases films by black independent film makers during its Black Cinematique series at 7:00 p.m. today. Featured films are A Lucy, Interference's and Hyenas. The event is open to the public. For more information call 214-939-ARTS.

The Dedra Lynn Woods Theatre, 2801 Peabody Street, Dallas, presents God's Endless Love, a tale of a man caught in the trap of drugs, who must learn of God's endless love to survive. Performances are 8:00 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 3:00 p.m. Sundays, April 17-19 and April 24-26. Adult admission is \$10.00 for evening performances and \$8.00 for the Sunday matinee. For more information call Robert Helm at 214-371-4644.

The South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 South Fitzhugh, Dallas, presents "Jammin' at the Center" a free monthly jam session that gives professional musicians an opportunity to get together and "jam" from midnight to 3:00 a.m. in a non-club environment. A drum set and piano are provided. For more information call 214-939-ARTS.

April 18

The 12th Biennial Dickie Foster Texas Black Women's Annual Conference will be held at the Harvey Brookhollow Hotel, 7050 N. Stemmons Freeway, Dallas. The 1998 theme is "Black Women: A Living Legacy." The conference, which was begun in 1976 by The Guild of the African American Museum, is named for Mrs. Dickie Foster, who was the long time distinguished editor of the Dallas Post Tribune. To register for the conference or for more information, call Vanessa Hicks at the African American Museum, 214-565-9026,

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters, 650 S. Griffin St., Dallas, presents "Black Preaching in the Literary Tradition," a workshop for the general public, 7:00 p.m. today. Admission is \$10.00. For more information call 214-426-1683 or 214-743-2440.

The South Dallas Cultural Center, 3400 South Fitzhugh, Dallas, presents Composers Showcase at 8:00 p.m. featuring Nelda Washington, a pianist who plays jazz with contemporary flair. For more information call 214-939-ARTS.

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters, 650 S. Griffin St., Dallas, will feature writer and teacher, Dr. Margaret Walker, at its Writer's Showcase, 7:00 p.m. today. Dr. Walker will share her rich reflections on the Black aesthetic, her literary career and other issues facing young contemporary writers. Admission is \$10.00. For more information call 214-426-1683 or 214-743-2440.

The public is invited to attend a Health and Fun Fair, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at the West Dallas Multipurpose Center, 2828 Fish Trap Road, Dallas. Free health screenings and free immunizations will be available. Activities include live entertainment, music, arts and crafts and drawings for prizes. For more information call 214-670-6340.

The Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter of the Florida A&M University Alumni Association will present the film Chocolate City, at noon and 2:00 p.m., at the Granada Theater Movie Grill, 3524 Greenville Avenue, Dallas. Admission to the independent film directed by Rob Hardy, is \$5.00 for adults and \$4.00 for students. For more information call 972-669-5792.

The Dallas Museum of Natural History, 3535 Grand Avenue in Fair Park, Dallas is sponsoring Butterfly Day Family Festival, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Learn about the fascinating changes butterflies go through. Talks by butterfly experts, films and crafts will round out the day. Admission is free for children 12 and younger who wear butterfly wings. For more information call 214-421-DINO.

April 21

Women business owners can make contacts and contracts at the Women's Business Round-Up, April 21-22. Presented by the North Texas Women's Business Council. The event kicks off at 5:30 p.m., April 21 with a reception at the Round-Up Inn in Fort Worth and concludes with an all-day trade show, April 22 at Fort Worth's Amon Carter Exhibit Hall. For tickets and more information call 214-428-1900.

April 24

The Iota Phi Lambda Sorority Inc., Psi Chapter, a national business and professional orga-nization, will hold its Scholarship and Business Awards Celebration, 7:00 p.m., April 24 at the Top O' The Cliff restaurant, 400 S. Zang, Dallas. Tickets are \$30.00. For more information call 214-375-3577.

The Southern Dallas Development Corporation will host the eighth annual Southern Dallas Entrepreneurial Institute (SDEI), April 24-25 at the Bill J. Priest Institute for Economic Development, 1402 Corinth Street, Dallas. A variety of workshops and speakers will be featured. Space is limited. For more information call Barbara Bradford at 214-428-7332.

The Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce will host its "First Annual Excellence In Education Luncheon," 12:00 noon at the Dallas Horticultural Center, inside Fair Park, 3601 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Dallas. The luncheon will feature awards to graduating high school seniors and to top area elementary, middle and high school teachers. Paula McClure, host of Good Morning Texas will serve as mistress of ceremonies and Dr. Yvonne Ewell, Dallas Public Schools educator and current board member, will serve as keynote speaker. For more information call 214-421-5200.

April 25

The Third Eye, a Dallas-based educational organization, is sponsoring its 14th Annual Spring Rising, "Criminalizing A Race," 6:00 p.m. at the Black Academy of Arts and Letters, 650 S. Griffin St., Dallas. Admission is \$15.00. For more information call M. Clark & Co. at 214-426-1683 or 214-743-2440.

The Black State Employee's Association of Texas is hosting an Employment Discrimination Workshop and Seminar, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at Eastgate Baptist Church, 6960 South Polk Street, Dallas. For more information call Euna Robinson at 214-339-7700, ext. 29.

Children of all ages are invited to attend the 13th Annual Kennedy Center Imagination Celebration, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., on Artist Square in the Dallas Arts District. The celebration features dozens of free activities such as finger painting, storytelling, hat making, weaving and more. For more information call Deborah Kirby at 214-823-7601.

April 30

Zakat Temple #164 and Zakat Court #133, Ancient Egyptians Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine (A.E.A.O.N.M.S.) of North and South Jurisdiction, Prince Hall Affiliate, will be hosting Shriners from all over Texas for its Gala Day Celebration, April 30-May 3. The A.E.A.O.N.M.S is a charitable and fraternal organization dedicated to fostering civic and economic and educational development programs throughout the world. For more information call Isaac Cary at 214-941-5410.

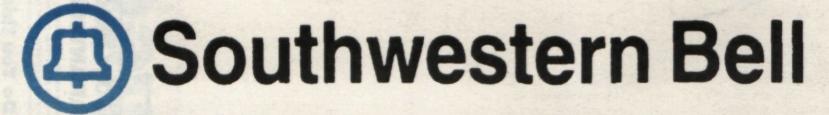
ATTENTION:

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

> Minority Opportunity News 2730 Stemmons Frwy 1202 Tower West Dallas, TX 75207 (214) 905-0949 Fax

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Third Eye

continued from page 19

are out of their control. They have a defense fund that has been severed from the organization. This makes them responsible to other groups of people. They must be granted permission in

Photo by Wallace Faggett



order to use their money. The Third Eye is totally self-sufficient. That give us immense freedom and complete editorial control."

spokesperson for The Third Eye.

The Third Eye organization doesn't have membership drives. Tyler says that the mission of the organization is not clearly understood and valued by everyone, and those people the group seeks are those people with like minds. Prospective members are encouraged to come in and take part in book reviews and study sessions. Not everyone, they feel, wants to study this consistently and intensely. However, if the knowledge disseminated via The Third Eye is interpreted in the proper context and put into action by Black people, this will "lead toward a more unified and culturally progressive African community in Dallas. Furthermore, by investigating long-standing issues facing other African people, the organization would be useful in local and regional problem-solving" (taken from The Third Eye mission statement).

The members of this group are wonderfully diversified. James Tyler is a single parent who teaches in the Dallas Independent School District. Emma Rogers owns Black Images Book Bazaar. Shobonde, who joined The Third Eye shortly after the founding members returned from the Nile Valley Conference, is a Yoruba priestess. She works for the postal service. In other words, they are regular people, productive citizens concerned about serious issues — concerned enough to make a difference.

MO

Third Eye to host Spring Rising lecture series

By Vanessa D. Baker

risualize spring rising. Cold, dry northern winds have ebbed. All chances of snow have subsided. Winter storms are no longer a threat. When spring rises, one can expect rains from the heavens to wash clean the earth and leave the scents of renewal. With the coming of spring, newness bursts forth from seedlings and the first and freshest—the most vigorous stage of life emerges. Spring produces action. Spring produces change.

Anticipating change in a system, April 25 is the date the nonprofit educational organization, The Third Eye, will host its annual Spring Rising Lecture Series at the Black Academy of Arts and Letters, 650 S. Griffin Street. As with the conferences in previous years, the organization is expecting a diverse group of participants; male and female; old and young, and people from various religious affiliations will convene, take advantage of this wealth of knowledge, and depart - hopefully with a heightened level of awareness. Conference attendees are traditionally 35 years of age or more and usually number two to four hundred. The Black Academy of Arts and Letters has been the home of the conferences for the past few years.

This year's agenda, "Criminalizing Race," will look at the unofficial policy in America of disparaging the lives of Black people, and making African Americans appear to the public as a criminal element rather than a part of a complex society that consists of divergent individuals. The conference will investigate the criminal justice system, then provide some explanation as to why there exists a disproportionate number of African Americans in the prison system. The prison conditions for women, the trend of certifying youths as adults, and the growth of prisons as a lucrative industry in America will be reviewed. The featured speaker will be Attorney Adjoa Aiyetoro. She is an adjunct law professor, Director of Administration for the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, and Legal Consultant for the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparation in America. Until recently, Attorney Adjoa Aiyetoro also held the position of Director of the National Conference of Black Lawyers. A question-and-answer discussion panel consisting of local and national criminal justice professionals and former prison inmates will immediately follow her address.

"We want to look at how that apparatus works — from arrest, to being charged, to being tried, to being convicted, to being incarcerated, to being granted parole," says James Tyler, one of the organization's founding members. "A lot of us have no idea what this system is really like. What we want to relate to our community is that all sorts of people are

being caught up in this system and, once one becomes a part of it, there is very little chance of getting out. Take the City of Dallas as an example. The conviction rate of those who have been charged with a crime is above ninety-five percent. Too many of us are caught up in this system. We cannot afford to write anyone off. There must be redemption for some. And we must figure out how to do it."

Issues such as these will be addressed at the Spring Rising Lecture Series.

Spring does produce action. Spring does produce change. Plan to attend the Spring Rising Conference and become a part of the inevitable changes that are taking place in the African American community.

The Third Eye conferences set the trend here in Dallas for embracing

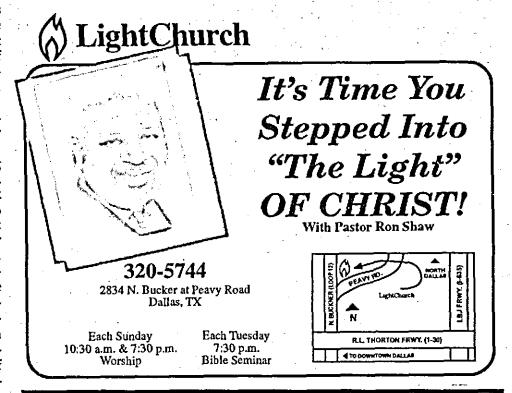
African culture. Previous conferences were audio- and videotaped. The conferences' themes, speakers, titles of the speeches, and the tape order numbers are listed below. All tapes can be purchased by contacting The Third Eye, 214-428-1040.

Below is a partial listing of audio and video materials available from past conferences:

THE BLACK AWAKENING
#85001 Rev. Clarence Glover — "Theology
of Liberation for the African American
Church"
#85002 Dr. Michael Byrd — "Black Health
Care In Crisis"
#85003 Ashra Kwesi — "The Origin of

Judeo-Christian: From Alpha to Omega"
#85004 Vivian Johnson — "Black
Men/Women: Natural Allies"
#85005 Dr. Na'lm Akbar — "The Osirian
Myth and Black Awakening"
#85006 Dr. John Biggers — "African Sym-

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bolism & Imagery" from The Quilting Party

#85007 Carroll Barnes — "Melanin: The Chemical Key to Black Greatness"

#85008 Runoko Rashidi — "The Black Presence in ancient Asia"

#85009 Dr. Linda Webb-Woodard — "Black Social Issues and Their Impact on Mental Health"

#85010-2 Dr. Khallid Muhammad — "P.O.W.E.R." (People Organized & Work-

TRANSFORMING THOUGHT INTO ACTION

ing for Economic Rebirth)

#86001 Dr. Yosef ben—Jochannan —
"Africa: Mother of Western Civilization"
#86002 Donald Payton — "Black Dallas
Remembered"
#86003 Panel Discussion — "Developing

Alternative Education Curriculum"
#86004 Torrence Muhammad — "M.S.T".
(Motion is Synonymous to Thought)
#86005 Dr. Ivan van Sertima — "The
African Origin of Man and Civilization:
Chiekh Anta Diop"
#86006 Panel Discussion — "The African

American Family: Move to Self Directed Community*

#86007 Rev. Clarence Glover — "Theology of Liberation for the African American Church, Part II"

#86008-2 Neely Fuller — "Thought Speech and/or Action for Victims of Racism"

THE AFROCENTRIC IDEA IN EDUCATION

#91001 Panel Discussion — "Developing Leadership in the African American Community"

#91002-2 Steve Cokely — "African People in the New World Order"

#91003 Dr. La Francis Rodgers-Rose —
"The Psycho-Social Need for Afrocentric
Education"

#91004 Hunter Adams — "The Maatian Perspective on Science & Mathematics Education"

#91005 Dr. Molefi Asante — "The Challenge to the Afrocentric Idea" #91006 Dr. Barbara Sizemore — "The

Communities' Role in Afrocentric Education"
#91007 Dr. Marvin Edwards — "The DISD

Plan for Afrocentric Education"
#91008 Panel Discussion — "Panelists: M.

Edwards, K. Gilliam, Y. Ewell, T. Jones, & D. Freling"

#91009-2 Dr. Amos Wilson — "Educating the African American for the '90s"

AFRICAN MALE & FEMALE RELAT-

#93001-2 Dr. Amos Wilson — "Black on Black Violence"

#93002 Dr. Charshee McIntyre —

"Ancient African Matrilineal Systems:
Models for African Male/Female"

#93003 Dr. Delores Aldridge — "The
Western Influence on African
Male/Female Relating"

#93004 Dr. La Francis Rodgers-Rose — Transforming African Male/Female Relationships

#93005 Dr. Barbara Cambridge — "Defining Sexism Among African People"
#93006 Dr. Jesse Ingram — "Black Family/Community Empowerment thru Economics"

#93007 Useni Eugene Perkins — "Mothers Are Not Broken Homes: Embracing Single Black Mothers"

#93008 Sonia Sanchez — "Poetic Reflections on African Male/Female Relations" #93009 Haki Madhubuti — "African Menand Women Building A New World"

A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO HEALTH #94001 Dr. Marimba Ani — "Cleansing Ourselves of Yurugu: Healing the African

Race"
#94002 Dr. Charles Finch — "The Imhotep
Factor: The African Presence in the History of Medicine"

#94003 Dr. Keith Rollins — "Men's Health Issues"

#94004 Ndugu Khan — "Meditation of Optimal Health"

#94005 Denise Ford — "Vegetarianism: A Healthy Alternative"

#94006 Llaila Afrika — "African Holistic Health"

#94007 Iyanla Vanzant — "Tapping the Power Within"

#94008 Ndugu Khan — "Derivative African Martial Systems: Tai Chi Chaun for Health"

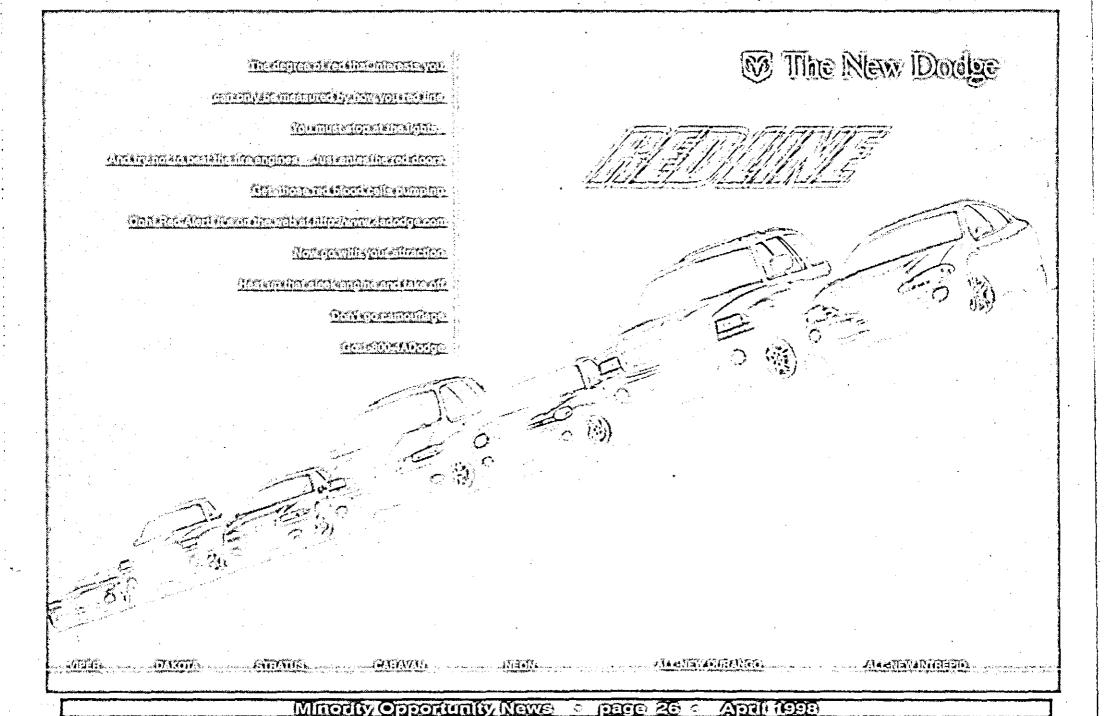
#94009 Dr. Charity Simmonds —
"Women's Health Issues"

#94010 Llaila Afrika — "Herbal Medicine" #94011 Dr. N. Warfield-Coppock —

"Healthy Transformation thru Rites of Passage"

#94012 James Small — "Healing the African Race"

MON



Creativity with Scaife

Graphic artist goes one step better in creating works of art

By Kamron L. Barton

Graphic arts, in its simplest definition, is pictorial arts in two-dimensional form, as cited in Microsoft Encarta 98. Mrs. Sharon Scaife goes one step better, producing colorful, eye-catching "works of art."

TODID SIECIBIET Mrs. Scaife had humble beginnings as entrepreneur. As a child, she sold popcorn and homemade icees. In her teen years, she

sold drawings and portraits. Now her designs make more for her than just "a pretty penny." Mrs. Scaife earned a bachelor of arts

degree in graphic design and illustration at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock. She did freelance work in her field for three years. She went into her own business, S.J.S. Graphic Arts, in 1993. By 1995 the business was up and coming.

Among the products Mrs. Scaife creates are newsletters, full-color brochures,

magazines, directories, posters, package and T-shirt designs, and much more. In general, "advertising, graphic and layout designs, illustrations, and any type of advertising-marketing materials" are goods which she produces.

According to Mrs. Scaife, one of the reasons that she is able to offer reasonable prices for her work is that she doesn't have to pick up the cost of overhead, which many large graphic design com-

Mrs. Scaife's favorite thing about her business is "being cre-

five years she plans "to have a storefront and possibly hire five employees. I will continue to put God first in my life and remember that through Him all things are possible." With her positive influences (her parents, husband, and son, Cedric) and entrepreneurial spirit, these goals don't seem far-

ative for others." In

reaching at all.

Name: Sharon Scaife Birthplace: Marvell, Ar. Favorite Food: Greens Last Book Read: "Second Time Around"

My friends don't know that: "I believe that denomination isn't the main thing. Faith in God is.

Advice to would-be entrepreneurs:

"It isn't easy! Success doesn't happen overnight, it takes a lot of prayer and hard work."



S.J.S. Graphic Arts P.O. Box 452721 Garland,TX 75045-2721 (972) 496-9457 sascaife@cyberramp.net

Playing softball and basketball, reading, and spending time with her family are Mrs. Scaife's hobbies. With such a successful career that she enjoys, we can see why she doesn't plan to retire.

As recognition for its efforts, S.J.S. Graphic Arts was awarded "business of the month" by St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church in June of 1996.

On the personal side, Mrs. Scaife was also awarded the leadership award by St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church in June of 1997.

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



Family Life Fairy Street Mama

Sometimes, even for adults it is diffuclut to find really good friends to "hang with" and to just have fun. Recently, while speaking with a young



lan Johnson, 9 yrs. old, Hamilton Park Elem. School, 3rd grade

man, I decided to ask him about his favorite "Homeboy."

IAN: "I like to friend D'andra because he plays fairly and he doesn't start fights....He acts the same around me that he does other people....We like the same type of foods.. we both like

What do you like most about your friends?

choclate cakes......We are in the same TRIVIA just for your information. See class....we get along good together and we always have a lot of fun."

It is great to have good friends. Just remember to not be rude to others that you may (or maybe not) consider your friends. Below is a MORALITY

OHESTION

how well you do!!!!

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 972-907-9532.

ANICMED

FAIRY'S MORALITY TRIVIA TRUE OR FALSE?

The following are morality true or false questions that test your knowledge of how you treat others. Circle the correct answer.

Question	MASAA		
1. Rules should never be obeyed.	TRUE	FALSE	•
2. Kids are mature enought to handle anything.	TRUE	FALSE	
3. Education is important.	TRUE	FALSE	
4. Using good manners is a form of respect.	TRUE	FALSE	•
5. Doing things because other kids do them is cool.	TRUE	FALSE	
Fairy's True or False answers:			.) -

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1. FALSE 2. FALSE3. TRUE 4. TRUE 5. FALSE

Things to do, places to go

Freedom Schools and other programs offer summer alternatives for young people

By Cheryl L. Williams

While summer may carry the promise of sports, leisure and longer days for school children, for some parents it usually signals the start of a stressfilled, frantic search for summer child care. But finding summer activities for children need not be hard on the nerves -nor hard on the pocketbook.

Of the growing number of local summer programs geared toward African American children, the Freedom Schools, sponsored by the Greater Dallas Community of Churches, are among the best. Offering a curriculum that includes academic and cultural enrichment, as well as conflict resolution and self-esteem building activities, the entire program is free, giving parents at any income level a completely affordable, high-quality solution to the dilemma of finding acceptable summer care for their children.

"Marian Wright Edelman (head of the Children's Defense Fund) came and spoke at St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church," said Wendy Hodges-Kent, Freedom Schools project director with the Greater Dallas Community of Churches. "She emphasized what churches could do in response to rising statistics in illiteracy rates, violence and teenage pregnancies for children of color."

The formation in 1995 of the first two Freedom Schools in Dallas, at Lambuth United Methodist Church and Denley Drive Christian Church, resulted.

This year brings the addition of two new Freedom Schools, located at Concord Missionary Baptist Church and Southern Hills Church of Christ. Beginning June 22 and continuing through July 31, the four locations will serve a total of 260 children, ages 6-15, from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Lunches and afternoon snacks are provided free by the Summer Food Program, operated by the Dallas Public Schools.

Nationally sponsored by the Children's Defense Fund and the Black Community Crusade for Children, the program has five specific goals for its students: 1) to improve reading and other academic skills; 2) increase self esteem; 3) stop self-limiting behaviors such as drug abuse and activities that lead to pregnancy; 4) prevent violence through conflict resolution skills; and 5) provide a strong connection to African American culture.

The main goal [of the program] is academic success through reading," says Hodges-Kent. "But we emphasize pride

and self worth so [the children] don't do self-limiting things, and we let them know that they have control of their destiny. We help them go from awareness to positive action."

Instrumental to the success of the program is parental involvement. Parents are required daily to ask their children about school activities. Parents also attend empowerment seminars focusing on a variety of topics such as child development, communication or whatever is currently most pressing in their lives.

While every child may not relish the idea of spending the summer attending any program that remotely resembles school, additional summer programs are held throughout Dallas that offer everything from dance and visual arts to leadership training. All of the programs have limited enrollment and most fill up quickly, so parents are advised to enroll their children as soon as possible.

Below is a listing of some of those

Black Academy of Arts and Letters Summer Youth Arts Institute

Age: 8-16 When: June 8-14

Where: 650 South Griffin Street, Dallas,

Description: Youths between the ages of 8-16 are invited to join the Simmer Youth Arts Institute for a week of dance training with Fabian Barnes, a principal solo dancer with The Dance Theater of Harlem for 16 years.

Contact: 214-743-2440

Boys and Girls Club

Age: 6-18

When: May 27 from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Where: Various locations (eight in Dallas, one in Grand Prairie, one in Mesquite) Cost: \$10.00 club membership

Description: A variety of activities including sports, field trips, arts and crafts, academic enrichment, music and games. Contact: 214-821-2950

Dallas Black Dance Theatre Summer Enrichment Dance Program

Age: 9-15

When: June 1-19

Where: 2627 Flora Street, Dallas, TX Cost: \$75

Description: Members of Dallas Black Dance Theatre will teach ballet, modern, ethnic and jazz dance. Registration begins May 18

Dallas Black Dance Academy Summer

Program: Classes in ballet, jazz, tap, mod- When: June 8-July 17 ern and ethnic for students ages 4 and up. Begins June 6. \$40 per month for one class a week.

Contact: 214-871-2376

Dallas Park and Recreation Department Martin Luther King, Jr. Recreation Cen-

Age: 5-14

When: June 1-July 31 from 7:00 a.m.-6:00

Where: 2901 Pennsylvania Avenue, Dallas, TX

Cost: \$170

Description: Offerings may include arts and crafts, sports, swimming, field trips, drama, computer instruction, cooking classes. Parents must provide a copy of the child's birth certificate. The Dallas Park and Recreation Department has 44 recreation centers throughout Dallas. To obtain information about the one closest to your area, call 214-670-8847.

Contact: 214-670-8363

Greater Dallas Community of Churches Freedom Schools

Age: 6-15

When: June 22-July 31

Where: Four locations in Dallas: Lambuth United Methodist Church, 4350 Bonnie View Road; Denley Drive Christian Church, 1702 S. Denley Drive; Concord Missionary Baptist Church, 6808 Boulder; Southern Hills Church of Christ, 6969 C.F. Hawn Freeway

Cost: Free

Description: An academic and cultural enrichment program sponsored by the Greater Dallas Community of Churches. Activities include self-esteem building, conflict resolution skills, field trips, community service, art, music and athletics. Contact: Wendy Hodges-Kemp 214-824-

Rites of Passage; Juanita J. Craft Summer Leadership Academy

Age: 7th, 8th and 9th graders When: June 8-July 10

Where: Warren Avenue United Methodist Church, 3208 S. Oakland, Dallas, TX

Cost: \$25.00 (scholarship assistance avail-

Description: A month-long program that encourages academic enrichment, cultural enhancement and personal growth for students (entering grades 7, 8 and 9) to become core leaders. Enrollment restricted to residents of South Dallas/Fair Park. Deadline for application is April 24.

Contact: Froswa Booker-Drew 214-670-

St. Anthony Community Center Jump Start - Summer School and Camp Program Age: 3 years old - 8th grade

Where: 3714 Metropolitan Street, Dallas,

Cost: \$64 per week (Discount if more than one child)

Description: Jump Start offers a unique summer school and camp program designed to strengthen academic skills over the summer. Activities include classroom instruction and tutorials, writing skills, and math concepts. Afternoons provide camp activities such as dance, gymnastics, drama, sports and field trips. Contact: Comfort Brown 214-421-2324 or 214-421-3645

St. Philips School and Community Cen-

When: June 15-August 7

Where: 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Dallas, TX 75215

Cost: \$385 per child (Discount if more than one child)

Description: KidFit offers an academic and recreational program featuring reading & writing and science & mathematics camps as well as theater arts and sports camps.

Mid Summer Scholars: Provides one-onone remedial tutoring for children with learning differences, June 15-July 10. Cost is \$360 per child.

Summer Enrichment Camp: The University of Texas at Dallas brings its accelerated youth program to St. Philip's for children ages 7-12. Campers will spend two weeks, June 15-26 and/or June 29-July 10, expanding reading, writing and critical thinking skills. Cost is \$75 per

Contact: 214-421-5221

Scholar's Phair Foundation of Texas,

Age: 7-12 graders When: June 10-14

Where: 210 Elm, Suite A, Denton, TX

Cost: \$30 per participant

Description: African American history camp. The five-day event offers history classes, academic competitions, recreational activities and a mock election. Application deadline is May 8.

Contact: Donald Norman-Cox 940-591-

South Dallas Cultural Center Summer Arts at the Center

Age: 6-13

When: Two sessions: June 8-July 3 and July 6-July 31

Where: 3400 South Fitzhugh, Dallas, TX Cost: Free to children attending target schools in South Dallas. A small number of slots are available, at \$50 per week, to children outside target area.

Description: Children gain expertise in a variety of arts disciplines including per-

See Summer Camp on next page

Students honored for literary achievement

Daria Williams and Chris Grant named Umphrey Lee Students Of The Month

Daria Williams or 9-year-old Chris Grant that diligence doesn't pay off. The two third graders at Umphrey Lee Elemen-



Daria Williams, 8 years old

tary School in Dallas were ecstatic when they both received a photograph of President Bill Clinton with first dog, Buddy. The students obtained the photographs as a result of their outstanding effort for a class letter-writing project.

But their letter-writing ability isn't the only thing that makes the students

Summer Camp continued from previous page

formance art, creative writing, drawing, printmaking, figure sculpture, African drumming, photography, ceramics, electronic music/composition and storytelling. Application deadline is May 16. Contact: Vicki Meek 214-939-2787

Stephanie's Collection

Age: 9-13

When: June 8-June 10 and July 20-22 Where: 6955 Greenville Ave., Dallas, TX 75231

Cost: \$40-\$45 per session

Description: "Canvassing the Landscape," a four-hour course, June 8-10, teaches students how to paint with acrylic on canvas. "Multi-Media on Canvas," a 3-1/2 hour course, teaches students that art is not just paint on paper. Contact: Stephanie Ward 214-369-4438

Note: If we failed to include your school's or organization's summer program in this listing, MON will run additional program offerings in its May issue. Please send a description of your summer program to Minority Opportunity News, Attn: Summer Program Listing, 2730 Stemmons Freeway, Suite 1202 Tower West, Dallas, TX 75207, or fax your listing to 214-905-0949 by April 21, 1998.

You can't convince eight-year-old stand out. Their love of school and zest for learning makes them pint-sized role models for their peers.

> Third grade teacher Cynthia Carrick says Chris is an attentive student who tries to do his best at all times, which is evident in his school work and extracurricular activities. An athletic young man who likes, football, basketball, baseball and climbing trees, Chris has achieved perfect attendance since the beginning of the school year and has participated in an oratorical contest and the Science Fair.

> Daria, who consistently makes the honor roll, also participated in the school's oratorical contest and Science Fair. A bright and energetic student, Carrick says that she gives one hundred percent effort in all of her endeavors. Daria



Chris Grant, 9 years old

has an intense love of reading but, typical of a third-grader, she also likes to jump rope, color pictures and play board

Bernice Anderson, Daria's mom and Bobbie Grant, Chris' mom are thankful, but not surprised, that the children are off to such a promising start. They know that as long as the staff and faculty at Umphrey Lee Elementary School remain committed to excellence, their children will also.



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The Bahá'í Faith attracts people from every race and nationality who believe that, truly, there is only one race, the human race. Humanity cannot continue to harbor racial prejudice. The will to work towards race unity with firm resolve is more important than ever before.

The power to make the vision of race unity a reality is within our grasp. Join the conversation.

Watch "The Power of Race Unity" on the Odyssey station (channel 41B Dallas/Mesquite, 18B Richardson/ Plano, 11 Arlington, 66 Denton, 47 Fort Worth and 57 Park Cities) on the following dates and times:

Wed., April 1*,-12:00 noon Sun., April 5th, 7:00AM

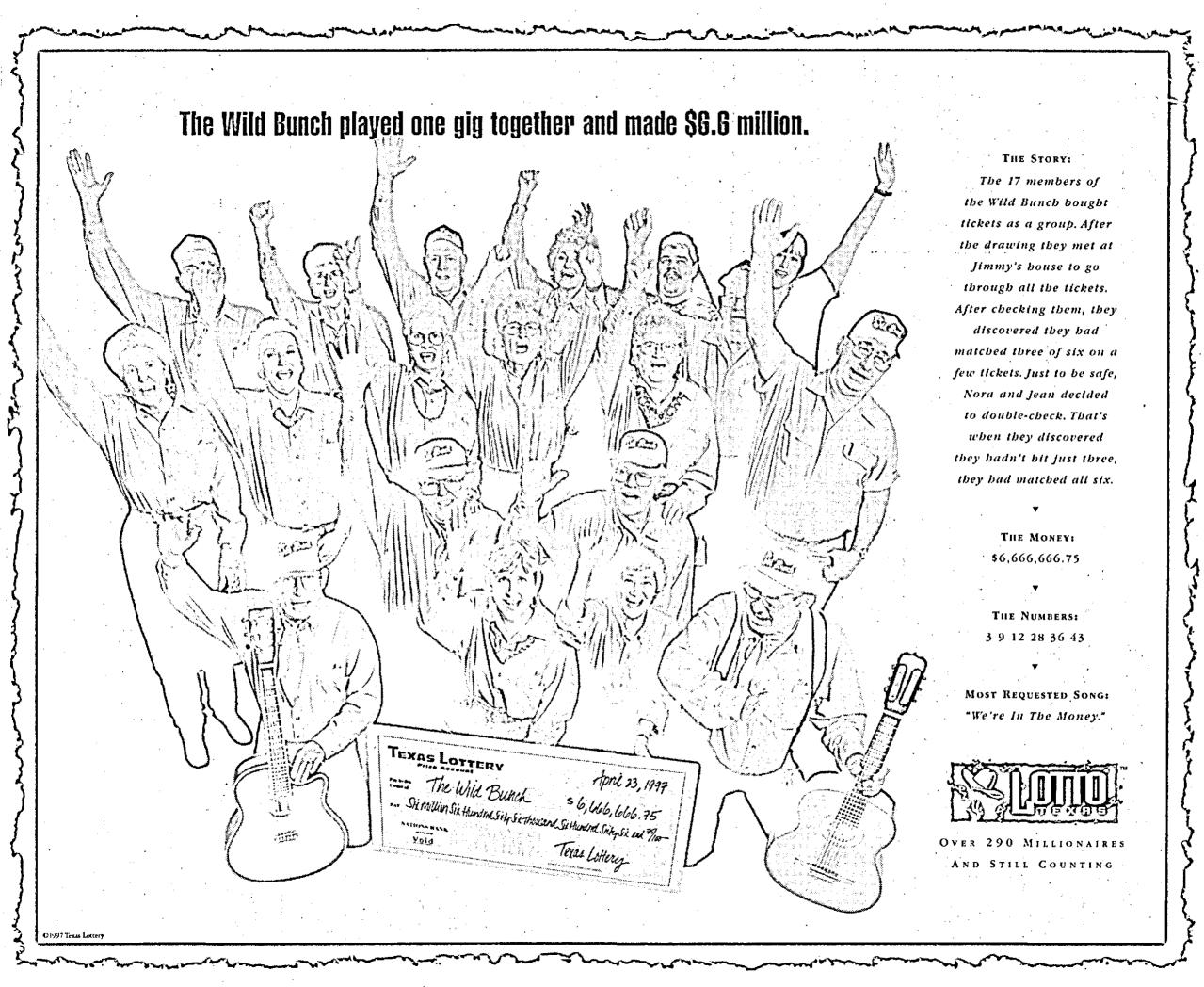
Sat., April 4th, 4:30PM Wed., April 8th, 12:00 noon

To learn more about the Bahá'í Faith and its commitment to racial unity, contact the Dallas Bahá'í Center, 4235 West Northwest Highway, Dallas, Texas, 214-352-0318. Open House Saturday 7 to 9 p.m.; Devotional Service Sunday 10:30 a.m.

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Book Review Angela Washington-Blair, Ph.D.

By Margaret Cuthbert Pocket Books, \$23; 348 pages

Move over, Robin Cook (author of many medical thrillers such as Coma and Acceptable Risk); make way for Margaret Cuthbert! Her new novel, The Silent Cradle (Pocket Books, April 1998, \$23.00) is just the ticket for suspense/medical thriller fans. The author is an obstetrician/gynecologist who is also the vice chair of obstetrics/gynecology at a hospital in Berkeley, California. Her own experiences provide her with vivid descriptions for her page-turning book.

The story begins when Black ob/gyn Dr. Rae Duprey begins having a couple of "bad baby cases" on her unit. These cases threaten her career and give her opponents ammunition to shut her department down, as it is not making money for the hospital. A patient who thinks she is the Blessed Mother is rushed to the hospital from a birth center across the street. This birth center is the brainchild of Rae's ex-lover, Dr. Bo Michaels. The birth center doesn't have license to do cesarean sections and really only provides care to low-risk cases. The woman has a complicated labor, and it takes all of Rae's skill and passion for her job to save her life and that of her baby. Then other crisistype cases show up. Bo thinks that Rae is trying to shut his birth center down. She thinks he wants to shut her unit down. She has found out that her unit is to be shut down in favor of expanding a cardiac care unit-a big money maker.

As more babies and mother's lives are put in jeopardy, Rae realizes that there is a killer who will stop at nothing to protect his or her territory. That killer, she comes to realize almost too late, is someone who works for the hospital or is closely affiliated with it. She doesn't really know who to trust, but often ends up confiding in anyone who cares to listen. This heroine is feisty, intelligent, somewhat compulsive, and dedicated to her creed of "save the life, save the life." She doesn't believe in God—she blames Him for the bleeding death of her mother when she was ten years old.

There are only a few Black pivotal characters in this book. Other than that, some critics might say that the characters or the settings are not "Black enough." Well, my answer to that is always the same. We as a people are not monolithic. We have many stories to tell. Many "Black" experiences. Mostly, we have human experiences: birth, life, love,

The Silent Cradle

tragedy, joy, death. The violin-playing main character, Dr. Rae Duprey, has a life of some glamour, but primarily a life of hard work and sleepless nights. She is highly regarded by her peers and is very knowledgeable. A relationship with a new white doctor on staff adds to the mix.

Rae has more "doctor" experiences than strictly Black experiences. So if you're looking for that "ethnic feel," you won't find it in this book. What you will find is a tightly, cleverly written med-

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ical thriller with well-developed characters. As I read some of the tension-filled pages, it made me think about the issues facing health care today: managed care, hospitals that seek profits first, and poor patient care as a result—all issues that are glaringly brought to light in Cuthbert's novel.

This book is a page turner from the first page. The author's use of vivid, graphic descriptions of the medical processes, coupled with explicit language and realistic dialogue bring to life

the drama that unfolds in operating and delivery rooms.

Fans of television shows like ER or Chicago Hope will stay riveted to the pages and will have a true sense of what it's like to work as a physician. Read this book when you have a lot of time on your hands, for you won't want to put it down

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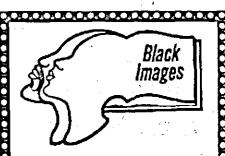
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TUESDAY, APRIL 14 • 6-8 pm Joseph Tolbert-Yancy will read and autograph "Romantic Secrets Men Should Know."

SUNDAY, APRIL 19 • 3:00 pm Annual Poetry Slam featuring Dallas-Fort Worth poets.

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22 • 6-8 pm Margaret Cuthbert, M.D. reads

Margaret Cuthbert, M.D. reads from and autographs "The Silent Cradle". It is the first medical thriller ever to feature an African American hero/heroine. Dr. Cuthbert's signing will be hosted by Sistah Knowledge Book Club.

1998 Lone Star Derby 5-K run

The Metroplex's newest major league sports entertainment facility, Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie, invites you to join its 1998 Lone Star Derby 5—K Run on Saturday, April 18, at 9:30 a.m. The course starts in front of the Grandstand and finishes on the same track as the Thoroughbreds. Door prizes and T—shirts will be available; refreshments will be served before and after the race. Trophies for age groups (1 — 75 & over), both male and female, will be awarded. Pre—registration entry fee is \$13; race day registration (from 8:00 a.m. — 9:00 a.m.) is \$16. Pre—registration entries must be postmarked by Thursday, April 9; packets and entries may be picked up at Fieldhouse Sports in North Hills Mall (corner of 820 &183 in North Richland Hills; 817—284—3309). Proceeds from the race benefit the Grand Prairie Boys & Girls Clubs. For more information, call Denise Jensen at 972—237—1127.

Lone Star's Kid's Club Days

With its second live racing season opening this month, Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie once again invites children to experience the excitement and action of behind—the—scenes adventures with trainers, jockeys and horses. Members of the park's "Kid's Club Days" will be treated to continental breakfasts, morning workouts, visits with racetrack personalities, pony rides and petting zoo, special entertainment, and games. Kid's Club Days are scheduled on the following Saturdays: April 11, May 2, June 6, and July 4. For membership entry forms, contact Lone Star Park at 972—237—1127.

Electronic Urban Report

Iyanla Vanzant touts two new books

Iyanla Vanzant has inspired many with her books on selfhelp and spiritual awareness. Now she's back with two new works — "In The Meantime" and "One Day My Soul Just Opened Up."

"In the Meantime' is about building relationships, first with yourself then with other people," says Vanzant. "One



Day My Soul Just Opened Up' is about incorporating spiritual principles into your life that you can use in relationships, education, business and finances. They're just the basic principles because I don't know anywhere that spiritual principles are written or taught." Vanzant traveled a long road to get to where she is today. The 40-something author was sexually abused as a child, shuttled from one

family member to another and ended up a teenage mother on welfare. When she married, her husband abused her. Eventually she pulled herself up, got a college education, a law degree, remarried and even became an ordained minister.

"The beautiful thing is God is as instant as you are," says Vanzant. "The minute you acknowledge what you're doing, what you're feeling, the healing begins. So once you acknowledge it and become aware of it you have to choose if you're

going to continue to respond the way you've once responded or are you going to choose something different."

In The Meantime" and "One Day My Soul Just Opened Up" are in bookstores.

MON

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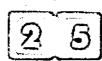
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You and Your Money

John Dudley

The Roth IRA: A new twist on an old idea

Thanks to the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997, saving for retirement may have gotten a little easier. That's because the comprehensive national tax legislation included enhancements to traditional Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) and, importantly, the creation of a new type of IRA, the Roth IRA.

Named for Delaware Senator William Roth, who first introduced the concept for this savings vehicle, the Roth IRA takes the IRA notion of potentially tax-deductible, tax-deferred investing and turns it around. Contributions to a Roth IRA are never tax-deductible; but qualified withdrawals from the account, including earnings and capital gains, are tax-free. That's right. The investment earnings will never be taxed, as long as the account has been open for at least five tax years and you have reached age 59-1/2.

Here's how a Roth IRA works: anyone who is earning income or taxable alimony (received under decree of divorce or separation) can contribute up to \$2,000 annually to a Roth IRA, assuming his or her adjusted gross income is not above \$95,000 for single filers or \$150,000 for couples filing jointly. Partial contributions are available for single filers earning up to \$110,000 and for couples filing jointly up to \$160,000.

In addition to tax-free accumulation and withdrawals, Roth IRAs have other advantages over traditional IRAs. Unlike the traditional IRA, contributions to a Roth IRA may continue past age 70 1/2. In addition, you are not required to begin taking distributions at this age. Qualified early distributions (before age 59 1/2) from a Roth IRA are not subject to the 10 percent Federal penalty or income tax as long as the Roth IRA has been opened for at least five tax years, and the funds are withdrawn due to death or disability of the account holder. Legislators, surprising many, included one more qualified withdrawal for Roth IRA funds. After five tax years, you can withdraw up to \$10,000 to pay for qualified first time home buying expenses for yourself, or for certain family members. In addition, contributions to the Roth IRA distributed first are always tax free.

The tax-free aspects of the Roth IRA make this account most beneficial to people who have a long-term investing horizon—20 years or more—or those who will be in a relatively high tax bracket when the time comes to withdraw IRA money. If you anticipate being in a low tax bracket during retirement years and can make full use of the tax-deductibility of a traditional IRA now, you may be better off with the plain vanilla variety. But it's a good idea to run the numbers on both types of accounts, given your current situation and your expected retirement scenario. Most professional financial advisors have access to software programs that can help compare the difference between the benefits of a tax deductible IRA (with taxes deferred until withdrawal) and the non-deductible, but tax-free Roth IRA.

If the Roth IRA and the prospect of tax-free earnings fits your retirement savings strategy, you may want to consider rolling over your existing IRA into a Roth IRA. To avail your-self of this conversion option, your adjusted gross income must not exceed \$100,000 in the year of conversion (not including the income you recognize as a result of converting your old IRA). The taxable amounts recognized as a result of the conversion are subject to

ordinary income tax, but not the 10 percent Federal penalty. And, if you convert before 1999, taxable income is spread out equally over four years.

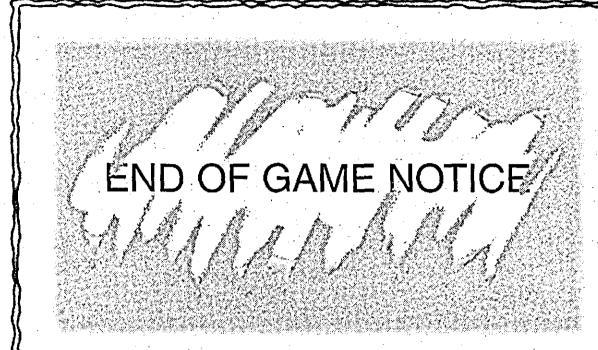
While the Roth IRA is an attractive potential retirement savings vehicle, it's wise to do some serious number crunching before you decide which type of IRA to fund, as well as consulting your tax advisor for full details on the rules and restrictions of tax-advantaged accounts*. And as with other retirement savings and investment decisions, a pro-

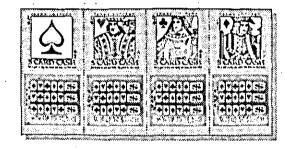
fessional financial advisor can help you decide which IRA makes the most sense for you.

*Prudential Securities is not a tax advisor.

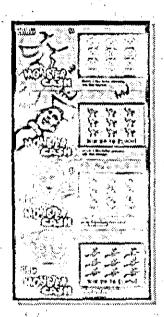
MON

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









Three of the Texas Lottery's instant games will close on April 30, 1998: 5 Card Cash, Monster Cash and Texas Weather. You have until October 27, 1998, to buy the remaining tickets and redeem any winners. You can win up to \$5,000 playing 5 Card Cash

and up to \$1,000 playing Monster

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

Lottery Customer Service Line at 1-800-37-LOTTO (1-800-375-6886).

Overall odds of winning 5 Card Cash, 1 in 4.97. Overall odds of winning Monster Cash, 1 in 4.69. Overall odds of winning Texas Wearher, 1 in 4.44



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



Health & Fitness

Tyrone Caldwell

Aerobic Excercise

Not all forms of exercise are equal in the health and fitness benefits they yield. It is important that you learn and understand what benefits a particular exercise can offer you. The term "aerobic exercise" is used to describe any form of activity that can be done continuously for at least 20 minutes and that uses oxygen to provide energy for the muscles. Aerobic exercise generally involves the large muscles of the upper body and legs. Many of the popular exercises people do are aerobic, such as walking, jogging, (aerobic) dancing, cycling and swimming. Regardless of the activity you choose, start slowly, stay within your limit and gradually build your speed and distance over several weeks. Your endurance will improve with time; just be consistent with your program.

A common problem for people who start an aerobic exercise program is injury. For example, a large person may complain about sore knees or ankles from jogging. A simple solution would be to stop jogging and find a low-impact form of aerobic exercise like walking or cycling. People think they can immediately go from being a couch potato to running several miles a day; this is just not possible; the body can't handle the sudden physical strain. In order to prevent injury, you must start out doing your aerobic activity slowly, then gradually increase it. Many people are impatient; they think the more they do, the faster will be the results. This may or may not be true, but one thing is certain: you will experience injury after injury if you start too fast.

In the early stages, less is best. Give your body time to adapt and create a solid foundation for you to build on. If you are just starting an exercise program, limit your training to two or three days a week. Space your workout days something like this: Monday and Wednesday, or Tuesday and Thursday, or Monday, Wednesday and Friday. This type of schedule will give you time for rest and recovery between

workouts. How far, how long and how fast should you exercise? Well, as I mentioned earlier, to get heart and lung benefits from aerobic exercise, do at least 20 minutes worth. If you can't do 20 minutes, simply do what you can and work until you get there. Once you get going, you'll find it is really a fairly short period of time.

To gauge how fast you should go, use this simple little rule: If you can't carry on a conversation while doing your aerobic activity, you are pushing yourself too hard. Slow

How far you should go depends on a number of factors. What sort of shape are you in? How long has it been since you've done any form of aerobic activity? Are you overweight? In other words, your beginning should be based on your present fitness level. But it really doesn't matter much how far you go at first. Just consistently increase the distance, and you'll achieve the same benefits as the person who runs, walks, swims or cycles four or five times the distance that you

Finally, the rule I use for increasing my aerobic routine is to add a little each session. I don't care if it's 10 seconds or 10 yards more than your last session; the point is to gradually increase over time. This doesn't sound like much; but over a year's time, it adds up significantly. Keep in mind that you don't need to be in any rush. Aerobic exercise should be part of your life for as long as you are able.

In closing, anyone who leads a sedentary lifestyle, is over-

weight, or is over the age of 40 and who would like to start an aerobic exercise program, would be wise to see a physician beforehand.

Fitness Tips:

It is a good idea to take a few minutes to warm-up and stretch the muscles that will be involved in the activity. As for warming up, simply move into your activity slowly for the first five minutes. Once you begin to feel good and loose,

pick up the pace. It is also a good idea to stretch and cool down after your activity. This prevents injury, soreness and helps your body recover faster.

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.

What to do this summer

Article 4: Internships

that one out of five students stay enthusiastic. will take an internship during the course of an academ- about compensation. Internic year.

world" will provide you an level salary and others may opportunity to put your busi- involve reimbursement for ness skills and education to your out-of-pocket expenses. practical use. You will learn Keep in mind that some you may want to contact new technology, jargon and internships may carry acade- your guidance counselor or job-related protocol. The mic credit for the business placement office or read the internship beefs up your experience you get. Whatev- following books: resume, exposes you to busi- er the case, the internship ness career choices, strength- will give you more value, in ens your marketable skills the long term, than your and increases your job hunt- summer paycheck may ing confidence.

In many ways, an internin that it affords a company suggestions in mind: the opportunity to assess your potential while you gain valuable experience. In some industries, internships are a definite door opener for

summer future employment. As well, approaches, many students an internship can help you will be looking for summer understand the real world employment opportunities. pressures of dealing with Internships can provide a demanding clients who have meaningful work experience paid for services and expect and boost your future com- results. Typical tasks for busipetitiveness in the job mar- ness internships include ket. The popularity of intern-doing research, attending ships continues to grow as a meetings, writing reports or work option for many young meeting clients. Some of the people. In fact, the National work is mundane. But your Society for Internships and opportunities for more chal-Experiential Education states lenging work increase if you

Don't get any delusions ships may or may not involve An internship in the "real pay. Some may offer entry

For a successful internship is like a two-way street ship experience, keep these

> You should be aware of your employer's work objectives and expectations. •Keep a journal of your

- daily activities at work. Include a job description and a list of your tasks and responsibilities.
- •Dress, act and speak appropriately. Take your cue from the other company employees.
- Ask questions and take notes. Take responsibility for your learning.
- Look for ways to create and innovate—strive to do the best you can in all your responsibilities.
- •Develop a positive attitude. Be appreciative, responsible, punctual, enthusiastic, organized and prepared.

For more information,

The National Directory of Internships. (National Society for Internships and Experiential Education, 3509 Haworth Drive, Suite 209, Raleigh, North Carolina 27609)

1990 Internships. (Writer's Digest Books, 1507 Dana Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45207).

Presented by:



Financial Planning



On Real Estate **Curtis Yates**

There are three basic categories of charges and fees in settlement or closing transactions: (1) Charges for establishing and transferring ownership. These include city, county and state transfer taxes, recording fees, and prepaid property taxes. (2) Amounts paid to state and local governments. These include city, county and state transfer taxes, recordation fees, and prepaid property taxes. (3) Costs of getting a mortgage. These include survey, appraisals, credit checks, loan documentation fees, notary charges, loan origination, commitment and processing fees, hazard insurance, interest prepayments, and lender's inspection fees.

Let's examine few of them.

Title Search: Who Owns What?

When someone buys or sells a car, proving ownership is relatively easy. The owner has a certificate of title issued by the state in which the car is registered. When it comes to houses, providing clear title is not so simple. Moreover, your lending institution will not give you a mortgage loan on a house unless you can prove that the seller owns it. The proof comes as a result of a title search.

How the title search is carried out depends upon where the property is located. In many parts of the country, public records affecting real estate title are spread among several local government offices, including recorders of deeds, county courts, tax assessors, and surveyors. Records of deaths, divorces, court judgments, liens, and contests over

Types of closing costs

wills (all of which can affect ownership rights) also must be examined.

In a few localities, property records are fully computerized and the job can be completed fairly quickly. In the majority of localities, however, title search must be performed to establish the seller's clear title. This means examining public records in courthouses and elsewhere to assure both you and your lender that there are no claims against the property that you are buying. The title search may be carried out by an escrow or title company, a lawyer, or other specialist.

Title Insurance

In addition to a formal title search, your lender is likely to require a title insurance policy. The policy guards the lender against an error by whomever searched the title. (In some cases, the title insurer might arrange for or conduct the title search.) Let's say, for example, that a long—lost relative of the seller turns up with indisputable evidence that the relative (not the seller) holds legal title to the property. Though it should have been found in the public records, the relative's claim was missed somehow. Errors are rare, but they do

When this happens, the lending institution finds that it has loaned the homebuyer thousands of dollars to buy a house from someone who did not own it. To avoid such problems, the lender will insist on title insurance prior to settlement. The cost of the policy (a onetime premium) is usually based on the loan amount, and is often paid by the purchaser. There's nothing, however, to keep you from asking the seller, during your negotiations, to pay part or all of the premium.

The title insurance required by the lender protects only the lender. To protect yourself against unforeseen title problems, you may also want to take out an owner's title insurance policy. Normally the additional premium cost is only a fraction of the lender's policy, but this can vary from area to area.

Some final advice on keeping title insurance costs low: if the house you are buying was owned by the seller for only a few years, check with a title company. If you can obtain a reissue rate, the premium is likely to be significantly lower than the regular charge for a new policy. If no claims have been made against the title since the previous title search was done, the seller's insurer may consider the property to be a lower insurance risk.

Finally, shop around.—not just for the premium (which can vary depending on how much competition there is in a market area), but for coverage as well. Generally, you should look for a policy with as few exclusions from coverage as possible. The exclusions are listed in each policy. Some policies have so many exclusions — that is, situations under which the insurer will not pay for your title problems — that you end up with little coverage for your premium dollar.

MON

Curtis Yates is the owner/operator of REAL ESTATE STATUS QUO; 8111 LBJ Frwy, Ste. 787bb, Dallas, TX 75251-1333; Ph. 972-702-0151; Fax 972-934-2706; E-mail statusqu@flash.net; Promotion Web Site: http://www.flash.net/~statusqu/.

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You and God

Ron Shaw

We're not alone

Genesis 2:18

I've been talking with men and women concerning relationships more these days than in any other time in my 25 years in the ministry. Both married and unmarried couples seem to share at least one common desire: companionship. As one person told me, "Ron, I'm not looking for sex, just someone to talk to, share what's going on with me, someone to get to know me." And this person just happened to be male! I've met some great people during my life. I love being with people. I love listening to them and hearing their stories. All of us have stories. Surprisingly though, I tend to be the kind of person who could live all by myself and not have a problem. Life is so interesting and full of adventure.

A lot of people I talk to, married and single, share the same thing. They have a deep desire for companionship. The desire not to be alone. One young lady came to me in deep contrition because she didn't understand why she was that way. "Why can't I just live alone and be happy? Why do I have this desire to be with someone?" The truth of the matter is, none of us were meant to live life alone. The very word "single" can sometimes carry unscriptural connotations. We label those who have not yet taken marriage vows as singles when we, in fact, are all single individuals. Getting married is not a cure for alone-ness. Getting to know God is.

Alone-ness comes as the result of being completely disconnected and separated from our Creator and Maker. We were created for fellowship. Our hearts have been tuned to be with someone other than ourselves, and that someone is God. As we get to know Him, we discover that He made us for His pleasure. We were created for Him. He had the idea that we didn't need to be alone; so He made help, or companionship, suitable for us.

Our text says God said it is not good that we be alone. Therefore, He gave us others. I never take for granted the people that God brings into my life. I realize that they may be a necessary part of my development. Those who even challenge my faith and compassion and tax my patience must be necessary. Jesus said the closer we get to the end of this dispensation, the more pressure would be placed on relationships, and many would separate themselves and become insensitive to others around them. Nevertheless, we have a promise from Him that He would never leave or forsake us. Whatever stage of your life you are in, know this you are not alone. The Lord is with you. Whatever condition you are in, whatever problems you are facing, never forget that no matter how it feels or looks, you are not alone.

The first thing in all of His creation that God said was not good was the alone-ness of man. So He fixed that. You don't have to be married to know His presence and companionship that He adds to your life through others. Luther Vandross sings in one of his songs, "I am not meant to live alone." That's what God said long before Luther ever sang it. Don't discount or underestimate the people you meet. Consider them as part of God's development of your life, no matter how uncomfortable it may be for the moment.

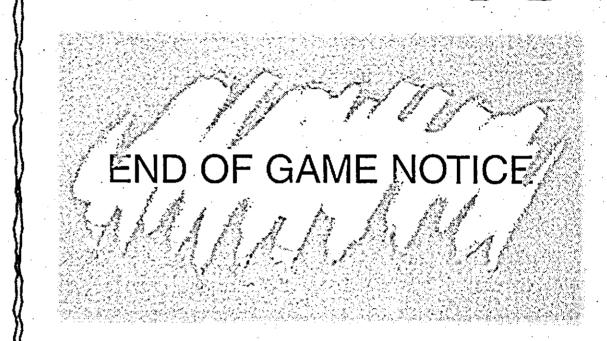
Finally, there is a part of you that is reserved for God. No other person can occupy or fill that part. No husband, wife, son or daughter. Some parents think just having more children will bring satisfaction. Some women think their husbands should be their all in all. Some husbands become jealous of the fact that they cannot be all to their wives because a part of her is reserved for God. No one else but God can meet her needs in that part. We are all spirit beings who live in these earthly houses called bodies. We cannot know one another completely because of what the Bible calls the "veil of flesh." Only God can know us and we know Him. Why? Because He's the only spirit who can get inside our spirits and know us completely. That's why at times, in spite of the crowds or the silence that may surround us, our need not to be alone can be filled completely by the presence of the Father in our lives.

God doesn't intend to be a substitute for people in your life; but people shouldn't be a substitute for God in your life either. I pray daily (for my children) that God will add people to their lives who will partner with them to honor Him. I ask Him to bring people into their lives who will add to their getting to know Him and not distract or take them away from Him. I

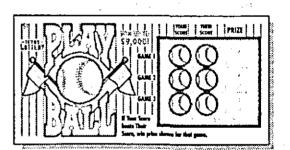
pray that same prayer for my congregation. There are times in my life when it's just God and me, and there are times when it's God and me and people. Either way, we are not alone!

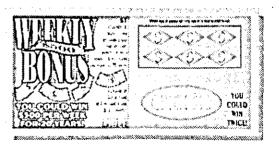
MAN

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









Three of the Texas Lottery's instant games will close on April 2, 1998: The Whole Enchilada, Play Ball and Weekly Bonus. You have until September 29, 1998, to buy the remaining tickets and redeem any winners. You can win up to \$20,000 playing The Whole Enchilada, up to \$9,000 playing Play Ball and up

to \$500 per week for 20 years playing Weekly Bonus. You can claim prizes of up to \$599 at any Texas Lottery retailer. Prizes of \$600 or more are redeemable at one of the 24 Texas Lottery claim centers or by mail. Questions? Just call the Texas

Lottery Customer Service Line at 1-800-37-LOTTO (1-800-375-6886).

Overall odds of winning The Whole Enchdada, 1 in 4-02. Overall odds of winning Play Ball, 1 in 4-92. Overall odds of winning Weekly Bonus, 1 in 4-73.

RATCH OFFS

Must be 18 years or older to play © 1998 Texas Lottery



Career **Opportunity** Kathleen Goolsby

The Great White Way

Dubbed "The Great White Way," New York's 125th Street in 1935 Harlem had no Black-owned businesses nor any Black employees. Rioting "corrected" that injustice. Although later civil rights laws and affirmative action have since brought about some fairness in employment of African Americans, racism and prejudice still exist. Much like a cancer, they grow inside - unseen, festering - and there is no known cure. The cause of this disease is, usually, greed - but, often, it's ignorance.

When it comes to Blacks, most White people today are not hateful ... they're just ignorant, (that is unknowing). We are a product of our upbringing and education and White people were taught that Black people had always been slaves. Not questioning what was taught, nor anything about the wealth of African culture, White people naturally made an assumption: that since slaves are inferior in society, it follows that Black people must have been discovered a long time ago to have been inferior or they wouldn't have been slaves.

White people are slowly changing. Not all -- but many -- White people now realize the truths about Black people and what has been done to them; they are embarrassed and disown the hateful actions of their ancestors. And they embrace equal opportunity . . . but some Whites approve this idea only insofar as letting Blacks inside the door. They know that Blacks have shown themselves to be superior in using their God-given talents and are extraordinary survivors. Whites worry about losing their jobs to Black peo-

Seldom does that happen, though. A Black person's "give me a chance to show you what I can do!" attitude can work negatively in a White corporate environment, where Blacks are often hired with little or no understanding as to "how things really work." In a "White workplace," there are a number of separate operating standards which, at any given time, can supersede one another. The pressure to adjust is often troublesome for Black employees. What tactics can a Black person employ to start out on the right foot - and stay standing?

First, figure out who on your peer level in the organization has mastered what it seems to take to be successful. Learn as much as you can when talking with this person about how people function in the company and what is acceptable behavior.

Secondly, realize that you will be watched and judged by your personality and social compatibility; whether you

speak and write grammatically; whether you are a team player, and how you deal with anger and disappointment.

Remain flexible. Don't base your expectations and decisions on past experiences with White people. Although it's easier said than done, don't be paranoid nor accusative. Develop a strong reputation for expertise on your job. Be a self-starter. Don't be late, and don't handle personal business on company time (even if White people do). Don't help to spread rumors, and never bad-mouth the company. Support the goals of your boss.

Above all, remember that if you react negatively to a situation, people will then act negatively toward you. Of course, you cannot let unfair treatment based solely on race go lightly. In such circumstances, you should remain calm and seek expert legal advice as to how to handle it. If you react strongly and emotionally in the White workplace, you will not fare well in the ultimate outcome of the situation. You may be opposing a person of higher rank in the company, who simply acts from a standpoint of privilege toward all employees, regardless of race. Or you may be opposing a White person who is truly ignorant as to the effect of his or her words and actions on Black people. If you oppose an individual who truly intended no harm, you will lose a potential ally. Avoid challenging people on the job unless it's crucial. The cost of proving you are right can be too high. Look for alternatives. Try to solve the problem, rather than concentrating on unfairness.

It is not true that a Black person has to work twice as hard, or subjugate his selfrespect, or ignore blatant injustice to be successful the "White way." But he must be tolerant. Obviously, racial unity cannot be solved overnight; but, without tolerance for one another — despite agreements there can never be unity in the workplace.

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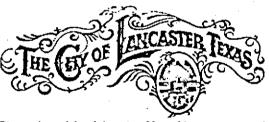
Oualifications: The Minister of Christian Education must possess significant knowledge of the Christian education and training system and process. A degree in Christian religious education from an accredited seminary or equivalent experience is considered optimum.

- Lead the church in planning, conducting, and evaluating a comprehensive program of Christian education.
- Serve as educational resource person and advisor to the leaders of assigned program and service ministries such as Sunday School, Bible Study, church library, Women's Ministry and Operation BLAAC.
- Develop special education and training projects such as retreats, study sessions and seminars for various age groups and program organizations.
- Lead the church to be aware of the latest trends in Christian education, lead in choosing suitable curriculum.
- Guide in the designation, enlistment and training of lay workers.
- · Serve as staff advisor for the educational facet of special and pastoral ministry areas such as homebound and nursing home Bible teaching programs.
- Coordinate the production of informational and public relations materials such as church publications and news releases.
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- Perform other duties as assigned by the Senior Pastor.

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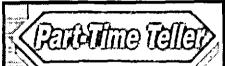
Please be advised that the City of Lancaster will be administering Civil Service Entrance Examinations for Police Officers on Saturday, April 25, 1998.

- Applications & study guides may be acquired at the Police/Fire Department--1501 N. Dallas Ave. (972-227-1813). (Office hours are 8-5 Monday-Friday)
- The following are required for exam eligibility:
 1. Must be Certified or Certifiable by TCLEOSE (Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officers Standards and Education) Must be certified before you can be employed.
 - 2. Must possess a current valid drivers license.
 - 3. Must be at least 21 years of age and meet all eligibility requirements of Section 143.023 of the Texas Fire and Police Civil Service Law.
 - 4. Must meet all physical requirements.
- The Police Officers Examination will be administered from 9 A.M. to 9:45 A.M. A second exam schedule, if needed, is set for 10:30 A.M.
- The Entrance Examinations will be administered at Cedar Valley Community College--3030 N. Dallas Ave.; Lancaster, TX. 75134 (972-372-8118) in Building C, Room 005 (downstairs).
- Proper Identification will be required in order to be admitted to the Examination. • The Entrance Examinations will consist of language skills. Study guides may be
- acquired at the Police/Fire Department. A ranked eligibility list will be maintained for one year unless the list is exhausted.
- All applications must be returned in person during normal office hours to the Police/Fire Department, 1501 N. Dallas, Ave., by 4 P.M. on Monday, April 20, 1998 in order to be included for the Examination.

• • • Posted March 12, 1998 • • •

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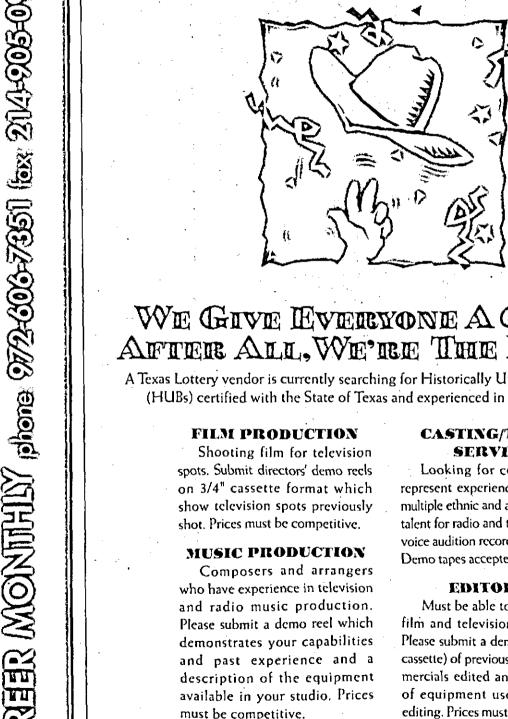
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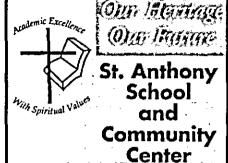
Looking for companies that represent experienced talent from multiple ethnic and age groups. Voice talent for radio and television. Need voice audition recording capabilities. Demo tapes accepted for the files.

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Dictor of Christen Biberton • Brandship West Banks (Church

Principle Function: Responsible for the church's education program in accordance with the objectives set by the Senior Pastor and Christian Education Committee and Pastor of Administration and Christian Education. Duties and Responsibilities:

Provides complete oversight, supervision, and planning for all of the church schools; Sunday School, weekday church school such as Family Life Enrichment Week, day school, nursery school; etc.

Determines personnel needs for all of the church schools and hired staff.

- Strengthen relationships between church families/ministries and the education program through visits,
- Encourages personnel to develop contacts with parents and students beyond the classroom.
- Arranges for teacher training opportunities, leadership school, etc. Reviews literature, equipment, and supply needs and inventories.

Attend all staff meetings.

Submit written quarterly reports to the Trustee Ministry.

- Work with the Christian Education Committee in developing educational opportunities and programs. Represent the congregation at various denominational and ecumenical educational events, seminars, and
- 11. Perform other tasks assigned by the Senior Pastor, Pastor of Administration.

12. Teach Wednesday Night Bible Study.

13. Evaluate, appraise, and measure success of programs being instituted.

- 14. Oversee the accreditation of teachers though developing and organizing the FWBC Christian Institute with the Pastor of Administration/Christian Education.
- Select, recommend and with approval of Pastor of Christian Education, appoint teachers and ministry

Qualifications: The Church Director of Christian Education must be:
• A graduate of an accredited Bible College or Seminary.

· A member in good standing with a church.

• A member of a denomination.

· Experienced teacher of children and adults.

Have the passion and spiritual giftedness for teaching.

Supervision: Reports directly to the Church Administrator and Minister of Christian Education. Accommodations: Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of this position.

Compensation includes Retirement, Insurance, Vacation Package, Sick Leave, Paid Holidays, Full Medical/ Dental, Housing Allowance.

> Send Resume and Salary History to: Friendship-West Baptist Church C/O Personnel Ministry 616 W. Kiest Blvd. . Dallas, Texas 75224

No phone calls please! • All information is due by April 17, 1998

Minister-of Youth o Intended the West Burns & Church

Principle Function: The minister of youth is responsible to the minister of education for planning, coordinating, directing and evaluating the youth educational ministry of the church.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plans, coordinates, directs and evaluates the youth ministries of the church through the youth program organizations of the church. Works with youth division leaders to plan a program for leading youth to a knowledge of the plan of salvation and to develop them in
- Assists organizational leaders in the enlistment, training and guidance of youth division leaders to achieve the purposes of the church
- Leads in planning and conducting special age group activities and programs appropriate for the spiritual growth of the youth of the church including Youth Week, drama, retreats, conference center meeting, camps, fellowships, banquets, mission activities, and so

Coordinates the work of the youth division with the music and activities programs.

- Promotes a regular program of visitation for the youth division in cooperation with the overall church program for outreach.

 Participates in the staff visitation program to prospective members, potential leaders, hospital and crisis visitation as it relates to the
- youth division such as organizational changes, space use changes, equipment and furnishings needs and policies and procedures of operation.

 Prepares the annual budget for needs of the youth division and administrator the approved budget according to policy.

 Studies new materials, programs, curriculum, educational methods, for youth and make recommendations when feasible.

Serves as member of the church council representing the areas of youth.

Visits college campuses and junior and senior high campuses for persona contact and counseling with students.

12. Visits college campuses and junior and sentor high campuses for persona contact and counseling with students.

13. Maintains one-to-one contact with individual youth in all phases of the work.

14. Performs other duties assigned by the supervisor.

Qualifications: The Minister of Youth must posses significant knowledge of the Christian education and training system and process. A degree in Christian religious education from an accredited seminary or equivalent experience is considered optimum.

• Lead the church in planning, conducting, and evaluating a comprehensive program for youth Christian education.

• Serve as educational resource person and advisor to the leaders of assigned program and service ministries such as Sunday School.

• Bible Study, church library, Women's Ministry and Operation BLAAC.

• Develor special education and training projects for youth such as extreats, study sessions and seminars for yarious and

Develop special education and training projects for youth such as retreats, study sessions and seminars for various age groups and

Lead the church to be aware of the latest trends in youth Christian education; lead in choosing suitable curriculum.

- Guide in the designation, enlistment and training of lay workers. Serve as staff advisor for youth Christian educational facet.
- Coordinate the production of informational and public relations material such as church publications and news releases pertaining to
- Perform other duties as assigned by the Church Administrator or the Pastor of Children and Families.

Compensation includes Retirement, Insurance, Self-Employment/Social Security Offset, Housing Allowance, Medical/Dental, Paid Vaca-

Send Resume and Salary History to: Friendship-West Baptist Church C/O Personnel Ministry 616 W. Kiest Blvd. • Dallas, Texas 75224

No phone calls please! • All information is due by April 17, 1998

Interrela Vaccounterra o la translatio a Mari Bordar Church

Principle Function: Responsible for obtaining financial data from the Church Business Administrator for use in maintaining church

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Compiles and sorts documents: such as offering envelopes and checks, substantiating business transactions.
- Verifies and posts details of business transactions in the Automated Church Accounting System, such as funds received and
- Computes and records charges, refunds, and similar items,
- Types correspondence, reports, and other records.
- Updates and maintains membership records.
- Reconciles bank statements.
- Files documents substantiating business transaction.
- Prepare monthly and yearly financial statements and closings.

Special projects and other duties as assigned.

Qualifications: The Church Financial Accountant must have adequate education or equivalent training to manage business and fiscal affairs as required. To perform this job successfully, incumbent must be able to perform each essential duty at a satisfactory level. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skills, and ubilities required for this position.

At a minimum, an Associate Degree, with emphasis in accounting, from a two-year college or technical school, or 1-2 years of related experience and/or training, or the equivalent combination of education and experience. Strong computer skills with the ability to work with and prepare accounting spreadsheets, financial statements, and network

Ability to add, subtract, multiply, and divide using whole numbers, common fractions, and decimals. Ability to compute rate, ratio, and percent.

Ability to analyze financial data, interpreting financial documents.

Ability to read and interpret documents such as safety rules, operating and maintenance instructions, and procedure manuals.

Ability to maintain the confidentially of church records and other confidential information.

- Ability to apply common sense understanding to carry out instructions furnished in written, oral, or diagram form. Ability to deal with problems involving several concrete variables in standardized situations.

 Ability to communicate orally and in writing.
- Ability to use 10 key by touch.

Supervision: Reports directly to the Church Business Manager.

Accommodations: Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential func-

Compensation includes Retirement, Insurance, Vacation Package, Sick Leave, Paid Holidays, Full Medical/Dental.

Send Resume and Salary History to: Friendship-West Baptist Church C/O Personnel Ministry 616 W. Kiest Blvd. • Dallas, Texas 75224

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JUVENILE CORRECTIONAL OFFICER (GSS-98-YAS)

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House Keeper o Indaniship-West Baptist Church

Principle Function: Responsible for maintaining clean buildings and grounds and making minor repairs. Duties and Responsibilities:

- 1. Sweeps, mops, butt, cleans, and waxes floors according to schedule, dust furniture and equipment: wash walls and windows and vacuum carpets as scheduled.
- Maintains clean rest rooms; replenish tissues and towels; empty waste cans
- Prepare baptistry for use as directed and cleans following its use.
- Cheeks with church office or supervisor daily for special assignments.
- Moves furniture, sets up tables and chairs for suppers, banquets, and other similar occasions; sets up assembly and classroom areas for regular activities.
- Performs other duties as assigned.
- Qualifications: The House Keeper must:
- Be able to follow orders.
- Have the ability to communicate in a Christian and professional manner with staff, members, and entities conducting business with the church.

Supervision: Reports directly to the Facility Administrator.

Accommodations: Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of this position.

Compensation includes Retirement, Insurance, Vacation Package, Sick Leave, Paid Holidays, Full Medical/Dental.

Send Resume and Salary History to: Friendship-West Baptist Church C/O Personnel Ministry 616 W. Kiest Blvd. • Dallas, Texas 75224

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- Social Workers (MSW)
 - Research

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- Other positions available

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Message from the Mayor



Mayor Ron Kirk

Plan is working! When the Dallas City Council unanimously approved the plan in 1994, it was intended as our community's

vision for our future and our road map of the steps to make the dream a reality. The good news is that we are already seeing results. I am particularly excited about the progress we've made in the southern part of the city, the focus of The Dallas Plan's Southern Sector and Trinity River Corridor initiatives.

I believe that the Trinity River Corridor will be the centerpiece of 21st century Dallas. Citizens throughout our city have worked with local, state and federal agencies on two key issues-flood protection and traffic congestion, developing proposals that address these concerns and also support economic: development and recreational activities. If Proposition 11 on the May 2nd ballot passes, it will allow the City to spend up to \$246 million over the next 10 years for transportation, flood protection and recreational improvements in the Trinity Corridor. This local support means we can leverage almost \$1 BIL-LION in funds from other agencies. The Trinity needs our attention and investment to become the asset for our future that The Dallas Plan envisions.

The Southern Sector is a second Dallas Plan initiative with new public and private investment. Commitments to the Southern Sector have been made by companies such as AMR (parent company of American Airlines), Minyard's, Frito Lay and Advanced Technological Solutions, totaling over \$87 million in investment and creating over 700 new jobs. Also, new reports highlight opportunities in the Southern Sector. The Dallas Together Forum estimates that Southern Dallas residents spend over one billion dollars outside the area, illustrating the tremendous market for retail development in the Southern Sector. City Manager John Ware has presented a

"Global Strategy for Expanding Development in Southern Dallas", with specific steps to attract new employers, support existing businesses and help residents obtain needed jobs and job skills.

The first three years of carrying out The Dallas Plan have been successful due to action by many stakeholders. I look forward to working with you as we build on these successes and make Dallas truly the city of choice for the next century!

1997

HIGHLIGHTS

Given the number of activities underway at any given point in time, it can be difficult to choose from the accomplishments of The Dallas Plan. Here are some of the significant success stories of 1997:

- A community-wide neighborhood fair held in the Southern sector of Dallas
- The completion of 170 neighborhood street/drainage projects totaling \$15.6 million and an additional 48 more currently underway totaling \$14.4 million
- Southern Dallas Development Corporation made approximately \$4.6 million in loans, creating or retaining 571 jobs
- Increased capital investments at the Dallas Zoo and Fair Park
- Community policing and Weed and Seed program expansion and enhancement
- Voter approval of the new Downtown Sports Arena
- Progress in the plans for the Hispanic/Latino Cultural Center
- The opening of the first four Intown Housing Projects with 85-100% occupancy rates
- The dredging of White Rock Lake has begun and is on schedule

Dallas Plan shows major accomplishments in Southern Sector in 1997

suggests we should "Plan our work, then work our plan." The wisdom which underlies this quote applies not only to individuals but to our own city as well. In 1992, the Dallas City Council initiated the preparation



VP Al Gore announced a federal grant supporting Southern Sector economic development.

of a long term plan that would serve to chart the course of development for Dallas over the next thirty years. Two years later, the City Council approved and adopted what is now called The Dallas Plan.

The Dallas Plan is a comprehensive blueprint, covering a period of thirty years, that defines, focuses and coordinates the work of many individuals and organizations as they address a number of city development projects. Ultimately, the goal of the Plan is to make Dallas one of the nation's best cities to live in by the year 2025. To realize this dream, the city must, as the mission of the Plan states, "create a thriving downtown, revitalized neighborhoods, expanded economic opportunities, and many more choices for recreation and enter-

There is an old saying that tainment." As you might suspect, there are a number of individual projects and a tremendous amount of work required to deliver on these needs. The coordination and direction required in this effort are the basis for the creation of The Dallas Plan - to provide a shared vision and roadmap for the many organizations and citizens of our city.

After considerable debate and citizen input, the City Council selected six major areas for The Dallas Plan to encompass. These strategic initiatives, along with some of the significant projects and accomplishments of 1997, are as follows:

Core Assets

Preserve and further develop the most prominent and unique features of Dallas with the many construction and renovation projects at Fair Park, technology enhancements at the Dallas Public Library, the capital investments made at the Dallas Zoo and the decisions regarding the Performing Arts Center in the Arts District, all accomplishments in 1997.

Neighborhoods

Preserve, strengthen and revitalize the neighborhoods that make up our city. 1997 accomplishments in this area include the homeownership and affordable housing initiatives, code enforcement, community policing, the. citywide neighborhood fair and the fifty (50) park and recreation construction projects completed last

Economic Development

Utilize the many resources of the city to attract, grow and retain businesses. Progress in raising the funds to secure the headquarters for the Dallas Education Center, reinvestment in the Red Bird, Singing Hills and Love Field areas of Dallas, and the \$4.26 million dollars in loans provided by the Southern Dallas Development Corporation are among the primary accomplishments of this initiative in 1997.

The Center City

Create a vibrant and vital central Dallas. Establishing more intown housing, improving the downtown traffic flow and developing the Hispanic/Latino Cultural Center were significant impacts in this area in 1997.

The Southern Sector

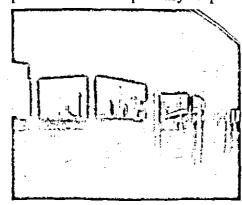
Promote Southern Dallas as a desirable area for economic and residential expansion. A few of the significant 1997 projects and accomplishments central to this initiative, partners, such as non-profits or are the steps to renovate the Townview Center and Jefferson Towers, building partnerships and increasing communication between Fair Park institutions and the surrounding community and efforts to attract new major employers in the Southern Sector.

The Trinity River Corridor

Develop the Trinity River Corridor as a new nature park, recreational and economic asset. Addressing the major transportation issues and the completion of the major transportation investment study in 1997, flood damage reduction, increased recreation activities and approval of the Oak Cliff Gateway TIF are examples of accomplishments

designed to expand development within the Corridor in 1997.

How does all this work get done? An independent, non-profit organization, named The Dallas Plan, is the focal point of the coordination and monitoring of the many development activities. The Dallas Plan relies on the active and committed involvement of many organizations that serve as lead partners. In this capacity, lead partners have the primary respon-



The Trinity River Corridor can become the centerpiece for Dallas.

sibility for coordination with other governmental agencies, to develop and execute the projects under each initiative. The Dallas Plan, through its staff and volunteers, may serve in multiple roles whether as the lead partner, a participant with other partners or as a monitor of the progress made on a given project. The progress made by both the partners and The Dallas Plan is reported several times during the year for the general public to review and offer suggestions or to identify new issues and opportunities.

While complex and involving many individual projects. The Dallas Plan serves to ensure that Dallas is a great city well into the next millennium.

Community Perspective

- While the professional planners focus their efforts on the coordination of the many activities, there are also a number of civic and community leaders who make contributions to the success of The Dallas Plan. Through neighborhood associations, community groups and economic development organizations, many citizens become informed and get involved with ensuring that Dallas continues to be a great city in which to live and raise families.

"The Dallas Plan has truly been a beautiful project." states Clarine Whitaker of the Charles Rice Neighborhood Association. "My area has had a number of problems including some housing that is in bad condition and crime. With the help of The Dallas Plan, I believe that we are starting to see some improvement. All we have to do is to be willing and available to help support the projects under the Plan.

Others echo the sentiments of Ms. Whitaker in their support of The Dallas Plan and its Strategic Initiatives. Reginald Gates, President of the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce, suggests, "The Dallas Plan has served to formalize the review and adoption of the many long range planning strategies that had previously existed in Dallas. By doing so, it has brought shape to these initiatives and will make a lasting contribution to the development of the city as a whole." "The one thing that impressed me the most about the staff of The Dallas Plan was their willingness to come to us and solicit our input." adds Ms. Pat Stephens, President of the Westmoreland Neighborhood Association. "They came to us for our ideas and suggestions on ways to



Partners make The Dallas Plan successful.

reduce crime and bring more services to our community. Everyone's ideas were heard and used to form the basis of the activities for our area."

Each of these leaders encourage all citizens to voice their views and

concerns on the future of Dallas through involvement with The Dallas Plan activities. As Ms. Whitaker emphasized, "If you will work with them, they will definitely do all



that they can to work with you to improve your area."

1998 **AGENDA**

The following is the schedule of community briefings on the various Strategic Initiatives of The Dallas Plan. Your comments and active participation are essential to the Plan's continued success. Please join us at one or all of these meetings:

Core Assets:

Monday, April 13 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm Music Hall at Fair Park Crystal Terrace Restaurant

Neighborhoods:

Tuesday, April 14 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm Reverchon Recreation Ctr. 3505 Maple Avenue

Southern Sector:

Thursday, April 16 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm Oak Cliff Chamber of Commerce 660 South Zang Boulevard

Center City:

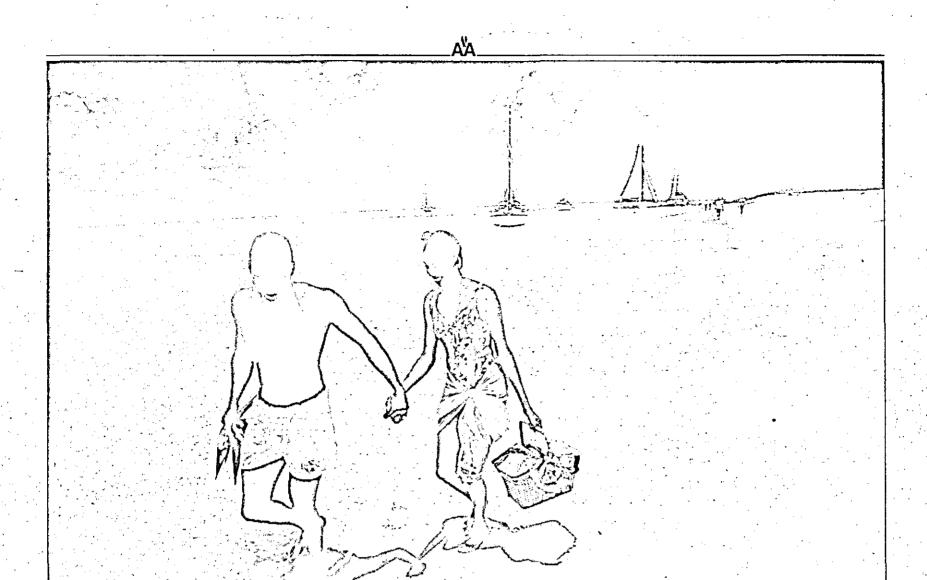
Monday, April 20 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm Cathedral Santuario de Guadalupe 2215 Ross Avenue at Pearl

Economic Development:

Tuesday, April 21 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm Dallas National Bank/ Republic Financial Services 2727 Turtle Creek Blvd.

Trinity River:

Thursday, April 23 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm Anita Martinez Recreation Center 3212 North Winnetka Avenue



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