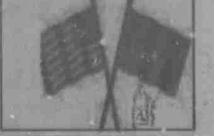
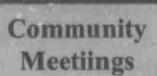


Southwest Digest

September 10, 009 Vol. XXXII No. 2





- * African American Chamber of Commerce, Lubbock medets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, from 12:00 - 1:00 pm at the Chatman Hill Restaurant, 512 E ast 23rd Street.
- * Lubbook Area Client Council meets on the 2nd Saturday, 1:00 pm at the Patterson Branch Library, 1836 Parkway Drive.
- * Hub City Kiwanis meets every Tuesday evening, 1708 Avenue
- * Dunbar Alum ni Association meets 2nd Satur days, 4:00 pm.
- * Booker T. Washington American Legion, Post 808, meets every 2nd Tuesday at 7:30 pm, American Legion Building in Yel-Iowhouse Canyon.
- * Forgotten West Riders meets on the 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:00 pm, Patterson Branch Library.
- * East Lubbock Chapter AARP meets every 1st Thursday at 1:00 pm, Mae Simmons Senior Citi-
- * Lubbock Chapter of Black Alumn i meets every 3rd Tuesday, 5:3e0 pm, TTU Merket Alumni Center.
- Dumbar Manhattan Heights Neighborhood association meets every 1st Thursday at 6:00 pm and every 4th Thursday at :00 pm at the Dunbar Manhattan Heights Neighborhood Outreach Center, 1301 E. 24th Street.
- * West Texas Native American Association Pot Luck Supper meet a on alternating months prior to meeting, meetings held on 2nd Satur days of each month at 7:00 pm at 7:00 pm, Educational presentations and demonstartions.
- * Texas Junet centh Cultur al &: Historical Commission - Lubbock Affiliate meets at Patterson Branch I ibrary, every 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm.
- * West TexasChapter of 100 Black Menof West Texas meets 3rd Monday evenings at 7:00 pm at Parkway Neighborhood Center
- * The Parkway & Cherry-Point Neighborhood Association meets the 3rd T uesday evenings, 7:30 pm at Hunt Elementary Schoool.
- * Chatman Hill Neighborhood Association meets 2nd Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm at Iles Elementary Cafeteria.

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

Southwest Digest Community Meetings 902 East 28th Street Lubbock, Texas 79404 (806) 762-3612

Fax: (806) 762-4605

Email us at: swdigest@sbcglobal.net swdigest@yahoo.com

What's Inside the Digest : Fashion Fan Page 2 Chatmaa Hill Page 2 Church News Page 3 Obituaries Page 4 Editorials Page 5 Classifieds Page 7

Subscribe Tonay: Only \$60.00 A Year! Call: (806) 762 3612. Read Whats Happening In Black Community of Lubbock.





Pictured above is a portion of those who were in attendance of the Dunbar High School Class of 1955 Reunion at Furr's Cafeteria on Slide Road Saturday afternoon, August 29, 2009. Lubbock City Councilman Floyd Price (top right) is shown making special recognition to Frances Bell.



Here are some of the Class of 1959 who were able to be in attendance at the Dunbar High School All Class Reu nion in 2004. This photo is being published because all are excited about the 50 years of the Du nbar HighSchool facility which is now a middle school.

to graduate from Paul Lawrence Dunbar High School, 2010 East 26th Street, walked across Slide thestage and received their diplomas. Graduation ion Exercises were held Friday evening, May 29, 1959, at 8:00 p. m. in the high school au auditorium, where the late Professor E. C. Struggst was the outstanding Dunbar. principal at

sisted of 55 excited students as members in those days. each name was called. Professor great honor for all parents.

"If It Hadn't Been For My

Grandma's celebration is this

Saturday, Sept. 12, 2009, at the

Scottish Rite Building - 1101

70th Street at 6:00pm. Five of

Lubbock's grandparents will be

honored: Lottie Mae Smith,

50 years ago, the first class School Class Reunion was held Sat u Saturday, Au gust 29, 2009, at Furr's Cafeteria on Road.

Special recognition was given to Frances Bell, Chairperson, from the City of Lubbock and presented by her classmates and City Councilman Floyd Price. Her classmates gave here a standing ovation for a job well done. Also present were some of The graduating class co- the teachers who taught the class

Those teachers present were Struggs asked each parent to ere Mrs. Mae Phea, Mrs. Vivi stand and be recognized also. an Cooke, Ms. Lena Sheffield, This moment in history was a Mrs. C. Ky le, and the speaker of the hour, Dr. & Mrs. Charles The 1959 Dunbar High Henry. All were excited about

"If It Hadn't Been For My Grandma"

this special reunion pion here.

Earl Thompson gave a memorial period where classmates es and teachers were remembered, Clara Cook Turner introduced ced the speaker of the for group.

Councilman Price also recognized all teachers present.

After much fun, fellowship, food, and everyone being re-acquainted, the school song was sung. Of co ur se, t here weresome t ears shed by those in attednance for remembering where they have come from. This was an historical occasion.

Hats off to Ms. Frances Bell. It will be long r emembered.

Incorporated



"Vision without action is daydreaming."

The daughter of L.J. & Felecisima Betts, Ashanti L. Mc-Gary,is a graduate of Monterey High School (1998), American Business College, (secretarial Science), Virginia College (paralegal), and on August 21, 2009, she graduated from Great Lakes, Illinois basic training

United States Anshanti is now stationed at Meridian, Mississippi

Congratulations are in store for this young lady who has chosen to defend the United States of America. W e appreciate her!.



Tisha Devroe and Ken Davis

Staten -The Rev. and Mr s. ceremony on Sat urday, October Charles Devroe are pleased to announce the engagement and approaching wedding of their daughter, Ti sha Louise Devroe, to Ken Davis, the son of Ruby Davis of Lubbock and the late Davis.

The couple will exchange wedding vows in Slaton's Mount Olive First Missionary Baptist Church in a 5:00 p. m.

The bride-elect is a 1993 graduate of Slaton High School and is currently employed with Mobility.

The future bridegroom graduated from Estacado High-School in 1991. He is employed by Texas Service Life Insurance.

Elena Solis Riojas, Clara Lenord, Frances Castro, and Scholarship Jackson. Emma The celebration will be an en-They are being honored by joyable evening filled with great Emma Jackson entertainment featuring the for-

their children, grandchildren, the community and Omicron Ornega Zeta Graduate Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority for their hard work, dedication of love, strength and for holding their families together. All five women share a common bond... They all believe, love and trust in the Lord as their Savior Jesus

Christ. These beyond-golden women have carned their places in history through their leadership roles as family Queens; however, their stories have not yet been printed in the history books, but will be told on Sept.

September 12, is also Grand- Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sororparents' Day. Bring a grandpar- ity, ent to dinner, or a senior citizen from your community, sponsor one or two, if you have plans. Tickets are \$20.00 each. Proceeds will partially benefit The Stork's Nest and Zeta Phi Beta's

mer Miss Hispanic Lubbock, Ericka Lopez, and principal of Dunbar High School, Virgil Johnson . Rev. Wendell Davis, Pastor of Lyons Chapel Baptist Church, is the Master of Ceremony, and Mrs. Margaret Randle, principal of Wheatley Elementary is the speaker.

Reflect on the role of your grandparents and a smile should come agross your face. Just think and repeat the title, "If It Hadn't Been For My Grandma". See you at the celebration! Gloria Ware- Carter, President

Omicron Omega Zeta Graduate

Frances Castro



Lottie Mae Smith



Elena Solis Riojas

Matadors Beats Pampa, 41-14

Those Estacado High School Matadors beat upon those Pampa High School Harvesters during their Homecoming contest last Friday night, September 4, 2009, at Lowrey Field before a large crowd of Matasupporters 41-14,

It was a well deserved victory, as Estacado's quarterback Deverick Stubblefield had a very good outing. Also, Estacado's Cody Cortez had a good evening running the pigskin for the win.

The Federation of Choirs will met Sunday afternoon, September 27, 2009, beginning at 2:30 p. m. at the Rising Star Baptist Church, Host pastor is Rev. Hiawathia Culver.

Sister Bennie Sims, president, is still encouraging all churches to attend and help celebrate ach month. "Just think of what you are missing by not being in atshe tendance,"

Annual Men & Women Day will be held at the New Hope Baptist Church on Su Sunday afternoon, September 20, 2009, beginning at 3:30 p. m.

Special guest will be Rev. Larry Brooks and members of Community Baptist Church.

Let us continue to pray for our sick and shut in citizens. There are many so let's keep them on our prayer list. Let us not forget that God is able, no matter what the circumstance may

Among those ill this week include: Brother Robert Cork, Brother & Sister Clarence (Juan Y) Ervin, Brother Alfred Caviel, Siste Joan Jones, Sister Luella Hall, Sister Dorothy Kinner,

2009 at 7:30p.m. was the sec-

ond night of our 44th Church

Anniversary. The youth was in

charge. There were several

churches in attendance and the

spirit was felt by all.

Gilead Baptist Church preached

the sermon entitled: "If It's

Worth It Then Work It". His

text was Nehemiah 6:1-4.

services got started at New Light

Baptist Church, 3013 Idalou

Road, where Rev. Kenneth O.

Jackson is the pastor.

9:45a.m. with Deacon David

Chiles teaching the lesson enti-

tled: "Leadership Strong & Cor-

ageous" with the printed text

from Joshua 1:1-11; 16 -17.

11:0Ca.m. with the Praise Team

leading the way and what a good

they

Rev. L. C. Lee led the pulpit de-

marched in the choir stand

singing "We've Come This Far

By Faith". The responsive read-

ing read by Rev. Lee and the

The Senior Choir

Morning worship started at

Church School started at

Sunday, September 6, 2009

Rev. J. J. Johnson Jr. from Mt.

Brother & Sister L. C. (Bobbie) Brown, and many others. Let us not forget them and ot hers on shut-in

The City of Lubbook Parks and Recreation Department will begin registering teams for the fall session of volleyball on September 8-11, 2009. Divisions are available for men, women and co-rec teams. Players must be 16 years old or older to participate. Cost per team is \$170 for the ten-game season, and all games are played at L.I.S.D. Junior High gyms. Late registration will be September 14-18, 2009, with a late fee of \$30 added to the cost per team. The registration for the winter session will be in December with play beginning in January. Register in the Parks and Recreation Office at 1010-9th Street, Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information, call the Parks Office at 775-267if you are interested.

.The City of Lubbock Parks and Recreation Department will begin registering teams for the only adult basketball league of the year on September 8-11, on Sunday

On Friday, September 6, was led by Rev. Henry Edom d a i 1 y

with the choir singing "He Is

Sis. Rochelette Hood read all

the morning announcements and

told of all the upcoming events.

that will be taking place. All

birthdays for the week were ac-

knowledged also. There was the

pastorial period held by the pas-

tor and then the offering was

taken up by the deacons.

"Something Within" led by Sis-

ter Angela Mosley and "I Am

Redeemed" led by Sis. Alvera

ohnson.

"Amazing Grace" was sung

before the sermon. Rev Jackson

preached the sermon entitled

"What Kind Of Storms Are You

In" with the scripture text com-

ing from Mark 4:35-41.

Brother. A. W. Brown sung

"Blessed Assurance" after the

e r m o n

discipleship and several went up

for prayer. The lord continues

to add to the church.

Pray for those who are are lost

outside the ark of safety. Let's

pray for our youth, young adults

There was the invitation to

The Senior Choir sung

What a time!

New Light Baptist Church News

2009. Divisions are available for men and women's teams. Players must be at least 18 years old to participate. Cost per team is \$330 for the ten-game season, and all games are played at L.I.S.D. Junior High gyms. Late registration will be September 14-18, 2009, with a late fee of \$30 added to the cost per team. Register in the Parks and Recreation Office at 1010-9th Street Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information, call the Parks Office at 775-

Rev. B. R. Moton, past or of the New Hope Baptist Church, delivered a splendid sermon last Sunday morning. His subject was "A Satisfied Li fe For A You Can Only Be found In The Will of God." His scripture t text was

2672, if you are interested.

Let us continue to pay for those who have lost loved ones. The father of Shawnda Bass, Winston G. Robinson, Sr . May God continue inue to bless t his family. Your prayers are most appreciated. God is able.

Let 's attend Church Services mornings.

was the closing out of our 44th

Church Anniversary. There

waere several churches in atten-

dance and the spirit was in the

paster of First Baptist Church of

Herlong California preached the

message entitled: "T he Worfk Is

Continued." with several scrip-

tural texts used. The first one

came from Nehemiah 2:1-8;

Nehemiah 4:6; Daniel 9:20-25;

John 17:1-8 and 2Timothy 4:1-

"How happy is the man who

doesn't follow the advice of the

wicked or take the path of sin-

ners or join a group of makers!

Instead his delight is in the lord's

instruction, and he meditates on

it day & night. He's like a tree

planted beside streams of waters

that bears its fruit in season

&whose leaf doen't wither what-

ever he does prospers

PSALM 1:1-3

Scripture For The Week:

with

Reverend Dr. Elbert Rolin

FASHION CORNER

By Shirley Robinson

BODY MAGIC! WOW!

The original body magic body shapers...reshape and restore." Helps to firm and control your abdomen, lifts and hold your lower stemach in position, pulls your shoulders back and corrects posture, straightens your back, gives upper and lower back

support, thins your hips, lifts and hold your buttocks up in position. Ludies believe me, when I tell you it's magic. This innovative creation will sensationalize your figure by reshaping you from your shoulders to your legs. It will give you the appearance of a liposuction without surgery. Immediately taking you down 2 or 3 dress sizes! Feels like a second k i n variety of styles.

information

Shirley Roberson 806-773-6097.

AFFORDABLE PRICES..for

RECREATION AND LEISURE GUIDE AVAILABLE! REGISTER FOR FALL CLASSES NOW!

The 2009 Fall Recreation and Leisure Activity Guide is now available! The guide has all the great fall activities for Parks and Recreation, plus events for the Libraries, Buddy Holly Center, Silent Wings Museum, Civic Services, and Health Department. The 24-page guide covers activities from September through early January. Fall festivals, Halloween events, the new Pumpkin Trail event, holiday youth camps, reading programs, Santa Land, Veterans Day a few of the great programs the City of Lubbock will again offer residents.

Class registration for all Parks

and Recreation activities is currently underway! Sign up at your neighborhood Community and Senior Centers and the Garden and Arts Center! Classes fill up fast, and we encouraged everyone to sign up early so that you are able to get into the classes that you want. Classes are filled on a first come, first serve bases with a paid registra-

events, and new classes are just tion. The fall guide contains all the information you'll need to register and plan out your fall activities, including class schedules for all Parks and Recreation facilities, the fall events calendar, athletic leagues and tennis opportunities, rental information, and information on Safety City and Lake Alan Henry. Parks and Recreation has the entire 24-page guide available (in Adobe Reader) at www.playlubbock.com. To have a free copy mailed to you, call 775-2685 or email nneill@mylubbock.us.

Social Security Checks Will Shrink

WASHINGTON (AP) -

Millions of older people face shrinking Social Security checks next year, the first time in a generation that payments would not

The trustees who oversee Social Security are projecting there won't be a cost of living adjustment (COLA) for the next two years. That hasn't happened since automatic increases were adopted

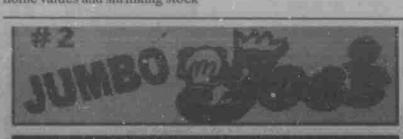
By law, Social Security benefits cannot go down. Nevertheless, monthly payments would drop for millions of people in the Medicare prescription drug program because the premiums, which often are deducted from Social Security payments, are scheduled to go up slightly.

I will promise you, they count on that COLA," said Barbara Kennelly, a former Democratic congresswoman from Connecticut who now heads the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare. "To some people, it might not be a big deal. But to seniors, especialry with their health care costs, it is a big deal."

Cost of living adjustments are pegged to inflation, which has been negative this year, largely because energy prices are below

Advocates say older people still face higher prices because they spend a disproportionate amount of their income on health care, where costs rise portfolios just as they are relying faster than inflation. Many also have suffered from declining. home values and shrinking stock

on those assets for income.

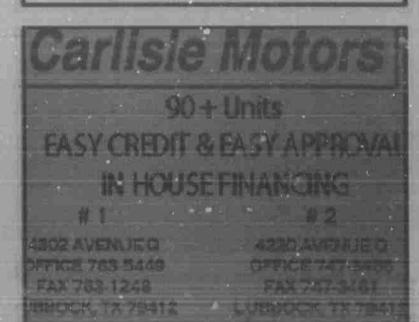


HAPPY HOUR - 2 pm to 4 p.m. 2 - 6 oz., Burgers, 2 FF, 2 Drinks

(Call in Orders Welcomed!)

\$10.99

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and teens that God will put his scripture came from 1 Corinthiarms of protection around them ans 11:23-30. The altar prayer

Ex-con tells story of prison lessons

and second chances

ATLANTA, Georgia (CNN) - Thirty minutes on a dark December night in 1996 left R. Dwayne Betts irrevocably

c h a n g e d

It was the first time Betts, known as a smart, straight-edge and funny guy, had ever held a gun. The pistol fit snugly into the hands of the 16-year-old, who tapped gently on the window of a dark green Pontiac Grand Prix. The noise startled the middle-aged man sleeping in the

In just 30 minutes, Betts committed his first crimes: an armed robbery and carjacking. They were felonies that landed the teenager in Virginia's adult pris-

ons for nearly nine years. "I've seen documentaries on prison, and I can name movies and books about prison," said Betts, now 28. "I don't think any of them actually capture the

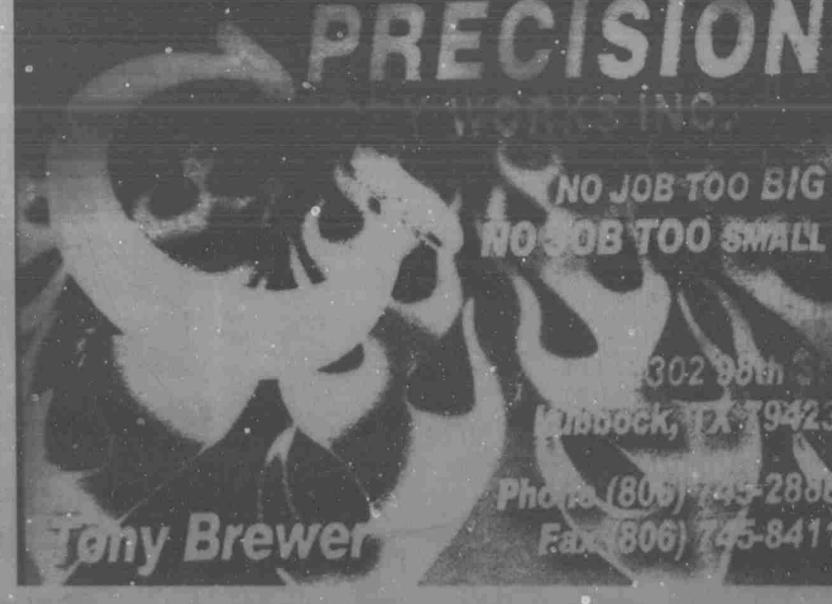


Dwayne Betts was arrested at 16 for a carjacking and spent nearly 9 years in prison..

sound of a cell door closing and realizing you can't go home."

What Betts did behind bars and when the cell door finally opened nine years later - is a remarkable story. Tettooed with a violent felony record, he nonetheless attended

Continue on Page 6





Church News





From the Desk of Parson D.A. Smith Has Lubbock, TX Become a

The slop or swill racial rhetoric that has been uttered from the mouthy cesspools of ignorance, corruption and void of power conservative wing of what was once a major political party is sicken, repugnant and repulsive. African Americans and President Obama in particular has become the object of ridicule and criticism from pathological liars and other social deviant behavior from Uncle Tom blacks, the conservative leaders: Rush Limbaugh, Glen Beck and other riffraff that fan the flames of racial hatred.

These alleged deviants, scatterbrains, stupid and repulsive "pieces of works" have no place in a wholesome society. What should frighten all Americans is they have begun to believe and partake of the racial hatred soup dipped from the slop jars of racial injustice and cesspools of cultural, education, and racial ignorance.

These conservative primates who live in their own radical world have not in a intellectual. sense risen to the state of having

true human traits as it relates to African Methodist Episcopal it relates to humankind. Their behavior appears to be akin to the social behavior of ages and monkeys.

Ralph Ellison wrote: "Life is to be lived, not controlled and humanity is won by continuing to play in face of certain defeat." Ellison life story notes that he had been born to parents who had been slaves. His parents moved from the Deep South to Oklahoma hoping the lives of their child would be fueled with a sense of possibility in this state that was reputed for its freedom. Though the prejudices of Texas and Arkansas soon encroached upon Oklahoma, the open spaces and fighting spirit of the people whom Ellison grew up among did provide him with a relatively unbiased atmosphere.

The story of Ellison life continues with the death of Lewis Ellison, his father in 1917 and left Ida, his mother, Ralph and his younger brother Herbert quite poor. To support the family, Ida worked as a domestic and stewardess at Avery Chapel

intelligence and basic respect as Church. The family moved into the parsonage and Ellison was brought into close contact with the minister's library. His mother encourages Ralph to read by bringing books and magazines home for him from the houses she cleaned. In addition, a black Episcopal priest in the city challenged the white custom of barring blacks from the public library and the custom was overturned. Ellison's horizons were broadened to a world outside his own sheltered life in Oklahoma City, by the many books now available to him in the library. Ellison left Oklahoma and headed to the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama to study music, with the help of a scholarship he had worn from state of Oklahoma.

At Tuskegee, Ellison was introduced to Alain Locke, a New Black thinker, who would lead Ellison to his writing career and his writing of Invisible Man. Ellison succeeded because he was able to rise above the cesspool of

Continue on Page 6



Thank God for

Traly It Is Praying Time!!

Written by Evengelist Silly '8.1" Morrison, III - Year brother in Christ Joseph about.

the prophets.

Luke 18:1 -- He (Jesus)spoke don't know WHAT TO DO!!! a parable unto them to this end, men ought always to pray, and not faint. Man kills 8 members of his family. They say he was on DRU GS. But I see i t's a SIGN OF TIMES. JESUS SAID, WHEN HAVING NO O V E 1 ! !

Matthew 24:10-12 - Jesus said, and then many shall be offended, and shall betray one anothe, and shall hate one another. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall cold.

Look around Chur ch, I know y ou've seen THE SME SIGNS. The world is full of troubles, AND YOU KNOW IT IS PAY-TIME!!!

Mark 13:8 - Jesus said, for nations shall r ise against nations, and there shall be arthquakes in divers places, and there shall be famines and t roubles. These are thebeginning SOTTOW.

When the devil brings a frightening thing along CALLED SWINE FLU, People have become so afr aid, they

Matthew 11:28 - Jesus said. come uato me, all that are labour and heavy laden, and I' will give you rest. When the

Fat her Kikks his Children, then

he kills his WIFE. He turns t

he gun on himself, committing SUICIDE -- THAT'S THE SIGN TO Matthew 23:37-39 - Jesus said, O' Jerusalem (CHURCH), Jerudalem (CHURCH), you that

and st one t hem which are sent unto you, how often would I have gat hered your children t ogether, even as a hen gathers her chickens under her wings, and you would not! Behold (LOOK), your house is lift unto you desolate (FORSAKEN). For I say unto you, You shall not see me henceforth, till you shall say, Blessed is he t nat come in thename of the Lord. *** CHURCH, HAVE YOU

SEEN THE SIGNS??? **** Man kidnaps a child, kept 18 years in his back y ard; pregnated her with two children. Now he pleads; NOT GUILTY,

CAN Y OU BELIEVE THIS FOOLISH MAN???

A woman cuts a baby out of another woman, saying; IT'S MINE. BUT THAT'S WHAT T HE MY RIGHTS HAVE DONE, AND IT'S PRAYING TIMEII

Mark 12:31b - Jesus said, NOTE!!! > You shall love your neighbor as y ourself. There is none other commandment greater than these. The fatuer kills his son, saying: I BROUGHT YOU THIS WORLD.

> The LIE OF THEDEVIL: PARENTS TELL TO THEIR AND GIRLS!!! **** THAT'S THE SIGNIII

(THAT IS ONE LIETHAVE HE ARD ALL MY LIFE, PAR-ENTS SAYING, I BROUGHT YOU INTO THIS WORLD. AND I WILL TAKE YOU OUT. LOOK IF THE FATHER DIES, THE NIOGHT HE PUTS IN THE SEED, AND THE MOTHER DIES GIVING THE CHILD BIRTH. GOD DILN'T NEED NEITHER OF THEM

Continue on Page 6

Church servcices were well attended last Sunday morning, Sept ember 6, 2009, at the St. Matthew Baptist Church, 2020 East 14th St reet, where the proud pastor is Rev. E dward Canady, who teaches the word.

Church services got underway with Sunday School beginning at 10:00 a. m. with Suprintendent Sister Skirley Davis in charge of the serices. The morning Su nday Sc hool

lesson was entitled "Leadership StrongAnd Corageous." The scripture text was Joshua 1:1-11.

The morning lesson was taught by Sister Annie Onasanya. Whata wonderful job she did for all in attendance.

The key verse: "Have not I commandedthee? Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Loro thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

(Joshua 1:9).

Everyone present enjoyed the lesson as wsell as received very much from it . It was truly a blessing to have received this lesson! Sunday School is great!

The morning worship hour got underway with Deacon Edwsard Williams and Deaconess Ethyl Wiliams, with continuing in prayer by Sister Barbara Johnson. The Senior Choir of St. Matthw Baptist Church sung out

of their hearts and souls. The morning sermon was delivered by Rev. Canady. His subject was "What Kind of a Soldier Are You?" The scripture text was II Timothy 2:1-6. The key verse was verse 3. The Song of Inspiration was "Because He Lives."

The weekly meeti ngs at St. Matthedw Baptist Church inclu de: Mission meets at 6:00 p. m. every Wednesay, Bible St udy begins at 7:00 p. m.

Friday evening, the Senior Choir rehearsal is held and it begins at 5:00 p. m. All are asked to attend these rehearsals. Saturday mornings, the Ushers meet at 11:00 a. m.

Let us continue t o pray for our si ck and shut in ci t izedns. Among them are Tra'Shun Ro binson, Rev. Walter Jackson, Brother Gerald Jackson, and Sis-Nina Davis.

Let us remember Sister Nelda Jackson who is a resi dent at thed Heritage Oaks Nu rsing & R ehabilitation Center. All birthdays for September

bers of St. Matthew Baptist Church on last Sunday. My heart's desire us to

were recognized by the mem-

know you. Lord, To walk close beside you today; To know your gree, your love,

your power. For you are my life and my way.

Thought For The Week: Only Jesu s, t he Living Water, can satisfy is the thirsty soul.

If you are loking for a Church Home, comde and visit St. Mtthedw Baptist Church anytime this

Outreach Prayer Breakfast

The members and friends of tghe Outreach Prayer Breakfast met last Saturday, September 5, 2009, in the home of Delbert and Dorothy Hood. The morning devotion wsas conducted by Sister R osiana Henderson, Sister Elnora Jones and Sister Hood.

The morning lesson was t aught by Sist er Jones, our teacher. Her subject was "God Has A Plan For Your Life." Jeremiah 29:11.

Jeremiah 29:11 reads: "I know the plans I have for y ou, t o prosper you, and not to harm you, to give you hope and a future. Other words, I know t e thought's that I think to do good, not evi I. Read Matthew 7:9-11. If we are born again believers, we all have a plan, a call for our lives filled with the Holy Spirit. Acts 1:8 - You shall receive power after the Holy Ghost has come u pon us, t hen you shall. be my wit ness. We are followers of Christ Disciples of Christ, Stewar ds called to workmanship, called to serve, called to walk in the spirit. Not to fulfill the lust of the fesh. Called to walk in obedience, to walk in victory, not in defeat.

We are a r oyal priesthood, a chosen generat ion picked out to be picked on, already sitting in heaverly places. Why? Be cause the indwelling Holy Spirit dells in the inside of us. Therefore, rivers of living water, flowing everlasting life.

We love by faith, not by sight. Hebr ews 11. By fait h Abr again? Nothing but the blood of

go out into a place which he should receive an inherit ance, obeyed God, went out not know-. ing where he was going for he looked for a city which had foundation, whose builder and is God.

Moses was called by God to go to Egypt and deliver the children of Isreal out of bondage. God opened the Red Sea. In other words, he cau sed a strong wind from the ast that partin the waters and they walked acros on land.

The Hall of Fame in the hebrew the eleventh chapter goes on and on. By faith, Abel ofered up a more excellent sac rifice than Cain. By faith, Sarah r eceived strengthen in her old age to bear a child . By fait h, Noah builded an ark, say ed his household. Those that received a good r eport, have not r eceived t he promise. of the Lord.

God has prov ided and fulfilled that promise, The blood of Jesus, a perfect lamb without a spot of blemish. He humbled himself even until dedath, died on an old rugged cross. Oh, ut on the thid ay, he arose and deciarfed "All powser of earth and heaven is in my hands. ZHe is now seat ed at the right hand of God, making intecessory for you and I No wonder t he song writer penned these words: "What can wash away my sins, nothing but the blood of Jesus. What can make me whole

aham, when he was callewd to Jesus." What a friend, we have.

What do I need to please God? Fist of all, we shall walk in virtur e (Purit y). God is concerned aout our charac ter. He sees everything, he even knows our thoughts. He t ells us to confess our faults one to another. He is concrned about every aspect of our lives. We are to add to virftue: honesty, integrity, hue mility, peace, patience, long suffering, kindness, meekness, gentleness, self control, temperence, and, most of all, love.

Last, but not least, we are calledto be interc essors. We should pray for others. Take a stand for right cousness. Pray for our President Barack Obama, our country, our community, s chols, past ors, and churchs. Reist the devil and he will flee. Remember, the Kingdom of

God takes things by foce! Okay? Gracie Fulson was the winner of the door prize last Saturday morning. Also, Sister Jean! Don't forget to pray, Saints!

A few thoughts for you: Behind the dim unknown standeth God within the shadow, keeping watch above His own. James Russell Lowell The LORD watches over the

way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. Sistedr Dorothy Hood, prfes-

ident; Sister Christine Burleson, vice president; and Sister E Jones, teacher.

Remember, each of you are invited to attend our monthly meetings. You are always welcome to be with us!



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Obsequies

Louis Clatin "LC" Donaldson

Phoenix, Az. - Funeral services were held for Louis Clatin "LC" Donaldson on Saturday morning, Au gust 29, 2009, at the First Institutional Baptist Church with Dr. Warren H. Stewart, pastor, officiating.

Interment was held in the National Cemetery of Arizona under the direction of Preston Home Funeral Home.

Active pallbearers were Barry Bernard, Elmer Curry, Bryne Donaldson, Don Albert Carter, John Dav is, and Bryan Stone.

Honorary pallbearers were Sky Harbor International Airport Skycaps, Desert Mashie Golf Club Members, Al and Gloria Douglas, Ed Barnhart, and Madeline and Ananias Mason.

He was born to the late Feily Donaldson, Sr. and Cordia Jone Donaldson on April 10, 1925.

At the age of 16, actually October 15, 1941, he reported for duty in the United States Naval Base in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was a World War II

Johnny Carver Robinson



Johnny Carver Robinson, 79 of Lubbock, passed away at his residence Tuesday, September 1, 2009. He was born August 18, 1930 to Bessie Mae Harris Robinson White and the late David Robinson in Granite. Okla. He attended and graduate from Dunbar High School. He served in the Army and was in Korean War. He leaves to cherish his memory, his mother, Bessie Robinson; cousins, Linda Brown, Margaret Harris, Jessie Harris, and James Harris; God brothers, Napoleon Ausby and John W. Ford; God sisters, Rose Ausby and Sammantha Ford; a very

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Iris Sager

salthe.



Korean War Veteran In Pampa, in 1947, Louis married Sarah Frances Butler. To this union, two children were born, Gloria Jean and Don.

In 1950, in Amarillo, Louis met his "Honey" Mildred Loretta Burton. It was love at first sight. They were married February 10, 1952, and enjoyed 7 years of marriage. They journeyed, as a family to St. Paul, Minnesota and Denver, Colorado before returning Phoenix. Arizona.

Louis began his Christian journey at St. Matthew Baptist Church in Wichita Falls, where he sang in the choir. He continued his singing in Amarillo, and was also ordained as a deacon.

He leaves to cherish his memory: wife, Mildred L.; daughter. Gloria J. Burton of Aurora, Colorado: son. Elder Don Albert Carter of Sac Sacramento, California; brothers, Felley (Myrtle) Donaldson of Wichita Falls and Elijah (Rubye) Denaldson of Lubbock; grandchildren: Angela Nicole Burton, Andre Carter, Don Demetrius Carter, and Rashawna Carter; great-grandchildren; many nieces, nephews, special friend, Ruth Robinson;

and a host of other relatives and friends. Funeral services were held

Tuesday, September 8, 2009, at Griffin Mortuary Chapel with Rev. Leon Armstead officiating.

Interment was held at Resthaven Funeral Home under the di rect ion of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lub-

Lubbock, Texas

Grant Hubbard

Shop Manager

Award Winning, Bestselling Author, Trice Hickman Comes To The Patterson Branch Library in Lubbock, Texas, To Discuss Her Latest Novel And Conduct A Mini-Workshop

- Trice Hickman, will appear at the Patterson Branch Public Library, September 19, 2003, to discuss and sign copies of her latest novel, Keeping Secrets & Telling Lies, and will conduct a mini workshop for local, aspiring writers titled, "How to Publish Your Own Book."

Since its June 23, release, Ms. Hickman's sophomore novel, Keeping Secrets & Telling Lies, has quickly become a book club favorite with avid readers, eliciting thought-provoking discussion around issues of cultural differences, fidelity, and family dysfunction; all of which are topics she explores in the book. She will follow the discussion and book signing with a miniworkshop designed to offer step by step instruction to aspiring writers, entrepreneurs, and book lovers about the fundamentals required to publish a book, how to set literary goals, and how she formed her publishing company, Platinum Books,

Ms. Hickman successfully published her debut novel, Unexpected Interruptions, which received critical acclaim from literary reviewers, avid readers, and book clubs across the country and overseas. She has won

two literary awards topped the bestsellers list at DC Metro area bookstores, secured corporate sponsorship from GODIVA Chocolatier and Hilton Hotel, and has sold the exclusive book club rights of both her novels to Black Expressions, a national book alub company with a membership of over 450,000. She is currently finishing her third novel which will be released summer 2010, and will be a contributing author on the highly anticipated anthology, Bedtime Stories 3, which is due out June 2010. Ms. Hickman holds a B.A. from Winston-Salem State University, and an M.A. from Wake Forest University. She currently

events:

September 19, 2009 Patterson Branch Library 1836 Parkway Drive, Lubbock, TX 79403 & Discussion lish Your Own Book

open to the public For more information please contact Helen Viser-Fitzgerald at 806-767-3300

resides in Washington, DC.

Ms. Hickman's schedule of

2:00 -4:00 p.m., Book Signing 4:00 - 6:00 p.m., How to Pub-These events are FREE and

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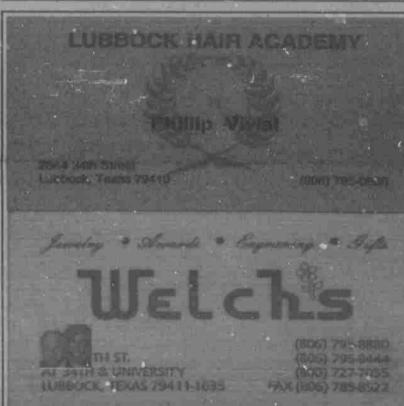
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Lynching Victim Emmett Till's Casket to go to Smithsonian

CHICAGO (AP) - The glass-topped casket that displayed lynching victim Emmett Till's disfigured body to the world and became a rallying point for the civil rights movement is headed to the Smithsonian Institution, Till's family announced Friday.

"Hopefully, when this casket, when it's on display at the Smithsonian, young boys and young girls from all over the world are going to see it and it's going to inspire them to fight for those who are too weak to fight for themselves," said Simeon Till's Wright, cousin.

At the South Side church where Mamie Till-Mobley insisted in 1955 on opening the casket that held the remains of her 14-year-old son - and allowed photographs to be taken and published - Wright said her message of what racism tooks

like still needs to be told. "Fifty years from now someone will tell the story ... that they murdered him, threw him in the Tallahatchie River, would they believe it without the casket?" asked Wright. He was 12 and was with Till the night the black teenager was pulled from his bed in Mississippi and murdered for

whistling at a white woman. Lonnie Bunch, the director of the Smithsonian's planned Na-killed. It follows last month's tional Museum of African American History and Culture, where the casket will be displayed, said he knows of no other casket of a at a suburban cemetery where specific American put on display this way at the Smithsonian. He called it a key artifact from the



The Smithsonian Institution in Washington and members of Till's family announced the casket's donation to the museum's planned National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington when it

civil rights movement that helps tell the story of what is both one of the darkest chapters in U.S. history and a moment that helped change

"Part of the responsibility of a national museum is to help people to remember, and through this donation we will ensure that future generations will remember how the death of a child, a mother's courage, helped to transform America," Bunch said.

Friday's announcement at the Roberts Temple Church of God in Christ came on the 54th anniversary of the day Till was discovery of Till's original casket - tattered, dented and risty in a garbage-strewn storage shed former workers are charged with digging up corpses and reselling burial plots.



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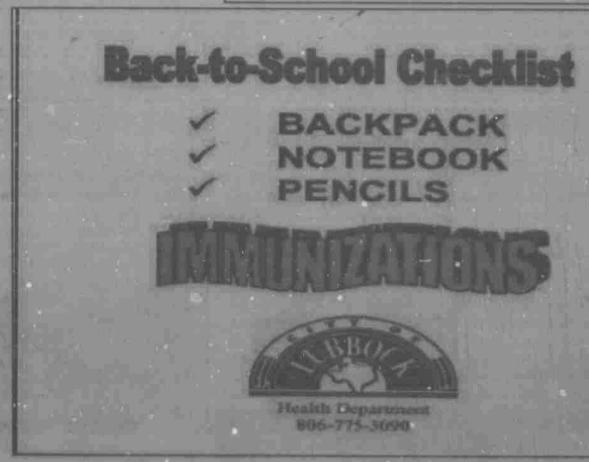
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The Time Is Now!





by T.J. Patterson -

(Editor's Note: THIS N THAT is publishing an article by a friend, Peter Laverty, Drector of Seniors Are Special, at University Medical Center's publication. It was entitled: "A Grumpy Old Man."

As I sat at the mall last weekend, on my annual visit, the future of Texas walked by and I realized

I had finally passed the threshold for being "a grumpy old guy". Let me explain, upon seeing a Tech student's tattoos, it did not enter my mind that they might be the student's statement as an individual or "Wow, what great tattoos." Instead I thought, "What a hard time they are going to have finding a job without getting those things removed." As they walked by I jotted a note to myself to Google "tattoo removal" when I get home; this could be a great investment opportunity for a bit of my retirement funds. Please, do not get me started on why anyone would put a ball cap on backwards; why not turn it inside

Young parents walked by pushingoaby carriages wearing animal printclothes; I wanted to scream across the fountain, "Yes honey, those leopard spandex pants makes your butt look fat!" Another fashion evolution made possible because my generation made it unpleasant or rude to teli your wife or husband that they needed to add another X to their wardrobe before they leave the house. I could not help but notice many of the male youth trying to defy gravity walking around in those tent and awning jeans with the Ringling Brothers design label. Every time I saw a pair of boxer shorts walk by I wanted to run over pull up their pants, march them over to Sears, and buy them a belt. I jotted down another note not to purchase stock in belt companies; no one appeared to be wearing one, at least around their waist. The way they were

putt in away all the junk food and 64ounce drinks, I thought maybe they were trying to grow into Ringling Brothers clothes.

This made methink, did my brothers hand me downsclothes that ridiculous

Certainly not, my mother would pinand sew the garments to fit perfectlybefore letting me out of the house. I kid you not, two young teenagegirls walked by wearing pajamasbottoms with fluffy slippers. Whercould they possibly be going? Not to McDonalds for a job interview that is for sure. At that age, the sight of mypajamas hanging on our clotheslinein plain site would have embarrassed me to death and here they are wearingthem in public, shopping the Mall.

What must the merchants think when they see them coming into their store? Instead of inviting them in Iwould have screamed, "We don't sell mattresses now go home and

We are now living in a very complicated fast paced, hurry up, every one is in a hurry with no particular place to go behind can't catch up hurry up you are making me late but for what?This is the electronic age super high way, push button, instant, pre mixed every one is for self, what happened to I am my brothers keeper? This is the mind set of most of the population at this time but on the other hand there are still some so called normal people that takes life as it really is one step and one day at a time and maintains respect,

Some of us are running so fast that the real world is passing us by and we are to busy to see or realize it what a shame as the old saying goes they need to slow down and smell the coffee how many of us has taken the time to slow down and really smell the coffee some time som of us are so,so called busy that the real world is passing us by right in front of our noses while we think passing us by.

family,self,neighbors,church,sch ool, and community as a whole we must start caring for others stop being selfish, jealous, forget our own agendas and work collectively together for the good of all of together that way collectively we can turn all the negatives to positives then there will be more peace and happiness for of

CLOSING THOUGHT: We live in a fantasy world, a world of illusions, the greatest task in life is to find reality (Iris Murdock, Angle-Iris author and (1919-1999)

Let us not quit our position in life, because our children need to see us concerned about their future. They will feel secu re if they know we are with them in all they are attempting to a accomplish.

we are to busy to realize it is The modern age is good it is even beautiful with all the conphilisopher faith, and love for Gog, self and veniences moderations, easy fix man mankind take and respect its.cosuitors,and every kind of life as it is and do not push and electrical gadget under the sun and try to mak life to fit their but mean while we need to go back to the basics and being agenda they must slow down and realize that this is God's human beings again for example

In Cinque

by Renetta Howard mything can tell you that





For some time now, it has puzzled me as to why some of the courses in Social Studies in the public high schools are being deleted. It just occurred to me that it is the undercurrent of the political movements to the left that have infiltrated the public schools in hopes of making sure that political ideology is not taught. The lambasting of the occurrence of a United States Presidential speech to students sire in schools, which has not been made yet, is the fruit of such i de a s.

Presidents of the United States have made speeches to students in schools for the past thirty years that I am aware of and there have been no loud cry-outs from parents or the public. As a

matter of fact, these speeches have been welcomed by any and everyone affected. There has been no backlash following the speeches either, but President Obama had only to announce that he planned to speak to students regarding staying in school, and in some instances, especially in some 'dense' Republican areas, parents are having their children 'opt out' from listening to the speech or harassing principals and school districts not to allow the speech to be heard or seen in their schools. Some have decided to record it for a later viewing and listening time. If they only knew that years ago, a classroom was lucky if it could borrow a radio to listen to the President speak! Where have our morals and deto learn gone?

One would think that in schools where motivational speakers are hired at the beginning of each school year to speak to their student bodies and pay much more than the electricity for a televised speech, or the cost of a high definition televi-

sion, that a speech from the highest office in the United States, that of the President, would be welcomed. But it seems that some folks just 'can't get over it!' The irony of it all is, that President Obama has acquired more education and experience than the average motivational speaker hired by school districts. He has more to offer and has been constantly encouraging not just students attending school to stay in school. but is encouraging parents who dropped out to return to school.

We are busy contemplating what the health care reform will be like in the end, and how Medicare and Medicaid will be affected, but we also need to become interested in an overhaul of the educational system in this country, as we are still encountering separate and unequal education, fifty-five years after Brown vs. The Board of Education. Perhaps a better funded and better personnel filled educational system in this country would increase the thinking and moral skills of its products, our

change!" It would have been a cold day before my father would have let me sit at the dinning room dressed in my pajamas. Driving home from the Mall. if I heard one I heard a hundred car stereos, at decibel levels that they could have been heard in Plainview.I wanted to scream. "You're to be deaf by the time your hirty Ignoring the fact that I did the same thing with my stereo system in my college dorm. My hall monitor routinely yelled down

world and not theirsas some

"Laverty turn down that music!" That is the main reason I am convinced that at age 57, I now wear a hearing aid. Pulling into my driveway, I dread that all of this foreshadows the fact that I am one-stepaway from attacking that ice cream truck and its, "All around the Mulberry Bush" musical assault to my senses. Oh my, like my father before me, and his father him; I have become "a grumpy old

(THIS N THAT hops you received a message from t his article. It made a lot of sense. A parents and grandparents, we have a great job to do as we rear our young people. If ever t here was a time as our y oung people really need all of us doingwhat we could to help them Thanks, Peter Peter Lavert y for allowing us to publish these important words. Hope we will be able to this again

children. We need to get 'in cinque' and revamp our values.

HAVE WE FORGOTTEN THAT THE BEST PEOPLE TO SOLVE OUR PROBLEMS ARE

US?

hy donnell ASKARI hooper



I started this article with this question because I was asked did I really mean what I said in the article I wrote in last week's SOUTHWEST DIGEST ? The answer is YES! I said what I meant and mean what I said. Just like the human rats and roaches that are breaking into our homes and businesses in our community need to leave or be ran out of our community. The same goes for the people living in our community who do nothing but complain and do nothing to promote, encourage or bring about empowering change in our community. Six in one hand, half a dozen in the other, both groups of people are the termites and parasites of our community. Martin Luther King was quoted as saying "not one of us can do everything that need to be done for us, but all of us can do something that will benefit

whole We all know, nothing from

nothing is nothing to leave! It's insanity to expect something if you do nothing . It's even more insane to keep expecting these same old talker about what we need to do to do anything different than talk when the solution to our community problem are in our hands and not these out spokesmen!

Who are they? You all know who they are. They are the 10% blood suckers who keep their hands deep into your purses and pockets. Yeah, these blood suckers got you investing in them and not yourselves! These blood suckers are able to do us this way, because they know to many of us will try to pay our way to success rather than make our own way to success! These blood suckers have theorized the

Continue on Page 6





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HAVE WE FORGOTTEN

Continued from Page 5

hat 85% of the people can be led to their own ruins and destruction like grazing cattle to the slaughter house. We all know that when cattle leave the slaughter house they come out as meals to be bought and sold! How many of us have sold our souls! How many of us have bought into the lie that we are just a bunch of good for rothing Nig*#ers. Wet b*#ks, and po* White Tr*%# in east Lubbock, Texas? Well I tell you THIS MESS CAN NOT HOLD DOWN OUR GREATNESS! THERE IS A DIFFERENT DRUM MAJOR IN TOWN and I am calling on all the intelligent and conscious people to RALLY WITH US TO EM-POWER OURSELVES AND **OUR COMMUNITY!** There is no room for COWARDS and MESSY PEOPLE only the true believers in our mission to do better for ourselves, OUR-SELVESIIIIII BE READY FOR THE CALL!!!!! AN-SWER THE CALL!!!!! ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE NOT SOLD YOUR SOULS STAY BOLD!!!!! THE RALLY WILL BE POSTED IN THIS PAPERILLI LET'S STAY STRONG!!! Lubbock surgeon helps others through Operation HOPE



At the are of 44, Lubbock surgeon John Thomas has already lived longer than many of the children he helps. In the Southeast African country of Malawi, where Thomas recently volunteered his time and skills, the average life expectancy is just 43 years.

Thomas is hoping the efforts of Operation HOPE - a missionary organization he founded a decade ago that stands for Healing Outreach for People Everywhere - will help the people of Malawi, who, he said, struggle to find food and clean water

The difference we make is very small, but definite," Thomas said in a Thursday inter-

How did be achieve nearperfect grades and win a scholarship for a full ride to graduate school? Betts' memoir, "A Question of Freedom," released last month, chronicles the lessons he learned in prison and how he

managed to turn his life around. Some might say the odds were stacked against Betts. He was the son of a convicted felon. raised by a single mother. Drug deals and robberies were commonplace in his Suitland, Maryland, neighborhood. "I didn't really have any outlets," Betts explained.

He appears very different today, dressed in a sharp black suit on his book tour, than he did as a streetwise teenager.

His arrest in 1996 made him another statistic. Betts became one of hundreds of thousands of teens who are in the U.S. juvenile justice system. Of the offenders, federal studies show, a large percentage of the offenders are

Early on, his defense attorney made it known that the seriousness of his crime would probably place him in the adult prison system, even though no one was hurt in the robbery.

But Betts wasn't the only juvenile locked up with adults. On the bus to Southampton Correctional Center, an adult corrections facility, he rode with a dozen other juveniles sharing similar fears of entering prison.

A recent study by the University of Texas at Austin reports that on any given day in 2008, more than 3,650 juveniles are held in adult prisons.

Betts was transferred to Red Onion State Prison, Virginia's super-maximum security facility. It has been criticized by Human Rights Watch, a nonprofit group that reports on conditions.

The group documented instances of guards using gunshots to control prisoners. Betts said he often heard these shots.

During his nine years in custody, he was shuffled to five adult prisons. He did not grow hardened, bitter or hateful. Instead, Betts grew up fast and

One morning, he watched another inmate fix broken televisions and radios. The inmate could decipher the schematics

without any help or formal technical training. He told Betts he learned the skills on his own during his incarceration. lesson stuck. The

Ex-con tells story of prison lessons and sec-

ond chances

Continued from Page 2

"There is no end to the ingenuity of a man's mind that won't be denied," Betts said. "You can teach yourself anything you n n

Betts knew that his record and his stint in prison meant he needed to prove himself to the outside world. He finished high school behind bars and taught himself Spanish. He read the work of John Steinbeck and

Parson Smith

Continued from Page 3

racial bias and cultural ignorance of white people of his day! This writer was saddened by the mindset of the Educational leadership of Lubbock who succumbed to the ignorance of a few social, educational and racial misfits. It is a sad day in America when ignorance overrules intelligence. It sad day in Lubbock, TX when much of the population is so illiterate and ignorant of the knowledge children would gain by interacting with the President of the United States and the Department of Education. These misfits of Lubbock residing in a wholesome society much be part of that group the writers of the Bell Curve portrayed as blacks but were more than likely a sub-culture of the Bell Curve writers

g r o u p The Tyler (Texas) Independent School District and the Longview (Texas) Independent School District did not have the technological capability to simultaneously accommodate all classrooms throughout the Districts with video streaming, and as such was not able to be presented live. However the districts want to honor President Obama's request and will do so at the appropriate time. Both of these cities are represented by Republicans Again! Has Lubbock, Texas become a cesspool of racial and cultural ignorance? Do these Lubback people have the knowledge to read a label on how to pour contaminated water out of a boot? Or do they think it lemon Kool-Aid?

wrote poetry. Other prisoners may have called him "bookworm," but Betts said it gave him the skills necessary to attend college.

"I taught myself how to frame the world in a way in which I could be more than what I was during the 30 minutes I committed the crime," he said.

In those dank years behind bars, Betts saw fellow inmates move in and out of the penal system. Statistics tracking recidivism rates for incarcerated juveniles aren't favorable for an offender like Betts: Federal studies show that about 55 percent of juveniles in Virginia are re-arrested within a year of their ree a s e

"Part of the problem is that society wants to forever judge you by the crime you committed, no

Thank God For Jesus

Continued from Page 3

KEEP THE CHILD TOO ALIVE!!! ONLY GOD CAN KEEPTHE CHILD ALIVE!!! I AM I WRITE ITE ABOUT

I Timothy 6:7 - for we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can car CARRY nothing

Man kills his wife over the insurance money HE COULD RECEIVE. T HE COURTS TS ONLY GAVE HIM 18 YE YEARS, BUT DEATH HE SHOULD HAVE CEIVED111

Genesis 9:6 - God said. whoso sheds man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man. The churches main thing is they only want to RAISE MONEY. Wanting \$10,000.00 RAISED for HUSBAND AND WIFE'S ANNIVERSARY!!!

**** THAT'S THE SIGN!!! Isaiah 56:11 - God said, yes, they are greedy dogs which can never enough, and they are shephards that cannot understand and: they all look to their own way, every one for his gain, for his quarter (ANNIVERSARY).

II Chronicles 7:14 - God said, if my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways: and then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sins, and will heal

matter what you do," Betts said. "Ther, are roadblocks in your way even though you went to court and you've served your debt to society."

Betts was released in spring 2005 after serving nearly nine years of his 10-year sentence. He was determined not to go 0 k

b a The first few years of readjusting to life on the outside were filled with obstacles. When he met his future wife, Terese, a fellow student at a community college, he was unsure how to reveal his criminal history to her. "I was still just a student in community college," Betts said. "It wasn't like I had done anything to measure up to the crime I committed'

Betts was rejected by several employers and colleges solely because of his criminal record. Still, he pushed on taking what opportunities came his way.

His perfect academic record in community college earned him a spot at the University of Maryland, where he studied writing and was awarded a scholarship for academic excellence. During those years, he created YoungMenRead, a book club in the Washington area, to give teenagers a safe place to hang out after school. It was something he didn't have grow-

He wants to provide his 21month-old son, Micah, who has just started to walk and talk, with plenty of positive creative outlets. He plans on showing his son his memoir about his time in prison when Micah gets o'd to understand. enough

"I'm pretty sure the life I live will show him that you can avoid certain mistakes " Betts said, "You can be more than any one mistake you make."

Patterson Library **Briefs This Week To** Attend

Breast Cancer Screenings: Convenant Health System's Mobile Mammography Unit will be at Patterson Branch Library Monday, October 12, 2009. Must have appointments. Call to pre-register at 725-6579 or 1-800-388-6266. Financial assistance is available.

Open Mic Poetry Night: Bring a poem to share or just listen. Monday, October 19, 2009 Sign up begins at 6:30pm and Reading starts at 7:00pm





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