



God Bless America!

Southwest Digest

50¢

Worth More!

902 E 28th Street
Lubbock, Texas 79404
Phone (806) 762-3612

A newspaper for the 21st century, representing the Black community, since 1977

March 27, 2008

VOL. XXX No. 27

SUPPORT YOUR
ADVERTISERS BECAUSE
THEY SUPPORT YOU!



The Black Press in America
Lighting the road
to Freedom



Community

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

Meetings

- 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, Mac 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 Groves 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 Guidalupe & Cherry-Point Neighborhood Association meets the 3rd Tuesday evening of each month at 7:30 pm at Hunt Elementary.
- Glennan Hill Neighborhood Association meets the 2nd Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm, at Bes Elementary Cafeteria.

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 East 28th Street
Lubbock, TX 79401

Fax: (806) 741-0000

email us at:
suggestions@sbglobal.net

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Happy Anniversary To Jean & Charles Collins



Jean (Doris) and Charles Collins, Jr. celebrated their 39th Wedding Anniversary on Thursday, March 14, 2008.

They would like to thank God for all of His many blessings and thank God for their children: Shery, Daryl, DeShone, Michelle, and Raquel. Also their eight grandchildren, family and friends, especially to Mr. James Bibbs, Sr. and Mrs. Eloise Bibbs.

Friendship Wedding Set At Bethel AME Church



Tra'Shun Thomas Robinson



Calille Cole

The 2008 version of the Friendship Wedding at Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church will be held Sunday afternoon, March 30, 2008, beginning at 3:00 p. m.

The bride is Calille Cole,

daughter of Ms. Camille Cole; and the groom is Tra'Shun Thomas Robinson, son of Ms. Tyshuna Robinson.

Other participants are: James Hollins, Best Man; Alyspsabeth

Continue on Page 8

MLK Little League Opens Noon on Saturday, March 29th!

Players in Lubbock's MLK Little League will take the field for the first time on Saturday, March 29, 2008 at 12:00 Noon in a ribbon-cutting ceremony opening their new baseball complex located on East 19th Street and Aspen Avenue. The complex consists of two regulation little league fields, press box, rest rooms, concession stand, and covered seating. Funds were designated for this project in the 2004 general bond election, and players and parents have waited a long time to see their dream of new fields finally become a reality.

Lubbock Mayor David Miller, City officials and representatives from the MLK Little League will participate in the ribbon-cutting ceremony. In addition former Major League Baseball player, Matt Miller, will be on hand to throw out the first pitch of the season. A Monterey High School standout and graduate of Texas Tech University, Matt was a relief pitcher for the Detroit Tigers in 2001-2002 before an injury sidelined him permanently. He is the son of Lubbock Mayor David Miller. Following the ceremony, players will compete in their first games of the season.

A Blessing Missed!

by
Eddie P. Richardson

On Resurrection Day last Sunday, March 23, 2008, a very blessed day was held in Lubbock and West Texas. It was a day of praising the Lord at the Church of the Blessed where the proud pastor is Rev. Johnny Perez. You see, it was an historical concert where a multi-cultural group of worshippers praised God in song and praise. This was the beginning of the West Texas Mass Choir which was unbelievable. It was under the direction of Luther Barnes, well known gospel singer and writer. This professional man of



Sheriff Greg Hamilton & Mindy Montford

Travis County Sheriff Endorses Mindy Montford for District Attorney

Sheriff Hamilton says Montford has Leadership Qualities Key to "Building Bridges"

(Austin, TX) - Travis County Sheriff Greg Hamilton today announced his endorsement of Mindy Montford for Travis County District Attorney. The announcement came as Sheriff Hamilton and law enforcement stood side by side in their support of Montford who has also been endorsed by every Austin and Travis County Public Safety Association.

"Montford is a trusted public servant who has been pro-active throughout her career working to

God, Brother Barnes, served as a talent scout as he taught for less than seven hours, and the result was a miracle! The choir, which had at least 100 voices. Not only this, but this was diverse group - white, brown & Black singers. They worked from last Thursday evening at New Light Baptist Church and Saturday morning at the Church of the Blessed.

The sad thing is the Federation of Choirs missed a blessing, because of miscommunications. This attempt was made at least three times, with this writer in the presence of an officer of the Federation of Choirs. With this West Texas Gospel Fest people and the Federation of Choirs coming together, just think of what an impact it would have made for all of us in Lubbock and West Texas. You see, records reveal that there were sixteen churches from Lubbock and West Texas involved with the Gospel Fest which featured Luther Barnes and Keith "Wonderboy" Johnson. If ever there is a time, it is now for all of us to come together, and forget about who gets the credit and just serve God through songs and praise!

When you think about the 54 years of the existence of the Federation of Choirs, what a splendid opportunity to make such a positive move. Isn't this what Sister Sodelia Solomon wanted to see happen in Lubbock?

Well, it is over now, but let's begin to communicate for next year and really have a huge Gospel Fest for Lubbock and West Texas. Let's have involve all parts of the community as was the case this year with white, Black and Hispanic singers involved. Come on Lubbock, and let's get it together!

Who knows, it could become a stage for a national recording artist to come to Lubbock and record in our backyard. Oh yes, as Luther Barnes said, "There are many people in Lubbock and West Texas with great voices, but only needs to be taught how to sing. With the right direction and all on the same page, we can move high-

see that justice prevails regardless of a person's political, personal or professional position is in this community," says Sheriff Hamilton. He points to Montford's experience in the courtroom prosecuting some of the county's most heinous crimes. "Ms. Montford is one of the toughest prosecutors you'll ever meet in a courtroom. As our District Attorney, Ms. Montford will be fair and impartial in the administration of justice throughout Travis County," he added.

Austin and Travis County Law Enforcement Associations have lauded Montford's plan to create a 24/7 Intake Unit to make prosecutors available to offices overnight and on weekends. And, they say Montford's plan to establish a new Internet Crime Unit will help tackle the ever-growing problem of online solicitation of minors and the elderly, identity theft and much more.

According to the District Attorney's own web site: "The mission of the District Attorney's Office is to see that justice is done by providing the highest quality legal representation for the public and individual victims of crime, as well as effectively contributing to efforts to reform and improve the criminal justice system and strengthen the community." Sheriff Hamilton says, "The DA's office is not a single issue public agency. It was created to protect all citizens—not to create partisan politics. Ms. Montford will build the bridges that must unite this community."

Montford has served in the Public Integrity Unit, the Family Justice Division and the Trial Court Division of the Travis County District Attorney's Office. "Ms. Montford will bring the District Attorney's Office into a new generation of criminal prosecution and we are ready to stand by her side to work together to better serve all citizens all across Travis County," says Sheriff Hamilton.

Mindy is the daughter of John T. Montford who served as former Criminal District of Lubbock County, State Senator District 28 and first Chancellor of Texas Tech University.

er and next year can become a great 55th Anniversary for the Federation of Choirs. Who knows, the choir could become 700 multi-cultural singers!

SUPPORT OUR LOCAL SCHOOLS TODAY! YOU ARE NEEDED

VIP Consultant Contractors In Business To Construct Homes Here



We are proud to announce a new general contractor in the Lubbock area. VIP Consultant Contractors is now in business. The company was started by Christopher Moore and Johnnie Robinson. VIP Consultant Contractors specializes in new residential construction, remodels, repairs, and add-ons. The company is unique in its services also to provide financial counseling, credit repair, mortgage financing, home equity, home improvement, and refinance loans, and many other services to give their clients a One-Stop-Shop for mortgage and financial needs.

Mary Lou Villegas and her brothers, Jay and Jerry with Christopher Moore, Malcoly Moore, and Johnnie Robinson stand in front of Mary Lou's property located at 325 N. Ave R where VIP Consultant Contractors is constructing her new house designed by VIP per Mary Lou's request.

VIP Consultant Contractors targets low to moderate income families and others who have a dream to become home-owners. They take a hands-on approach to make dreams become a reality. So if you are looking to purchase a new or existing home, dream home, mansion, or to add a room, remodel or need repairs,

Chatman Hills Corner

By Doris Reynolds

If there are young people in the community who are looking for an opportunity this summer, then the Youth Corp, Inc. has begun recruiting for the 2008-2009 Leaders In Training program. This program consists of a two-week leadership training camp and Community Outreach Program.

All cadets who successfully complete the two-week camp are eligible to participate in the Community Outreach Program that consists of meeting at least

once a month, beginning in July through May, and performing community service work.

The two-week Youth Corps camp will open on June 22 and close with the graduation ceremony July 6. This program will involve teens ages 14-18.

This writer is encouraging our young people to get involved with this program while there is time to get ready for it.

Guess what, there will be a Friendship Wedding on Sunday afternoon, March 30, 2008, at the Bethel African Methodist

Episcopal Church, beginning at 3:00 p.m.

Rev. Sozin J. Beatty, pastor, is inviting the public to attend. Sister Ruby Donaldson is director of this event.

Let us continue to visit those who are on the sick and shut-in list. Your prayers are also needed for those who are on the sick list.

Also, let us not forget those who have loved ones. Remember, God is able.

Let us not forget the Church anniversary of the Pilgrim Baptist Church on Sunday afternoon, March 30, 2008, beginning at 3:30 p.m. Rev. B. R. Moton, pastor of New Hope Baptist Church, will deliver the message of the hour.

Church services were well attended last Sunday morning, March 23, 2008, at the New Hope Baptist Church, where the proud pastor is Rev. B. R. Moton.

The morning services got underway with meditation and prayer. The Praise Team sang out of their hearts and souls. The morning scripture and prayer were given. The New Hope Choir was at their post of duty.

Pastor Moton delivered the morning sermon. His subject was entitled "Jesus Said He Would & He Did & Rose Again." His scripture text was John 10:18; Numbers 23:19 and John 14:9-10.

After invitation to discipleship, the morning announcements were read by Brother Darrell Phillips. All visitors were welcomed by Sister Mary Mitchell.

New Hope Broadcast Sunday mornings at 11:30 a.m. FJAK.

New Light Baptist Church

Last Sunday morning, March 23, 2008, which was Easter Sunday, and it was a great day at the New Light Baptist Church where the pastor is Rev. Kenneth Jackson.

Services got underway with Sunrise Services beginning at 6:00 a.m. Pastor Jackson delivered the sermon. His subject was "He Is Not Here." His scripture text was Luke 24:1-7.

The praise and worship was led by Sister Sudell Cavanaugh, Sister Ambra Jackson, Sister Alvera Johnson, Sister Linda Green and Sister June Campbell.

Among visitors included Pastor Luther Barnes and wife, Anita Barnes.

The morning worship hour got underway at 11:00 a.m. with the praise and worship with Sister Suddell Cavanaugh, Sister June Campbell, Sister Diane Hicks, Sister Alvera Johnson, and Brother Carlton Hicks. Brother A. W. Brown was at the piano.

The responsive reading was

Psalms 107:1-8.

The morning sermon was delivered by Pastor Luther Barnes. His subject was "God Can Roll Away Your Stone." His scripture text was Matthew 28:1-7.

It was an awesome sermon. Pastor Barnes reminded us that all of us have stones in our lives. "When they went to the tomb to see Jesus, but he was already gone. We all have stones in our lives," said Pastor Barnes.

Services were well attended.

Let us continue to pray for our sick and shut-in members and citizens of the community.

Just keep in mind today, it may be someone else and tomorrow it may be you or I. Let us keep our hands in God's hands. God is able. He knows how much we need in life.

If you are looking for a Church Home, think about attending New Light Baptist Church, 3015 Idalou Road.

Meet Pastors Johnny & Pat Perez Of The Church Of The Blessed



Pastors Johnny & Pat Perez

Meet the Pastors of the Church of the Blessed. The Church is located at 1809 34th Street. They invite those looking for a Church Home to come and visit with their congregation. "We are happy of how God is blessing us with our many Church Ministries," says Pastor Johnny Perez. For information, call 747-9430.

YOUR INVITATION TO A NEW BLESSING!

Pastors Johnny & Pat Perez and the family at Church of the Blessed invite you to join them for service this week

Church of the Blessed

Church of the Blessed
1809 34th
Lubbock, TX 79411

FASHION FUN

by Shirley Roberson

DRESS UP!

Make this your best spring and summer ever! Everything is working for you, pretty colors, feminine fabrics and delicate details. Complete the look with statement jewel-

ry, the new clutch handbag and of course a sexy shoe.

Halter dress are quite refreshing this season!

Fashion tip.. always wear a smile

Fashion.. just for the fun of it!



Shirley Roberson

Look Your Very Best Each Day of the Week! You're Great!!

St. John Neumann Church Community Health Fair

The Social Action Committee/Medical Group at St. John Neumann Church is having a Community Health Fair on Saturday April 12, 2008, from 10:00 am to 3:00 p.m., to promote health wellness for people in the community.

The health fair will take place in the gymnasium of the church. There will be over 25 community

organizations present to provide a variety of health checks and information on services available throughout the community. These organizations can address specific information that is pertinent to the wellness of members of

The parish and members of the community. Included, but not limited to, will be blood pressure readings, heart wellness, diabetic

care information, vision checks, body mass index, body fat %, CPR demonstrations, Cancer awareness and prevention, children's services, electrical safety and much more. The Fire Department will have a fire truck there and Aerocare will have an ambulance and the helicopter there, pending that it is not in use.

The health fair is being offered free of charge to all community members. There will also be a drawing for a free screening mammogram at the end of the health fair. People will be able to register for that prize during the health fair.

There is still space available and community organizations wishing to participate in the health fair should contact one of the following SJN members: Patsy Cardona 793-8287, Lora Asmussen 795-7221, or Karen Tunberg 745-6211. The Church is located at 5802 22nd Street. There is no charge for organizations to have a booth at the health fair.

9TH ANNUAL CESAR E. CHAVEZ MARCH & CELEBRATION TO BE HELD IN LUBBOCK

Youth advocacy and farm worker issues to be focus

The Cesar E. Chavez Commemoration Committee will pay tribute to American hero and civil rights leader, Cesar E. Chavez, during Lubbock's 9th Annual Cesar E. Chavez People's March and Celebration, which will be held Saturday, March 29, 2008.

The event is organized by a citizen driven committee, and the march attracts people from all backgrounds and helps build public awareness about Chavez's legacy. Last year about 800 marchers walked in honor of Chavez.

This year, because of the growing concerns over Latino youth issues and because education, health and quality of life drove the efforts of Cesar E. Chavez, the march and celebration will focus around youth, health, and wellness. The march will conclude at the Buddy Holly Recreational area, where a street dedication on the corner of N. University and Cesar E. Chavez, will occur.

In addition, announcement of the 2008 Spirit of Cesar E. Chavez Award, and the student essay competition sponsored by All American Concrete, as well as recognition of youth leaders and youth organizations will be presented. A short history presentation regarding Chavez and current farm and seasonal worker issues will be included. Finally, refreshments will be served and sponsored in part by Atmos Energy and Guadalupe Economic Services, and entertainment will be provided by Julian Escamilla who will feature traditional and festive music. The celebration will also offer a free health and dental fair, which will feature the mobile units of CHCL, and voter registration by the League of Women Voters.

Chavez's significance and impact goes beyond any one cause or struggle. The son of migrant laborers, Chavez led a nonviolent boycott against California grape

growers, protesting poor working conditions and the use of pesticides harmful to farm workers. He is recognized for his non-violent approach to handling adversity, and even fasted to call attention to the migrant workers' cause. Although his dramatic act did little to solve the immediate harms, it increased public awareness of the problem.

Saint John Baptist Church presents a Relationship Enhancement Seminar

The Relationship Enhancement Seminar is designed for individuals and couples who desire to build and strengthen relationships based on the Word of God. The Holy Scriptures, especially the New Testament, provides Godly principles whereby God has called us to live in peace.

Featured Clinician: Rev. Wendell D. Davis

Rev. Davis serves as senior pastor of the Lyons Chapel Baptist Church. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Development and Family Studies from Texas Tech University. In the summer of 2008, he will earn his Master's degree in Counselor Education. One of his passions is in the counseling profession, and he considers it part of his ministry of "helping the hurting."

Rev. Davis and his wife Shirley have been married for 32 years. The success of their marriage is based on a multitude of real life experiences, years of faithful and sacrificial ministry while maintaining their cohesive family.



Saint John Baptist Church
1712 East 29th Street
Lubbock, Texas 79404

Saturday - March 29, 2008 - 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 Noon
Registration Fee: \$10.00 per Couple - \$5.00 Individual

Continental Breakfast and Brunch Will Be Served.

Please Visit Your Child's Room At His Or Her School, And Pray!

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Sunday Services
Intercessory Prayer 8:30 am
Church School 9:30 am
Morning Worship 11:00 am
Wednesday Services
Bible Study
12:00 Noon and 6:00 pm

"GOD OUR FATHER, CHRIST OUR REDEEMER, MAN OUR BROTHER"

Church News

From the Desk of Parson D.A. Smith "The Contemptible Destruction of a Preacher"

An Associated Press story reveals that the Rev. Jeremiah Wright, former pastor of Trinity United Church of Christ (membership 10,000) would deliver three sermons on March 30 at the Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church in Houston.

The AP noted "Wright's guest sermons will come the day after he is honored at the Brite Divinity School's Black Church Summit and Awards Banquet in Fort Worth."

The divinity school is located on TCU's (Texas Christian University) campus, but is a separate school with its own boards. TCU has issued a statement saying it opposed the divinity school's decision to honor Wright.

What disturbs this writer and a preacher for more than 53 years is the poisonous serpentine venom of those who suppose to be on their way to heaven so they can be with Jesus forever. This writer is not surprised at the laity, but trouble with the rhetoric and negative behavior of white preachers and leaders of large Christian organization toward Rev. Jeremiah Wright.

Let me be real! Neither the black preachers nor the black laity should turn their back on Rev. Jeremiah Wright. Black laity should ask their pastors about the background and group identity of the snakes that nail Jesus to the cross. Could it be some of the descendants of those snakes still

live and are alive and well in America?

Liberation theology is identified with the 20th century theological movement which sees the gospel as liberation from all forms of oppression: economic, spiritual, political and social. The emphasis is on "praxis," or the practical ways in which God's call for the liberation of the oppressed is accomplished.

James Cone, an African American Christian theologian is best known for his advocacy of Black theology. Cone, a distinguished Professor of Systematic at Union Theological Seminary in New York City felt that Black Christians in America should not follow the "white Church" as it had failed to support them in their struggle for equal rights.

Pastor Wright has been made a mark man because he was inspired by some of Cone's theology. Cone wrote in his book "Black Theology and Black Power, "Either God is for black people in their fight for liberation and against the white oppressors, or he is not." Cone responded to his controversy by making it known he was writing about white churches that did nothing to oppose slavery and segregation and not about white people as individuals.

What troubled this writer is Pope Benedict, the leader of Catholics world-wide made the statement last year that if you were not a Catholic you were not

a Christian. (The definition of Non-Christian religions are those religious faiths which do not consider themselves Christian and do not consider Jesus as fully God and fully human). There is an argument to be made here. Was the Pope's statement of such that Catholics would leave their church? However, the media made little mention of the divisive statement of Pope Benedict. Did anyone or the media suggest that the Chief Supreme Court Justice of the United States leave his church, because of the Pope's statement?

Did those who condemn Jeremiah Wright know that in 1966, as a U. S. Navy Hospital Corpsman he tended to the late President Lyndon Johnson, for which he was commended? Do those who condemned and spit words of hatred toward the Reverend Jeremiah Wright know that he was hand-picked by former President Clinton during a 1998 prayer breakfast at the White House?

Is the Reverend Jeremiah Wright being used as a scapegoat to discredit Barack Obama, the first so-called serious candidate for the president of the United States? Is Obama's former pastor being used as a divisive tool to promote a white agenda instead of an American agenda for all the people? Is Obama a dream or nightmare to the Americans who want to keep the status quo and the "good ole boy" system?



We Thank God for Jesus "My Cup Runneth Over"

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

Psalm 40:2-3 - He brought me up out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. He has put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God. Many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord.

I, Billy "B. J.", III, born March 30, 1941, third child of Billy "B. J.", II and Pollie V. Bailey, Morrison. Blessed to be a grandchild of Billy Morrison, I, and Susie Jackson of Benciey, Texas on the farm.

It was God who formed me in my mother's womb. God made my heart. He saw my usage and my needs, and he did set me far apart!!!

Jeremiah 1:5 - Before I formed you in the belly, I knew you, and before you came forth out of the womb, I sanctified you and ordained you a Preacher unto the nations.

I thank God for Jesus. For in Him and this day, I know I'm saved. But the way I used to live, I should have been dead, and

Black America's need to put on the whole armor of God. Remember the enemies of "justice for all" literally kill Dr. Martin Luther King. The enemy is not dead!

sleeping in my grave!!!

Psalm 6:5 - For in death there is no remembrance of you (God) in the grave who shall give you thanks?

*** **And I Will Not Rob God!** ***

*** **I Won't Vote For Obama Or Mrs. Clinton - I Voted For Jesus - Him I Trust** ***

The Lord blessed me with saved and sanctified wife for these 25 years. Her name is Jefferthel Marie, and in her life she has much love to give!!!

Proverbs 31:10-11a & 20 - Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband do safely trust her. She stretches out her hand to the poor. Yes, she reaches forth her hands to the needy.

The Lord blessed me to have 4 children from my first marriage of my bloodline. Blessed with 10 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren that is also mine!!!

Psalm 127:5 - Happy is the man that has his quiver full of them (Children). They shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.

*** **Children Are The Future Of Our Bloodline!!!** ***

The Lord blessed me to be a portray writing preacher in the S.W. Digest for 26 years. I preached the truth and nothing but the truth; and money the people didn't give!!!

Matthew 20:4 - Jesus said, go you also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you. And they went their way.

*** **All Preachers Need To Wait On God's Payments!!!** ***

The Lord blessed our family to have our 50th Family Reunion in 1999. The Rev. Bill Morrison, I, start this reunion of love, and pass it down the line!!!

Psalm 91:14 - Because he has set his love upon me. Therefore, I will deliver him. I will set him on high, because he has known my name.

The Lord blessed me, Billy "B. J.", III, to be part of a 5 generations and me being No. 2. My God is in the blessing business at all time. It is he who's blessing you!!!

Psalm 61:5 - For you, O' God, has heard my vows. You have given me the heritage of those that fear your name.

The Lord blessed me in 1982 to be the first Black Man at Citibus to win the Bus Rodeo, winning trips for trips to Dallas. **Continue on Page 8**

St. Matthew's Baptist Church News

Church services were well attended last Sunday morning, March 23, 2008, at the St. Matthew Baptist Church, 2020 East 14th Street, where the proud pastor is Rev. Edward Canady.

Services got underway with Sunday School Pastor Canady in charge. It was another wonderful lesson taught by Pastor Canady. The subject of the lesson was

"Whose Promises Can You Trust." The scripture scripture was II Chronicles 6:12-17; Luke 24:44-49. The main thought was: "Lord, therefore, hath performed his word that he hath spoken: for

I am risen up in the room of David my father, and am set on the throne of Israel, as the Lord promised, and have built the house or the name of the Lord God of Israel." II Chronicles 6:10, KJV)

Sister Luella Harris is still in rehab. Sister Orthea Moore is still under the weather.

There are many others who are sick and shut-in. Let us continue to pray for each of those who are ill this week.

Jesus Christ today is risen, and o'er death triumphant reigns. He

has burst the grave's strong prison. Leading sin herself in chains.

Thought of the Week: "Christ's resurrection is the bud of promise. Our resurrection is the flower of fulfillment!"

If you are looking for a Church Home, come by and visit St. Matthew Baptist Church.

Outreach Prayer Breakfast

"I Am The Flag"
I am the flag of the United States of America. I was born on June 14, 1877 in Philadelphia. There, the Constitutional Congress adopted my stars and stripes as the national flag.

My thirteen stripes alternating red and white with a union thirteen white stars in a field of blue, represented a new constellation a new nation dedicated to the personal and religious liberty of mankind. Today fifty stars signal from my union, one for each of the fifty sovereign states in the greatest constitutional republic the world has ever known.

My colors symbolize the patriotic ideals and spiritual qualities of the citizens of my country.

My red stripes proclaim the fearless courage and integrity of American men and boys and the self-sacrifices and devotion of American mothers and daughters.

My white stripes stand for liberty and equality and equality for all. My blue is the blue of heaven, loyalty, and faith.

I represent three eternal principles: liberty, justice and humanity. I embody American freedom; freedom of speech; religion, assembly, the press, and the sanctity of the home.

I typify the indomitable spirit of determination brought to my land by Christopher Columbus and by all my forefathers - the Pilgrims, Puritans, settlers at Jamestown and Plymouth.

I am as old as my nation. I am a living symbol of my nation's law; the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights.

I voice Abraham Lincoln's

philosophy: "A government of the people, by the people, for the people." I stand guard over my nation's schools, the seedbed of good citizenship and true patriotism.

I am displayed in every schoolroom throughout my nation; every schoolyard has a flag pole for my display.

Daily thousands upon thou-

sands of boys and girls pledge their allegiance to my and my country.

I have my own law - Public Law 829. "The Flag Code" - which definitely states my correct use and display for all occasions and situation.

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

The morning worship services began with devotions at 11:15 a.m. Deacon Edward Williams and Brother Gerald Jackson were in charge. Sister Barbara Johnson continued in prayer.

The St. Matthew Baptist Church Choir sung out of their hearts and souls.

Pastor Canady delivered a wonderful message. His subject was "Jesus In Gethsemane." His scripture text was Matthew 26:36-40.

Pastor Canady preached out of his soul. All present enjoyed the message. God is so good!

Manhattan Heights Church of Christ
763-0582 • Tyrone N. Durbose, Minister
1702 E. 26th St. (corner of E. 26th St. and Martha Luther King, Jr. Blvd.)

Sundays:
Bible Class - 9:00am
Worship - 10:15am
Evening Worship - 5:00pm
Wednesday:
Bible Class & Devotions - 7:00pm

God's Plan for Saving Men
All have sinned - Romans 3:23
Jesus Christ died for our sin - 1 Cor. 15:3; Acts 2:24
We must do God's will and obey him to enter heaven - Matt. 23:1; Heb. 5:9
How do we obey him?
Have the gospel - Rom. 1:16-17
Believe Jesus Christ is the son of God - Mark 16:7
Repent of your sin - Luke 13:3
Confess - Romans 10:9
Be baptized for the forgiveness of your sin - Acts 2:38
Go on to live with Him - 1 Cor. 6:11

Stone Hollow VILLAGE

Park Meadows VILLAS

*** APARTMENTS NOW AVAILABLE ***

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- Walking Trail**
- 9 Foot Ceilings**
- Business Center
- Fitness Center
- Community Room with TV
- Children's Playground
- 24-Hour Emergency Maintenance
- Commercial Laundry Room
- Spacious 1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Plans

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Obsequies

Willie G. Johnson



Funeral services were held for Willie G. Johnson last Saturday morning, March 22, 2008, at the New Hope Baptist Church with Rev. B. R. Moton, pastor, officiating. Military graveside rites were held at Englewood Cemetery in Slaton under the direction of Calvillo Funeral Home. Mr. Johnson passed away

Sunday, March 16, 2008, in his residence.

He was born February 26, 1939 in Sharp, Texas to the late Jinks and Mable Lee Johnson. He graduated from Evans High School in Slaton. After graduating, he joined the U.S. Army in 1957. He worked in the field of construction.

He is preceded in death by a brother, Herbert Johnson in 1999, and a niece, Mika Erin Wright on February 21, 2008.

He is survived by a daughter, Darlene Jones of Slaton; his mother, Mable Biggers of Lubbock; four brothers: Leroy Johnson and Irvin Ray Washington, both of Slaton, John Wayne Washington and Billy Wayne Washington, both of Lubbock; five sisters: Barbara J. Love of Slaton, Glenda Wright, Florence Turner, Clara Blakemore, and Ruby Moses, all of Lubbock; two grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

De'Ona Nicole Johnson

Funeral services were held for little De'Ona Nicole Johnson on Wednesday morning, March 26, 2008, at Griffin Mortuary Chapel.

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

She passed away Saturday, March 22, 2008.

She was born November 17, 2007, to Kelvin Johnson and Ashley Mack.

She leaves to mourn her passing: father, Kelvin; mother, Ashley; four sisters: Halley, Kiara, Nicole, and Tramaya; five brothers: Malachi, Tre, Zyguis, Kevondre and Kemarion; her grandparents: Reggie and Dollie



Mack and Terry Johnson; great-grandparents, Bobby and Eva Mack and Rachel Johnson; and a host of aunts, uncles, and other relatives.

Acie Lee Price



Funeral services were held for Acie Lee Price on Friday morning, March 28, 2008, at Sanders Memorial Chapel with Floyd Price officiating.

Interment was held at Peaceful Gardens Memorial Park under the direction of Sanders Funeral Home.

Mr. Price passed away Sunday, March 23, 2008.

He was born December 27, 1934 in Shallowater to the late Lovels and Rita Price and married Ada McFaney on September 23, 1962 in Lubbock. Acie worked as a mechanic for Fenner Tubbs Company/Spirit Chrysler for 36 years; the last ten years he served as courtesy driver.

He is survived by his wife, Ada; children: Tommy Price and wife Norma of Abilene, Terry Price and wife Subrinda and Jackie Hutchings and husband, Orlando, all of Lubbock; grandchildren: Rachel Hutchings, Crystal Gonzalez and husband Lucas, Thomas Price, Jr., Joseph Price, Jordan Price, May Lee Price, and Terris Price; five brothers: Clyde of Arlington, Floyd and Theodore of Lubbock, Eddy Dean of New Boston, Texas and Bobby of Lubbock.

He is preceded in death by a sister and a brother.

If You Are A Parent or A Concerned Citizen, Please Visit A Public School During The Week.

Our Young People Need To See Us On Campus During The School Year!

Will You Do So?

Patsy Ann Finch

Funeral services will be held today, Thursday, March 27, 2008 at the First Baptist Church in Hart, Texas.

Patsy Ann Finch, 76, of Hart, Texas passed away Friday, March 21, 2008 at her residence. She was born Dec. 2, 1931 in Hope, Arkansas. She leaves behind her husband of 60 years Robert Finch, Sr., who lives in Hart, Texas; 11 sons, one son, Sammy Finch of Hart, Texas, preceded her in death Aug. 10, 2006, Sergeant First Class Taft Finch of Mannheim, Germany, Billy Finch of Hart, Texas, Willie Finch and Michael Finch both of Kress, Texas, Robert Finch, Jr., and Bruce Finch both of Lubbock, Texas; Joseph Finch of Slaton, Texas, Bobby Finch of Plainview, Texas, Randy



Finch of Tulla, Texas, and Steven Finch of Houston, Texas; three daughters, Joyce Sander, and Brenda Yarbrough both of Tulla, Texas, and Sarah Frazier of Lubbock, Texas; one sister, Marion Wabington of Phoenix, Arizona; one brother, Elliot Ellis of Texarkana, Texas; 49 grandchildren, a host of great grandchildren, other relatives and friends.

Free Syphilis Clinic Offered In Lubbock Friday, March 28th!

The City of Lubbock Health Department is offering FREE syphilis testing from 1:30 to 5 p.m., Friday, March 28 in the community meeting room of Mahon Library, 1306 9th Street.

The testing is being provided in response to a recent syphilis outbreak. Since March 1, health officials have diagnosed 8 syphilis cases in Lubbock County, and identified and treated 26 others who were exposed to the disease. All cases involve individuals between 21 and 38 years of age.

Anyone who is sexually active engaging in risky behaviors may have been exposed and should be tested, according to Tommy Camden, health director for the City of Lubbock.

"You may be infected with syphilis and have no symptoms," Camden said. "A blood test is the only way to find out if you are

infected." Syphilis is a dangerous but curable disease. If not treated, it can be fatal.

Symptoms of Syphilis include, but are not limited to: chancres (painless sore or sore in mouth or on genitalia), a rash (bumps) on palms or bottoms of feet, body rash (dry or moist), patches of mucous in mouth, hair loss, or moist warts in pubic or genital area. Although symptoms disappear spontaneously without treatment, the person is still infected and the disease may spread to other organs in the body.

Treatment for syphilis is unlike any other sexually transmitted disease and requires specific injectable medication.

Anyone unable to attend the screening may contact the City of Lubbock Health Department

Continue on Page 8

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Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick Charged With Perjury

DETROIT, MI - Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, a one-time rising star and Detroit's youngest elected leader, was charged Monday with perjury and other counts after sexually explicit text messages contradicted his sworn denials of an affair with a top aide.

Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy also charged the popular yet polarizing 37-year-old mayor with obstruction of justice and misconduct in office.

Former Chief of Staff Christine Beatty, 37, who also denied under oath that she and Kilpatrick had a romantic relationship in 2002 and 2003, was charged with perjury and obstruction of justice.

"Some have suggested that the issues in this case are personal or private," Worthy said.

The justice system has been severely mocked and the public trust trampled on. ... This case is about as far from being a private matter as one can get," she said.

The charges could signal the end of Kilpatrick's six-year career as mayor of one of America's largest cities.

Perjury is a felony, punishable by up to 15 years in prison. But for Kilpatrick, a conviction also would mean his immediate expulsion from office. The Detroit City Charter calls for any elected official convicted of a felony while in office to be removed.

Kilpatrick has said he would not resign and last week said he expects to be vindicated when all



Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick

aspects of the scandal are made public.

The mayor was expected to hold a news conference at noon. Worthy said she expected the mayor and Beatty to turn themselves in by 7 a.m. Tuesday.

Worthy began her investigation the day after the Free Press published excerpts of the embarrassing text messages in late January. The messages called into question testimony Kilpatrick and Beatty gave in a lawsuit filed by two police officers who alleged they were fired for investigating claims that the mayor used his security unit to cover up extramarital affairs.

In court, Kilpatrick and Beatty denied having an intimate relationship, but the text messages reveal that they carried on a flirty, sometimes sexually explicit dialogue about where to meet and how to conceal their trysts.

Kilpatrick is married with three children. Beatty was married at the time and has two children.

The city agreed to pay \$8.4 million to the two officers and a third former officer who filed a separate lawsuit. Documents released last month showed Kilpatrick agreed to the settlement in an effort to keep the text messages from becoming public.

The text messages published by the Free Press revealed a romantic discourse.

"I'm madly in love with you," Kilpatrick wrote on Oct. 3, 2002.

"I hope you feel that way for a long time," Beatty replied. "In case you haven't noticed, I am madly in love with you, too!"

In all, Kilpatrick faces charges of conspiracy to obstruct justice, obstruction of justice, misconduct in office, perjury in a court proceeding and two counts of perjury other than in a court proceeding.

Beatty is charged with conspiracy to obstruct justice, obstruction of justice, two counts of perjury in a court proceeding and two counts of perjury other than in a court proceeding.

For Beatty, who attended Detroit's Cass Technical High School with Kilpatrick and managed his campaigns for Michigan's state House and the mayor's office, the scandal forced her to resign.

City lawyers and Kilpatrick's attorneys waged a futile legal battle to keep documents related to the lawsuit settlement and text messages from public eyes.

Calls for his resignation surfaced in late January from some city union leaders. Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox repeated that call, and the Detroit

Angela Bassett Gets Hollywood Star

By: The Associated Press



LOS ANGELES (AP) Angela Bassett has had good days - becoming a mother to twins, winning a Golden Globe, being nominated for an Academy Award. Then there was Thursday.

"Do you ever have one of those days? I woke up and the sun wasn't really shining but then it burst through the clouds and it was glorious. Hallelujah!" Bassett exclaimed to the crowd at the ceremony for the 2,358th star on the

Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Bassett, 49, was joined by husband Courtney B. Vance, their children and guests Forest Whitaker, Laurence Fishburne and Rick Fox, her co-star in the new film "Meet the Browns," cut Friday.

Fishburne, who starred alongside Bassett in 1993's "What's Love Got to Do With It," highlighted Bassett's resilience in the industry. She landed an Oscar nomination for the role portraying Turner triumphing over abuse.

"You get a lot of no's in this business and you have to have that desire and determination which is what Angela has," Fishburne said.

Whitaker gushed that Bassett was "a powerful artist, a beautiful person, a mother, a wife, a friend who illuminates my life."

Born in New York City and raised in Florida, Bassett snagged bachelor's and master's degrees from Yale before starting her career in theater and then moving on to film.

Tyler Perry's Meet The Browns

Tyler Perry has his finger on the pulse when it comes to entertaining an African-American audience in an uplifting fashion which resonates as real with that target demographic. And Meet the Browns is no exception, this being the latest in a string of the prolific playwright-turned-film director's screen adaptations of a popular stage production.

His modern morality plays invariably touch on timely themes of urgent concern to the black community, though their messages might generally be delivered in conjunction with healthy doses of side-splitting humor. But where Perry himself has generally played a lead role, bringing the comic relief by cross-dressing as the sassy senior citizen Madea, this time, he merely makes a cameo appearance in drag instead opting to introduce a few new equally-colorful characters.

The picture explores such universal themes as abandonment, trust, faith and redemption on its way to resolving the challenges

facing Brenda (Angela Bassett), a single-mother of three who's been struggling to provide for her family while living in the projects on the south side of Chicago. At the point of departure, we find her barely surviving paycheck-to-paycheck with no safety net to fall back on, and having to choose between paying her bills and putting food on the table.

We learn that this sorry state of affairs is due to her being burdened with raising her kids without child support from any of their fathers. She soon bottoms-out when she loses her job the same day she learns of the death in Georgia of the father she never knew. Fortunately, she heeds the advice of her best friend Cheryl (Sofia Vergara), a loudmouthed Latina who puts Brenda and her brood on a bus in time to attend the funeral. Once they arrive in the tiny Southern town, not only do they "Meet the Browns," the long-lost, if flaccid relatives they never knew they had, but also a knight in shining armor in Harry (Rick Fox), a basketball scout. Handsome Harry is a Houdini who has the answer to their every problem, if only the thrice-burnt Brenda will let her guard down long enough to allow this good man to sign her high school phenom son (Lance Gross) to a pro contract, to buy them a house and to ask for her hand in marriage.

City Council echoed it last week with a nonbinding resolution asking Kilpatrick to step down.

Annie's Chat And Chew Set Here March 29!

The Annie Chat and Chew will be held Saturday morning, March 29, 2008, at the Mae Simmons Senior Center, 2004 Oak Avenue.

This annual event is held in memory of the late Annie Sanders who was a dedicated citizen. She worked many years volunteering her time to make Lubbock a much better place for all of us to live.

This benefit is sponsored by the Lubbock Meals on Wheels, which was one of Mrs. Sanders' favorite programs.

In the interim, the movie devotes plenty of time to getting acquainted with the Browns, as clownish a clan as you could hope to meet, starting with Leroy, an egg-head with the most garish wardrobe imaginable. Then there's his morbidly obese daughter Cora (Tameka Mann), and the shrewish Vera (Jennifer Lewis), a witch with nothing nice to say about anybody. Kudos to a supporting cast which includes Margaret Avery, Frankie Faison, Lammie Rucker and Tim P. Hall. As the plot winds its way inexorably towards its very pre-

Obama's pastor Jeremiah Wright will not attend North Texas

Jeremiah Wright, longtime pastor of presidential candidate Barack Obama, will not be attending Brite Divinity School events here Saturday.

Brite said in a brief Web Site announcement that it had "received notice" that Dr. Wright will not be coming to a Saturday luncheon, at which he was scheduled to speak, or a Saturday night banquet, at which he was to be honored.

Both events will go on without Dr. Wright, the school said.

Dr. Wright has been at the center of national furor after clips of his preaching were widely viewed on TV and the Internet. Mr. Obama himself has denounced certain of the pastor's remarks as racially divisive and ill-informed.

Brite stuck by its decision, made months ago, to honor Dr. Wright for his nearly four decades of ministry at Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago. Brite is on the Texas Christian University campus in Fort Worth, and planned to have both the luncheon and awards banquet at TCU.

But officials at TCU, which is governed separately from Brite, said they would not have honored Dr. Wright. They also said that, for security reasons, the Brite events would have to be moved off campus.

Brite's statement today said the luncheon will go on without Dr. Wright at Paul Quinn College in Dallas. The evening awards banquet will be at Friendship-West Baptist Church in Dallas.

Dr. Wright's scheduled appearances this week at a Florida church were canceled, for security reasons. He was to preach at a Houston church Sunday, but that too has been called off because of safety conc



dictable payoff, it comes as no surprise that rather than hang around her embarrassing kin, Brenda starts to entertain the advances of her perfect gentleman suitor. Too lazed with silly slapstick to measure up to the best of Tyler Perry's previous offerings, yet still hilarious in spots and ultimately satisfying enough to be well worth watching.

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VP HUMAN RESOURCES - EXEMPT - REPORTS TO: DIVISION PRESIDENT
Regulation # 08-0005

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Editorials • Comments • Opinions

THIS 'N' THAT

by T.J. Patterson

VERY GOOD PROGRAM LAST SUNDAY! THIS N THAT was very happy over the **FIFTH ANNUAL GOSPEL FEST** last Sunday afternoon at the **CHURCH OF THE BLESS** where the pastor is **REV. JOHNSY PEREZ**..... Guest artists were **LUTHER BARNES** and **KEITH "WONDERBOY" JOHNSON**..... Perhaps the most inspiring part of the concert was the introduction of the **WEST TEXAS MASS CHOIR** which was organized during the workshop conducted by Luther Barnes..... There were at least **ONE HUNDRED VOICES** which was very diverse group of singers from the **HISPANIC, WHITE & BLACK COMMUNITIES**..... Barnes was amazed with the tremendous number of good voices but needed to be taught how to sing..... All in all this was very historical and it could lead to many more workshops of this caliber in Lubbock and West Texas..... It was just great to see this happen and hopefully those in attendance can believe that anything is possible that is ... if you only believe..... **THIS N THAT** has been impressed wit what

EACH ONE REACH ONE Has done over the past few years..... under the direction of **FAYE BROWN** who serves as the leader, of this organization..... **THIS N THAT** is hoping this will continue and all will be appreciative of what has taken place..... Yes **ONE HUNDRED VOICES** dressed Black & White singing God's Praises..... A special **THANKS** to Brother Barnes & Brother Johnson for their contribution..... Oh by the way this will happen next year and there is some very positive talk about during some serious recording.... But the bottom line is the scholarship awarded to a young person who will be attending **TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY**..... **54TH ANNIVERSARY FOR THE FEDERATION OF CHOIRS! THIS N THAT** **WAS GLAD TO HEAR ABOUT THE** **54th ANNIVERSARY** of the Federation of Choirs last Sunday afternoon March 23, 2008 at the **GREATER ST. LUKE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**..... this organization was organization by **SISTER SEDALIA SOLOMON** and others

..... in 1954..... With the help of **GOD** and many dedicated workers this has happened..... No doubt about it there were those didn't believe it would happen **BLACK CHURCHES** Which would meet the **FOURTH SUNDAY** of but it did..... In those days according to the by-laws there were **ELEVEN** each month wit an **ANNIVERSARY SERVICES** happening once a year..... **THIS N THAT** has visited with the president **SISTER BENNIE SIMS** about enlarging this body and it would have to be voted upon by the **BOARD OF DIRECTORS** and the entire body..... It was proposed that since Lubbock's Black Community has grown since 1954 why not add **ELEVEN MORE BLACK CHURCHES** which would meet on the **SECOND SUNDAY AFTERNOON** of each month and the regular body of churches would continue to meet the **FOURTH SUNDAY** with both groups coming together for the **ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY**..... **THIS N THAT** is just offering this as an idea What do you think?.....

Think About It!

Are Boys Smarter Than Girls? Are Girls Smarter Than Boys?

by Eddie P. Richardson

This is an age old question depending on the setting and the situation as to the answer you will receive. And who you receive it from we will have an all girls school here in Lubbock this coming school year it will be interesting to observe as time passes on. There has been studies on this situation for years and many times and versions, one of the most recent ones by Dr's David and Myra Sadker.

Are boys really smarter than girls?

The perennial question has been tossed into the air by parents dragged through the mud by educators and beaten to death by lawmakers. Although they all have their own opinions and valid points to support their conclusions, researchers have yet to determine which is the smarter sex. Perhaps the answer lies not in the genetic make up of the child but rather in the institution that gives the child identity: our national school system.

Through a recent study of elementary school classrooms in five states, Dr's David and Myra Sadker have begun to unlock the mysteries that have plagued psychologists for decades: Why do boys perform better than girls in

math and science, while girls outshine boys in the creative arts? Why do boys usually out number girls in classroom participation? According to the Sadkers, the answers are in the sex-differentiated used to teach children, who are taught the same material but under different proficiencies.

The Sadkers revealed four very pronounced teaching patterns which found teachers to unwittingly favor male students over female students. Although the bias is generally unconscious and unintentional, its presence is powerful enough to segregate the "weaker" girls from the "stronger" boys thus developing a sex-role stereotypes at every inter-

der age. In every one of the 100 classrooms observed, the Sadkers noticed that of the attention was given to boys. Not only did teachers call on boys more often than girls, but most of the praise as well as the criticism was lavished on the boys—even when their work was comparable to or less than girls.

That difference in involvement in the learning process is crucial, says Myra Sadker Dean of The School of Education at the American University. This is very interesting research. More to come more next week. We will be watching the all girls school in Lubbock.

Who: Volunteers needed who want to make a difference

**When: Saturday, March 29, 2008
Time: 12 pm - 5 pm**

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Contact: Roy or Gloria @ WPS - 748.529

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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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So, this is our resolution to you. Feel free at any time to call this office for information concerning this newspaper or any other matter that is of concern to you.

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The opinions expressed by guest columnists or editorialists are not necessarily the opinions of the publishers/editors or those of the advertisers. Comments and pictures are welcome but the publishers are not responsible to return articles unless a self-addressed stamped envelope is submitted. All notices must be paid in advance. Story deadline is 5 p.m. on Friday. Advertising deadline is 12:00 pm on Monday, the week of publication.

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Subscriptions are \$20 a year or \$40 for 2 years.



In Cinque

by Renetta Howard



Howard

I have listened to many politicians, many times, but the speech by Barack Obama in which he responded to his having been castigated by the media and those against his run for the presidency because of something which his pastor, Rev. Jeremiah A. Wright, the retired pastor of Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago, said in a sermon when Senator Obama was not present in the service, came from his heart. If I had any reason not to believe him in the past, this particular speech cleared the air for certain. He, in my opinion, not only put to rest the notion that he held the same belief as his former pastor, but he also put the race question to rest.

Senator Obama can be seen a human interested in the best welfare for all humankind. Of all of the presidents whom have served this country, the only one whom I feel came close to wanting to serve humanity was Jimmy Carter and we know he has received a Nobel Peace Prize for his works toward that goal. He tried, but the likes of those individuals in the government and the nation as a whole, saw to it that love, peace, brotherhood and better living conditions for all of humankind, would be a long time coming forth, here in America and anywhere else in the world.

Senator Obama gave two examples of how you do not throw someone to the wolves just because you do not agree with them. He spoke of his White Grandmother whom was afraid of Black men, yet she loved him dearly and helped to raise him, and he loved her as well. He told how Rev. Wright means more to him than a pastor and though he disagrees with him, he loves the man that he is. That is a mark of

true friendship, love and respect for your fellowman. I believe that if he can admit this to the world, that he is someone who can be trusted to do the right thing when it comes to carrying out the will of the people in our government. He has shown us that he is a human being, not a political machine.

When a politician can speak to his own state and that of our national government and after being in the 'fish bowl' and scrutinized for months by the media and his competitors, even after deep digging and one can find no more to criticize about than what his pastor said or from whom he purchased property, for that matter, it is a sad commentary on the minds of piggish Americans. The other sad part of the matter is to how many Americans buy into this kind of garbage. Bill Clinton did do something to be picked apart about, when he was President, and maybe Hillary has too, but it is all 'much ado about nothing.' and time for us to get 'in cinque'.

Fuel Company Sasol Announces South Africa's Largest Black Empowerment Deal

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) - South African fuel and petrochemicals group Sasol announced Tuesday it will sell 10 percent of its shares to black investors as part of a campaign to address inequities created by the country's apartheid past.

The deal, the largest transaction to date under the program known as black economic empowerment, involves 63.1 million shares and is valued at rands 26.9 billion (\$3.2 billion), the company announced Tuesday.

Under the structure, 4 percent of shares would go to Sasol's 27,000 mainly black employees, 3 percent to other black South Africans, 1.5 percent to selected black empowerment groups and another 1.5 percent to a foundation set up by the company to focus on training in communities around the company's main plants.

We will make a difference by creating significant economic opportunity for more than 1 million potential beneficiaries ranging from individuals to rural women's groups," Sasol chief executive Pat Davies said in a statement.

The company announced the deal last year and released details of the final terms Tuesday.

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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. You can bring your letter in our office or send it through the mail to: Southwest Digest, Letter to the Editor, 1302 Avenue Q, Lubbock, TX 79401. You can also email us at: swdigest@bglobal.net or fax your letter to (806) 741-0000.

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." - Martin Luther King, Jr.

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Photograph of Bill Clinton and Rev. Wright Surfaces



The Rev. Jeremiah A. Wright Jr. and President Bill Clinton at a prayer breakfast at the White House in September 1998.

According to an account by James Bennet, former White House correspondent who has since left The Times:

With tears in his eyes, President Clinton told a roomful of clerics this morning that he had sinned, speaking just hours before the world was presented a painstaking account by prosecutors of when, where and how.

Addressing an annual prayer breakfast at the White House, Mr. Clinton drew on the New Testament, the Yom Kippur liturgy and Ernest Hemingway as he made his most abject confession yet of personal failure, while declaring that he would defend and redeem his Presidency.

During one of the most difficult periods in the presidency of Bill Clinton, he addressed a group of clerics at an annual prayer breakfast in September 1998 just as the Starr report outlining his dalliance with Monica Lewinsky was about to be published.

Among those in attendance, was the Rev. Jeremiah Wright Jr., who is seen shaking hands with Mr. Clinton in a photograph provided today by the Obama campaign. Mr. Wright's relationship with Senator Barack Obama, as his longtime pastor, has been the subject of considerable controversy in recent days because of incendiary excerpts of sermons Mr. Wright gave at their church, Trinity United Church of Christ, in Chicago.

In providing the photograph to The New York Times, the Obama campaign appeared to be trying to divert some attention to the Clintons after a week in which Mr. Obama's relationship with Mr. Wright has left him facing one of the biggest challenges of his campaign. There is nothing in the picture or the note that addresses whether Mr. Clinton had met Mr. Wright prior to the White House meeting or whether he or Mrs. Clinton knew anything about Mr. Wright's views.

Asked for a response tonight through email, Howard Wolfson, a top aide to Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, wrote, "Urgent indeed — a picture — ooooooooo!"

Senator Clinton's spokesman, Phil Singer, sent along this reply to a request for comment:

In the course of his two terms in office, Bill Clinton met with, corresponded

Mr. Wright was invited to the 1998 prayer breakfast, and in addition, he received a thank-you note from former President Clinton for his expressions of support about six weeks later.

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Continued from Page 4

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Thank God For
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Continued from Page 3

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The Lord blessed me to be on T.V. for a month on the Lady's morning from the Lubbock S. Blessed to be on a 2 full page of the Ad while driving for Durham Btu School!!!
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