

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Minority journalists rebuff Texas' Gov. Bush

Journalists usually report the news. However at the recent Seattle convention of over 6,000 minority journalists, delegates helped create a news stir. The response to an unscheduled appearance by Texas Governor George W. Bush was a news conference denouncing the GOP presidential frontrunner,

"We believe Gov. Bush missed a tremendous opportunity," said Unity President Catalina Camia. Art Norman, an anchor at Chicago's NBC affiliate, WMAQ-T V added, "It upset me that he did not make a commitment. . .That's a serious blot. He should be here. He should not overlook us." "He used us as a glorified photo opportunity", said Nancy Baca, president of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists.

Earlier the Governor's staff had declined an invitation. Another GOP contender, Sen. John McCain spoke to the gathering. Two Democratic hopefuls, Vice-President Al Gore and former New Jersey Senator Bill Bradley also spoke to the convention.

Federal task forced formed to investigate Riverside, CA police.

The December 1998 shooting of 19-year old Tyisha Miller in Riverside, California and the May 1999 shooting of a 55-year old homeless woman in Los Angeles have now prompted the U.S. Justice Department to launch an investigation. The Riverside Police Department is now under federal review. At issue is whether the department's practices and policies violate civil rights.

Four Riverside officers were involved in the shooting of Ms. Miller. At the time, Ms.

Miller was unconscious in her

... continued on page 7





Bernie Francis, CEO AND Dianne Ferguson, President are BCS founders.



by Josef Spencer

"I had reached the glass ceiling for minorities," said Bernie Francis, chief executive officer and founder of Business Control Systems (BCS), the \$25 million Information Technology Solutions company, while reminiscing back on his fifteen years in corporate America. "I moved to Dallas in the early 1970's as an oil company employee," and now he and his wife, Dianne Ferguson, whom is the president of the firm, have moved BCS into the 23rd spot among the fastest growing technology companies in Dallas/Fort Worth. To be considered in the Top 50, a business needs at least 62% growth in the previous year. BCS, the 100% minority-owned enterprise, demonstrated an amazing 320% growth for the 1995-1998 fiscal years.

The nearly 300 employee firm contributes its success to the employment of talented and motivated, experienced professionals and with providing training, tools, recognition and empowerment. Not only does Mr. Francis attribute his corporate success to empowerment, but he believes that it is essential if we are to achieve cultural success as well. "We must see the big picture," he added.

Although he confesses that he was the "posterchild of black success" for the oil company he worked for prior to founding BCS, he could see something bigger. Knowing that he had reached the highest plateau for minorities in a large corporate firm, "I wanted to soar higher," he said. "So I kept my day job in order to provide for my family, and in 1981 started doing IT for myself part-time."

By 1986, Dianne Ferguson, an employee of BCS, began to command the attention of Mr. Francis. "She [Dianne Ferguson] came on board as an employee and demonstrated impressive managerial capabilities. I offered her stock incentives and an executive position." Since, the team have established regional offices in Austin, TX, Dallas, TX, Charlotte, NC, Raleigh, NC, Walnut Creek, CA, Wilmington, DE and projects in 21 major states across the country.

In a variety of technical environments, including Y2K assessment, programming, network support and help desk services, Business Control Systems estab-

... continued on page 8

MILLENNIUM COUNTDOWN

July 15-31

- 16 1822 Violette A. Johnson, the first black woman to practice to before the United States Supreme Court was born.
- 17 1967 Jazz musician John Coltrane dies.
- 20 1957 Althea Gibson wins the women's singles championship at Wimbledon, England.
- 28 1917 Thousands of blacks march down New York City's Fifth Avenue in silent protest of lynchings and racial inequalities.
- 30 1945 Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. is elected to the U. S. House of Representatives, representing the people of Harlem.

Spotlight: Dr. Patrick Francis Healy July 31, 1874

Patrick Francis Healy was one of five children born to Michael Healy, an Irish immigrant and Mary Eliza Healy, a former slave. Born in Georgia, a group of

w h i t e planters once suggested to the father that his children be sold as slaves. That sugg e s t i o n resulted in the group being run

the

off



Dr. Patrick Francis Healy, 1834-1910

Healy property by dogs on Michael's command.

Instead, both parents dedicated themselves to ensuring their children were well educated. His older brother, James Augustine, became the first black Roman Catholic bishop in







to reduce the loan process to just a few steps - so you'll get a much faster MAKING IT WORK response. To talk to one of our SBA Loan Specialists, call us today or visit a nearby Comerica branch office. It's as simple as that.



Call 1-800-715-5838



ENVER Comercia Bank-T	lexas Member FDIÇ . Equal Opportunity Lender	•	B
	CITECORIE	100	
English and a set in a set of the set	• Loans subject to cre	dit approval.	<u></u>

Next Edition Features

Unity Estates is going up!!

African-American clergy are meeting affordable housing needs with Unity Estates, a major new residential development. In our next edition, MON offers an update on Dallas' own multi-million dollar single-family home development.



Earlier this year, clergy and elected officials came together for Unity Estate's groundbreaking.

Samuel E. Jackson, LL Cool J to star in "Deep Blue Sea"

Two popular African-American actors will appear in a soon-to-be-released feature film from Warner Brothers. Our next edition's entertainment coverage will review, "Deep Blue Sea" with these two successful stars.

Increase Your Business Opportunities

Subscribe to Minority Opportunity News

Let an opportunity come to your door. MON provides in-depth coverage of the issues effecting African Americans in business, political, educational, economic and social arenas.

MON	Mail Check or Money Order to: Minority Opportunity Acws 2730 Stemmons Freeway, 1202 Tower West Dallas, Texas 75207 (972) 606-3891 Fax (214) 905-5198		
1 year subscription (24 Issues): \$50.00 1st and 15th of each month			
Name:	· ·		
Address:	· .		
City:	State: ZIP:		
Phone:	· · · ·		
MC/VISA #:	Exp. Date:		
Signature:			

Editorials4				
Business Control Systems: Bridging The Internet Divide				
Columns:				
Community Pulse				
By Thomas Muhammad				
Inspiration10				
By Ron Shaw				
You & Your Money11				
By John Dudley				
Feature				
Chrysler to award \$18,000 in cash prizes to winners of national African-American art competition.				
Arts & Entertainment				
Ethnic Notes: Ida B. Wells: Princess of the Press12				
MON's Library:				
Celebrate				
Departments				
Capitol Watch				
Wellness				
Strategies				
Southwestern Bell Calendar of Events				
Movie Review "The Wood"				
Education				
Career Opportunities				
Minority Opportunity News				
MON Sales Department				
Phone: 214-905-3260 Fax: 214-905-5198 E-Mail: MinOppMkt@swbell.net				
Steven Scott, Director of Sales972-606-7498Delisha Evans, Account Executive972-606-2086James Allen, Account Executive214-905-3260Renee Bryant, Marketing Coordinator972-606-7351				
Audited by				
OCOPOVOSO				
Community Papers Verification Service				

Minority Opportunity Arms . July 15-31, 1999 . Page 3

<u>Entonals</u>

Business Control Systems "Bridging The Internet Divide"

There are few of us who will dispute the growing significance of computers and technology in our daily lives. From the way we do banking, order movie tickets, make airline and travel reservations, write to relatives and friends or check our horoscopes, the computer has become an integral part of modern life. As the role and scope of the impacts of technology expand, we must continue to raise the concern for the full participation of the African American community.

The featured company in this edition, Business Control Systems, gives us great hope for the future. As more African American professionals realize success in the burgeoning high tech industry, it serves as a good indication of our future involvement in the growth and direction of this phenomenon. Unfortunately, recent studies suggest that, in a larger sense, not only are the numbers of African Americans who are "plugged in" to the high tech boom are very low but the gap between that of African Americans and whites continues to get larger.

"Despite this significant growth in computer ownership and usage overall, the growth has occurred to a greater extent within some income levels, demographic groups, and geographic areas, than in others." This excerpt form the new U.S. Department of Commerce "Falling Through The Net II: New Data On The Digital Divide" addresses the continuing problems associated with the disparity in computer use and ownership in America. "In fact, the "digital divide" between certain groups of Americans has increased between 1994 and 1997 so that there is now an even greater disparity in penetration levels among some groups. There is a widening gap, for example, between those at upper and lower income levels. Additionally, even though all racial groups now own more computers than they did in 1994, Blacks and Hispanics now lag even further behind Whites in their levels of PC-ownership and online access."

The also provides some very telling data regarding Internet access and ownership trends. Consider these findings:

• There is still a significant divide among racial groups in telephone penetration. Overall, White households have a far higher telephone penetration rate (95.9%) than Black (86%) or Hispanic (86.5%) households.

• The divide among races is even more striking for PC ownership and on-line access. While the ownership of PCs have grown most significantly for minority groups since 1994, Blacks and Hispanics still lag far behind the national average.

• White households are still more than twice as likely (40.8%) to own a computer than Black (19.3%) or Hispanic (19.4%) households. This divide is apparent across all income levels: even at incomes higher than \$75,000.

• Whites are more likely to have PCs (76.3%) than are Blacks (64.1%). Similarly, the rates for on-line access are nearly three times as high for Whites (21.2%) as for Blacks (7.7%) or

Hispanics (8.7%).

Significantly, the digital divide between racial groups in PC-ownership has increased since 1994. In 1997, the difference in PC-ownership levels between White and Black households was 21.5 percentage points, up from 16.8 percentage points in 1994. Similarly, the gap in PC-ownership rates between White and Hispanic households in 1997 has increased to 21.4 percentage points, up from 14.8 percentage points in 1994. This gap has increased at almost all income levels, including at incomes above \$75,000, where some might have expected computer-ownership rates to converge.

What does this information mean for the African American community? Government officials and some sociologists have warned that the disparity of personal computer ownership between whites and Asians and African Americans and Hispanics could become so large that the latter groups could be left behind. The implications for success in school for children, job search for those seeking employment and having the fundamental abilities required for today's workplace are all severely limited without adequate computer skills. "In a technology age, there cannot be two societies separate and unequal. There cannot be information have and havenots" said Milton Little, executive vice president of the National Urban League.

While income and socioeconomic status also define, largely, the likelihood of being connected to computer use and the Internet, African Americans face a particular challenge and dilemma. The true irony in the current situation is that, as the new Commerce Department report suggests, African American household spending on consumer electronics rose 18 percent to \$3.8 billion, while white household spending in that area was unchanged at \$49 billion. This suggests that money is not the only or primary reason for the low levels of ownership and participation. The larger issue seems to suggest that we are buying entertainment-related electronics - rather than computers. Consequently, our involvement in the wave of the future is diminishing in comparison to the white population.

Our priorities must be refocused, from short-term desires towards the long-term needs for African Americans to be viable members of the high tech community. In this sense, there is an obvious and growing need for greater leadership in increasing the involvement of our community in this arena. Earlier this year, a summit was held in Atlanta to discuss the participation of African Americans with computers and Internet use. Perhaps a similar event could help in the Dallas community. Likewise, area school districts should be mindful of the lower involvement of minorities with computer and develop opportunities for students to overcome this trend. Lastly, the public access to computers, such as the Dallas Public Library, should be expanded to provide options for those who cannot afford their own.

Minority Opportunity News		Contributing Writers:	Columnists:
		Vanessa Baker Allen Gray	John Dudley Thomas Muhammad
2730 Stemmons, 1202 Tower West Dallas, Texas 75207		Jackie Larson Sherelyn Roberts Josef Spencer	Ron Shaw
Editorial Department: 214-905-0944 Fax: 214-905-0949 Email: minoppnews@swbell.net			Staff Photographers:
		Intern:	Wallace Faggett Maria Gonzales
Chairman Emeritus Jim Bochum	PublisherVice President Business AffairsThurman R. JonesCharlene M. Crowell	Brandy Jones	
MON	Minority Opportunity News was founded July, 1995, by Jim Bochum and Thurman R. Jones	Minority Opportunity News assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material and reserves the right to edit and make appropriate revisions.	

Minority Opportunity Hows . July 15-31, 1999 . Page 4

• ---- • ---- • ---- • ----



Communfly Pulse

"Yea that's right partner, I'm back with a vengeance"



Okay folks, you came through loud and clear. Every place I have gone since MON has become a bi-weekly newspaper, many of you have expressed a concern about my well being. You told me "Brother Muhammad, you've gone soft. You're not telling it to like you used to. After Talk Back was taken off the air at KKDA we would to look to you to keep us informed on who's selling out to the establishment. We would to turn to you and use your articles to help us understand why the establishment continues to be racist. We learned from you what the real deal was behind the smiling faces of the Negro dealmakers. Without your hard hitting columns, those of us on the grassroots feel we're out numbered and out gunned!"

Well, never fear true, loyal, faithful friends and revolutionary warrior comrades. The struggle for true liberation continues and from now on I and MON will be in the forefront in keeping you abreast of that struggle. Hence starting with this column we will return to our hell raising ways, no selling out, prayers having feet, ain't no stopping us now, fight the power and tightening up our back strokes with all power to the people. We will shout "No justice, no peace!" in the true sense of African liberation at home and abroad. In addition, yes sometimes that may mean, as Dr. Khallid Abdul Muhammad would say, "It's time we started promoting Black laws for Black people." Of course, occasionally, I will still do a column on some of our most outstanding heroes and sheroes who are doing great work in the community. I believe it is important that we see living examples of the work many are doing to make a difference. But, I heard you loud and clear and therefore we will respond.

What are some of the latest racist shenanigans we have found since we last spoke? Here's one! Many of you are probably aware of Willie Foster of Arlington, Texas, African American brother who filed a claim with the Internal Revenue Service while working as a forklift driver in 1996. Mr. Foster filed the claim under the "black tax credit law" and received \$30,000 dollars. As many of you know, the "black tax credit" issue is an old one in our community. Many see the black tax as a form of reparations, that should be paid to those of us who's ancestors were brought to this country centuries ago to work as slave labor for sadistic European racist. The IRS charged Mr. Foster with one count of fraud for his false claim. The IRS brought additional charges against Mr. Foster for filing three similar claims for a few of his friends which totaled \$129,627. He was convicted Tuesday, June 29, 1999.

Now do not get me wrong, I don't believe Mr. Foster should have spent the money once the IRS representative informed him of their mistake. Even, if the representatives had warned him too late, still Mr. Foster should have asked to make some kind of arrangements to pay the money back. We all know that no such law exist and therefore taking any illegal money is wrong. However, as an African American and a supporter of reparations, I am very sympathetic with Mr. Foster and I do understand - which brings me to the point of my reasons for uplifting this particular case.

The following morning, after Mr. Foster was convicted. I was scanned the radio talk show circuit, as is usually my custom. I turned briefly to the "Mark Davis Show" aired between 9:am-noon on radio station WBAP-AM 820, and I was shocked to hear Davis express a comment that floored me! His comment was "Blacks in America have slavery to thank for making it possible for them to enjoy their great prosperity". He went on to say, "because of slavery Blacks have accumulate nice cars and homes." I know many of you are screaming at the top of your lungs right about now, but hold on there's more! This white racist went on to say" I bet you there isn't one African American who will give up their cars and homes to go back and live in Africa. I mean, do you think any Black would want to live in a place like Rwanda? No way!" Of course, his callers were worst, but that doesn't bother me. What bother's me, is this white boy having the gall to say this crap so boldly. To sit there and make light of people who have gone through THE most horrible conditions known to mankind, is beyond me! Our people had to be brought to America to: endure four centuries of servitude that included cruel treatment like castration, wearing manacle chains, bull whipped, mutilated, our mothers and fathers sexually raped by sadistic white men and women. Our people sold and branded like farm animals and fed from pig troughs. Our mothers forced to have sex with their sons, fathers with their daughters, sons with their grandmothers, grandmothers with their brothers and the off springs from these unions then sold to other plantations or for a barrel of Rum.

... continued on page 7



If YOU know desktop publishing, Minority Opportunity News wants to know you. Show us your best creative work, your versatility in Mac and PC systems with layout, classified and display ads, and printing methods. If you can also demonstrate an ability to make deadlines, work with photographers, writers, and editors, then you will join a creative team that's designing a new look for a trusted publication. Prior experience with a magazine or newspaper preferred. Proficiency in desktop publishing software a must.

Fax your resume and references to: 214-905-5198 Minority Opportunity Acus 2730 Stemmons Freeway 1202 Tower West Dallas, TX 75207



Note: All qualified applicants will be contacted to schedule an interview. No walk-in interviews will be held.

Capitol Watch

Governor signs historic HUB legislation, institute to preserve African-American heritage

Flanked by small business owners and representatives of numerous Chambers of Commerce, Texas Governor George W. Bush publicly signed Senate Bill 178. The historic legislation affords statutory guarantees for Texas' Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) program.

Previously, HUB provisions were tied to the state's Appropriations Act. With the enactment of SB 178, state agencies must now adopt rules for the establishment of HUB programs. Additionally, state agencies are required to demonstrate good faith efforts to increase HUB purchases and contract awards based on those rules. Beyond state agency rules, state contractors are now to include develop HUB subcontracting plans. If a contractor fails to implement the subcontracting plan in good faith, the agency may now bar the contractor from further contracts with the agency.

Commenting on the bill's longterm effects, Senator Royce West (D-Dallas) and the bill's co-sponsor said, "This legislation finally provides the sturdy infrastructure this state has needed to ensure the continued existence of a sound HUB program. No longer will the state's HUB program be a vulnerable target each session – it is now the law in the State of Texas."

The governor also signed into law a bill to better preserve African-American's Texas heritage. House Bill 899, co-sponsored by Representatives Glen Lewis (D-Fort Worth) and Garnet Coleman (D-Houston) will create an institute for the preservation of history and culture at Prairie View A&M University. The role of the institute will be to collect and preserve contributions of Texans including: the



State Senator Royce West (D-Dallas)

history of African-American education; and African-American contributions in the settlement and development of the state in such areas as government, agriculture, labor, business, engineering, science medicine



St. Rep. Garnet Coleman (D-Houston)

and public health, sports and arts.

The institute will also have the option of establishing and operating a museum to help in the preservation process.

Only 52¢ of every education \$1 goes to classroom instruction

Of the \$21 billion in total annual eduational expenditures in Texas, only about half is actually spent on classroom instruction. The rest pays for district and school administration; plant services such as maintenance and security; other operating expenditures such as transportation, food services, and extracurricular activities; and non-operating expenditures such as debt service and facilities.



Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation to offer zero guarantee fee on loans

The Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation (TG) has announced the elimination of all guarantee fees until further notice. The waver lowers the cost to TG borrowers participating in the federal Family Education Loan Program. The waiver affects graduate, professional and 4-year undergraduate students. For 2-year, post-secondary and proprietary school students, the guarantee fee is reduced to one-half percent.

TG is a public nonprofit corporation that helps create access to higher education for millions of families and students. Information for families and students, services to borrowers, and support for post-secondary institutions are among the services available statewide. Additional information on TG is available through its toll-free customer assistance line, 1-800-845-6267 or via the Internet at http://www.tgslc.org.

Toll-free call helps consumers GO TEXAN

Want to pick blueberries, tour a Texas winery, or find out when Hill country apples will arrive in the grocery store? Just pick up the telephone and call 1-877-99GOTEXm a new toll-free number at the Texas Department of Agriculture.

Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs said the number will make it easier for consumers to find Texas food and fiber products ranging from tree-ripened peaches to leather furniture crafted by Texas artisans. "Looking for Texas-grown foods and Texas-made products in a store filled with so many choices can be difficult," said Combs. "Our GO-TEX number will make it a whole lot easier to find what you're looking for."

ATDA staff member will personally questions weekdays from 8:00AM-5: 00PM. A recorder will take questions during evening and weekend hours. TDA staff to respond to all recorded inquiries on the following business day.

...continued from page 1

Newsbriefs

car, with a handgun in her lap. Officers have said that the victim reached for the gun when they smashed her car window in an effort to awaken her. On June 1st, Atty. Johnny Cochran filed a wrongful death lawsuit against the City of Riverside and the four police officers involved in the incident.

When Ms. Margaret Mitchell, a homeless woman, was stopped and ask if the shopping cart she was pushing was stolen, gunfire resulted. Ms. Mitchell is alleged to have pointed a screwdriver at the officers.

Poverty prompts 4-city Clinton

While the national economy continues to grow, President Clinton brought attention to communities yet to benefit from America's economic upswing. Visits to Appalachia, a south Phoenix barrio, an Indian reservation and the Watts area of Los Angeles resulted in national media attention, federal investments, and private sector commitments.

An \$8 million expansion of the National Academy Foundation, will form partnerships with public high schools and local businesses. A \$500 million "catalyst" fund for business investments will be underwritten by Bank of America. Other major corporations making public commitments to inner city investment were AT&T and Lucent Technologies.

Accompanying the President on the Watts stop were former Los Angeles Laker Magic Johnson and Reverend Jesse Jackson.

...continued from page 1

Spotlight

the United States.

Patrick, four years younger, became the first black in the United States to earn a doctoral degree. A Roman Catholic Bishop, he also received numerous medals and commendations. On July 31, 1874, Dr. Healy became the 29th president of prestigious Georgetown University. He continued in that post until 1882.

As a tribute to his outstanding leadership at Georgetown, a building bearing his name was erected. The Healy building served as a center for administration, a classroom and dormitory.

...continued from page 5

Community Pulse

Five hundred million our people stolen and kidnapped from their home land and taken to the slave making Islands that now make up the countries of Jamaica, St. Croix, the Virgin Island, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Haiti and others.

Consider the thousands of Africans lynched and taught that they were cursed because of the sins of Ham in the Bible, taught that they were only three fifths of a human being and who could not own land. Our forefathers could not vote, had to endure Jim Crow laws, and had to deal with evil carpetbaggers and nightriders like the Ku Klux Klan. Many were burned alive, stripped of their language, religion, education and every human trait known to man! And this white boy say's we should be thankful for this! All this for a car and home in America! You racist! To follow Davis' train of thought, since America gives white Jews three billion dollars a year in reparations to the state of Israel. Volkswagen has announced that it will pay white Jews reparations for forced slave labor during the Nazi era. Swiss banks have agreed to pay \$1.25 billion of reparations to white Jews, even if they or their relatives never had a Swiss account! Would Davis tell white Jews they have the Nazis to thank for their prosperity? I don't think so! We should make him and WBAP understand that we deserve the same respect!

Are you with me on this one? Call WBAP General Manager Kerri Littlefield at metro 817-695-1820 or write her at 2221 east Lamar #400 Arlington, Texas 76006. Tell her you demand an explanation now!

Until then the struggle continues...



Tap into a lucrative market of DFW consumers through advertising in

Minority Opportunity Rcws

Call 972-606-7351 for information

IHT

help desk services. Business Control Systems establishes strategic partnerships with Fortune 1000 companies throughout the U.S. to provide technical consultants for long term and interim projects, all the while making client satisfaction their number one goal. "We work hard to make it easy for our clients to do business with us." "To be the very best at client satisfaction, we must always walk in the shoes of our clients on our way to earning their trust, respect, and goodwill. Technical 'know how' is just one of several critical elements contributing to the 'art' of client satisfaction," contends Mr. Francis.

Some of their satisfied clients include American

Airlines, Bank of America, City of Austin, Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART), DFW Airport Board, Duke Energy, EDS, First Union Bank, FT Mortgage, Sabre Group, and TU Services. Business Control Systems' esteemed index of accolades makes them an extremely viable choice for firms to consider. The IBM Quality Performance Award, Dallas Chamber Quest for Success recipient, Dallas Business Journal Top Minority Business, U.S. SBA Minority Small Business "Persons of the Year Award", IBM Vendor of the Year Award, IBM Quarterly Team Quality Award, and the MCompany Innovation Award from IBM are only a few that clothe their resume.

BCS also engages in alliances with renowned firms such as Arthur Anderson to work on projects. "When large firms want to partner with another firm for minority representation," said Francis Adkins, Assistant to the "they'll call us." CEO, However, getting that call, is one of the most difficult chal-

lenges that the firm faces in the field. "Trying to get into the door of a new company is always the hardest," concludes Ms. Adkins. In these cases, the "if you can't beat them, then join them" philosophy may be one to ponder adopting, considering the accounts that this type of union is able to attract.

BCS also participates in unions that promote excellency in the quality of workmanship produced. As a member of the national and local chapters of National Association of Computer Consulting Businesses (NACCB), and with BCS President Dianne Ferguson serving as Dallas Chapter President and National Secretary for the organization, demonstrates this. Mr. Frances also extends his aptitude beyond the company and into the community serving Carrollton as City Councilman for six years, and a long term member of the Greater Dallas and North Dallas Chambers of Commerce, Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce and Richardson Chamber of Commerce. More impressive, he was appointed by Texas Governor George W. Bush to serve as a member of the Board of Regents for

Technology is a vehicle that could carry us further. "I am so convinced that it is where the future is heading. Salaries are higher...which could help to pull us out of our historical plight of poverty." Empirically, minorities are underrepresented in the Information Technology field. When asked why he believes we are fronted with this dilemma, Mr. Francis responded that he did not know. "Perhaps it's the guidance counselors in schools, perhaps because of racism or discrimination, I really don't know." What he was sure of though, was that if anyone came to BCS with talents and skills, "that person would definitely receive a fair chance." Ms. Adkins concurred that BCS embraces and represents

diversity in every essence. From the "corporate office" to those "in the field, we are very diverse and hire the most talented and qualified" of both genders, and all races and lifestyles.

After all, considering BCS' method to match their employee's personality to that of their client's, it is necessary to maintain diverse staffs. "Business Control Systems has made it our policy from the beginning to match a candidate's personality to that of our client's. We not only perform thorough skills testing, substance abuse and technical testing; we also get to know the climate of each project and location. Does one climate have an extremely corporate, quiet, fast-paced IT department? Maybe one expects a technician with an outgoing personality who is not afraid to share their ideas out loud. This is the type of placement which has worked for BCS-and continues to work for our clients."

But BCS does not stop there. They continue to work for the community. "I will tell you one more thing about BCS," Andrea Quadlietta, Corporate Image Marketer, says, "Bernie and Dianne are both very active in giving speeches to college

Texas State Technical College and as Chairman of the

When it comes to determining what is best for the

business students about owning your own business, plus they often mentor individuals trying to become entrepreneurs in the consulting field. Example: someone wanting to start a consulting business and collaborate with BCS to get experience and exposure. They are always willing to lend a hand to others starting out small like they did." Now that's a testimony for you!

Where to Prets up MONB							
Dallas South Grahams Barber Shop	Black Images Book Store 230 Wynnewood Village	Jane B. Turner Rec. Cir. 6424 Elam Rd.	Cedar Valley Community College	Irving Barnes & Nobles	Fort Worth Bookstop		
2612 MLK Blvd.	Shopping Center	Duncanville	330 N. Dallas	Irving Mall	4801 Hulen		
Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce 2838 MLK Blvd.	Bank One 400 Wynnewood Village	Ebony Fine Art Gallery 631 E. Hwy. 67	Grand Prairie St. John's Baptist Church 1701 W. Jefferson	Le Chic Salon 1433 Beltline Carrollton	Omni American Credit Union 2330 Rosedale		
	Jokae Bookstore	St. Luke Christian Ctr.		Keller Springs Baptist Church	Black Bookworm		
Common Ground Credit Union	3917 Camp Wisdom #107	102 N. Main St.	First State Bank 2505 North Hwy. 360	3227 Keller Springs	605 E. Berry St #114/1-35		
3741 Atlanta @ Romine	Pleasant Grove Inspiring Body of Christ	Dooney's 620 E. Camp Wisdom	Denton	Richardson Barnes & Nobles	Black Chamber of Commerce 3607 Rosedale		
Two Podners 1441 Robert B. Cullum	820 S. Buckner	DeSoto	Denton Public Library 502 Oakland	Richardson Square Mall	Bank One - Dunbar		
Oak Cliff	Bank One 1838 S. Buckner	DeSoto Library 211 E. Pleasant Run Rd.	M. I. King In Dag Chr.	Cathy's Expert Cuts 818 S. Central Exp. #4	6040 Ramey		
Friendship West Baptist			M. L. King, Jr. Rec. Ctr. 1300 Wilson	•	Garland .		
Church 616 W. Kiest Blvd.	Bank of America 1820 Buckner	Lancaster Keys of Life Books, Etc.	Lewisville	Arlington Afro-Awakenings	Big Man's Bar-B-Q 240 E. Ave. B		
OTO W. MICSI DIVU.	1020 DUCKICI	1318 N. Dallas	Lewisville Library	2419 S. Collins/Arkansas Lane			
Bank of America 400 Zang (Lobby)	St. James AME Temple 200 N. Jim Miller Road	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1197 W. Main	Barnes & Nobles	Arnicks Barber Shop 500 Clark Street		

Macedonia Baptist Church

Minority Opportunity News . July 15-31, 1999 . Page 8



Bernie Francis, CEO AND Dianne Ferguson, President are BCS founders.

North Central Texas Workforce Development Board. The board includes representatives from culturally and economically diverse sectors of the community to help determine how federal and state tax dollars are spent to best benefit the development of the Texas workforce.

minority community, he believes that Information

3909 S. Cooper/I-20

तिसीमारि

Chrysler to award \$18,000 in cash prizes to winners of national **African-American art competition**

The beauty and diversity of African- must be no larger than 48 inches in height American art will soon be honored by one of the world's leading auto manufacturers. The Chrysler brand of DaimlerChrysler Corporation is seeking entries for its "Motion Through Art" competition. The competition is open only to original, two-dimensional/low relief artwork created around Chrysler 300M and/or its logo. Entries must also portray a positive African-American lifestyle.

Contestants must be at least eighteen years of age and meet the September 13th deadline to be eligible for one of three cash prizes: \$8,000 for first-place, \$6,000 for second-place and \$4,000 for thirdplace. In addition, each winner will receive an all-expense paid trip to Detroit for a reception honoring winning artists. Winning artwork will also be featured in a commemorative 2000 calendar.

A panel of professional artists, community leaders and DaimlerChrysler representatives will judge the entries on originality, creativity and the use of the "Motion Through Art" theme. Artwork and width. Painting on canvas must be stretched. No photographs, mosaics, stained glass or computer-generated artwork will be considered.

Entries must be legibly labeled on the back with an index card showing the artist's name, age, address, telephone number, title of work, medium and dimensions. The submitting artist must also sign and verify that he/she is the original author of the work and has the right to assign all copyrights to DaimlerChrysler Corporation. All artwork will become the property of DaimlerChrysler.

Entries should be delivered or mailed to:

"Motion through Art" c/o Trellis, Inc. 570 Kirts Blvd., Suite 233 Troy, MICHIGAN 48084

All winners will receive written notification by Friday, September 24th.

For more information on the competi-

July 23rd youth basketball finals expected to Net Great Results

By Jackie Larson

More than 800 Dallas teenagers are participating in this year's Guaranty Basketball Association (GBA), a successful summer basketball program for inner-city youth ages12-14. The league, sponsored by the Dallas Police Department, Guaranty Federal Bank, SMU, the YWCA and, the Dallas Parks and Recreation Department, stresses the importance of teamwork, commitment and education - both on and off the court. The idea is "nothing but net", according to Dallas Police Chief Ben Click. "Basketball is an excellent sport for teaching teamwork, discipline and working toward a common goal. And it gives our police officers an opportunity to establish positive relationships with these kids," he said. "We are grateful to Guaranty Federal Bank, SMU, the YWCA and the Parks and Recreation department for their commitment to sponsoring positive programs for Dallas youth," said Click

The GBA increased the number of league sites around Dallas from six last year to eight for boys and from one to four YWCA venues for girls this year. The additional sites for girls were likened to "a full court press for the community", according to Shined Schaefer, director of programs and women's services for the YWCA. "The GBA program has grown tremendously this year because there are few opportunities like this available for girls. We're proud to support our mission of empowering girls through fitness and positive role models," Schaefer said.

In its fourth year, the GBA's athletic competition and mentoring program gives students positive role model relationships with volunteer coaches from the DPD, SMU and the YWCA. This year, each team will be required to develop and complete a community service project. Outstanding participants will be announced at the Final Four Championships and presented computers and savings bonds. These recipients will be selected based on sportsmanship, positive attitude and commitment toward personal growth - both on and off the court - during the season.

Guaranty Federal Bank initiated the program in 1996 and underwrites the expenses.

"Guaranty is committed to providing educational and recreational programs that support our youth," said Guaranty Executive Vice President John Stuart. Jim Copeland, Director of Athletics at Southern Methodist University, agreed. "We're pleased to be involved again in this program. It is important for young people to know the importance of staying in school and that a college education is in their grasp," Copeland said.

The GBA "Final Four" Championships will be played at SMU's Moody Coliseum on Friday Evening, July 23. Guaranty Federal Bank will present awards at the conclusion of the championship tournament. League teams play Thursday or Friday evenings at these participating Dallas recreation centers:

Boys League

J.C. Phelps Recreation Center 3030 Tips Blvd. Thurgood Marshall Recreation Center, 5150 Mark Trail Pleasant Oaks Recreation Center, 8701 Greenmound West Dallas Community Church, 2215 Canada Drive Larry Johnson Recreation Center, 3700 Dixon Ave. Lake Highlands North Recreation Center 3993 Northaven Road. Anita Martinez Recreation Center, 3212 N. Winter

Girls League

Eastgate YWCA, 1753 Plaza Drive Maria Morgan YWCA, 1800 Bonnie View Mountain View College, 4849 W. Illinois Cedar Springs Multipurpose Center, 4440 Brown Street



The West Dallas Community Church "Knicks" huddle before the Guaranty Basketball Association Final Four Championship game against the J.C. Phelps Community Center "Lakers" at SMU's Moody Coliseum. The late-night basketball program is sponsored by Guaranty Federal Bank and the Dallas Police Athletic League.

Minority Opportunity News . July 15-31, 1999 . Page 9

Inspiration



Ron Shaw

Several months ago I wrote an article entitled "What do you see?" As leaders, we must keep our sight focused on what the Lord has shown us at the beginning. God never changes the picture that he shows us at the very beginning of our journey. No matter what we experience during the journey, if we are going to succeed, we cannot afford the luxury of looking away from the vision he has given us. God shows us the end and then takes us to the beginning and requires us to walk by faith back to the end. What He seldom shows us is the middle. Signs are for those who do not believe. Only those who question what He has shown them (the vision) ask Him to show them something else. Our perception then must be regulated by our confidence in what He has already allowed us to see.

The Pharisees and Saduccees came to test Jesus' claim of being the Messiah by asking him to show them some great demonstration in the skies. Jesus replied by exposing their true motives for asking. They did not really believe nor were they seeking to become believers. They demanded a sign, choosing not accept the one God had already given them. He said they had already received a sign. Whenever we try to dictate to God what He must do to convince us, we expose our true motives. Their demand for a sign was not to be taught by him but, rather, to tempt him. He says they were skillful in reading natural signs but ignorant in reading things pertaining to their souls. He tells them they already have a sign. We, as leaders who experience tragedy and trial in our own lives, must view the signs on three levels.

First, we must see the times. Jesus said we should be able to discern the times. Although our personal trials can sometimes cloud the picture, we must be determined to perceive the times in which we live. Many people are always out of step with what's going on. They cannot see beyond the past. Then there are those who live for the tomorrow and cannot see what's going on today.

Next, we must see the people. As leaders, our lives affect so many people. We cannot live only unto ourselves. God calls leaders to make difference in the lives of people. What we see oftentimes determines what people that follow us see. In the midst of crisis, what a leader sees determines what the people see.

Most importantly, we must see God. He knows our past present and future. He knows what He designed us for and the place He has fixed us to stand in. Therefore, in every situation or circumstance we face, we must determine no matter what it is to see God. Whether He is high and lifted up, meek and lowly, a flower in the dessert, spring in a dry place; no matter what you're going through, as long as you can see Him you can navigate safely through. He is our North Star by which we determine our course. Whereever you are in life, and what ever you are going through, no matter the toughness or tenderness of the moment, ask the question of yourself "what do I see?" It will help you stay focus when feelings are wild. It will keep you steady what faith is shaken. Keep looking at the picture (vision) He has given you from the beginning. Determine to look within you and determine what's in your heart. Look behind you to determined what you have learned. Look around you to see your supporting cast of people. Look beside you to determine what He has put in your hands. Look ahead of you to determine the possibilities. Look above you to see the one who is bigger than your problems and all you have faced, are facing and will face.



YOU ATT! YOUF MOTAY



John Dudley

By J. Dudley

Are you saving for a future goal and want assurance that you will have a certain amount available when you need it? Or do you require a steady stream of income for retirement?

These are just two of the many reasons why investors consider fixed income securities a smart investment choice. Simply defined, fixed income investments are securities that pay a fixed rate of return. More specifically, they are debt securities that obligate the borrowers to pay you interest during the term of the loan and to return the principal (face value) when your loan matures.

The income from these investment instruments is "fixed" because their interest rate, interest payments, and maturity date remain constant. (Exceptions to this include callable issues and mortgage-backed securities.) A personal investment portfolio built around these products either can provide a preset sum of money at a specific future date, or current income at regular intervals with the principal amount returned upon maturity.

Investors have a wide range of fixed

Fixed income securities

with its specific features and advantages. They include bonds federal, state, and municipal, as well as government agency and corporate Certificates of Deposit (CDs), mortgagebacked securities and bond mutual funds, to name a few.

While coupon securities generally pay interest semiannually, some fixed income products pay interest monthly. Several like zero coupon bonds are sold at a deep discount from face value, pay no interest over their lifetime (allowing the interest to compound instead), and return face value at maturity.

Fixed income investments are generally liquid, and can usually be sold in the secondary market at their current market value, which may be more or less than your cost. So, if you need cash or want to switch to another type of investment, your money is not necessarily locked in until your security matures.

However, if you are an investor who is concerned about preserving cap-

income vehicles to select from, each ital, you should be aware that the price (market value) of your fixed income securities is subject to rising and falling interest rates. Therefore, depending on the interest rate level, if you need to liquidate any of your holdings before maturity, you may risk losing capi-

tal if interest rates have risen since you purchased the securities. Conversely, if interest rates have fallen since you bought the security, its value most likely will be higher. Additionally, the value of zero coupon bonds fluctuates more than similar coupon bonds.

You should also be aware of two additional risks associated with fixed income securities. First and this is a concern generally with lowerrated bonds will the issuer be able to make the scheduled interest and principal payments? The second consideration is the rate of interest at which you will be

able to reinvest the proceeds of the maturing bond or CD. This is referred to as reinvestment risk.

One technique used to limit the effects of the latter risk is called "laddering," in which you stagger the maturities of your securities. For example, you might own bonds maturing in one year, two years, three years, etc., all the way up to ten years. Every year a bond will mature. If interest rates rise, you can reinvest the proceeds of that bond at a higher rate. If interest rates fall, you will be getting higher interest income from your existing longerterm investments.

If you like the liquidity and relative safety of traditional fixed income securities but find them too limiting, you may want to look into fixed income related products, such as unit investment trusts, bond mutual funds, convertible bonds and indexed CDs. These investment opportunities provide increased flexibility for a wide range of investors.

After reviewing your investment strategies and objectives with you, your financial advisor can help you determine whether fixed income investments can play a role in building your personal portfolio.





<u> 1 mic Noes</u>

Ida B. Wells: Princess of the Press

by Josef Spencer

Some thirty years before Rosa Parks was even born, Ida B. Wells took a stand-by sitting down. When the conductor of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad Company attempted to physically remover her from a seat that she had purchased in the first-class car, she did not budge, instead, she bit-his hand! All four feet six inches of Wells was pulled out of her seat and out of the car by the backup that the conductor called. Although the crowd of white passengers applauded the men, Ida claimed the victory of the suit that she subsequently filed against the railroad company. The victory, however, was short-lived. Upset that the courts had ordered them to pay her five hundred dollars, the railroad company appealed the case. On April 4, 1884, the Tennessee Supreme Court overruled the verdict. Ida wrote in her diary:

"I felt so disappointed, because I had hoped for such great things... for my people. I have firmly believed all along that the law was on our side and would, when we appealed to it, give us justice...O God is there no redress, no peace, no justice in this land for us?"

Ida B. Wells spent her whole life searching for and securing justice. Against the odds of being a woman, an African American, and an activist in the mid-1800s she refused to bow to social and political restrictions as she triumphed over racism and sexism, determined to be heard, refusing to be ignored. In fact, when the whiteowned Memphis Daily Appeal newspaper tried to ignore her with the coverage of her suit, she turned to the Living Way, a black Baptist weekly newspaper to make her voice heard. Impressed with the content and character of her piece, the editor invited her to write a regular column. Writing under the pen name of "Iola" black newspapers around the nation printed and reprinted her columns, which reflected her experiences in Memphis.

Wells, who became heralded as the "Princess of the Press," sought enlightenment and consolation in both her private musings and her public writings. She used the public forum to explore issues important to her, to sound out her ideas, to clarify her thoughts, and to resolve internal conflicts. Several of her writings eulogized the ideal woman as depicted in the cult of true womanhood, claiming such status for black women as for white. Like many African Americans of that era, Wells felt the need to combat the racist rantings that had become so common in both white popular culture and academic literature.

With pen and paper, she contested the inverted ideologies of Negroes being of a different species suited only to do manual labor for "true human beings." When white men justified sexual exploitation of black women by asserting they were depraved and promiscuous with an animallike sensuality, she used her pen to decry "the wholesale contemptuous defamation of their women" in her newspaper columns.

Because of the popularity of those articles, Wells was offered a part time editorship at a small black newspaper in Memphis, where she had already obtained a full time teaching position. In her articles, she condemned the miserable conditions in the supposedly "Separate but Equal"



lda B. Wells

black public schools where she taught. Then, on March 9, 1892, three friends of hers, prominent black businessmen, were lynched in Memphis after an incident that stemmed from their opening a grocery store across the street from a whiteowned grocery store. Subsequent editorials of Wells castigated Memphis' white public officials for tolerating, encouraging, and participating in lynchings. She correctly diagnosed the major

purpose of lynching in the 1890s as an antidote to black success rather than the resulting black degradation, a form of racial terrorism.

Within weeks, her newspaper office was destroyed by a mob of whites. Undaunted, Wells moved to New York where she became a correspondent for several black newspapers and resumed her attack on lynching, one of the New Order's most effective tools for quelling resistance among black people.

Wells' attack on the lynch law focused on refuting the prevailing notion that lynching was needed to defend white women from the lust of black men. She was not the first to attack the rape myth, but she became the loudest and most persistent voice for truth. Thus while white men proclaimed themselves protectors of their women's purity, a woman emerged as the defender of black men's honor and lives. This role reversal caused much controversy, and Wells provoked animosity as well as admiration. Her uncompromising militancy made some challenge her femininity. Wells, therefore, struggled to balance her needs to be perceived as a "lady" with her natural militancy.

Although she was chafed under the restrictions resulting from her gender, she consistently placed race interests above gender issues. Feeling a divided duty to the fight for equal rights by women and by African Americans, she participated in both movements. Being a militant, black woman activist required a delicate balancing act that she worked hard to poise.

Her militancy also placed her out of sync with the growing moderation of black leaders. However, as asserted earlier, Wells was a person who could not be ignored. Very little happened in the struggles for black and women's rights without her participation from the 1890s to her death in 1931. She was active in the founding of numerous organizations, such as the NAACP, and collaborated with many leaders, including Du Bois, William Monroe Trotter, Henry McNeal Turner, and Marcus Garvey. At the same time, she worked with such white women activists such as Susan B. Anthony and Jane Addams. However. because of her inability to work successfully with most people, she became alienated from movements and failed to get appropriate credit for her work both during her life and still a long time afterward. Nevertheless, Ida B. Wells fought until her death to fulfill her duties as a woman, an African American, and activist. Moreover, her combination of character demands attention!

Rock Your World The 1999 Jeep Grand Cherokee The Most Capable Sport Utility Ever*

All-New Features:

Aggressive 4.7L Power Tech V8, 235 hp engine
All-New Quadra-Drive[™] 4-Wheel Drive System

- Hidden spare tire for more cargo space

- Innovative Infrared Automatic Dual Zone Climate Control

- Fine Tuned 180-watt Stereo System

- All-New Anti-Lock Braking System



*Based on AMCI on- and off- road performance tests using Grand Cherokee with available Quadra-Drive™ and V8 engine. Always use seat belts. Remember a backseat is the safest place for children

1891

Would you like to spend less time buying gas?



Now available at Mobil locations in the Dallas/Ft. Worth Metroplex!

Mobil Speedpass uses state-of-the art technology, similar to that successfully being used by many tollways, to let you instantly charge your gas purchase to a credit card.

*Grand Cherokee Limited show

Available as either a handheld key tag or a cartag you affix to your car's rear window, *Speedpass* is the fastest way to get gas. And it's exclusively from Mobil.

Key tag or car tag-either way, *Speedpass* instantly recognizes who you are and bills your transaction to the credit card of your choice.

With Mobil Speedpass there are no fees. And it's yours **FREE!**

To enroll, call toll free 1-877-MY MOBIL, visit our Internet

site at www.mobil.com/speedpass or stop by a Mobil Station equipped with Speedpass technology.



Minority Opportunity Acms . July 15-31, 1999 . Page 13



Wellness

Infectious diseases are biggest killers of children and young adults

Six infectious diseases have now been identified as the world's biggest killers of children and younger adults. The six are: AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, measles, diarrheal diseases and acute respiratory infections, such as pneumonia. These diseases account for 90% of all infectious disease deaths for people under the age of 44. These findings were recently reported by the World Health Organization.

Methodist Hospitals to expand Charlton Emergency Department

A \$13.8 million expansion, jointly announced by Methodist Hospitals of Dallas Board of Directors and Charlton Methodist Hospital Board of Trustees, will increase the facilities and services available at this southwest Dallas facility. By 2002, the expansion will more than double the current size of the department to 21,000 square feet. According to hospital officials, the expansion is in response to the increase in emergency department patients. In the first five months of this year, the department averaged 127 daily visits.

Charlton Methodist Hospital is a 191-bed general acute hospital located at 3500 West Wheatland Road.

Internet site on reproductive health launched

The Harvard School of Public Health has launched a new Internet site dedicated to reproductive health. The Global Reproductive Health Forum offers on-line information on gender issues, reproductive rights, sexually transmitted diseases and family planning. The site can be found at http://www.hsph.harvard.edu.

Prostate Cancer: Get the Facts

An estimated 179,300 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer this

year. Of that number, 2,560 new cases will be in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Even more disturbing is the fact that African-American men are twice as likely to die from the disease than other American men are. In fact, African-American men have the highest prostate cancer incidence rate in the world. Today, prostate cancer is the second

sion that surrounds diagnosis and treatment.

According to Dr. Charles McDonald, president of the American Cancer Society, "Facing such decisions can be difficult and even harder for men who try to make them alone. When treatment is recommended, a patient armed with factual information becomes a full

So You Don't Think It Affects Women, Too? Prostate Cancer. Get The Facts.

> Prostate cancer may be a male disease, but there are sisters, wives, mothers and daughters who also feel the effects. Fortunately, this disease can be survived. Call the American Cancer Society today, to learn everything you can. If not for yourself, for someone you love.

CANCER F SOCIETY Hope. Projuss. Anomars.

leading cause of cancer death in men.

1-800-ACS-2345

www.cancer.org

In response to these concerns, the American Cancer Society has launched a national public awareness and education campaign. Emphasizing the need for men to make informed decisions about their health care, the effort is intended to diminish the fear and confupartner in his own medical decisionmaking."

AMERICAN

The prostate, located below the bladder, is a male sex gland about the size of a walnut. Prostate cancer is a malignancy that develops from the cells of the prostate gland. In its early stages, the disease often has no symptoms. When symptoms do occur, the most frequent are:

Frequent urination or inability to urinate

• Trouble starting or holding back urination

• Weak or interrupted urine flow

> Frequent pain or stiffness in the lower back, hips or upper thighs

Age, diet and family history are also considered significant risk factors. The risk of developing the disease doubles if a man's father or brother has been diagnosed with the disease. Moreover, as men age, the incidence of the disease increases; more than 75% of all prostate cancers are diagnosed in men over the age of 65. High-fat diets, particularly saturated fat, can increase the chance of developing prostate cancer.

Through early diagnosis and treatment, the survival rate for prostate cancer is greater than 90%. More than half of all men diagnosed with prostate cancer survive at least 15 years or longer.

The key to survival is early detection and treatment. Men age 50 and older are advised to discuss with their health care providers the need for two timely and effective examinations: prostatespecific antigen (PSA) testing and digital rectal exams, also known as DREs. The American Cancer Society recommends both of these examinations. The PSA blood test measures proteins made by prostate cells; the higher the level, the more likely cancer is present. DRE exams involve inserting a rubbergloved, lubricated finger into the rectum to feel for lumps or an enlargement of the prostate.

Where there is a family history of prostate cancer, men younger than 50 are encouraged to consult their health care providers. The site also solicits the participation of women, particularly residents from emerging nations. The 1994 International Conference on Population Development in Cairo, Egypt and the 1995 4th World Conference on Women in Beijing, People's Republic of China inspired the site.



"Survivors of childhood cancer are growing up and growing in numbers"

Next Edition Feature:

Wellness News Briefs

Infectious diseases are biggest killers of children and young adults Six infectious diseases have now been identified as the world's biggest killers of children and younger adults. The six are: AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, measles, diarrheal diseases and acute respiratory infections, such as pneumonia. These diseases account for 90% of all infectious disease deaths for people under the age of 44. These findings were recently reported by the World Health Organization.

Methodist Hospitals to expand Charlton Emergency Department

A \$13.8 million expansion, jointly announced by Methodist Hospitals of Dallas Board of Directors and Charlton Methodist Hospital Board of Trustees, will increase the facilities and services available at this southwest Dallas facility. By 2002, the expansion will more than double the current size of the department to 21,000 square feet. According to hospital officials, the expansion is in response to the increase in emergency department patients. In the first five months of this year, the department averaged 127 daily visits.

Charlton Methodist Hospital is a 191-bed general acute hospital located at 3500 West Wheatland Road.

Internet site on reproductive health launched

The Harvard School of Public Health has launched a new Internet site dedicated to reproductive health. The Global Reproductive Health Forum offers on-line information on gender issues, reproductive rights, sexually transmitted diseases and family planning.

The site also solicits the participation of women, particularly residents from emerging nations. The 1994 International Conference on Population Development in Cairo, Egypt and the 1995 4th World Conference on Women in Beijing, People's Republic of China inspired the site.

The site can be found at http://www.hsph.harvard.edu.

Water - the way to clear, healthy skin

Many times skin problems are linked to a lack of water. Very dry or its opposite, oily skin, are often a sign that more water is needed. Water is the only substance that naturally helps to flush the body's lymphatic system of unneeded toxins. By increasing water intake, most people can accomplish proper moisture levels. Eight glasses of water every day is the standard recommendation. Proper moisture levels are also accomplished by limiting salt intake. Salty, spicy, sugary and oily foods usually hinder the natural flushing of water from the body.

Bleaching creams - a harm or help?

Use of bleaching creams is nothing new for African-Americans; but the effects and hazards associated with these agents is not always common knowledge. Hydroquinone is the main ingredient in skin bleaching agents; it also the only one approved by the federal Food & Drug Administration for removing skin discoloration. Hydroquinone has been banned in Africa because it was used in unauthorized doses. Higher concentrations of this active agent, are not necessarily effective or consistent in lightening skin areas.

Anyone using bleaching creams should also apply a sun block to the area being treated. If purchasing an over-the-counter product, check the label and instructions. Hydroquinone should be limited to two percent. Higher percentages can lead to skin irritation.

The cancer question - to grill or not to grill?

Some studies suggest that a group of chemicals known as herteroclycic amines, or HCAs, are carcinogens. HCAs form when meat or any other protein-based food is roasted, grilled or fried at high temperatures. But a recent study found that eating grilled meat may pose no more danger than meat that is broiled or baked. Health experts recommend a few simple steps to minimize the danger of HCAs:

- Use low-fat marinades and limit oily sauces
- To reduce grilling time, precook meat, fish or poultry
- Remove cooked food from the grill immediately
- Wrap foods in foil to reduce smoke exposure whenever possible
- Don't eat burned food.



15-year old honored as its "Volunteer of the Year" by Texas American Lung Association



Molly Brooke, a severe asthmatic, has proven at the young age of 15 that her health condition is no barrier to an active lifestyle. Miss Brooke, (pictured second from the left) was recently honored by the American Lung Association of Texas at its annual meeting and volunteer reception. Pictured with the "Volunteer of the Year" are (left to right): Renee McMillion Clark, community services director for KDAF-TV; Ms. Brooke; Steve LeNore, KDAF meteorologist; Dr. Marie Fitzgerald, board member and chair of the Dallas "Walk to Fight Asthma" campaign; and Donna James, a sales representative with KDAF-TV. Channel 33 is a major sponsor of the Dallas-Fort Worth "Walks to Fight Asthma" in 2000.

STATE

GTE Long Distance, Microsoft sponsor new Dallas Public Library programs

In Dallas County, 22% of people aged sixteen and over are functionally illiterate. Moreover, a recently published report from the U.S. Department of Commerce has found that new technologies are forging a new racial divide in America. But two different corporate initiatives here in Dallas are beginning to remedy illiteracy and the lack of inner-city access to the Internet.

GTE Long Distance is sharing the success of reaching 3 million customers by sponsoring a pilot program in the Dallas West Branch Library. Since July 1st, GTE has offered free long distance calling cards to new and renewing members of the branch located at 2332 Singleton Boulevard. "Reading Takes You Places" is the theme of GTE's literacy campaign.

To kickoff the project, GTECC President Butch Berber attended the event, offering encouragement to adults to and children alike. Adults were asked to enroll as library members; children were reminded up the library's summer reading program. Following his remarks, Mr. Bercher personally presented calling cards to those in attendance.

According to Miriam Rodriguez, assistant manager of the Dallas West Branch, free long distance calling cards will be issued as long as supplies last.

GTE Long Distance is part of GTE Communications Corporation, the national retail sales and service arm for GTE Corporation. With 1998 revenues of more than \$25 billion, GTE Corporation is one of the world's largest telecommunications companies and a leading provider of integrated telecommunications services

In a related development, the Dallas Public Library is the recipient of \$160,000 Urban Library Leadership Grant. Awarded by the Gates Library Foundation, the grant pro-



Community residents enjoy the new Gates Online Center at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library Branch

vided funds to purchase sixty computer workstations. Microsoft donated software support.

The Gates Online Centers offer library users in lowincome communities access to computers, the Internet and digital information, as well as opportunities to learn basic technical skills needed in today's fast-growing high-tech workplace. The Central Library and five branches were chosen based on income and employment levels in their service areas. Six newly completed Gates Online Centers are now housed at: Walnut Hill, 9495 Marsh Lane; Pleasant Grove, 1125 South Buckner Boulevard; Hampton-Illinois, 2210 West Illinois Avenue; Dallas West,

2332 Singleton Boulevard; and Martin Luther King, Jr., 2922 Martin Luther King Boulevard. A total of thirty workstations are distributed between the five branches.

At the Central Library, 1515 Young Street, eighteen workstations comprise the Gates Training Center; six workstations are accessible in the Online Center and another six workstations are located in the Children's Center.

Volunteers, trained in Microsoft Word and other programs, will work with the Gates Online Centers to provide computer training. Presently, more than thirty volunteers are trained and assigned. Others desiring to participate in the volunteer staffing are welcome.



Dallas Library Director Ramioro Salazar speaks at the opening ceremonies of "Gates Go Online Day", held at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library.



At the July 1st Library Card Sign-Up, GTE Communications President Butch Bercher speaks with Karen Smith, Education Director, Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce; Cynthia Gray, administrator for the Dallas Public Library; and Dallas West Branch library manager, Connie Kallenberg.

If you would like to help prevent child abuse, volunteer and make a difference in the lives of children of divorce in the Families First: Children Cope With Divorce classes. Volunteers in the children's program use a grief curriculum and reassure children that they are not to blame. The peer support groups are held the 2nd Saturday of each month from 8:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Call the EXCAP Center at (972) 644-2098 for additional information. Bilingual volunteers are also needed.

July 15

The medical review division of the Texas Workers' Compensation Commission is presenting an educational seminar in Dallas on Thursday, July 15, 1999, covering workers' compensation medical benefit topics. The seminar will take place at the Clarion Hotel Richardson, 1981 N. Central Expressway, from 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Registration begins at 7:15 a.m. The fee for the seminar is \$50. For more information or to register, call 512-440-3823.

Brady Center Seniors will host an ice cream social and dance on Friday, July 16, 1999, from 10 a.m.-noon at the Center located at 4009 Elm Street in Dallas. Please RSVP by Monday, July 12, 1999, at (214) 826-8330.

July 17

Greater Mt. Hebron Missionary Baptist Church will be having its church picnic Saturday, July 17, 1999, at 10 a.m. The picnic will be held at Samuell-Grand Park, 6200 East Grand in Dallas. For more information or directions, call (214) 742-3825.

July 17 and 24

Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) is giving two, all-day workshops on "How to Start and Manage a Small Business" from 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. on July 17 and 24. For more information please call the Continuing Education Department at North Lake College in Irving, 972-273-3360.

July 17

The Dallas Urban League Community Day Parade is coming to Oak Cliff on Saturday,

July 17, 1999 at Glendale Park Central beginning at 8:30 a.m. Please call the Dallas Urban League at 214-915-4600 for more information.

July 19-30 Musical Theatre Workshop

A comprehensive two-week workshop that will assist participants in developing singing, dancing, and acting skills, as well as, observe and tour the Irving Art Center's theater facilities. Participants will give a performance at the end of the workshop. This workshop is for ages 10-18 and will at be the Rehearsal Hall 700 & Theater in the Commons. For additional information, please call (972) 252-7558.

July 20

Eddie Coker, noted children's entertainer, is giving a 75-minute workshop giving children the opportunity to see how a song evolves from concepts to its final recorded form. The kids' participation really kicks in when the group helps Eddie choose rhythms, write lyrics and create melodies as they write a song together. This event will take place at the Carpenter Performance Hall, Irving Arts Center at 3 p.m. For more information call (972) 252-7558.

July 20

It's Dollar Day at the Dallas Zoo! All zoo admissions are \$1 all day. Call (214) 942-3678.

July 21

Volunteer lawyers from the Dallas Bar Association will offer free advice to area residents Wednesday, July 21 from 5:15 p.m. to 8 p.m. Lawyers are available to answer questions on essentially every aspect of law ranging from intellectual property to traffic tickets. Anyone interested should call LegalLine at (214) 969-7066. Callers can ask for referrals to local or social service agencies.

July 23 and 24

Be a buddy to a person living with HIV/AIDS in the Dallas area. Compassionate volunteers are needed to develop and maintain long-term friendships through telephone calls and social activities. Attend training July 23 and 24. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old. For more information, please call (214) 826-6767.

July 25

Fort Worth Theatre's Hispanic Series will be holding auditions for The Grapes of Wrath on Sunday, July 25 at 7:00 p.m. at Orchestra Hall. Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script. Scripts are available. Cast breakdown and specific requirements will be available upon request. For additional information, please call 817-921-5300.

July 27-August 1

Junior Players' summer production of Shakespeare's comedy A Midsummer Night's Dream will feature 22 youth ages 14-18 from 16 area high schools, and will open July 27, 1999 at 8:15 p.m. at Samuell-Grand Park, 6200 East Grand Avenue in East Dallas. Performances will run through August 1, 1999. All performances are free of charge and will begin at 8:15 p.m. The gates open at 7:30 p.m. and people are welcome to bring their own food and beverages. For more information on the production or Junior Players, please contact Executive Director Kirsten Brandt James at 214-526-4076.

July 31

On Saturday, July 31 in Arlington, all ages ranging from 8-adult and children 6 and 7 accompanied by an adult, are welcome to learn how to look at faces in pictures, and then draw them in cartoon with a master cartoon volunteer. This event will be held at George W. Hawkes Central Library from 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Please call or visit the Children's Department at the Central Library to register.

August 3

The SHARE! High School Exchange Program still needs host families to host high school exchange students. Now is the time to match students with their host families, as they start arriving very soon, as early as August 3, 1999. The students are between 15 and 18 years of age and are eager to live with a family and learn about America. They are carefully selected, speak English, have their own health insurance and spending money. Host families provide a bed, meals, and a caring family environment. For more information, call Yvette Coffman, Exchange Program Manager, at 214-373-6760 or the ERDT Southwest Regional Office at 1-800-414-3738.

August 3

Clean South Dallas presents its first fundraiser for the year, the Silent Auction/Community Street Fair, which will be held August 3, 1999. Come out and bid on valuable items such as autographed photos of professional athletes, hair braiding, Texas Ranger tickets, Starplex tickets, and more. Come take a stroll down Sidewalk Cafe or try your luck at games, Cake Walk, and much more at the Street Fair. Tickets for the Street Fair are \$1.00. Please call 214-421-1662 for more information.

August 4 and 5

Texas Workers' Compensation The Commission (TWCC) will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 4, 1999, at 2:00 p.m. At the hearing, Commissioners will take testimony on proposed amendments to Rule 134.1001, Spine Treatment Guideline. If you plan to make public comment at the hearing, please submit 10 written copies of your oral testimony and handouts to the director of executive communication, Linda McKee. She can be reached at 512-448-7973. The next scheduled public meeting will take place on Thursday, August 5, at 10:30 a.m. Both the hearing and the public meeting scheduled for August will be held in the Tippy Foster Room (Room 910) at TWCC's Southfield Building, 4000 S. IH-35, in Austin.

August 7

LaFuente's Fall Job Fair Expo '99 promises to bring job seekers and recruiters together to provide career opportunities to the metroplex. This year's job fair will take place on Saturday, August 7, 1999, at the Grand Place Building in Fair Park from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Admission is free. So polish up those resumes and make plans to meet over 100 companies searching for the right candidate. Bilingual skills are a plus. For more information on employment opportunities or booth information, please call (214) 977-7936.

Community Calendar Sponsored by Southwestern Bell Telephone



Around The Town

MONSLEDERY

As Old as Dallas Itself: A History of the Lawyers of Dallas, the Dallas Bar Associations, and the City They Helped Build by Darwin Payne (Three Forks Press, \$35).



DARWIN PAYNE

When Dallas emerged as a part of the Republic of Texas in the early 1840s, lawyers were inextricably tied into the city's economic, political and cultural life. Since the 1880s, when Sam H. Scott, the first African-American to practice law in at 301 Main Street while also setting a precedent for his counterpart counselors that followed, African American attorbecame neys too enshroud in the city's legal life. In this book, Southern Methodist University professor, Dr. Darwin Payne, promulgates the assassination of President Kennedy, the controversial class action suits in the 1970s, problems in race relations, the struggle of women and ethnic minorities to enter the legal profession, the birth of the J.L. Turner Bar Association (an alternate association for black attorneys) and

Dallas, set up his office

the Dallas Bar Association, to give readers a countenance of the legal community's annals. It is recommended for anyone who desires to relish the story of, arguably, one of Dallas' most progressive domains.

Barnes & Noble and MON team up to form MON's Readers Club

Minority Opportunity News is pleased to announce a new partnership and service to our readers. On Tuesday, August 17th, Barnes & Noble Booksellers, the nation's premier bookstore will co-convene the inaugural meeting of "MON's Readers Club".

All MON and Barnes & Noble patrons are encouraged to become charter members of a readers club that will regularly meet the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM. The book club's first meeting will be at the Barnes & Noble location at 7700 West Northwest Highway, #300.

The selected title for the inaugural event is Milk in My Coffee by Eric Jerome Dickey. Book club readers will be asked to review and purchase a copy for discussion at the forthcoming September 21st meeting.

Anyone interested in joining "MON's Readers Club" is advised to contact Ms. Renee Bryant at (214) 905-3260.



Deerfield Apartment is a 256 unit apartment complex located at 9670 Forest Lane, Dallas, Texas 75243. There are special deed restrictions, occupancy and rent affordability conditions associated with this sale. Copies of the Request for Proposal may be picked up from the City of Dallas Multifamily Housing Acquisition Corporation, located at City Hall, 1500 Marilla. Room 6DN, Dallas, Texas 75201.

Proposals will be received by DMHAC unit until 5:00 P.M. on August 16, 1999. DMHAC reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. The sale is subject to approval of the Dallas City Council. For more information contact Karen Schaffner at 214-670-0882.

The City of Dallas Multifamily Housing Acquisition Corporation (DMHAC), by advertising this property, makes no warranty regarding the property. It will be the responsibility of the proposer to examine all applicable building codes and ordinances to determine the value, condition and use of the property. DMHAC will require the proposer to certify that they have no outstanding City of Dallas judgements or tax delinquencies and that the proposer has fully reviewed and is in agreement with all the terms and conditions contained in the Request for Proposal for the Purchase of the Deerfield Apartments. DMHAC assumes no responsibility as to the accuracy of any fact relating to the propenty for sale. The sale As Is With All Faults to the successful proposer on a "Buyer Beware" basis.

There will be a pre-proposal conference on Thursday, July 22, 1999 from 2:00 to 4:00 P.M. held at City Hall Room 6ES. Attendance at the pre-proposal conference is optional.



Minority Opportunity News . July 15-31, 1999 . Page 18

Celebrate

NOW PLAYING AT A THEATER NEAR YOU

Summer of Sam Mira Sorvino; John Leguizamo; Patti Lapone

This film could surely redefine "intense". Spike Lee inspects the serial killings of David "Son of Sam" Berkowitz during the scorching heat wave of 1977 when New York City was under attack.



HEAR YE, HEAR YE Luther "Luke" Campbell, former foreman of the controversial rap group 2 Live Crew, allegedly hit a man over the head with a bottle in Miami, according to MTV. Apparently Luke was attending a nightclub and had a dispute with Mathieu Fabrice because he blocked Campbell's view during a show at the club. After the rapper and Fabrice started to argue, Luke grabbed a whiskey bottle and hit the victim in the face. Campbell was later charged with aggravated battery.

Halle Berry, who has been featured in everything from movies like Boomerang and B.A.P.S, Maybeline and M&M commercials, has another venture in the making. The superstar actress will join the cast of the FOX network's film, "X-Men," according to EurWeb. The motion picture diva will play the infamous female hero, Storm, who controls earth's natural disasters like thunderstorms, hurricanes, lightning and heavy, pouring rain.

Rapper/Actor/Director Ice Cube has just finished filming the 1995 sequel to his successful movie, Friday, is scheduled to premiere on the motion picture set in the winter, according to MTV. Although funny man Chris Tucker is not slated for the movie, John Witherspoon and "Tiny" Lister, Jr. will be returning and will also star Tamala Jones. In related news, Ice Cube will star in the movie, "Three Kings," with Mark Wahlberg and George Clooney that's due out in October.

Busta Rhymes has already established a clothing line and will also indulge his creative juices in designing footwear for shoe company GBX which will be available for purchase in the fall, according to MTV. GBX and Busta will reveal the ideas and designs for his shoe line in New York next week.





The Texas Folklife Festival, Aug. 5-8th in San Antonio brings 70,000 visitors together in celebration of the Lone Star State's diversity. For more information call (210) 458-2300 or visit ITC's website at http://www.texancultures.utsa.edu

THE TUBE



Richard Brooks stars in "The Corp"

The all-new one-hour comedy thriller from critically acclaimed independent film directors Josh and Jonas Pate premieres on USA Network July 18, 1999. Clayton Rohner and Richard Brooks star as afterlife agents of "The Corp." As members of the Corp, their goal is to locate those citizens foolish enough to have made a Faustian bargain with the agents of evil within their "beat."

Fakin' Da Funk

An Asian teen (Dante Basco) tries to cope with his new surroundings when he moves with his adoptive parents from Atlanta to LA's South Central. Also starring Ernie Hudson, Pam Grier, and Margaret Cho. Fakin' Da Funk premieres on USA Network Saturday, July 24, 1999 from 10:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m. ET/PT.

Posse

A group of mostly black infantrymen return from the Spanish-American War with a cache of gold. They travel West to do battle with a pompous, racist colonel, and a vicious white sheriff who want to take over a peaceful black frontier settlement. Starring Mario Van Peebles, Stephen Baldwin, Charles Lane, Tommy (Tiny) Lister, Big Daddy Kane, Blair Underwood, Tone Loc and Sally Richardson. Round up your posse July 25, 1999 at 12:00-2:30 p.m. and tune in to USA Network for a treat.



Jubilee Theatre's production of "Attitude, Girl Friend, ATTITUDE", a sassy new musical, sashays onto the stage. ATTITUDE runs through August 15, 1999. This musical will play Friday & Saturday nights at 8:15 p.m., and Saturday & Sunday afternoons at 3:15 p.m. Jubilee continues its Saturday matinee special: Buy one adult ticket, get the second one free! Student, senior citizen and group rates are available. For tickets call (817) 338-4411 of fax (817) 338-4206 or e-mail jubilee@startext.net.

July 13-25

"Chicago" is the musical tale of Roxie Hart, a nightclub dancer who kills her lover, and Velma Kelly, who is awaiting trial for killing her husband. These two women meet in prison and begin a rivalry for the public's attention by trying to manipulate the media and turn their crimes sensational headlines. into Performances are Tuesday through Friday at 8:00 p.m., Sunday at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Ticket prices are \$67.00, \$54.00, \$41.00 and \$28.00 depending on the seating location at the Bass Performance Hall and may be purchased by contacting Ticket Master at metro (972) 647-5700 or by visiting the Casa Manana box office at West Lancaster in Fort worth cultural district.

July 15-31

Fort Worth Theatre is pleased to announce a mini-Sam Shepard festival. "True West" will alternate performance nights with "Fool For Love" and "Cowboy Mouth". The dates for "True West" are July 15, 17. 23, 29, and 31. "Fool For Love" and "Cowboy Mouth" showings are July 16, 22, 24, and 30. All show times are at 8:00 p.m. at Orchestra Hall, 4401 Trail Lake Drive at Grandbury Road. Tickets are \$8-\$10. Group rates are available.

July 16 The "Texas BBQ with a Louisana Twist" will be on Friday, July 16 from 7 p.m.-midnight at Cedar Canyon Ranch located at 4523 N. Houston School Road at I-20 in Dallas. The all-u-can-eat menu includes a BBQ buffet, crawfish, meatpies and fish. There will be activities for both adults and children. You'll be able to shop with vendors as well as enjoy the sounds of R&B, smooth jazz, and that good ole Louisiana flavor. All of this fun costs only \$25 for adults and \$12 for children. For more information call (972) 480-JAGS.

Minority Opportunity Acus . July 15-31, 1999 . Page 19

"The Wood"

by Josef Spencer

It's every woman's dream; every man's nightmare. Little girls adore it, little boys abhor it. Marriage. In the panicky, uncertain hours before his wedding, a groom with prenuptial jitters and his two best friends reminisce about growing up together in Inglewood, California in the enselmble comedy "The Wood." The twenty-something trio featuring Mekhi Phifer, Omar Epps, and Taye Diggs, captures the mood and nostalgia of the 80's era through the powerful beats and lyrics of some of the decade's most memorable hip-hop music.

Mike (Omar Epps) and Slim (Richard T. Jones) never thought they'd see the day their man Roland (Taye Diggs) would strut down the aisle to get married. Neither, apparently, did Roland, who ducks out just before the ceremony and turns up at the house of his high school sweetheart, Tanya (Tamala Jones). Though he adores his fiance' (Lisaraye), Roland sees the impending nuptials as a separation from those who have always been closest to him, his neighborhood partners from Inglewood, which they fondly refer to as the Wood.

"The film deals with the universal issues of finding your place in the world, dealing with your sexuality, and becoming your own person without separating yourself from your friends," says Ron Yerxa of Bona Fide Productions, who brought the screenplay to MTV Films and later to Paramount Pictures. "It holds up a mirror to the audience and people see themselves. I don't think it is just a Black experience, I think everyone can identify with this movie."

Between the three of these knights-in-shining armor, they have fifteen films to their credit and are set to star in ten more in the next year, including "The Wood" and "In Too Deep," which open this month. As Vibe magazine notes "They've played hotties and husbands, hustlers and cops, and Newsweek calls them "promising...up-and-comers." But what mainstream Hollywood seems to have missed is that with their bad-boy, good-boy, baby-----boy sex appeal, these men make up a holy trinity of female fantasy...And in Tinseltown, when the ladies love you, you're box-office gold. There's just one hitch: Hollywood, which specializes in white-on-white Academy Awards, is still scared to death of a young black man who can make ladies swoon."

"If [mainstream Hollywood] needs to cast a sexy guy, they automatically think sexy, young, white guy. That's just how Hollywood is," says Taye. When directors try to make a romantic film with a young black man as the lead, they hardly ever do well. How Stella



Got Her Groove Back cost \$20 million to produce but only grossed \$37 million. love jones grossed only \$12 million, and Christopher Cherot's Hav Plenty took in a mere \$2.3 million. Whatever the price tag that Hollywood attaches to The Wood, I'll guarantee that it will afford some sistahs sweet dreams and brothers reflections of the good 'ol days. Enjoy.



Minority Opportunity Rros . July 15-31, 1999 . Page 20

Dallas Can! Academy salutes its 24th & largest graduating class

A standing room only audience cheered more than 200 former high school dropouts and at-risk students on their July 1st graduation. The ceremonies, held at Cliff Temple Baptist Church, 125 Sunset, included words of encouragement from Dallas' Mayor Pro Tem, the Honorable Mary Poss. 1999 marks the second consecutive year a larger facility was necessary to accommodate ceremonies

According to Academy Founder and President Grant East, "Combined with our January graduation of 172, our total number of graduates this year will be around 400! Our graduates are experiencing a major victory in their lives, victories they never before dreamed possible. We are honored that Mayor Pro Tem Poss encouraged our graduates to continue their 'winning ways' by continuing their education."

Dallas Can! Academy is Dallas' first public charter high school. Its mission is to break the cycle of failure, poverty and economic dependency by giving students a second chance in life. Individual education plans, computer-assisted training, and an emphasis on self-esteem and self-sufficiency together offer alternative educational approaches for students who had trouble succeeding in more traditional school systems.

Founded in 1985, the Academy initially provided juvenile offenders with remedial education in a residential setting. Results were so positive, however, that the concept quickly expanded to offer similar programs to high school dropouts and nonadjudicated youth. The expanded program operated as a non-residential alternative

school in East Dallas. In 1987, substance abuse and life skill components were enhanced, while curriculum was modified to include individualized, self-paced and computer-assisted learning. Through private support, a second Academy location opened in 1988.

By 1990, the growth and success of the two small schools resulted in a move to the current location at 2601 Live Oak.

In 1996, Dallas Can! Academy's designation as one of twenty Texas charter schools enabled the Academy to award high school diplomas, as well as general equivalency diplomas (GEDs). Moreover, charter school status affords the academy full recognition by the Texas State Board of Education as an independent school district.

Today, Dallas Can! Serves over 1600 at-risk students annually at its four Dallas campuses. For nine consecutive years, the Dallas County Local Workforce Development Board (formerly known as the Private Industry Council) has honored the academy as an "Outstanding Youth Service Provider". Since inception, over 8,500 students have benefited from the innovative educational plan.

Beyond the Metroplex, Dallas Can! Academy's approach to at-risk youth has spawned other Can! Academies. Houston Can! Academy Charter School opened its doors in August 1998 with a first-year enrollment of 517 students. San Antonio and Fort Worth will open similar programs by August 2000.



The 1999 graduating class of Dallas Can! Academy; Mayor Pro Tem Mary Poss appears in the foreground



Minority Opportunity News . July 15-31, 1999 . Page 22

Carcer Opportunity

Request for Bids on Texas Highway Construction

Sealed proposals for 1.164 mi. of Interchange improvements on IH 820 at West SH 121. SH 183, SH 26 and FM 1938 covered by NH 99(493) in Tarrant County, will be received at the Texas Department of Transportation, 200 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas, until 1:00 P.M., August 3, 1999, and then publicly opened and read. It is the bidder's responsibility to ensure that the sealed proposal arrives at the above location and is in the hands of the letting official, by the specified dead-line regardless of the method chosen by the bidder for delivery.

This contract is subject to all appropriate Federal laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The Texas Department of Transportation hereby notifies all bidders that it will insure that bidders will not be discriminated against on the ground of race, color, sex or national origin, in having full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation, and in consideration for an award. Plans and specifications, including minimum wage rates as provided by Law, are available for inspection at the office of Mark C. Schluter, Area Engineer, Fort Worth, Texas, and at the Texas Department of Transportation, Austin, Texas. Bidding proposals are to be requested from the Construction Division, 200 East Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas, at the expense of the bidder.

Usual rights reserved 2-D-82106 2-76-0008-13-157



Request for Bids on Texas Highway Construction

Sealed proposals for 0.333 mi of grading, base, pavement and drainage on MH in Addison on Beltline Road at Midway and at a Quorum Road covered by CM 97(449) in Dallas, will be received at the Texas Department of Transportation, 200 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas, until 1:00 P.M., August 3, 1999, and then publicly opened and read. It is the bidder's responsibility to ensure that the sealed proposal arrives at the above location and is in the hands of the letting official, by the specified deadline regardless of the method chosen by the bidder for delivery.

This contract is subject to all appropriate Federal laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The Texas Department of Transportation hereby notifies all bidders that it will insure that bidders will not be discriminated against on the ground of race, color, sex or national origin, in having full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation, and in consideration for an award. Plans and specifications, including minimum wage rates as provided by Law, are available for inspection at the office of Larry Tegtmeyer, Area Engineer, Dallas, Texas, and at the Texas Department of Transportation, Austin, Texas. Bidding proposals are to be requested from the Construction Division, 200 East Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas, at the expense of the bidder.

Usual rights reserved 18-D-82032 - 18-76-8050-18-034

Request for Bids on Texas Highway Construction

Sealed proposals for traffic signals on BS 114L at Wall Street in Grapevine covered by C 353-7-23 in Tarrant County, will be received at the Texas Department of Transportation, 200 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas, until 1:00 p.m., August 3, 1999, and then publicly opened and read. It is the bidder's responsibility to ensure that the sealed proposal arrives at the above location and is in the hands of the letting official, by the specified dead-line regardless of the method chosen by the bidder for delivery.

Plans and specifications, including minimum wage rates as provided by Law, are available for inspection at the office of Wallace Ewell, Area Engineer, Fort Worth, Texas, and at the Texas Department of Transportation, Austin, Texas. Bidding proposals are to be requested from the Construction Division, 200 East Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas 78704-1205. Plans are available through commercial printers in Austin, Texas, at the expense of the bidder.

The Texas Department of Transportation hereby notifies all bidders that it will insure that bidders will not be discriminated against on the ground of race, color, sex or national origin, in having full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation, and in consideration for an award.

Usual rights reserved 2-D-82105 2-76-0353-07-023

Request for Bids on Texas Highway Construction

Sealed proposals for 0.311 mi. of landscape development on IH 30 from 0.3 km East of Loop 12 to 1.0 km West of Big Town Boulevard covered by CL 9-11-182 and on US 80 from IH 30 to 0.1 miles East of Big Town Boulevard covered by C 95-10-40 in Dallas County, will be received at the Texas Department of Transportation, 200 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas, until 1:00 P.M., August 3, 1999, and then publicly opened and read. It is the bidder's responsibility to ensure that the sealed proposal arrives at the above location and is in the hands of the letting official, by the specified deadline regardless of the method chosen by the bidder for delivery.

Plans and specifications, including minimum wage rates as provided by Law, are available for inspection at the office of Paul Williams, Area Engineer, Dallas, Texas, and at the Texas Department of Transportation, Austin, Texas. Bidding proposals are to be requested from the Construction Division, 200 East Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas 78704-1205. Plans are available through commercial printers in Austin, Texas, at the expense of the bidder.

The Texas Department of Transportation hereby notifies all bidders that it will insure that bidders will not be discriminated against on the ground of race, color sex or national origin, in having full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation, and in consideration for an award.

Usual rights reserved 18-D-82034 18-76-0009-11-182, etc.

Minority Opportunity Press . July 15-31, 1999 . Page 23



Through the American and AMR Diversified Supplier Program, we practice supplier diversity by purchasing quality products and services from minority- and women-owned companies. If you are a diversified supplier and want to explore opportunities to grow with us, please contact Fred Kahl at 817-963-2620 or frederick_kahl@aa.com. Or send information on your products or services with a copy of your minority- or women-owned business certification to American Airlines, Inc., P.O. Box 619616, MD 5223, Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport, TX 75261-9616.