

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's ideas and ideals since 1977

February 8-15, 2007

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The Black Press of America
Lighting the road
to Freedom



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 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 Guadalupe & Cherry-Point Neighborhood Association meets the 3rd Tuesday evening of each month at 7:30 pm at Hunt Elementary
- Chatman 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.

Slavery, rebellion and freedom marked turning points in slavery

This is the second of several articles regarding Black history. We will continue these throughout the month of February and beyond. Last week, we talked about the origin of Spanish and Portuguese slavery and its initial impacts.

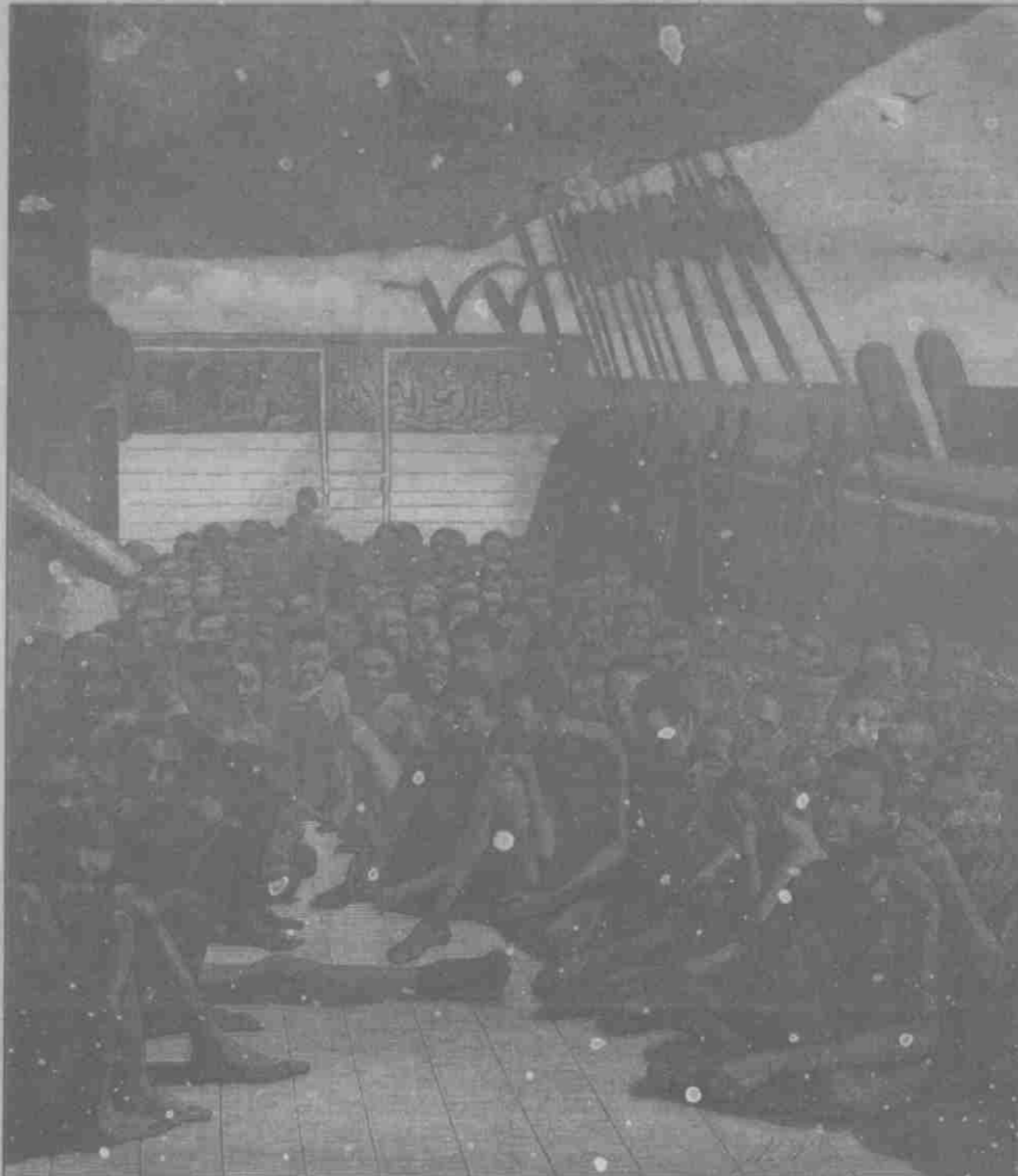
The Slave Era

The extensive use of black African labor during the 16th and 17th centuries on profitable Brazilian and Caribbean sugar plantations provided a model for European colonists in North America, where Indians and white indentured servants were insufficient to meet the demands for agricultural labor.

Although Africans served as guides and soldiers in the initial Spanish conquest of Mexico, most blacks brought to North America were used to produce the export crops - tobacco, rice, indigo, and cotton - that became the major source of the wealth extracted by European nations from their colonies. The English settlers of North America only gradually turned to black slavery to solve their labor shortage. Spain brought at least 100,000 Africans to Mexico during the 16th century, but England did not extensively engage in the slave trade until the Royal African Co. was established in 1663. Although a trickle of Africans began arriving in English North America in 1619, their status was initially similar to that of the white indentured servants, who remained the backbone of the agricultural labor force until the end of the century. As white workers improved their status during this period, however, both free and bonded blacks were subjected to new laws punishing slave disobedience, prohibiting racial intermarriage, restricting manumission, and otherwise ensuring that the political rights and economic opportunities granted to whites would not be extended to Africans or their descendants.

Resistance

Blacks resisted enslavement from the time of capture in Africa but, outnumbered by whites, North American slaves were less likely than Brazilian or Caribbean



The slave deck of the ship "Wildfire", brought into Key West on April, 30, 1860. Image made from a Daguerrotype.

ones to engage in massive rebellions.

Africans in North America typically underwent "seasoning" in the West Indies and a "breaking" process on the mainland, which was designed to supplant African cultural roots with the attitudes and habits of obedience required for slave labor.

Retention of African skills and social patterns was not as common among North American slaves as among their Latin American counterparts, who were more likely to be born in Africa or have extensive contact with African-born slaves. Only in South Carolina,

where slaves became a majority of the population, did planters commonly seek slaves from particular regions of Africa who possessed desired skills, such as the knowledge of rice cultivation. More often, white slaveholders attempted to suppress African culture, believing it was easier to control slaves who spoke English and depended on the skills and knowledge instilled in them by whites. These efforts were not completely successful, however. Slaves Africanized English, Christianity, and other aspects of Western civilization, thereby creating their own unique culture

that combined African with European elements.

Efforts to return to Africa or to establish Maroon (slave) colonies in North America became less common as the proportion of African-born slaves declined, but resistance continued under the leadership of slaves and free blacks, who used their knowledge of white society to improve the status of blacks. Despite the restrictions white masters placed on the education and religious activity of slaves, literacy and Christianity often became vehicles for individual and collective resistance, both to

brutal treatment and to enslavement itself.

Revolution and Rebellion

The American Revolution and Black Rebellions

During the 18th century, black rebelliousness received a new stimulus from the growing popularity among whites of democratic and egalitarian ideas. Slaves exploited the divisions in white society during the American Revolution. Thousands responded to a royal offer of freedom for those who fought with the British, and after the war several thousand black Loyalists went to Canada, most of them settling in Nova Scotia.

About 5000 blacks served in the Continental Army. After the war, revolutionary ideology and Quaker pietism inspired new anti-slavery activities by both blacks and whites. Blacks petitioned state legislatures for freedom, better treatment, or repatriation to Africa. The self-trained black scientist Benjamin Banneker argued against black inferiority in a famous correspondence with U.S. President Thomas Jefferson.

The liberalization of white attitudes was reversed in the South as a result of the profits made possible by the invention of the cotton gin. During the 18th century, the spread of cotton cultivation to the Deep South and southwestern states fostered the rise of an arch-conservative southern political order based on the use of slave labor. Despite this retreat, however, ideas drawn from the American, French, and Haitian revolutions, as well as from Christian idealism and African folk beliefs, remained evident in 19th-century slave resistance, especially the major conspiracies led by Gabriel Prosser in Virginia (1800) and Denmark Vesey in South Carolina (1822). The bloody Nat Turner Rebellion (1831) prompted increased repression of slave activities, although small-scale resistance - running away, tool breaking, sporadic violence - continued to interfere with plantation operations.

Continued on page 4
Black History part 2

African American History celebrated at Iles Elementary



The young people of Ella R. Iles Elementary School celebrated African American History month last Friday, February 2, 2007. Here are some photos taken during this Celebration. Guest speaker was Paul Frazier, principal of Estacado High School.

Young people participated in the celebration by doing various dances.



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:

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Obituaries

James Rudy Boyd

Funeral services for James Rudy Boyd were held Friday morning, January 26, 2007, at the First Church of God in Christ in Slaton, with Elder P. B. Pharis, pastor, officiating. Burial was held in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Active pallbearers were Charles Pringles, Kenneth Mask, Joel Mask, Donloe Boyd, Gerald Wilborn, and Quincy Johnson.

He was born April 4, 1948 to Jerry and Elise Boyd in Sherman, Texas. He married Shirley Brown on April 14, 1990. He was a member of the First Church of God in Christ in Slaton.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Mr. Jerry and Mrs. Elise Boyd; and two brothers, Robert Boyd and Billy Boyd.

He is survived by his wife, Shirley Boyd; two daughters, Patricia Thompson and Kathy Thompson, both of Lubbock; two sons, Justin Brown of Lubbock and Mitchell Elliott; a grandson, Darius Johnson, Jr.; six sisters: Fayrene (Sarge) Crosin Tulsa, Ok., Betty Boyd of Tulsa, Ok., Gaynell (Raymond) Lemons, Sherry (Fredrick) Dedrick, Johnella Boyd, an Mary (Charles) Pringles, all of Lubbock; eight brothers: Marvin Boyd, Clyde (Wilma) Boyd, Ronnie Boyd and Ronald Boyd, and Wilbert (Yolanda) Boyd, all of Lubbock, Arthur (Brenda) Boyd of Oklahoma, Mitchell (Dunnels) Boyd of Oklahoma and Jerry (Brenda) Boyd of Amarillo; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Michael Paul Davis

Funeral services for Michael Paul Davis were held Saturday morning, February 3, 2007, at the Greater St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church with Rev. J. H. Ford, pastor, officiating.

Interment was held in Peaceful Gardens Memorial Park in Woodrow under the direction of Moore Funeral Home of Tulsa, Ok. And Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Pallbearers were: Rodrick McGrew, John McGrew, Reggie Williams, Keith Jordan, Donald Gray and Chris Woods.

He was born August 17, 1981 in Corpus Christi, Texas where he attended elementary school. He later moved to Tulsa, Ok. Where he attended Byrd Middle School and Memorial High School where he was very active in sports.

Michael was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents, Dave and Gloria Bailey; paternal grandparents, Will and Cora Davis; a sister, Autumn Roberts; and a brother, Danny Davis.

Michael leaves to cherish his memories: his daughter, Bailey Alexis Davis; mother, Donna Bailey; father, William "Bill" Davis; significant other, Beatrice Underwood; sisters: Gloria Gray (Donald) of Lubbock, Brenda Garcia (Michael) of Corpus Christi, Cassandra Cromwell (Tom) of Kingsville, Elizabeth McCoy (Mack) of Atlanta, Georgia; brothers: William Davis, Jr. of Chicago, Illinois and Christopher Davis of Kingsville; and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Mildred Mae Evans

Funeral services were held for Mildred Mae Evans last Friday morning, February 2, 2007, at the Alexander Chapel Church with Elder William H. Wat-

son, III, pastor, officiating. Burial was held in Peaceful Gardens Memorial Park in Woodrow under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Pallbearers were Kenneth McCulloch, Joby Robinson, James Rayford, Floyd Dillon, Gordon Harris, Dale Carrington, Wiley Carrington, and Walker Crockett.

Honorary pallbearers were Johnny B. Holland, Herbert Lee Holland, Edwin Holland, and U. B. Holland.

She was born February 21, 1946 to Henry Sherman Evans and Addie Mae Ross in Lubbock. She attended Dunbar High School in Lubbock, and eventually relocated to Houston to reside.

She passed away Thursday, January 25, 2007.

She was preceded in death by her father and mother.

She leaves to cherish her memory: a daughter, Shirley R. Evans and son, James L. E. Evans, both of Lubbock; four brothers: Johnny B. Holland, Edwin Holland, Herbert Lee Holland and U. B. Holland; five sisters: Shirley Mae Evans, JoNeil Johnson, Betty Joe Holland, Vida Ann Sanders, and Wanda Dixon of El Paso, Texas; three grandchildren: LaShunda Evans, Tony Ward and Jeffrey Ward; six great grandchildren: Clera, Jeremiah, Tavian, Mekhl, ZaKerra and Aliyah; a great aunt, Maxine Griffin of Columbus, Ohio; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Laura Harris

Funeral services for Laura Harris were held at the Griffin Mortuary Chapel last Friday afternoon, February 2, 2007.

Interment was held at Peaceful Gardens Memorial Park in Woodrow under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

She passed away Wednesday, January 24, 2007, at Mi Casita Nursing Home.

Sister Roberta Henderson

Carlsbad, New Mexico - Services for Sister Roberta Henderson were held Saturday afternoon, February 3, 2007, at Mount Olive Baptist Church with Pastor R. L. Smith officiating. West Funeral Home of Carlsbad was in charge of arrangements.

Pallbearers were William Henderson, Richard Cotton, Larry Williams, George Henderson, Jr., Fred Williams, and Preston McBride.

Honorary pallbearers were Ricky Williams, Chris Valenzuela, Hillary Hutchinson, Jr., Hillary Hutchinson, III, Willie Williams, Chris Warton and James Williams.

She was born May 5, 1923 to Henry and Ellen (Sadler) Williams in Montgomery, Texas. She was the fifth of seven children. She attended Montgomery public schools, and later married George Henderson, Sr. in Conroe, Texas on October 17, 1943.

In 1950, she moved to Carlsbad, New Mexico where she was a homemaker and raised six children. She was a longtime member of the Mount Olive Baptist Church.

Sister Henderson was preceded in death by her husband, George Henderson of fifty-one years; daughter, Wanda Gay Lewis, son, Allen Wayne Henderson; brothers, W. H. "Snow" Williams and Welton Williams; and sisters, Arlene Boham, Mary Roberts and Mattie Lee Watson.

Those who will forever cherish her memories are: sons: George Henderson, Jr. and William Henderson,

both of Carlsbad; daughters: Irene Cotton of Carlsbad and Anna Laura Henderson of Lubbock; grandchildren: Marilyn Roberts, Dana Vukobratovic, Iris Warton, Misty Bock, Erica Hutchinson, Hillary "Trey" Hutchinson, III and George Henderson, III; sister, Rena Williams; sisters-in-law, Hortence Scott and Alberta Williams; 13 great grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

R.D. Johnson

R.D. Johnson, age 51, died on January 22, 2007, in a single vehicle auto accident in Franklin, Texas. The accident occurred in the early morning hours of Monday, January 22, 2007 in Franklin, Texas when a local resident noticed the BMW vehicle that RD was driving was upside down in a ravine. Traveling in the vehicle with RD was Shearly Ann Edwards of Lubbock, Texas. Both commuters were ejected from the vehicle, and were killed as a result of the crash.

The local newspaper, the Robertson County Eagle, reported the driver lost control of the car while rounding a curve and the car flipped, authorities said. It was further reported that the accident happened about 7 a.m. on E.M. 46 between Franklin and Wheelock cording to reports filed with the Department of Public Safety. It was unclear how fast the car was traveling. Neither of the occupants were wearing seat belts and both were thrown from the car, authorities said, adding that both died at the scene.

R.D. Johnson, was a resident of Lubbock, Texas for nearly 28 years, and was a respected business man and owner of R.D. Johnson Crew Contractors for over 20 years.

The late Mr. Johnson was active in the Lubbock community as he worked diligently with the 100 Black Men of West Texas, Inc. serving as a two term president. The long serving board members of the organization agree that R.D. was the best president that they have ever had. R.D. mentored many young people and assisted the elderly in numerous ways including repairing their homes for minimal cost and even free at times.

Former 100 Black Men President Calvin Davis says, "R.D. was my true friend and a brother to me. I will truly miss him!" Long time friend Michale Henderson says, "R.D. was a good person, and he was incredibly smart. His loss is very difficult to take."

In Lubbock, R. D. was a member of Community Baptist Church before relocating to Arlington, Texas two years ago where he expanded his business into the Dallas area and joined the Freedom Missionary Baptist Church.

Everyone will remember R.D.'s outgoing, friendly and embracing personality as well as his incredible zest for life. He always said that he never met a stranger. And, if you ever had the pleasure of meeting him, you would certainly agree. R.D. will also be remembered as a dedicated and positive contributor toward the enhancement of the African American community in Lubbock.

R.D. is survived by his loving wife, Cheryl Johnson of Arlington, Texas; four children, Cole Crawford, Keenan Crawford, Darius Johnson, and Laciise Johnson. A mother, Lecky Mae Adams, three brothers: Charles Harris, Thomas Harris, and Joseph Smith; one sister, Perleath Curtis, one sister-in law, Harriet Harris; and four grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, February 3, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. at the Freedom Missionary Baptist Church in Dallas.

Magie Runels

Funeral services for Magie Runels were held last Saturday afternoon, February 30, 2007, at the New Hope Baptist Church with Rev. B. R. Moton, pastor, officiating.

Burial was held in peaceful Gardens Memorial

al Park in Woodrow under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

She passed away Friday, January 26, 2007, at the Bonker Terrace Nursing Home.

Dorothy Wheeler

Funeral services for Dorothy Wheeler were held at the Lyons Chapel Baptist Church last Saturday morning, February 3, 2007, with Rev. W. D. Davis, pastor,

officiating. Burial was held in Peaceful Gardens Memorial Park in Woodrow under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home.

She passed away Sunday, January 28, 2007, at Heritage Oaks Nursing Home.



This is Black History Month, and we encourage as many of who can to participate in some of the activities at the various Lubbock Public Schools. This writer was glad to see the celebration at Ella R. Iles Elementary School. If you are interested in a particular school, then just give the call and see what the are doing.

On the campus of Texas Tech University, there is a Black History Month Art Display which will be shown in the Texas Tech University Libraries. This display will continue through February 28, 2007.

A Magnet Open House will take place at the Estacado High School Monday, February 12, 2007, beginning at 6:30 p. m. If you are a parent or just a concerned citizen, go by and see what these young people are doing at Estacado.

For your information, the Academic Decathlon at Estacado has been to the State Competition the past ten years. Estacado is the only Medical Program in Lubbock Public Schools. It is also the only high school in Law and Justice program as well as

Engineering/Architecture program. Just go by and see what is happening at Estacado High School.

The Alderson Middle School will sponsor the 14th Annual African American History Bowl on Thursday, February 22, 2007. Opening ceremonies will be held in the Auditorium beginning at 9:30 a. m. At this Bowl will be a Poster Design Contest, Super Quiz, Oratorical Contest and an Essay Contest. For more information, call George Love, principal, at Alderson Middle School.

The Lubbock Juneteenth Celebration Committee will sponsor its First Annual Black History Month Honor March on Saturday, February 17, 2007, from 11:30 a. m. until 1:00 p. m. This March will be in honor of influential African Americans. The March will begin at MLK Blvd. and Parkway Drive and proceed to the MLK Memorial at Canyon Lake Park.

The public is encouraged to bring posters or to wear T-shirts representing any historical icon.

Let us continue to pray for our sick and shut-in citizens in

Lubbock and other locations. Today it may be them, and tomorrow it could be you or I. If you get an opportunity, give them a telephone message and let them know you are thinking about them. It is just good to know that things won't always last. Just keep on doing what is right in life.

Also, let us not forget those who have lost loved ones. There are several families who have lost loved ones. They include the following families: Mildred Mae Evans family, Laura Harris family, Michael Paul Davis family, R. D. Johnson family, James Rudy Boyd family, Magie Runels family, and Dorothy Wheeler family. Also, the Roberta Henderson family.

Let us not forget that God is able!

As we have always made known, if there are those of you who are having activities in your family, organization, church, then let us know so we can print the news of what you have been involved. This column, "The Chatman Hill Corner", is always willing to advise what you have done or will be doing.

YOUR HEALTH

at the of everything we do

UMC HEART CENTER
UMC HEALTH SYSTEM

FASHION FUN

with Shirley Robinson

THREE TERRIFIC TOPPERS

THREE-QUARTER LENGTH JACKETS - A great alternative to a weekend jean jacket, with a dash of dress-up for good measure, this coat belies a casual attitude that can be dressed up with your favorite print shirt or

back for a more modern twist.

SHAWL COLLAR SWING COAT - This wear-anywhere three-quarter length coat with hook and eye closure is a great way to dress up your look. Use it as an overcoat coat. Don't be afraid of color with this jacket. A bright hue can be your best friend.

FOUND AT YOUR DET-TEX DEPT STORES

FASHION TIP: Always wear a bra with FASHION - Just in case!



Church News



We Thank God for Jesus Preaching For Profits

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

Isaiah 55:8 - For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, said the Lord.

Revelations 2:7a - Jesus said, he that hath an ear, let him hear what the spirit said unto the Churches.

The word of the Lord came unto me saying, cry out against the money loving Church. They're not about God's business, and I know when speaking the truth, it will hurt!!!

Mark 11:17 - Jesus said, is it not written, my house shall be called of all nations the House of Prayer? But you have made it a den of thieves.

***** Will The Preachers Rob God???**

Deuteronomy 32:1-2, 5 - Give ear, O You Earth, and I will speak, and hear, O Earth, the words of my mouth. My doctrine shall drop as the rain. My speech shall distill as the dew. As the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass. They are corrupt themselves. Their spot is not the spot of his children. They are a perverse and crooked generation.

Preachers don't trust in God. They don't think He'll take care of their needs. So they come up with a new game called Me and My Wife, and the Church Anniversary!!!

1 JOHN 4:1 - Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try

the spirit whether they be of God, because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

***** I Ask Will A Preacher Rob God???**

Revelation 2:11a - Jesus said, he that hath an ear, let him hear what the spirit said unto the Churches.

The Preachers play that game: First you bring your Church people over to me, and when your Anniversary come, I will bring my Church over for you to fleece (rob)!!!

Isaiah 56:11-12 - The Lord said, his watchmen are blind. They are all ignorant. They are dumb dogs. They cannot bark, sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber. Yes, they are all greedy dogs which can never have enough. And they are Shepherds who cannot understand. They all look to their own way, everyone for his gain, from his quarter (four quarters equals - Anniversary).

Many Preachers use the storehouse: as it was their own personal bank account. But the word of God is the guideline, and in the Bible, that can't even be found!!!

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

***** Read Malachi Chapter 1**

And 2. And Not Just 3:8!!!

The Preacher let the ungodly hold positions in the Church. If they pay their tithes. That is how the Preachers rob God. The House of God is supposed to be sanctified!!!

Matthew 23:27 - Jesus said, woe (cursed) unto you, Scribes and Pharisees, Hypocrites! For you are like unto white sepulchers, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead man's bones, and all are unclean.

(The Churches have a problem, and it's inside the Church, and the un-save man can see it. They don't want to come in, saying, "I can go to hell by staying in the lost world!!!")

Revelation 2:17a - Jesus said, he that have an ear, let him hear what the spirit said unto the Churches.

***** Yes, The Churches Rob God!!!**

Malachi 1:6 - A son honors his Father, and a servant his master. If then I be a Father, where is my honor? And if I be a master where is my fear? Said the Lord of Host unto you, O Priest, that despise my name, and you say, wherein have we despised your name.

I am just a nobody, trying to tell everybody about Jesus' body hanging and dying on the Cross for the sins of everybody!!!



From the Desk of Parson D.A. Smith A Clean Storybook Man: Barack Obama?

Above the fold of the January 18-24, 2007, issue of the Southwest Digest was a beacon of hope for all America and especially Black America.

The caption above the picture read "Senator Barack and Michelle Obama: America's Next First Couple?" Here two beautiful human beings embrace in a picture of true love. This is a visual conception of a wellspring of the Seven Heavenly virtues: "faith, hope, charity, fortitude, justice, temperance and prudence."

My heart begins to race with excitement from the pictorial visual of a new America. An America that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. vision in his "I Have a Dream Speech" - One day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that one day (we) will lie in a where (we) will not be judged by the color of (our) skin but by the content of (our) character; one day... little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers; one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

I could see my nephew who is well educated and a prudent businessperson becoming the governor of Texas. I could see my great nephews and nieces becoming U. S. Representatives and Senators from Texas. I felt like sitting at my musical instrument and in harmony singing what we song in our small Black only school in East Texas: "My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim's pride, from every mountainside, let freedom ring."

However, to my chagrin I discovered that my thoughts might be a visionary creation of my imagination. The loquacious chairman of the Senate Foreign Relation Committee: Senator Joe Biden, Democrat of Delaware reminded Black Americans in a sense that they were swimming without the intelligence in an ocean design for white America.

This male servant of a bigot white establishment insulted all African-Americans males. Listen to what he says about Senator Barack Obama: "I mean, you got the first mainstream African-American who is articulate and bright and clean and a nice-looking guy. I mean, that's a storybook, man."

The key word that is perhaps overlooked by some is "storybook." Storybook as a noun means a book of stories

for children. Storybook used as an adjective means a fairy-tale. Fairy-tale means characteristic of or suitable to a fairy tale; especially marked by seemingly unreal beauty, perfection, luck or happiness." You perhaps now get the smell of this barnyard chemical mixture.

Rush Limbaugh, conservative talk show host and certain not one of this writers favorite characters asked, "He is a clean African-American? If Biden thinks that Obama is clean then he has to think that others are not clean. Does he mean that he knows that Jesse Jackson is not clean? Does he mean that he knows that Reverend Sharp-ton is not clean? ... See, folks, this is the problem for the libs. Once they get off script they expose their idiocy, they expose their prejudice."

Rev. Jesse Jackson told ABC News that Biden words were loaded.

Biden words might be acceptable to some who have not paid any dues for the limited freedom enjoyed by Black Americans. However, to those who paved the way for Blacks like to Obama they are not acceptable. Political and racial fertilizer of this magnitude is harmful to a country that is already hated by most of the people on planet earth and who sovereignty is threatened by the Totalization Act between Mexico and Canada.

Outreach Prayer Breakfast

The members and friends of the Outreach Prayer Breakfast No. 3 met in the home of Minister Haezzie Nichols and wife. It was hosted by President Luella Spence. What a time! What a time I had!

The morning scripture lesson was taught by Minister Nichols. His subject was "Suffering living With Tragedy!" He spoke from the Books of Job and II Timothy. This man of God brought a powerful lesson. Come by the meeting and hear this teacher of the word. Special prayers went forward!

(Words by Reporter): Did you know if you are a Christian, you are part of the body with Christ as the head. We don't dis-

cuss religions; that's not important. If you accept Jesus Christ as the Son of God and let Him come into your heart as Lord and Saviour, you are a part of the body, and there isn't but one head which is Christ Jesus.

And also, he hath put all things under his feet, and gave us to be the overseer over all things to the Church, which is His body. This body has many members, but one head, only one. So you see, a name doesn't mean much. It's what's on the inside. Christ is head of us all. You see, there should be no chasm in the body, but it is sure important that all parts work together, for best results. If your physical body becomes ill, you go to your

physician and get medication to heal whatever is wrong. So it should be with the Church's body if there is spiritual illness, work on it with Love until it heals. With Christ as head, the Church should be filled with Love. There is healing power in Love. If you have wounded anyone today, with Love in your heart, you will find a more excellent way.

Thanks to all guest for coming. We just love all of you! Remember, you're special to us! Remember, we're praying for you daily!

Sister Luella Spence, President of No. 3; Sister Dorothy Hood, Reporter, and Sister Patricia Harvest, Secretary.

Juneteenth Committee Celebrates Black History

The Lubbock Juneteenth Celebration Committee will be hosting our First Annual Black History Month Honor March, Saturday, February 17, 2007 beginning at MLK Blvd and Parkway Drive and proceeding to the MLK Memorial at Canyon Lake Park, from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

This March will celebrate and honor the memory of all influential African American

historians including artists, inventors, civil rights leaders, etc. The Juneteenth Celebration Committee is hoping all Lubbock communities and/or neighborhoods will feel compelled to come out and participate in this event.

We are asking that all schools, colleges and/or university students come out and participate as well as businesses,

churches, clubs and organizations. Please feel free to bring posters of pictures of you favorite historian or individual you would like to honor to carry along in the procession.

Thank you in advance on behalf of the Juneteenth Committee. Please feel free to call if you have any further questions. (806) 744-2495 or (806) 283-2990.

St. Matthew's Baptist Church News

"I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the House of the Lord!"

Church services last Sunday morning, February 4, 2007, at the St. Matthew Baptist Church, 2020 East 14th Street, were well attended. Rev. Edward Canady is the proud pastor.

Services got underway with Sunday School beginning at 10:15 a.m. with Superintendent Sister Luella Harris in charge.

The morning lesson was taught by Sister Harris, and reviewed by Pastor Canady. The morning lesson was entitled "Protection From Evil." The scripture text was John 10:1-5; 7-18. What a wonderful lesson!

The morning worship hour began with devotion at 11:15 a.m. with Deacon Edward Williams and Brother Gerald Jackson in charge.

The St. Matthew Baptist Church Senior Choir sung out of their hearts and souls. Oh, what a wonderful time we had singing God's praises!

Pastor Canady delivered another powerful sermon. His subject was "If You Believe; Help Me Lift Jesus!" Praise God

for the mighty word. It was just a wonderful sermon for all in attendance.

Let us continue to pray for all who are on the sick and shut-in list. If you know of someone who is ill, please continue with prayer and visits. God is able!

Remember if you are looking for a Church Home, come and visit St. Matthew Baptist Church. You will be glad you did!

Thought For The Week: "If you are true to God, you want be false to others!"

Lincoln/Douglass Committee

The Alliance for Human Relations & Social Justice would like to invite you to attend our annual tea

February 11, 2007
4:00-6:00pm
KoKo Palace
5101 Avenue Q
Lubbock, TX

Donations are \$20 and are tax deductible. Entertainment and food are provided, and there will also be a silent auction!

Tickets are available for purchase at

Paul's Barbera Shop - 1528 E. 19th - 741-1088
Ceviel's Pharmacy 1719 Ave. A - 765-5311
Parkway Bronze Lady Salon - 1716 E. Broadway - 762-1506
Emma Jackson - 1812 E. 24th - 762-3350
Mary Cato-Denson - 2203 E. 29th - 781-7976/744-5050

City of Lubbock asks for prayers from community

The City of Lubbock, Pray Lubbock, and Lubbock County, have proclaimed Sunday, February 18, 2007, as a day to commence praying for Lubbock. Citizens are encouraged to remember the acronym "HEART", and pray for:

Hope for those facing discouraging situations;
Economic blessings and provision for the needs of our citizens and community;
Authenticity in all government, business, and personal dealings;
Rains for our crops, streams, lakes, and reservoirs;
Teenagers to live, drive, and grow up in safety and with a sense of purpose and destiny.

The City hopes citizens will have a HEART for prayer, and keep the entire community in their prayers throughout the year.

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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

Rev. Sonia J. Beaty

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

**Texas Tech University
Employment Opportunities**

The Texas Tech University Physical Plant Utilities section is currently accepting applications for:

Sr. Technician REQ#60438 Completion of High School or equivalent. Bachelor's degree and four years work experience preferred to safely supervise and perform skilled work in the installation, maintenance, and repair to electrical systems and equipment according to the National Electric Code at Central Heating & Cooling Plant I, II, International Textile Center and museum. Maintains electronic pneumatic and mechanical controls, sensing and switching devices designed to control flow and temperature of air, steam chill water, etc.

Sr. Tradesman REQ#62201 Completion of High School or equivalent. Four years skilled work experience in the maintenance of generating boilers, turbine, and large air conditioning equipment including supervisory experience OR specific experience in welding, pipe fitting or heavy industrial maintenance. Maintains boilers, turbines, refrigeration chillers, and all supporting equipment and associated systems. Competent verbal and written communication skills. Qualify for Universal Refrigerant Handling Certification within six (6) months of employment. Must pass a drug screen, and background check. Competent verbal and written communication skills required. Valid driver's license and insurable to operate a university vehicle. Online application available at <http://jobs.texas-tech.edu>. Computer terminals are available at Texas Tech University Personnel Department, Room 143, Drane Hall or Physical Plant, Room 105. (806) 742-3851 ext 238. Jobline (806) 742-2211. Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action/American Disabilities Act Institution.

... Slavery, rebellion and freedom

Continued from page 1
Black History part 2

Semifree Blacks

Although more than 90 percent of the black population in the U.S. was enslaved at the time of the 1790 census, the small population of freed blacks had already established its own social institutions and had begun efforts to improve the conditions of the race. Most of these efforts were centered in cities, which offered more liberty to black residents than did rural areas. Even black slaves had some freedom of movement in the cities, and they generally possessed greater skills and had better access to information than was common on plantations. By the end of the 18th century, Philadelphia blacks under the leadership of Richard Allen had founded what became (1816) the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and blacks in New York City had formed the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church. By that time black Baptist churches had also been established in various other communities, mostly in the South. In Boston, Philadelphia,

and Providence, R.I., black Masonic lodges had been organized under the leadership of Prince Hall (1748-97).

By the time of the Turner Rebellion, black urban communities sustained a variety of churches, fraternal orders, schools, self-help groups, and political organizations. Although literacy was still uncommon, these institutions fostered self-confidence among black leaders and encouraged them to express their concerns to the general population. The determination of blacks to decide their own destiny was revealed in their newspapers, such as Freedom's Journal, founded in 1827, and in militant pamphlets, including Appeal (1829) by David Walker (1785-1830). During the 1830s black leaders gathered annually in national conventions to discuss strategies for racial advancement.

Efforts by blacks to improve their conditions ranged from the adoption of prevailing white values to attempts to reform or escape American society. The black shipowner Paul Cuffee (1759-1817), for example,

avored a return to Africa and in 1815 succeeded in transporting a small group of free blacks to Sierra Leone. In 1817, however, when whites in the newly formed American Colonization Society (ACS) announced their desire to return free blacks to Africa, black representatives assembled by Richard Allen firmly rejected the idea, arguing that they should not abandon their enslaved fellow blacks. In subsequent years, blacks continued to discuss the option of immigrating to Canada, Latin America, or Africa. Although the ACS established a colony in Liberia in 1822, foreign colonization ventures received little support until the 1850s.

Discrimination against manumitted slaves was intense throughout the U.S. Although blacks could vote in some northern states in the years after the Revolution, the extension of voting rights to propertyless men was accompanied by new restrictions on black political participation, landownership, and social contact with whites. By the 1830s, most southern and some northern states restricted or prohibited the entry of free

blacks; Ohio law required entering blacks to post \$500 bonds. An attack on the Cincinnati black community by a white mob in 1829 was followed in the next few years by similar riots in other northern cities, where white workers resented competition from blacks for jobs. Although southern free blacks lived in societies that feared and often restricted their presence, they had greater opportunities than northern blacks to work as artisans and even to acquire property. In New Orleans, La., for example, 753 blacks owned slaves, according to the 1830 census. Most urban blacks lived on the margins of society, however, barred from public educational facilities, good housing, and legal protection. For thousands of antebellum blacks, Canada (where slavery was outlawed in 1833) and, to a lesser degree, Mexico became places of refuge.

Abolitionist Movement

Increased discrimination, combined with the growth of black literacy, institutional strength, and economic

resources, encouraged a trend toward greater militancy after 1830. Impatience with gradualist plans to end slavery prompted the abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison to advocate immediate abolition and, with black help, to found the American Anti-Slavery Society in 1833. Many black activists later became disenchanted with Garrison's notion that slavery could be ended by moralistic arguments; instead they stressed the need for political action and,

ultimately, violent resistance. The growing militancy was displayed in 1839, when black communities raised funds to defend Africans in the Amistad Case. Some blacks broke with Garrison to join the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, while others worked within all-black self-help societies and local groups established to help runaway slaves.

Next week, we will cover the civil war and Reconstruction.

Human Rights Campaign salutes Black History Month

Tribute Highlights Current and Rising Leaders in the Black GLBT Community

Washington, DC - To commemorate Black History Month, the Human Rights Campaign will honor a cross-section of African-American leaders who are helping move the march for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender equality forward within their communities and society as a whole.

The Human Rights Campaign will honor their achievements and excellence in a special section of the HRC website at www.hrc.org/blackhistory. As part of the Human Rights Campaign's celebration of National Black History Month, throughout the month of February HRC will continuously recognize the sacrifices, contributions and successes made by the African-American community for equality.

"At work, in their houses of worship and in their everyday lives, these leaders are writing new chapters in American history today by telling the stories of black GLBT Americans," said Joe Solmonese, president of the Human Rights Campaign. "They are truly leading the charge for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Americans equality and are empowering black GLBT individuals to live openly and honestly."

The first group of leaders to be recognized as the month kicks off are: Mignon Moore - Associate Professor, Sociology, University of California, Los Angeles; Bishop John Selders - Pastor, Amistad

United Church of Christ and Member, HRC Religion and Faith Council; Nathan Hale Williams - Actor/Entertainment Producer.

A video message from HRC President Joe Solmonese and photos and biographies of the honorees will be available at www.hrc.org/blackhistory. Additional honorees will be featured throughout February.

The Human Rights Campaign is America's largest civil rights organization working to achieve gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender equality. By inspiring and engaging all Americans, HRC strives to end discrimination against GLBT citizens and realize a nation that achieves fundamental fairness and equality for all.



CATFISH CORNER

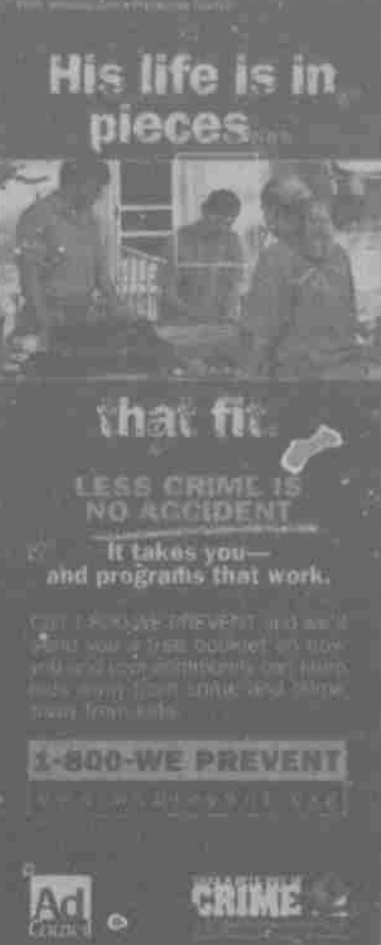
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Hamburger	.99
Combo Special #46 (5 Hamburgers)	4.85
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4 Hotdogs	2.99
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Danielle Raven-Ward	239-1867	trayubblend.com
Valencia Howard-Bogon	743-2646	valencia_howard03@yahoo.com
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Christ Temple Choir Black History Musical

February 15, 2007 • 7:00 pm

Come dressed in your African attire

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Supt. W. David Haynes, Pastor

1st Mother Myrta Haynes Choir President

Guest Choirs, Groups and Soloists will be featured in this musical drama.

Come and bring someone with you and be blessed!

For further information, call 744-5334 or 744-1400.

Strong and Williams to speak at Lincoln/Douglass Tea

Guest speakers at the Annual Lincoln/Douglass Tea on Sunday afternoon, February 11, 2007, at the KoKo Palace, 5101 Avenue Q, beginning at 4:00 p.m. will be Eric Emerson Strong and Chuck Williams. Strong is known as a wearer of many hats. Among the hats he wears is that of a poet, an

educator, a lay-historian, a writer, an art activist, and a nationally recognized storyteller. He specializes in stories of the Old West, folktales, personal stories and peace tales of hope and self-esteem.

Strong has a Bachelor's degree from Prairie View A & M University and a Masters degree from Texas Tech University. He retired last week as Upward Bound Director after twenty-five years. He is the founder of the Roots Historical Arts Council. His record of service and dedication to the arts and humanities has led to him being named "Man of the Year" on two occasions - once by the Confederated Women's Clubs of West Texas and a second time by the Lubbock Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. He has also been named "Texas Man of Distinction" by the National Business League of Texas and "Top Techman" by the Texas Tech Alumni Association.

Williams will speak on the life contributions of Abraham Lincoln. He was a part of the original core group that planted Live Oak back in t

he fall of 1993. He has served the church as Senior Pastor since that time. He and his wife Ann have a son, Richard, who is married to Johanna. They live in Dallas where Richard is on the staff at the University of Texas at Dallas, and Johanna is employed by an architectural firm.

A graduate of Coronado High School, Wayland Baptist University, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Chuck has been in ministry for over thirty years, much of that time as a youth minister. His experiences as a church staff member and pastor have given him insights into the practical applications of God's Word. Chuck and Ann have traveled Route 66 extensively. Chuck's book, "Eternal Route 66," takes the reader on an inspirational trip across Route 66 and, at the same time, through key passages in each of the sixty-six books of the Bible.

Chuck's extra-curricular interests include tennis, biking, traveling with Ann and following Texas Tech athletics.

The Tea is sponsored by the Lincoln/Douglass Committee, and is a fundraiser for 2007 scholarships. Tickets are \$20 or a table for 8 for \$200. Tickets may be purchased at one of the following locations: Caviel's Pharmacy, Parkway Bronze Lady Salon, Paul's Barber Shop, or by calling 762-3350 or 781-7976.



Strong



Williams

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MAGNET OPEN HOUSE

Monday, February 12, 2007
6:30 p.m. Estacado High School



Estacado High School...

where academic experiences cultivate skills for professional careers.

- The Academic Decathlon has been to the State Competition the past 10 years!
- Estacado High School offers experienced-based courses for the professional careers in architecture, engineering, medicine, law and justice, and military.
- Estacado High School has the ONLY Medical Program in the Lubbock Independent School District.
- Estacado High School has the ONLY Law and Justice Program in the Lubbock Independent School District.
- Estacado High School has the ONLY Engineering/Architecture Program in the Lubbock Independent School District.

Come find out about all the opportunities that ONLY Estacado High School has to offer!
February 12, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.

Last Week's Crossword Puzzle Answers: Valentine's Day

A	T	O	P		S	H	E		H	U	L	A			
B	A	L	E		A	H	O	Y		B	A	L	E	D	
E	R	A	S		H	A	L	E		I	M	A	G	O	
L	O	V	E	B	I	R	D	S		L	I	N	O		
				T	U	M	P	S		E	L	L			
S	M	E	A	R	S				J	E	S	T	E	R	S
P	O	L		R	A	S	C	A	L		O	G	E	E	
R	O	M	E	O		A	W	N		A	N	G	L	E	
I	L	E	X		E	N	M	E	S	H		A	I	M	
G	A	R	L	A	N	D				H	E	A	R	T	S
				I	T	S			C	L	E	A	T		
	U	M	B	O		B	U	L	L	D	O	Z	E	R	
G	N	A	R	L		O	P	A	L		M	E	M	O	
S	I	G	I	L		N	I	M	S		I	R	I	S	
A	X	I	S			A	D	A			C	O	R	E	

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NELCDC to announce new director

The North and East Lubbock Community Development Corporation (NELCDC) will hold a press conference to introduce the organization's new executive director at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, February 9 in the cafeteria of the former Hunt Elementary School, located at 415 North Ivory Avenue.

The new executive director replaces John Hall, who accepted a position with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in September.

The mission of the North & East Lubbock CDC is to create, facilitate and promote develop-

ment in north and east Lubbock. The NELCDC's main project has been the development of King's Dominion, a \$6 million housing development that will eventually yield more than 55 single-family homes. This housing development is the first planned housing development to be built in east Lubbock since the mid-1950's.

The NELCDC also continues work on Parkway Place, the organization's first economic development project estimated to be a 20,000 square foot shopping center to meet the consumer needs of the north and east Lubbock communities.

Friends of the Library hold book sale

The Annual Book Lover's Sale will be held on Saturday, February 10 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., in the basement of the Mahon Library, 1306 9th St. All items will be half price, including books for adults and children, "Better Books," tapes, CDs, and videos.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Lubbock Public Library, the sale is

open to the public, and the proceeds benefit the programs and services of the library.

Book sale attendees are also invited to visit the C-Span2 "Book TV Live," which will be parked in the Mahon Library parking lot from 11:00 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Saturday.

For more information, please call 775-2824.

Celebrate Mardi Gras for good cause

Lubbock Meals on Wheels is presenting the eighth annual Mardi Gras Celebration. The event will take place on Tuesday, February 20, 2007 from 5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at the Civic Center Exhibit Hall. This spectacular event will include thirty-five food booths (with selections from your favorite local restaurants), live jazz music by the Shinn/Turner Dixieland Band, a large silent auction (with items from various local merchants), cash bars, plus a variety of activities and prizes. A King and Queen in full regal attire and colorful masks and beads will be available to make the evening even more festive. Everyone will also enjoy entertainment such as face painters, dancers, clowns, magicians, jugglers and flamboyant decorations in the official colors of purple, green, and gold. The expanded Children's Area includes a bouncer, photo area and several games and activities to keep the kids entertained. Be sure to check out the new French Market in the Pedestrian Mall to take home some fabulous treasures such as trendy shirts, fragrances, jewelry, and other items.

Tickets are \$25 for adults (includes one chance for the benefit drawing), \$10 for children under 12 and can be purchased in advance at Lubbock Meals on Wheels, any Select-A-Seat location (service charge applies) or for \$30 at the door. We accept cash, checks, or credit cards and will be happy to mail tickets or hold them at the door. The benefit drawing is for two roundtrip Southwest Airline tickets or a handcrafted original "Mardi Gras" necklace by artist Ginger Bondock. Additional chances for the drawing are \$5 and are available in advance through the Lubbock Meals on Wheels office on the night of the event.

You need not be present to win so even if you cannot attend the event you can still help support it by purchasing drawing tickets (please call or come by our office to do so). Please join us for a fantastic and fun evening and support a great program that feeds the homebound community. For more information, please call Lubbock Meals on Wheels at 792-7971.

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Editorials • Comments • Opinions



THIS 'N' THAT

by T.J. Patterson

RON KIRK TO SPEAK AT MEETING IN LUBBOCK! THIS N THAT has had an opportunity of meeting with local pastors and ministers who belong to an organization named LIMA. Their president is SUPT. W. DAVID HAYNES. Local leaders and community workers have made plans for an outstanding program on "THE STATE OF THE BLACK COMMUNITY". The speaker is going to be the former mayor of Dallas, **RON KIRK**, who also made a bid for U.S. SENATE in 2004. He lost the bid, but if **BLACK FOLK** would have voted for **RON KIRK**, he could have won that election. That has already happened, and he is coming to Lubbock to address a very serious problem in the Black community. **THIS N THAT** is glad to see this will take place **TUESDAY AFTERNOON**, February 20, 2007 at Lubbock Christian University. Tickets will be \$25 PER PERSON and \$250 PER TABLE. The program needs the help of the **BLACK COMMUNITY** to help with this special effort. **THIS N THAT** really believes this can be a tremendous asset for the **BLACK COMMUNITY**, and the total community will benefit. A **PRESS CONFERENCE** will take place at the **BOBBIE GEAN & T. J. PATTERSON LIBRARY** at 10 a.m. to explain the

program coming forth on February 20th. **THIS N THAT** is hoping the **BLACK COMMUNITY** will support this effort, and hopefully will talk it up.

OUR BLACK KIDS NEED US AND WE WON'T STEP UP! **THIS N THAT** has learned that we as a **PEOPLE** won't step up to the plate when it comes to volunteering to **HELP** these little boys and girls. It is very important we **VOLUNTEER** with the new baseball fields on line for this upcoming season. The **MARTIN LUTHER KING LITTLE LEAGUE** really needs you to step up and quit talking, and be willing to help! If you want to become a volunteer, give **QUINCY WHITE** a call at 762-1191, and do it today. Will you help these young people? Hope you will do so! Our young people need your help!

PENNY HASTINGS THE BARBER SAYS, "A TRUE FRIEND IS LIKE SUPPORT TO A LEANING WALL."

GET INVOLVED DURING BLACK HISTORY MONTH! **THIS N THAT** is encouraging as many as can to **GET INVOLVED** during Black History Month. As a **BLACK PEOPLE**, we can't afford to forget from whence we have come from over the years. Even in Lubbock, it hasn't always been like this for Black folks. Today, as our

forefathers had a difficult time, but they reared their children so they would have a much better life. It is good see the **LUBBOCK JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION COMMITTEE** reach out into the Black Community and sponsor the first annual **BLACK HISTORY MONTH MARCH**, which will be scheduled for Saturday morning, **FEBRUARY 17, 2007** at 11:30 a.m. at the corner of **MLK Blvd.** and **Parkway Drive**. The organization is inviting people to bring their posters or wear a T-shirt representing any Black historical icon. Here is another way to **GET INVOLVED** during Black History Month. Will you get involved?

LINCOLN/DOUGLASS TEA SUNDAY! **THIS N THAT** is asking as many as can to **SUPPORT** the upcoming **LINCOLN/DOUGLASS TEA** which will be held **SUNDAY AFTERNOON**, February 11, 2007 at the **KoKo Palace**, 5101 Avenue Q, from 4-6 p.m. Guest speakers will be **ERIC STRONG & CHUCK WILLIAMS** who will discuss the importance of **FREDRICK DOUGLASS** and **ABRAHAM LINCOLN**. Hope you will be in attendance!! Tickets are only \$20 per person and tables for eight are \$200 each. For more information call Emma Jackson at 762-3350.



Think About It!

As We Approach Black History Month, Part 2

by Eddie P. Richardson

(Editor's Note: Last week, we gave a brief history of how Black History Month was started. Here is the conclusion of the founder, Dr. Carter G. Woodson.)

After two years, Woodson became the Dean at West Virginia State College. While at Howard University, he started a publishing company, The Associated Publishers. Dr. Woodson authored more than 16 books, in excess of 100 articles, and greater than 125 book reviews. Some of his books include *The Negro in Our History*, *The Education of the Negro Prior to 1861*, *A Century of Negro Migration*, *The History of the Negro Church*, *The*

Negro Professional, *African Myths*, *Negro Makers of History*, *The Story of the Negro Reel*, and *The African Background Outlined*.

In 1926, Woodson founded Black History Week. He chose February because most African Americans did not know the 13th Amendment freeing the Africans had been signed in January 1865. (Africans in some southern states, i. e., Texas and Louisiana did not find out until June giving us the holiday Juneteenth.) Woodson selected the second week in honor of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln.

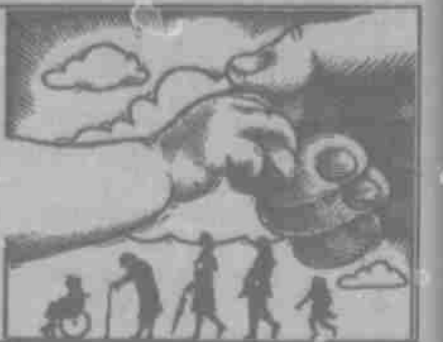
Woodson lived during an exciting era. His life encom-

passed Booker T. Washington, W. E. B. Du Bois, Marcus Harvey, A. Phillip Randolph, and the Harlem Renaissance. He was a member of the Niagra Movement that led to the founding of the NAACP. While he worked with Du Bois, this did not negate his involvement with Marcus Garvey. Woodson was a regular columnist in Garvey's newspaper, the Negro World.

Woodson died in 1950 of heart disease while working on a six volume Encyclopedia Africana. Woodson never married because he felt his travel and research schedule were not conducive to marriage. He said, "I am married to my work."

In Cinque

by Renetta Howard



It has been said that history repeats itself. We can recall many years ago before the bombing of Pearl Harbor, that the president at the time,

Franklin Delano Roosevelt had a meeting with a special Japanese peace envoy in Washington, D. C. in November, 1941, to work out problems

between the United States and Japan regarding Japanese expansion in the western hemisphere. Shortly afterwards, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor in Hawaii on December 7, 1941, on a Sunday. The United States was thus drawn into World War II, supposedly the last world war. The United Nations was established to eliminate the need for such a war, ever again.

Everyone is now aware that the United States invaded Iraq without a legitimate reason for doing so and by the same token, the citizens of this country would like to see an end to the fighting,

bloodshed and waste of United States taxes which could be better spent on childcare, aids to the elderly, better schools, better health facilities with a reduction in costs and enough nourishing food without obesity. As a result of citizen awareness, our legislators in Washington, D. C. are diligently working to establish a bipartisan resolution to bring an end to the American involvement in Iraq and bring our troops home, soon. President Bush and few of his supporters are still trying to drum up support for escalation in Iraq, saying that this is the way to end the war. Send in more troops.

In the meantime, Prime Minister Blair of England and the Prime Minister of Iraq have visited President Bush in the United States. They have all occupied themselves with the participation of Iran in nuclear endeavors and its involvement in Iraq. The Euro-American alliance does not want Iran with nuclear power and threatens sanctions. At the same

time, Iranian officials found in Iraq are being arrested for meddling in Iraq's affairs and keeping the war in action. Some are even said to dress like American troops and then kill American troops, causing Americans not to know who their enemies are.

If the Iranians are indeed causing escalations of the war in Iraq and the British and the Americans know this while having a dialogue with these countries saying that they are not guilty as accused and wish to help to bring about peace, it wreaks of plots, counterplots, intrigue and subterfuge, just like the French Revolution and we need to get 'in cinque' and pay attention to what happens. Is it *deja vu*? World War III?



Commentary: Turn off the television

By Tonyaa Weathersbee BlackAmericaWeb.com

It's too bad that we need more proof of this, but here goes: These days, no one should count on television as a trusted babysitter.

Especially not black parents.

The latest reminder of what I call our genocide-by-airwaves comes by way of the Parents Television Council. The watchdog group recently released a study, titled "Dying to Entertain," which revealed that television violence had soared 75 percent since the beginning of the decade. Programs dominated by bullets and bloodiness increased 45 percent from 8 to 9 p.m. and by 92 percent from 9 to 10 p.m. From 10 to 11 p.m., the blood-letting increased by a whopping 167 percent.

And we aren't even talking cable here.

Of course, Federal Communications Commission officials, as well as the council, are weighing whether Congress ought to step in to deal with the problem. But even if they did something about the violence, that still wouldn't do much to boost television's wholesomeness factor for black youths.

It's destroying them in too many other ways.

It's no secret that black youths, as a whole, spend countless more hours watching television than their white counterparts. Much of the reason behind that is, as in most things that govern the lives of black people, socioeconomic and safety. Because a disproportionate number of black parents are likely to live in dangerous neighborhoods, they are more likely to keep their children indoors. And because more are likely to live in poverty, they are less likely to be able to afford to reward their children with more wholesome ventures - like having a car to take them on trips to the beach or other happenings.

And once they're indoors, they're watching television - where they're not only exposed to the same type of violence that their parents are trying to protect them from, but to a host of other images and ideals that are eroding too many of their lives.

For example, a recent study published in the Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine found that of nearly 1,100 ads aired on afternoon and evening shows on Black Entertainment Television, more than 66 percent were for fast food, while another 82 percent were for drinks and 60 percent were for snacks. Another study by Baylor College of Medicine found that 62 percent of black children, most of

whom watch a whopping four or more hours of television per day, are more likely to eat dinner in front of the TV. The food becomes part of the show: they don't know when to turn it off.

It's hard not to see that as a diversion that could ultimately destroy their health.

But I have a deeper problem than the fact that television may cause too many of our kids to become obese and violent. Because black people continue to be overrepresented on television as athletes, singers and rappers, it tends to feed illusions, rather than foist reality on children who sit in front of it all the time.

I believe this is especially true of black boys.

My newspaper, for example, recently did this series on homicides in Jacksonville. In it, they featured a 26-year-old former drug dealer who is on Death Row for killing two people. One of the things that stuck out to me was the fact that during the interview, he comments that if he hadn't slid down a murderous path, he probably would have tried to play professional basketball.

This comes from a guy who couldn't even manage to stay in school past the ninth grade.

Now, I don't know whether this guy got the notion that he could be a professional basketball player without even being on a high school team off of television or off the hopelessness around him; the kind that tells far too many black youths that the only ticket out for them is athletics. But I've talked to enough guys like him to know that media often feeds that kind of ridiculousness.

Television makes the stuff that's tougher to achieve, like making it as a professional athlete or as an entertainer, seem easy, and the more attainable stuff, like becoming a doctor, a lawyer, or a teacher, seem insurmountable and unreachable. They begin to buy into the myth that black people don't do academics, that their power lies in their physicality or attitude. Too much television causes them to miss the connection between school, hard work and a prosperous life by promoting a culture of instant gratification and by skewed notions of the things that convey prosperity and respectability.

It doesn't help them imagine broader possibilities for themselves, but rather restricts them to narrower ones.

In fairness, though, television isn't the only culprit here. Some shows have the power to inspire our children to make positive choices with their lives. But there aren't enough of them. Also, we still have the trick of seeing to it that our communities fuel hope instead of fear, so that parents can stop believing that keeping their children safe and out of their way means keeping them occupied instead of stimulated.

Of course, the television violence study is something to be concerned about. But when I think about black children, that study doesn't make me worry about whether television will make them all shoot each other as much as it reminds me of all the other ways in which television is influencing habits that could kill them.

Without them firing a single shot.



Howard

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