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Southwest Digest

A newspaper for the first century since the Black community's ideas and ideals since 1977

January 18-24, 2007

VOL. XXIX, No. 19

50¢
Worth More!

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Senator Barack and Michelle Obama: America's Next First Couple?



Community Meetings

This is a list of what is happening in Lubbock, to help complete the unfinished, community-building work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

- African American Chamber of Commerce, Lubbock meets on the 3rd Monday of each month, from 5:30-6:30pm at the Parkway Community Center, 405 MLK Blvd., 806-771-1815
- Lubbock Area Client Council meets on the 2nd Saturday, 1:00pm at the Patterson Branch Library
- Hub City Kiwanis meets every Tuesday, 7:00pm, 1708 Avenue G
- Dunbar Alumni Association meets 2nd Saturdays, 4:00 pm
- Booker T. Washington American Legion Post 808 meets every 2nd Tuesday at 7:30pm, American Legion Building in Yellowhouse Canyon
- Forgotten West Riders meets on the 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:00 pm, Patterson Library
- East Lubbock Chapter AARP meets every 1st Thursday at 1:00 pm, Mae Simmons Community Center
- Lubbock Chapter of Black Alumni meets every 3rd Tuesday, 5:30 pm, TTU Market Alumni Center
- Dunbar/Manhattan Heights Neighborhood Association meets every 1st Thursday at 6:00 pm and every 4th Thursday at 7:00 pm at the Dunbar-Manhattan Heights Neighborhood Outreach Center at 1301 East 24th St.
- West Texas Native American Association Pot Luck Supper meets on alternating months prior to meeting, meetings held on 2nd Saturday of each month at 7:00 pm, Educational presentations and demonstrations.
- Texas Juneteenth Cultural & Historical Commission - Lubbock Affiliate meets at Patterson Branch Library every 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm
- West Texas Native American Association meets 2nd Saturday each month at Graves Library, 5520 19th Street, 7:30 p.m.
- West Texas Chapter of 100 Black Men meets the 3rd Monday evening at 7:00 pm at the Parkway Neighborhood Center
- The Parkway Guadalupe & Cherry-Poin Neighborhood Association meets the 3rd Tuesday evening of each month at 7:30 pm at Hunt Elementary.
- Chatham Hill Neighborhood Association meets the 2nd Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm, at Iles Elementary Cafeteria.
- Estacado High School Alumni & Faculty Class Reunion meetings are held the second and third Sundays at the Patterson Library, 1836 Parkway Drive, beginning at 7:00 p.m. All Estacado Alumni & Faculty are invited for the 40th All Class Reunion.

Chicago, IL - EBONY sets the tone for February with a celebration of Black history and Black love in this month's issue. At the top of the "10 Hottest Couples" list is U.S. Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.) and wife, Michelle. While on the verge of a possible presidential run, the political pair carved out time for an exclusive EBONY photo spread and interview to tell why love, family and romance have helped them get this far.

"Sometimes it is just the little gestures that make a big difference. Just me putting the dishes in the dishwasher. Making sure I come home for dinner, even if I have to go back out. Blocking out Sundays so I'm not working. Things like that make her realize that I respect her and care about her," said Sen. Obama.

This year EBONY's hottest couples are joined by two new entries - power couples and longtime couples. These lists include first-ever African-

American Massachusetts Governor-elect Deval Patrick and wife, attorney Diane Patrick and activists Bill and Camille Cosby, who definitely represent the true meaning of love's staying power.

In the midst of a growing controversy, EBONY takes a stand to declare, "Enough is enough," in using the "N-word." In an EBONY editorial, Bryan Monroe, vice president and editorial director of EBONY and JET magazines, delves into this expression that conveys centuries of pain, evil and contempt. He writes, "Comedians have adopted it, athletes have assumed it, rappers have incorporated it. They think that by making it our own, it removes its fangs." Russell Simmons, Rev. Jesse Jackson and author Goldie Taylor are among those who have voiced their diversified opinions on the matter.

Also in this issue, EBONY celebrates Black fashion designers in Sartorial Splendor, with an



Barack Obama and wife Michelle

eye-catching display of the industry's up-and-coming innovators. Kara Saun and Michael Knight from Bravo television's Project Runway reality series are highlighted.

EBONY also recognizes the accomplishments of some of Black America's best and brightest in its, "Young Leaders Under 30," segment. Pastor Frederick K. Price Jr., 27, and writer/producer Sean Garrett, 28, join the lineup as they make their mark in a big way.

EBONY magazine, the No. 1 magazine for African-Americans, is published monthly and reaches over 12 million readers with each issue. Published by Johnson Publishing Company, Inc., the largest Black-owned publishing company in the world, EBONY was founded in 1942 by the late Publisher and Chairman John H. Johnson. Linda Johnson Rice is President and CEO, and Eunice W. Johnson serves as the company's secretary and treasurer.

People of faith pray for end to global poverty

Washington, D.C. - On Sunday, January 21, 2007, thousands of people of faith across the country will observe Jubilee Sunday. Jubilee Sunday is a time to pray, reflect and take action to end world poverty by canceling the debts of impoverished countries in Africa, Latin America and Asia. 2007 is a Sabbath Year, a Biblical mandate that requires that debts be forgiven and right relations be restored every seven years.

"Around the world, one in five people live on less than one dollar a day - extreme poverty that is unimaginable to most Americans. They are part of our human family, and our faith requires us to care for them as we would our own parents, siblings and children," said Neil Watkins, National

Coordinator of the Jubilee USA Network.

Local congregations will be reading from Luke 4:14-21, a key Jubilee scripture in which Jesus declares a jubilee or "year of the Lord's favor" by proclaiming God's liberation for all oppressed and impoverished people. Parishioners will also write to their Congress Members and Senators asking them to support new debt legislation in the Sabbath Year.

Jubilee Sunday participants will also call on the U.S. government to support immediate debt cancellation for Liberia under the leadership of its new president Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, the first democratically elected female head of state in Africa. Parishioners will send Valentines

to the U.S. Treasury urging them to "Have a Heart, and Cancel Liberia's Debt."

In the 1970s, developing nations borrowed money often with unfairly high interest rates and sometimes to the benefit of dictators rather than their people. For example, Sub-Saharan Africa is the world's most impoverished region but carries \$201 billion in debt, despite repaying more than 90% of the \$294 billion received between 1970 and 2002. Today, they remain burdened with paying \$14 billion annually in debt service.

Over the decades, developing nations fell into a downward spiral of servicing their debt obligations rather than providing clean water, adequate housing, AIDS preven-

tion, basic health care, and schooling for their people.

This is why debt relief works. Domestic spending in countries that have received debt relief has increased by 75%. For example, Tanzania received \$3 billion in debt relief, enabling the country to increase funding for poverty reduction by 130 percent over the last six years. Almost overnight, an estimated 1.6 million children returned to school. Debt relief enabled Mozambique to make strides in combating HIV/AIDS. By 2002, 24 testing and counseling offices were opened; 50 offices will be operating by 2007.

"As people of faith, we have a duty to help end the suffering of people who, by accident of birth, live in unimaginable poverty. If

we care about the future of the world community, we must all do our part - starting with asking our elected officials in Washington, D.C. to support bold new debt legislation that would provide debt relief to many more countries that need it," said Debayani Kar, Communications & Advocacy Coordinator of the Jubilee USA Network.

For more information, please visit <http://www.jubileeusa.org/>. Jubilee USA Network is an alliance of 75 religious denominations and faith communities, human rights, environmental, labor, and community groups working for the definitive cancellation of crushing debts to fight poverty and injustice in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

Annual award recognizes high-achieving women of color

New York - Four African American women trailblazers will be honored by Black Enterprise during the Women of Power Legacy Awards on Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2007.



The award ceremony will kick off the company's 2nd annual Women of Power Summit hosted by State Farm, a four-day leadership conference designed especially for women of color. The Summit will take place at the Arizona Biltmore Resort & Spa in Phoenix, Arizona, through Saturday, February 10. Black Enterprise board member and former general manager Barbara Graves will host the awards dinner, which is sponsored by

Pepsi, and CNN correspondent Valerie Morris will serve as mistress of ceremonies.

The recipients of the 2007 Women of Power Legacy Award are



Suzanne de Passe, chairman & CEO, de Passe Entertainment; Judith Jamison, artistic director, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater; Ruth Simmons, president, Brown University; and Faye Wattleton, president, Center for the Advancement of Women.

de Passe is an Emmy Award-winning television, film, and record label executive with more than 30 years in the entertainment industry. Jamison, a renowned

dancer, choreographer, author, and arts advocate, continues to spearhead initiatives that bring dance into the community and



introduce children to the arts. Simmons became the 18th president of Brown University in 2001 and the first black woman to lead an Ivy League institution. Wattleton is a noted spokesperson on reproductive rights and family planning policy, and was the first African American and youngest president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America during her tenure from 1978-1992.

"The Women of Power Legacy Award honors women whose accomplishments have

helped redefine the standards of success for women of color in the workforce today," says Allison Jones Matland, vice



president of marketing and events for Black Enterprise. "We're excited to celebrate this year's award winners and hope their

achievements will continue to inspire future African American women leaders."

Black Enterprise created the Women of Power Legacy Award in 2006 to recognize women whose power, influence, and achievements have left a legacy of success for women of color in every career field. Inaugural honorees included Ernesta Procope, president of E.G.

Bowman Co., the first major black-owned business on Wall Street; Congresswoman Maxine Waters, an eight-term U.S. Representative whose public service career spans nearly three decades; Johnnetta Cole, president of Bennett College for Women and a career educator and administrator who, in 1987, became the first African American woman to serve as president of Spelman College; and Joyce Roché, president & CEO of Girls Incorporated. Roché draws on 25 years of experience in corporate America to help instill confidence and leadership skills in girls and young women.

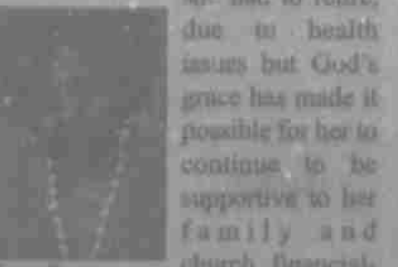
For more information on the Black Enterprise Women of Power Summit, visit www.blackenterprise.com/wps or call 800-209-7229.

Dorothy Terrell celebrates a big birthday with family and friends

On November 19, 2006 at the Mt Zion Baptist Church in Crosbyton, Dorothy R Terrell along with her husband, LD, family and friends celebrated 70 years of Godly living.

Dorothy has been married to LD Terrell, Sr. for over 20 years and they have a combined family of 14 living children. She is and has been a member of Mt. Zion for over 70 years, including the 5 years she lived and worked in Amarillo. She has relied upon the Lord, her parent's upbringing and her knowledge to raise her children and not upon the government.

Mama worked to support her family and church until 1973 when she had to retire, due to health issues but God's grace has made it possible for her to continue to be supportive to her family and church financially, spiritually and physically. She is a warrior with tireless energy when it comes to praising and working for the Lord.



She is presently the Women's

Missionary President for over 35 years. Organizer of the Mt Zion singers, they visit hospitals and nursing homes in Crosbyton and Ralls, sharing God's praises in songs and gifts. Her health has caused her to slow down a bit, but thank God she hasn't stopped. She also served on the Usher Board for many years and was very instrumental in the choir as a young adult. She is also the mother of her church and the oldest active member of Mt. Zion, she is a joy and inspiration to all she comes in contact with.

My mother's name means

"Gift of God" and she has lived up to that. She is my "best earthly friend" and I pray God gives her many many more years of spiritual, financial and emotional prosperity.

To all that were present and those that couldn't be there but

your presence was felt. We do thank you all for the love, calls, cards, gifts, prayers, and kind words you showed our man and my dad's wife to make that day more special than it would have been without you.

If you find mistakes in this publication, please remember that the staff of this paper are only human. We publish things for all sorts of events, but unfortunately, some people are always looking for something to criticize.



If you have an announcement you want to appear in this paper, there are three ways to get information to us:

Southwest Digest
Community Meetings
902 E. 28th St.
Lubbock, TX 79404
Fax: (806) 762-1605

email us at:
swdigest@theglobal.net

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Chatman Hills Corner

By Doris Reynolds

A "Meet & Greet Reception" will be held for rev. Sonia J. Beaty, new pastor of the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church Sunday afternoon, January 21, 2007, from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. This tea is sponsored by the Steward Board of Bethel. The public is invited to attend. Brother E. J. Donaldson is pro tem of the Steward Board.

The Annual Lincoln/Douglass Tea will be held at the Ko Ko Palace on Sunday afternoon, February 11, 2007, beginning at 4:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20.00 each and tables for eight at \$200. For more information about this annual event, contact Emma Jackson at (806) 762-3350.

An Initial Board meeting of the Martin Luther King Little League will be held tonight, Thursday, January 18, 2007, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The

meeting will be held at 2412 Cedar Avenue.

It has been reported that there is a need for coaches and board members. Will there be those among us who will come to the rescue? Hope so!

The Estacado High School Class of 1992 will be held June 15-17, 2007. Paula Bibbs says, "We are getting ready for this 15 year Class Reunion, and we could use the help of members of this class."

For more information, call (806) 790-6776.

Let us continue to pray for those citizens who are sick and shut-in. There are many in the community who are on these lists. So your precious prayers, visits and telephone messages are most appreciative.

At the same time, let us not forget those families who have lost loved ones. Remember, God is able.

In Remembrance

Govnor Dee Palmer
Abernathy - Funeral services for Govnor Dee Palmer were held Tuesday morning,

January 9, 2007, at the Bethel Baptist Church with Rev. Willie R. Bolton, pastor, officiating. Interment was held Wednesday morning,

January 10, 2007, at Bethel Cemetery in Oakwood, Texas.

Pallbearers were Graylon Hamilton, Anthony Hamilton, Jamaal Hamilton, Timmy Hamilton, Graylon Thirkeld Hamilton, and Kenneth Sanders.

Mr. Palmer passed away Friday, January 5, 2007.

He was born to Jakey Palmer and Alice Bailey Palmer on June 18, 1903 in Butler, Texas. He married Udice Mae Woodard in Butler in 1928. She preceded him

in death. He moved to Abernathy in 1947 from Madisonville, Texas.

In 1982, he married Geraldine Jackson Hamilton in Plainview. They resided in Abernathy. He was employed by Abernathy Farmers Coop Gin from 1952 until 1994. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge in Houston.

He leaves to mourn his passing: his faithful wife, Geraldine of Abernathy; two sons, Jake Palmer of Streetman, Texas and Claude Palmer of Dallas; two daughters, Alice Mae Jarman of Fairfield, Texas and Marie Rowlett of Dallas; four step-sons: Charles Connaly of Abernathy, Graylon Hamilton of Lubbock, Bobby Wayne Hamilton of Amarillo and Timmy Hamilton of Corsicana, Texas; a step-daughter, Penny Hamilton of Abernathy; 40 grandchildren; 62 great-grandchildren; 17 great-great-grandchildren; and 6 great-great-great-grandchildren.

great-great-grandchildren.

Michael Wayne Spence
Funeral services for Michael Wayne Spence were held last

Saturday morning, January 13, 2007, at the Mt. Gilbeal Baptist Church with Rev. J. Jerome Johnson, pastor, officiating.

Burial was held in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Mr. Spence passed away Wednesday, January 3, 2007, at Vista Care Center.

FASHION FUN

by Shirley Roberson

WESTERN DETAILS

Blaze a trail of style with added touches of the wild west...

ankle length pleated denim skirts, boot cut jeans with scalloped lace around the low rise waist and on one side leg, sheer chiffon top with crocheted and wood head embellishments at the deep scoop neck, western style linen tunic with croc-embossed, drawstring tanks with scallop trim scoop neck, western style soft leather jackets, rich burnished gold chain necklaces with chunky beads and ornate medallion pendants with dangling tassels.

Ladies, be creative, and whatever you do, don't forget beautiful, colorful plain or embellished cowboy hats!

FASHION TIP: Always wear a smile!
FASHION - Just for the fun of it!

Think you make the greatest cornbread?

SOUTH PITTSBURG, TN
Attention all home cooks, and cornbread connoisseurs, grab your aprons, cast iron skillet and get cooking for the 2007 National Cornbread Festival Cook-Off. The National Cornbread Festival is in search of the best main dish cornbread recipes to be entered into the National Cornbread Cook-Off sponsored by Martha White and Lodge Cast Iron.

Ten finalists will compete during the National Cornbread Festival and create their original cornbread specialties under the Big Cook-Off Tent on April 28 in South Pittsburg, Tenn. One lucky winner will be chosen as the reigning cornbread champion and receive \$4,000 and a 30-inch stainless steel gas range (a \$2,500 value) from Five Star Professional Cooking Equipment, a division of Brown Stove Works, Inc.

"We always receive so many creative and unique cornbread recipes, everything from Soul Food Skillet Dinner to Pesto Cornbread with Chicken and Sun-Dried Tomato Streusel," said Linda Carman, Martha White baking expert. "We're eager to see what ingredients contestants will use in their main dish recipes this year."

Each entry should be an original Main Dish recipe and prepared with at least one cup of Martha White Corn Meal or one package of Martha White Cornbread Mix using Lodge

Cast Iron cookware. Entries must also include contestant's name, address, daytime phone number, and date of birth. To enter by e-mail, send your original recipe along with your complete contact information to cornbread@dvl.com by 11:59 p.m. CST on March 2, 2007.

Send mail-in entries on an 8 1/2 x 11-inch paper to:

National Cornbread Cook-Off 2007
209 7th Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37219

Mail-in entries must be post-marked by March 2, 2007 and received by March 9, 2007. Ten finalists will be chosen from all entries.

Cash and Prizes
The Cook-Off grand champion will win a \$4,000 cash prize and a 30-inch stainless steel gas range from Five Star Professional Cooking Equipment, a division of Brown Stove Works, Inc. (a \$2,500 value) and special gifts from Martha White and Lodge Cast Iron.

The second prize winner will walk away with \$500, the third prize winner with \$300. The remaining seven finalists will each be awarded \$100. All finalists will receive \$500 travel reimbursement and gifts courtesy of Martha White and Lodge Cast Iron.

Start Baking

Remember, entries must be an original main dish and prepared in Lodge Cast Iron cookware.

"Each year, the recipes continue to get more and more creative," said Carman. "Look to your family and friends for advice. Think about hosting a sampling dinner serving one or two of your most promising recipes. Ask your guests to make suggestions for improving your dish."

For past winning recipes, other cornbread recipes and complete contest rules, visit www.marthawhite.com or www.lodgechef.com. Sponsored by Martha White Foods, Inc., Lodge Manufacturing Company, and Brown Stove Works, Inc. Open to U.S. residents, 18 years or older, except food professionals, such as chefs, food writers, or food home economists who create recipes for pay. Void outside the 50 United States and D.C. and where prohibited.

MLK Little League
begins preparation for 2007 Season!
Initial Board Meeting
Date: January 18, 2007
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: 2412 Cedar Avenue
We Need Coaches & Board Members!

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#41 Steak Finger Dinner	4.99
#42 Hamburger Steak Dinner	4.99
#43 Rib Eye Steak Dinner	5.99
Combo Special #44	3.99
Steak Sandwich, French Fries, & Med. Drink	
Combo Special #45	3.99
Fish Sandwich, French Fries, & Med. Drink	
Hamburger	.99
Combo Special #46 (5 Hamburgers)	4.81
4 Condogs	2.99
4 Bunsins	2.99
4 Hotdogs	2.99
2 Apple Pies	1.00
2 Cherry Pies	1.00

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"YOU THINK I'M YOUR FRIEND BECAUSE WE'RE THE SAME RACE. So you'll get for it when I spotted you get in this confusing line and just let me happen everything to you. I'm a simple man, you can understand. I'll make sure you never know about the hidden fees and balloon payments buried in all the paperwork I'm giving you - and it's too late. STILL NOT READING. ARE YOU? I can help you find I will because you're not reading ANY of this! The elderly are the easiest to fool. Man, give an old person a chance to make a few extra bucks to pay medical bills, and I can get away with anything. My favorite sucker was Mrs. Charles - what a dolly old bird. She wanted a loan to help with her grandson's college tuition. She kept telling me I was the answer to her prayers. SHELL NOT READING THIS! Mrs. Charles owed me more and more in late fees and interest. When she got hit with that balloon payment on top of everything else, there was no way she could make it. She finally had to foreclosure on her house just to dig herself out. Oh, the world is full of suckers like you."

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Church News



We Thank God for Jesus Sodom and GoAmerica

Written by Evangelist Billy "B.J." Morrison, III - Your brother in Christ Jesus always.

Isaiah 1:4a - Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children who are corrupted. They have forsaken the Lord.

Lord, when America was poor her people loved you and they did pray. They had you on their hearts and their minds night and day.

Deuteronomy 11:18-19 - The Lord said, therefore, shall you lay these words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand. That they may be as thorns between your eyes, and you shall teach them to your children. Speak of them when you are sitting in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you rise up.

Lord, then America got rich, then proud and wanted to do her own thing. Now her sins have taken over the land. Now it's Shame! Shame! Shame!

Micah 7:23 - The good man is perished out of the earth, and there is none upright among men. They all lie in wait for blood. They hunt ever man with a net. That they may do evil with both hands earnestly, and the prince (The President) asketh and the judge asketh for a

reward, and the great man, he uttereth his mischievous desire. So they wrap it up.

*** America Is Robbing God!!! ***

Lord, all the trouble in America, we want to go and teach the foreign lands. America is a hypocrite. Her people are the worse in all the land!!!

Revelation 3:17 - Jesus said, because you say, I am rich and increased with goods, and have need of nothing, and knowest not that you are wretched, and miserable, and poor, blind and naked.

Lord, all America is in trouble, and any blind man can plainly see. In the 60's man wanted their rights, and now America is in misery!!!

(The Devil's Rights are wrong: Child Pornography Rights, Run Away Rights, Women's Rights, No Spanking rights, Drug Corner Rights, Drive-By Shooting Rights, Shacking Rights, White Rights.

Black Rights, KKK Rights, Drugs In Rights, Gun In School Rights, No Prayer In School Rights, Kill The Abortion Doctor Rights, Condoms In Kingdom Kindergarten Rights, Kill The Family Rights, Gay Rights,

Bomb The Abortion Clinic Rights, Road Rage Rights, Bomb The Federal Building Rights, Black Suicide Rights, Kill The Classmates Rights, Teachers' Rights, Rape the Children Rights and many more.)

Proverbs 14:12 - There is a way which seems right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

Lord, you told the Church to go and preach against sin in the world. But they went and preached rights for men, women, boys and girls.

Galatians 6:7-8 - Be not deceived, God is not mocked, for whatsoever a man sow, that shall he also reap. For he that sows to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption. But he that sows to the spirit shall of the spirit reap life everlasting.

Lord, now the churches have homosexuals and lesbians, playing instruments, their rights to in the church, and to your nose this is all a big stink!!!

*** Yes, The Churches Are Robbing God!!! ***

1 Peter 4:17 - For the time is come that judgment must begin at the House of God, and if it is first at us, what shall the end of them that obey not the Gospel of God?



From the Desk of Parson D.A. Smith Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The Man for the Time and Beyond Part 1

Two writers: Jack E. White of the Time 100 - Leaders & Revolutionaries and Rich Benjamin of the USA Today write on the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The writers were from two periods in time: White, April 1998 and Benjamin, January 2007.

The soul of White's message is a testament to the greatness of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The motif of Benjamin is King stood with, not above, the people.

The writings are interesting because they are from two political eras. Allow me to begin with Mr. White. Monday, April 13, 1998, White wrote, "It is a testament to the greatness of Martin Luther King Jr. that nearly every major city in the U. S. has a street or school named after him. It is a measure of how sorely his achievements are misunderstood that most of them are located in black neighborhoods.

Three decades after King was gunned down on a motel balcony in Memphis, Tenn., he is still regarded mainly as the black leader of a movement for black equality. That assessment, while accurate, is far too restrictive. For all King did to free blacks from the yoke of segregation, whites may owe him the greatest debt, for liberating them from the burden of America's centuries-old hypocrisy about

race. It is only because of King and the movement that he led that the U. S. can claim to be the leader of the "free world" without inviting smirks of disdain and disbelief. Had he and the blacks and whites who marched beside him failed, vast regions of the U.S. would have remained morally indistinguishable from South Africa under apartheid, with terrible consequences for America's standing among nations. How could America have convincingly inveighed against the Iron Curtain while an equally oppressive Cotton Curtain remained draped across the South?

Even after the Supreme Court struck down segregation in 1954, what the world now calls human-rights offenses were both law and custom in much of America.

Before King and his movement, a tired and thoroughly respectable Negro seamstress like Rosa Parks could be thrown into jail and fined simply because she refused to give up her seat on an Alabama bus so a white man could sit down. A six year-old black girl like Ruby Bridges could be hector and spit on by a white New Orleans mob simply because she wanted to go to the same school as white children. A 14-year-old black boy like Emmett Till could be

hunted down and murdered by a Mississippi gang simply because he had supposedly made suggestive remarks to a white woman. Even highly educated blacks were routinely denied the right to vote or serve on juries. They could not eat at lunch counters, register in motels or use whites-only rest room; they could not buy or rent a home wherever they chose. In some rural enclaves in the South, they were even compelled to get off the sidewalk and stand in the street if a Caucasian walked by.

The movement that King led swept all that away. Its victory was so complete that even though those outrages took place within the living memory of the baby boomers, they seem like ancient history. And though this revolution was the product of two centuries of agitation by the thousands upon thousands of courageous men and women, King was its culmination. It is impossible to think of the movement unfolding as it did without him at its helm. He was, as the cliché has it, the right man at the right time.

The writing of Mr. Rich Benjamin has a different feel. He points out in his way too much is being made of the man, and will undermine the true greatness of the man himself. To be continued.

Outreach Prayer Breakfast

This week the members of the Outreach Prayer Breakfast are praying for the Body of Christ and the Nation.

"Father, in the name of Jesus, we confess your word concerning healing. As we do this, we believe and speak your word. It will not return to us void, but will accomplish what it says: it will.

Therefore, we believe in the name of Jesus, that all who reads **1 Peter 2:24** and **Isaiah 53:5** will know that by his stripes we are healed with his stripes we were healed. And Jesus, you took our infirmities and bore our sickness. Therefore, with great boldness and confidence, we say on the authority of that written word that we were redeemed from the curse of the Law, and we refuse to tolerate its symptoms. "SATAN", we speak to you in the name of Jesus, and say that your principalities, powers and your spirit rule the present darkness and your spiritual wickedness in heavenly places are bound from operating against the people of God. In any way,

we are property of the Almighty God, and we give you no place in these. We dwell in the secret place of the most high God. We abide, remain stable and fixed under the shadow of the Almighty. Now Father, because we reverence and worship you, we have the assurance of your word that the angels of the Lord encompass round about us and deliver us from every evil work. No evil shall befall us. No plague or calamity shall come near our dwellings. We confess the word of God abides in us and delivers perfect soundness of mind. Wholeness in body and spirit from the deepest parts even to the joints and the whole body. Your word is medication and life to our flesh, for the Law of the spirit of life operations in us and makes us free from the Law of sin and death.

We have the whole armor of God, and the shield of Faith protects us from all the fiery darts of the wicked. Jesus, you're high priest of our confession, and we hold fast to our confession of Faith in the word. We stand unmovable and fixed

in full assurance that we have health and healing now in the name of Jesus. (AMEN).

Once this has been prayed believe, thank the Father that Satan is bound, and continue to confess your healing, and thank God for it.

We eat the world's diet. Check it out. Check what you're putting in your bodies. Some of it makes us sick. Our Lord will hold true to his part. Check out these scriptures: **Isaiah 53:5; Galatians 3:13; 1 Peter 2:24; Matthew 8:17; Psalms 91:10; James 4:7; Ephesians 6:12; II Corinthians 10:4; Psalms 34:7; II Timothy 1:7; Hebrews 4:14; Proverbs 4:22; Mark 11:22-26; and II Chronicles 7:14.**

Thanks for reading, Precious People. You will be blessed by doing so. Have a Blessed Year!

Sister Dorothy Hood, president; Sister Christine Burleson, vice president; Sister Elnora Jones, teacher; Sister Patricia Harvest and Sister Pattie White, secretaries.

St. Matthew's Baptist Church News

Services were not held last Sunday morning at the St. Matthew Baptist Church, 2020 East 14th Street, where Rev. Edward Canady is the proud pastor, because of inclement weather. If you looking for a church home, then consider visiting us on any Sunday morning.

Here are few words from the St. Matthew Baptist Church: "Heartprints"

We leave fingerprints on door-knobs, on books, on walls, on keyboards, and other places. Since each person's fingerprints are unique, we leave our identity on everything we touch whether we know it or not. Some supermarkets are even testing a technology that allows customers to pay by fingerprint. Each customer's unique print and bank account number are kept on file so that the only thing needed to pay a bill is a scan of their finger.

A woman in the early church left another kind of print - a "heartprint". Dorcas touched many people's lives through her

unique gift of sewing and giving away garments. She's described as "full of good works and charitable deeds." (Acts 9:36) We too are to be "zealous for good works" (Titus 2:14). We can give a unique heartprint that can touch another.

An unknown author wrote this prayer about encouraging others: "O God, wherever I go today, help me leave heartprints! Heartprints of compassion, understanding, and love. Heartprints of kindness and genuine concern. May my heart touch a lonely neighbor

or runaway daughter or anxious mother or even an aged grandfather. Send me out today to leave heartprints. And if someone should say, 'I felt your touch,' may that one sense Your love touching through me."

Let us continue to pray for those who are sick and shut in. Let us be about our business of doing God's business. Remember, God is able.

Thought For The Week: "People who have a heart for God have a heart for people."

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Global inequality and class conflict

At no previous moment in world history has the gap between the rich and poor been as wide as today. As an important, newly-released report reveals, this growing class divide exists in virtually every nation on earth.

A 2006 study by the World Institute for Development Economic Research of the United Nations University, establishes that as of 2000, the upper 1 percent of the globe's adult population, approximately 37 million people, who average about \$515,000 in net worth per person, and collectively control roughly 40 percent of the world's entire wealth. By contrast, the bottom one-half of the planet's adult population, 1.85 billion people, most of whom are black and brown, own only 1.1 percent of the world's total wealth. There is tremendous inequality of wealth between nations, the U.N. report notes. The United States, for example, comprises only 4.7 percent of the world's people, but it has nearly one-third, or 32.6 percent, of global wealth. By stark contrast, China, which has one-fifth of the world's population, owns only 2.6 percent of the globe's wealth. India, which has

16.8 percent of the global population, controls only 0.9 percent of the world's total wealth.

Within most of the world's countries, wealth is disproportionately concentrated in the top ten percent of each nation's population. It comes as no surprise that in the United States, for example, the upper 10 percent of the adult population owns 69.8 percent of the nation's total wealth. Canada, a nation with more liberal social welfare traditions than the U.S., nevertheless still exhibits significant inequality. More than one-half of Canadian assets, 53 percent, are owned by only ten percent of the population. European countries such as Norway, at 50.5 percent, and Spain, at 41.9 percent, have similar or slightly lower levels of wealth inequality.

The most revealing finding of the World Institute for Development Economics Research is that similar patterns of wealth inequality now exist throughout the Third World. In Indonesia, for example, 65.4 percent of the nation's total wealth belongs to the wealthiest 10 percent. In India, the upper ten percent owns 52 percent of all Indian wealth. Even in China, where the ruling Communist Party

still maintains vestiges of what might be described as "authoritarian state socialism," the wealthiest 10 percent own 41.4 percent of the national wealth.

But even these macroeconomic statistics, as useful as they are, obscure a crucial dimension of wealth concentration, under global apartheid's neoliberal economics. In the past 20 years in the United States, where deregulation and privatization has been carried to extremes, we are witnessing a phenomenon that the media has described as "the very rich" who are leaving "the merely rich behind." A recent study by New York University economist Edward N. Wolff has found that one out of every 825 households in the U.S. in 2004 earned at least \$2 million annually, representing nearly a 100 percent increase in the wealth percentage recorded in 1989, adjusted for inflation. As of 2004, one out of every 325 U.S. households possessed a net wealth of \$10 million or more. When adjusted by inflation, this is more than four times as many wealthy households as in 1989. The exponential growth of America's "super-rich" is a direct product of the near-elimination of capital

gains taxes, and the sharp decline in federal government income tax rates.

We still tend to perceive the political world in eighteenth and nineteenth century terms: as competing "nations," geopolitical units defined by territorial boundaries, which conduct international affairs based on their perceived objective interests. In the twenty-first century, however, we must perceive of our political world *entirely differently*: as an environment in which multinational corporations exert greater power and influence than many countries; where millions of low-wage, manufacturing jobs each year are being relocated to south Asia, China, and Latin America. Globalization, and the widespread adoption of the neoliberal economic model of development, are constructing an affluent, transnational "ruling class," a privileged stratum whose class interests largely supersede its national allegiances.

Dr. Manning Marable is Professor Public Affairs, History, and African-American Studies at Columbia University, New York

City: "Along the Color Line" internationally, and is available in over 400 publications www.manningmarable.net

ATTENTION!

If you have nominated someone, or have been nominated for the Best Dressed contest, listen up!

We need the names and phone numbers of each contestant so that we may contact them for the presentation. If you nominated yourself, we need your name and phone number as well.

There will be more information to come about this exciting event!

Thank you to everyone who has sent in an entry so far, and GOOD LUCK to you all!

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Rev. Sonja J. Beaty

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How to prevent varicose and spider veins

(SPM Wire) Are those unsightly bluish, rope-like veins on your legs getting you down? Do varicose veins run in your family? Fluctuation in hormones, high heeled shoes, age, occupation, heat and obesity are just some of the factors causing many women to suffer from painful spider or varicose veins.

"Due to some predisposed conditions, varicose and spider veins may be inevitable for some people. However, there are many preventative measures and medical techniques available to diminish the appearance and pain associated with these vein conditions," says Dr. Robert Weiss, Vice President of the American Society for Dermatologic Surgery.

He offers these tips:
 • Varicose veins can lead to serious complications like fatigue, night cramps, leg swelling or itching. If you're experiencing any of these contact a dermatologist (a specialist in skin and vein conditions).
 • Keep legs moving. Walking, cycling and swimming all help blood circulation and reduce

- pressure and blood pooling.
 - Maintain a healthy weight.
 - Wear compression stockings to elevate pressure to the veins. However, avoid restrictive clothing around the waist, legs and the groin that can restrict circulation.
 - Don't sit or stand for long periods of time. Change positions every 30 minutes.
 - Don't subject legs to excessive heat. Keep hot baths to a minimum.
 - Don't fall for bogus advertisements offering treatments that are too good to be true.
- For more information on varicose veins visit www.asds.net online.

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St. John's hosting meals and classes

Registration is underway for Wonderful Wednesdays, a series of meals and learning opportunities for all ages, at St. John's United Methodist Church, 1501 University Ave. Wonderful Wednesdays started Jan. 10, but registrations are open for the first few weeks of classes. Reservations are required for the meal, and can be made by calling the church office at 762-0123 by 4:30 p.m. on Mondays. The meal will be catered by Honey Child Catering Solutions at a cost of \$6.00 for the full meal and \$3.00 for the snack supper.

Pre-registration for classes is required a week prior to the course starting, in order for instructors to be prepared with materials. Classes include: Invitation to the New Testament; and Beginning Sign Language. Other spring courses include Microsoft Publisher 101; Faith and Fiction; Teen Driving; Cooking; Mental Illness, the Law & the Christian Response; Sink or Swim: Helping Daughters through Adolescence; Social and Business Etiquette; Water - Yours, Mine, and Ours, and several more.

Children and Youth opportunities are offered in fine arts, hand chimes, hand bells and choirs. Nursery is available for all Wonderful Wednesdays.

St. John's United Methodist Church's mission is to worship and serve God with Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Open Arms. St. John's celebrates diversity, and recognizes the sacred worth and dignity of all persons regardless of sexual orientation, gender, race, age, ethnicity, physical or mental capacity, education, or economic or marital status.

To register for classes, make meal reservations, or to receive more information, please visit www.stjohnslubbock.org, or call the church office at (806) 762-0123.



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HIV/AIDS: Are Our Churches Doing Enough?

Part Three of a Three Part Series on The Black Church

By Angela Bronner, AOL Black Voices

Historically, the "Black church" has been many things to the African American community -- literal refuge, political foundation, social safe harbor, economic center, and unequalled spiritual base.

When an issue arose in or plagued the community -- Jim Crow, Civil Rights -- more often than not, the black church was at the forefront, providing not only moral guidance, but many times, actual leadership.

And then, along came HIV and AIDS. Though initially not viewed as a black disease, at present, the rate of HIV and AIDS has reached epidemic proportions in the black community.

While only 13 percent of the American population, black people make up over half of all new HIV and AIDS infections. There is an obvious disconnect -- AIDS is the leading killer of African Americans ages 25 to 44, and over 82 percent of African Americans belong to a church -- yet the black faith community has been unusually muted for far too long around this issue.



Steve J. Sherman, Executive Director of The Balm in Gilead, says, "The good news is that as devastating as AIDS is, it's become a common point of bringing people together from many walks of life, who never would come together before."

Where is the black church in the midst of this AIDS pandemic?

"We initially responded in a negative way," says Pernessa Seele, Executive Director of Balm in Gilead, a not-for-profit which mobilizes the black church community around the virus. "It was a gay disease; it was about drug abusers and those people. It was a wrath from God on people who didn't live right."

"In my opinion, [the spread of] HIV has its roots in how the faith community first responded to this epidemic 25 years ago," adds Seele. "Yet, as more and more churches and faith communities speak out against the disease and not just people living with HIV and/or AIDS, the more the stigma decreases in that community. And that's one of the reasons the faith community is very important in this epidemic."

Beginning 18 years ago with only 50 churches, Balm in Gilead now works with over 20,000 churches and faith based communities, a significant increase to be sure, but still only about one fourth of the 85,000 black churches in the country. Balm in Gilead does everything from helping churches to develop HIV Ministries to organizing national testing campaigns to working within existing church structures (i.e., men's programs,

women's programs, prison ministries, and youth fellowships.)

Bishop Yvette Flunder, pastor of City of Refuge Church in San Francisco, as well as the international AIDS non-profit, Ark of Refuge, says that there is something positive coming from this most ugly disease, but that shame has contributed to its rapid increase.

"We have two things that are making us have the big numbers in this epidemic. One is religion and the other is shame and denial," says Flunder. "The plus

side of that however, is that this is creating a need for dialogue in our community about where we are around the issues of sexuality and what I call a need for a non-punitive discourse."

This discussion (even acknowledgment) of sexuality has recently been embraced by prominent leaders such as the Rev. Al Sharpton, who in August 2005 launched a radio-based initiative to fight homophobia in the black community; an issue he says has contributed to the spread of HIV and AIDS.

Last Week's Crossword Puzzle Answers: The 1980's

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Hip-Hop Churches: New Face of Christianity or Sacrilege?



Kurtis Walker, also known as hip-hop pioneer Kurtis Blow, is founder of both the Hip Hop Church and Hip Hop eMass. "It's not that I'm trying to bring hip-hop into the church," says Walker. "I'm trying to bring God into hip-hop."

Photo by KBKrushgroove

Across the bridge in the South Bronx, Father Timothy Holder, 51, a white Episcopalian minister from Tennessee, runs the Hip-Hop eMass, which was founded as a summer program for the youth of the community. Incidentally, Holder started eMass with Walker but the two separated due to "theological differences."

Poppa T, as he's affectionately referred to, rocks a shiny

"blinged out cross" over his black robes, and says he had to educate himself on the culture of hip-hop, but now knows that this is his ministry.

"Jesus was not preaching to the elite, he was preaching to the down and outcast, the rag tag, the boys from up in Galilee and the girls who were following him," he says. "And that's revolutionary. It's death defying. But I have to say, there's nothing more powerful. Hip-hop talks it real. And if the church wants to be real and not plastic, then we will hear the cries of our children."

Over the last three years, Poppa T has taken his eMass around the country (to over 25,000 congregants, according to his estimates) and has completed a CD ("And the Word Was Hip-Hop") as well as published a beautiful Hip Hop Prayer book that puts a new spin on ancient words:

Psalm 23 reads in part: "The Lord is all that I need for nothing/He allows me to chill/He keeps me from being heated/and allows me to breathe easy..." All prayers are ended with "Amen" and then "Word!"

Lloyd "Paradox" Gonzales, 34, who occasionally attends the eMass, keeps it simple when asked why he raps in church.

"I'm a rapper. And I was a rapper before I was a Christian. And that's my talent, that's my skill."

Poppa T says he has gotten some flack from his congregation - "I have been called a racist because I would employ hip-hop to so-call enslave the children of my community in hip-hop. So there's some very deep feelings." But he adds, all in all he has been educated from the experience.

And speaking of backlash, Walker simply dismisses it as small mindedness.

"There are the purists and the traditionalists who say they know God and have all these rules and these traditions and all these laws," he says. "Those are cool and fine, but you can't put God in

a box. He's too powerful, he's too awesome; you don't know him. We are all working for the same team."

Says gospel hip-hop producer Chris "Rock" Belmont, 26, who has been attending Hip Hop eMass for two years and travels frequently with Poppa T: "Church people have a lot of rules. Like one big rule is covering your head in church or women wearing pants in church. But it's a tradition, and I would respect people if they just said it was that instead of saying it's a sin.

"Are you mad at the service because of the form or are you mad at it because it's not showing God's love?" queries Rock. "Is it about the form or is it about God?"

Lubbock Area Client Council meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Lubbock Area Client Council will be held Saturday afternoon, January 20, 2007, at the Bobbie Gean & T.J. Patterson Library, 1836 Parkway Drive, beginning at 12:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Bruce Bower, Deputy Director of Texas Legal Services Center in Austin, will be the guest speaker. He will be speaking on House Bill 75 - allowing state court judicial review of final administrative decisions regarding Medicaid and Food Stamps.

State Representative Carl Isett is expected to attend, and will be

asked to greet those who are in attendance.

The officers are: Rose Wilson, president and board representative; Frankie Hooper, vice president; Hazel Harris, secretary; and Jean Anderson, treasurer.

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God's Plan for Saving Man
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Jesus Christ died for our sins - 2 Cor. 5:21; Acts 2:38
We must do God's will and obey him to enter heaven - Matt. 7:21; Heb 5:9
How do we stay in? Hear the gospel - Romans 10:17
Believe Jesus Christ is the son of God - Mark 16:16
Repent of your sins - Luke 13:3
Confess - Romans 10:10
Be baptized for the forgiveness of your sins - Acts 2:38
Be faithful until death - Rev 2:10

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Editorials • Comments • Opinions



THIS 'N' THAT

by T.J. Patterson

CONGRATULATIONS TO BOTH TEAMS! THIS N THAT wants to say **CONGRATS** to those **ESTACADO HIGH SCHOOL MATADORS BASKETBALL TEAMS** for a great beginning this year. The boys' record is 24-1; 2-0 in District, while the girls' record is 19-6 and 3-0 in District play. Both won at Frenship High School on Tuesday night. Those mighty **LADY MATADORS** defeated Plainview High School Bulldogs, which were ranked number 18 in the state. Could this be a great omen of many other things to come? **CONGRATS, TO BOTH OF YOU!! MORE CONGRATS!!** **THIS N THAT** would like to say **CONGRATS** these football players for being chosen as **ALL DISTRICT PLAYERS**. They are **GREG HOLLEMAN** a Senior at Monterey High School, who was named **ALL DISTRICT 2-5A, DONALD ADKINS** a Senior at Estacado High School and **JEREMY WATSON** a Junior at Estacado High School. Who were both named **ALL DISTRICT 2-4A**. **THIS N THAT** is hoping all will continue to strive in life on the football field and off of it.

PENNYHASTINGS THE BARBER SAYS, "OBEYING THE letter of the law is GOOD. OBEYING the spirit of the law

is BETTER!"

A DEED WELL DONE! **THIS N THAT** would like to **SALUTE** the members of the **CONCERNED CITIZENS OF LUBBOCK**, who reached out in the community and helped a deserving grandmother **JEAN RAGSDALE**, who is rearing three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren since 1991. Assisting in this effort was the **UNITED SUPERMARKET PARKWAY UNIT** who provided the more than \$100 Gift Certificate. When you shop at this **UNITED SUPERMARKET PARKWAY UNIT**, let them know you appreciate them as well. Also, when you see a member of the **CONCERNED CITIZENS OF LUBBOCK**, let them know you appreciate them as well. As one of its members **ARTHUR "GUT" JONES** said, "The Concerned Citizens of Lubbock was formed to aid and assist people like the Ragsdales," and Jones happens to be a longtime friend of that family. There is no doubt about it. This was a **DEED WELL DONE!**

VERY INTERESTING! **THIS N THAT** noticed the number of **SOUTH PLAINS INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOLS** who were not in school on last Monday January 15, 2007, during the **NATION-**

AL HOLIDAY for the celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. These schools evidently do not observe this national holiday, but their schools were closed because of inclement weather, and this day perhaps will have to be made up. Just think, if it was a school holiday, it would not have to be so! It is very interesting to see this happen as it did. **THIS N THAT** is glad to see that the **LUBBOCK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT** did observe this National Holiday, but this could change next year. Anyway, if you are concerned about it why not contact the **BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF LISD** and let them know your concerns.

THANK YOU, MLK COMMEMORATIVE COUNCIL OF LUBBOCK! **THIS N THAT** says "THANKS to the MLK Commemorative Council of Lubbock for the efforts in the 36th Annual Celebration. The weather did prevent it from happening as they would have like to have seen it, but the **ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET** was still held. During the banquet, an outstanding speaker named **DR. GLADYS WHITTEN**. So thanks for the mighty effort. As **JOAN Y. ERVIN**, President of the Council said, "**WE'LL BE BACK IN FULL FORCE NEXT YEAR!**"



Think About It!

What's Next? Where To Now?

by Eddie P. Richardson

2006 was a busy year. The senseless war in Iraq where the number of dead topped more than 3,000. What a pity and in the end, what good will come from it for America? The Democrats captured the both the Senate and House of representatives in Washington, D. C. after 12 years. We hope and pray that the broom they swept with will make a clean sweep of the national scene. Maybe a change will be good and positive.

As we look and move into the future, we can not overlook our past and forget where we come from in order to know where we are trying to or know where we are going. You see if we omit, overlook, forget our past, we cannot know where we are going or how we will get there.

As we move ahead in 2007 with all the super highway, internet, supercomputer and all the modern electronic gadgets and toys, we are heading our

way into unknown destinations and leaving behind every day life, humility, realism, and everyday common sense. We appear to be so wrapped up in technology and are overlooking and leaving behind everyday down to earth life. It appears as though we have tossed behind our past and ancestors and the earth. In doing some recent research on the original Americans, the Indians, Africans and some Third World countries, one can easily see family, respect for self others, respect for elders, the earth, and most of all, God, has diminished. For us to gain back and, in general, recapture our forgotten family ties, decency, respect for life and others, we will have to move back to the basis. If not, it appears as though we will be heading down the path of damnation and destruction.

Hats off to the young Anglo (White) males who stood up to their own kind in the KKK, Skin Heads, and National

Socialist Movement last Monday afternoon on Martin Luther King's Birthday. They told these hate mongers to take their hate somewhere else. They said No! And not in Lubbock, our town. The Great Master provided with the inclement weather which perhaps kept some away.

These young White men were the most effective counter we could have had at this time. Some thought some local politicians and local Blacks would protest. But these young White men had such a great impact, because they were spontaneous in their very positive effort. **God Bless Each Of Them!** Each of you made a positive impact on the national Holiday in memory of **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

Closing Thought: "There is little hope for us until we become tough minded enough to break lose from the shackles of prejudice, half truths, and down right ignorance." **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

In Cinque

by Renetta Howard



The new Secretary of Defense in the President's Cabinet, Mr. Gates, has been to Iraq and given the President his take on the situation in Iraq. Contrary to the beliefs of others, especially retired generals, no more troops should be sent to Iraq and those there should be gradually pulled out. The Secretary of Defense and Mr. Bush have decided that approximately 20,000 more troops are needed to end the war in Iraq. As of this date, the media has reported that 3000 American troops have died in Iraq. That averages about 1000 per year of the war activity. The civil war between the people of Iraq continues, as well as the bloodshed.

It would seem that a decision not to send more troops to Iraq, especially when one looks at the past results, that such a thought would be a 'no

brainer. 'Saddam's death has not caused any calm to fall over Iraq, but may have incensed his supporters. The neighbors of Iraq have already declared which side of the civil war they will support if and when the American troops leave and so be it. These people have been fighting among themselves for centuries; during the times of the *Bible* and before, and the presence of American troops, any troops, other than their own, is not going to change anything. These people are Muslims, members of Islam and Islam is a fighting religion.

Unlike Christians who are not supposed to fight, Muslims fight for submission. More American troops will not make the Muslims think or act Christian.

Troops from other countries, and especially the United States, have been in Iraq long enough to train one side or the other and leave the fighting to them under their government and leadership, as the United States cannot, and as things

stand and America stands in the eyes of the world, will not make Iraq what America wants it to be. The United States cannot be the keeper of nations. We have too many problems of our own.

If 20,000 more troops go to Iraq, we will have 20,000 less troops to defend the United States. We are vulnerable and did not just get that way. We have been the victim of enemy assault for a long time but it was not until the bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City that we really took a close look at the death toll. The destruction of the Twin Towers was the affirmation of repeated assaults. We need 20,000 troops here in the United States to protect citizens at home. We need to 'get in cinque and let our Congressmen know how we feel about the issue at hand.

Bush's War

Sir,

You don't study war no more with your friends. You have a dialog with the warring factor. At some point we must talk to our enemy. And though the President of Iran is a dangerous man to his Country and ours, we must have some kind of dialog with him. Bush and his Cowboy ways will not work. We are on the verge of a major conflict with Iran, Syria, not to mention every-body else in that part of the world, and Condoleezza Rice (whom I think is useless) either has developed the Cowboy attitude, or she thinks all these countries are fly's we can just swat away, or she is needs to advise someone other than the President. Her advice or the lack of it, is the reason we are loosing our young men and women in Iraq. Saddam made Bush mad, she advised him to swat him. End

result, over two thousand of our young men and women dead. The old Soviet Union didn't fall because Ronald Reagan said, "Mr. Gorbachev tear down that wall", it fell because they did the same thing we are doing. They spread them-selves so thin fighting un-necessary wars, their leaders bankrupted the country. Sound familiar.

Jeanette Livingston
Mount Vernon, WA

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When you write to us, please provide your name and city so that we may know where you are from and so that our readers may see how far our publication reaches.

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The Southwest Digest is an independent newspaper serving the Lubbock, West Texas, South Plains of Texas and Eastern New Mexico areas printing the news impartially supporting what it believes to be right without opposing what it believes to be wrong without regard to party politics.

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Upcoming Movie Review: The Last Sin Eater

Based on the best-selling novel by Francine Rivers

CENTURY CITY, CA - A young girl begins a journey to seek out the one man who can save her soul in *The Last Sin Eater*, coming to theaters on February 16, 2007. "Enlightening while entertaining" (Baptist Press), *The Last Sin Eater* explores a community in the Appalachians that practice the belief that a human "sin eater" can discharge the dead of their sins and a young girl preoccupied by her own sense of guilt and mortality, driven to uncover the truth behind the long held tradition. Directed by Michael Landon Jr. and starring Academy Award Winner and Emmy Nominee Louise Fletcher and two-time Golden Globe Nominee Henry Thomas, *The Last Sin Eater* is based on the award winning novel by Francine Rivers. *The Last Sin Eater*, marketed by Fox Faith and distributed by The Bigger Picture, can be seen in theaters in more than 128 U.S. and Canadian cities, showing on over 500 screens. Locations and theater information are available at FoxFaithMovies.com.



Texas native Liana Liberato stars as Cadi Forbes in the film adaptation of the best-selling book, *The Sin Eater*. The movie is set to open in theaters on February 16.

Photo provided by Fox Faith

Local CBA retailers including Family Christian Stores, Lifeway Stores, Berean Christian Stores, Mardel and a number of

significant Christian retailers are offering specially priced movie tickets, distribution of Bible study guides and other in-store activities. Fox Faith is making discussion guides, clip DVD's, and other materials available to its network of more than 90,000 churches, ministries, youth groups, and others organizations

for grass roots peer-to-peer marketing.

Synopsis: When a mysterious man "absolves" her grandmother's sins by eating bread and wine at her grave, 10-year-old Cadi wants the same redemption - while she's still alive! But in her quest for deliverance she uncovers a dark secret that

threatens to divide her family. What will happen when the two face each other - and the One who can truly save them? Based on the award winning novel by Francine Rivers.

About Fox Faith and Twentieth Century Fox Home Entertainment: Fox Faith is the newly created faith-based label from Twentieth Century Fox Home Entertainment LLC. Fox Faith was created to provide compelling entertainment to the Christian audience as well as those seeking quality, inspirational and spiritual entertainment. Additional information about specific titles and programs can be found at www.fox-faith.com and www.fox-faith-movies.com.

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Social Security to pay billions to illegal immigrants?

The new Congress may soon be giving the stamp of approval on ordering Social Security to give billions of dollars in benefits to illegal Mexican workers in the United States, as well as to their dependents back home in Mexico.

The Houston Chronicle reported recently that a senior citizens' group forced the disclosure of a document revealing that the US and Mexico could require Social Security to pay many billions of dollars in benefits to illegal Mexicans in this country.

The TREA Senior Citizens League, an offshoot from a group of retired military personnel, and some members of Congress contend the agreement opens the door to paying benefits to millions of Mexicans who have worked illegally in the United States, as well as their dependents, even if they now reside in Mexico.

Addressing this topic is businessman and GOP Presidential Candidate John Cox, who says that Social Security is nearly

bankrupt and that if we agree to pay Social Security benefits to millions of illegal Mexicans and to their tens of millions of dependents back in Mexico, that there simply is not enough money in US Social Security to sustain that sort of expense.

During his interview, Cox explains the insidiousness of the multi-billion dollar benefits grab. Technically, illegal immigrants aren't actually eligible for Social Security but their work history in the United States would count toward eligibility for benefits if they eventually obtain legal residence. And since the Congress is expected to consider this year a bill giving most illegal immigrants a chance to qualify for citizenship, and President Bush backs the general concept, the floodgates could burst open making many years and many billions of dollars in back money and benefits owed overnight.

This huge increase in US indebtedness tens of millions of

Mexicans could bring to fruition the current plans proposed by Arizona State University that is teaching that the U.S., Mexico and Canada need to be integrated into a unified superstate, where U.S. citizens of the future will be known as "North Americanists," according to the taxpayer-funded "Building North America" program.

The program openly advocates for the integration of economic issues across the continent, and in many places goes further - such as the call for a common North American currency.



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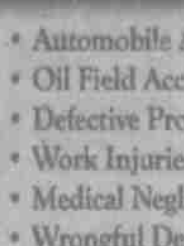
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THEME: THE SUPER BOWL

ACROSS

- Four years for a President
- Highest university degree
- Nomad from northern Scandinavia
- Conform
- Common cooking preparation for ahi
- One of twelve in mouth
- Links medulla oblongata and cerebellum with mid-brain
- Bear constellation
- Card game of Spanish origin
- Legal exemption from liability
- Type of ski lift
- Soup dispenser
- Unit of length of yarn
- Type of palm used for making baskets
- Costliest storm in U.S. history
- 1967 football championship, known as "___ Bowl"
- Coloring
- Addictive?
- Packs
- This year's Super Bowl
- Site of final game
- Minimal distortion
- Mouth that needs soap
- Abbreviated phone
- Modulate the voice
- Between Paleocene and Oligocene
- "What's up, ___?"
- Staphylococcus
- Cul de ___, pl.
- Has most career Super Bowl TDs
- Moses' special place
- Amount of measurement
- Piercing woodwind
- Embellish
- Nashville's Keith
- Grain grinder
- Proceed or go
- Earlier in time than, archaic
- Christian Science founder

DOWN

- Large South African antelope
- Very dark black

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- Rip or pull
- Me in person
- State of danger
- Hurry
- Freight horse cart
- Super Bowl trophy
- Storm in movie "Fantastic Four"
- 6th wife of Henry VIII
- Prior to, prefix
- Super day
- Choral composition with sacred lyrics
- TV's Hazel, Alice and Florence
- Goller's careful putt
- Hindu sage
- Type of simple protein
- Land held under feudal system
- To make with needles
- Extremely angry
- Spirit inhabiting an object
- Quality of a good athlete
- Sign of escape
- Sick
- Last year's Super Bowl winner
- Same as myopia
- Communications regulator
- "A ___ welcome"
- Red fluorescent dye
- Shiny rims
- Mr. in Mexico
- Cherokee or Hopi, e.g.
- Either right or left
- At another time
- Used for rope-making
- In the same place
- Not hot, not sure days old
- Eel like
- 2004 horror movie

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