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The Gazette

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SERVING PLANO, DALLAS, RICHARDSON, GARLAND, ALLEN, MCKINNEY AND MESQUITE

Volume XI, Number XIII

"North Dallas' Weekly Paper of Choice"

March 28-April 3, 2002

Finding Empowerment Through Mind, Body and Spirit

By Monica Thornton

The 13th Dickie Foster Texas Black Women's Conference held on Saturday March 16, honored the legacy and memory of its founder, Mrs. Lucretia "Dickie" Foster, and offered encouragement and inspiration to African American women.

Mrs. Foster, who died January 18 of this year at the age of 89, moved from Hemphill to Dallas, and became the first black person to host a show on radio station KSKY. A journalist and a civic-minded woman, she was always concerned about women's issues, being instrumental in chartering the Dallas Metropolitan Chapter of the National Association of Business and Professional Women.

It was in 1976 that Mrs. Foster recognized the need for black women across the state of Texas to come together to address issues important to the well-being of black women, thus the Dickie Foster Texas Black Women's Conference was born. The conference now continues every two years, attracting hundreds of women.

This year's conference focused on "Health Matters: Mind, Body and Soul", and the planning committee garnered together speakers to focus on these matters. At a conference where there were more workshops than there was time to attend them all, deciding which ones to attend was not an easy task.

Workshops included "Sexuality and Your Health", presented by The Skillful Living Center, which explored ways to maintain a healthy sexual lifestyle, and "I'm In a Bad Mood, and I Can't Sleep; Is It Depression?" presented by Dr. Maulana Crivens Hogan. This workshop helped uncover the negative stigma associated with depression, which makes so many people stay in denial about having the disorder.

And for the women trying to find spiritual balance at work, Reverend

Vanessa Weatherspoon presented "Climbing the Corporate Ladder With Spirituality", in which she addressed the issue of how to effectively 'marry' your belief to your job and still have a harmonious and successful relationship.

Valerie Burton, author of "Rich Minds, Rich Rewards: 52 Ways to Enhance, Enrich and Empower Your



Denise Ford with the Ford Health Group

Life", presented her workshop by asking "Do You Want to Live Your Best Possible Life?" as she showed attendees how to unleash their personal power, and fearlessly pursue their life's mission with purpose, balance, success and a deep sense of joy.

Exploring the deeper issues of dealing with a broken heart, author and columnist Shewanda Riley talked about getting beyond brokenness and disappointments with God. She said when we go through brokenness we tend to want God to come to us, but He wants us to go to Him.

"Don't be God to yourself or others," Ms. Riley said, "and don't be so quick to give advice or your opinion".

She said that as women, we tend to stay in the brokenness through many ways, one of which is manipulation through wrong expression of our emotions, and another way to stay in the brokenness is to ignore what is going on.

"As Christians, we have to make choices, but sometimes we stay in the pain, we become comfortable with the pain and learn to compensate for the pain," said Ms. Riley, "but God has something better".

Ms. Riley said we have to come to a point where we make a conscious decision to let go of the pain and move on.

"Some people say just let time take its course," she said, "but I have realized that you have to let God do something".

To move beyond the brokenness, Ms. Riley said you first have to focus on other people and activities, and stop talking about the situation. She said when she went through heartbreak a couple of years ago she had to give her "I can't believe this is happening to me" attitude back to God.

And secondly she said that we are taught that other people's opinion of us is what matters, when we have to get to the point where we recognize who we are in God. And third, we need to recognize that mistakes are a part of life, and because we made mistakes in previous relationships and with our choices, doesn't mean we can't trust again.

"Mistakes are a part of life, it's how we react to our mistakes", Ms. Riley said.

But in order to be able to put any part of our lives together, we must first be physically well. Denise Ford, C.N.H.P., of Ford Health Group, Inc., uncovered the ways to improve health form a holistic standpoint, by following

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On the Homefront:

Collin Creek Mall invites children to The Funny Bunnies Easter puppet show at 11:30 am, 1pm, 1:30pm, 2pm, 2:30pm and 3pm Friday and Saturday, and at 1:30pm, 2:30pm, and 3:30pm Sunday through March 30th. The free show is on the mall's lower level near Foley's, 811 North Central Expressway at Plano Parkway. Call 972-422-1070 for information.

In Frisco, children may have their photos taken with Easter bunnies at Stonebriar Center through March 30th. Children will receive Easter-themed coloring book while supplies last. Hours are noon to 8pm, Monday through Thursday, 11am to 8pm Friday, 10am to 9pm Saturday and noon to 6pm Sunday.

March 16-May 4 African-American Art History. This class continues one Saturday a month through May and involves the exhibits Sankofa: A Century of African-American

Expressions in the Decorating Arts and Three Centuries of African-American Art. Price \$20.00 per session, discounts for multiple sessions. Address: 3536 Grand Avenue, Fair Park, behind the Music Hall, Dallas, Texas. To enroll call 214-565-9026. 10:00am-2:00pm.

March 16-March 31: Avedon's American West: A collection from the portrait, reportage, and fashion photographer of working class people from the American West. Amon Carter Museum, 3501 Camp Bowie Blvd. Fort Worth, Texas. For information call 817-738-1933.

The art exhibit "Kaleidoscope 2002", with Watercolor and Collage works by Mary Griffin, Janet Show, Steve Sitrnik and Irish Yopp will be on display at the Plano Center through March 31. Hours are 8am to 6pm, Monday through Friday at the Center 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway. Call 942-941-5201 for information.

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Plano West Wins 11-4

On Saturday, the Plano West Wolves defeated the Allen Eagles in an 11-4 victory. The Wolves started their baseball season with two losses, but they were able to bounce back with two wins in the past two days. They also defeated Plano with a 9-5 win. Plano West was able to turn 13 hits into 11 runs securing the win over Allen. Even with their 2-2 record the Wolves feel confident about this season. They felt they had a tough start because they had to play some of the toughest teams in the district. Plano West hopes to recover now that they have an opportunity to play some of the teams at the bottom; also, they feel that the best teams playing each other will help their chances. Up next for Plano West is their game against Rockwall on Tuesday.



North Dallas Community Bible Fellowship (NDCBF) Up Close

By Belinda G. Alexander

The Black church has long been a source of strength and empowerment, and refuge for its community. As caring members of the community and responsible citizens area churches are being invited to share information about their membership, ministries and vision. There are many great churches in the North Dallas metro area. One of these wonderful churches is North Dallas Community Bible Fellowship. Members of this church speak proudly and in glowing accolades about the warm message of Christian Salvation that is being taught at NDCBF. Pastor Leslie Smith and the church were happy to share some very good information about the church.

The church is now in its 13th year. The membership began with a modest count of 30 but has now grown to 3700. The vision statement speaks to the vision and purpose of the church. Operation Oasis further documents and defines the implementation of that vision. Lastly, the vision is reinforced by a Core Values statement. It is obvious that the leadership encourages enthusiastic levels of grow and fellowship all in the name of Jesus Christ.

NDCBF has taken great care to invest up front in

Organization strength with formation of an Operation Oasis Advisory Committee (The Committee), that will subsequently transition to the Operation Oasis Board of Directors. This group of Christian and business leader accentuate the vision and skills

doctrine, to make disciples of all the nations.

NDCBF exists to exalt the Savior, Encourage and Equip the Saints and to Evangelize the Sinner.

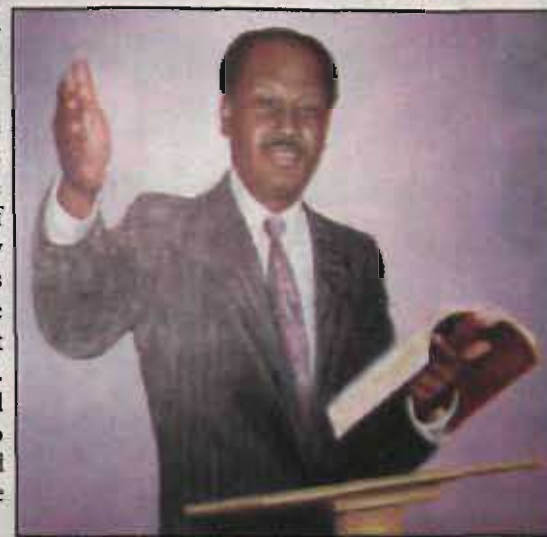
What We Are About

By Pastor Les Smith

Two of the core values of NDCBF are Authentic Worship and Authentic Teaching, and the context in which these values are best exemplified is our public worship service. We approach worship in a way where we seek to faithfully maintain the essential Christ-centered focus, while at the same time seeking to value individual backgrounds and musical tastes. We are fully cognizant, however, that when a church becomes more sensitive to the needs of its worshippers than to the awesome presence of the living God, then worship can lose its authenticity. One of the staples of the worship service at NDCBF is the contemporary praise chorus, but we seek to maintain a healthy balance by also employing a generous mix of anthems, hymns, and gospel music.

The cornerstone of our worship, however, is the exposition of Scripture. We believe that true worship is worship that

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NDCBF Vision Statement

To a spiritually hungry and destitute world, NDCBF, a spiritual oasis, offers the life-giving water of the Word, the life-sustaining joy of Christian fellowship, and the life-shaping demands of Christian

Lakewood Library Exhibit

The travel photography of local artist Beatrice McBride is on display at the Lakewood Library, 6121 Worth St. in Dallas, through April 2.

The exhibit entitled, "Daughter's of Africa: A Visual and Literary Perspective" combines images and thoughts of women from the Diaspora to illustrate a vibrant cultural connection. Works by Maya Angelou, Nikki Giovanni, Toni Morrison, Joyce Kilmer, Juanita Craft and others, are coupled with images of women from traditional African cultures that mirror the writers' perspective.

Photography taken in various parts of the world including Africa, the Caribbean, Central

America, South America, Europe and India, has expanded McBride's interpretation of the visual arts. Her work focuses primarily on the organic use of color, light and form richly expressed in rural communities of developing nations.

Originally from Connecticut, McBride has resided in the Dallas metropolitan area for the past 10 years. She currently serves as an instructor and curriculum coordinator for the R.C. Hickman Young Peoples photography Workshop taught every summer.

For more information please contact The Lakewood Library at 214-670-1376.

SETTING THE SAIL FOR SUCCESS: A Parenting View From Up Front

By Belinda Alexander

The sound of children at play, the groan of buses as they push through the neighborhood, the blinking yellow lights remind us to proceed with caution, the careful concentration of crossing guards as they secure the paved pathways to knowledge, the faint echo of bells ringing... All are familiar sounds of the return of school days.

As the learning institutions prepare to open those doors, which seem to have only just recently closed, it is a good time for parents and students to look at their plan of success for the new academic year. If you do not have a plan, now is the time to start one. It is very difficult to board the ship after it has set sail. That is too often, how the new school year starts out, as the next several weeks

and months can become a tidal wave with the parents in chase behind as students scramble along in front. The new school year is like a great ship that moves in to dock. In a short time, it will be taken out to explore new fresh and deeper waters. Each year a different destination and a new crew move in to accommodate our precious children along a journey, which will afford unlimited possibilities with the turn of a page. Wonderful waves of knowledge can grow and flow through the halls and classrooms to the limitless minds of young people who are eager to discover life. The journey on this ship of education can be successfully rewarding for all if we as the supporting crew of parents, family members, teachers and students accept responsibilities and plan for progress.

It is sad that many parents too often wait until policy, procedures and decisions are already in place before identifying problem areas. No crystal ball exists, that can tell us exactly what will happen in the future, however, if we have a plan of action, the challenges can be addressed more effectively. In order to have a plan, we must be part of the process. A process takes place over time. Time is the one factor that none of us seem to have enough of. The only way to gain time is to create a schedule and a plan.

It appears that too often, we as African Americans are repeatedly running behind and trying to catch up. Sometimes, our failure to plan causes us to miss the ship of opportunity. This may be habit as result of the fact that historically, we have

been much easier to address problems before they are out of control. The issue of time constraints is a big 'challenge' in the parenting effort, however, as time passes, choices become even more restricted. It is best to sit down at the beginning of the new year

with your child and the teacher to work on a proactive educational plan. Have a designated place at home where your child can effectively study. Be available to review and help your child with homework. Our children are very rich in potential. Homework should reflect that potential and progress. It can be a learning experience for both parent and student.

Let your child see you step up and volunteer on at least one project or task in the

school year. Most of us share the problem of finding time to volunteer, however, the are many tasks available, which require very little time. Remember that it is not how much time, but rather the quality of time spent that makes the difference in success or failure at any job. On the job of parenting, you are not allowed to take a break and seldom will you see what can be considered a payday, until many years later. There are however, snapshots of payday as we journey through the parenting process: That smile on your son's face when you join him for lunch at school is unforgettable. The look of pride on your daughter's face is priceless, when you bring cookies for the class party. Your children gain immeasurable confidence when you take a stand at the meeting on school policy. Step up and join the crew. There are numerous opportunities, and even more reasons to establish yourself at the front of your child's educational journey. It is better to plan a trip before the sails are set. Our children reap the benefits for years to come, as they arrive safely and securely onto the shores of success!

A child learns by example, So step up and join the crew, A little effort will go a long, long way, Your child's quality of education, Largely, depends on decisions made by you!



been conditioned to wait on someone else and to wait for someone else to go ahead of us. Whatever the reason, it is time for us to step forward and move to the front to get onboard. Our children need to see us step out front just for the sake of being in the lead. An important place for us to take the lead is in the institutions of learning with our children. When one is ahead of the situation, one has a better 'vision' of where we are going. If we have an idea of where we are going, we can make adjustments and plans along the way. The only sure way to secure a future for our children is to go up front with a full view of what is going on.

Show up as a parent, before the final decisions are put into place. Voice your concerns regarding anything that affects the educational security and success of our children. It is much easier to suggest changes at the beginning than at the end of a process. We know from experience, that complaints after-the-fact too often result in frustration, failure and humiliation. Active communication with your child's teacher is the best way to stay informed. I have discovered that the best teachers welcome a parent who keeps in-touch with student progress. When we have a good communication with the educators, it becomes obvious that we are interested and responsible parents. It

Easter Basket Cupcakes



Turn your favorite cupcakes into Easter Baskets filled with treasures or into Cotton-tailed Bunny Rabbits! The chocolate cupcakes stay deliciously moist and taste like heaven. Covered in sweet Hershey treats, they're a delicious way to celebrate spring! Prep Time: approx. 15 Minutes. Cook Time: approx. 25 Minutes. Ready in: approx. 1 Hour 50 Minutes. Makes 33 cupcakes (33 servings).

- 2 cups sugar
- 1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup HERSHEY'S (r) Dutch Processed Cocoa
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup milk
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 cup boiling water
- 1 (16 ounce) can creamy vanilla ready-to-spread frosting

3 3/4 cups MOUNDS® Sweetened Coconut Flakes, (tinted)

Assorted HERSHEY'S Easter Candies:
JOLLY RANCHER® Jelly Beans
CADBURY(r) Mini Eggs Candy
Hershey(r) Candy-Coated Milk Chocolate Eggs
HERSHEY'S KISSES (r) Milk Chocolates
33 TWIZZLERS® Strawberry Licorice Twists

Directions

- 1 Heat oven to 350 degrees F. Line muffin cups (2-1/2 inches in diameter) with paper bake cups.
- 2 Stir together sugar, flour, cocoa, baking powder, baking soda and salt in large bowl. Add eggs, milk, oil and vanilla; beat on medium speed of electric mixer 2 minutes. Stir in boiling water (batter will be thin). Fill muffin cups 2/3 full with batter.
- 3 Bake 22 to 25 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool completely.
- 4 To make Easter baskets, frost each cupcake with vanilla frosting. Immediately place 'nest' on top of each cupcake with tinted coconut; place assorted candy in nests.
- 5 For handle, insert wooden pick in each end of Strawberry twists; press down into each side of each cupcake, bending to form handle.

Notes:

To tint coconut, combine several drops green food color with 3/4 teaspoon water; add to 1-1/2 cups coconut. Stir until evenly tinted. Repeat using blue, pink or yellow food color. Adults should supervise children when preparing this recipe. Remove wooden picks before serving.

Ron Kirk Ron Kirk Ron Kirk

for U.S. Senate for U.S. Senate for U.S. Senate

Early Voting: April 1 - 5
Runoff Election Day: April 9

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On The Move

Dedicated to the Arts

Ann Williams founded Dallas Black Dance Theatre in 1976 with a mission to provide dance opportunities for minorities and to bridge cultures through performance and educational programs that reach diverse communities. With an ever-expanding national and global audience, the company has moved far beyond its original goal and employs a diverse, multi-ethnic troupe of dancers performing for audiences of all ages and backgrounds. That diversity has propelled the company to prominence as the only and oldest full-time professional dance company in Dallas.

For the past 24 years, Williams has directed DBDT from a community-based organization and a semi-professional organization to a full professional dance company. Presently, the organization has an administrative staff of six and 13

dancers on an 11-month contract. The company presents three series of performances at the Majestic Theater and tours nationally and internationally. The company's repertoire includes works of such noted choreographers as Alvin Ailey, Thelma Beatty, Donald Byrd, Chuck Davis, George Faison, Kevin Jeff, Donald McKayle, John Mead, Elisa Monte, Milton Myers, David Parsons, Gene Hill Sagan, Warren Spears, Troy Powell, Joyce Trisler, June Watanabe, Darryl B. Sneed, Alonzo King and others.

A leader in the Dallas artistic community, Williams serves on the Board of Directors of the Dallas Opera, Arts District Foundation, the Dance Council and Texas Woman's University Foundation. Nationally, she serves as a member of the Board of Directors of Dance/USA and The International

Association of Blacks in Dance. She is frequently requested to serve as a dance consultant and has served as a dance panelist for the Office of Cultural Affairs, City of Dallas, Texas Commission on the Arts, Houston Arts Council, the Corsicana PRIDE Project and the National Endowment for the Arts.

She has received many awards and honors for her support and commitment to the arts and service organizations including Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Phi Delta Kappa, Dallas Dance Council, NAACP, Zeta Phi Beta's Woman of the Year and the Dallas Historical Society. Williams is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Trinity Chapter-The Links, Inc., Charter 100: Dallas Chapter Associates of Jack and Jill of America, Lifetime member of NAACP, and

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Buyer/Vendor Mixer

April 19, 2002

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

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"We Close To Please"

A Crafty Easter



This coming Sunday morning, I will begin the best-attended service of the entire year. Everyone will be there...children, grandparents, parents, and visitors from out of town. Easter holds one of the special places for CME (that's Christmas, Mother's Day, Easter) churchgoers; those who go to church on the CME days. Hope you're not a CME goer.

This week's edition focuses on Arts and Crafts. I've included a craft for you below. Try your hand at it. You'll be amazed how much fun arts and crafts can be, especially around our special holidays, like Easter. Don't forget the true meaning of Easter while you make the basket and fill it with sweets and goodies. Did you know that EAST-ER never occurs before March 22nd, or after April 25th. Here's a brief rundown of the events: The Last Supper, Jesus is Crucified, Jesus Dies and Is Buried and Jesus is Risen. To follow is a bit more detailed Meaning of Easter, the most important Christian holiday of the year.

Easter is rabbits and colored eggs and fancy dresses, but to Christians around the world it is much, much more. Easter is the most important Christian holiday of the year.

Easter is the day Jesus rose from the dead. The resurrection, as described in the Bible, means that just as Jesus rose from the grave, Christians also can receive new life after death. The Easter holiday celebrates this belief.

Easter is the center of an entire season of the Christian year. The season begins with Lent, a 40-day period before Easter Sunday. During Lent, Christians prepare for

Easter. Lent is considered a time for penance, a time to show sorrow for sins and to seek forgiveness. One way many Christians show their sorrow is by fasting, which limits the kinds and amounts of food that are eaten. While not all Christians fast during Lent, those that do pattern their behavior after Jesus who prayed and fasted in the wilderness before his death on the cross.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and most churches hold special services in the evening. At many of those services ashes are placed on the foreheads of worshipers to remind them to have a humble spirit. Lent continues until Holy Week, which is the final week of Lent and recalls the events leading to Jesus' death and resurrection. The Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, which celebrates the story of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, where people spread palm branches and clothing before him.

Good Friday is the day Jesus died on the cross for the sins of the world. Many churches hold services from noon until 3 p.m. to symbolize the last three hours of darkness while Jesus suffered on the cross. While Jesus died on the cross and was buried, he rose from the dead, and that is what Easter is all about.

On Easter Sunday Jesus' resurrection is celebrated. According to the Bible, Jesus' stone rolled away from the grave to find the stone moved and an angel standing nearby saying that Jesus' body was no longer in the grave that he had been raised from the dead. In many churches outdoor Easter services take place at sunrise to celebrate Jesus' resurrection. Just as Jesus rose from the dead Christians believe they will rise from the dead into heaven after their death on earth.

Easter is also closely associated with spring. The new plant life that appears in spring symbolizes the new life Christians gain because of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. Easter is also considered a day of "white" because newly baptized church members wore white clothes

at Easter observances.

EASTER BASKETS

You Need:

- Sheets of wallpaper samples* (see instructions for specifications)
- Paperboard (board from cereal boxes and shirt boxes)
- Glue (glue stick or tacky glue) other glues dry too fast or slow

PREPARATION:

Cutting:

First, cut two 6-1/2" circles from the paperboard; we used a cereal bowl as a template. Draw your circle on the printed side so it won't show when assembled.

Select your wallpaper samples. (Stay away from extra thick wallpapers.) You will need 18 pieces that are 2-1/2" x 8" (these are the up and down spines). You will need 6 pieces 2-1/2" x 14" (these are the bands that will be woven around; we tried to make these all the same pattern). You will need two pieces that are 2-1/2 x 16-1/2 (these are for the handle). You also need to cut a 6-1/2" wallpaper circle.

Folding and Gluing strips:

Fold the 18 2-1/2 x 8" pcs. in thirds (see illustration) and glue shut. Take the 6 2-1/2 x 14" pcs. and glue two pieces end to end overlapping about 1" (making 3 strips 2-1/2 x 27"). Then fold in thirds and glue shut.

Glue the two pieces that are 2-1/2" x 16-1/2" end to end overlapping about 2" (making one long strip for the handle) fold in thirds and glue shut.

Let strips dry.



ASSEMBLY:

Gluing:

First, put a piece of paperboard with the plain blank side FACE DOWN. Then, glue the ends of the long handle strip to the center of the paperboard circle (you will be gluing your handle to the ugly printed side of the paperboard but this will be covered up later). The handle pieces should meet in

See Editorial page 6

Reflections of The Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Inc.

On March 5, 1897, in Washington, D.C., Rev. Alexander Crummell, the son of a West African Tribal Chief and an American literary giant founded an organization called the American Negro Academy (ANA). After ANA's inception, five major objectives were instituted. Those objectives were:

- Defense of the Negro against vicious assaults
- Publication of scholarly works
- Fostering higher education among Negroes
- Formulation of intellectual taste
- Promotion of literature, science and art.

It should be noted that ANA was the first and only body in America, at that time, to bring together Negro artists and scholars from all over the world. Eleven years after the founding of ANA, Alexander Crummell died and Dr. W. E. B. DuBois was elected president.

With 27 years of long tedious work and leaving a flaming torch burning for its successors, ANA ceased to exist, in name only, in 1924.

Decades later, the flames that were left burning in the torch by the ANA were regenerated by interested poets, historians, dancers, essayists, musicians, dramatists, novelists, actors, journalists, scholars, painters, etc. These artists and scholars felt the need to recreate what their forefathers had already established. So in 1968, several subsequent meetings pertaining to the rejuvenation of an academy led to major meetings.

In March of 1969, a "Black Academy of Arts and Letters (BAAL)" was founded and was chartered and incorporated as a non-profit, tax-exempt organization by the State of New York on June 12, 1969. The organization's officers were: C. Eric Lincoln, President; John O. Killens, Vice-president; Doris Saunders, Secretary; Alvin F. Poussaint, treasurer; and Julia Prettyman, Executive Director. Other Board members included Charles V. Hamilton, Vincent Harding, Robert Hooks, Charles White and John A. Williams. Additional members and fellows of the Academy from

1969-1972 included Julian Adderley, Alvin Ailey, Margaret Walker Alexander, James Baldwin,

Imamu Baraka, Etta Moten Barnett, Romare Bearden, Harry Belafonte, Lerone Bennett, Arna W. Bontemps, Wilfred Cartey, John Henry Clarke, Floyd Coleman, Oliver Cromwell Cox, Earnest Crinshaw, John A. Davis, Ossie Davis, Ruby Dee Davis, St. Clair Drake, Earnest Elder, III, Duke Ellington, John Hope Franklin, Alex Haley, Inge Hardison, Vertis C. Hayes, Vivian Henderson, Adelaide Cromwell Hill, Chester Himes, Lena Horne, Jean Huston, Martin Kilson, Jacob Lawrence, Elma Lewis, Henry Lewis, Paule Marshall, Benjamin E. Mayes, Donald McKayle, Arthur Mitchell, Carlton Moss, Frederick O'Neal, Gordon Parks, Sidney Poitier, Dorothy B. Porter, Benjamin Quarles, Lawrence Reddick, (Jay) Saunders Redding, Lloyd Richards, Lucille D. Roberts, Paul LeRoy Robertson, Carl T. Rowan, Leopold Sedar Senghor, Nina Simone, Elliot Skinner, Chuck Stone, Charles H. Wesley and Hale Woodruff.

By the early part of 1973, BAAL had undergone some administrative changes and it became defunct approximately one year later. Both academies, ANA and BAAL, however, had lived up to their objectives. They gave reality to speculation and solidity to dreams.

Eighty years after the inception of ANA and eight years after the development of BAAL, a third Academy generation was formed with the concepts, goals, dreams, purposes and objectives of the previous academies. In 1977, the Junior Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Inc. (JBAAL) was conceptualized. Curtis King conversed with C. Eric Lincoln, John O. Killens, Margaret Walker Alexander, Frederick O'Neal, Jean Huston, Romare Bearden and Doris Saunders concerning the formation of an Academy that would directly involve the young and aspiring artists and scholars. The JBAAL was founded and officially formed by Curtis King in Dallas, Texas on July 17, 1977. The Junior Black Academy of Arts and Letters was established for the following purposes:

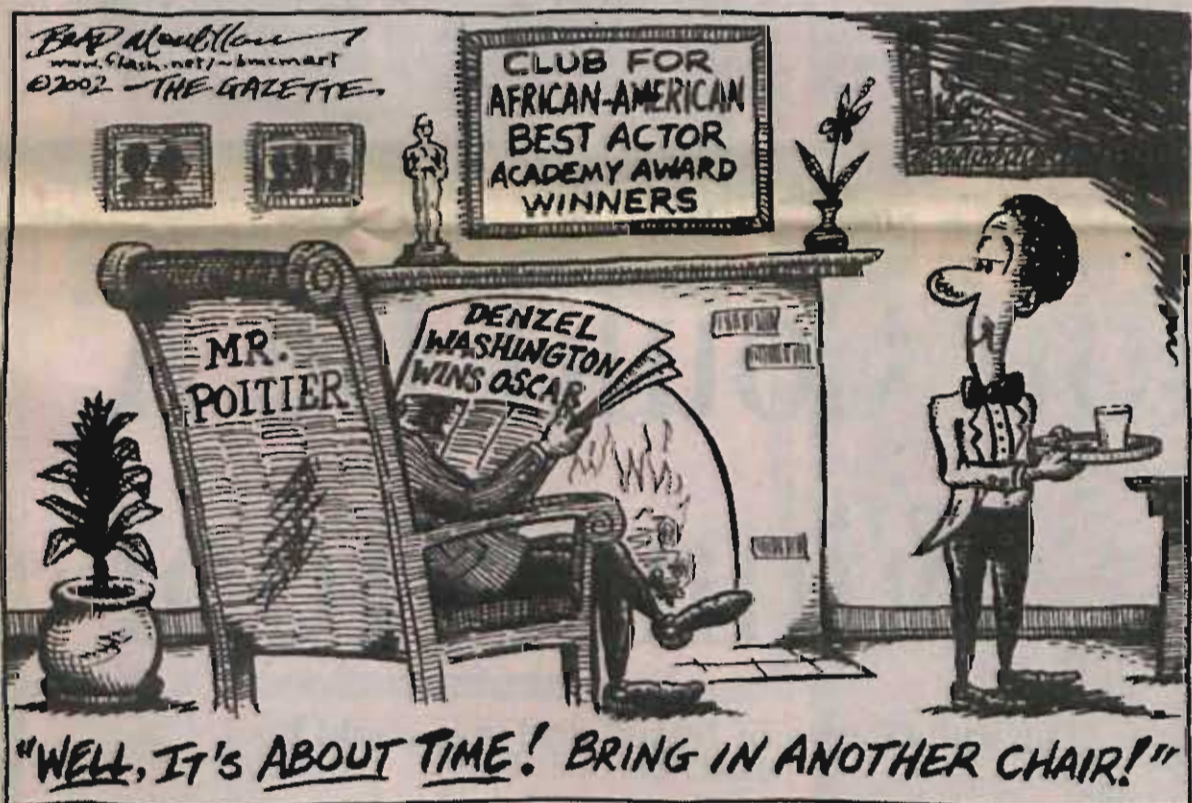
- To enhance and help sustain the total cause and efforts for which ANA and BAAL were established;
- To work jointly and cooperatively

under the auspices of the founders and former members of BAAL;

- To serve as a catalyst and clearinghouse for Black arts and letters organizations and institutions;
- To help promote, implement and disseminate the goals, objectives and dreams of ANA and BAAL by defining, preserving, cultivating, promoting, fostering and developing the arts and letters of Black People;
- Promoting and encouraging public recognition of the universality of the arts and letters of Black People;
- Promoting and encouraging fellowship and cooperation among Black artists, composers, musicians, writers, performers scholars and all others engaged in artistic and creative endeavors;
- Promoting and encouraging the public recognition and honor of the young artists and others as being representative of its purposes, goals and objectives;
- Promoting and encouraging the holding of competitions, exhibits, performances, presentations and showings of the arts and letters of Black People;
- Providing a reference depository accessible to members and others which will depict (through any and all media now known or subsequently developed, including but not limited to photographs, paintings, sketches, carvings, castings, moldings, films, tapes, recordings, engraving and publications) the skills and achievements of Black People in the arts and letters;
- Providing encouragement to and outlet for the creative expressions and interpretations of Black People in the arts and letters, and;
- Establishing, providing and granting fellowships, prizes and awards for creative efforts and achievements in the arts and letters of Black people.

After more than two decades of producing and presenting programs in music, theatre, dance, film, television and video, literature and visual arts throughout the United States, TBAAL has continued to

See Ethnic Notes page 6



The Gazette

MON

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MON-The Gazette assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material and reserves the right to edit and make appropriate revisions.

Is the sky clearest on the day it is most blue?

While you ponder that thought we would like to announce that Minority Opportunity News, Inc. formerly a Dallas based renaissance community tabloid, founded in 1991, has relocated to Plano, Texas and changed our name to MON-The Gazette. In addition to moving our offices to Plano, our editorial coverage has also shifted to encompass Dallas's Northern Corridor. The Northern Corridor is clearly the fastest growing region in Texas, if not in America. MON-The Gazette believes that the engine to continue this growth is the airport expansion in McKinney, which is the largest and most visible of many area opportunities. As always, and true to tradition, MON-The Gazette will be there carving a world of opportunity for those seeking to provide quality services. Should you dare to expand your quest for economic parity outside the southern region or just want to know what is going on up north-

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MON-The Gazette formerly Minority Opportunity News, was founded July, 1991, by Jim Bochum and Thurman R. Jones

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Easter Fun in a Natural Way

Your kitchen is full of natural dyes. Common food items such as red cabbage, onion skins and coffee can be used to transform plain white eggs into colorful Easter gems. Kids will especially love discovering all the different colors they can create—let them experiment using hard-boiled eggs and bowls of cold dyes.

Materials: natural dyeing agents (red cabbage, turmeric, onion skins, beets and coffee); eggs; three-quart pot (or larger); white vinegar; strainer; small bowls; large metal spoon; paper towels; drying rack

Dye Recipes

Select a dyeing agent and place it in the pot using the amount listed below. Add one quart of water and two tablespoons white vinegar to the pot. If more water is necessary to cover the ingredients, proportionally increase the amount of vinegar. Bring to a boil and lower heat. Allow the ingredients to simmer for 30 minutes. Strain dye into a bowl and let it cool.

- Red-cabbage dye: 4 cups chopped cabbage
- Turmeric dye: 3 tablespoons turmeric
- Onion-skin dye: 4 cups onion skins (skins of about 12 onions)
- Beet dye: 4 cups chopped beets
- Coffee dye: 1 quart strong black coffee (instead of water)

Cold Dipping Method

With this method, the eggs and the ingredients for the dye are boiled separately. Using a metal spoon, lower cooled hard-boiled eggs into a bowl of dye, and let them soak for as little as five seconds or as long as overnight, depending on the depth of color you desire. Remove eggs with a spoon, pat dry with paper towels and let dry on a wire rack. The cold-dipping method produces subtle, translucent shades, but it can result in an uneven color unless the eggs are rotated vigilantly while in the dye. For hollow eggs that will last indefinitely, cold-dip raw eggs then use the blowing technique after they are dyed.

Blowing Technique

Blown eggs can be kept and enjoyed year after year. It's best to blow the eggs after the decorating is complete except if directions specify otherwise. Working over a bowl, pierce one end of a raw egg with a pin. Pierce the other end and use a pin to enlarge the hole slightly and break yolk. Blow out the insides using an egg blowing tool or a rubber ear syringe, which are available at pharmacies, forcing contents of the egg out through the larger hole into a bowl. Be sure not to let the liquid touch the shell.

Boiled Method

This method involves boiling the eggs with the dye; the heat allows the dye to saturate the shells, resulting in intense, uniform colors. Set raw eggs in a pot of strained dye; bring to a boil for the amount of time specified in the color glossary below. Remove and dry eggs as with the cold-dipping method. Natural dyes can sometimes produce unexpected results so don't be surprised if, for example, your red-cabbage dye yield blue eggs. Use the following guide to help you achieve the colors you desire.

- Deep Gold: Boil eggs in turmeric solution, 30 minutes
- Sienna: Boil eggs in onion-skin solution, 30 minutes
- Dark, Rich Brown: Boil eggs in black coffee, 30 minutes
- Pale Yellow: Soak eggs in room-temperature turmeric solution, 30 minutes
- Orange: Soak eggs in room-temperature onion-skin solution, 30 minutes
- Light Brown: Soak eggs in room-temperature black coffee, 30 minutes
- Light Pink: Soak eggs in room-temperature beet solution, 30 minutes
- Light Blue: Soak eggs in room-temperature cabbage solution, 30 minutes
- Royal Blue: Soak eggs in room-temperature cabbage solution overnight
- Lavender: Soak eggs in room-temperature turmeric solution for 30

minutes and follow with room temperature cabbage solution for 30 seconds.

- Chartreuse: Soak eggs in room temperature turmeric solution for 30 minutes and follow with room temperature beet solution for five seconds
- Salmon: Soak eggs in room temperature turmeric solution for 30 minutes and follow with room temperature beet solution for 30 minutes.

Finish (optional)

Natural dyes tend to fade over time, so finish any eggs you plan to keep with a matte or gloss acrylic spray varnish. To create an egg-spraying stand, stick a 6-inch length of wire into a block of Styrofoam; prop a hollow egg onto the wire through one of its holes. Spray egg with a coat of varnish in a well-ventilated area and let dry.

Easter Egg Tree

In Germany and Austria it's customary to celebrate Easter by hanging hollow eggs from branches of trees. This year, bring the tradition indoors by creating a unique display for your blown and decorated eggs.

Fill an ice bucket with floral foam then insert grass and pussy willow branches. Or place pebbles and water into a vase and make an arrangement using any type of fresh-cut branches, such as flowering quince, magnolia, forsythia or cherry blossom.

To thread and hang the eggs, center a slipknot on a length of ribbon, and thread the ribbon ends through a large-eyed needle (or fashion a needle by folding a 12-inch length of 27-gauge wire cut in half; use the loop end to thread ribbon). Gently pass the needle through the holes at each end of the egg and pull ribbon through. Before inserting the needle, decide which end of the egg will be the bottom; the hole from which the ribbon ends protrude will be the top of your egg. Double-knot the ribbon above and below the egg, then tie the loose ends to a branch with a bow.

Can Ron Kirk Overcome Senate History?

By James W. Breedlove

Former Dallas mayor Ron Kirk has climbed over one more hurdle in his bid to become only the fifth black senator in this country's history. He survived the March 12 primary and is now poised for the April 9 runoff with Victor Morales to try and become the Democratic nominee that will face Republican John Cornyn in the November elections.

The United States Senate is one of the most exclusive clubs in the country. Originally, the constitution required that state legislatures elect senators. This senator selection process guaranteed that the Senate would be an all white body. And for 80 years after the ratification of the constitution, the founding father's formula kept the Senate entirely white.

But unique circumstances during Reconstruction permitted two African Americans to slip through the closed door. The first was Hiram R. Revels, a Republican from Mississippi who survived a challenge to his credentials and served one year (1870-1871). The second, Blanche K. Bruce, was a former slave elected on the Republican ticket who served from 1875-1881.

However, with the changing political dynamics in the latter years of the nineteenth century whites found myriad ways to circumvent the Constitution's promise of equality in a determined and concerted effort to keep Blacks out of the power citadels. With the complicity of the federal courts, the South rewrote state constitutions to legitimize a host of Jim Crow laws and

regulations to keep blacks out of the voting booth and out of government. By 1901 all blacks had been purged from Capitol Hill and for the next 28 years no black person served in either the House or the Senate.

In 1913 the Seventeenth Amendment established direct election of senators by the people. The new system still placed Blacks at a disadvantage since there were few opportunities for blacks to take advantage of large or near majority voting concentrations.

The result of this system bias was only two blacks were elected to the Senate during the entire twentieth century. Edward Brooke of Massachusetts in 1966 and Carol Moseley-Braun of Illinois in 1993.

It is instructive to understand the nuances of Senator Brooke's election since many of the parameters he faced will come into play during Mr. Kirk's campaign. Brooke's election was due to the changing voting habits of liberal white voters rather than some organized campaign of blacks. In fact, at the time of his election only 4 percent of the voting age population of Massachusetts was black. Texas has approximately a 10 percent black voting age population.

Brooke's senate career illustrates the potential that one black senator can have in shaping legislative forces. His voice was key on issues such as school desegregation, housing for the poor, the rejection of Supreme Court nominee Haynesworth and many civil rights and social legislative actions.

While the Senate shares with the House responsibility for declar-

ing war, maintaining the armed forces, assessing taxes, borrowing money, minting currency, regulating commerce and making laws necessary for the operation of the government, the Senate maintains exclusive power to ratify treaties, and confirm presidential appointees; including the judiciary. If congressional representation mirrored the black population there would be 56 blacks in the House and 6 in the Senate. The fact that the Senate currently has no black members is an indicator of the paucity of black political power.

While the Brooke phenomenon shows that it can be done; it still is an uphill battle for Ron Kirk; While there have been signs of change in white voter attitudes it is still a roll of the dice in a statewide election in which white voters are a majority.

Elections are all about numbers. The number of votes needed and the number of dollars to get those votes. Elections are about brain power and a focused organization. A candidate cannot afford to leave any constituency untouched even if there is little chance of getting their vote. Ron Kirk has proven over the years that he understands these basic political tenets.

And shall we dare let our crystal ball look forward a few years and see Camelot 1963 reissued with the Kirks playing lead roles of John and Jacquelyn Kennedy while occupying the final bastion of white exclusivity?

Ron Kirk's run for the Senate is historical analogous to drawing into an inside straight poker hand; but I like his odds.

On the Move

Jump from Page 2

the Black Chamber of Commerce. Most recently she received The Real Estate Council's Dreamers, Doers & Unsung Heroes Award for 1996, the TACA (The Auction for the Cultural Arts) Award for Excellence in the Performing Arts and an honorary degree, Dr. of Humanities from Northwood University.

Williams is also a founding member of the Dance Council, The International Association of Blacks

in Dance and The Dallas Morning News Dance Festival.

Williams received her early dance training under Barbara Hollis (a member of the Katherine Dunham Dance Company), Edith James, Doris Humphrey and Charles Weidman. She received additional training under Alvin Ailey and Arthur Mitchell.

Williams is a graduate of Prairie View A&M University and holds a Master of Arts Degree in Dance and Related Arts from Texas Woman's University. She was hon-

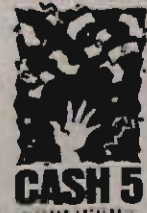
ored as a "distinguished alumna" by both universities in 1990. Governor Rick Perry recently appointed Williams to the Board of Regents at Texas Women's University. She also holds a certificate in Arts Management from Texas A&M University.

Ann Williams is married to Nathaniel Williams, a retired administrator of the Dallas Independent School District and they are the parents of Angelia Williams, a graduate of Florida A&M University School of Business and Industry.

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You & Your Money



John Dudley

MAKING THE SWITCH BETWEEN INVESTMENT CHOICES

You're free to switch your investment choices as often as you want. But should you make a change? Answering that question isn't always easy. While only you can decide the best strategies to use, here are some general reasons you might consider switching investment portfolios.

Changes in Your Personal Life

If you experience a significant change in your life, such as marriage, a new child, divorce, or the death of a loved one, your investment goals may also change significantly. If so, you may want to alter your asset mix to reflect your current goals and risk tolerance. As you near retirement, your investment strategy may become more conservative, and you may want to move some of your money from stock portfolios into less volatile investments.

Changes in the Economy

If the economy experiences a significant change, such as inflation or a recession, you should make sure the portfolios that you are invested in have the potential to perform well in the current economic environment. For example, if your money is in a small-cap growth portfolio during an economic expansion, you may want to consider making a switch if the economy slows down. However, you probably won't want to make any major changes if you think the economy is just experiencing a temporary blip. For example, a one-day drop in the stock market generally isn't enough reason to dump all your stock investments.

Changes in the Portfolio

If you notice significant changes in a portfolio you own, you may want to consider making a switch. For example, if the investment performance of a mutual fund has taken a long-term turn for the worse, ask your Financial Advisor to take a good look at the portfolio and (if it's a sector fund) at its sector. You may want to switch not only out of that fund, but also out of its entire sector. If a portfolio has a new manager, watch the portfolio to see if there are any significant alterations. If the portfolio's investment strategy has changed—become more aggressive, more conservative, or less diversified, for example—it may no longer match your personal investment strategy, and you and your Financial Advisor may decide to switch to a new portfolio.

Reasons Not to Switch

As a long-term investor, you should be cautious about switching investment portfolios. Changing investments at the wrong time could result in your missing out on future gains. If your decision to switch is based on changes in the portfolio or the economy, be sure that those are long-term changes and not temporary conditions.

Even if you have concerns about a portfolio, there may be reasons to hold on to it a little while longer. If, for example, the portfolio has an investment philosophy that exactly matches yours or if you have faith in the investment manager's judgment, you may want to wait and make your decision about

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If you have experienced these symptoms more than once in your life, are drug free and not currently in psychiatric treatment, please call the Psychosocial Research and Depression Clinic at 214-648-5351.

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Empowerment

Jump from Page 1

"Seven steps to God's Way to Euphoria": Mind and body detox; prayer and fasting; fresh air and sunshine; proper exercise; plenty of fresh water; perfect rest; and eating right for your blood type.

All of the steps are part of a whole, all designed to work with each other. Ms. Ford advocates balance in each of these areas, to cleanse the body and carry toxins out of the body. Fresh water and an attitude of activity are essential for this to happen, Ms. Ford said. And for those people who don't like water, she advised them to pray about it.

"If you are stagnant, your body is stagnant," Ms. Ford said, "your blood carries toxins around the body, and these toxins can settle in your brain, causing all kinds of mental problems", she added.

Getting up earlier to take time to exercise and take deep relaxing breaths is a good way to start the day, Ms. Ford said. She said it is essential to not only exercise indoors, but also outside.

"Have you seen a plant that looks dead, but when you give it a little water and fresh air, it comes to life", said Ms. Ford, "it's the same way with us".

Through her individual consultations with clients, Ms. Ford said she has been able to help people going through kidney dialysis and cancer. Her clinic has a colonic irrigation facility, and she counsels on re-educating lifestyle habits.

Once the workshops were over the stage was set for lunch, speakers and awards. Keeping the positive energy flowing was a hard task, but Dr. Harry Robinson, Jr., founder and CEO of the African American Museum did it with ease. Dr. Robinson said that for the next conference he would like to see 9-12 sessions on each component of Mind, Body and Soul.

He went on to acknowledge the strong support he has received from strong black women in the Dallas community. Dr. Robinson said when

he was first trying to get the African American Museum he received support from Dr. Mamie McKnight and Mrs. Gay.

"I was a new boy in town, and they supported me, and have supported me for 27 years," said Dr. Robinson. "I will never be able to express my appreciation to Dr. McKnight, Mrs. Gay, and other

their people were mistreated, they have to go on.

"Yes, we were wronged, but we can't wait to have it put right", said Ms. Bolden, "we have to go and get what we want. We will no longer be a beggar people, a lost people, a people without that healthy pride, a people without purpose".

She said that it is because of people that went before her that she was able to go to Princeton University, and for this generation to pave the way for the next, we must record what we do.

"If this doesn't get recorded and paper clips saved, our people 75 years from now will say African Americans weren't doing anything at the turn of the century", Ms. Bolden said.

She said it is important to leave your ancestors something that will let them know you had value, to let them know that they have value.

Recording different eras of your life, even if it means going back and researching what was going on politically and socially 20 years ago, is important to beginning to understand yourself, and helping you see what you have overcome.

"For me to stand here today, a descendant of slaves, and Jim Crow laws, eating wonderful food, sitting with educated people, I count it all joy", Ms. Bolden said.

And as a last encouragement for everyone present to be proud of their ancestry and proud of where they are going, Ms. Bolden said "If you want countless more children to face the rising sun, cherish history and pass it on".

This year's Dickie Foster Texas Black Women's Conference was sponsored by Bank One, The Dallas Morning News, Colonial Savings, Safeguard Dental and On-Target.

Patrons were Alicia Isang/Alicia's Sweets and Claudia Davis/Darobi House.

Tiffani S. Price chaired the Planning Committee.



Texas Black Woman in Health Matters Honorees and Yvonna Ewell Emerging Black Leaders Honorees

women like Mrs. Dory, Dr. Thelma Daniels, and Mrs. Mable White".

Awards were then given to women for their dedication to matters in health through mind, body and spirit, and to young emerging leaders for their commitment and dedication to community service.

Keynote speaker at the luncheon was author and Princeton University graduate, Tonya Bolden. Ms. Bolden, who holds a Masters degree in Slavic Languages and Literatures from Columbia University, impressed upon the women in attendance the importance of recording events for history, as she spoke on "Cherish History and Pass the Story On".

Ms. Bolden said it is important to let our children know that their ancestors survived 244 years of slavery, and 100 years of Jim Crow.

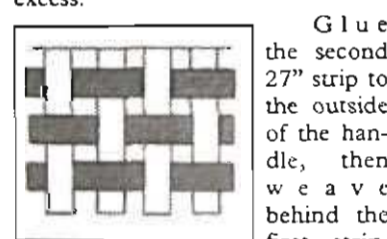
"Tell your children, your ancestors survived all that, so what is wrong with you going to school today", said Ms. Bolden.

She said she draws strength from knowing that she comes from people who were slaves, who were beaten, "yet here we still stand".

Ms. Bolden said that even though

to crease them for easier weaving.

Glue the first 27" strip to the inside of the handle, then bring it in front of the first 8" strip; behind the next; in front of the next and so on until you get to the next handle strip. (Pull the strip a little to tighten up the basket and make sure it is meeting the base of the basket). Glue it to the inside of the handle and continue weaving starting with outside the next strip and so on until you get all the way around the basket to the starting point. (Again, pull the strip to tighten making sure it meets the base). Glue the strip to the starting point and trim away any excess.



in front of the next, etc. opposite of what you did with the first strip (see

illustration) until you get to the handle on the other side (make sure to do your tightening and push down a little on the strip to make sure it meets the first strip). Then, put a little glue on the handle where the strip will go. Weave your strip behind the next 8" strip, etc. till you get back to the outside of the first handle /starting point (tighten it up). Glue the strip in place and trim.

The third strip goes exactly like the first one did. (except it tightens down to the second strip, of course, not the base of the basket)

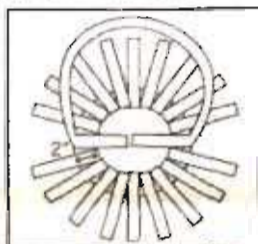
Trimming: Trim all the strips on the outside to 1". Trim all the inside strips even with the basket. Fold over the outside strips to the inside and glue down. Glue the inside strip in place too. If the centers of the strips tend to open up. Insert a little glue inside them and press down.

Let your basket dry. HAPPY EASTER and watch out for Peter Cottontail!

Crafty Easter

Jump from Page 3

the center. (see illustration)



Next, glue the 8" strips to the circle (2" on the circle 6" extending beyond the circle). Glue 9 strips on each side of the circle overlapping a bit; spacing out to be even. Do the same on the other side of the circle with the other 9 strips.

Glue the second cardboard circle on top of the strips and the first circle. Next glue the wallpaper circle on top of these. Let dry.

Weaving: Now, you'll need to first gently bend up (right at the point where the circle ends) each of the 18 strips

Your Money

Jump from Page 3

switching in a few months. **If You Do Switch**

Before investing in a new fund, do your research. Make sure you achieve or maintain your desired allocation among stocks, bonds, and money-market investments. And don't base your choice solely on past performance. A portfolio that was hot last year may fizzle this year. In addition to looking at a portfolio's long-term performance record, consider the outlook for economic growth, inflation, interest rates, and the market. The better informed you are, the more confident you can be about your investment decisions.

Provided by courtesy of John Dudley, a Financial Advisor with First Union Securities in Dallas, TX. For more information, please call John Dudley at 214-740-3253. First Union Securities, Inc., member New York Stock Exchange and SIPC, is a separate non-bank affiliate of Wachovia Corporation. © 2001 First Union Securities.

North Dallas

Jump from Page 1

is informed by the Word of God. We cannot properly approach Almighty God without knowing Who He is, and we cannot know Who He is except as He reveals Himself in His world and in His word. We seek to have every aspect of our ministry firmly established upon God's word from beginning to end.

We strive to maintain a measure of structure in our services because of the logistics of a three-service schedule each Sunday morning, but we also strive for a measure of flexibility. One of our purposes, then, is to provide a worship experience that is authentic, flexible and upbeat, and that is both Christ-centered and biblically based. We believe that our worship has a primary audience of one person, and that person is God, Himself. We further believe that our main reasons for existence as individual believers and as the collective body of Christ are to worship God and to enjoy Him forever. Consequently, we feel that have not worshiped until we have been ushered into the presence of Almighty God.

By Pastor Les Smith

Operation Oasis - NDCBF Vision

A Spiritual Oasis in a thirsty world. (Isaiah 55:1)

Purpose: Operation Oasis is currently a ministry of North Dallas Community Bible Fellowship, but will subsequently become a fully incorporated 501 (c) 3 organization, affiliated with NDCBF. Its purpose is, and will continue to be, to make disciples by very intentionally intervening in the lives of at-risk family members in the greater Dallas community. Operation Oasis will have a specific focus

on socially and economically disenfranchised families, and this ministry will specifically, but not exclusively, target adolescent and teenage males from the minority community. The ultimate goal is to disciple entire families, utilizing effective crisis intervention with specific family members as the means for building authentic relationships with the family, thus establishing the platform for discipleship.

Strategy: To use crisis intervention as leverage to minister the life-changing gospel to at-risk children, adults, and their families.

Our purpose will be accomplished through the development of a network of services delivered in an overtly Christian environment, including but not limited to: spiritual guidance, mentoring, educational opportunities for at-risk students, interdiction services for the chemically dependent, counseling and support services for parents and children, legal support services, work opportunities for ex-offenders, and housing. All of these efforts are designed to redirect the lives and strengthen the character of at-risk family members, thus strengthening the moral fabric of the family and the community-at-large.

Core Values - NDCBF

1). Discipleship- The parallel purpose for the existence of North Dallas Community Bible Fellowship and Operation Oasis is to make disciples of all the nations, beginning in "Jerusalem", our local community. Consequently, one of the core values of both organizations is discipleship...the process of teaching and motivating others to look like Christ, walk like Christ, and talk like Christ. We

deliberately intervene with families in crisis so that we might earn the right to speak into their lives.

2) Relationship- we are vitally connected to Christ, and because we are connected to Christ, we are vitally connected to the Father, and the true reflection of our relationship to Christ and our relationship to the Father is our relationship to one another. We are called to bear one another's burdens.

3) Ownership- while it is true that we are in the world, but not of the world, we are called to be salt and light. Our responsibility, then, is to be "influencers". We are either part of the problem of decay in our society or we are part of the solution...no middle ground.

The Vision of NDCBF includes an aggressive move toward services that will be available to a thriving community.

Operation Oasis: The Five-Point Thrust - NDCBF (Point 1.) Residential School, (Point 2.) Counseling Center (Point 3.) Legal Services (Point 4.) Residential Complex (Point 5.) Work Program Overwhelming evidence shows that the leadership encourages enthusiastic levels of growth and fellowship all in the name of Jesus Christ. NDCBF is well on the way to serving God in a bigger and better way. The Pastor and membership invites you to visit and join in a wonderful work of worship, service and salvation.

Plans and information courtesy of NDCBF. All rights restricted to and property of NDCBF. Please contact North Dallas Community Bible Fellowship for further inquiry at (972) 437-3493.

Ethnic Notes

Jump from Page 3

Taylor was a member of that company in 1978 and other artists such as Erykah Badu are a product of the Academy.

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Incorporated is permanently located in the downtown Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex. The 200,000 sq. ft. facility houses our 1,750 seat Naomi Bruton Theatre, 225 seat Clarence Muse Cafe Theatre, Eva Jessye Gift Shop, James E. Kemp Gallery, administrative offices and several rehearsal spaces.

The Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Incorporated is governed by a Board of Directors.

create strong ties among many emerging and well-known artists and scholars. In the organization's early history, it established a professional Resident Touring Company called Third World Players. Renowned actress Regina

Local Women's Organization Honors Members

March 25, 2002 (Arlington, TX) On Thursday evening, March 21, 2002, the Greater Dallas-Fort Worth Chapter of the Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) recognized select members of the organization at the Annual Awards Banquet at the Wyndham Hotel in Arlington, TX.

The "Woman of the Year" award winner was Senator Florence Shapiro. In recognition of her dedication to the transportation issues of Texas and through her involvement in passing landmark legislation creating the "Texas Mobility Fund", Senator Shapiro demonstrates outstanding commitment to the mobility needs of Texas.

The "Member of the Year" award winner was Ruth Boward, Senior Transportation Planner for

the North Central Texas Council of Governments. As 2000-2001 WTS Arlington Facilities Chair, Ms. Boward was recognized for her energy and enthusiasm in achieving WTS goals of enhancing membership and organizing monthly programs.

Wendy Lopez, owner of Wendy Lopez & Associates, Inc. (WLA), an engineering, planning, and environmental services firm, received the "Employer of the Year" award. Ms. Lopez was recognized for quality hiring practices, promotion opportunities, and support of continuing education for employees of WLA.

In addition, WTS awarded a \$1000 graduate scholarship to Ying-Hsuan "Lani" Lin, a graduate student at the University of Texas at Arlington pursuing a Masters Degree

in Transportation Engineering.

Janice Crow, WTS Chapter President, stated, "WTS is dedicated to advancing women's roles in the transportation industry. These awards are one way of recognizing the strides we are making. Our scholarships are another way to encourage women to pursue careers in transportation, thanks to the generous support of corporate sponsors like Wendy Lopez & Associates."

Established in 1977 by a group of 40 women in Washington, D.C., WTS is a national organization of transportation professionals involved in planning, engineering, design, finance, operations, management, and administration in various transportation fields. Established in 1989 and with more than 150 members in the Dallas-Fort Worth Chapter, the transportation industry is enjoying increasing numbers of women engaged in this highly specialized field.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Start Your Horses

Texas Legends Opening Weekend
Thursday, April 4 through Sunday, April 7

Thursday, April 4
Grandstand Gates Open - 9:30 p.m.
Jerry Bailey Autograph Session - 9:45 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Opening Ceremonies - 5:30 p.m.
First Live Race - 6:35 p.m.
Dr Pepper Commemorative Bottle Giveaway*
Dub Miller performs in the Courtyard of Champions - 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
WBAP "First Bet Bonanza" \$50,000 Premiere Stakes

Friday, April 5
Grandstand Gates Open - 5:00 p.m.
First Live Race - 6:35 p.m.
King Cone & The Wise Guys perform in the Courtyard of Champions - 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Miller Live "True to Texas" Concert featuring Willie Nelson (approx. 11:00 p.m.)
\$3 until 9:00 p.m. (\$10 after 9:00 p.m.)

Saturday, April 6
Free Pancake Breakfast in the Family Fun Park - 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Grandstand Gates Open - 11:30 a.m.
First Live Race - 1:55 p.m.
Free Budweiser Magnetic Schedule Giveaway**
Wheels for Education at GPR State Park & Entertainment Center - 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
"Lone Star Park Live" on KDFW Channel 27 - 5:00 p.m. to 5:50 p.m.

Sunday, April 7
Grandstand Gates Open - 11:30 a.m.
Free Budweiser Magnetic Schedule Giveaway**
Paulie Asia Boxing Exhibition Presented by Budweiser
Sundays Fun Day featuring bounce houses, pony rides and a petting zoo in the Family Fun Park - 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

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Arts & Entertainment



The artist Ms. Beatrice McBride is accompanied by renowned photographer RC Hickman at her very breathtaking photo exhibit at the Lakewood Library recently. Ms. McBride's exhibit featured photo images taken during her travels around the world. At the reception, African cuisine was served. The exhibit will be at the Lakewood Library through April 2nd. Mark your calendar and don't miss this photo treat. Photo by Jessie Hornbuckle

The Lakewood Library Presents: Daughter's of Africa: A Visual and Literary Perspective

Dallas - The travel photography of local artist Beatrice McBride will be on display at the Lakewood Library located at 6121 Worth St. Dallas TX. February 6 - April 2 2002.

The exhibit entitled, "Daughter's of Africa: A Visual and Literary Perspective" combines images and thoughts of women from the Diaspora to illustrate a vibrant cultural connection. Works by Maya Angelou, Nikki Giovanni, Toni Morrison, Joyce Kilmer, and Juanita Craft among others, are coupled with images of women from traditional African cul-

tures that mirror the writer's perspective.

Photography taken in various parts of the world including Africa, The Caribbean, Central America, South America, Europe and India has expanded Beatrice's interpretation of the visual arts. Her work focuses primarily on the organic use of color, light and form so richly expressed in rural communities of developing nations.

Originally from Connecticut, Beatrice has resided in the Dallas/Ft Worth area for the past ten years. She currently serves as an instructor and

curriculum coordinator for the distinguished R.C. Hickman Young Peoples Photography Workshop taught each summer. Her other exhibits include:

Photography Masters Portfolio Exhibit, Dallas Museum of Art, sponsored by the Artist and Elaine Thornton Foundation for the Arts. A Visual Celebration of The African Diaspora in the New Millennium, Irving Arts Center, sponsored by The Irving Black Arts Council.

For further information please contact The Lakewood Library at 214-670-1376.



Murder by Numbers

Sandra Bullock stars as homicide Detective Cassie Mayweather, a crime scene specialist on the trail of two young men, Richard Heywood (Ryan Reynolds) and Justin Pendleton (Michael Pitt), who may have committed the perfect crime. The young men believe that by combining Richard's cunning nature and Justin's intellect, they have created the "perfect" criminal mind and can evade the law at will.

Known in the department for her ability to solve cases with her gut instincts and take-no-prisoners style, Cassie is saddled with an inexperienced new partner, Sam Kennedy (Ben Chaplin), who plays it strictly by the book.

Lucky Break

From the director of "The Full Monty" comes "Lucky Break," a comedy about a prison escape with a musical twist. Small time crook Jimmy Hands botches a bank robbery and lands in prison. Facing twelve years behind bars, Jimmy stages a musical as Act One of his perfect escape plan. But it's Act Two that's got Jimmy stamped. Turns out his leading lady has captured his heart, and with one leg already over the wall, he's got to come up with a new ending... as the curtain falls fast on his freedom. "Lucky Break" stars James Nesbitt, Olivia Williams, Timothy Spall, Lennie James and Christopher Plummer.



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| 2. RIDING IN CARS WITH BOYS | 2. JOY RIDE |
| 3. JOY RIDE | 3. ZOOLANDER |
| 4. DON'T SAY A WORD | 4. RIDING IN CARS WITH BOYS |
| 5. ZOOLANDER | 5. A.I. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE |
| 6. HEIST | 6. HEIST |
| 7. A.I. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE | 7. DON'T SAY A WORD |
| 8. THE LAST CASTLE | 8. THE LAST CASTLE |
| 9. HARDBALL | 9. THE ONE |
| 10. THE ONE | 10. JAY AND SILENT BOB STRIKE BACK |

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| 3. HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME II | 3. ZOOLANDER |
| 4. SHREK | 4. A.I. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE |
| 5. DRAGON BALL Z: MAIN BUU - DEFIANCE | 5. RIDING IN CARS WITH BOYS |
| 6. DRAGON BALL Z: MAIN BUU - A HERO'S FAREWELL | 6. HEIST |
| 7. EXIT WOUNDS | 7. THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS |
| 8. MOULIN ROUGE | 8. JOY RIDE |
| 9. ATLANTIS: THE LOST EMPIRE | 9. SHREK |
| 10. THE PRINCESS DIARIES | 10. AMERICAN PIE 2 |

These are the rental New Releases hitting the streets on Tuesday, April 2, 2002. Titles also available for rent on DVD are indicated with *

- BANDITS*
 THIRTEEN GHOSTS*
 THE FRIGHTENING*
 TROPIC SHOCK & THUG ANGEL*
 SHE CREATURE
 PLATINUM COMEDY SERIES: ROASTING SHAOUILLE O'NEAL
 OFF SEASON

CCCC Theatre Students Among the Best in the Southwest

March 25 - Two Collin County Community College student actors were selected as among the top performers in the Southwest Region. Chris Cantrell and Melinda Churchill (both of Plano) were advanced to the Southwest Regional Finals of the American College Theater Festival's Irene Ryan Acting competition, where they competed against the top student actors from Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

"I really feel quite fortunate to have been able to advance as far as we did," said Mr. Cantrell. "It was exciting; to have the chance to watch some of the most talented actors in the surrounding states, meet with them, watch their work. Every way you look at it, it was a great experience."

"I always love exploring the different dynamics of a scene," commented Ms. Churchill. "We were able to witness all the incredible work that fellow students were doing while at the Festival. For me, the competition wasn't really about winning or advancing, it was just about doing the work in the best way I could and supporting to work of fellow actors."

The Irene Ryan Award is considered the highest award a collegiate performer can receive. Chris Cantrell was nominated for his poignant performance as the tortured scapegoat in "The Rimers of Eldritch", and he and his partner - Ms. Churchill - advanced to the Final round of sixteen. Twelve other CCCC students were also nominated for the Irene Ryan award, but did not advance in the competition. These students included Katrin Chittick and Mason York (both of Plano) for "Alien Voices", Robert Lee Russell III (of Richardson) and Lauren Wright (of The Colony) for "Yerma", Shawn Patrick (of Plano) and Kirsten Upchurch (of Fort Worth) for "The Rimers of Eldritch", Stephanie Lamoureux and Megan Woodall (both of Plano) for "Songs for a New World", and Kasey Buckley and Lindsay Hutton (both of Plano) for "Beau Jest".

In the Final round, held on the Fort Worth campus of Texas Christian University, Mr. Cantrell performed a monologue from Terrence McNally's play, "The Lisbon Traviata", and he and Ms. Churchill performed a duet scene from Lee Blessing's dramatic play, "Down The Road". Of the sixteen Irene Ryan Finalists, Mr. Cantrell and Ms. Churchill were the only students from a community college.

For more information about Quad C Theatre and upcoming productions, please contact the box office at 972.881.5809 or visit us on the web at www.quadc-theatre.org.

Bass Performanc Hall April, 2002 Events

SAMUEL RAMEY, bass-baritone presented by Cliburn Concerts
 Tuesday, April 2, 2002 - 8:00 pm
 Tickets: 817-212-4280

THE CHILDREN OF UGANDA - Tour of Light presented by Fort Worth Chapter of Links Incorporated
 Wednesday, April 3, 2002 - 7:30 pm
 Tickets: 817-212-4280

MANSFIELD ISD BAND FESTIVAL
 Thursday, April 4, 2002 - 8:00 pm
 Tickets: 817-212-4280

ROBERTO MINCZUK, conductor This program presented in conjunction with the TCU Latin American Arts Festival, presented by Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra
 Friday, April 5, 2002 - 8:00 pm
 Saturday, April 6, 2002 - 8:00 pm
 Sunday, April 7, 2002 - 2:00 pm
 Tickets: 817-665-6000

NATALIE COLE presented by Performing Arts Fort Worth
 Thursday, April 11, 2002 - 8:00 pm
 Tickets: 817-212-4280

GEORGE JONES Sponsored by 96.3 KSCS
 Friday, April 12, 2002 - 8:00 pm
 Saturday, April 13, 2002 - 8:00 pm
 Tickets: 817-212-4280

DIVERSITY OF THE HEART presented by Fort Worth Men's Chorus
 Saturday, April 13, 2002 - 8:00 pm
 To be held in the Van Cliburn Recital Hall
 Tickets: 817-212-4280

JAZZ FESTIVAL INVITATIONAL presented by Texas Wesleyan University
 Monday, April 15, 2002 - 7:30 pm
 Tickets: 817-212-4280

KRYSTIAN ZIMMERMAN, piano presented by Cliburn Concerts
 Tuesday, April 16, 2002 - 8:00 pm
 Tickets: 817-212-4280

TIM CONWAY & HARVEY KORMAN - "Together Again" presented by Performing Arts Fort Worth
 Wednesday, April 17, 2002 - 6:00 pm/ 8:30 pm
 Tickets: 817-212-4280

NANCI GRIFFITH presented by Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra
 Thursday, April 18, 2002 - 8:00 pm
 Friday, April 19, 2002 - 8:00 pm
 Saturday, April 20, 2002 - 8:00 pm
 Sunday, April 21, 2002 - 2:00 pm
 Tickets: 817-665-6000

BRUCE WOOD DANCE COMPANY, SPRING PERFORMANCE presented by The Bruce Wood Dance Company
 Monday, April 22, 2002 - 8:00 pm
 Tickets: 817-212-4280

FREDERICA VON STADE AND HAKAN HAGEGARD, soloists
MIGUEL HARTH-BEDOYA, conductor presented by Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra
 Friday, April 26, 2002 - 7:00 pm
 Tickets: 817-665-6000

RANDY TRAVIS
EDUARDO BROWNE, conductor presented by Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra
 Saturday, April 27, 2002 - 8:00 pm
 Tickets: 817-665-6000

Concert featuring **JOHN OWINGS** and **STEPHEN GIRKO** presented by Chamber Music Society of Fort Worth
 Sunday, April 28, 2002 - 2:30 pm
 Tickets: 817-212-4280

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT CONCERT presented by Midlothian Independent School District
 Sunday, April 28, 2002 - 4:00 pm
 Tickets: 817-212-4280

ALFRED BRENDL, piano presented by Cliburn Concerts
 Tuesday, April 30, 2002 - 8:00 pm
 Tickets: 817-212-4280

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Paul Anka
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 March 21, 2002

Dancin' with Gershwin
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 March 23, 2002

SMUIN
 Ballet/SF
 Dancin' With Gershwin
 March 23, 2002

Enrique Iglesias
 Live in Concert
 April 4, 2002

Buddy:
 The Buddy Holly Story
 April 2-7, 2002

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Quilts
Jump from Page 1

quilts were used by slaves to communicate on the Underground Railroad?" Williams was referring to the cooperative system that developed among antislavery activists who helped spirit fugitive slaves northward from about 1830 to 1865.

After she went home to Denver, Tobin couldn't shake off the question Williams had tossed at her in the marketplace. Using Williams' business card, Tobin telephoned her. Williams would not give her tale up easily. She told Tobin, "Don't worry. You will get the story when you are ready."

Tobin says now that Williams required a waiting period based on African tradition, a "ritualistic initiation. One has to earn the right to receive information or knowledge."

Getting Williams' story became something of an obsession for Tobin. The job was made harder by the fact that very few original slave quilts exist: They were washed repeatedly in lye-heavy soap, which weakened them; the original materials were humble and did not wear well.

'Flying geese': This pattern points North, East, South and West, but the darker triangles in the upper left promote a westerly direction.

First, Tobin contacted experts. "I traveled down the Mississippi from St. Louis to New Orleans, stopping to visit quilters and scholars. I toured plantations and slave quarters, looking for clues," she writes.

In 1996, after almost three years of study, she went to see Williams again at the Charleston market.

This time Williams was ready to talk: She was terminally ill. And she had no children to inherit her message. "She made this ritualistic space for me among her quilts," Tobin says. "I was literally sitting at her feet." Williams' command to Tobin was clear: "Write this down."

Tobin eventually learned that Williams had gone to graduate school at Howard University in Washington, D.C. Williams could have brought her story to any professor, Tobin says. But the two women developed a profound relationship, and Williams chose Tobin as her conduit.

There was, Tobin says, "an emotional and spiritual connection. I do not think she would

have talked to a scholar. It was a woman-to-woman thing." Tobin says Williams became "a griot, a storyteller." The two spent three hours bridging a gap between generations and race, transcending "age, stereotypes and boundaries."

The "code" Williams passed along included a number of quilt-



ing patterns, accompanied by a terse, enigmatic proverb assigned to each.

Ten quilts were set out in succession, Williams said, beginning with a "monkey wrench" design indicating it was time for the slaves to gather their tools. When the "wagon wheel" appeared, it was time to pack for the dangerous journey.

Colors, designs and the types of knots used were all significant, Williams said. Blue and white was a protective combination, a blessing for a long trip, for example. The spacing of knots might indicate a grid with a suggestion of distances.

It fell to Tobin to fill in the blanks and decipher what the full code might mean. She turned to Raymond Dobard, a professor of art history at Howard University and an accomplished quilter himself. The two collaborated by phone, fax and e-mail.

Dobard describes himself as an African-American quilter whose heritage is "a patchwork of Creole, French, Spanish and German blood." He was elated to work formally on the project. "Nothing like this had been done before." Dobard had been one source for Tobin's scholarship from the beginning.

'Drunkard's path': This encouraged following a zigzag pattern like that of a staggering drunk. Africans believed evil traveled in straight lines.

He cautions that their interpretation of Williams' story, buttressed by their research from Africa and the southern USA, does not result in "some type of Rand McNally map" used by fugitives. And he suspects it will be challenged by scholars who are

"doubting Thomases."

He is satisfied the two have an accurate understanding of Williams' references to the monkey wrench and to the bear's paw trail, which exhorted escapees to follow the track a bear would take on a journey north.

Dobard is less sure about other instructions in the code, such as the need to "exchange double wedding rings." He believes that might refer to breaking both the mental and physical bonds of slavery.

Rather than proclaiming some final word, he says, "We've established some good groundwork. We have started the dialogue, developed a vocabulary."

Other experts who have written forewords for the book agree there will be opposition. "The oral testimony of this woman is going to generate a great deal of controversy because it is the custom of scholars to look askance at oral tradition, at anything that can't be proved by the written word," says St. Louis quilt historian Cuesta Benberry.

"As with any kind of research," Benberry says, "in the future there may be further clarification, but basically I think they got it right."

Maude Wahlman is an expert on African-American textiles and quilts at the University of Missouri. This new book is important, she says, because it illuminates "an aspect of American history that has not been documented or explained."

It also shows that enslaved Africans brought with them "a terrific amount of information. A lot of it went underground, was kept secret because it was a threat to the establishment."

Wahlman believes the authors' interpretation of Williams' story is correct. "They studied it thoroughly, from every angle."

Tobin hopes the book will inspire others to "become connected to their family stories" while they still can. Dobard hopes it will show that the image of the passive slave "has no place in reality. From the time ropes were first tied to the hands of Africans, they were trying to be free."

The last time Tobin saw Ozella Williams was two weeks before her death on May 17, 1998. "It is extremely important for me to have honored her story and to have honored Ozella," she says. "I want to make her live." By Karen S. Peterson

The Dallas Examiner
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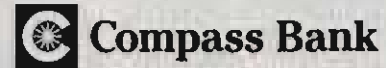
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972-881-0140

The Heritage Farmstead Museum opened in 1986 and is dedicated to preserving the history of farm life on the Texas prairie from 1890 to 1920.

The grounds of the museum include a restored 14-bedroom Victorian farmhouse with all its original outbuildings, as well as gardens, a smokehouse, and a blacksmith's shop. Volunteers in authentic dress interpret farm life for visitors.

The four-acre site is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is accredited by the American Association of Museums.

The museum store offers hand-crafted souvenirs and gifts, all with a historical emphasis.

Biblical Arts Center
7500 Park Ln.
at Boedeker Street
Dallas, TX 75225
214-691-4661

Biblical Arts Center is an art museum specializing in works that depict various stories drawn from the Bible. Archeological artifacts, Old Masters and contemporary spiritual art are included in the gallery displays. The museum is non-denominational and open to all.

The Women's Museum: An Institute for the Future
3800 Parry Ave.
at Fair Park
Dallas, TX
214-915-0860

The \$25 million building, designed by New York architect Wendy Evans Joseph, is the new national center for the study of women's history and has been paid for by individuals, corporations, foundations and government agencies.

African American Museum
3536 Grand Ave.
at First Avenue
Dallas, TX 75210
214-565-9026

Established in 1974 as part of Bishop College Library, the African

American Museum is the area's gleaming pillar of black life and culture.

Its \$6.5 million, 38,000-square-foot home in Fair Park houses one of the country's top folk-art collections, and important visual art exhibits rotate regularly through its five galleries. The museum estimates 350,000 people visit the 7-year-old facility each year.

Plano Parks and Recreation - Arbor Hills Nature Preserve
6701 W. Parker Road
at Crooked Stick Drive
Plano, TX 75093
972-941-7250

The Arbor Hills Nature Preserve offers families a unique, natural escape from the suburban sprawl that surrounds the woods and meadows with native Texas trees and home to birds, bats, rabbits and a fish-filled creek and stock pond. The park also includes 2 miles of concrete trails, unpaved hiking paths and a bike trail.

Dallas Museum of Art
1717 N. Harwood St.
at St. Paul Avenue

Dallas, TX 75201
214-922-1200

This has been the city's visual art epicenter for decades, especially since 1983 when it moved into its Edward Larrabee Barnes-designed home. An addition, the Nancy and Jake L. Hamon Building, was completed in 1993. Since its founding in 1903, the museum has built major collections in African, Asian, contemporary and Indonesian art, and possesses substantial photographic, pre-Columbian, American Colonial-era antique, impressionist and postimpressionist European art holdings.

The DMA also is a venue for major traveling art shows, usually held in its J.E.R. Chilton Galleries. Recent highlights include exhibits about artists Jasper Johns, Claude Monet and Robert Rauschenberg, and of Egyptian tomb artifacts.

Connemara Conservancy
Alma Drive
at Hedgcoxe Road
Plano, TX 75075
214-351-0990

Soon after Connemara Conservancy was formed as a land trust in 1981, it acquired a 72-acre parcel of land in then-rural Collin County to set aside as a preserve. Though Connemara is now surrounded by residential development, the meadow and woods on the land remain undeveloped for people to enjoy year-round during daylight hours for picnics, nature study or simple moments of solitude.

From the beginning, the Conservancy has held programs in the Meadow that include fund-raisers and juried exhibitions by artists. One such program is the Spring Sculpture Show. This national juried competition chooses 10 to 12 artists to create works that reflect the natural beauty of the land.

Plano Parks and Recreation - Bob Woodruff Park
2601 San Gabriel Dr.
at Park Boulevard
Plano, TX 75074
972-941-7250

The centerpiece of the 321-acre park is a pond with a spraying foun-

tain. Several fowl - migratory and indigenous - have made this their home. Bread crumbs are always welcome, but be cautious with large flocks (the geese, in particular, can be aggressive). On a recent visit we spied two duck families (one mom tended to 10 ducklings) and several tortoises.

Along the three miles of dirt trails, north of the playground, are horse stables. It's not unusual to share a trail with a horse and rider.

Richardson Parks and Recreation - Cottonwood Park
1321 Belt Line Road
at Cottonwood Drive
Richardson, TX 75080
972-238-4250

Amenities
25-acres, Picnic area, Two shelters, Playground equipment, Swimming pool, and baby pool, Two lighted tennis courts, Three casual backstops, Sand volleyball court, Two athletic fields, Multi-use court, 1.08 mile trail, Water fountains and Restrooms.

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