



A newspaper for 21st century representing the Black community ideal and ideals since 1977

Southwest Digest

July 30, 2009

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75¢
Worth More!

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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 Wednesday of each month, from 12:00-1:00pm at the Chairman Hill Restaurant, 512 E. 23rd St. 806-535-8081
- Lubbock Area Client Council meets on the 2nd Saturday, 1:00pm at the Patterson Branch Library
- Hub City Kiwanis meets every Tuesday, 7:00pm, 1708 Avenue G
- Dunbar Alumni Association meets 2nd Saturdays, 4:00 pm
- Booker T. Washington American Legion Post 808 meets every 2nd Tuesday at 7:30pm, American Legion Building in Yellowhouse Canyon
- Forgotten West Riders meets on the 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:00 pm, Patterson Library
- East Lubbock Chapter AARP meets every 1st Thursday at 1:00 pm, Mae Simmons Community Center
- Lubbock Chapter of Black Alumni meets every 3rd Tuesday, 5:30 pm, TTU Market Alumni Center
- Dunbar/Manhattan Heights Neighborhood Association meets every 1st Thursday at 6:00 pm and every 4th Thursday at 7:00 pm at the Dunbar-Manhattan Heights Neighborhood Outreach Center at 1301 East 24th St.
- West Texas Native American Association Pot Luck Supper meets on alternating months prior to meeting, meetings held on 2nd Saturday of each month at 7:00 pm, Educational presentations and demonstrations.
- Texas Juneteenth Cultural & Historical Commission - Lubbock Affiliate meets at Patterson Branch Library every 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm
- West Texas Native American Association meets 2nd Saturday each month at Groves Library, 5520 19th Street, 7:30 p.m.
- West Texas Chapter of 100 Black Men meets the 3rd Monday evening at 7:00 pm at the Parkway Neighborhood Center.
- The Parkway & Cherry-Point Neighborhood Association meets the 3rd Tuesday evening of each month at 7:30 pm at Hunt Elementary.
- Chairman Hill Neighborhood Association meets the 2nd Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm, at Hes 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
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Lubbock, TX 79404
806-762-3612

Fax: (806) 762-4605

email us at:
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Paul Quinn College Loses Accreditation Last Month

Paul Quinn College has lost its accreditation because of financial and academic problems, officials said Thursday, June 25, 2009 – a devastating blow that jeopardizes the future of the tiny liberal arts college in southern Dallas.

Paul Quinn College Colleges need accreditation to award degrees and offer students federal financial aid. That seal of approval is also usually needed for student credits to transfer to other colleges.

It ultimately could force Paul Quinn's 440 students to find another school.

"They had made progress... but they ran out of time before they could come into compliance on everything," said Belle Wheelan, president of the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Paul Quinn, one of eight historically black colleges in Texas, was put on probation two years ago. It still fell short in three areas: financial resources, financial stability and institutional effectiveness – essentially a college's ability to teach students what they need to know.

"They didn't have enough money. They were in debt," Wheelan said.

President Michael Sorrell said he was disappointed by the decision.

"We're absolutely going to file an appeal," he said. "One of the issues folks need to understand is that we made a phenom-

enal amount of progress." For instance, he said the college expects to have a surplus of more than \$200,000 at the end of this fiscal year.

Paul Quinn had failed a federal test of financial responsibility, based on last fiscal year. Colleges in that situation face extra federal scrutiny and must post letters of credit so they can continue to receive and award federal student aid.

It's unusual for colleges to lose accreditation. Wheelan said the last time that happened with her agency was in 2007, with St. Andrews Presbyterian College in North Carolina, also because of financial problems. Later, however, a federal judge ordered the accrediting agency to reinstate the school's accreditation.

Sorrell is Paul Quinn's fifth college president since 2001. A businessman, lawyer and political consultant, Sorrell was widely considered the best shot at turning around the long-struggling school.

In two years, he has instituted a number of changes, including a business-casual dress code, tougher academic standards and more aggressive recruiting.

"He made great progress. He just didn't make enough progress," Wheelan said.

With classes in summer recess, the 130-acre campus was mostly vacant Thursday. A guard at the front gate denied access to anyone without an

appointment. William Baker, a sophomore education major, said he struggled with college in Muskegon, Mich., and followed two family members to Paul Quinn. He said the Dallas school has served him well.

"It's a school where you are identified by name, not just number. Anytime I needed anything they were there. It's very family-oriented. The president was always walking around, shaking hands, checking on students," he said. "He always had an open-door policy."

Sorrell said he did not want to speculate on what loss of accreditation means for faculty and students.

"I want to stop short of rendering opinions on things like that until we've exhausted the appeal process," he said.

Dallas ISD trustee Ron Price is a Paul Quinn graduate. He said he was disappointed that the campus lost accreditation, and he noted that it often leads to a college's closing.

"My heart goes out to those 400-plus students who put their time, energy and resources into the college," he said.

Baker, 21, last year's sophomore class president, said he will transfer if future classes won't count toward a degree.

"But I'm going to continue to believe I'll come back here in September," he said. "Even though we are struggling, I believe it will turn around."



Some of the unhappy students at Paul Quinn College are Derek Fuller, 37; Shaundrea Guidry, 25; and Donnisha Walker, 25.



Mr. & Mrs. William Raven, Sr.

Mr. & Mrs. William Raven, Sr. Celebrates 50th Wedding Anniversary June 18th

Mr. & Mrs. William Raven, Sr. of Lubbock celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on Saturday, June 18, 2009, with renewed vows and dinner with family members and friends at the Radisson Hotel.

Their children and grandchildren hosted the celebration.

They are the parents of William Raven, Jr. and Donnie Raven Hayes.

Those present enjoyed this memorial occasion. "It just let us know how God has been to us," said Mrs. Raven.

"This was wonderful, and we are truly thankful" said Mr. Raven. "God is good," he concluded.



Mr. & Mrs. William Raven, Sr. are shown in 1959. They have recently celebrated 50 years of marriage.

Police: Ex-Boxing Champion Vernon Forrest Killed

ATLANTA (AP) — Vernon Forrest, a former two-division champion who gained stardom when he became the first boxer to defeat Shane Mosley, was shot to death in what police are calling an attempted robbery.

Atlanta police Sgt. Lisa Keyes said in an e-mail Sunday that the 38-year-old Forrest was shot several times in the back late Saturday night on a street

just southwest of downtown. Keyes said there were no suspects.

Fulton County medical examiner Michele Stauffenberg confirmed the case was a homicide and that the autopsy showed Forrest died from "multiple gunshot wounds involving the torso and thigh." Keyes said a police report on the shooting was not immediately available.

James Sisters In Chicago, Illinois Recently They Will Travel To Washington, D. C. In 2010



The James Sisters In Chicago, Illinois

The James Sisters met for an 'All Girl's Vacation' in Chicago, Illinois on June 12, 2009.

The older sister, JoMarie, and Betty (middle sister), and

young si sister, Gwen, came from Detroit, Michigan, while Ernestine (second oldest) from Lubbock met them.

They were accompanied by

their daughters, nieces, daughters, nieces, daughter-in-law, and a friend.

They had a glorious time, and if God allows, they plan to meet in Washington, D. C. in



James Sisters Enjoying Themselves In Chicago

2010. Ernestine was overjoyed to see her sister JoMarie traveling and enjoying herself.

JoMarie was left with some paralysis after suffering a stroke

some years ago.

The girls all belong to Mrs. Wilma James, a longtime resident of Lubbock.

They can't wait until 2010 when they come together again.

Chatman Hills Corner

By Doris Reynolds

In a few days, the Annual Friends & Family Weekend will take place at the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, 2202 Southeast Drive. The proud pastor is Rev. Scnia J. Scott.

It will get underway on Friday night, August 7th, with a Gospel Musical, featuring talented citizens of the community. It will begin at 7:00 p. m.

Saturday, August 8th, the Youth will be in Booker T. Washington Park, beginning at 2:00 p. m. There will be all kinds of games for the young and old. Sister Regina Sylvester is chairperson of these events.

Sunday afternoon, worship services will get underway at 1:00 p. m. with guest speaker being Presiding Elder J. W. Ford of the Tyler District of the Tenth

Episcopal District. He will be speaking on the theme of "Dwelling Together In Unity." Psalm 133.

During the services, several former members of Bethel will be recognized posthumously. They are Mae D. Simons, Willie & Mildred Lusk, Edward C. & Lillian Struggs, Paul Hemanes, John Fair, T. S. Jamison, Dr. R. A. Pillow, Leon Melton, and Centelle H. Lyons.

Their family members will be invited to attend these services.

The afternoon will climax in the Mae D. Simmons Park shortly after the services. There will be a fellowship with food and fun.

Brother Robert Moore is chairperson.

The public is invited to attend.

Among the activities happening at the Bobbie Gean and T. J. Patterson Library in August will include Open Mic Poetry Night. This will take place on Monday night, August 7, 2009, beginning at 6:30 p. m. which is sign up time. The reading will begin at 7:00 p. m.

Let us continue to pray for our sick and shut-in residents. Among them include Sister Dorothy Nash, who is at home and is doing nicely.

Sister Buelah Winters and Brother Lester Inters, husband and wife, are both home and are recuperating nicely.

Brother Bobby Walker is up and going since he has returned home. He gave a shouting testimony in church services at

FASHION FUN

by Shirley Roberson

Things to look for this fall... animal prints and colors to complement everything in your closet, animal prints will surface everywhere and in the most vibrant colors, sassy pinks, blues, reds, purple, oranges, just because it's

fall, your colors will remain light and bright, very bright. Goldtones and bronges will also invade the fall scene and when you combine bright colors with these earthy hues, girlfriend it will put you at the top of the fashion scene.



Fashion tip... always wear a smile

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*** fashion just for the fun of it ***

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New Light Baptist Church News

Last Sunday morning, July 26, 2009, church services got underway with much excitement at the New Light Baptist Church, 3013 Idalou Road, where the proud pastor is Rev. Kenneth O. Jackson.

Church School started at 9:45 a. m. with Deacon David Chiles teaching the lesson. The subject was "Spreading The Wealth." The printed passage scripture was Leviticus 25:8-21; 23-24. It was another timely discussion for all in attendance.

The morning worship hour begun at 11:00 a. m. with the Praise Team leading the way singing God's praises. What a time!

Rev. L. C. Lee led the he pulpit devotion. The Senior Choir marched to the choir stand singing "We've Come This Far By Faith." The responsive reading was read by Rev. Lee. The scripture came from Psalm 100:1-5. The altar prayer

Was led by Rev. Jackson with the Senior Choir singing "Bless The Lord."

Sister Rochelette Hood read all the morning announcements, and told of all the upcoming events which will be

Held during the coming week. All birthdays were acknowledged for the week. There was also the Pastoral period held

By Pastor Jackson. After this, the morning offering was taken up.

The Senior Choir sang "God Is Good" and "I'm Willing." "Amazing G race" was sung before the sermon. Rev.

Jackson preached the morning sermon. His subject was "Count It All Joy." His scripture text was James 1:1-4. After the Sermon, the Senior Choir sang inspiring selection.

There was the invitation to discipleship and several came for prayer. Sister Linda Green acknowledged all

Visitors who were present for the morning worship hour.

Let us continue to pray for the lost, sick, shut-in, those in the nursing facilities, hospitals, jail and prison. Pray for the youth, teenagers, and young adults of our society.

SCRIPTURE FOR WEEK: "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my

Father's house are many mansions, and if it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. I will

Come again and receive you unto myself that where I am there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know and the way ye

Know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord we know not whither

thou goest and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto Him, I am the way, the truth and the life. No man cometh unto the father, but by me." John 14:1-6.

If you are looking for a Church

Home, then come and visit the New Light Baptist Church. You will be glad you did so. Also, bring a family member or friend with you

God Bless each of you this week, and do attend Church.

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Church News

FROM THE DESK OF PARSON D.A. SMITH

"Black Males: Reaching For The Top In America"

Parson Smith would like to thank those of you who called, sent cards and offered prayers during my two stays in the hospital. With your prayers for the guidance of the hands of the physicians we are recovering quite well. We have a long way to go. However, we are on our way to recovery. Thanks again for your concern about our physical well-being.

Now to the issue at hand! One would think many conservative Americans would be happy that President Obama has regained the respect for all Americans as the leader of the free world. However, there are those in America who still have the Southern (white only) Dixie rat mentality. These pieces of works still believe that if you are not "lily white" you are genetically mutated and are inferior to their kind.

A practical example is seen a column posted July 9, 2009 by Lan Millhiser of Legal Research Analyst; Center for American Progress Action Fund entitled Sessions Uses Sotomayor as a Pawn in His Lifelong Crusade Against Civil Rights. Miller writes the following:

In 1986, an ambitious young United States Attorney named Jefferson Beauregard Sessions III was denied a seat on the federal bench because of his own deep-seated hostility to the very notion of civil rights. As a feder-

al prosecutor, Sessions conducted a tenuous criminal investigation into voting rights advocates that registered African-Americans to vote—an investigation that culminated in an unsuccessful prosecution against a former aide to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He once quipped that he "used to think (the KKK) were OK until he found out some of them were "pot smokers," and he routinely referred to an African-American attorney who worked for him as "boy"—even once warning that attorney to be "careful what you say to white folks" after Sessions overheard him chastising a white secretary.

Moreover Sessions remains unrepentant for these incidents, although he did reluctantly concede at his confirmation hearing that it "probably was wrong" when he attacked the NAACP as an "un-American" and "Communist-inspired" organization that "forced civil rights down the throats of people."

Twenty-three years later, Sessions is the highest ranking Republican on the Senate Judiciary Committee; and he is the architect of a right-wing campaign which claims that Sotomayor's past service on the board of the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund (PRLDEF) makes her unsuitable for the bench. Last week, Sessions claimed that this main-

stream civil rights organization took "extreme" positions in litigations. This week, Sessions clarified this refrain in an interview with Fox News, explaining that he is concerned that PRLDEF "brought several race discrimination lawsuits for minorities."

We agree with the writers thinking that given Sessions' long history of baseless assaults on civil rights organizations, one has to wonder whether conservatives chose him as their leading voice on Sotomayor because they fundamentally agree with his lifelong stance on race.

One has to re-examine the mindset of the Republican Party as it relates to any other race than lily white Americans as to why they would select a man with a questionable racist past to become the GOP's point-man for confirmation hearing for the next Supreme Court Justice. This sure does help the like of Uncle Tom Clarence Thomas and Yes Mr. Gilmore: Michael Steel! Clarence Thomas voted against the ruling of Sotomayor's on the fire-fighters ruling.

Hispanics and Blacks in the city of Lubbock need to always stay vigilant and watch carefully everything that affects their livelihood. This includes watching other Hispanics and Blacks

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We Thank God for Jesus

"From Faith To Fake"

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

Isaiah 29:13 - The Lord said, for as much as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their mouth, and with their lips do honour. But have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me taught by the precept of men.

Lord, that Devil is yet lying to this old world as he been doing all the time. In the Garden of Eden when he lied to Eve and Adam, they didn't know he was lying!!!

Genesis 2:17 - God said of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, you shall not eat of it. For in the day that you eat thereof, you shall surely die.

(And from that lie came the second sin in the garden, Cain killed his brother, Able!!!)

**** And Cocaine Is Killing Today!!! ****

And why do we believe his lies today? He's the father of lies wherever he goes. We know this is true. The Bible is our guideline said so!!!

John 8:44a - Jesus said, you are of your father the Devil, and the lust of your father you will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth.

Our fathers believed the word of God in what the Bible said. The new generation says: "Seeing is believing, and don't trust God today!!!"

**** Our Ancestors Had

Faith!!! ****

Lord, our forefathers lived in poverty, but in their heart, they kept your word there. But this new generation, they don't want you around, any place or any where!!!

Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him (God), and He will direct your paths.

**** Is God Directing America's Path Today???

The Devil lied to Eve and Adam, saying the tree in the middle of the garden, you may eat. But God had said of every tree in the garden you may eat, but not of that tree!!!

Jeremiah 16:19 - O' Lord, my strength, my fortress, and my refuge in the day of affliction, the gentiles shall come unto you from the ends of the earth, and shall say, surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit.

**** Does America Trust In God Or rust In A Dreamer!!! ****

The Devil lied to the new generation, and told them of their rights. We're free at last, free at last, but they live in miseries - day and night!!!

Romans 1:21-23a - Because that when they (The Christians)

know God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful, but became vain in their imaginations (Dreamers), and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the corruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man.

(The Devil and his lies call Rights: White Police Arrest A Black Harvard Scholar Rights, Grandson Kills His Grandfather Rights, Mall Shooting Rights, Road Rage Killing Rights, Black Rights, Gay Rights, Kill Your Own Mother Rights, No Prayer In School Rights, KKK Rights, Woman Rights, Abortion Rights, Kill The Abortion Doctors Rights, No Spanking Rights, Kill The Teachers And Students Rights, Bomb The Federal Building Rights, Children My Space Rights, Drug Corner Rights, No Respect For Anyone Rights, Disgracing My Woman Rights, Six Babies By Six Difference Mother Rights, Teachers Molesting The Students Rights, Kill The Family Rights, and many more of the Devil!!!)

**** God Bless America. Take The B - Out Of Bless. New Read!!! It's God Less America!!! ****

Isaiah 1:4a - The Lord said, Yes, a sinful nation, a peo-

Continue on Page 4

St. Matthew's Baptist Church News

Church services were well attended last Sunday morning, July 26, 2009, at the St. Matthew Baptist Church, 2020 East 14th Street, where the proud pastor is Rev. Edward Canady.

Church services got underway with Sunday School beginning at 10:00 a. m. with Superintendent Sister Shirley Davis in charge.

The morning Sunday School lesson was entitled led

"Spreading The Wealth." The scripture text was Leviticus 25:8-21; 23-24. The morning lesson was taught by Sister Annie Onasaya, and it was reviewed by Pastor Canady.

The key verse was: "And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty through out all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof; it shall be a jubilee unto you; and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and ye shall return

every man unto his family." **Leviticus 25:10.**

*** The congregation enjoyed the morning lesson. ***

The morning worship hour got underway with Sister George A. Hereford and Deaconess Nina Davis in charge. Continuing in prayer was done by Sister Barbara Johnson. We all thank God for

the beautiful spirit.

The Sen Senior Choir of St. Matthew Baptist Church sung out of their hearts and souls for the Lord.

The morning sermon was delivered by Pastor Canady. His subject was "Prayers of The Rights." The scripture was Isaiah 37:14-20; 33-35. The song of Inspiration was "On How I Love Jesus," and it was led by Sister Shirley Canady.

Our weekly meetings include the following: Mission meets at 6:00 p. m. every Wednesday. Bible Study meets at 7:00 p. m.

Friday evening, the Senior Choir has rehearsal at 5:00 p. m.

On Saturday morning, beginning at 11:00 a. m., the Ushers meet.

The Saint Matthew Baptist Church is still in need of a Musician. If you are interested,

then contact Pastor Canady at (806) 744-2445. We know there are some talented Musicians in Lubbock, so just give a call.

Thought For The Week:

"Freedom doesn't give us the right to do what we please, but to do what pleases God."

The doors of the St. Matthew Baptist Church are always open to anyone who is looking for a Church Home.

So if you are looking for a place to attend Church services on Sunday mornings, then just come on by. You will be glad you did so!

God loves all of us, and don't you forget it. He is always with us, nomatter what we do or where we may go!

SUBSCRIBE TO THE SOUTHWEST DIGEST!!

Outreach Prayer Breakfast

Jehovah God is our light and protector. He gives us grace and glory. No good thing will be withhold from those who walk along his paths. Mark 11:23 says: "If you have faith in God, this is the absolute truth, You can say to this mountain, rise up and fall into the Mediterranean and your command will be obeyed. All that's required is that you really believe and have no doubt. Listen to me! You can pray for anything. And if you believe you have it, It's Yours."

Let's not use God's will so loosely. Sometimes it's the will of the flesh and the will of the devil. It's not God's will that you be sick, hungry, burden down with problems. Think of these scriptures as they are real

and true.

So often, we pray for things we already have. Such as give us more love for one another. Just think about it. Some will not even speak to their Sisters or Brothers, not even a handshake. And ask for more Faith. Use a little common sense.

Use the faith you have. The more you use it, the more will be given to you. Let God work through you. The Lord told Nicodemus, you must be born again. Study the word and learn what the will of God's will is.

We've never read in the scripture where he said his will was for you to be sick. Burdened down with problems. He came that you might have life abundantly. He came to heal

all our sickness and diseases. His will is that you prosper and be in health!

A Few Thoughts: "Saints, if you want a change in your Church, you pray for the change.

"Are you telling people who Jesus is???"

"Are you lifting up pastors in prayer???"

"Don't touch God's anointed."

"Hate is too heavier burden for any man to bear, so don't struggle with it in 2009."

Prayer

"Dear God, this year brings all the hungry people food. All the lonely people someone to love. All the confused people a clear understanding of God. All the sick people a Freedom from Pain. In your name we pray. Amen.

Let's pray for the Leaders of Our Nation. "Just Pray Saints!" We will have another excit-

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Obsequies

Marilyn T. Martin Hatchett

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. on Thursday, July 30, 2009 at Divine Love Baptist Church with the Rev. Kenneth Burns and Rev. Leonard Chatman officiating.

Burial will follow at City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home.

Hatchett "Frog", 44, of Lubbock departed this earth to be with her Lord on Tuesday, July 21, 2009 at the Lubbock Heart Hospital with her loving husband, Joe Hatchett, of 22 years by her side.

She was born on November 10, 1964 to Henry and Claudean Martin. Marilyn was an active member of Divine Love Baptist Church. She graduated from Estacado High School and attended Vogue Beauty College. She was an active member of the Inneteenth Picnic Committee and Estacado High School Booster Club.

She leaves to cherish her memory, her husband, Joe Hatchett; two daughters, Chassidy and Tomesha Martin; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Beware of First-Time Homebuyer Credit Fraud

DALLAS — The Internal Revenue Service today announced its first successful prosecution related to fraud involving the first-time homebuyer credit, and warned taxpayers to beware of this type of scheme. On Thursday July 23, 2009, a Jacksonville, Fla.-tax preparer, James Otto Price III, pled guilty to falsely claiming the first-time homebuyer credit on a federal tax return. Price faces the possibility of up to three years in jail, a fine of as much as \$250,000, or both.

To date, the IRS has executed seven search warrants and currently has 24 open criminal investigations in pursuit of potential instances of fraud involving the credit. The agency has a number of sophisticated computer screening tools to quickly identify returns that may contain fraudulent claims for the first-time homebuyer credit.

"We will vigorously pursue anyone who falsely tries to claim this or any other tax credit or deduction," said Eileen Mayer, Chief, IRS Criminal Investigation. "The penalties for tax fraud are steep. Taxpayers should be wary of anyone who promises to get them a big refund."

Whether a taxpayer prepares his or her own return or uses the services of a paid preparer, it is the taxpayer who is ultimately responsible for the accuracy of the return. Fraudulent returns may result not only in the required payment of back taxes but also in penalties and interest.

First-Time Homebuyer Credit

The First-Time Homebuyer Credit, originally passed in 2008 and modified in 2009, provides up to \$8,000 for first-time homebuyers. The purchaser, however, must qualify as a first-time homebuyer, which for purposes of this credit means someone who has not owned a primary residence in the past three years. If the taxpayer is married, this requirement also applies to the taxpayer's spouse. The home purchase must close before Dec. 1, 2009, to qualify, and the credit may not be claimed on the purchaser's tax return until after the taxpayer closes and has purchased the home.

Different rules apply for homes bought in 2008.

Full details and instructions are available on the official IRS Web site, IRS.gov.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE SOUTHWEST DIGEST!!

Billy Joe Johnson

Billy Joe Johnson, 64, of Lubbock passed away on Sunday, July 26, 2009 at the V.A. Hospital in Amarillo. He was born on November 3, 1945 to the late Herman and Velma Pearl Thomas Johnson. He was a veteran and served in the Vietnam War.

Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, Bana; three sons, Billy Joe Johnson, Jr. of California, and Donnell Johnson and William Shipman of Lubbock; one daughter, Charlotte Thomas of Lubbock; several grandchildren, especially Savana and Alex Bue; six sisters, Dorothy Upshaw, Shirley



Johnson and Corine Johnson, all of Lubbock, Maxine King of Slaton, Sandra Babers of Dallas and Teresa Johnson of Houston; two brothers, Billy Ray Johnson and Herman Johnson, Jr., both of Lubbock; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Private disposition will be under the direction of Griffin Mortuary.

Letter To The Editor Thanks For Your Help, Southwest Digest"

Dear Editor:
I would like to take the time to thank all of you for your donations, participation, thoughts, and prayers for the 2009 Take Steps for Crohn's and Colitis event.

The goal for the event was to not only raise awareness of Crohn's disease, but to raise \$60,000. Take Steps for Crohn's and Colitis ended up raising \$54,870. Earlier this year, I decided to create the team, Vera's Strollers. I set my own personal goal of \$1,500. Thanks to all of you, I was able to raise close to \$7,300. I'm happy that \$0.80 per every dollar raised goes toward research.

Without all of your generous contributions, my fundraising efforts wouldn't have been met. Even though I've been diagnosed with this incurable disease, the disease will never control my life again. I will continue to do whatever I can until we find a cure.

There is a saying that "you make a living by what you get, but make a life by what you give back." Thank you all for making a difference in my life.

God Bless,
Vera Lashay Morris



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Editorials • Comments • Opinions

THIS 'N' THAT

by T.J. Patterson

IT WAS A WONDERFUL EVENING FOR A DESERVING LADY! THIS N THAT along with wife BOBBIE had an enjoyable evening attending a program in honor of MS. MARY JO WILSON who retired from the Lubbock Independent School District. Coordinating this event was her daughter DR. MELODY WILSON an educator in the Houston Independent School District. There were numerous family members and friends. The affair which was held in the cafeteria of ALDERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL had a New Orleans theme. The food was great and just sit and talk with those in attendance made it a VERY ENJOYABLE evening honoring a lady who deserved this special effort her honor. CONGRATS are in store for MS. MARY JO WILSON! MR. J. T. BRAXTON STILL VOLUNTEERING IN

LISD! THIS N THAT had an opportunity of visiting with MR. J. T. BRAXTON during the celebration for Ms. Mary Jo Wilson last Saturday evening July 25, 2009 and learned that he volunteered at three LUBBOCK INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOLS last year. He volunteered at ALDERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL, DUNBAR MIDDLE SCHOOL & ESTACADO HIGH SCHOOL. He was a very important part of working with those bands. He tells THIS N THAT he's looking forward to do so this upcoming school year. When you see BROTHER BRAXTON let him know you appreciate what he is doing and wish him the very best!! THANKS, MR. J. T. BRAXTON for what you are doing! PENNY HASTINGS THE BARBER ADVISES OUR YOUNG PEOPLE: "PREPARE yourself today

because TOMORROW your chance will come. Just be PREPARED!" WEEDS STILL NEED CUTTING! THIS N THAT is hoping the CITY OF LUBBOCK will CUT those tall weeds at the corner of East 24th Street and Globe Avenue. Let's hope they are CUT before there will be a TERRIBLE WRECK at its corner. Of course we appreciate what the City of Lubbock does about controlling the weeds but this is an apparent bad situation. MAKE PLANS TO VISIT OUR KIDS IN SCHOOL THIS COMING YEAR!! THIS N THAT is asking that we as concerned citizens will begin to make PLANS to visit our PUBLIC SCHOOLS this year. Hopefully there will be an opportunity to visit with new superintendent. an evening with her at a reception.



THINK ABOUT IT!

YOU CAN'T HAVE A FUTURE WITHOUT A PAST

by Edsdie Richardson

On Friday July 17th a new day came to Lubbock around 5 o'clock p.m. when Mayor Tom Martin made the following announcement there will not be a public hearing on July 28th, there will not be an animal shelter built in McKinzy park nor any other park in the city of Lubbock and not in any residential area of Lubbock the staff will find some place in central Lubbock as a temporary shelter until a permanent place can be found this is basically what he said after planiffs and others waited for an answer to the park situation every one felt the wait was well worth it.

This was government in action by the people for the people

this proves that government still works if we make it work it took a few people to come together across racial, cultural, economic, religious, and social differences to come together for a common cause all on one accord to stop the animal shelter from being built in McKinzy park and it worked, it proved one thing the people can speak and be heard, be persistent and do not give up. Remember when you and or your group are going up against a goliath you have to be strong and persistent and find a good attorney that will stand with and know how to use the law to validate your claim and stick with the law and only the law and few or no emotions and

if you are blessed you may not have to go to court when the other side would prefer not to face the embarrassment. This coalition made a tremendous impact on the city of Lubbock and proved the so called disadvantages, oppressed, and so called minorities do not have to take what has been given for years, what others do not want now the sleeping giant has awoken and we do not have to be dumped on ever again thanks so much to attorney Bill DeHauss and the coalition we can now sing with pride the old Negro spiritual that Dr. Martin Luther King loved so much "Free At Last Free At Last Thank God Almighty We Are Free At Last"

In Cinque

by Renetta Howard



As time goes by, there are more young people graduating from college each year. There are still some first generation graduates in many families, but at the same time there are a great number of fourth and fifth generation graduates joining the work force and many making positive contributions to society. This is absolutely wonderful. On the other hand, we still have in our society too many young people who seemingly do not wish to be a member of any graduating class or a part of the workforce statistics. For many of them, it is just as traditional in their families as in those where there are graduates. It appears that unemployment and the welfare lines can become a 'hereditary thing.' It is a status that one inherits and become adept at keeping it in motion. They quickly learn the 'tricks of the trade' to

keep 'beating the system' in motion. The only fallout of 'beating the system' usually falls on hardworking individuals who run into some difficulty in their lives, but generally get back on their feet once their ordeal gets a little push and comes to an end. Big businesses just got a push to help it get back on its feet and with an itemization and publication of the megabucks going into that effort, the system beaters have no remorse. Aside from just simply 'beating the system,' the scammers have tripled. They are using cloned telephones to contact innocent people whose telephone numbers are on the Do Not Call List, to perpetuate their scams. It takes a lot of planning, time and energy to get some of the scams going and they reap more money than the average skilled American worker makes in several years. When they are victorious, they feel that a real job is useless and for losers. Innocent, hardworking people fall prey to scams on a daily basis. The reason we can easily be victimized is our basic greed. Too many of us are looking for 'something for nothing.' That is the real reason

why we look for shortcuts to solve our problems; go to the gambling places, and invest in 'get rich, quick schemes.' Be aware, that it is usually someone we trust who gets us involved in the 'get rich quick schemes.' As we become more knowledgeable as a people, our children need more education to help them to become positive, productive individuals, rather than shiftless schemers, regardless of the kind of family from which they come. It is time to get 'in cinque' and make the changes for a brighter tomorrow.

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Letter Policy

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.

You can also email us at: swdgest@abeglobal.net or fax your letter to (806) 741-0000.

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Vick Reinstated by NFL, With Conditions

NEW YORK (AP) - Michael Vick is back in the NFL. Now all he needs is a team to play for.

Vick, free after serving 18 months in prison for running a dogfighting ring, was reinstated with conditions by NFL commissioner Roger Goodell on July 27. He could participate in regular-season games as early as October.

Vick can immediately take part in preseason practices, workouts and meetings and can play in the final two preseason games — if he can find a team that will sign him. A number of teams have already said they would not.

Once the season begins, Vick may participate in all team activities except games, and Goodell said he would consider Vick for full reinstatement by Week 6 (Oct. 18-19) at the latest.

Goodell suspended Vick indefinitely in August 2007 after the former Atlanta Falcons quarterback admitted bankrolling a dogfighting operation on his property in Virginia. At the time, Goodell said Vick must show remorse before he would consider reinstating him.

"I accept that you are sincere when you say that you want to, and will, turn your life around, and that you intend to be a posi-



Michael Vick

tive role model for others," Goodell said in his letter to Vick. "I am prepared to offer you that opportunity. Whether you succeed is entirely in your hands."

"Needless to say, your margin for error is extremely limited," the letter said. "I urge you to take full advantage of the resources available to support you and to dedicate yourself to rebuilding your life and your career. If you do this, the NFL will support you."

Vick, once the highest-paid player in the league, said he was grateful for a second chance.

"I would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to commissioner Goodell for allowing me to be readmitted to the National Football League," Vick said in a statement released by his agent, Joel Segal. "I fully understand that playing football in the NFL is a privilege, not a right, and I am truly thankful for the opportunity I have been given."

"As you can imagine, the last two years have given me time to reevaluate my life, mature as an individual and fully understand the terrible mistakes I have made in the past and what type of life I must lead moving forward."

The announcement came after a busy first week of freedom for Vick, who met with union leaders and Goodell on consecutive days last week. His 23-month federal sentence ended when an electronic monitor was removed from his ankle early on July 20 at his home in Hampton, Va.

He met with DeMaurice Smith, executive director of the NFL Players Association, last Tuesday and, on Wednesday, he sat down with Goodell at a security firm in Allendale, N.J.

Goodell suggested that preventing Vick from playing at the start of the regular season wasn't a punishment but an opportunity for the quarterback to gradually make a transition back into the league.

"I have thought about every alternative, but I think this gives him the best chance for success," Goodell said. "We are not looking for failure here. We are looking to see a young man succeed."

But Vick's issues are far from over and he needs a team to call his own. Already, the owners of the New York Giants and New York Jets said they have no interest in the 29-year-old quarterback, who was officially released by the Falcons last month.

He's unlikely to command anything close to the 10-year, \$130 million contract he once had with the Falcons, or to get endorsement deals.

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Black, White Protesters Clash Over Dragging Death

PARIS, Texas (AP) — State police in riot gear rushed a downtown street to break up a standoff Tuesday between hundreds of black and white extremists who exchanged screams of "Black power!" and "White power!" during a protest over the state's handling of the case of a black man who was run over and dragged by a vehicle.

A skinhead carrying a Nazi flag and a shirtless white man were arrested on a misdemeanor charge of suspicion of disorderly conduct before the protesters separated peacefully, police spokesman Lt. Danny Huff said.

The conflict began with a march by about 100 mostly black activists who avoided a designated "protest zone" near Paris' courthouse and walked to the town square to chants of "Black Power!" and "No Justice, no peace!"

"We're going to be boxed in!" said protest leader Jimmy Blackwell of the Tarrant County Local Organizing Committee. "No, we're not your slaves!"

Once at the town square, the crowd ballooned to about 200 mostly black people on one side of a street. Across the street were about a dozen white supremacists, including four skinheads holding Nazi swastika flags. About 30 other white



Otha Latimore, 61, raises his fist during a protest between hundreds of blacks and whites in Paris, Texas.

people were behind them.

The two sides shouted at each other while a dozen or so law enforcement officers kept them apart. After the groups screamed for several minutes and inched closer together,

about 35 state troopers wearing helmets and carrying shields marched into the crowd. No blows were exchanged.

The rally in Paris, about 90 miles northeast of Dallas, is the third courthouse protest over the death of 24-year-old Brandon McClelland, whose mangled body was found Sept. 16 on a country road.

Prosecutors initially charged two of McClelland's white friends with murdering him. But a special prosecutor dismissed the charges last month, citing a lack of evidence, after a truck driver came forward and said he might have accidentally run over McClelland.

Some of the signs at the protest read, "Friends don't drag friends under pickup trucks" and "Who killed Brandon McClelland?" Another sign referred to the district attorney as a "Weapon of Mass Destruction."

The protest was led by members of the Houston chapters of the Nation of Islam and the New Black Panther Party, which the Southern Poverty Law Center considers black separatist and hate groups.

Things grew tense early on when a member of the Panthers walked into the protest zone set up for white supremacists and stood inches away from a skinhead. The skinhead screamed at the black man to go home as the two stood inches apart.

"We're not here for confrontation. We are peaceful people, but if necessary we are prepared," Blackwell said.

Rock Banks, who says he's the grand titan of the East Texas Ku Klux Klan, said his group met last week to discuss the event but decided not to hold a

The United States Achievement announced this week that Janayia McGrew from Lubbock has been named an All-American Scholar.

The USAA has established the All-American Scholar award Program to offer deserved recognition to superior students who excel in the academic disciplines. The All-American Scholars must earn a 3.3 or higher grade point average. Only scholars selected by a school counselor, or other qualified sponsor are accepted.

Janayia McGrew, who attends Frenship High School, was nominated for this honor by Lauren Snow. McGrew will appear in the All-American Scholar Yearbook which is published nationally.

"Recognizing and supporting our youth is more important than ever before in America's history. Certainly, students recognized as All-American Scholars should be congratulated and appreciated for their dedication to excellence and achievement," said Dr. George Stevens, Founder of the United



Janayia McGrew

States Achievement Academy. McGrew is the daughter of Jimmy & Leona McGrew, Sr. from Lubbock. The grandparents are Doris McGrew of Lubbock and Juanita Anderson of Lubbock.

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Continued from Page 3

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