

# SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY NEWS

## Chef Joe Randall...

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Comedian Bill Bellamy & Chef Joe

Party (Atlanta), Executive Chef Clayton Sherrod - Eurest Dining Services-Lawry's (Birmingham), Executive/Chef/TV Host Marvin Woods - "Home Plate" (Atlanta), Executive Chef Darryl Evans - The Verve Lounge (Atlanta), Chef Sonja Jones - Sweet Auburn Bread Company (Atlanta), presented guests with a taste of their signature dishes.

Two of the stars of Bravo's "Real Housewives Atlanta" - Sheree Whitfield

and Lisa Wu Hartwell, gospel singer Dottie Peoples, CNN anchorman Don Lemon and R & B singer Musiq Soulchild were among some of the numerous guests.

THE TASTE OF EBONY celebrates the unheralded contributions Blacks have made to the world of culinary arts. It further serves as a catalyst for people of color, particularly a younger generation, to view the many facets of the food industry as a viable path toward pursuing prestigious careers.

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Chef Randall prepared Pan Roasted Garlic Breast of Chicken on Fried Cornmeal Mush with Okra, Corn & Tomato Relish.



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## 2000 Man Worship Service: "Brothers, I Stand With You"

When he read about the "2000 Man Worship Service" taking place in his hometown of Savannah on Monday, October 27, 2008, Rev. Dr. Raphael G. Warnock, senior pastor of the historic Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s former church, said he would be remiss if he didn't take part in some way. In a correspondence, he assured the men of Savannah of his advocacy by saying, "Brothers, I stand with you on this monumental gathering. Together, we must empower purpose driven men to repair the breach."

Even though the 2,000 capacity was not met, the 800 plus crowd who evolved in-and-out of the Greater Emmanuel Tabernacle Church doors on Stiles Avenue was impressive. Local appointed SCLC president, Carl W. Gilliard, observed "all of these key players at one time and in one place is incredible." Another attendee commented "for once the men outnumbered the ladies in church." Fathers brought their sons, coaches their teams and wives sent their husbands to represent their household.

My Dreams Production, Inc, founded by gospel singer and radio icon Lester Lec'k White, sponsored the service. "The objective is to raise awareness of real manhood," White told the crowd. "Tonight, young people, you'll get to see and hear from men of substance. Men



Young and older men gathered to support the "2000 Men Worship Service."

worthy to walk in their footsteps." The adults represented themselves as "role models" to the younger men.

Local historian, attorney and actor Jamal Toure', who emceed the event, told the audience that their are a lot of dysfunctional families out there, but when we all come together like this, as one, no way we can be dysfunctional." Throughout the two and a half hour program the men shared their success stories as the youth listened attentively. The young men were presented with an "open mic" to dialogue with their elders and got the opportunity to network and dine with them at the end of the service.

In addition to White, Gilliard and Toure', the

who's who guests list included H. Lee Perry, president of 100 Black Men of Savannah, Mayor Floyd Adams, Jr., Commission Chairman Pete Liakakis, Major James Barnwell, Superior Court Chief Judge Perry Brannen, Jr., Rep. Bob Bryant, Dr. J.W. Jamerson, II, radio's E. Larry McDuffie, Attorney Lester Johnson, III, AASU's president Dr. Thomas Jones, Troy Anthony Davis' family, NAACP's Dr. Prince Jackson, Jr., activist' Freddie Patrick, Chef Joe Randall, City Leisure Service's Mr. Barry Baker, film producer Terry Benedict and radio pioneer Jimmy "The Gator" Lang, just to name a few.

Among the coaches and their football teams were Antwain Turner & Bethesda,

Matt Smith & Bible Baptist, Tyrone Willis & Savannah Stars, Ed Jinks & Silver Cheetahs, Cleve Jones & Notre Dame Academy, Keith Ellison & St. Paul's Academy and representatives for Chris Hatcher & Georgia Southern, Robby Wells & Savannah State and Donald Chumley & Savannah Christian. Also, Construction Apprentice, Father/Son Initiative, Mr. Black Teen, ILA, Big Brother-Big Sister, My Brothz Home and the Sons of Thunder were amongst the "Best & Brightest" organizations. Judges John E. Morse, Jr. and Leroy Burke, III and commissioner James Holmes also expressed their support. Bishop Edward Coleman led the men in prayer.

## DHR Energy Assistance Program Helps Georgians with Home Heating Bills

ATLANTA, (GA) - As the colder winter months approach, the Georgia Department of Human Resources (DHR) will once again help Georgians struggling to keep up with the cost of heating their homes. DHR's Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) has received approximately \$74.5 million dollars in federal funds to assist low-income, elderly and disabled Georgians with their heating bills.

On November 3, 2008, local community action agencies began administering all available funds under state con-

tracts, and the homebound and elderly (aged 65 and older) began applying for assistance. All other eligible families may apply starting December 1, 2008. In most cases, payments will be made directly to the home energy supplier for gas, electricity, propane gas, wood, coal or kerosene. Qualifying applicants will receive payments of either \$310 or \$350.

To qualify, applicants must bring their most recent fuel bill or statement of service from their heating provider. They also must have proof of income for all household members for the last 30 days. This

may be paycheck stubs, a letter granting public assistance, Social Security or unemployment benefits. Applicants must also have social security numbers for all household members.

Assistance will be offered on a first-come, first-serve basis. The program will close April 30, 2009, or when funds are exhausted.

For more information, contact the Division of Family and Children Services, Community Based Programs in metro Atlanta, by calling 404-656-2323 or toll free at 1-800-869-1150.

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