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July 3 - July 9, 2003 VOL. XXIX, No. 12

An Independent Pictorial Newspaper for All People • Primarily Serving the Black Population of Lubbock County and the Surrounding Area • Black Press of America

Local News

Henry Turner Jr. & Flavor to perform at Buddy Holly Center Summer Showcase

The Buddy Holly Center is pleased to present Henry Turner Jr. & Flavor's Summer Showcase on the evening of July 3. Summer Showcase is a concert series at the Buddy Holly Center that presents West Texas musicians and songwriters in the peaceful setting of the Meadows Courtyard. The performance begins at 5:30 p.m. and will last until 7:30 p.m. Admission is free and a cash bar will be provided. Come and enjoy the distinctive, blended style of Henry Turner Jr. & Flavor, and experience a sound with influences from Reggae, Funk, Blues, Gospel, World music and Zydeco. This Louisiana-based group has been together since 1989 and features Henry Turner Jr. who leads the band and is president of Kir City Records, bassist Rhadd Hunt, who runs Rhaddical Idea Productions, and drummer Ronnie Houston, who has toured throughout the United States and Europe with famous musicians such as Bobby "Big Boy" and Rockin' Tabby Thomas. Performers for the month of July are as follows:

- July 10: Colin Gilmore Band (Roots Rock)
- July 17: Andy Wilkinson and Kenny Matus (Storytelling Songwriters)
- July 24: Gary Bunton & Chii Sondra Wills and Tate 6 (Gospel and R&B)
- July 31: Maricchi Amistad (Traditional Mariachi)

Summer Showcase is sponsored in part by PNB Financial. For more information and a complete Summer Showcase 2003 lineup, contact the Buddy Holly Center at 767-2686 or visit www.buddyhollycenter.org. The Buddy Holly Center is located at 1801 Avenue G in the Depot District of Lubbock, Texas.

Community Meetings

- Lubbock Area Church Council - Second Saturday, 1:00 pm - New Community Center
- Hub City Kingdom Every Body's Night, 7:00pm, 1708 Avenue D
- Dunbar African Church 2nd Saturday 4pm
- Booker T. Washington American Legion Post 808 2nd Tuesday 7:00
- Forgotten West Riders First & Third Monday, 7:00 pm, 1114 Fellowship
- East Lubbock Church A.M.E. 2nd & 4th Thursday 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm Community Center, 1st & 2nd
- Lubbock Chapter of Black Nurses 3rd Tuesday 3:00 pm, 1241 Mustang
- Dunbar Community Center - 2nd Saturday 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm - 1241 Mustang
- West Texas State African Methodist Episcopal Church - 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month at 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm - 1241 Mustang
- Central Community Library 1st & 3rd Monday 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm - 1241 Mustang
- Men's Bible Study 1st & 3rd Monday 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm - 1241 Mustang
- Women's Bible Study 2nd & 4th Monday 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm - 1241 Mustang
- Tommy's Bible Study 1st & 3rd Monday 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm - 1241 Mustang

We would like to publish your monthly meetings. If you would like for an announcement to appear in this paper, please get it to us in writing by mailing it to Community Meetings C/O Southwest Digest P.O. Box 2553 Lubbock, Texas 79408 or bring it by the Southwest Digest office at 902 East 23rd Street

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Well Known Fort Worth Funeral Director Strangled by Unknown Assailant

Fort Worth, Texas — The Southwest Digest learned last Thursday, June 26, 2003, of the apparent homicide of Rev. Gregory W. Spencer, a well-known and popular funeral director, who was apparently killed at a South Arlington motel last Tuesday evening, June 24th, by a combination of suffocation and strangulation. Tarrant County Medical Examiner Nizam Peerwani said that Mr. Spencer was found lying face down on a bed, his arms and legs in the hogtie position behind his back, with a gag in his mouth. Dr. Peerwani said that the gag blocked Mr. Spencer's airway and that he suffered "manual strangulation with hands." A .38-caliber gunshot wound at the base of Mr. Spencer's neck was also found, but did not contribute to his death, according to Dr. Peerwani. In a recent interview, Mr. Spencer estimated that he handled more than 75 percent of the funerals of Blacks in Tarrant County. He was also the pastor of The Church at Philadelphia in Fort Worth. He maintained a high profile and was known to many within the Fort Worth community simply by his first name. A Kennedale, Texas resident, he was recognized for his flamboyant, stylish funerals that often featured him singing a moving solo and the inspiring release of white doves at burial. His popularity grew during the late 1980's



Rev. Gregory W. Spencer

and early 1990's when he often buried teenage gang members free. A Lubbock resident, Mark Sanders, knew Rev. Spencer as he was hired to handle the arrangements of his mother and father, Mrs. Annie Sanders and Mr. Thomas Sanders. "He was a professional person and cared about what he was hired to do. He was just a caring person. He did his work with great pride," said Sanders. "No doubt about it, he will be missed." According to Sanders, Rev. Spencer had begun to look into an opportunity of moving to Lubbock. "He would have made an outstanding contribution to our community," concluded Sanders. In Arlington last Sunday, June 29, 2003, two men were arrested in connection with the death of Rev. Spencer. Alex Wilson, Jr., age 24, was held at the Arlington City Jail on a capital murder charge in the death of Rev. Spencer, his bond was set at \$1 million. The other suspect, Kevin Dewayne Sheffield, age 25, was charged with tampering with physical evidence. His bond was set at \$100,000. Sheffield was also held on 19 other unrelated charges and warrants, including several for driving without insurance and driving without a license, according to sources.

Gary Foundation Awards Challenger Scholarships to Five Indiantown Middle School Students

INDIANTOWN, FL (June 13, 2003) - In 1994, when Willie and Gloria Gary founded The Gary Foundation, they wanted to do more than just reward young people for academic achievement - they wanted to inspire young people to overcome life's challenges and obtain a college education. To that end, the Gary's created the Challenger Scholarship Program, which rewards 8th grade students and inspires them to finish high school and go on to college. Challenger Scholarship recipients enter high school with the knowledge that they are assured college scholarship money upon their graduation. While it is not the only scholarship program sponsored by the Gary Foundation, this program has a special place with the Gary's. "So many programs honor students who make good grades or score high on standardized tests, but this program rewards these kids just for doing their best and working to become the best they can be," Kenneth Gary said. "Many of these kids ate

the toughest one to choose. When you read all of the essays you begin to appreciate the challenges these children face and you come to appreciate what it takes for them just to show up at school each day." Gary, known in legal circles as The Giant Killer, is best known for taking on some of America's most powerful corporate giants and winning billions of dollars in verdicts and settlements on behalf of his clients. In addition, he is now the chairman & CEO of the Major Broadcasting Cable Network (MBC), the nation's only African American owned and operated 24-hour cable TV network, as well as MBC News, a 24-hour cable news network devoted to African Americans. In 1994, Gary and his wife, Gloria, founded The Gary Foundation to provide college scholarships and educational support to at-risk students, who wish to attend college. The Gary's have also supported many of our Historically Black Colleges and Universities by donating hundreds of millions of dollars to more than a dozen HBCU's throughout the country.



Gary Foundation President & CEO Kenneth Gary stands with this year's recipients of the Willie and Gloria, Gary Challenger Scholarship.

student filled out the required application and included a one-page essay entitled, "Why I Want to Go to College." "It's an honor to stand here among these students," Kenneth Gary said. "Each year we receive hundreds of applications for our Challenger Scholarship program and to be honest, this is

Comptroller Strayhorn Sends \$303.7 Million in June Sales Tax Rebates to Local Governments

(AUSTIN)—Texas Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn today delivered \$303.7 million in monthly sales tax payments to Texas cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose taxing districts, a 0.9 percent decrease compared to June 2002. So far this year, local sales tax rebates are down 1.4 percent compared to the first six months of 2002. June's sales tax rebates include local sales taxes collected in April and reported to the Comptroller in May. Comptroller Strayhorn sent June sales tax rebates of \$205.5 million to Texas cities, up 1.1 percent compared to June 2002. Year-to-date, city sales tax rebates are running 0.3 percent lower than last year. Texas counties received sales tax rebates of \$17.6 million, down 4.4 percent compared to one year ago. Year-to-date, county sales tax allocations are 1 percent lower than last year. Another \$8.3 million went to 78 special purpose taxing districts around the state, a decrease of 0.3 percent compared to a year ago. Texas' six metropolitan transit authorities and two city transit systems received \$72.2 million in sales tax rebates, down 5.4 percent compared to June 2002. The state's share of sales tax revenue increased, after falling for ten consecutive months. The state's share of sales tax reported in May was \$1.3 billion, up 2.9 percent compared to a year ago. However, other state tax revenues continue to decline. Franchise tax paid by Texas businesses in May, the most critical month, was down 11.7 percent compared to last year. Motor vehicle sales and rental tax collections were also down by 8.3 percent compared to May 2002. For details of June sales tax payments to individual cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts, locate the Monthly Sales and Use Tax Allocation Comparison Summary Reports on the Comptroller's Web site at www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/allocsum/compsum.html. The Comptroller's next local sales tax allocation will be made on Friday, July 11.

Former Lubbock Resident Graduates from the Potter's House God's Leading Ladies

God's Leading Ladies' first graduation ceremony was held Friday, June 6, 2003, at 7:00 p.m. in the main sanctuary at The Potter's House. Preceding the graduation, there was a celebrity gala with Bishop T.D. Jakes and First Lady as well as a host of other celebrities. One of the graduates was Saki Milton, a native of Lubbock, Texas and a graduate of Estacado High School. Saki earned her degree in mathematics from the University of Texas in Austin, Texas. She resides in Dallas, Texas where she is an Educational Specialist for Texas Instruments, Inc. She is the proud daughter of Arion and Lillian Shipmon, and granddaughter of Marvis Shipmon and Winnie Blacknell. For the last eight weeks, Miss Milton and other ladies devoted their Saturdays to intense classes that prepared them to become a leading lady in today's world.



Saki Milton and Bishop & Mrs. T.D. Jakes

including Christian ministry, business planning, investment planning, health and fitness, decision making, and a wealth of knowledge in other areas. Her mother, Mrs. Lillian B. Shipmon of Lubbock, Texas; her friend, Carlos Phillips, Bishop T. D. Jakes and other joined Saki in the night of sheer elegance and celebration as she was honored, along with four hundred women, in the first graduating class. Saki said she gleaned so much from these experiences. "I hope that my actions and words have reflected the blessings of the Lord in my life during this period. I have come out of the darkness and stepped into His marvelous light," she said. Saki Milton is now "Lady Saki Milton," and her motto is, "Whatever you do, do it wholeheartedly as to God, and not unto men." Col. 3:23

BIG Gospel Musical EXTRAVAGANZA

Saturday Night + July 5, 2003
7:30 pm • Lubbock, Texas
Greater St. Mark Baptist Church
1210 E. Vanda Street
Host Pastor: Dr. Leon Armstead

Don't miss this great Gospel Program

Fashion Fun

by Shirley Roberson

A Basic Dress

My My My!

There is really no end to what you can do with one simple black dress.

Ladies, your wardrobe isn't complete, if there is not at least one... in your closet.

Because of its simplicity, you can work wonders. Long, shorty cap sleeves or sleeve less, you can creatively turn one out fit into several different out fits, and look absolutely stunning each time...HOW GREAT IS THAT! Dress it up or dress it down, it depends on where you are going.

Add a jacket or a blazer... for a clean crisp sporty look, a string of pearls, and maybe a shawl around the shoulders will certainly change your simple black dress into an beautiful exciting evening attire.



A great career look is simple, with your simple black dress...grab a colorful scarf or maybe a bold ear ring and necklace set...silver or gold chain would look great at the work place...add a belt, or maybe not.

Experiment, you will be pleasantly surprised... and you may even save a buck or two.

Remember black will go with everything, create your own style. The best thing of all, is that no one will ever know that you are wearing the same basic black dress.

IF YOU DON'T TELL, I WON'T HAVE FUN

Fashion Fun, just for the fun of it

Fashion Tip...Always wear a smile

Texas College Alumni Association Names Southwest Airline Winner

The Lubbock Chapter of the Texas College Alumni Association met last week at the Furr's Cafeteria, 50th Street and Boston Avenue, to finalize the Spring 2003 Scholarship Fundraiser.

The winner of the two (2) round tickets on Southwest Airlines, courtesy of Southwest, was Ms. Jessica McKenzie, an employee at CBS, Channel 13. The winning ticket was drawn on June 12, 2003 at the Mae Simmons Senior Center by Mrs. Bobbie Patterson, who stood in for the Honorable T. J. Patterson, City Councilman. The winning ticket was sold by Mrs. Mae Phea, Chapter Secretary of the Association.

In behalf of Texas College and the Lubbock Chapter members, we offer our sincere thanks to all individuals, institutions, and agencies, who helped this project to be a success.

Three Life members of the Lubbock Chapter received certificates and pins at the meeting. They are Dr. Charles E. Henry, President; Mrs. Dorothy Bennett Phea Norville Chapter Advisor; and Mrs. Lena M. Sheffield, Assistant Secretary.

Other Chapter members were recognized for tireless

efforts in promoting the Project, and all chapter activities. They are: Mrs. Dorothy Normani Vice President; Mrs. Marjorie Thomas, Treasurer; and Mr. William Bennett.

Special Note: Mrs. Edna R. Walker, Chapter Reporter, is not able to attend meetings due to illness. All members are praying for her a speedy recovery.



CHATMAN HILLS CORNER

by Clarissa Jay

This is the holiday weekend, beginning on Friday, July 4th, with the celebration of the Fourth of July. Now, there will be many activities in the city as well as throughout the region. Even in Chatman Hill and other areas of the neighborhood, there will be many activities underway. If you have relatives or friends visiting your home over the holiday, then advise this column so we can advise our readers. You may do so by writing: The Chatman Hill Corner, P. O. Box 2553, Lubbock, Texas 79408. Let us hear from you.

The Youth of the New Hope Baptist Church returned from their youth vacation to Denver, Colorado last week. All

reported a very good time and are looking for another trip as this one.

Let us not forget those in our community who are sick and shut-in. Among them is Brother D.C. Kinner, a retired barber in the community. Our prayers go out to him and his family.

Of course, there are others. Let us not forget anyone among us who are ill in this city and elsewhere. God is able.

Funeral services were held for John Lou Blaylock last Tuesday morning, July 1, 2003, at the Ossie Curry Funeral Home.

At this report, funeral services are pending for Ulinda Lawson. More on her

services next week.

Services were attended last Sunday morning at the New Hope Baptist Church. Rev. Billy R. Moton, pastor, preached a dynamic sermon. His subject was "God Will Step In On Time." His scripture text was Exodus 2:6-9.

The members of the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church will be celebrating their 82nd Church Anniversary on Sunday afternoon, July 13, 2003. Services will begin at 3:00 p.m.

Rev. Phillip Randall, pastor of Johnson Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church of Amarillo, Texas, and church will be special guest. Rev. Randall will deliver the sermon of the hour.

Also, Rev. Willie L. Brown and members of Shiloh African Methodist Episcopal Church of Galveston, Texas will be special guest at Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church on Sunday afternoon, July 20, 2003. The services will begin at 3:00 p.m.

Neighbors are talking about the fire which took place at 2165 Date Avenue last Saturday evening, June 28, 2003. Here is hoping everything will be okay for all who resides in the residence.

2 Have a Happy Fourth of July! Drive careful during the holiday. Take care until next week. Remember, God is able!

To advertise your business in the Southwest Digest, call 762-3612!

THANK YOU, LUBBOCK!

The family of Dr. LaTowalla Gibson-White wants to thank you for your many prayers and concern during illness of our loved one who remains

a patient in St. Francis Hospital, ICU, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. At this report, she is doing nicely after coming out of a coma. It was only by the

grace of God this has happened. Continue to pray for her. The Gibson Family



I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG...

From the beaches of Normandy to the deserts of the Middle East, the flag represents our commitment to courage, purity and justice.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY



WE THANK GOD FOR JESUS "FABLES ON THE BIBLE"

1 TIMOTHY 2:14. OF THESE THINGS PUT THEM IN REMEMBRANCE, CHARGING THEM BEFORE THE LORD THAT THEY STRIVE NOT AFTER WORDS TO NO PROFIT BUT TO THE SUBVERTING OF THE HEARERS.

AS I WALK THIS CHRISTIAN WALK, I SEE AND HEAR MANY UN-SCRIPTURE THINGS.

BUT IT COMES FROM NOT STUDYING YOUR BIBLE. SHAME, SHAME, SHAME!!!

2 TIMOTHY 2:15. STUDY TO SHOW THYSELF APPROVED I INTO GOD A WORKMAN THAT NEED NOT TO BE ASHAMED. RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH.

I'VE BEEN TOLD: ELDER MORRISON, IF YOU HAVEN'T SPOKEN IN TONGUES, YOU ARE NOT SAVED.

BUT I THANK GOD I DON'T SPEAK @#%\$ WORDS LIKE I DID IN THE OLD DAYS.

MARK 16:15,17 JESUS SAID GO YE INTO ALL THE WORLD AND PREACH THE GOSPEL TO EVERY CREATURE. HE THAT BELIEVETH AND IS BAPTIZED SHALL BE SAVED: BUT HE THAT BELIEVETH NOT SHALL BE DAMNED AND THESE SIGNS SHALL FOLLOW THEM THAT BELIEVE, IN MY NAME SHALL THEY CAST OUT DEVILS: THEY SHALL SPEAK WITH NEW (GOD'S WORD) TONGUES.

ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST, THEY SPOKE A LANGUAGE THEY KNEW NOT FROM.

IT WAS NOT SOME STAJND-HAPPYI-UMUFNEH IT WAS A LANGUAGE OF A FOREIGN COUNTRY.

(THE GREEK WORD FOR TONGUES IS GLOSSA, MEANING: A LANGUAGE THAT IS UN-ACQUIRED, BUT IS GIVEN BY THE HOLY SPIRIT)

1 CORINTHIANS 14:18-20. I THANK GOD, I SPEAK WITH TONGUES MORE THAN YE ALL: YET IN CHURCH I WOULD RATHER SPEAK FIVE WORDS WITH MY UNDERSTANDING, THAN BY MY VOICE I MIGHT TEACH OTHERS ALSO, THAN TEN THOUSAND WORDS IN AN UNKNOWN TONGUE. BRETHREN, BE NOT CHILDREN IN UNDERSTANDING: HOWBEIT IN MALICE BE YE CHILDREN, BUT IN UNDERSTANDING BE MEN.

ALSO THIS THING ABOUT WOMAN WEARING PANTS; ITS NOT IN THE BIBLE YOU SEE, THEN IT'S GOT TO BE AN UN-TRUTH, PASSED DOWN TO YOU AND TO ME.

DEUTERONOMY 22:5. THE WOMAN SHALL NOT WEAR THAT WHICH PERTAINETH UNTO A MAN, NEITHER SHALL A MAN PUT ON A WOMAN'S GARMENT; FOR ALL THAT DO SO ARE ABOMINATION UNTO THE LORD THY GOD.

ANOTHER FABLE IS: THAT A MAN SHOULD-N'T HAVE LONG HAIR; BUT THING ABOUT JESUS' HAIR: THERE WAS BARBER SHOPS THERE!!!

IF YOU NEED TO READ ALL THE WRITING; AND LET IT TELL YOUR WHAT IT IS SAYING PAUL HAVE NO SUCH CUSTOMS. NEITHER SO THE CHURCHES OF GOD BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU? WHO'S HAIR IN YOUR CHURCH IS TOO LONG?!

1 CORINTHIANS 11:16. IF ANY MAN SEEM TO BE CONTENTIOUS, WE HAVE NO SUCH CUSTOM, NEITHER THE CHURCHES OF GOD.

WRITTEN BY EVANGELIST BILLY B.J. MORRISON, MY BROTHER IN CHRIST JESUS, ALWAYS.



from the Desk of Parson D.A. Smith What Happened 7 Days Ago

The political report card for the past week has been amusing. Six of the Democratic rivals met in

Phoenix, Arizona to woo Hispanic voters their way. The report is Hispanic voters were promised "pie in the sky" changes in their lifestyle from economic reforms to an overhaul immigration policy.

The kissing up to Hispanic voters by politicians was fuel by the fact that Hispanics has recently replaced blacks as the largest minority group of people who were cultural different and of a mixed race (notice this writer did not use an "ethnic" group because of the first 15th century use of the word and its first sense which meant "heathen").

The report from the meeting of Democratic candidates was that each candidate with the exception of the lone African American: Al Sharpton, wanted the Hispanic to know that they were in their corner by making a statement in Spanish. The Associated Press reported

that the candidates yield words of ridicule from Al Sharpton. Sharpton's statement was "I was going to make my statement in Spanish.... The people who need to hear what we are saying are the people who speak English who aren't being fair to the people who speak Spanish. Hispanics should be wary of people who visit you once a year, say something in Spanish, and you never hear from them again."

What about an "Amen" for Sharpton even though we know his chances of being President of the

United States is compared to a snowball in hades. This writer pointed out last week that peoples who claim to be Hispanic should take a political lesson from blacks. When the politicians wanted black votes in the past they would get a so-called leader of the community and pay him to get a group of blacks together and served them cold watermelon and red soda pop and lie to them about what he was going to do for the betterment of their lives. When the election was

over the politicians, promised "pie in the sky" just seemed to disappear. Today's political methods are different but the results can be/ if not carefully evaluated, the same.

What about that Lubbock Central Appraisal District? They did not even give me a change to go to the drugstore!

The Supreme Court of the United States made major ruling that could affect the lives of many. For supporters of affirmative action Ideology that the quota system is essential to creating a diverse student body, the ruling was favorable. However, those who supported the view that scholarship money should not be used by the "have nots" and not be taken advantage of by those who have all of what it takes to get into a good school of higher education, lost.

The Supreme Court struck down one of the laws of our state (Texas) that made gay sex a crime.

While many of us who are moderate conservative disagree with the act of homosexuality, we do not believe the invading of the privacy of one's home by

the police and arresting them because they are sleeping together is a crime of the state. A moral crime yes! A state crime no! Before you criticize this writer, you need to read the case story. If one is not careful about laws that are made, we could end up being a "Police State" in the name of Christianity. The ruling invalidated laws in 13 other states.

Another tough on crime ruling by the Supreme Court could affect the lives of families who has a family member that is a habitual criminal. The court upheld long sentences under California's toughest-in-the-nation law allowing up to life terms for a third felony. Yes, three strikes as a criminal and you are out of the free society.

Are you aware of some church leaders such as Pat Robertson and Jerry Farwell have been criticizing President Bush's vision for a "roadmap to peace" that could bring about Palestinian statehood? An eye needs to be kept on these leaders for many, many reasons.

The Outreach Prayer Breakfast

The members of the Outreach Prayer Breakfast are giving our readers a few extra Emergency Numbers.

Here they are: When in sorrow, call John 14. When men fail you, call Psalm 27. If you want to be fruitful, call John 15. When you have sinned, call Psalm 51. When you worry, call Matthew 6:19-34.

When you are in danger, call Psalm 91. When God seems far away, call Psalm 139. When your Faith needs stirring, call Hebrew 11. When you are lonely and fearful, call Psalm 23. When you grow bitter and critical, call I Corinthians 13. For Paul's secret

to happiness, call Colossians 3:12-17. For idea of Christianity, call I Corinthians 5:15-19. When you feel down and out, call Romans 8:31-39.

When you want peace and rest, call Matthew 11:25-30. When the world seems bigger than God, call Psalm 90. When you leave horn for labor or travel, call Psalm 121. When your prayers grow narrow or selfish, call Psalm 67. For a great invention/opportunity, call Isaiah 55. When you want courage for a task, call Joshua 1. How to get along with fellow men, call Romans 12. When you think of investments/returns, call Mark 10. If you are depressed,

call Psalm 37.

If you are losing your confidence in people, call I Corinthians 13. If people seems unkind, call John 15. If discouraged about your work, call Psalm 126. If you find the world growing small, and yourself great, call Psalm 19.

Emergency Numbers may be dialed direct. No operator assistance is necessary. All lines are open to heaven 24 hours a day.

Call Him up at anytime and tell Him what you want.

The members of the Outreach Prayer Breakfast will meet Saturday morning, July 5,

2003, in the home of Sister Roberta Hightower, 1911 East Auburn Avenue, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Come, you're welcome, and you will be blessed by doing so.

Keep praying for our children, our communities, our families, our churches and our leaders. Also, keep praying for those who have lost loved ones. Even those who are ill and shut-in. Let our action go a long ways with our prayers.

Sister Dorothy Hood, president; Sister Christene Burleson, vice president; and Sister Elnora Jones, teacher.

Local Board Member Completes Leadership Program

(SAN ANTONIO) Lubbock ISD trustee Vernita Woods-Holmes joined 32 fellow Texas school board members in San Antonio June 19-21 for the closing session of the Texas Association of School Boards' (TASB) year long education leadership program, Leadership TASB.

The 33 trustees represent the eleventh graduating class of Leadership TASB, a development program designed to school board members for school board members. The program is sponsored in part by the SBC Foundation, Wal-Mart & SAM'S CLUB Associates, H-E-B, and Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP. Leadership TASB is open to all Texas trustees who have fulfilled 30 hours of certified school board member training credit and have demonstrated leadership ability on their board and in their community. The trustees, who will receive certificates of graduation

in the fall, represent many regions of the state.

Since last September, Leadership TASB class members have visited several school districts, attended in-depth training sessions, and completed a variety of statewide projects required to earn the distinction of master trustee. Writing, public speaking, decision-making, and providing new board member orientation are integral parts of the program.

"These trustees have successfully completed a year of intensive training related to their position as board members and are a valuable asset to their local districts, community, and the statewide educational process," said Leadership TASB Program Manager Virginia Trchalek. "They are now prepared to share that knowledge and experience."

The five-part Leadership TASB sessions covered areas such as team development,

trusteeship, curriculum, communication skills, and valuing diversity. Participants wrapped up their learning experience by participating as trainers in the TASB 2003 Summer Leadership Institute (SLI) in San Antonio June 19-21. SLI is TASB's flagship summer training program for new and experienced Texas school trustees.

TASB is a voluntary, nonprofit association established in 1949 to

serve local Texas school districts.

It includes 1,044 local school districts and county school boards, 47 junior colleges, 41 tax appraisal boards, 145 cooperatives, and the 20 Education Service Centers. School board members are the largest group of publicly elected officials in the state. Their combined annual expenditures total \$28 billion, and they employ more than 560,000 people.

AFFORDABLE FUNERALS



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- * Headstones
- * Pre-Need

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Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church

2202 Southeast Drive
806-744-7552
Pastor's study 806-741-0208
dpoebethel@aol.com

- Intercessory Prayer 8:30am
- Church School 9:30am
- Morning Worship 10:50am
- Evening Worship 6:00pm
- Wednesday Bible Study 12:00 Noon and 6:00pm



"God Our Father, Christ Our Redeemer,
Man Our Brother"
Pastor: Danny R. Poe

In Remembrance...

BURNICE EVANS
 Ralls, Texas —
 Funeral services were held last Saturday afternoon, June 28, 2003, at First Baptist Church in Ralls.
 Burial was held in Ralls Cemetery under the direction of Ossie Curry Funeral in Lubbock.
 Mrs. Evans passed away Saturday, June 21, 2003.
 She was born May 14, 1943, in Nacogdoches, Texas, to the parentage of Benjamin and Pauline Menefee. She attended public school in Nacogdoches and Ralls, Mrs. Evans was a retired home-

maker, and a member of Shiloh Baptist Church.
 She is survived by her husband, Anderson Evans of Ralls, Texas; two daughters, Vickie Elaine Luckey of Dallas, Texas and Bernie Faye Mays of Andrews, Texas; six sisters: Kathleen McBride of Lubbock, Texas, Golden Smith of Fort Worth, Texas,

Claudia Cotton of Savannah, Georgia, Georgia Smith (Galveston, Texas, Joyce Bean of Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Anna Morgan of Burleson, Texas; two brothers, Robert Menefee of Andrews, Texas and Bill Menefee of Pasadena, Texas; two grandchildren, and two great-grand-children.

Have a safe and Happy Fourth of July!

-From your friends at the Southwest Digest

Contractors Seminar

Texas Tech University System
FACILITIES PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION
 Thursday, July 10, 2003

Update on Tech's construction plans, HUB Subcontracting Plan preparation, and Storm Water Pollution Prevention

City Bank Conference Rooms
 United Spirit Arena
 18th and Indiana
 Texas Tech Campus

For information call (806) 742-2116

Strength for Today hope for Tomorrow

by Gerald Jackson

Question: Why should I believe in God?

Answer: I am going to start with the most obvious and important answer and then in descending order give additional reasons why a person should believe in God.

Firstly, we must believe in God in order to get to heaven. "And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him." (Hebrews 11:6).

Every human being has a desire to live in a place where everything is perfect. We want to be in a place where there is complete joy and happiness. We want to be free of any and all kinds of pain. We want perfect relationships with other people. We want to be removed from discomfort of any kind. There is only one place where this kind of utopia exists... heaven. You can't get there if you don't believe in God. After all, if God is not real neither is heaven.

Secondly, you should believe in God so that you don't have to go to hell. (see John 8:21-24) If you don't believe and obey you will die in your sins and the

eternal fire will be your final destination. (Matthew 25:41) It is necessary for me to explain that Biblical belief must be coupled with Biblical actions. Consider what James says about belief without actions: "Even so faith (belief), if it has no works is dead, being by itself." (James 2:15 - bold mine). By now we should have had enough of people talking about how they believe in God but don't demonstrate that belief in their lives. This kind of belief is demonic. The demons believe that God exists but they are unwilling

to change and let their actions match their belief. This kind of faith (belief) cannot save you (see James 2:14 and 2:26 - bold mine).

Thirdly, you should believe in God because He promises success to all of those who obey Him. There are two verses that come to mind concerning this principle. "Delight yourself in the Lord; and He will give you the desires of your heart." (Psalm 37:4). "And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose." (Romans 8:28). Success does not always mean money or material things. Success is the

fulfillment of God's perfect will for your life. You have been created for a specific purpose in life. "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." (Ephesians 2:10). It should be our goal in life to accomplish the purpose for which we were created, which in turn guarantees that we will be successful.

Do you want to go to heaven? Do you want to avoid going to hell? Do you want to be successful? Then believe in God. He will give you strength for today and hope for tomorrow.

Grace and peace,
 Gerald P. Jackson



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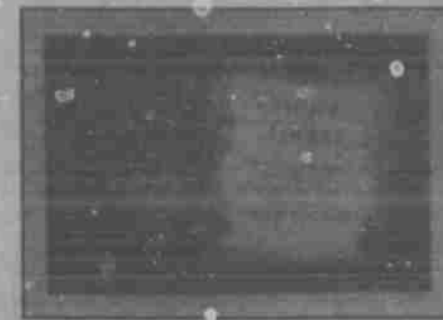


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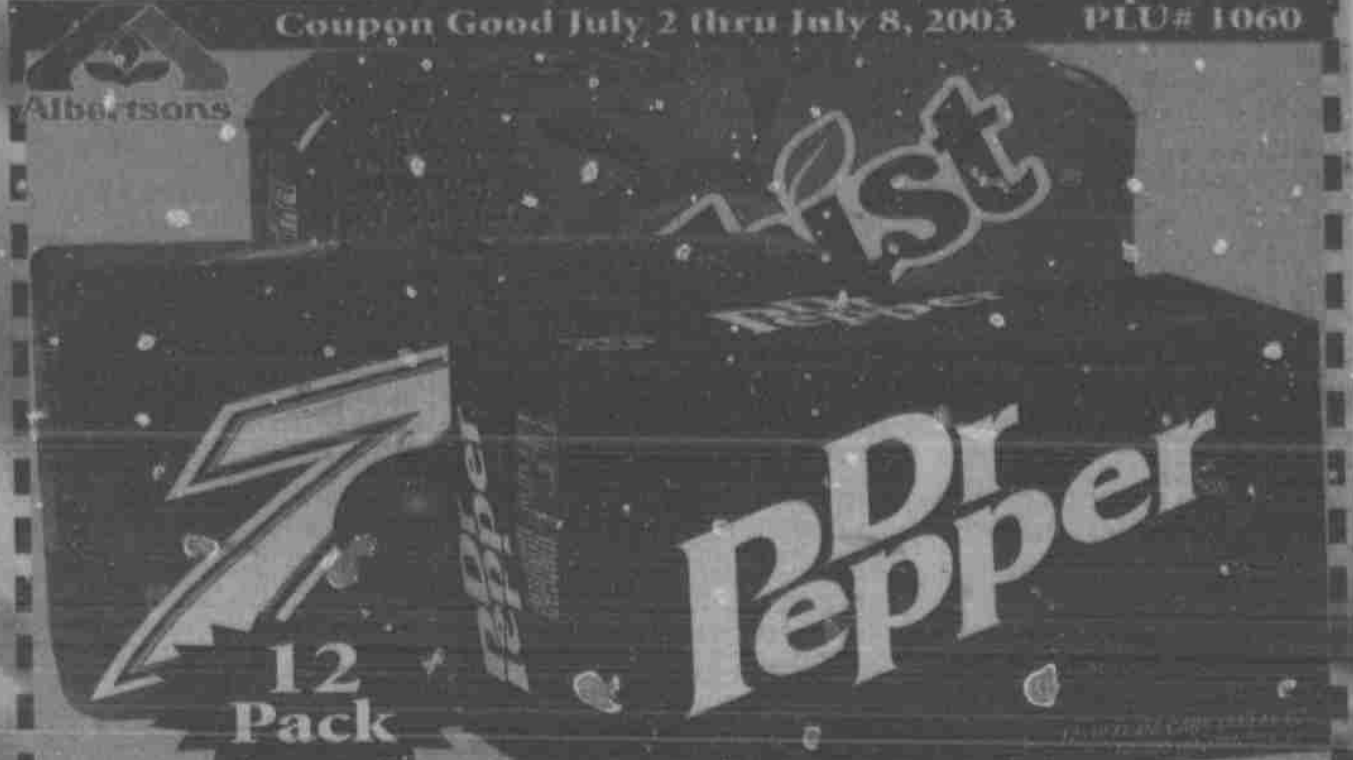


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Editorials • Comments • Opinions



In Cinque

by Renetta W. Howard

My mother was an avid gardener and gardening has held my interest from the time that I was about 10 years old, when my mother gave me a 6' X 6' corner of her garden to make mine. With her help, my harvest was just enough to make one pot of gumbo. I was proud of it. During this time of my life, I also harvested plums and berries from which I made wine. These were my years of youthful adventure. I was always happy with the outcome of whatever fruit or vegetable I tried to grow.

As my youthful years faded into adult years, I tried making a garden around my garage, as city life in the northern part of the United States did not provide the land space for the kind of gardens you can make in rural and rural urban areas such as my current residence. I saved many trips to the grocery store, however, when I harvested, collard greens, Swiss chard, tomatoes, cucumbers, okra,

carrots, cabbage sprouts, garlic and onions. The soil was bountiful and my harvests were great. I was able to preserve some of these items to eat through the winter months.

Changing cities made a big difference in my harvests.

Living on the South Plains of the United States is definitely a different kind of gardening. There is a lot of cliché dirt and one needs to water it for at least a week in order to be able to break up the soil. Once done, and kept watered regularly, a pretty good harvest of many vegetables and fruits are possible. After a few years, the cliché and the 100 degree temperatures diminished my zeal for gardening. I even turned to putting artificial flowers in my yard.

Later, as I returned to my childhood gardening area to live, I was still putting artificial flowers in my yard. A couple of years ago, I planted some flowers and a couple of seeds of collard greens, a couple of peppers and a tomato or two. With a little luck, I had a small harvest, a couple of meals; a little more than with my first garden.

Finally, my longing for a really good harvest led me to a tiller and the largest garden that I have ever

had. Unfortunately, some of my seeds just did not raise themselves up through the soil.

A day after I planted, we had the worst rain storm of the Spring and have continued to have rainy weather and some of my seeds washed away. The seeds that have come up have been surrounded by the tallest prettiest grass that I have ever seen. When asked about my garden, I say,

"Oh, the grass is doing very well." To preserve what seeds that have come up, I have put a new twist into gardening; a weed whacker. I used a weed whacker to get most of the grass out of my garden as a hoe and I never were good friends. Now, my plants can breathe and grow without the grass, though I must admit that I did chop off a few tomato and okra leaves in the process. I have already harvested some tomatoes, a few collard greens and some peppers. I saved some money while getting exercise in the garden. It is time that we all get 'in cinque' and do ourselves a favor with some organically grown food and healthy exercise.

THIS N THAT

76TH DRUG MARCH WAS SUCCESSFUL! THIS N THAT believes the recent... 76TH MARCH AGAINST DRUGS GANGS AND VIOLENCE ... was successful! ...and applauds the...70 PERSONS...who marched in the effort in the area of East Bates...and East Baylor Avenues... It was the feeling of those who participated to do...IT AGAIN...in the 77th March ... when which will be held in the very future... SOME...the of the residents were glad to see this take place ... and...yes ... there were those who didn't appreciate what all were doing... One lady ... who admitted to being a former drug dealer ... was glad those who came and marched ... kMXXK but she made it known that when the marchers let from the area...DRUGS WERE SOLD...as they were before the march began... She wants to help with next march ... and ... THIS N THAT ... appreciates here concern... Now ... THIS N THAT ... realizes it will take the ... FAMILY ... to help in this effort ... and at the present time...it appears as though it will not happen. THIS N THAT ... however ... saw a glimmer of hope with this march ... and maybe ... just maybe ... FAMILIES ... will get involved... Stay tune for the next march ... and ... it will be in that same area... STATE LAW ON NUISANCES MAY HELP! THIS N THAT ... learned about a ... SENATE BILL ... NUISANCES ... This bill does the following ... (1) re-classifies as common nuisances many of the acts that currently constitute ... PUBLIC NUISANCES ... (2) creates for only two public nuisances ... CRIMINAL STREET GANG ACTIVITY AND HABITUAL USE OF A PLACE FOR ORGANIZED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY ... (3) provides that the use of a multi-unit dwelling for any sex criminal a purpose is a common nuisance ... and (4) allows a person to bring a lawsuit to abate the use of a ... PLACE AS A COMMON NUISANCE ... This law ... SENATE BILL 1010 ... could very well help the ... MARCHES AGAINST DRUGS, GANGS AND VIOLENCE... Hope so! ANOTHER SENATE BILL WHICH WILL HELP NEIGHBORHOODS! THIS N THAT ... has learned that ... SENATE BILL 146 - SEX OFFENDERS ... authorizes a ... POLITICAL SUBDIVISION ... that must publish a ... SEX OFFENDER NOTICE ... in a newspaper ... to recover the cost of such notice by including the ... COST...in the offenders utility bill...and may suspend utility service if the amount billed is ... NOT PAID... The bill defines ...UTILITY SERVICE- ... as water... wastewater ...sewer...gas ... garbage ... electricity ...and drainage service... Could be this will a be used in the city...KEEP ON DOING WHAT YOU'RE DOING» PETE! THIS N THAT ...wants ... PÉTÉ GARZA ... who is a long-time member of LULAC ...to keep doing what he hasbeen doing for...35 YEARS ... that is ... FIGHTING DISCRIMINATION ... against people... Pete turned ... 75 YEARS OLD ... last Saturday ... June 28th ... and he is as determined as he was in ... 1968 to fight discrimination...THIS N THAT ... wishes you many more birthdays ... as ... THIS N THAT ... had a birthday on last Sunday... PENNY HASTINGS THE BARBER SAYS: HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY ... FOURTH OF JULY AMERICA!

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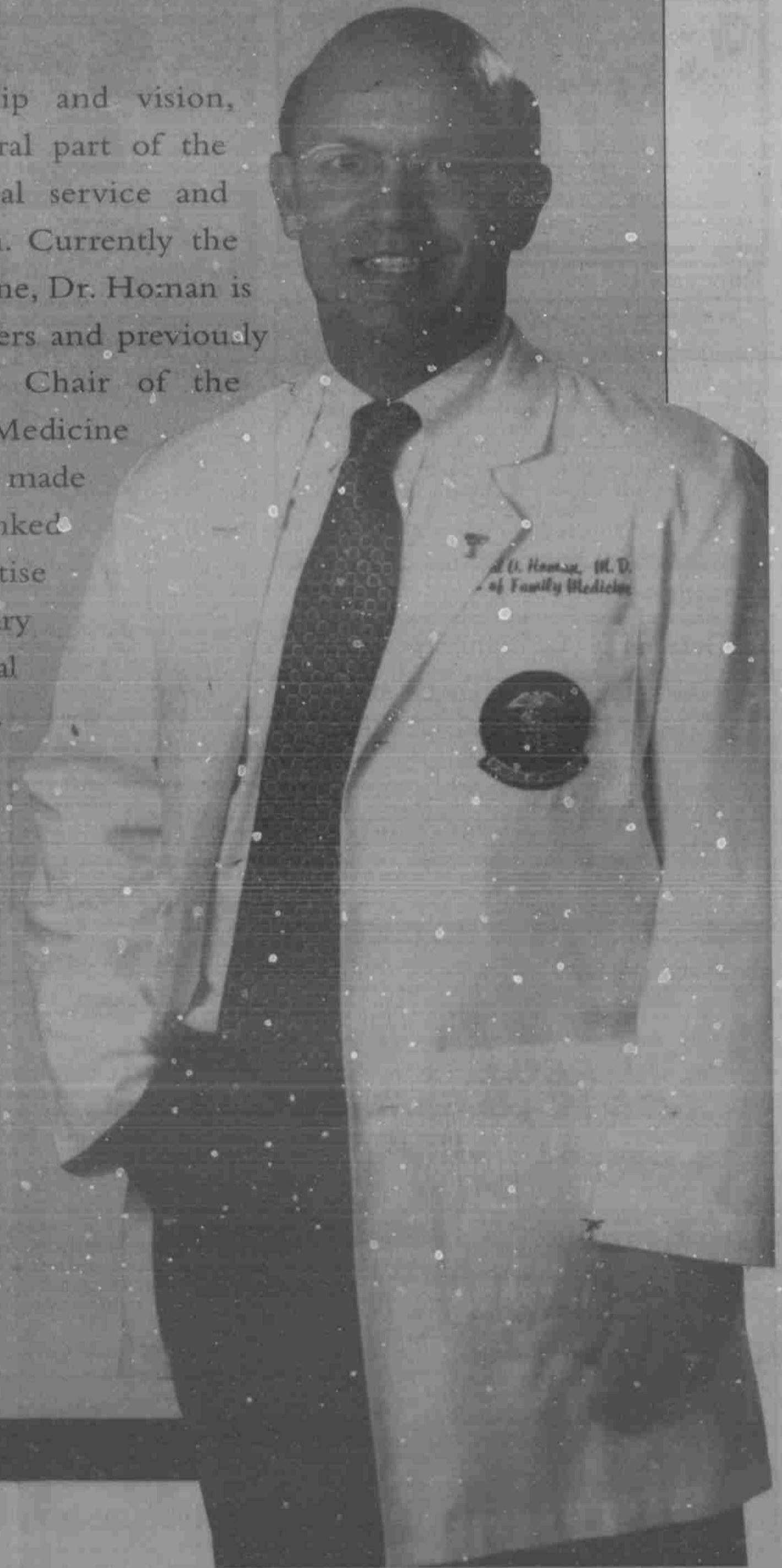
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