



# God Bless America!

# Southwest Digest

A newspaper for the 21st century representing the Black community's ideas and ideals since 1977.

September 6, 2007

VOL. XXIX, No. 48

50¢

Worth More!

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



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## 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 Tuesday 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.
- Chatham Hill Neighborhood Association meets the 2nd Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm, at Iles Elementary Cafeteria.

## Thirty Years And Still Standing!

The Southwest Digest, formerly the Lubbock Digest, is 30 years old and is still standing. We have over the years reported news happening in Lubbock, Amarillo, Midland, Odessa and surrounding areas of the South Plains of Texas. It is a Black oriented weekly newspaper, and we are just blessed to still be standing. After all these years, we have become an institution as we have kept our commitment to do our very best for our readers.

Through these many years, we have had many ups and down. In many cases, it appeared as though we would not be able to hang in, but through it all, things have happened in our behalf. With the help of our advertisers, subscribers, supporters and others, we have weathered the many storms. We also know that God has been with us, and we are very grateful for all we've been able to accomplish. You see, it is a blessing to be a servant and a positive voice for our Black Community.

We have had some good days as well as our bad days, but through it all, we are still standing. Being a minority newspaper in conservative West Texas, with an editorial content. As previous stated, we have had many ups and downs. Many times, there were downs than ups, but we are still marching for what we believe is right for all of us.

In looking back over the years, we recall the many issues we ran pictures of those so called alleged drug dealers. We criticized for showing those pictures of those alleged drug dealer on the front page. At the time, we were believed to be the only local publication who ran such photos. We were not concerned about who the person or persons were, we ran their photo. It created much discussion.

But through it all, we are still standing. Thanks to all of you, we have come this far! Thank God for all we have accomplished!

## First Annual Talent Show Set



Featured are members of the Playmakers and 15th Street Players who will arrive on stage hand for the event.

## Chancellor Hance Helps Digest Celebrate 36th Year!

Kent Hance, Chancellor of Texas Tech University, will help the Southwest Digest celebrate its 30th Year by being the keynote speaker at the banquet which will be held Tuesday evening, September 11, 2007, at the University Medical Center's McInturf Conference Center.

The banquet will get underway at 7:00 p. m.

Chancellor Hance has served the community well. He was State Senator, U. S. Congressman, and a member of the Railroad Commission.

Known for his concern for the community, he has always been a very affable person for West Texas as well as other areas of Texas.

With the theme, "30 Years Toward Jubilee," it is the hope of this banquet to bring about an awareness of the importance of the Southwest Digest, and what it has meant to Lubbock and the South Plains of Texas.

"We are not general media as we have tried to fill a void in the community," said Eddie P. Richardson, co-publisher.

On the front page, there are some stories which appeared in the Southwest Digest over the years. "We just want our many readers to know we appreciate what they have done for us, and we want to continue to do all we can to help the community," continued Richardson.

"You know as we look back over the years, it has been difficult at times, but through it all, it has been worth it all," says T. J. Patterson, co-publisher. "We want history to reflect that there were individuals who were concerned about what happens in the community. At times, people really didn't understand why we were doing what we did, but we would not quit," continued Patterson.

Appearing on program at the banquet will be local people who best know of what the Southwest Digest has been about these thirty years. Even two businessmen who worked with the weekly newspaper will give comments about how it was to work with this newspaper over the years.

The emcee of the evening will be Quincy White. Special music will be featured.

"Through it all, we hope those in attendance will be pleased with being in attendance of this special banquet," concluded Richardson.

Sunday afternoon, September 16, 2007, worship services will be held at Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, 2202 Southeast Drive, 3:00 p.m.

## OH YES, STILL MORE DRUG DEALERS!!!

This is not a pleasant thing to do, but on the other hand, it is not a pleasant thing they are allegedly doing. All were arrested for alleged drug dealing in our community.

As told to you are caught for allegedly selling drugs, especially to our young people, we will continue to publish - as pictures in the Southwest Digest.

The sad thing about these photos is some of the latest photos and names of eleven persons (over a half dozen) and are still in Sonny's Hotel on Main Street. These names and photos are provided by the Criminal District Attorney and Lubbock County Sheriff Offices. We really appreciate their complete cooperation in helping us expose people who hurt our young people.

Something to think about: "Don't sell and get caught; cutting up in Sonny's Hotel, get booked, arraigned and then we will receive your photo and name to run in the Southwest Digest. Of course, there are more for the next edition.

The alleged drug dealers this week are: Richard S. Casanova, address of Marianne; Keith D. Hastings, P.C.S. witness; Rodrick D. Luke, delivery of C.S.; Robert Vasquez Parra, delivery of C.S.; Balala Jack Reyes, Jr. delivery of C.S.; Yvonne M. Rivera, P.C.S. witness; Anna Simpson, P.C.S. witness; two unnamed persons; Thomas, P.C.S. witness; Jerry Don Thomas, P.C.S. witness; and Nancy Ann Wood, P.C.S. witness.



## Estacado High School Photos

Mans poses with mural he painted in Matador fieldhouse



Estacado Swim Team: Mikel Gatica, Julie Ann Giddens, and Eddie Hernandez



LULAC members hand out Christmas gifts at Parkway Community Center. Kendra Sierra, Rebecca Cole, and Eliza



Estacado Choir members DaKeda King, Bronshea Norris, Eric Peoples, and Darren Brooks sing a remix of the school song arranged by Peoples.

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  
1302 Avenue Q  
Lubbock, TX 79401

Fax: (806) 741-0000

email us at: swdigest@shglobal.net

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## BEWARE OF HOME IMPROVEMENT SCAMS

A frequent call to the BBB concerns construction and home improvement companies and services. The fall weather is encouraging home owners to plan for major room additions, or installation of new windows and doors. This may be the year for a new coat of paint or a new roof. If you are considering any home improvement, you may be endangering your home investment if you don't check out the reputation of that home improvement company with the BBB. Whether you are planning to resurface your driveway or expand your living space, take a few simple precautions: obtain three bids from local companies, visit job sites, talk personally to references, compare quality of materials. Be sure you are in agreement with the construction representative on completion time. You should never pay for work before it is completed. Hire an ethical, local contractor who will do a good job and still be in town to back up the guarantee. The BBB encourages you to protect your home by giving us a call at 763-0459 or (806) 587-7890. That lowest bid you are considering may just be too good to be true!

The Bureau receives calls occasionally from consumers who have given a post-dated check to a person in a transaction, and then can't understand why the check was cashed immediately instead of the recipient waiting until the date on the check. When money is tight, consumers may be tempted to post-date a check to give themselves a little financial breathing room. Keep this in mind: checks are negotiable instruments whether they are undated, ante-dated or post-dated. A check is a promise to pay a specified amount of money. It is not illegal to write, accept or cash a post-dated check. However, if you write one, you do so at your own risk! Both the recipient and the bank may process your check in the regular course of business, regardless of the date. Your Better Business Bureau suggests that consumers think twice about giving a post-dated check especially if money is tight.

President of the Children's Defense Fund Marian Wright Edelman and music superstar Whitney Houston embrace during a recent press conference announcing a benefit concert, Classic Whitney Live From Washington, DC. The concert kicked off the 25th Anniversary Celebrations of the Children's Defense Fund and raised \$250,000. Time Warner also 1998 nation's leading child advocacy organization. In 1998, the Children's Defense Fund will celebrate 25 years of advocacy, service, and leadership to build a movement to leave no child behind. To commemorate this milestone CDF is launching a year-long salute, beginning in October 1997 and continuing throughout 1998.

# Chatman Hills Corner

By Doris Reynolds

The Southwest Digest will be celebrating its 30 years of operation, beginning with a banquet on Tuesday evening, September 11, 2007, at the University Medical Center's McInturf Conference Center beginning at 7:00 p. m. Guest speaker of the hour will be Chancellor Kent Hance of Texas Tech University.

For ticket information, call Eddie P. Richardson, co-publisher, at 762-3612.

Also, worship services will take place on Sunday afternoon, September 16, 2007, at the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, 2202 Southeast Drive, beginning at 3:00 p. m. The public is invited to attend.

"We want to thank God for all he has done for us over the years," said Richardson.

The First Anniversary of Rev. Sonia J. Beaty, pastor of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church will be held Sunday afternoon, September 9, 2007, beginning at 7:00 p. m.

Guest speaker will be Rev. Wendell Davis, pastor of Lyons Chapel Baptist Church.

The public is invited to attend this service.

It is good to see that the area Public School Districts have established policies for providing free and reduced-price meals for children served under the National School Lunch Program.

Each school or the central office has copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested person.

The school districts include Lubbock, New Deal and Shallowater.

Services were attended last Sunday morning, September 2, 2007, at the New Hope Baptist Church where the pastor is Rev. B. R. Moton.

Services got underway with Meditation and Prayer. The Praise Team did a splendid job in bringing the spirit to the services. The morning scripture was read by Minister McCutcheon, and the prayer was offered by Minister C. Wilson.

After several selections by the New Hope Baptist Church Choir, Pastor Moton delivered a dynamic sermon. His subject was "How Do You Handle Pressure?" His scripture text was Peter 77:1-4. It was another outstanding sermon and

was well received by all in attendance.

After the invitation to discipleship, the morning announcements were read by Sister Anna Chatman. Sister Elaine Lindsey welcomed all visitors.

The Greater St. Luke Baptist Church will be celebrating their "Senior Choir's Annual DAY" on Sunday afternoon, September 9, 2007, beginning at 3:00 p. m.

The New Hope Baptist Church Scholarship Committee has announced that in order to make an application for a scholarship by September 9, 2007. The committee members are: Ms. Dorothy Kimmer, chairperson; Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Gipson, Mrs. Dorothy Stovall, Mrs. Lottie Barrow, Ms. Brenda Gipson, Mrs. Joan Ervin, and Mr. Ernest Swain.

The National American Convention in Reno, Nevada was held August 24-30, 2007. Attending from Lubbock, Mr. Frances Bell, Ms. Darlene Howard, Ms. Georgina Richardson, and Ms. Ruby Washington. All reported a very good meeting.

## In Remembrance

### Bessie Simmons Cox

Funeral services for a longtime resident, Bessie Simmons Cox were held Thursday afternoon, August 30, 2007, at the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal with Rev. Sonia J. Beaty, pastor, officiating.

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

Pallbearers were Eddie Love, Charles Toines, Walter Hibbler, Victor Hatchett, Dale Richardson and Kevin Hears.

Honorary pallbearers were Ruby Stewart, Earlene Locke, Ann Britt, Lawanda Alsbrooks, Emma Sanders, Maureen Crawford, Buelah Winters, Eva Cade and Ollie Mae Thompson.

She was born April 6, 1926 to the late Curtis Simmons and Liza Spight-Simmons in Ripley, Mississippi. She united in marriage September 13, 1945 to Bonnie Jewel Cox. Two sons were born, Bonnie Jewel, Jr. and Norman Trent.

Although a native of Mississippi, she became a resident of Lubbock in 1958. She received her formal education from Rosk College-Holly Springs, and received her Associate degree in Social Science from South Plains College, Lubbock. She had been employed as a Surgical Tech for many years with St. Mary's Hospital. Later in her life, she became a viable government employee in various social services departments. Mrs. Cox also served as Secretary for the Lubbock Branch of the NAACP, and was on the election committee for District Attorney Travis Ware.

She also received recognition from the City of Lubbock for Community Service, and was President of the Dunbar Panthers Booster Club.

During her early years, she was a pioneer for the first afro-American Baptist Church in Earth, Texas, under the pastorage of Rev. Harris. She later united with the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church where she served faithfully for many years. Her most recent functions were President of the Ma Jones Missionary Society and was Presiding Steward. She was also the Announcing Clerk.

Mrs. Cox was preceded in death by her son, Bonnie, Jr., in 1965; husband, Bonnie, Sr. in 1980; and brother, Samuel Simmons.

She leaves to cherish her memories: a son, Norman Trent Cox of the home; grandson, Traffon Jemaine Cox of Lubbock; granddaughter, Treniqua Michelle of Denver, Colorado; two great-grandsons, Freddie Trevon and Terrell of Denver, Colorado; two great-granddaughters, Ahlandra and Terrell of Denver, Colorado; a sister, Sandra Spight of Ripley, Mississippi; a brother, Curtis Simmons of Greenwood, Mississippi; three nieces: Vieta (Mike) Lewis of Memphis, Tennessee, Sandra (Rev. Jordan) Boyd and Audra (Eric) Ford of Charlotte, North Carolina; a nephew, Andre Brown of Jackson, Mississippi; and a host of relatives and friends.

### Wilmar DeWitt Dunn

Funeral services for Wilmar DeWitt were held Wednesday morning, September 5, 2007, at the New Hope Baptist Church with Rev. B. R. Moton, pastor, officiating.

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

He passed away in home on Thursday, August 30, 2007.

He attended Lubbock public schools and later graduated from Job Corp in Tennessee. He was employed and lived in San Antonio for 15 years.

He is preceded in death by his loving grandparents, Mattie and Ollie Dunn, and a cousin, Shadrice "Old Man" Taylor.

Born in Lubbock July 19, 1973, he is survived by his mother, Sarah Jean Dunn Young; three brothers; and a host of nieces and nephews.

### Ruby Pegues Rosemond

Funeral services were held for Ruby Pegues Rosemond last Tuesday, September 4, 2007, at the Triumph Baptist Church in Slaton. Burial was held in Peaceful Gardens Memorial Park in

## FASHION FUN

by Shirley Robinson

### Popular Fall Colors!

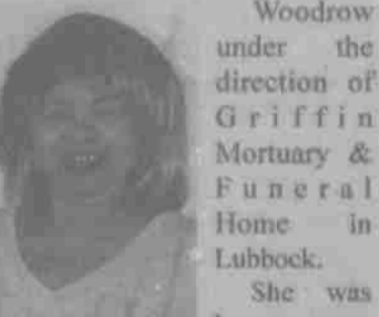


Fall is here and with it comes weather and beautiful colors - vibrant red, grass green, muted gray, brown accented with printed gold trim, aubergine, black and white and, of course, your most popular color for the fall is purple, deep rich purple.

Just a little something to think about when you are out shopping!

Never leave the house without that beautiful smile of yours!

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



Rosemond

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

She was born September 24, 1949.

She is survived by her daughters, Sherry Burnham and Shanna Masani; sons, Lee Arthur Parson, Jr. and Gary Parson; brothers, Bobby Pegues, Ronnie Pegues (Bessie), Ricky Pegues (Mary), and Robert Pegues; four grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and a host of other relatives and friends.

### City Wide Ushers Will Meet

The City Wide Ushers will meet Saturday, September 8, 2007, at Bethel AME Church, beginning at 5:00 p. m.

## One Case of West Nile Virus Confirmed Here

A human case of West Nile Virus was confirmed last week by the City of Lubbock Health Department.

A second suspected case of the disease did not test positive for acute West Nile Virus but tests showed evidence of prior infection.

West Nile Virus infects birds, but is also the cause of a number of conditions in humans, horses, and some other mammals. It is transmitted by bites of infected mosquitoes. It cannot be spread from bird to man, horse to man or person-to-person.

Few mosquitoes are infected

with West Nile Virus and less than one percent of people who bitten by an infected mosquito become severely ill (1 out of 150). There is no cure for West Nile Virus. In 2006 there were five cases of West Nile Virus in Lubbock County.

"The West Nile Virus season had a late start this year, and to date, it has been mild," said Tommy Camden, director of the City of Lubbock Health Department. "However, residents should take precautions to prevent being bitten by mosquitoes."

Citizens can reduce exposure to infected mosquitoes by follow-

ing four simple steps:

\* Avoid being out when mosquitoes feed -- usually at dawn and dusk.

\* Wear protective clothing. Long sleeves and pants when outdoors.

\* Use appropriate repellent according to instructions on the label. Spray clothing with repellent as mosquitoes can bite through thin fabric. Apply repellent to exposed skin. CDC guidelines recommend repellents containing up to 35 percent DEET for adults, up to 10 percent DEET for children. Repellents can irritate the eyes and mouth so avoid applying to children's hands.

\* Avoid perfume -- it attracts mosquitoes.

In addition, residents are encouraged to take the following precautions to protect their home:

\*\* Install or repair window and door screens to keep mosquitoes from indoors.

\*\* Get rid of standing water around the house. Mosquitoes need water to breed. Empty plant saucers, pet dishes, and any containers, such as old tires that have collected water. Change the water in kiddie pools and birdbaths daily.

\*\* Keep yard mowed. Mosquitoes hide in tall brush and grasses.

\*\* Residents are asked to report dead birds by calling the City of Lubbock NMosquito Hotline at 775-3110.

According to Camden, city staff is also working to eliminate the public's risk of exposure to mosquitoes.

"We have been spraying for mosquitoes for several weeks and have increased spraying areas," he said.

## BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2202 SOUTHEAST DRIVE  
806.744.7552  
FAX No. 806.741.0208



### 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"

## CHATMAN HILL

Restaurant & Catering Services

(Formerly Transfield 44 dining)

Soul Food Sunday Buffet

Friday Catfish & Grits (All you can eat)

512 E. 23rd St.

(806) 744-2501

Hours: 11am-7pm (closed Monday)

The staff of the Chatman Hill Restaurant would like to thank the community for their support.

Specialty Catering: Weddings, Birthdays, Anniversaries, Graduations, etc.

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## A Crown of Eternal Life Church

"First Sermon Saturday, September 1, 2007 - 7:00 p. m."

Founder -- Pastor Gladys Mae Smith  
1301 50th Street Suite 10-B  
Freedom Square Shopping Center

Nightly Revival -- Monday thru Saturday -- 7:00 p. m. - 9:00 p. m.  
Sunday -- 6:00 p. m. - 8:00 p. m.

For More Information Call:  
806-747-0289

Two Part-Time Musicians Are Wanted! Call The Church Today!

## Ossie Curry Funeral Home/Chapel

1805 MLK Blvd. • Lubbock, TX 79403

Ossie Curry Funeral Home has been serving the City of Lubbock since 1989. Our goal is to make funeral home service affordable.

At Ossie Curry Funeral Home, our service begins with our customers in mind. We are here to serve you in your time of need, and our service doesn't stop at the graveside. We have many different funeral plans to fit your needs.

Funerals starting at \$995.00 and UP  
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# Church News



## From the Desk of Parson D.A. Smith Texas Criminal and Traffic Laws In Effect

Saturday, September 01, 2007, a number of notable traffic and criminal laws went into effect. These laws may or may not affect your lifestyle as of now. However, if these laws are violated, there is a price. A portion of the enacted laws follows.

**HB 84**, known as Katie's Law, requires drivers 85 years of age and above to pass a vision test to have their driver license renewed. Licenses will be valid for two years instead of six. Drivers age 79 and older are not allowed to renew their driver licenses electronically.

**HB 586** prohibits a driver who is issued speeding ticket and found guilty of driving at a speed in excess of 95 miles per hour from taking a driving safety class to dismiss the ticket.

**SB 369** prohibits the use of blurring or reflective matter on a license plate that significantly impairs the readability of the state name and license plate numbers letters; prohibits the use of material or an apparatus that alters or obscures one-half or more of the state name; and prohibits using material that obscures the license plate number or plate color.

**SB 153** makes it unoffense for the accompanying licensed passenger of a driver with a learner's permit to sleep, be intoxicated or to engage in any activity that prevents the passen-

ger from observing to the actions of the driver of the vehicle.

**SB 112** (effective April 27, 2007) protects the right to bear arms during a declared disaster or emergency by prohibiting law enforcement officers from confiscating firearms during such emergency periods.

**HB 8**, known as Jessica's Law, imposes a 25-year minimum sentence for sexually violent offenses against children under 14 years of age; eliminates eligibility for parole for certain sex offenders; make a second conviction of a sexually violent offense against a child under 14 years of age a capital felony; mandates global positioning system (GPS) monitoring for offenders committed under the sexually violent predator statute; extends the statute of limitation for sexually violent offenses against children under the age 14 to 20 years past the victims' 18th (18+20= 38 years) birthday; and clarifies that harboring a sex offender in violation of registration is an offense punishable by up to a third degree felony.

**HB 3849**, effective June 15, 2007, creates a new vehicle registration requirements for all-terrain vehicles (ATV's) and a penalty if an ATV is driven on public property while the driver and passengers are not wearing required safety apparel.

**SB 1315** requires DPS to develop an alert system for missing senior citizens similar to the current Amber Alert Program for

abducted children.

**HB 323** requires all new buses purchased by a school district on or after September 1, 2010 to be equipped with lap/shoulder seatbelts. All buses contracted for use by a school district on or after September 1, 2014 must be equipped with lap/shoulder seatbelts. (The bill's provisions will not take effect unless the legislature appropriates the necessary funds to school districts to cover the expenses of such charges).

**HB 1815** excludes from unlawful carrying of a weapon on a person who is carrying a handgun, illegal knife, or club on the person's own premises or premises under their control or inside of or directly en route to a motor vehicle that is owned by the person or is under their control. The bill makes it an offense to carry a handgun in a motor vehicle that is owned by the person or under the person's control if the handgun is in plain view of the person is engaged in certain criminal activity, is prohibited from possessing a firearm, or is a member of a criminal street gang.

to be continued.....

**Editor's Note:** This is very good information, and we'd appreciate comments from you, our readers, about this important information which has been passed by the Texas House of Representatives and Senators.

Let's hear from you!



## We Thank God for Jesus

### "Here's Why The Heathens Rages"

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

**Luke 19:14** -- Jesus said, his citizens (America) hated Him, and sent a message after Him, say saying, we will not have this Man (Jesus) to reign over us.

America started out on the right foot serving and worshipping the true God, but when she saw that she was most blessed, she said withir: herself, I'm God!!!

**Psalm 2:1-3** -- Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The Kings of the Earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together against the Lord, and against his anointed, say saying, "let us break their bands; asunder, and cast away their cards from us."

**\*\*\* America Doesn't Want God In Homes, Schools, and Courthouses!!! \*\*\***

America was one of the most blessed countries in all parts of God's world, but now she is so full of hate and killings in her men, women, boys and girls!!!

**Romans 1:18-21a-22** -- For the wrath of God is revealed from Heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who hold the truth (The Churches) in unrighteousness. Because that is when they (The Churches) knew God. They glorified Him as God neither were thankful. Professing them-

selves to be wise, they became fools.

In America, you have your rights to poke fun at anyone you like to do so. Blacks say the word Nigger and Ho. Whites can't. That's a No, No!!!

The Black Preachers come out fighting, and being on TV and not preaching. But they want to get on TV, and God's word they're not speaking!!!

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

(The Flesh Rights: No Prayer In Schools, Gang Style Killing Rights, Black Suicide Rights, Abortion Rights, Road Rage Rights, Drugs In Schools Rights, White Rights, Christian Divorce Rights, Gangs In School Rights, Woman Rights, Gay Rights, Black Rights, Kill The Family Rights, University Killing Rights, Nappy Head Ho Cailing Rights, and Sagging Pants Rights!)

**John 3:16** -- For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

(If God wanted mankind to have equal rights, He would have had Jesus to get for them when He

was on earth. God only wanted the world to have Salvation Rights! But the Churches wanted to do something God didn't want them to do and that was to get Rights for the people. And now, look at the heathens and their Rights!!! Shame! Shame! Shame!

**Isaiah 1:4a-5** -- A sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers. Children who are corrupters. They have forsaken the Lord. Why should you be stricken any more? You will revolt more and more. The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint.

Rev. Black Preachers, where did the White man's Right free speech??? Is that the same word that the Black man uses in calling his woman a Ho???

**Luke 9:62** -- Jesus said, no man having put his hand to the Gospel (Plough), and looking back is fit for the Kingdom of God.

Rev. Black Preachers, while you were on TV, I've never heard God's name called. That's when you had the biggest crowd, but God's name was not used at all!!!

**Proverb 12:15** -- The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but he listens unto counsel is wise.

Rev. Black Preacher, you're the ones who fought for Civil Rights for the people. Now America has her rights. She is going downhill

**Continue on Page 8**

# St. Matthew's Baptist Church News

Church services were well attended last Sunday morning, September 2, 2007, at the St. Matthew Baptist Church, 2020 East 14th Street, where the proud pastor is Rev. Edward Canady. Services got underway with

Sunday morning with Superintendent Luella Harris in charge. It was another wonderful lesson which was taught and received by Pastor Canady. The subject of the morning lesson was "How is

School last Sunday with Superintendent Luella Harris in charge. It was another wonderful lesson which was taught and received by Pastor Canady. The subject of the morning lesson was "How is

Creation Possible." The scripture text was Genesis 1:1-6, 8, 10, 12-15; 19-20, 22-23 & 25.

picture. The Lamb of God leads us from one fountain of water to another, always deeper into the love of God.

love the Father has for the Son, He also has for us. Let us not forget how much Jesus loved each of us!

## Outreach Prayer Breakfast

Members and Friends of the Outreach Prayer Breakfast met last Saturday morning, September 1, 2007, in the home of our teacher, Sister Elnora Jones. It all begun at 9:00 a. m. with devotion. The Holy Spirit was truly in the midst. All were favored with a solo by Sister Annie Day.

antique books he will never read just to create a library look in his renovated home. Those books are just for the show.

people as well as our senior citizens. Keep us in your prayers also!

Let us remembr our sick and shut-in members. Just a little kindness to someone on the sick and shut-in list will go a mighty long ay. Let us not forget those who are down today, because tomorrow it could be one of us who are fortunately to be well this week.

Jesus prayed in the Upper Room shortly before He went to the cross: "I have declared to (the Disciples) Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them."

ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE THIS SUNDAY!

The morning scripture lesson was given by Sister Margaret Moss. Her subject was "Don't Beat Your Donkey!" Her scripture texts were Numbers 22:1-3. Her main scripture was Numbers 22:21-34.

Focusing on outward appearances can be a pleasing way to decorate a house, but it's a dangerous way to live. Jesus reprimanded many religious leaders of His day because they did not practice what they preached. You see, they were addicted to receiving praise and feeling self-important. What about you?

Read these scriptures: II Chronicles 7:14; Mark 11:22-26. See you the first Saturday in October.

Thought: "When we move up another level, we meet another Devil! Thanks!"

Jesus leads us into an ever deeper knowledge of the love of God. His concern is not merely that we know about God, but that we know how deeply we're cherished and loved. As Jesus said, the

We just want to say to all of you who were not present, you should have been there to hear from this great teacher.

Saints, keep those driveby prayers going for our young

Our Hostesses were Sister Elnora Jones and Sister Rosianna Henderson. We love you!

Thought For The Week: "Our Faith is stretched by exchanging our weakness for God's strength."

Did you know that the Book of Revelation gives us a marvelous

We were so delighted to have several visitors in our midst last Saturday morning. They were Sisters Lonell Adams, Helen Hill, Joy Hopkins, Ollie Mae Thompson, Margaret Moss, Leticia Edwards, and Janette Williams.

Also, Sister Rosianna Henderson was able to be back with us.

Sister Dorothy Hood, president; Sister Christene Burleson.

Did you know that the Book of Revelation gives us a marvelous

Did you know that the Book of Revelation gives us a marvelous

We want each of you to know you really made our day complete. Please come again!

Here are a few thoughts for this week:

Did you know there an increasing number of antique leather-bound books are being purchased for their covers and not their content. Interior designers buy them by the linear yard and use them to create a warm, old-world atmosphere in the homes of affluent customers. The question to be asked are they only for the room's decor. It has been reported that a wealthy businessman purchased 13,000

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## The Thurgood Marshall College Fund Launches 20th Anniversary Weekend Website

New York - The Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCF), this week, launched their state-of-the-art 20th Anniversary weekend web site. The development of the new site is TMCF's latest step in their drive to take a leading role in providing cutting edge technology, programs and services.

This user friendly site provides visitors with the ultimate 20th anniversary experience. Visitors will have easy access to event details, ticket purchasing, travel and hotel information and image galleries.

"Technology is one of the major strategies employed to communicate our mission and goals to the public. Launching this new site will provide a user friendly source for students, donors and partners to access all of the information at one time," said Thurgood Marshall College Fund President and CEO Dwayne Ashley. "We hope our website will be the ultimate destination for people to turn to for information regarding the 20th Anniversary

weekend."

The Thurgood Marshall College Fund web site can be viewed at <http://thurgoodmarshall.org/home/events/>

The Thurgood Marshall College Fund's 20th Anniversary weekend will be held Friday, November 2, 2007 through Monday, November 5, 2007 at the Sheraton New York Hotel & Towers and the Roseland Ballroom.

About the Thurgood Marshall College Fund:

This Thurgood Marshall College Fund, Inc., named for the late U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice, was established in 1987 and represents 47 public Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) located in 22 states with a population of well over 232,000 students. Over the last 20 years, Thurgood Marshall College Fund has awarded more than \$68 million in scholarships, programmatic, and capacity support, enabling over 6,000 students to attend public Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Thurgood

Marshall Fund also provides internship programs and joins corporate and foundation partners providing leadership training and support to students preparing for undergraduate and professional schools.

Thurgood Marshall College Fund is a 501(c) 3, tax-exempt organization. The public is invited to please visit the Thurgood Marshall College Fund at [www.thurgoodmarshallfund.org](http://www.thurgoodmarshallfund.org).

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### Are Americans Saving Enough?

SWS -- One year after launching its National Retirement Risk Index, the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College released a new Index report that confirms most working are not saving enough money for retirement, despite recent academic articles and news stories that question the existence of a retirement crisis.

"Our research clearly demonstrates that the retirement crisis is very real for today's workers," said Center Director Alicia H. Munnell. "And, without changes in behavior, we believe the picture will become increasingly bleak as younger workers get closer to retirement."

Using the National Retirement Risk Index, the Center reconciles the two seemingly contradictory conclusions by demonstrating the importance of the age group and time period examined. For households age 51-61 in 1992, the Center found only about 20 percent to be 'at risk', which is similar to a recent study measuring 'optimal saving' among the same group. However, the Index shows that risk has been rising over time so that, by 2004, 32 percent of households age 51-61 were 'at risk.' And including a broader age range of workers raises the 'at risk' level to nearly 45 percent of households.

Munnell said their research defines 'at risk' to mean a household would be unable to maintain its pre-retirement standard of living in retirement. The amount of money people need while retired compared to pre-retirement varies, but is estimated to be from 65 to 85 percent, depending on household income and marital status. For example, most retirees need less than 100 percent of pre-retirement income because they tend to pay less in taxes and no longer need to save for retirement.

"Revisiting 1992 highlights how the retirement landscape is changing over time," said Munnell. "Factors like declining Social Security replacement rates, the continuing shift from traditional employer pension plans to 401(k)s, lower interest rates, and rising life expectancy all underscore the need for more retirement income. And the Index has not yet factored,

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# **SOUTHWEST DIGEST'S**

## **30TH ANNIVERSARY**

**SEPTEMBER 11 & 16, 2007**

**Theme:**

**“30 Years Toward Jubilee”**

**Tuesday Night - September 11, 2007**

**‘30th Anniversary Banquet’**

**7:00 p. m.**

**McInturf Conference Center**

**Speaker: Chancellor Kent Hance**

**Texas Tech University**

**Sunday Afternoon - September 16, 2007**

**Worship Services**

**Bethel African Methodist Episcopal**

**Church**

**2202 Southeast Drive**

**3:00 p. m.**

**Sermon: Rev. Sonia J. Beaty, Pastor**



# Editorials • Comments • Opinions



## THIS 'N' THAT

by T.J. Patterson

**THOSE MATADORS ARE FOR REAL! THIS N THAT** ... believes those fighting ESTACADO HIGH SCHOOL MATADORS ... are for real this football season... They fell just two points short in winning their first game of the year... but indications are they will be in the hunt this season... It is just refreshing to see these young fellows doing their very best ... and we are sure we will hear more good things about them this season... So MATADORS ... remember we are behind you... in all that you do... We'll be looking for your next game...

**PENNY HASTINGS THE BARBER SAID:** "There is more power in the OPEN HAND than in the CLENCHED FIST."

**LOOKING FORWARD TO 30TH BANQUET CELEBRATION! THIS N THAT** ... is looking forward to the upcoming 30TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET ... of the SOUTHWEST DIGEST ... which will be held on Tuesday evening September 11, 2007 ... at the University Medical Center McInturf's Conference Center ...

beginning at 7:00 p.m. ... Speaker of the evening will be TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY'S CHANCELLOR KENT HANCE... who has done many good things for Lubbock and West Texas...

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** ... about the banquet ... call 762-3612 ... If there are those interested in attending ... contact ... Eddie P. Richardson... This should be an historic evening ... and we are looking forward to seeing as many of our readers as we can...

**WORSHIP SERVICES SET A BETHEL! THIS N THAT** ... is excited about the WORSHIP SERVICES ... of the SOUTHWEST DIGEST ... as a part of the 30TH YEAR OF THE SOUTHWEST DIGEST... The co-publishers ... T. J. PATTERSON & EDDIE P. RICHARDSON ... want to give thanks for where they have come from by working with this weekly publication... They will tell you it has been exciting and sometimes ... they didn't know where they were going ... but through it all ... here it is some 30 years later... RICHARDSON ... often talks about an editorial which was written against this effort and was predicting failure in less than six months... But

there was a local television personality ... DICK BENEDECIT ... who was with KCBDTV, CHANNEL 11 ... who did some very positive reporting for this newspaper... Through all these years ... it has been a difficult chore ... but it is still here... You can see ... this is why we are still standing ... and this is why we want to have WORSHIP SERVICES ... and give thanks to who made it all possible... Will you join us on ... SUNDAY AFTERNOON, SEPTEMBER 16TH ... beginning at 3:00 p.m. at Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church ... 2202 Southeast Drive... Hope you will be present... as it will mean so much to all of us at the SOUTHWEST DIGEST!

**REMEMBER THE ALLEGED DRUG DEALERS? THIS N THAT** ... often thinks about about the publishing of the HUNDREDS OF ALLEGED DRUG DEALERS PHOTOS ... which were on the front page for several years... Without any doubt ... THIS N THAT ... believes it was a very POSITIVE SERVICE ... for the citizens of Lubbock... Since this effort ... it appears as though there are more drug houses in our community and operating openly!



## Think About It!

You Have To Keep On Keeping On!

by Eddie P. Richardson

No one ever said life was going to be easy. You must keep in mind that you will get in life what you really put into it. So don't be surprised if things don't always come out the way you would like.

Aid and social programs are necessary evils, but they have unfortunately made some able bodied people sorry.

The elderly people, sick people, handicapped people, needy people should receive the necessary assistance they need. Especially there should be enough assistance for the aged and very young persons so they will have enough to live on comfortably. This should be done when we find that businesses and industry get bail outs when they are in trouble because of financial problems. This is called a subsidy. Also, some chief executive officers in major corporations make large fortunes and middle and poor workers are working more for less money.

It appears as though the whole system is broke and needs fixing and needs to be done quickly. As the older folk would say, he who works eat.

We must always remember you can't something for nothing. You must always pay for what you get. One way or another, when it is said and done, you must pay!

When we talk about you must keep on keeping on, we are talking about the efforts of the Southwest Digest as an example. This newspaper has survived 30 years, and believe it, it hasn't been easy by no means. The lesson of you must never quit, no matter what circumstances you find yourself. You must do this even though you can't see no way out. Of course, it would be easy to give up, but you can't. What is if that older folk may say, trouble don't last always. This is when you are really tested. It is important to keep focused and remember why you are doing what you are do-

ing and just hang in there, regardless of the situation.

Over the years as a co-publisher of the Southwest Digest, it is easily learned that you can't quit. You must keep on pushing and doing your very best. You see, no matter what, remember a person can do anything he or she wants to do if they are willing to work at it and be willing to pay the price.

You see, it is important to be able to pay the price regardless of the cost. Being able to pay the price is key. So work at it and willingly pay the price and make things happen. Remember nothing is totally free. Somewhere, somehow, you pay for it or there are strings attached.

The first edition of the Southwest Digest was fun and exciting, but continuing each week has cost much. Hang in there!

Remember, you get what you pay for and reap what you sow!

## USCA to Highlight HIV/AIDS In Communities Of Color

Washington, D. C. -- The National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC) is proud to announce the attendance of their official spokesperson Ravinia Hayes-Cozier at the 2007 United States Conference on AIDS (USCA), set for November 7-10 in Palms Springs, California. Recently named Director of the Government Relations and Public Policy Division, Hayes-Cozier will be moderating press conferences on behalf of NMACV and will be available to answer questions related to the agency's stance on issues of public policy. Additionally, Hayes-Cozier will be facilitating a pre-meeting session of a group of black elected officials, also known as the G-9, who have made HIV/AIDS advocacy a priority in their own arenas.

"The breadth of the United States Conference on AIDS makes it the perfect forum to bring together stakeholders from across the nation to discuss the disproportionate impact of HIV/AIDS on communities of color," states Hayes-Cozier. "I look forward to

having the opportunity to sit down with leaders in the African American community, to examine the challenges we continue to face, and strategize a new plan of action to get HIV/AIDS on the agenda of policymakers throughout the country."

The meeting's plenary sessions will rattle the policy initiatives of USCA sponsor NMAC, focusing on communities in the United States heavily impacted by, and at high risk for HIV/AIDS. The first plenary session, on Wednesday, November 7, from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., will address "The State of HIV/AIDS in the Native American, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Communities." Representatives from many different indigenous communities will open USCA, and Native speakers will address the need for heightened HIV/AIDS awareness in Indian Country today.

The next plenary, "The HIV/AIDS Crisis in the African-

American Community" will take place on Thursday, November 8, from 12:15 p.m. to 1:45 p.m., and will feature a moderated panel of African-American leaders discussing impact of HIV/AIDS in the African-American/Black community. The final plenary, "Immigration, Migrant Farm Workers and HIV," slated for Saturday, November 10, from 11:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m., will address prevention and treatment challenges for Asian and Pacific Islanders and Latinos/as living with and at risk for HIV/AIDS.

Members of the media are invited to cover the largest domestic conference on HIV/AIDS. USCA's extensive roster of 200 institutes, seminars, workshops and roundtables covers every front of the AIDS epidemic - from nutrition and treatment to prevention and international issues - enables participants to customize their training experiences according to their needs.

# In Cinque

by Renetta Howard

The No Child Left Behind Act was passed in 2001 to insure that no child is trapped in failing school. The NCLB Act supposedly



Howard

gives more flexibility of choices for students and parents, especially if they are attending a low performing school. It also gives (LEAs) local educational

agencies more flexibility in the use of federal dollars, especially those used for the reading programs in the lower grades.

Schools are supposed to improve each year and students are tested in grades 3-8 each year to insure that they are not being left behind. Awards are given to schools that meet or exceed the AYP or adequate yearly progress or close achievement gaps.

Parents and students can choose a better performing public school when the one they are attending fails to achieve adequate yearly progress. If the school fails for three or more years, students may choose to attend a private school where in school district must allocate 20% of Title I funds to provide for supplemental edu-

cation. After five years of failure, a school runs the risk of reconstitution under a restructuring plan.

The NCLB Act attempts to ensure that every child can read by the completion of grade 3. This may very well be what is happening at most schools, but what progress is being made at the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th grade levels? What has happened to the 16-18 year olds that they no longer are able to read on grade level, especially the 8th grade level? Why are children ages 16 through 18 years of age unable to pass an 8th grade test and enter high school?

Of course, schools offer options for these students; they can remain in 8th grade for three years, that is until they are 16 years of age and if they still have not passed the test, they can take Option 3, Pre-GED where there is no opportunity to secure Carnegie Units which will progress them to a high school diploma. Instead of Option 3, Option 2 should have provisions for remediation to help the students pass the test in the areas where he is failing, in a high school setting along with his peers rather than in a skill program with adults with whom he is not emotionally, socially or physically able to compete. If after a period of remediation a student is still not able to master the 8th grade test, then Option 3 should be con-

sidered, but not before. Entering Option 3 too often is not completed, leading to a dropout situation and a child being left behind. When a child does not have the opportunity to enter a high school where he can earn Carnegie Units, he has been left behind! We need to get 'in cinque' and make some positive changes to handling this situation



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The editors and publishers of Southwest Digest welcome your letters and encourage you to write to us. Share with us your concerns, praise, gripes and celebrations. It's what we want - to keep our Black community in Lubbock informed and in touch with one another. Your letter doesn't have to address something that's been in our paper, just what's been on your mind. Had an interesting discussion lately? Share it with us!

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 to our office or send it through the mail to: Southwest Digest, Letter to the Editor, 1302 Avenue Q, Lubbock, TX 79401

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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.

Devoted to the industrial, educational, social, political, and economic advancement of African-American people.

You may be critical of some things that are written, but at least you will have the satisfaction of knowing they are truthful and to the point.

People will react to that which is precise, and we will publish these articles as precisely and factually as is humanly possible. We will also give credit and respect to those who are doing good things for the Lubbock Area and the people. We will be critical of those who are not doing as they have said they would, and this, we think, is fair.

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."

This is not a propaganda sheet made to chastise or vilify. This is a newspaper made to educate and not to agitate.

The opinions expressed by guest columnists or editorials 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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## NAACP Joins Fight To Secure Justice For 'Jena 6'

NNPA — The NAACP and its allies are providing considerable resources in defense of six African-American Louisiana teens, who the last several months, have faced overly aggressive prosecution and extended incarceration for fighting with Whites in their community.

Some civil rights groups and community leaders have compared the case to that of the Scottsboro Boys, a group of nine young African-American men falsely accused of sexually assaulting two White women in Alabama in the 1930s.

The six accused Louisiana teens have come to be known as the Jena 6 - in reference to the small town where a series of racial incidents escalated leading to the arrest of the young men and all being charged with serious criminal conduct offenses that could lead to many years of imprisonment.

The six charged were: Robert Bailey, Jr., 17, whose bail was set at \$138,000; Theo Shaw, 17, whose bail totaled \$130,000; Carwin Jones, 18, whose bail was \$100,000; Bryant Purvis, 17, whose bail was \$70,000; Mychal Bell, 16-year-old high school sophomore, was charged as an

adult whose bail was set at \$90,000; and a still unidentified minor.

Sentencing for Bell will occur September 20 where he faces the possibility of up to 22 years in prison. In his trial that lasted less than two days late last month, an all-white jury found Bell guilty of aggravated second-degree battery and conspiracy to commit aggravated second-degree battery for his role in the beating of a White male classmate who participated in a racial incident at the local high school 1st December. Bell's public defender called no witnesses and did not challenge the racial makeup of the jury pool.

"This is an American outrage that demonstrates the continuing shame of racial division in our country," said NAACP National Board of directors Chairman Julian Bond. "We urge every one interested in fairness and equality to join us in making it one of the last."

A team of concerned lawyers is volunteering its legal experience and research expertise to assist Bell in his appeal and stands ready to assist the other defendants. Professor Charles Ogletree, director of the Charles Hamilton Institute for Race & Justice at Harvard Law School, is also collaborating with the

effort to secure justice for the young men.

At the NAACP's 98th annual convention recently held in Detroit, an emergency resolution was passed in support of the Jena 6 and the LaSalle Parish Branch of the NAACP to fight against racial discrimination during the trial and in the community overall. "This case reflects a national trend involving disparate treatment of African-Americans within the United States criminal justice system," the resolution reads.

In the resolution, the NAACP demands that the U.S. Department of Justice investigate and monitor the trial of the teenagers for any violations, adding that the U.S. Department of Education should also investigate allegations of discrimination at Jena High School.

The Louisiana State Conference of the NAACP is also monitoring the Jena 6 cases, has met with the families of the accused and attended the opening day of Bell's trial. The Louisiana NAACP has also gotten Donald W. Washington, U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Louisiana, to commit to a July 28 town hall meeting in Jena to discuss possible civil rights violations there.

"These cases demand national attention and support," said NAACP Interim General Counsel Angela Ciccolo. "The NAACP will work to achieve racial healing and unbiased justice for the Jena 6."

Individuals interested in supporting the 'Jena 6' can sign a petition to express their concern and donate to the NAACP to support its ongoing efforts to secure racial equality and justice by visiting the civil rights organization's website at [www.naacp.org](http://www.naacp.org).

### Visit Our Public Schools Today!

Since the new school year has begun, let as many of as possible make plans to visit our Lubbock Independent School District Public Schools. Go and let these young people know we support what they are doing each day.

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## Need A Raise? Tips for Asking The Boss

It's that time. You've worked hard, proven yourself and in your mind, you deserve a pay increase. So what now?

"Ask anyone and they'll tell you they are worth more than what they earn," says Dr. Andy Gibilly or, vice president for Argosy University's Tampa Campus. "Asking for a raise should be a four step process. Approach it by defining what you want to ask for and then measuring where you are at compared to the industry and/or your profession. The next step is to review your past salary increases to set a realistic expectation. Finally, implement your plan and make plans to follow-up."

"The first thing that employees need to do is set an appointment with their supervisor to meet somewhere without interruptions," says Marc Scoleri, director of Career Services at The Art Institute of New York City. Scoleri notes that often times, employees get so worked up about actually asking for a raise that they delay actually setting the meeting. "Get on the calendar early and be prepared for a potential cancellation or move in date/time," says Scoleri.

Before going in for the "big meeting," research the industry average of your salary for your position in your location. There are several resources to do this on the Internet such as [www.salary.com](http://www.salary.com). For example, the cost of living in New York City will be higher than in Tampa, Fla. The average salary for the same position should be higher in NYC. "Bringing the average salary information from your research to negotiate can be a helpful visual if you are making below the average amount identified by the research, so it is important to research before negotiating," says Scoleri.

"Explain that you are very happy with your current role and briefly mention your achievements and ask if he/she is open to considering an increase in your compensation," says Scoleri. If

answer is yes, provide your research. If it is always ideal to have a list of accomplishments you recently achieved over and above your normal job duties.

One example includes implementing a new initiative that has a measurable impact for improving customer service, safety, net income or efficiency. Come in prepared to demonstrate that your contribution has gone above and beyond what was written on the job description back when you started. Let your boss know you do not expect an answer today, which will help because most likely he/she will not be able to immediately give you that additional 5 percent or bonus on the spot.

Always shoot a little higher than needed and be willing to take other compensation such as vacation days, incentives or one-time bonus for superior performance. Scoleri says, "If your supervisor says no, ask what it would take for future consideration, listen and take appropriate actions to prove you are an asset"

"One question that many people have is when is a good time to ask for a raise," says Dr. Ghillyer. "Know your company's budget cycle. Don't ask in the middle of the budget year. Chances are slim. You have to time your move."

Another good time to ask is when you have an offer letter from another employer to use as a leverage, but don't use the 'other offer' card unless you are given no other option -- you may win this round, but don't want your boss

holding a grudge for being "bbscheduled" into the raise. Negotiate before you are hired into a new position for additional vacation days or lump sum bonuses. If the company states they have a maximum percentage for raises.

The last thing to remember is that there is no need to be nervous. Go in confident, but don't go in over-confident that you set your self up for a let down. Make your case and prove your worth by demonstrating your accomplishments and explaining why the company should reach a little deeper into their pockets for your performance. We all need a raise. Good luck!

### Black Actors to Sell Multi-Million Dollar Estate

CNS — Actress Angela Bassett and husband Courtney B. Vance put their compound near Hancock Park, California on the market for close to \$6 million, it has been reported.

The couple, who became the parents of twins via a surrogate last year, said they wanted to move from the gated Fremont Place community to an area where the children eventually would attend public schools.

Reportedly, the property, where the two have lived for the past decade, includes a 5,000 square-foot main house and six baths; a gourmet kitchen; and a 2,500-square-foot office/guest-house/gym.

If you find mistakes in this publication, please consider that they are there for a reason. We publish something for everyone, and some people are always looking for mistakes.



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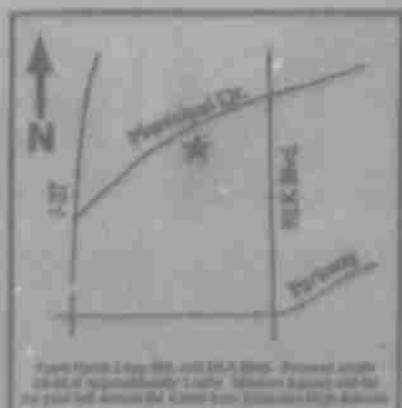
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