

Our First Electronic Subscriber



Jenni Dahl

The following letter was received from our first subscriber to the electronic version of PURE NEWS USA:

Dear Editor:
This year I became acquainted with the publication, PURE NEWS USA, and now look forward to every
See Letters To The Editor -- Page 3



☆☆ Founded In 1983 ☆☆

"I Have A Dream"

PURE NEWS USA will be joining millions of Americans in observing Monday, January 16, the birthday of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as a national holiday. And in doing so, we bring you his "I Have A Dream" speech delivered on August 28, 1963 at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC.
See page 9



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 1929 - 1968

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Salute To Excellence In Education



Bill Clinton Bruce Gordon

■ **Washington/DC...** More than 800 educators, corporate leaders, and government officials gathered in Washington, DC, on December 9, 2005 to celebrate outstanding contributions to public education. Former President Bill Clinton and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) were awarded the prestigious NEA Foundation Award for Outstanding Service to Public Education. Bruce Gordon, the President and CEO of the NAACP accepted the award on behalf of the organization. The NEA Foundation Award for Outstanding Service to Public Education is given to individuals and organizations demonstrating exemplary public education achievements and a continued commitment to advancing important education issues.

Stevie Wonder To Receive Tribute



Stevie Wonder

■ **Fairfax/VA...** The United Negro College Fund (UNCF) recently announced legendary songwriter, musician and singer Stevie Wonder will receive an all-star tribute for his lifetime achievement on UNCF's annual televised fund-raiser, An Evening of Stars. The four-hour tribute, taped at the Kodak Theater in Hollywood, California, will air nationwide in over 65 markets January 7, 2006.

In a press release, organizers stated "over the 26-year history of An Evening of Stars, Stevie

continued on page 7

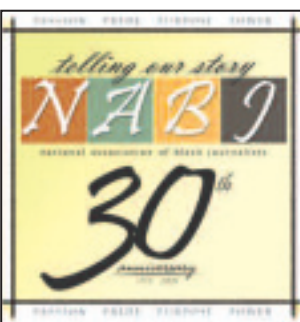
Ludacris Helps The Disabled



■ **Agawam/MA...** Actor and musician Chris "Ludacris" Bridges accompanies Rujeanne Duplessis to her Central High School prom in Agawam, Massachusetts. United Cerebral Palsy and The Ludacris Foundation announced on Dec. 13, 2005 the launch of a new public awareness campaign featuring the Grammy-nominated Ludacris.

The campaign aims to raise awareness for the 54 million Americans with disabilities and shed light on the disproportionate rate of disability in minority communities (Photo/The Ludacris Foundation via U.S. Newswire)

"Happy Birthday To NABJ"



■ **Washington/DC...** The National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) celebrated its 30th anniversary on Dec. 12, 2005, honoring its founding principles of inclusion and fairness with a special Web package and DVD presentation. On

December 12, 1975, black journalists and media professionals gathered in the nation's capital to start what would become the largest and oldest organization of journalists of color in America. The founding group of 44 men and women -- who on that date pledged to strengthen ties among and expand job opportunities for black journalists, encourage accurate coverage of the black community and foster the next generation of journalists -- has grown to more than 4,000 over the past three decades. "We pause to honor our roots," said NABJ President Bryan Monroe, assistant vice president/news at Knight Ridder. "We cannot go forward unless we know from where we came -- and we come from a strong heritage."

'Best Buy' Charged With Discrimination



Best Buy Company, Inc., a Minnesota-based corporation specializing in consumer electronics, operates over 600 retail stores throughout the United States and has approximately 107,000 employees. Its revenue in 2005 totaled \$27.4 billion. Pictured above is one of the Best Buy stores located in Springfield, Illinois. Over 10 percent of its stores are in California.

■ **San Francisco/CA...** In the midst of its heaviest sales season of the year, Best Buy, a multi-billion dollar national electronics chain, has been charged with violating federal and state laws against race and sex discrimination in employment.

Claiming that women and minorities, specifically African Americans and Latinos, are paid less than white males, denied promotions, and assigned to less

desirable positions, current and former employees of Best Buy recently filed a federal class action civil rights lawsuit, Holloway et al. v. Best Buy Co, Inc., in U. S. District Court in San Francisco. Plaintiffs are represented by attorneys from Lief Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein, LLP and Schneider & Wallace.

"Best Buy is touting its modern, high-tech products for customers this holiday

season. The company's views of women and minority employees, however, remain outdated and obsolete," said attorney Bill Lann Lee of Lief Cabraser. Lee is the former Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Justice.

"This company operates through a corporate culture of racial and gender stereotypes," stated Todd Schneider of Schneider &

Wallace. "Best Buy enforces a nationwide policy that results in the preference of white male employees in hiring and for desirable job assignments. The low number of women and minorities employed by Best Buy sets it apart from other large retailers."

As an example of the corporate culture of stereotyping, the lawsuit describes how

continued on page 7

Kevin McIlvaine To Perform "I Have A Dream" Speech



Chicago actor and singer Kevin McIlvaine performs a rendition of Dr. King's famous "I Have A Dream" speech during last January's Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration at The Field Museum. McIlvaine will perform again, accompanied by the Metropolitan Apostolic Choir of Chicago, at The Field Museum on Friday, January 13 through Monday, January 16 at 2 p.m. in the Museum's Stanley Field Hall.

■ **Chicago/IL...** It was a sweltering Chicago afternoon in mid-July. Newspapers reported temperatures reaching into the 90s. The vendors charged with supplying refreshments to the growing crowd at Soldier Field were overwhelmed by the demand

for ice cream, cold drinks and straw hats. But the heat could not stifle the excitement and determination of the thousands of people gathered in the stadium seats. It was July of 1966, and Martin Luther King Jr. was about to speak.

"(We) must declare our own emancipation and make any sacrifices necessary to change Chicago," King declared from the middle of the massive arena. With those words, King launched the Chicago Freedom Movement, the earliest, most

comprehensive civil rights campaign to tackle racism in the northern states.

In commemoration of the 40-year anniversary of this movement, The Field Museum will present a four-day event designed to

continued on page 10