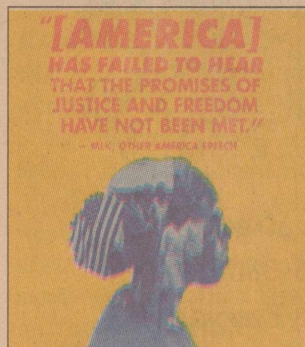
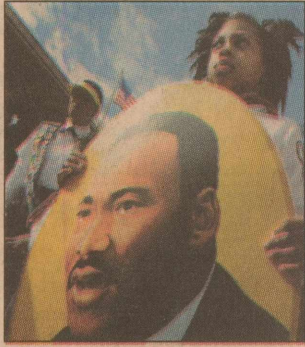
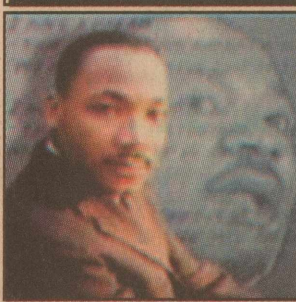




Southwest Digest



Community Meetings

* Lubbock Area Client Council meets on the 2nd Saturday, 1:00 pm at the Patterson Branch Library, 1836 Parkway Drive.

* Hub City Kiwanis meets 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 p. m., Lyons Chapel Baptist Church, East 24th Street & MLK Blvd.

* Dunbar Alumni Association meets 2nd Saturdays, 4:00 pm.

* The Lubbock Branch of The NAACP meets the 3rd Saturday of each month at Life Run, Inc, 8240 Boston Ave., at 11:am.

* 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, Great Saint Luke Missionary Baptist Church.

* 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 7:00 pm and every 4th Thursday at 7:00 pm at the Dunbar Manhattan Heights Neighborhood Outreach Center, 1301 E. 24th Street.

* West Texas Native American Association meets at 7:00 pm, at the New Jerusalem Baptist Church, 3524 East Broadway Avenue on Tuesday evenings..

* The Unified Juneteenth Commission of Lubbock meets every Tuesday evening at Bryon Martin Technology Center, 3401 Avenue Q, beginning at 5:30 p. m.

* West Texas Chapter of 100 Black Men of West Texas meets 3rd Monday evenings at 7:00 pm at The Bridge 1401 Redbud Avenue

* The Parkway & Cherry-Point Neighborhood Association meets the 3rd Tuesday evenings, 7:30 pm at 517 Zenith Avenue, Star Care Center

* Chatman Hill Neighborhood Association meets 2nd Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm at 2301 Avenue A.

* ROOTS meets every 2nd Saturday at 2:00 p. m. at 2301 Avenue A.

* If you have an announcement about your organization, please advise by calling (806) 762-3612 or e-mail swdigest@sbcglobal.net.

"A newspaper for 21st Century representing the Black Community's Ideas and Ideals since 1977"

Thursday, January 18, 2018
Vol. 40 Years, No. 9, Page 1

\$1.00

Oprah Winfrey gives powerful Golden Globes speech calling out sexual abusers: 'Their time is up!'



Oprah Winfrey arrives with the Cecil B. DeMille Award in the press room during The 75th Annual Golden Globe Awards at The Beverly Hilton Hotel on Jan. 7, 2018 in Beverly Hills, Calif. (Kevin Winter / Getty Images)

Oprah Winfrey caused watery eyes throughout the Golden Globes on Sunday night, January 14, 2018, as she accepted the Cecil B. DeMille Award, giving a passionate speech about race and the #MeToo movement.

Winfrey opened the speech by remembering seeing Sydney Poitier become the first black man to win an Oscar in 1964 for "Lilies of the Field" as she was a little girl, sitting on her mother's floor. "Up on the stage came the most elegant man I had ever seen," she recalled. "I had never seen a black man recognized like that before. What a moment like that means to a little girl, a kid watching from the cheap seats, as my mom came through the door, bone-tired from cleaning other peoples' houses."

"There are some little girls watching as I become the first black woman to be given this award," she went on.

The media mogul also paid tribute to Recy Taylor, a black woman who in 1944 was raped by six white men. She sought justice, however, with the help of Rosa Parks, and died just recently on Dec. 28. "For too long, women have not been heard or believed if they dared to speak their truth to the power to those men, but their time is up. Their time is up!"

"I just hope that Recy Taylor

died knowing ...her truth, even now, goes marching on," she said as she moved on to speak of the #MeToo

"What I know for sure is that speaking your truth is the most powerful tool we all have," she said. "I'm especially proud and inspired by all the women who have felt strong enough, and empowered enough to speak up and share their personal stories. Each of us in this room are celebrated because of the stories we tell and this year we became the stories. It's one that transcends and culture, geography politics or workplace."

"A new day is on the horizon," she said. "And when that new day finally dawns, it will be because of a lot of magnificent women, many of whom are in this room tonight, and some pretty phenomenal men fighting hard to make sure fighting hard to make sure that they become the leaders who take us to the time when nobody ever has to say #MeToo again."

Reese Witherspoon, her "A Wrinkle in Time" co-star, introduced Winfrey and a clipshow that celebrated her accomplishments, from her talk-show to starting her own network to breaking into film.

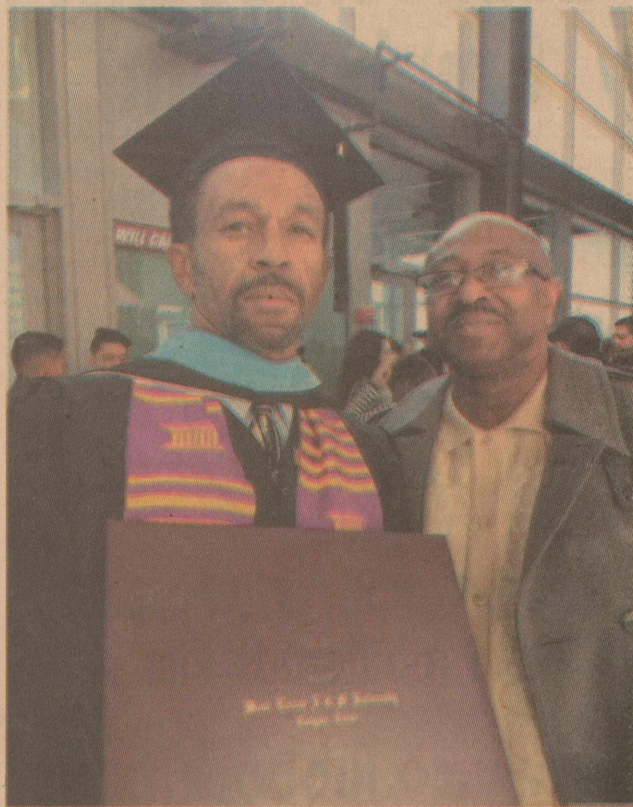
The highly esteemed award is given annually to someone who has made an outsized impact on entertainment. Past recipients in-

clude Steven Spielberg, Jodie Foster, Lucille Ball, Robert De Niro -- and last year, Meryl Streep, whose speech became a rallying cry.

Streep delivered a fiery speech that went viral, as the legendary actress slammed President Trump without actually naming him. "Disrespect invites disrespect; violence invites violence," she said. "When the powerful use their position to bully others, we all lose." The most nominated actor ever at the Globes, Streep boasts 31 nominations, including one this year for her role as Katharine Graham in "The Post."

Winfrey earned her own Golden Globe nomination in 1985, for "The Color Purple," which also marked her acting debut. Next up is Disney's "A Wrinkle in Time," directed by her frequent collaborator Ava DuVernay, due in March.

The multi-hyphenate received the Bob Hope Humanitarian Award from the Television Academy in 2002 and the presidential medal of freedom in 2013. A committed philanthropist, she created the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls in South Africa ten years ago, to further the education of girls from disadvantaged backgrounds.



Marcus Brown With Brother, Charles Brown

Marcus Brown Graduates From West Texas A & M University

Marcus D. Brown was born in Lubbock Texas to Charles E. and Myrcie D. Brown. Raised in Lubbock where he attended Phyllis Wheatley, E.C. Struggs and Dunbar-Struggs High School where he graduated in 1982. He is youngest of three children. Marcus recently received his Masters of Education degree in Educational Leadership from West Texas A & M in Canyon with a 4.0 GPA (all A's) He received his undergraduate degree from Southwest Texas State (Texas State) University.

Though he only has two siblings, Marcus has had the advantage of a large extended family that placed high priority in obtaining a good education. His father was a long-time educator and principal of Ella Iles elementary and the only principal of E.C. Struggs Junior High. Mrs. Brown was also an educator before her early demise. Four of eight uncles and aunts have been educators along with his sister, "second-mother", and four older first cousins. College was always in his future as an accepted progression toward adulthood. Growing up, Marcus didn't want to become an educator due to the time it consumed in his parent's life. However, he was drawn to serve in this capacity. During college his father encouraged him to get a teacher's certification. However, Marcus resisted because of his desire to

become a professional musician. Marcus graduated and ended up taking a position as a teaching assistant at Dunbar.

After realizing that, "I was doing just about the same thing as teachers but not getting compensated for it, I decided to become certified to teach." Certification was accomplished through Texas Tech Post-Baccalaureate program with a grade point average of 4.0

After attempting to get a teaching position in Lubbock, Marcus received an opportunity to teach in Amarillo, Texas where he has been teaching History there for the past 14 years. "I prayed for guidance in accepting the position". "It gets really cold here in the "Rillo" and I really wanted to give back to my local community". "Then it dawned on me that I could be an ambassador for the city of Lubbock". Lubbock is always on my mind - many great friends and wonderful memories.

Marcus is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity since 1985 continuing the legacy of Omega men in his family. (Father was Omega).

Marcus is married to Shana and is the brother of proud siblings Charles E. Brown III and Evelyn K. (Dawson) Stroud. Through faith in God, dedication, focus, family support, and perseverance goals can be realized and accomplished.

Kathy Rollo Named Sole Finalist As LISD Superintendent Last Month

The Lubbock ISD Board of Trustees named Dr. Kathy Rollo on Monday morning, December 1st 2017, as the sole finalist for superintendent.

The vote was 6 to 1 in favor. Lala Chavez was the lone vote against. Rollo cannot be officially named as superintendent during a 21-day waiting period which began Monday. After the waiting period, she can then be officially named as the next superintendent (rather than the lone finalist).

She will replace outgoing superintendent Berhl Robertson, Jr.

In October, Robertson announced his intention to retire as superintendent of Lubbock ISD at the conclusion of the school year.

Rollo was an internal candidate, currently serving the LISD as Associate Superintendent for



Dr. Kathy Rollo

Elementary Schools.

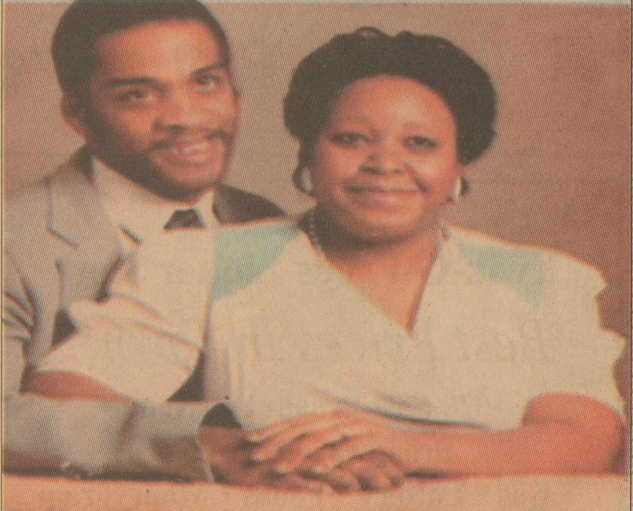
In the fall, Dr. Berhl Robertson, Jr., announced his intention to retire, after serving as superintendent since 2013 and as chief administrative officer for four years. Laura Vinson, presi-

dent of the board, said trustees began with a board-led search to examine the quality individuals in the region already familiar with Lubbock and the needs of the district, before hiring an outside consultant and embarking on a nationwide search. Vinson said the board search yielded a field of well-qualified and diverse candidates, but one stood out above the rest, Dr. Kathy Rollo.

A product of Lubbock ISD herself, Dr. Rollo has been associated with the district as an educator, principal and administrator for 28 years. She began as a student teacher at Hunt Elementary, and then taught at Martin and Waters Elementary Schools. After two years as an assistant principal at Rush and Haynes Elementary Schools, Dr. Rollo became the

Continued on Page 4

Deacon Donald & Sharon Bailey Celebrated 30th Wedding Anniversary



Donald & Sharon Bailey

Mr. Donald and Mrs. Sharon Bailey celebrated their 39th Wedding Anniversary on Tuesday, January 16, 2018.

They are proud church members of the One Way Church of God in Christ. Their pastoral leadership is under the proud Pastor J. T. Cotton and First

Lady Cotton.

Brother Bailey was recently promoted as Deacon for the One Way Church of God in Christ.

Sister Bailey serves as a Deaconess for the One Way Church of God in Christ.

May God continue to bless Brother and Sister Bailey!

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
workforce demographics report earlier this year. They were commended for doing so, and so far, experts say they are the most aggressive at addressing the issue.

What's In This Week's


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In Cinque Page 3
Thank God for Jesus Page 4
Obsequies Page 5
Obama Talks to Letterman Page 6
Polly's One Year Anniversary Page 7
H & M Hoodie Controversy Page 8

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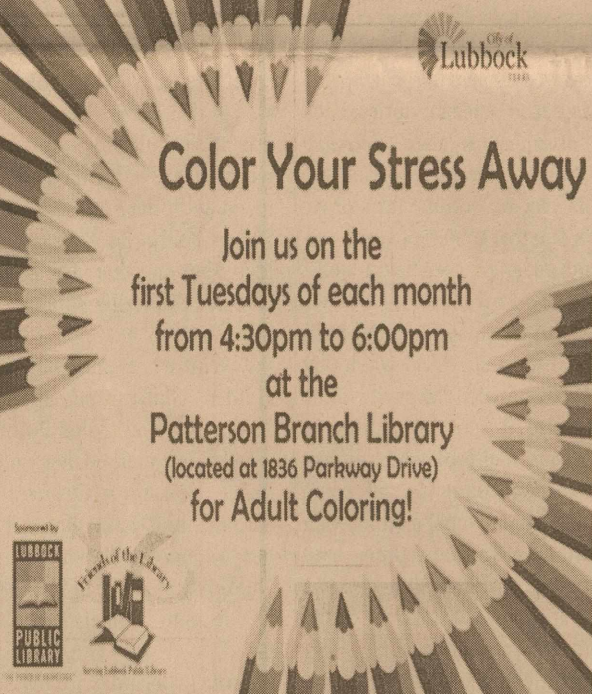
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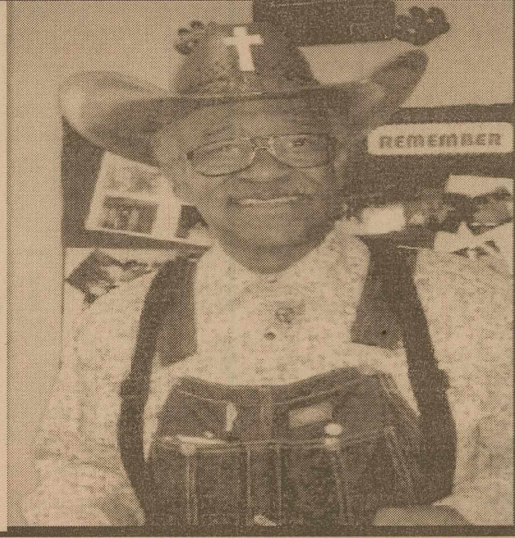
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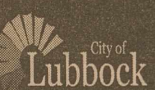
Mae Simmons Community and Senior Centers What's Happening This Month

HOMEOWNERSHIP AND FINANCIAL LITERACY WORKSHOP PART II
Tuesday, January 23, 6-8 pm, Free
Learn how to achieve the goal of homeownership in this workshop.

BREAKFAST BINGO
Wednesday, January 24, 9 am, \$2
Enjoy a waffle and sausage breakfast while you play a game of bingo.

DOUBLE-ELIMINATION DOMINO TOURNAMENT
Friday, January 26, 1:30 pm, \$5 Entry Fee
Join this domino tournament for a chance to win 1st and 2nd place prizes.

 Lubbock Parks and Recreation

 Mae Simmons Community & Senior Centers
2004 Oak Avenue 767-2700 or 767-2708

In Cinque

By Renetta Howard

POSITIVE OUTLOOKS

Positive attitudes, actions and outlooks are what we need to make 2018 a successful year. Ordinarily, most of us already have thoughts and resolutions on what we want to do or have happen to make our year better. This year, especially, we must keep it positive with so much negativity staring us in the face at the end of 2017.

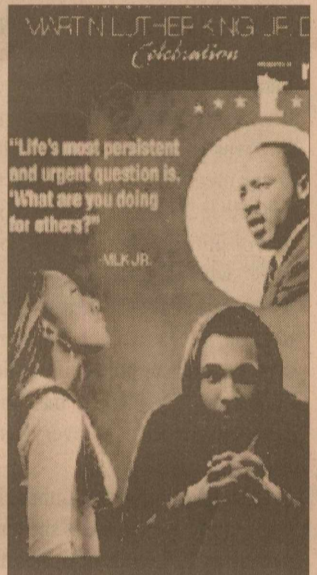
I am sure that some of us accomplished some of our resolutions last year and perhaps had a few left undone. Personally, I plan to focus on the ones that I did not get completed last year as the ones to work on this year first, especially the clutter from last year.

Every New Year just about everyone has some clutter to start the year if it is no more than putting away Christmas decorations and the gifts which we do not know what to do with. Of course as a person whom has always been grateful for any gifts which I have received, I have lately learned that there is a vast circle of something called 're-gifting.' It has not been my experience to participate in such, but I have learned that it is an acceptable social activity.

Once the Christmas items are put away, our thoughts turn to dieting to rid one of the excessive foods eaten during the Thanksgiving and Christmas feasts in which most of us were willing participants. It is during these holiday feast that we often encounter some of those specialty dishes that our families, friends and loved ones make us welcomed to. We partake of all of the goodies and some of those drinks that make us lighthearted and before we know it, we have put on an extra ten to fifteen pounds. Then we want to start the diet and as soon as the New

Year came in, so did Oprah Winfrey and the new Weight Watcher's diet where you can lose the first ten pounds on them. They claim that there are 200 foods which will not cause you to gain weight. Well, we know it must not taste good!

One of the first things in the New Year that we most likely need to do is to renew our relationship with our God. Incidentally, my church home has a new Pastor and I feel that he has the leadership ability to help our congregation find that renewed spirit and acquaintance with our God. This is a time when we must be and stay positive to make it through each and every day. There is turmoil in our some of our homes, our cities, in the country, in the world and we are experiencing unpleasant weather to boot. There are still people who are homeless and need a helping hand, throughout this country. We are limited in what we can do, but we need to be as helpful and as hopeful as we can be wherever we are. We must get 'in cinque' and work together, positively and pray without ceasing until our positive change comes.



Beyond the Rhetoric

By Harry C. Alford

Republican Tax Reform - An Instant Success!

Finally, our Congress was able to move a significant form of law. It took a great while with immense controversy and debate. Congress, or should I say the Republican portion of Congress passed the long overdue tax reform. It is incredible that not one Democrat voted for the legislation. Apparently, the Dems have become out of touch with mainstream America. Who doesn't want a tax decrease? Unbelievably the Democratic members of Capitol Hill refused to support such an attractive peace of legislation. What happened after it was passed and signed by President Trump? It was like the economical gates of "Heaven" opening to the joy of all Americans.

It has only been a little more than a week, but things have so quickly changed for the better of most Americans. The effect on our economy has already been enormous. The New York Stock Exchange has soared to record heights - beyond \$25,000 in value for the Dow Jones portion. This will positively affect our overall wealth including retirement funds such as the 401(k) retirement programs.

The Fortune 500 corporations jump with vigor and great enthusiasm. They see their profits soaring; their wealth building and the futures becoming brighter. The leadership of the corporations quickly decided to spread the new wealth to its loyal employees. Here are a few of the improvements:

AT&T has announced \$1,000 bonuses to 200,000 employees which is a billion dollar increase in capital expenditures. According to CEO Randall Stephenson, "Congress, working closely with the President, took a monumental step to bring taxes paid by U.S. businesses in line with the

THIS N' THAT

by T. J. Patterson

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO EAST LUBBOCK IF WE WOULD COME TOGETHER AND NEVER GIVE UP THIS N THAT has been PRAYING ABOUT as many residents that would come TOGETHER no matter the size but everyone on the same page..... No matter how it all may appear when we decide to accomplish it THIS N THAT many other things would become a REALITY!! During 2017 THIS N THAT has attempted to get ATTENTION ON ACQUIRING A 5 STAR BANK With those comments in THIS N THATacknowledges the

need for such a financial institution..... Now THIS N THAT is wondering what would happen if that HANDFUL OF EAST LUBBOCK RESIDENTS would come TOGETHER something could happen..... This kind of an effort THIS N THAT there would be a movement for such a bank.... As mentioned several months ago THIS N THAT is not a FINANCIAL EXPERT but it is known that a long journey begins with a single step..... As you may know the City of Lubbock political activity is done by a process called SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICTS! With a population of

240,000 RESIDENTS this would advise that there at least 40,000 RESIDENTS IN EACH DISTRICT. So with numbers in each district this should become a catalyst for those who live in DISTRICT 2 who wants to see something POSITIVE HAPPEN IN DISTRICT 2! THIS N THAT is hoping that in 2018 there are those who believes the same..... Now there is one thing THIS N THATfailed to mention..... And that is ALL THOSE INVOLVED MUST REMEMBER THAT IT WILL TAKE TIME! ARE THERE ANY BELIEVERS?

rest of the industrialized world. Tax reform will drive economic growth and create good paying jobs. In fact, we will increase our U.S. investment and pay a special bonus to our U.S. employees."

Comcast would not be outdone. They announced \$1,000 bonuses to 100,000 employees; at least \$50 billion investment in infrastructure in next five years. According to their press release, "Based on the passage of tax reform and the FCC's action on broadband, Brian L. Roberts, Chairman, and CEO of Comcast NBCUniversal, announced that the Company would award special \$1,000 bonuses to more than one hundred thousand eligible frontline and non-executive employees."

This is just the beginning. More than 100 other major corporations announced bonuses to their employees; new grants via their foundations; infrastructure improvements. Southwest Air-

lines announced \$1,000 bonuses to over 55,000 employees. While American Airlines announced bonuses for their employees, Southwest alerted Boeing to prepare to build them a new fleet of aircraft.

Just about every major bank in the nation has announced bonuses and wage increases for their employees. Many associations will feel this "bump" as corporate foundations will start to increase the amount of donations they annually give. Wage increases are becoming prevalent to just about every bank in the nation.

It is a financial lovefest. As these employees start receiving their bonuses and salary increases, big box stores such as Target, Lowes, etc. will start to feel the rise in consumer activity. Unemployment will certainly begin to decrease while property values will appreciate handsomely.

The critics of the tax reform

have been silenced. Just what was the Democratic Party thinking? Money is good and when it is certain that it will flow widely amongst our population nothing, but positive things will happen. It did that when John F. Kennedy lowered income taxes as well as when Ronald Reagan did the same thing. It was a slam dunk, and this will be a shining star in Donald Trump's legacy

Along with the Tax Reform, an increase in oil exploration throughout our coastal shores and national parks will also stimulate the upcoming economy. Also, along with this legislation is the opening of more broadband deployment throughout our rural areas. This will expand our Internet Highways and improve communication and technology for our formerly underserved communities.

The saying that a "rising tide lifts all ships" certainly applies h

Continued on Page 6

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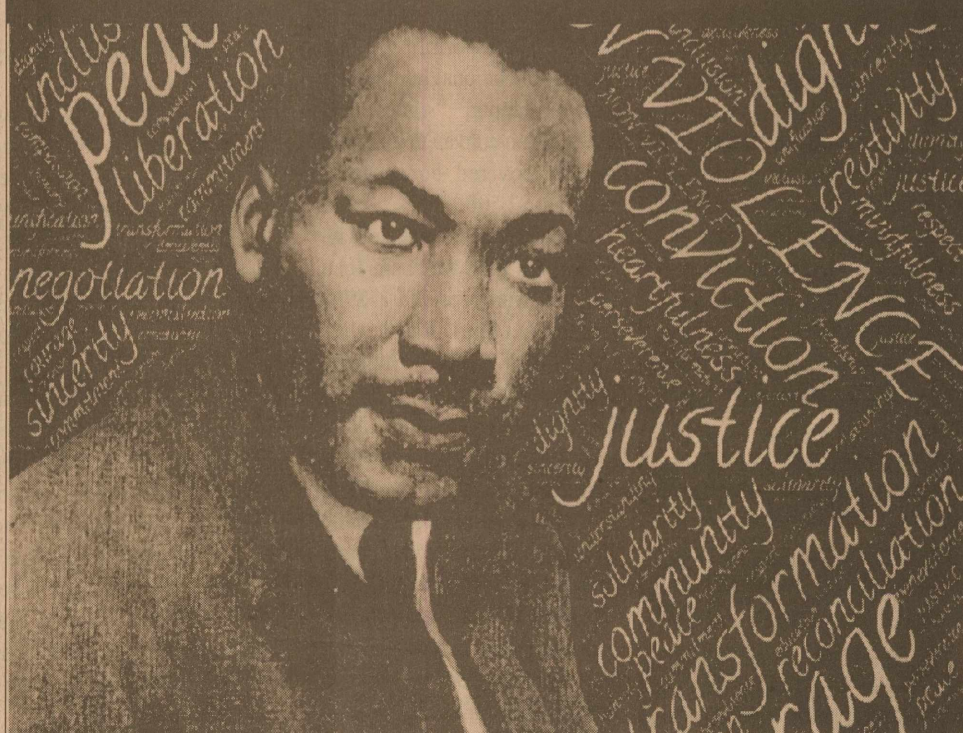
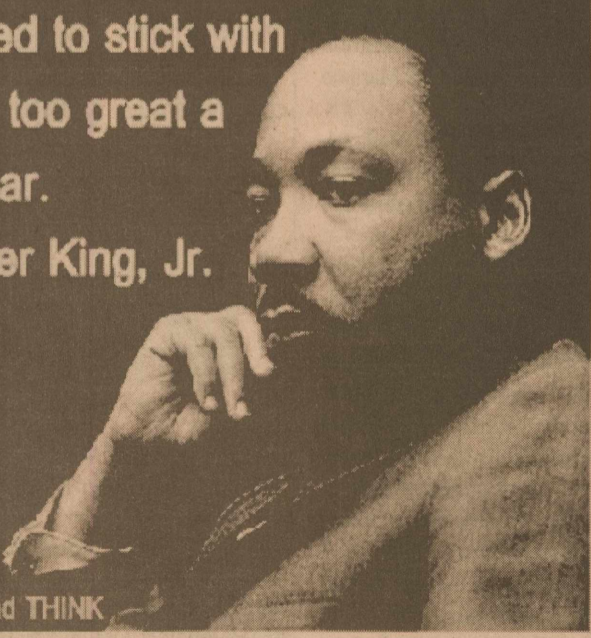
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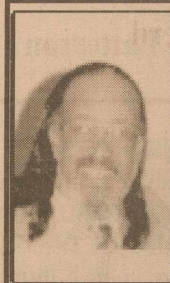
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I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear.

~Martin Luther King, Jr.





We Thank God for Jesus

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John 20:21,22 -- Jesus said, Peace be unto you: as my Father has sent me, even so send I you. And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said unto them, Receive you the Holy Ghost.

THE LORD HAS BLESSED EVERYONE: TO HAVE FAITH, AND TO PRAY; AND LOVE. BUT THE DEVIL GAVE OUT RIGHT; AND NOW LOOK AT AMERICA; IT'S THE LAND OF BLOOD!!!

Isaiah 1:4a -- A sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupt: they have forsaken the Lord. *** **BLIND MEN; LEADING THE BLIND CHILDREN!!!!**

I remember in the 60's: **CHRISTIANS FOLLOWED A MAN WITH A DREAM; -- ON RIGHTS, THEY DISOBEYED THE LAWS OF THE LAND; NOW CHILDREN DISOBEY: DAY AND NIGHT!!!**

1 Peter 2:13-14 -- Submit yourselves to ever ordinance of man for the Lord's sake; whether it be to the king (**THE PRESIDENT**), as supreme; on unto the governors, as unto them that are sent by him (**THE POLICEMAN**) for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well.

THE CHRISTIANS FOLLOW MAN; NOT THE BIBLE; BUT WHAT HE SAID WAS A DREAM. NOW AMERICA IS OVER RUN WITH SINS; AND IT'S NO NIGHTMARE; AS IT MAY SEEM!!!

Jeremiah 23:25-28 -- The

Lord said I have heard what the prophets said, that prophesy lies in my name, saying, I have dreamed, I have dreamed. How long shall this be in the heart of the prophets that prophesy lies? Yes they are prophets of the deceit of their own heart; which think to cause my people to forget my name by their dreams which they tell every man to his neighbor, as their father have forgotten my name for Ba'al. the prophet that has a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that has my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat? said the Lord.

(MODERN DAY BA'AL'S ARE; RIGHTS TO THE RESTROOMS, RIGHTS TO THE FRONT OF THE BUS, RIGHTS TO THE WATER FOUNTAINS, AND RIGHTS TO THE FRONT DOOR TO THE RESTAURANTS!!)

Matthew 28:19, -- Jesus said, Go you therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Holy Ghost.

EVEN NOW: MANY CHURCHES OPEN THEIR DOORS; TO WORSHIP THE M.L.K. MAN. THE CHURCHES ARE SUPPOSE TO WORSHIP GOD ONLY; AND THIS IS A GREAT SIN!!!

Mark 7:6-8 -- Jesus said, Well has E-sai-as prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honor me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

---- (NOW THAT'S HOW YOU ROB GOD!!!)

I BILLY B.J. FOLLOWED THAT LIE ONE DAY; THINKING ONLY OF MY RIGHTS BUT THEN ONE DAY I MET MY LORD AND SAVOUR; THE MAN CALLED JESUS CHRIST.

DIDN'T NOBODY; HAVE TO GIVE UP THEIR SEAT ON THE CITY BUS; MY FREEDOM CAME FROM HEAVEN: GOD SAID THAT WAS ENOUGH.---DIDN'T NOBODY; HAVE TO GET HIT: WITH THE POLICEMAN'S BILLIE CLUBS; MY FREEDOM CAME DOWN; IN THE FORM OF GOD'S ONLY LOVE.---DIDN'T NOBODY; HAVE TO GET BIT BY THE POLICEMAN'S VICIOUS DOGS; MY FREEDOM CAME FROM OUT ON CALVARY'S CROSS.---DIDN'T NOBODY; HAVE TO GET SPRAYED WITH THE FIREMAN'S WATER. HOSE; MY FREEDOM CAME ONE SUNDAY MORNING; WHEN JESUS CHRIST AROSE!!! (I HAVE JESUS CHRIST IN MY LIFE; AND IT'S SO SWEET; HE GAVE ME THE HOLY SPIRIT; AND THE POWER; TO TELL THE DEVIL; TO GET THE HELL UNDER MY FEET.---YOU TOO CAN BE A WINNER!!!)

John 8:32,36, -- Jesus said, And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. And if the Son therefore shall make you free, you shall be free indeed.

St. Matthew Baptist

2020 East 14th Street Rev. Edward Canady, Pastor Lubbock, Texas 79403 (806) 744-7154

What a wonderful time everyone had attending Church services on Sunday morning, January 7, 2017, at the St. Matthew Baptist Church, 2020 East 14th Street, where the dynamic and proud pastor is the Reverend Edward Canady.

These services again were well attended. Sunday morning services begun at 10:10 a. m. with Pastor Canady in charge. Praise God for all the knowledge we receive during Sunday School.

The subject of the Sunday School lesson was entitled "Living Your Convictions." The scripture text was Daniel 1:8-21.

Daniel 1:8: "But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, not with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not desire himself."

Daniel 1:9 -- Now God had brought Daniel into favor and reader love with prince of the eunuchs."

The Sunday morning devo-

tion was conducted by Sister George Ann Hereford and Rev. Tommy Parker. What a time it was!!

Pastor Canady entered the Church with the Choir and Congregation singing "Because of Who You Are."

The morning sermon was delivered by Rev. Canady. His subject was "Promises and Warnings."

It was a very informative sermon, and it was well received by all who were in attendance. Praise God for the Word!

The morning announcements were read and explained by Sister Shirley Canady, our First Lady, who always does an outstanding job.

During the weekly meetings, each person in attendance has an opportunity to sit down together and learn together. When we all learn together, the Church will continue to grow together.

The Missionary Society meets each Wednesday afternoon, beginning at 2:00 p. m. There are always positive

discussions about the Missionary Society. Your presence would be well received by all in attendance. Your help is appreciated.

Immediately after the Missionary Society, Choir rehearsal is held. If you love to sing Gospel music, then do come and rehearse with us.

Remember your involvement in any way of these important meetings is key to our growth and development.

Let us pray for the sick and shut-in. Sister Ethel Williams is still on the sick list.

St. Matthew Baptist Church is asking for anyone who is interested in playing for St. Matthew Baptist Church to contact Rev. Edward Canady at (806) 744-2445. Your contact will be appreciated very much!

Thought For The Week: Knowing the future is uncertain, knowing the One who holds the future is a sure thing! PRAISE GOD!!!

Dr. Kathy Rollo Named LISD Superintendent Continued from Page 1

principal at Murfee Elementary, which she guided for ten years.

Laura Vinson, president of the Board of Trustees said, "We hoped we could find someone with strong West Texas roots, someone who knows our district and has vast experience as a classroom teacher and a principal. In Dr. Rollo, we found an academic leader with proven successes leading students, teachers and principals, with a vision to move Lubbock ISD to the next level."

In 2009, the first Leadership and Professional Development Department was formed in Lubbock ISD, and Dr. Rollo was named the executive director. She forged new partnerships and provided tools and training for educators and administrators to

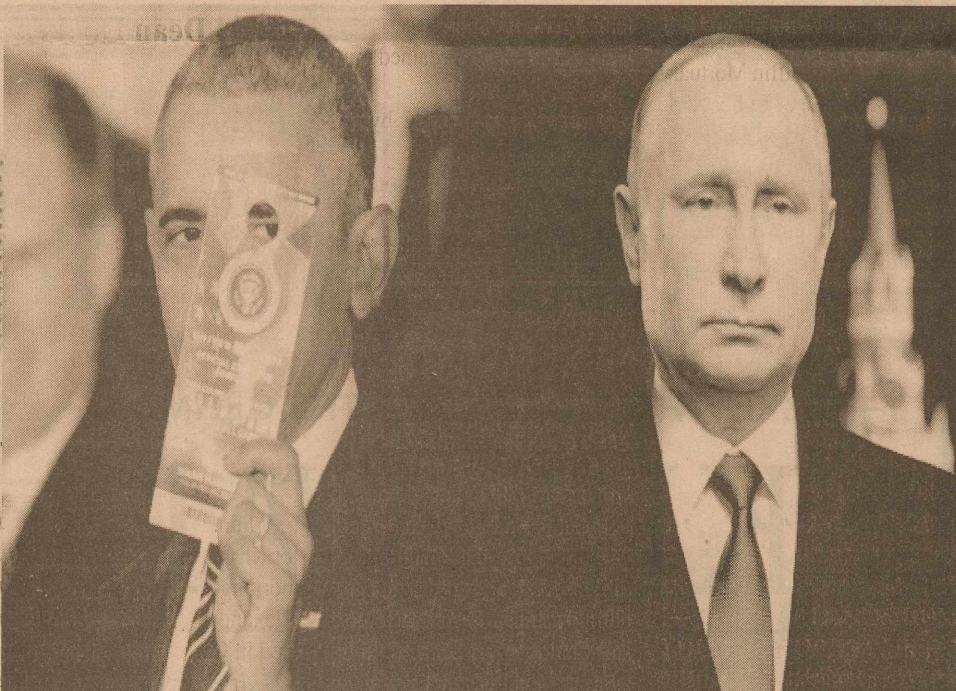
increase the depth of teaching and learning in the classroom, including a more sophisticated use of data to guide instruction. She was promoted to associate superintendent for elementary schools in 2013 and remained in that position until the summer of 2017, when she left the district and taught in the College of Education at Texas Tech University. An avid supporter of public education, Dr. Rollo has in-depth experience in every aspect.

Her devotion to the Lubbock community is evident, as she has served on the boards of Communities in Schools and the Volunteer Center of Lubbock, as well as numerous leadership roles in the Junior League of Lubbock, including president. She was

honored by the YWCA in 2007 as a winner of the "Women of Excellence" award. Often described as a leader and collaborator, she has also been honored by her peers, winning many awards in the teaching profession. Rollo is an enthusiastic supporter of Texas Tech University, where she earned bachelors, masters and doctoral degrees, in addition to superintendent certification. Dr. Rollo said, "A community is only as strong as its public schools and the responsibilities of a superintendent are formidable; however, I view these challenges as opportunities to prove that Lubbock ISD will be the foundation and a source of pride for our community."

Dr. Rollo is married to Robert Rollo and they are the parents of three sons: Layne, Reid and Kreg, also Lubbock ISD graduates. She and Robert are members of Lakeridge United Methodist Church.

Obama Reports No Gifts from Putin in 2016, Sad!



Former President Barack Obama holds up a parking pass given to him by the Chicago Blackhawks (left); Russian President Vladimir Putin (right). (Photos: Pablo Martinez Monsivais/AP and Alexey Nikolsky/AFP/Getty Images)

WASHINGTON -- Throughout 2016, foreign officials showered former President Barack Obama with gifts seemingly meant for a post-presidential "man cave" -- including bottles of Italian wine, an Australian billiards cue, a Jordanian chessboard, a cured ham leg from Spain, and a complete set of William Shakespeare's works, courtesy of Great Britain.

The gifts appear on a legally required list compiled and released each year by the State Department. The gifts aren't bribes, and Obama probably won't even get to enjoy most of them. They may go on display at his future presidential library, but U.S. officials must pay the Treasury fair market value of any presents they want to keep for personal use.

While this happens relatively rarely, the list released on Wednesday shows that former Secretary of State John Kerry bought a \$2,200 bronze sculpture of a Mongolian on horseback (gift of Mongolian President Tsakhia Elbegdorj). And Kerry also acquired, at a price that could not be immediately determined, a brass-inlaid wooden chest from Kuwait's foreign minister.

The most expensive package Obama received came from King Salman bin Abdul-Aziz al Saud, a member of the Saudi royal family, which has been one of the most lavish benefactors of American presidents. Here's how the State Department describes it:

"Sculpture of a Bedouin group, entitled 'The Small Caravan,' including two men and three camels, painted in gold and silver and decorated with precious stones, mounted on green granite. Silver tone letter opener with golden Falcon handle and silver tone Chopard pen."

Value? \$56,720.

At the other end of the spectrum, the name of Russian President Vladimir Putin didn't appear at all. There were no gifts to report in 2015, either, from the Russian leader, who has been accused by the U.S. intelligence community of meddling in the 2016 election. Federal rules require the disclosure of only those gifts valued above roughly \$335, so Putin could conceivably have given Obama something inexpensive. But in a year marked by tensions over Russia's invasion of Ukraine and support for Syria's Bashar Assad, it seems more likely that the American president was just

left off Putin's list.

There was nothing to report from North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, either.

Giving expensive gifts with the knowledge that the recipient cannot, or will not, keep them seems absurd. But it's a traditional way to break the ice and make a diplomatic meeting more memorable. U.S. law permits officials to accept foreign presents under limited circumstances, including if "non-acceptance would cause embarrassment to donor and [the] U.S. government."

Sometimes, it's easy to see a hidden message in the presidential presents. In 2004, as Americans turned against the war in Iraq, the Sultan of Brunei gave George W. Bush a copy of the "Worst-Case Scenario Survival Handbook."

At other times, it's not totally clear what the foreign official was thinking. In April 2016, Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev gave Obama a fountain pen and an 18-by-14-inch framed oil painting of a woman looking at a mushroom cloud, valued together at \$3,615.82.

(In 2014, the State Department revealed that Zanzibari President Ali Mohamed Shein gave Obama 20 baseball caps

with the American leader's face on them.)

As for the potential "man cave" gifts: Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull bestowed the billiards cue and a carrying case; Italian President Sergio Mattarella and Prime Minister Matteo Renzi provided the wine; Jordan's King Abdullah II gave the chessboard; British Prime Minister David Cameron offered the Shakespeare works, and the "cured hind ham leg with cutting knife" (valued at \$733.93) came from Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy.

The ham was "handled pursuant to U.S. Secret Service policy," which the agency does not disclose.

The 2016 list also included a bottle of rum and 205 cigars given to Obama by Cuban President Raúl Castro in the previous year. Also catching up on old paperwork, this year's list included a \$450 painting that then-Secretary of State Henry Kissinger received from the Soviet ambassador -- in 1977.

Obama is not the only official on the list. First lady Michelle Obama also appears. So do Cabinet members, diplomats, Pentagon officials, lawmakers, judges, CIA Director John Brennan, and even anonymous employees of his agency. Three people identified only as "an agency employee" each received \$1,000 in cash, which was deposited with the Treasury.

The CIA items don't always disclose the donor or the recipient. Brennan received a bottle of Remy Martin Louis XIII Grande Champagne Cognac valued at \$4,000. The donor, like all of the Brennan's gift-givers, went unnamed.

When it comes to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, neither the donor's nor the recipient's name appears. Someone from overseas gave someone at DNI a \$1,500 sculp-

Simone Biles says she used to get bullied because of her arms



Simone Biles

It's never a good thing to get bullied -- but when we hear that celebrities have also gone through the hurtful teasing and

ture of Saint George slaying the dragon. Another foreign official gave another person at DNI an 18-by-24-inch portrait of then-Director of National Intelligence James Clapper, "signed and dated, oil on canvas in gold silk brocade covered board box," valued at \$2,500.

Among the lawmakers who got foreign gifts was Sen. John McCain, who received a \$990 vase from a Qatari official, while Republican Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky received a \$700 silver horse sculpture from Saudi Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir. Sen. Bernie Sanders got a \$300 Tiffany silver box from Qatar's ambassador to Washington. Sen. Lindsey Graham got a ceremonial pistol and ceremonial rug (\$1,000 total) from the chief of staff of Pakistan's army.

cruelty from others, it's at least a solid reminder that we're not alone, and we're strong enough to rise above the pain. One example is Simone Biles, who was bullied due to her arms. Y'know -- the same arms that helped get her to the Olympics, otherwise known as the biggest sporting event in the world.

Biles chatted with Jordan Muto from Today to say that she dealt with a lot of bullying over her body at a young age. "They used to call me a 'swoldier,' which didn't make me feel the best," she said. "I wore sweaters or jackets all year long to cover my arms."

Luckily, Biles felt right at home in her gymnastics programs. She admitted that she even got a little bit of encouragement from Aly Raisman, who was also on Team USA. She's often referred to Raisman as her best friend, and a lot of that likely came from the fact that the two helped each other become

Continued on Page 6

Obsequies

Mildred Riley Bogus

Funeral services were held for Mildred Riley Bogus on Friday afternoon, January 5, 2018, at the Community Baptist Church with Rev. Larry Brooks, pastor, as Officiant/Eulogist.

Interment followed in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Mildred, age 83 of Lubbock, Texas, passed away on Saturday, December 30, 2017.

Mildred was born January 9, 1934 to Johnny and Louzada Riley in Marlin, Texas.

Mildred worked at Lubbock Linen for several years and later worked for Lubbock State School for twenty-two years as head cook and dietician.

Mildred was a member of Community Baptist Church where she served as President of the Usher Board and Women's Auxiliary.

Mildred is survived by her daughter, Carolyn Isaac; step-son Paul Hereford; sister, Naomi Louise Burns; brother, Ernest Riley; two grandchildren, Alicia Isaac and Phylcia Williams;



three great grandchildren, a host of other relatives and friends.

No one lights a lamp and hides it in a jar or puts it under a bed. Instead, he puts it on a stand, so that those who come in can see the light. Luke 8:16

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Shauntavia L. Stewart

Hobbs, New Mexico — Funeral services were held for Shauntavia L. Stewart on Friday morning, January 5, 2018, at the Crosswinds Community Church in Hobbs.

Interment followed in the Prairie Haven Memorial Park in Hobbs under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Shauntavia, age 23 of Hobbs, passed away on Wednesday, December 27, 2017.

She was born June 23, 1994 to Keith McGaha and LaShrondra Stewart in Hobbs, New Mexico.

She had a vibrant personality that brought so many joy and laughter. She was a very loving, patient, amazing mother and friend to many people.

Shauntavia is survived by her parents, Keith McGaha and LaShrondra Stewart; grand-



mother, Mary Nell McGaha; daughter, Maddison Paige Crowley; two sisters, Azaria Stewart and Ashley McGaha; two brothers, Javarri Stewart and Jelani Stewart; nephew, Benjamin Franklin; special friends, Katy and Brian Crowley; a host of other relatives and friends.

Barbara Jean Shepherd

Funeral services were held for Barbara Jean Shepherd on Saturday morning, January 6, 2018, at the Christ Temple Church of God in Christ with Supt. David Haynes as Officiant/Eulogist.

Interment followed in the Peaceful Garden Cemetery under the directions of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Barbara, age 79 of Lubbock, Texas, passed away Monday, January 1, 2018.

Barbara was born September 11, 1938 in Camden, Arkansas to Alma Morgan and Allean Armstrong. Barbara graduated from Stephens High School in 1953. She became a cook and owned her own Cafe for many years. Barbara leaves to cherish her memory; her husband, JC Shepherd; three daughters, Gwen Lewis, Mary King (Jack),



and Shay Lamb (Mitchell); four sons, Otis Butts, Tony Johnson, Christopher Johnson, and Michael Johnson; two nieces, three nephews, thirty-one grandchildren, fifty-nine great grandchildren, four great great grandchildren; a host of other relatives and friends.

Nawjawon Oviette Anderson

Funeral services were held for Nawjawon Oviette Anderson on Saturday afternoon, January 6, 2018, with Rev. J. J. Johnson, pastor, as Officiant/Eulogist.

Interment followed in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Nawjawon, age 23 of Lubbock, Texas, passed away on Saturday, December 31, 2017.

Nawjawon was born July 6, 1994 to Lanette L. Anderson. He graduated from Monterey High School in 2012.

He leaves to cherish his memory; his mother, Lanette Anderson; brother, James Anderson; sister, Kristaney Anderson; two nieces, one nephew,



aunts, Addie Anderson, Margie Johnson, and Bobbie Smith; a host of other relatives and friends.

Linda Mae Taylor

Funeral services were held for Linda Mae Taylor at the First Progressive Baptist Church with Rev. Deshun Avery, pastor, as Officiant/Eulogist.

Interment followed in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Linda, age 53 of Dallas, Texas and formerly of Lubbock, Texas, passed away on Friday, December 22, 2017.

Linda was born July 23, 1964 in Hereford, Texas to Richard Luther and Leola Taylor.

Linda attended Dunbar High School and worked as a housekeeper.

Linda loved her children and grandchildren.

Linda is survived by her daughters, LaTasha Taylor and



Teronica Taylor; step daughters, LaRanda Lee and Quinisha Blaylock; stepsons, Kevin Baxter and Robert Baxter; three sisters, Gloria Taylor, Elizabeth Moore, and Dorothy Taylor; five grandchildren, a host of other relatives and friends.

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 Sunday Church School 9:45 A.M.

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 Rev. Edwin Scott, Co-Founder/Spiritual Adviser
 Rev. Charles Planks, Sr., Assistant Pastor
 Rev. Ruthie Planks, Youth Minister

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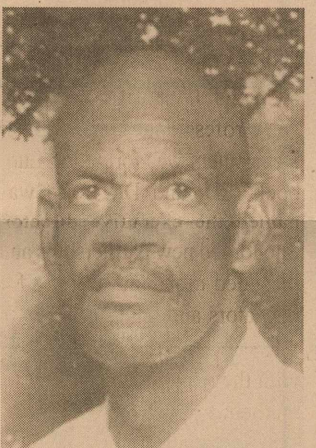
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 Worship-10:15 a.m.
 Evening Worship - 5:00 p. m. We Must Obey God's Will
 Wednesday: To Enter Heaven!
 Bible Class/ Devotional Matthew 7:21
 7:00p. m. How Do We Obey Him?
 Hear The Gospel - Romans 10:17
 Believe - Hebrews 11:6
 Repent of Our Sins - Acts 2:38
 Confess that Jesus is the Son Of God - Act-8:37
 Be Baptized- Mark 16:15-16
 For Transportation Call:
 Charles Curtis at (806) 535-7158
 ALL ARE WELCOME: COME AND WORSHIP WITH US!

Bobbie Ray Nelson



Funeral services for Bobbie Ray Nelson were held on Friday morning, December 30, 2017, at the First Progressive Baptist Church with Rev. Deshun Avery, pastor, as Officiant/Eulogist.

Private disposition was under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Bobbie, age 65 of Lubbock, Texas, passed away on Monday, December 25, 2017.

Bobbie was born on June 27, 1952 to the parentage of Jodie

Nelson and Helen Williams.

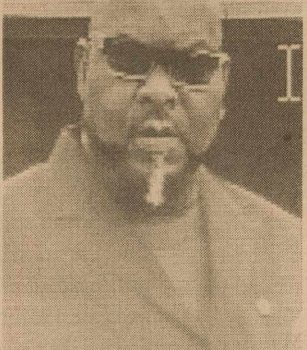
He graduated from Dunbar High School and later joined the United States Air Force where he served as a Sargent from 1970-1974.

Bobbie was an ordained minister.

Bobbie is survived by his daughter, Jacque Nelson Anderson (Adrian); one grandson, Zaccary Anderson; three brothers, Ronnie Mondine, Johnnie Carl (Tara), and Leon Nelson (Bob-

bie Ruth); one sister, Helen Hankins; a host of other relatives and friends.

Karl Dean Hooker



Funeral services were held for Karl Dean Hooker on Friday, morning, December 29, 2017, at Alexander Chapel Church of God in Christ.

Interment followed in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Hooker, age 64 of Lubbock, Texas, passed away on Friday, December 22, 2017.

Karl Dean was born March 24, 1953 in Cooper, Texas to Curtis Hooker and Pauline Clay.

He worked for Citibus for 15 years. He attended Alexander Chapel; also attending Bethlehem Missionary on Wednesday nights.

He loved watching his favorite team the Dallas Cowboys.

Karl is survived by his mother, Pauline Clay; Tovia Oneal; daughters, Jocelyn Lusk (Isaac), BreAnna Stearns; step-daughters, LaShanna Ragsdale, Shaundrika Oneal (Eric), and Aaliyah Oneal; son, LaKarl Washington (Destiny); sisters, Bobbie Hooker, Linda Hooker Charliene Hooker, Cynthia Hooker, Diana Young, and Joyce Hooker; brothers, Carly Hooker (Barbara) and Donald Hooker (Carylon); seven grandchildren; two great grandchildren; a host of other relatives and friends

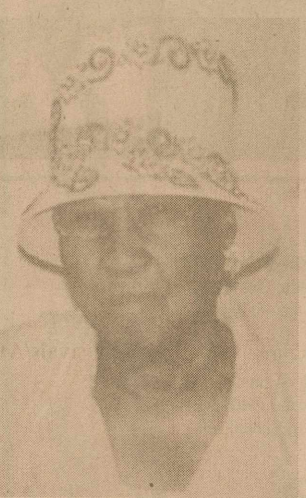
Funeral Services Held For Mother Wilma James

Funeral services were held for Mother Wilma James on Saturday morning, January 13, 2018, at the Southcrest Baptist Church with Supt W. D. Haynes, pastor of Christ Temple Church of God in Christ, as the Officiant.

Interment followed in the City of Lubbock under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Mother James, age 96, was this beautiful, shining light and saintly mother who began her life on February 16, 1921, born to the parentage of Bennie and Adlissa Posey-Cooper in Holland, Texas.

She accepted Christ at the age of 18 as a member of the Baptist Church in Holland, Texas. She served as a local and district Sunshine Band President and choir member under the leadership of the late Bishop W.D. Haynes.



Endowed with beauty of the body and spirit, she was lovingly referred to as "Mother James". She was a faithful member and served most recently as Mother Emeritus under the leadership of Superintendent, W. David Haynes until death.

She was employed as a do-

mestic worker for the families of Dr. John Chalk, and Dr. Richard Wetzel. She also was employed by Pi Beta Phi, Zeta Tau Alpha and Kappa Alpha Theta Sororities until she retired in 2003.

She is preceded in death by her parents; one daughter; four sons; six sisters; nine brothers. She leaves to cherish her memory seven daughters, Jo Marie Gilbert, Ernestine Banks (Dallas), Betty Phenix, Mary White, Shirley Davis (Rev. Wendell Davis), Gwen Evans, Kathy Jennings (Charles) and one son Johnny James (Vanessa). Fifty-one grandchildren, eighty-three great grandchildren, Forty-three great-great grandchildren, and three great-great-great grandchildren, a loving grand daughter Tenelia Evans whom she raised and in turn Tenelia cared for her and a host of relatives and friends.

Justin Dewayne "Moose" McConic

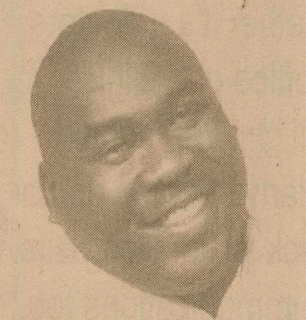
Funeral services were held for Justin Dewayne "Moose" McConic on Saturday afternoon, January 13, 2018, at the Greater St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church with the Rev. Dr. J. H. Ford, pastor, as the Officiant.

Interment followed in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funerl Home of Lubbock.

Justin, age 45 of Lubbock, Texas, passed away on Saturday, January 6, 2017.

Justin was born to Willie and Debra Dixon on December 27, 1972.

He attended Lubbock ISD and Dunbar High School where he played football; a band mem-



ber, and member of the Dunbar Pan Jammers. Justin was employed by Pargon Group, a government Security Company. Justin loved music and loved to

teach it.

Justin leaves to cherish his memory, his wife, Tamika McConic; mother, Debra Dixon; one daughter, Ja'Khesheyra McConic; three sons, Shadadrian McConic, QayShawn McConic, and Jaziah McConic; two sisters, Shallen Bonner (Arthur) and Constance Dixon-Cook (RayShawn); one brother, Anthony Dixon (Miranda); six aunts, four uncles, a host of other relatives and friends.

For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue... with knowledge... self control...steadfastness Godliness... brotherly care... and with Love. 2 Peter 1:5-7

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US's biggest challenge is country not sharing same set of facts, Obama tells Letterman

For President Barack Obama, leaving the White House last January meant he could sleep in, go on vacation and figure out how to work his home coffee machine. Nearly a year later, the former president continues to enjoy the perks of private life, while also publicly sharing his concerns about the future of American democracy.

In a wide-ranging interview as part of the inaugural episode of David Letterman's Netflix show, "My Next Guest Needs No Introduction," Obama says Russian election meddling exploited an existing dissonance between voters.

"One of the biggest challenges that we have to our democracy is the degree to which we don't share a common baseline of facts," Obama said. "What the Russians exploited, but it was already here, is we are operating in completely different information universes."

David Letterman's new Netflix talk show will feature former President Barack Obama as the first guest

Comedian David Letterman returns to late night on 'Jimmy Kimmel Live'

David Letterman calls President Donald Trump 'ignorant'.



"If you are getting all your information off algorithms being sent off a phone, and it is just reinforcing whatever biases you have, which is a pattern. ... At a certain point you just live in a bubble," he added.

Obama did not discuss his successor's administration, but

the Donald Trump White House was not off-limits for the show's host.

In a separate interview included throughout Letterman's discussion with Obama, the talk-show host took a walk across the Edmund Pettus Bridge with Georgia Congressman John Lewis. As the pair walked across the bridge where Lewis marched alongside other nonviolent demonstrators on Bloody Sunday in March 1965, Letterman asked about whether he saw the Trump administration as "a setback."

"It is a major setback to the hopes, the dreams and the aspiration of a people," Lewis said. "Not just African-American, but all Americans."

Here's the latest on the canceled MLK Day parade in Arlington, Texas

Organizers of the controversial Martin Luther King Jr. Day parade that was to feature Texas Gov. Greg Abbott as an honorary grand marshal are moving forward with plans to formally cancel the event.

This news came late Friday, one day after Arlington city officials declined to issue a needed permit to the Toyota North Texas Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Parade & Celebration — which drew critics opposed to Abbott's participation — saying organizers didn't pay the full amount required for logistics including security.

"We placed the appeal earlier (Friday), but we are not optimistic," said Winsor Barbee, a spokeswoman for the parade. "We are moving forward with the cancellation of the parade."

Simone Biles Used To Be Bullied

Continued from Page 4

more confident.

Aly Raisman helped me a lot with my body-confidence issues and helped me learn to love how I look," Biles said. "She's taught me a lot along the way, but most of the time it's just the same message: love yourself. It doesn't matter if you don't want to wear makeup that day, if you don't want to do your hair that day or anything else. You're human, too, so do what you like."

24 Hour Prayer Service Set At The Mt. Olive Baptist Church In Slaton

Slaton, Texas -- The Mount Olive Baptist Church, 887 S. Flint St., in Slaton will sponsor a 24-Prayer Chain beginning at 6 PM, Friday, January 26, 2018, through 6 PM Saturday, January 27, 2018.

The event will involve 24 hours of Prayer for the Church, the local communities, the sick, and our State and Nation. We will also include Praise, testimonies, and singing. All are welcome to come and go as you please.

For more information Please contact Rev. Dr. Charlie C. Haynes Jr@8324860438 (local call on cell phone).

Beyond The Rhetoric

Continued from Page 3

ere. We can thank our conservative congressional leaders who stood behind our President and made this phenomenon a reality.

Those who want to "resist" this growth will have to sit and watch while we soar on to greater heights. There is a better day coming and it is materializing right before our eyes. May the wise ones join in and enjoy this great journey while the doubters get left behind and suffer in their negativity.

Mr. Alford is the Co-Founder, President/CEO of the National Black Chamber of Commerce®. Website: www.nationalbcc.org Email: halford@nationalbcc.org



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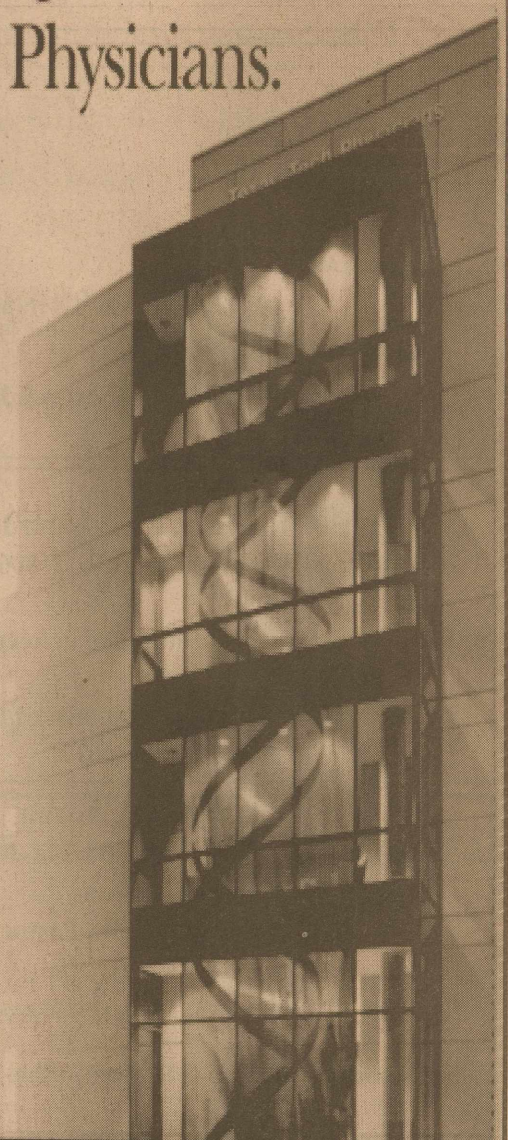
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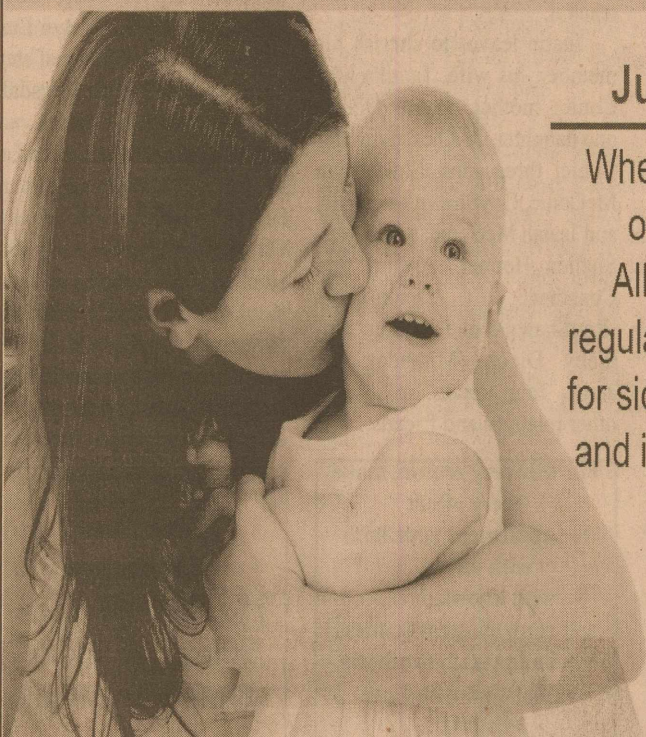


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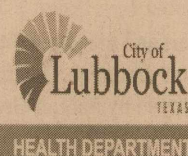
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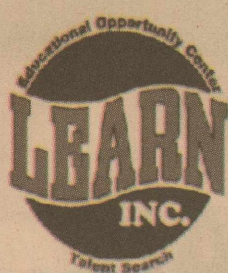
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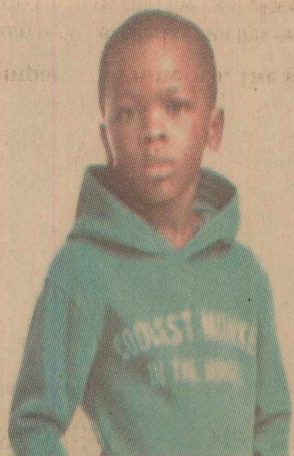
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The mother of the H&M hoodie model believes the controversy is an "unnecessary issue"

By now you've heard about the H&M hoodie controversy. Because when you outfit a black person in a shirt with the phrase "coolest monkey in the jungle," heads rightfully turn and there are long sighs. This is just another example of brands being less than culturally aware or overtly racist to black and brown people. Who can forget how Madewell styled this black model's hair?



James and Diddy also showed support for the young boy by removing the "monkey" phrase and replacing it with words like "king" or an image of a crown

After the swift backlash, an H&M spokesperson issued an apology, stating: "This image has now been removed from all H&M channels and we apologize to anyone this may have offended."

We've heard the internet outrage, celebs have chimed in, and H&M backtracked. But what about the young model or his parents? Well, the model's mom has reportedly spoken out. And while you might think she would be equally outraged or appreciative of the support, she doesn't see an issue.

The Weeknd, who started collaborating with H&M last year, tweeted that he's cutting ties after the racist sweatshirt's

image was plastered on social media. Celebs like LeBron

Purshia Gambles Graduates From Texas Tech University



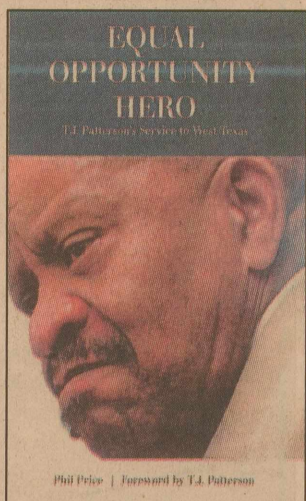
Purshia Gambles

Mrs. Cherry Gambles-Porter and family are proud to announce a big congratulations to Purshia Gambles who graduated from Texas Tech University on Friday, December 15, 2017, at 3:00 p. m. with a degree in History. After a two year internship at her Church, "Redeemer", Purshia will be going into the Women's Ministry.

Our family is very proud of Purshia's achievements and accomplishments. May God guide her through her next journey.

Proud family includes: Ola Draper, Grandmother; her de-

ceased Grandfather, Robert Draper; two Great-Grandmothers, Lorene Conaway of Lubbock, Texas and Junie Jones of Amarillo, Texas; and special guests were Purshia's sister and sister-in-law, Jocelyn and Terricka Clark of Irvin, Texas.



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"I am really excited about this recognition from Inc. Magazine. The day we opened in 2003 we wanted to be the best place to do business and the best place to work in the car business. Our goal today is the same but we have more people on the team now than we did in 2003. I feel if we treat people better than everyone else growth is inevitable. This recognition is affirmation that we have no limits if we continue doing things the right way and working hard every day!" -- Bart Reagor