

INFORMER



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APRIL 2007



Hart - Session wedding vows exchanged
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Oliver Sturns runs for seat on Rusk ISD
School Board - see pg.

State Legislation passes mandating steroid testing for high school athletes. See page 10

Women, African American leaders and organizations call for advertisers and stations to pull the *Imus In The Morning* Radio Talk Show. see pages 11 & 16

Rashad Q. Mims Anderson County Precinct II Commissioner initiates improvements



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Editorial

**What is
practiced and
preached at
home will come
out in public**



Maxine Session

The media has focused on the racist remarks made by Don Imus on his radio talk show drenching the public with his apologies and the responses of the coach and the young ladies who makeup the Rutgers University girls basketball team. (See page 10.) Polls are being conducted with people giving their opinion on should his two-week suspension suffice for punishment or should he be fired.

Organizations and individuals are bombarding MSNBC and talk show sponsors with e-mail letters and telephone calls. The National Organization for Women, the National Association of Black Journalist and Texas Publishers Association, the black press of Texas are among those who have called for his dismissal.

Whether Imus is fired or allowed to keep the show, the entire ordeal will blowover in a few days. Hopefully, from this will come a renewed understanding of how deeply engrained racism is in America. Most females and minorities can attest to this as a result of regular situations that occur in the workplace, on college and school campuses and in places where business is conducted.

Being Americans, we have the right to choose where we live and to choose our friends and associates. That's one thing. It is another to use our beliefs to hurt others with unfair treatment and with harsh words based on their race or gender.

It's best to think before you speak in public, because what you practice and preach at home will come out in public.

Until racial hatred ceases to be taught to children from toddler to teen, degrading racial treatment and statements will continue.

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Happy Birthday

May 1st

Krystal Ward
Carter

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OBITUARY

Bishop G. E. Patterson

In 1975 he purchased and remodeled the old Mount Vernon Baptist Church and in March of that year this church became the Temple of Deliverance.

Bishop Patterson was a member of the nine person strategy team which invited Dr. King to Memphis for the Sanitation Worker's strike. His work to champion Civil rights earned him many awards.

In 1993 Bishop Patterson and the Temple of Deliverance embraced the Memphis community by serving free hot meals daily. They fed more than 178,000 in two years. He was the founder of Bountiful Blessings Ministries that is viewed globally on the B.E.T. and TBN cable networks and various local television stations across America. He was editor and publisher of Bountiful Blessings Magazine which has a distribution list of over 200,000. He was the President and General Manager of WBBP Radio a full time gospel radio station. Bishop Patterson was also President of Podium Records, the label on which he produced the Grammy nominated album "Bishop G. E. Patterson and Congregation Singing Old Time Way Volumes I and II."

On November 14, 2000 Bishop Patterson was elected Presiding Bishop of the Church of God In Christ.

Bishop Patterson held an honorary doctorate degree from Oral Roberts University and was a contributing writer in the Spirit filled Life Bible (KJV). He was also the writer of the critically acclaimed book, "Here Comes The Judge".

Bishop Patterson's legacy is best seen in the hearts and minds of the millions who have been touched through his ministry and his life.

On Tuesday, March 20, 2007 Bishop Patterson's life came to an end. His survivors are wife, Louise Patterson, three sisters, six sisters-in-law, one brother-in-law, cousins, neices and nephews.

Willie B. Harrison, Sr.



Willie B. Harrison was born in Crockett, Texas on January 7, 1923 to Frank and Luella Harrison, both who preceded him in death.

He grew up in Rusk, Texas and was self employed for many years in the pulp wood business, working in the areas of Alto, Palestine, and Rusk.

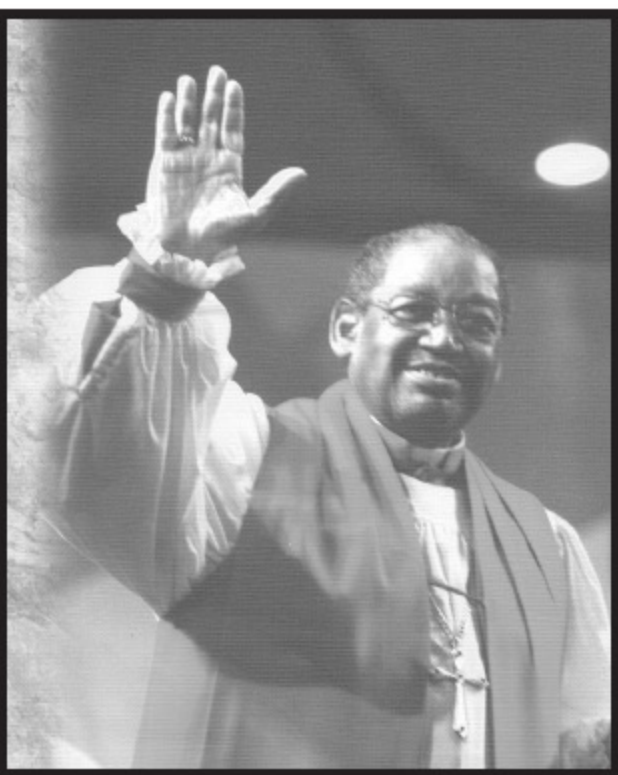
In 1949 he moved to Vleveland, Texas and in 1950 he married Miss Callie Mae Thomas. To this union one son was born, Willie Bill Harrison, Jr. and two daughters that he raised as his own.

Willie united with Galilee Missionary Baptist Church. Later he united with North Mount Olive Baptist Church. He was a member of the male chorus and the Jubilee Gospel Singers.

He was preceded in death by three sisters: Lovie Cook, Irene Ross, and Virgie Williams, and three brothers; Earnest Edsel Denman, Oscar B. Denman and Delbert.

Survivors include: One son Willie Bill Harrison, Jr., of Houston, Two daughters: Sadra Diann Charles, Vickie Jones (Donnie) both of Cleveland, Texas; grandchildren Felicia, LaPonza, Robert, aimee and seven great-grandchildren; one brother Charles Denman of Houston, three sisters: Lucille Foreman of LaMarque, Texas; Hazel Sessions and Elizabeth Rivers both of Rusk, Texas; a host of Neices Nephews, cousins and friends.

The service was held at North Mount Olive Baptist Church with Rev. Roy Milburn, Jr. Pastor conducting the service under the direction of McDuffie's Mortuary, Inc.



Bishop Gilbert Earl Patterson was born September 22, 1939 in the parsonage of the church of God In Christ in Humbolt, Tennessee. He was the son of the late Bishop William archie Patterson, Sr. and Mary Louise Patterson. Four children were born to the family: Elder Wiilliam Archie Patterson, Jr., who preceeded him in death, Evangelist Barbara Patterson Davis, Evangelist Mary Alice Patterson Hawkins, supervision Hawkins, Supervisor Lee Ella Smith. The Pattersons moved to Memphis two months after his birth.

The family moved to Detroit Michigan in May 1952. After graduating Central High School at the age of sixteen he enrolled in the Detroit Bible INstitute. At age sixteen he was baptized and preached his first sermon a month later. he was licensed to preach January 22, 1957. He returned to Memphis in 1961 to serve as co-pastor of Holy Temple Church of God In Christ and to attend Lemoyne-Owen College.

During his ministerial career, Bishop Patterson organized seven churches across the country. He reached out to young ministers giving many opportunities to preach to large ordiances.

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Let it go ...

by T. D. Jakes

There are people who can walk away from you.

And hear me when I tell you this!

When people can walk away from you: let them walk.

I don't want you to try to talk another person into staying with you,

loving you, calling you, caring about you, coming to see you,

staying attached to you.

I mean hang up the phone.

When people can walk away from you let them walk.

Your destiny is never tied to anybody that left.

People leave you because they are not joined to you.

And if they are not joined to you,

you can't make them stay.

Let them go .

And it doesn't mean that they are a bad person,

it just means that their part in the story is over.

And you've got to know when people's

part in your story is over so that you

don't keep trying to raise the dead.

You've got to know when it's dead.

You've got to know when it's over.

Let me tell you something.

I've got the gift of good-bye.

It's the tenth spiritual gift,

I believe in good-bye.

It's not that I'm hateful, it's that I'm faithful,

and I know whatever God means for me to have

He'll give it to me.

And if it takes too much sweat I don't need it.

Stop begging people to stay.

Let them go!!

If you are holding on to something that doesn't belong to you and was never intended for your life,

then you need to LET IT GO!!!

If you are holding on to past hurts and pains

LET IT GO!!!

If someone can't treat you right, love you back, and see your worth...

LET IT GO!!!

If someone has angered you ...

LET IT GO!!!

If you are holding on to some thoughts of evil and revenge ..

LET IT GO!!!

If you are involved in a wrong relationship or addiction .

LET IT GO!!!

If you are holding on to a job that no longer meets your needs or

talents ..

LET IT GO!!!

If you have a bad attitude...

LET IT GO!!!

If you keep judging others to make yourself feel better...

LET IT GO!!!

If you're stuck in the past and God is trying to take you to a new

level in Him...

LET IT GO!!!

If you are struggling with the healing of a broken relationship...

LET IT GO!!!

If you keep trying to help someone who won't even try to help

themselves..

LET IT GO!!!

If you're feeling depressed and stressed

LET IT GO!!!

If there is a particular situation that you are so used to handling

yourself and God is saying

"take your hands off of it,"

then you need to..

LET IT GO!!!

Let the past be the past.

Forget the former things.

GOD is doing a new thing for 2007 !!!

LET IT GO!!!

Get Right or Get Left . think about it, and then

LET IT GO!!!

"The Battle is the Lord's!"

Happy Birthday

Reginal Joel
McGowan
(Coach Mac)

May 22nd

Religion

Cradle to Prison Pipeline

Continue from page 10

The lack of health and mental health care, beginning with late or no prenatal care and low birth-weight births; poor, single, and teen parents; the lack of quality early childhood experiences and enrichment; unprepared and unstable parents who lack supports; zero tolerance discipline policies, racial and economic disparities in child and youth serving systems, tougher sentencing guidelines, a culture that glorifies materialism and violence, unaddressed problems of the mothers and fathers.... too few positive alternatives to the street and positive role models and mentors all add up to a burden on fragile children that none should have to bear.

Without significant interventions to prevent and remove these multiple, accumulated obstacles, poor and minority youth are often trapped in a trajectory that leads to marginalized lives and premature death.



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Commissioner Rashad Q. Mims I

Precinct 2 getting the job done

Cover Story

written by Maxine Session

The state of Texas has 254 counties. Each county is run by a commissioners court which is made up of four elected commissioners and an elected county judge. Out of 1,016 elected commissioners in the state less than 2% are black. Anderson County has a population of 56,408. Of that number 75.3% is Caucasian and 22.6% African American.

Anderson County Precinct 2 voters turned out in large numbers November 7, 2006 to elect Rashad Quinn Mims, the youngest commissioner ever in the history of Anderson County Precinct 2.

The election also made history as the closest race recorded for that district with 1,024 voters casting their vote for Commissioner Mims and 1,021 votes cast for his opponent.

“As I promised the voters who elected me, I am here fulltime to do a fulltime job. For me, this was not a part time position to go to upon retirement.”

The race was very closely-contested; however, Commissioner Mims was declared the winner by just three votes following a recount which was conducted two weeks after the Nov. 7 general election.

With all its ups and downs, Mims, a 27 year old has taken the whole race in stride with a Christian attitude and a big smile. “I was duly elected by the voters of Anderson County and sworn in January first. My staff and I hit the ground running,” declared Commissioner Mims. “We made changes here at the office and out in the precinct in areas that really needed attention. From the calls I’ve gotten from citizens, the improvements are very visible. I have an open door policy and the public knows they are welcome here at anytime to discuss Precinct 2 needs and business. I want to grow and build with the people of Anderson County,” stated Mims. I did not seek this position as a part-time job. As I promised the voters who elected me, I am here fulltime to do a fulltime job. For me, this was not a position to go to upon retirement.”

Commissioner Mims gained experience that prepared him for the position through operating

his own asphalt and concrete business. He also owned his own window washing service. The two and one-half years prior to his bid for commissioner, he worked in auto sales for Starr Ford of Palestine. He gained experience and interest in politics by working behind the scene organizing and assisting with church rallies, fundraisers and election campaigns with Mrs. Ella Mae Smith and the late Mr. Timothy Smith and many others for candidates in local elections such as former Commissioner Howard.

Deonta Mickens Mims works quietly behind the scenes supporting her husband with their two young children Nadia Faith and Reshod Q. Mims, II by her side.

Both Mr. & Mrs. Mims are Palestine High School graduates. She graduated with the class of 2002 and he with the class of 1998. She is the granddaughter



Pictured Left to Right - Deonta Mickens Mims, Nadia Faith, Commissioner Rashad Q. Mims, I, and Reshod Q. Mims II.

At the request of Mim's opponent, out-of-county visiting Judge Davis ordered a new election for Precinct 2.

of Doris Mickens. He is the son of Ray and Lisa Thomas. Ray is the owner of Uncle Ray's Kitchen.

On February 8, 2007 another chapter to this race was opened. At the request of Mim's opponent, out-of-county visiting Judge Davis ordered a new election for Precinct 2. This request was the result of a lawsuit filed by his opponent in December 2006 alleging that some ballots were not properly locked in a box during the weekend break in the recount process.

The election is set for April 24, 2007. Early voting in the race will be conducted at the Anderson County Courthouse Annex, beginning Monday, April 16 and continuing through Friday, April 20th.

“I would like to thank everyone who voted for me in November. As I have always stated, I am elected to represent all the voters of Precinct 2”, said Commissioner Mims.

He is a member of The East Texas Board of Directors for counties.

“When I reached the decision to run for this position in 2006, I started with people in the churches. Those who know me know of my character. They were happy to support me because of my family and community values,” Stated commissioner Mims. My family and I are members of Grant Chapel AME Church and Mr. Preston A. Brown is my campaign manager. I have also gotten strong support from the Palestine Trucking Club and I have the endorsement of former Precinct 2 Commissioner Howard.

Said one Anderson county voter, “We are behind Commissioner Mims one hundred percent. This young man is known for his strong family and community values.

He is young, energetic and full of new ideas. It was just out of the goodness of his heart that he agreed to another election. I feel it's just a waste of Anderson County Taxpayer dollars. We recently had a mayorial race that was just that close. The candidate who lost accepted the vote count and went on to other endeavors in her life. We are behind Commissioner Mims and will be pushing for him to keep his position as Precinct 2 Commissioner.”

According to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights Advisory Committee, as a consequence of longstanding redistricting practices which diluted the minority vote, the first black county commissioner in Texas was not elected until 1976.

Seniors, hurry! You still have time

Education is more than a luxury; it is a responsibility society owes itself



College can
be
affordable,
if you
plan

By *Krystal Ward-Carter*

www.apply for the colleges you wish to apply to. If not, it is not too late to begin your application and find texas.org. This application allows students to apply to multiple public colleges and universities in Texas and find out specific information on deadlines, essay requirements, scholarships, contact information, and mailing addresses. Some college and university deadlines are as early as April 1, 2007, however some college are as late as July 1, 2007. However, it is better to be safe than sorry and apply early. At this time, you should be completing college applications, scholarship applications, [fasfa](http://www.fafsa.edu.gov) (www.fafsa.edu.gov) and visiting colleges that you would like to attend. Most high schools allow an excused absence for one day to visit colleges. High school Juniors: make sure you are keeping your grades, next year you will be applying to college. Continue to plan and take courses that will help prepare you in college, especially the upper level math and sciences. Be involved in school in athletics, an academic club, social club or other extracurricular activities that allow you to interact with your peers. Volunteer as much as you can. As mentioned above, register for the ACT. You should be prepared on the subjects covered by the test. Whether you decide to take the ACT or SAT "be prepared." Purchase Princeton Review, Kaplan, or Barron's test preparation book or computer software at Best Buy, Barnes and Noble, or Borders. Also, you may buy test preparation online at amazon.com and overstock.com. The sites for the ACT and SAT also offer free preparation like: questions-of-the-day and past test. Search the web for colleges and careers that interest you and discuss with your parents and counselors. Factors must be taken into consideration when choosing a college like size, cost, to take challenging high school courses, degrees offered, private or public, location (distance from home), financial aid, environment, admission requirements, facilities, housing, activities, campus visits, and college ex-

If you would like to play collegiate sports register for the NCAA Clearinghouse online www.ncaaclearinhouse.net High school Sophomores: Continue and plan. Keep your grades up. Take PLAN or the pre-ACT and the PSAT (practice SAT). Join and continue participating in extracurricular activities. Begin collecting information on colleges and explore careers that interest you online or in your community.

Volunteer, give back to your community at local nursing homes, visit the elderly of your church, volunteer at a hospital or animal shelter, plan a park clean-up. High school Freshman: Find out information about college entrance exams like the ACT and SAT. Decide now, if you would like to go to college by keeping your grades up and taking college-bound courses. Visit your counselor to make sure you are on the college bound track.

Join extracurricular activities and volunteer in your community. Research the cost of college and different colleges that may interest you. Research scholarships and grants that can help pay for college. Scholarships are an easy way to pay for school, and they are not all based on academics alone. There are band scholarships, dance team, cheerleading, athletic, art, choir, livestock, and scholarships based on how volunteer hours. Figure out why you want to go to college and explore careers online or in your community. Talk with people in college or people that have graduated from college. Visit college campuses and shadow college students for a day. You could also attend summer camps on college campuses. If you can't physically visit the campuses try to visit them virtually online. Ask someone in your desired career choice(s) to a mentor. However, if you are confused about what you would like to do in the future, but you are sure you want to go to college. Ask a college student/graduate to be your mentor to help show you the ropes.

The Texas Commons application allows students to apply to public universities and 2 year colleges in the state of Texas online at www.applytexas.org. This application allows students to apply to multiple institutions in the state of Texas, apply for scholarships from participating universities, and search for specific information on the schools in Texas.

*Krystal Ward - Carter
is a 2001 graduate of Rusk High School.
She is a graduate of The University Of
Houston where she earned a Bachelor
of Science degree and one year on the
Masters level.*

As the school year comes to a close, high school seniors anticipate what life after high school beholds. Many are wrapping up scholarship applications and college applications, while others are just beginning. Despite, where you are in your process, remember it's never too late to go to college. However, more selective schools and universities have deadlines that have passed or they are quickly approaching. All students, parents, and grandparents please check out the information below. If you don't have a high school student in your family, please pass on the information to neighbors, church members or someone who does. Remember, "Education is more than a luxury; it is a responsibility that society owes to itself."-
Robin Cook

High school Seniors: The next ACT exam will be administered on April 14, 2007. The registration deadline is March 9, 2007. The next SAT test will be administered on May 5, 2007; the registration deadline is April 3, 2007. To register for the ACT and more information online go to www.act.org. To register for the SAT test online and for more information visit www.collegeboard.com. This is vital test date information for graduating high school seniors. This is also a good time for high school juniors to register for the ACT. To request a paper application for the ACT, contact your high school counselor or request one from the website. If you are a senior in high school, at this point you should know the admission deadlines out specific information on Texas colleges and universities at



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M.I.L.E.

Say it loud
and
maybe they
will hear

by
Mark Green



For many years now I have watched people like Walter and Maxine Session, B. T. Tilley Hubert Robinson, G.L. Skinner, Frenchie Henderson, James F. Green, Herman Martin, Preston Meador, (Just to name a few who are working in your corner) be there for you and the communities, doing whatever it takes to help you solve whatever kind of problem you are struggling with at the time.

These people have been your ride to the polls, your information source, and legal counselor, your comforter and supporter when you needed someone to help you understand a problem you had with the city, county or school.

When is the last time you stopped to say thank you to anyone of these people. Not lately? They have been your greatest source of support, yet these are the people you criticize the most. Why do you have to go to them? Because they are involved. Because we don't have people who look like us in the sheriff's office, the police chief's office, the fire department, the commissioner's court, the county offices in the courthouse and often not on the school board. Why do we not have people who look like us and who live in our community in these positions? Because you don't care enough to participate in the voting process or make your voice heard there by being involved!

Today I say thank you to these people. Thank God for you all. Without you the measure of progress for our race in these small towns would be much less!

Prairie View A&M University Goat Field Day Scheduled May 5 "Managing Goats for Profit"

The Cooperative Agricultural Research Center is holding the Annual Goat Field Day, Saturday, May 5 on campus in Prairie View, Texas. Registration starts at 6:30 a.m. in the Carden-Waller Cooperative Extension Building and program activities begin at 8:00 a.m. This year the Field Day will be a return to our traditional goat field day and will focus on goat related research and outreach activities that offer our clientele and students a program that is relevant, challenging and aligned with national priorities and evolving issues, said Scott Horner, Extension research specialist, International Goat Research Center. The theme of this year's event is Management of Goats for Profit. Whether you have been in the goat business for years or have been considering it as a great diversification of your farm, the featured speakers like Dr. Frank Pinkerton, aka The Goat Man, who is a retired Extension specialist and Marvin Shurley, president of the American Meat Goat Association will be able to pass along valuable management techniques that could greatly improve your profit margins. Other workshops focus on wether selection and feeding, reproduction in goats, general management practices and forage production. We are offering CEU credits for certain workshops for those so interested, said Horner.

Con't page 12

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America Honors Tuskegee Airmen

by James Breedlove

The Truth Clinic

Their war heroics are legendary. The nation paused for a moment on March 29, 2007 as President Bush, members of Congress, and other dignitaries honored the fabled Tuskegee airmen in the U. S. Capitol Rotunda for the courageous service they rendered the country some 60 years ago during World War II. While the spotlight was focused on the group of some 350 Tuskegee airmen survivors, widows, children, and relatives attending the ceremony the unique Tuskegee story is symbolic of the ugly and tragic grip that racism has had and still holds over America's token attitude toward people of color. A nation that, while touting itself throughout the world as the paragon of freedom, justice, and democracy, steadfastly refused to uphold its foundational credo -- We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness -- with its black soldiers. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi portrayed this as, "The Tuskegee airmen left a segregated country to fight in a war, and unfortunately returned to one that was still segregated." Rep. Charles B. Rangel of New York intoned to the honorees, "Nobody -- white or black -- in this country can understand how God has given you so much courage, from a nation that has rejected you because of your color, said you couldn't fight, said you couldn't fly, said you just weren't worthy -- and you had to go out there and prove to them just how wrong they were." Toward the end of the ceremony President Bush rose and saluted the airmen, saying he wanted to offer the gesture to "help atone for all the unreturned salutes and unforgivable indignities" they endured. In an act as courageous as any they exhibited on the battlefield the Tuskegee

survivors, all in their late 80's and some in wheel chairs, returned the salute in a magnificent act of forgiveness to a country that had refused them simple dignity and respect. The Congressional Gold Medal bestowed on the Tuskegee airmen at the ceremony is the highest award given by the Congress and recognizes outstanding service to the nation. The medal for the airmen, requiring a two thirds sponsorship by the membership of both legislative houses, was made possible through legislation initiated by Rep. Charles Rangel and Sen. Carl Levin and signed by the president last year. The unique gold medal commemorating this achievement will be put on display at the Smithsonian Institution. Each honoree will receive a bronze replica. History has a way of smoothing over or even forgetting the gross injustices inflicted by self anointed righteous God fearing people. The saga of the Tuskegee airmen is more than a simple footnote attached to a group of African Americans who flew with distinction in a segregated military unit during World War II.

Prior to the Tuskegee Airmen, there were no African American U.S. military pilots. However, a series of legislative moves by the United States congress in 1941 and approved by then President Roosevelt over the objections of his top military leaders forced the Army Air Corps to form an all-black combat unit. In an effort to undermine the concept of black pilots before it could be implemented, the War Department set up a special selection system to accept only those with higher levels of education and other skills that they surmised would be impossible to fill. This strategy backfired when the Air Corps received numerous applications from men who qualified even under the stringent conditions. But even after they were

admitted, the white commanders did not believe the new recruits had the intelligence, courage or patriotism to become pilots and they were subjected to the military's version of racial shock and awe.

In June 1941, the Tuskegee program officially began with the formation of the 99th Fighter Squadron at the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. The recruits were treated with disdain and disrespect. Not only were they not allowed to practice with their white counterparts but they had to train using inferior equipment and facilities.

Under these demeaning discriminatory conditions nearly 1,000 young Tuskegee airmen learned to fly and became skilled pilots. While they were degraded on the ground in the air, seated in the cockpit of a powerful F-51 mustang, each pilot was master of all he surveyed. Their primary mission was to escort bombers and they became known for their ferocity in defending the bombers from enemy attackers. Many bomber groups, not knowing the Redtails (the name given the Tuskegee airmen because of the red color on the vertical stabilizers of their aircraft) were black would specifically request Redtail escort knowing this enhanced their chances of coming home. These amazing men amassed an enviable war record of over 1,578 missions, 15,533 sorties, destroyed 261 enemy aircraft, and won more than 850 medals for valor. The Tuskegee airmen may have been treated as second class citizens by the nation they fought and died for but in spite of the horrible indignities inflicted upon them they lived their lives as first class soldiers and, more importantly, as first class men.

James W. Breedlove Comments or opinions may be sent to the writer at: www.truthclinic.com

May 5, 2007
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Food Protection Management class scheduled for June

Texas Cooperative Extension is offering a Food Protection Management certification class for restaurant owners and managers. The class will be held 8am to 5pm Tuesday and Wednesday, June 5 and 6 at the Cherokee County Electric Cooperative meeting room in Rusk. The cost per participant is \$89 which includes course materials. The registration deadline is Friday, May 18. For more information and if you require an auxiliary service, please contact Louraiseal McDonald, CEA-FCS at (903) 683-5416.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin.

The Texas A&M University System, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

Oven-Baked Chicken Parmesan

6 small boneless skinless chicken breast halves (1-1/2 lb.)
1 pkt. SHAKE 'N BAKE Original Chicken Seasoned Coating Mix
2 cups spaghetti sauce
1-1/2 cups KRAFT Shredded Mozzarella Cheese
1/4 cup KRAFT 100% Grated Parmesan Cheese
1 tsp. dried oregano leaves

PREHEAT oven to 400°F. Coat chicken with coating mix as directed on package.

PLACE in 13x9-inch baking pan.

BAKE 20 min. or until chicken is cooked through (170°F). Top evenly with the sauce and cheeses; sprinkle with oregano. Bake an additional 5 min. or until cheese is melted.

HEALTHY Eating Tips

For A Delicious Meal Under 500 Calories

Serve each chicken breast with 1/2 cup hot cooked spaghetti and 3/4 cup hot steamed broccoli. This meal is 420 calories.

WHAT'S COOK'IN

Tasty Strawberry Slush

2 qt. (8 cups) prepared KOOL-AID Sugar Free Tropical Punch Flavor Low Calorie Soft Drink, divided

1 pkg. (10 oz.) frozen unsweetened strawberries

2 ripe bananas

1 cup orange juice

1 cup pineapple juice

1 bottle (1 liter) diet ginger ale, chilled

PLACE 1 cup of the prepared soft drink, strawberries, bananas, orange and pineapple juices in blender or food processor container; cover. Blend about 30 seconds or until smooth. Pour into 6-cup ring mold. Freeze 5 or 6 hours or overnight until firm.

STIR remaining prepared soft drink and ginger ale in large punch bowl. Dip frozen ring mold in warm water, just to rim, for about 20 seconds to loosen. Float ring in punch bowl.

City of Rusk Sets Cleanup April 25th and May 5th

Dumpsters and city employees will be available on the above dates at the city barn located on highway 69 and the I. C. Conley Park. Citizens are encouraged to use them to rid property of unwanted items.

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Weddings & Anniversaries

Felicia Hart and Michael Session Exchange Wedding Vows



Rusk, TX.-Felicia Hart and Michael Session exchanged wedding vows January 29, 2007 at 3:00PM in the afternoon. The beautiful double-ring ceremony was held at Weeping Mary Baptist Church Alto, Texas. The reception followed at the Rusk, Texas VFW. Felicia is the daughter of Ira Lee Hart of Rusk and the late C. S. Hart. Michael is the son of Joann Parks Session Pipkins of Dallas and the late Travis Session.



Rev. Mertis Bartley and wife Stella, attending their twelfth anniversary celebration as pastor and wife of Mt. Olive Baptist Church Rusk, Texas on Sunday Afternoon, March 18, 2007.



Rev. Jimmy Foreman and wife Shirley celebrated their 4th anniversary as pastor and wife of West Union Faith Ministry of Rusk, Texas on Sunday Afternoon March 11, 2007.

The Cradle To Prison Pipeline Crisis

by Marian Wright Eldelman

The Children's Defense Fund(CDF) is grateful for the work of the Joint Center Health Policy Institute's Dillum Commission, which highlights some very dangerous trends in the status of children of color.

Poor children and especially Black and Latino children are coming into contact with juvenile justice and criminal justice systems at younger and younger ages

Poor children and especially Black and Latino children are coming into contact with juvenile justice and criminal justice systems at younger and younger ages and for less serious and less specifically defined offenses that use to be handled in the community by school officials, community leaders, pastors, or families. The overwhelming majority of children being locked up involve nonviolent offenses.

Today a complex web of social, economic and political elements converge to reduce the odds that poor children of color will grow up to become productive adults and increase the odds that they will face a *Cradle to Prison Pipeline* crisis. CDF is preparing to release a report on this crisis that we all must name and address to prevent the clock of racial and social progress from turning backwards.

The *Cradle to Prison Pipeline* crisis stems from the overarching reality that the United States of America is not a level playing field for all children. At crucial points in their development from birth through adulthood, poor children of color face many risks that converge, cumulate, and overwhelm fragile young lives and significantly increase their involvement in the criminal justice system.

A child in a low-income family is 22 times as likely to be neglected or abused. Black children are more than three times as likely as white children to be poor and about four times as likely to be in foster care. Children in the child welfare program are less likely to do well on school and more likely to enter the juvenile justice system. (Continue page 4)

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Rutgers Coach Calls Imus' Comments 'Racist'

Women's Team Has Agreed to Meet With Radio Host

By REBECCA SANTANA

AP Sports

PISCATAWAY, N.J. (April 10) - The Rutgers women's basketball team blasted radio host Don Imus Tuesday for "racist and sexist remarks that are deplorable, despicable and abominable" and agreed to meet with the embattled radio host.

Starting Monday, Imus will be suspended for two weeks for calling the players "nappy-headed hos."

Rutgers players, who had not spoken publicly until Tuesday, called his comments insensitive and hurtful - but reserved judgment on whether he should be fired until after they meet him.

"Unless they've given 'ho' a whole new definition, that's not what I am," said Kia Vaughn, the team's sophomore center.

Calls for Imus' dismissal have been growing since he made the remarks about the team - which includes eight black women - a day after the team lost the national championship game to Tennessee on April 3.

Office supply chain Staples, Procter & Gamble and Bigelow Tea all said they pulled advertising from Imus' show in response to his comments.

Rutgers' players and head coach C. Vivian Stringer said Imus' comments took the luster off an incredible season.

"The Rutgers university women's basketball team has made history," said Essence Carson, a junior forward. "We haven't done anything to deserve this controversy, and yet it has taken a toll on us mentally and physically."

Rutgers' athletic director, Robert E. Mulcahy III, thought a meeting with Imus would offer the team's players a chance to listen to him and hear what he has to say. Several players said they wanted to ask the host why he would make such thoughtless statements.

Happy Birthday
Demario Richards



High school athletes face steroid testing

High school students who participate in athletics would face random tests for steroids under legislation the Texas Senate approved Tuesday. "Until we randomly test, I don't know that we truly will get our arms around the problem," said Sen. Kyle Janek, R-Houston, author of Senate Bill 8. Steroid abuse is a rapidly growing problem in high schools, said Janek, who also is an anesthesiologist. Young people are abusing steroids to become better athletes, but they have no idea how they can harm their bodies and minds, Janek said. The legislation requires anyone who participates in high school athletics to agree not to use illegal steroids and submit to random testing if selected. The bill also requires all athletic coaches from grades seven through 12 to complete an educational program regarding the health effects of steroid abuse. The testing program will randomly test about three percent of the approximately 740,000 students who participate in Texas high school sports. At least 30 percent of the state's high schools must be tested. Similar legislation could be debated later today in the state House. There was no debate in the Senate, which voted 28-2 for the steroid testing bill. Sen. Chris Harris, R-Arlington, and Sen. Tommy Williams, R-The Woodlands, voted against the measure. "I think school districts already have the ability to do random drug testing now, and I think that's sufficient," Williams said. "I think it needs to be a local decision that's made by locally elected officials and the parents in the school district."



Rusk, Texas - L to R. front row Brittney Session, Shanondra Martin, Shatira Polk, Clarendra Freeman, Amanda Session, Courtney Foreman, Sheena Henderson, and Jasmine Harris. L-R. back row - Alber Williams, Chance Cleaver, Eddie Harris, French Hooper, Matthew Davis, John Jackson, Dakota Risinger, Demarcus Skinner, Horace Lewis and Jeremy Lavergne. These Rusk High School Juniors and seniors are all decked out in their formal evening gowns and tuxedos for a night at the prom. After posing they joined they joined others and spread out at restaurants around East Texas for dinner before dancing the night away.

Youth



Rusk, TX.- Eddie W. Harris, Rusk High School Senior, has been named 1st place winner of the Texas Publishers Association 2007 Scholarship. Requirements to enter the contest were, the entrant must be a senior planning to attend college in the fall of 2007 and submit an essay entitled, "The Black Press: Challenging the Past; Creating the Future". Eddie plans to attend Tyler Junior College.

Jarell Taylor of Dallas was named second place winner. Both young men were honored at the Texas Publishers Association 21st Conference/Expo Banquet held March 24th at the Garden Hilton Inn at Allen, Texas. Jarell plans to attend University of North Texas, Denton, Texas.

Prairie View Goat Field Day con't from pg. 7

The theme of this year's event is Management of Goats for Profit. Whether you have been in the goat business for years or have been considering it as a great diversification of your farm, the featured speakers like Dr. Frank Pinkerton, aka The Goat Man, who is a retired Extension specialist and Marvin Shurley, president of the American Meat Goat Association will be able to pass along valuable management techniques that could greatly improve your profit margins. Other workshops focus on wether selection and feeding, reproduction in goats, general management practices and forage production. We are offering CEU credits for certain workshops for those so interested, said Horner.

The Goat Field Day will also include the Goat Giveaway, Goat Barbecue Cook-Off and a production sale. We welcome back our old friends from previous field days and extend a warm invitation to those that are new to our programs, Horner said. Registration fee for the Goat Field Day, which includes refreshments, barbecue lunch and conference materials, is \$15 for the first adult, then an additional \$10 per adult in the group. The fee for youth, ages 6-18, is \$6.00.

Signs directing participants to parking and meeting areas upon entering the Prairie View A&M University campus, which is located off Highway 290 about one hour northwest of downtown Houston, will be placed in strategic areas, said Horner. The opening session will be held at the Carden-Waller Cooperative Extension building, and the majority of the workshops will be on the grounds of the International Goat Research Center. Those interested in this and other educational goat events should contact Cooperative Extension Agent, Rene' McCracken at 903-683-5416 or lrnccracken@ag.tamu.edu.

State Rep. Hopson Helps Pass Increase in Teacher Pay,



Budget Bill Awaits Senate Action

AUSTIN-- Rep. Hopson voted for an amendment to increase public school employee pay and an amendment to prohibit the state from using public money to pay for private school vouchers. The votes came during more than 18 hours of debate, and 200 amendments to Texas' \$150 billion state budget bill (House Bill 1). The teacher pay amendment, which was opposed by House leadership, passed 90 to 56. The ban on vouchers, which was also opposed by House leadership, passed anyway by a vote of 136 to 5. Ensuring that Texas children have access to top-notch public schools is one of my top priorities. Our state must do everything possible to attract the best and brightest educators," said Hopson. "I voted to provide an across-the-board pay raise for every public school teacher, counselor, librarian and school nurse because a great education starts with them." Rep. Hopson expressed his concerns about the overall priorities in the version of the budget bill that was debated Thursday. Still, he was pleased by the level debate and the civility of the House members.

"I support a state budget that fully funds the children's health insurance program, improves access to higher education, strengthens our public schools and provides the necessary funds to ensure Texas children are secure now and in the future," said Rep. Hopson. "I believe we came up with a pretty good document. Now we wait to see what the Senate does."

In addition to voting for an across-the-board \$800-\$900 per year salary increase for public school employees, Hopson voted as part of an overwhelming majority to reject private school vouchers.

"Private school vouchers drain money away from public schools. More than four-fifths of the House agreed that the most effective way to have the best public schools is not to rob them but to invest in them," concluded Rep. Hopson.

"We made a lot of ground on Thursday. We started with a bill that had serious shortcomings, but we finished with a bill that contained some great provisions, like more funding for the Texas State Railroad and an across-the-board teacher salary increase," said Rep. Hopson. "The bill isn't perfect, but our amendments were a major improvement." The numerous amendments adopted Thursday helped alleviate some of the concerns about the initial shortcomings of the bill. Rep. Hopson voted in favor of the amended bill and will work with Senator Eltife and Senator Nichols to continue to improve the bill as it moves through the Senate. The budget bill will then go to a conference committee, where appointed members of the House and Senate will iron out the differences between their two versions.

Daphne L. Session

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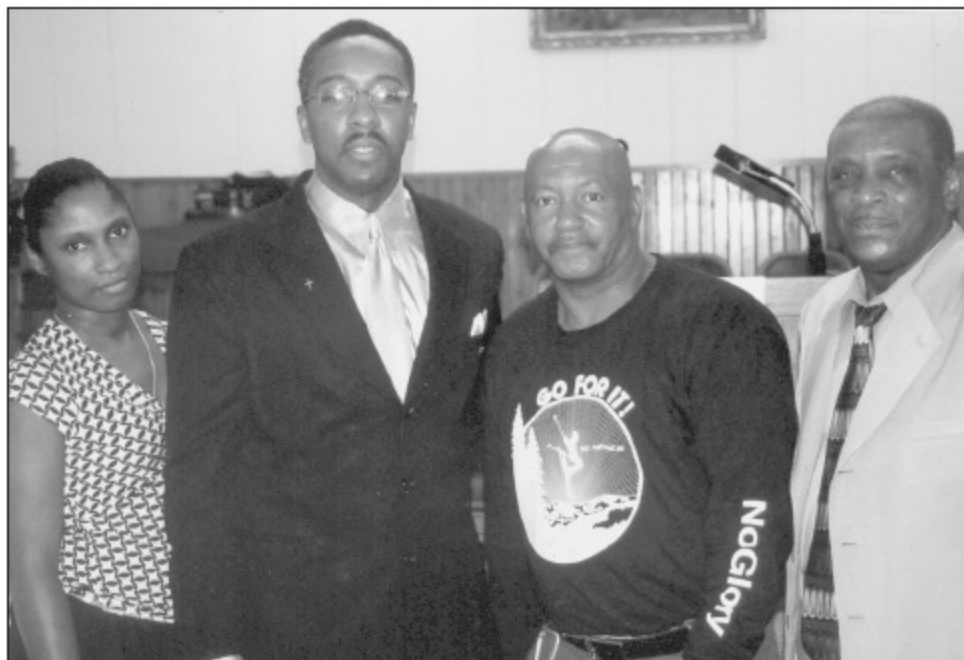
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Woodville Christian Methodist Church hosts one-day Christian Youth Retreat



L to R. - Sonja Baker, Rev. Clater, Rev. Carter and Rev. Joe Ratford, Pastor.



Cardell Mitchell, Sonja Baker, Maxine Session, Lanell Session and Shanna Scott.

Saturday, March 10, 2007 Woodville C.M. E. Church hosted a one-day Youth and Young Adult Christian Development retreat for area youth. The day began at 8:30 am with a full course breakfast of bacon and eggs with all the trimmings and ended with a question and answer session.

The workshop speakers included Cardell Mitchell of Shreveport, Louisiana, Reverend Tracy Clater - Jacksonville, Shana Scott - Alto, Reverend Phal Cater and Maxine Session both of Rusk and Rev. Joe Ratford, church pastor.

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Pictured left to right Rusk City Councilman Walter session, Andrew Melontree, Tyler Citizens 1st Bank, James I perkins, Citizens 1st Bank President and Cody Glenn, former Rusk High School-Running Back, former Rusk Citizens 1st Bank Employee and current University of Nebraska Running Back. They are viewing a thank you note to Mr Perkins from Rusk State Hospital for all he and Citizens 1st Bank does for Rusk State Hospital. The Thank you note is signed by each member of the RSH Staff and Superintendent Ted Debs.

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The Links, Inc. Condemn Imus' Racist and Sexist Comments

Washington, D.C.-- One of the nation's oldest and premier African-American women's organization, The Links, Inc., is calling for politicians, pundits and advertisers to refrain from appearing and advertising on "The Imus in the Morning Show." The organization of more than 12,000 women finds the remarks made on the nationally syndicated radio show both racist and sexist.

Dr. Gwendolyn B. Lee, National President of The Links, Inc. responded to the radio host's remarks about the young women on Rutgers University women's basketball team as "nappy headed hos." Dr. Lee said, "Don Imus has reached an all time low. His use of the public airwaves to denigrate and ridicule the young, talented and hard working African American women of the Rutgers University team was a cruel assault on the dignity of all African Americans and women. The two-week suspension is an inadequate slap on the wrist."

The members of The Links, Inc. call on WFAN-AM, CBS Radio and MSNBC to fire Don Imus and cancel his show, "Imus in the Morning."

The Links, Inc. believe that racism is learned. Racism is reinforced when it is delivered through media such as radio, television, the Internet and motion pictures. We must become a force of one and use all of our collective energy to remove Mr. Imus from the air permanently. Established in 1946, The Links, Inc., is one of the nation's oldest and largest volunteer service organization of women who linked in friendship are committed to enriching, sustaining and ensuring the culture and economic survival of African-Americans and persons of African decent. The Links, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization which consists of nearly 12,000 professional women of color in 273 chapters located in 42 states, the District of Columbia and three countries, including Germany, South Africa and the Bahamas.



Furlich July Arrington

Knowledge of black history can dispell racist stereotypes

God is love. He teaches us through the Bible that we are all created in his image. Knowledge is power. The racist comments often made by one race or gender against another is often the result of ignorance..... or simply put, not knowing.

Black history is well engrained into American Society. Without knowledge of it, many don't recognize how it has set the tone of American culture. Many of us recognize that it can't be taught one month of the year. Here is an interesting example of how it has affected one part of American culture.

Many Christian Churches observe what is called "Watch Night Services" on New Year's Eve. They gather at churches and give praises to God as they watch the old year out and the new year in. It can be traced back to gatherings as far back as 1862, then known as "Freedom's Eve". On December 31st black families came together in churches and private homes all across the nation anxiously awaiting news that the Emancipation Proclamation actually had become law. then at the stroke of midnight, it was January 1, 1863, and all slaves in the Confederate States were declared legally free. (continued page 18)

Main Optical, New Look Cosmetics sold contact lenses without prescriptions

SAN ANTONIO □exas Attorney General Greg Abbott stopped two local contact lens dispensers from illegally selling contact lenses without prescriptions. Under the terms of the agreements filed in San Antonio, the operators of Main Optical and New Look Cosmetics, the latter of which has closed, have agreed to provide restitution to consumers who complained about the products or who may have suffered eye injuries because of improperly fitted lenses. "Texans will not tolerate vendors who ignore the law and put their customers' health at risk," Attorney General Abbott said. "We are pleased that these defendants are prohibited from illegally selling their products. The Office of Attorney General will continue aggressively protecting the health and safety of Texas consumers." According to the judgment

Main Optical was illegally dispensing lenses to customers without required prescriptions. Dispensing any contact lenses, even noncorrective, or "plano," lenses, which are intended solely to change the appearance of the eye, still requires a prescription from a physician or optometrist. Main Optical also advertised "cosmetic color contacts," which led consumers to believe prescriptions were not necessary, a violation of the law. The business used its own staff and equipment to make eye measurements without prescriptions or without the involvement of a licensed optometrist, which also violates state law.

New Look Cosmetics routinely operated from booths at a flea market on Highway 90 West, as well as Corpus Christi-area flea markets, despite warnings from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) that the practice is illegal.

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Oliver Sturns seeks seat on Rusk Independent School District Trustee Board



Oliver Sturns, a longtime Ruskite, grew up in the Fairview Community, graduating Rusk High School in 1987. He is in his 17th year as a Rusk State Hospital Employee currently working in the Transcort Department.

When asked why he wants a seat on the schoolboard, Oliver had this to say. "I've been involved with youth and some type of community sports since 1987. I always loved the city of Rusk and

the people here. With all the discussion in the legislature about removing the TAKS Testing requirements, I feel that our district will be facing more new challenges in the near future. Being the father of six children, I just want to be involved."

Oliver is an official referee and has been officiating basketball fourteen years, youth baseball six years, little dribblers ten years and he has worked Rusk High School football games thirteen years as a part of the "Chain Gang".

This year he was one of six referees chosen to officiate girls regional basketball tournament in Levelland, Texas.

Mr. Sturns is very involved in the church community serving at Shady Grove Church of God In Christ as a member of the finance committee, youth director, van driver and assistant district choir director. Rev. Donnie Timmons is the church pastor.

He is a member of the Cherokee County Brotherhood, Rusk State Hospital Employee Council, board member for East Texas Dogwood Chapter of Palestine and he attends RISD Schoolboard meeting regularly.

Oliver is married to Sonya Sturns. They are happy parents of six children of which four attend Rusk ISD. He is the son of Raymond and Eurliene Sturns of Rusk.

Companies Pull Ads From Imus Show Calls For Radio Host's Dismissal Continue To Grow

(April 11) - Staples Inc., G. M. and Procter & Gamble Co. have pulled their advertising from Don Imus' radio show in the wake of the furor caused by his comments about the Rutgers women's basketball team.

The three companies on Tuesday added to the fallout that began when the now-suspended radio show host called the players "nappy-headed hos" on his April 4 show. "Because of the recent comments that were made on the program it did prompt us to take a look at our decision to advertise on the program and we have decided to stop advertising," Staples spokesman Paul Capelli said Tuesday night.

"Once we became aware of the comment, we sort of stepped back and took a look at it," he said, declining to disclose the dollar amount of the advertising involved. "We weren't on today and are not planning on being on going forward."

"I can't speculate on what we might do in the future," he said.

P&G spokesman Terry Loftus said the company pulled ads from the show as of last Friday. Another sponsor, Bigelow Tea, said in a statement posted on its Web site that the remarks have "put our future sponsorship in jeopardy."

Calls for the radio host's dismissal have been growing, including from groups such as the National Organization for Women and the National Association of Black Journalists.



L e s t e r Session shows vegetable garden

Ninety-three year old Mr. Lester Session of the Woodville Community shows off the fine garden he raised. Mr. Session says keeping busy around the house taking care of the yard, raising fresh vegetables and beautiful flowers is the secret to his happy life. He and his wife, the late Annie Session raised their family in the home where he lives today. "The children have all grown up and moved away to different cities," states Mr. Session, "but they are always around to spend time with me and help me enjoy the fresh vegetable I raise." He is the proud father of nine girls and two boys: Daisy, Janie, Callene, Ruby, Janie Sue, Wonda Faye, Ruthie, Linda, Ester, Jackie Ray and Jackie Don.

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Hollywood's Time Crockett & East Texas News

by Billy "Hollywood" Grooves



When will the
devastation end?

Despite all the information and knowledge that America has on crime and the root causes of criminal behavior, African Americans are still the "scapegoates" of the American justice system based on who actually goes to prison and who actually gets away with criminal behavior. Take "the crack cocaine epidemic" that has plagued the

As a black man, I am one hundred percent against crack cocaine because of the devastation it has wreaked on my people.

black community for the last two decades. It's no secret that some black people use crack just like it's no secret that some white people use powder cocaine, meth and alcohol as their drug of choice. The difference is "crack laws" have harsher mandatory prison sentences that are vigorously enforced against black people while powder cocaine users, usually white people, are given opposite treatment, rehab or a slap on the wrist while black people are given twenty, forty and even sixty years behind bars. Those racists in the judicial system

know that mainstream America sleeps better at night when they hear and read in the news that more blacks are being imprisoned for "whatever reason." The stark reality of who is really fueling most of America's criminal activity, are those who when presented to the system gets little, if any, law enforcement against them. As a black man, I am one hundred percent against crack cocaine because of the devastation it has wreaked on my people. Because of my knowledge of where crack cocaine came from, who put it in black communities of America and why it was put there, I will never be convinced, nor will any other rational thinking black man, that "locking up African Americans under designated racist laws" will solve this sickening problem. It is nothing but a continuation of modern day slavery which is eating away at the family structure in black families. When children have parents in prison, who is left to raise them?

Men like "Don Imus" perpetuate racism in America everyday, while many of us try to turn a deaf ear to what is said, but it continues to hurt black families socially, educationally and economically. People like him who believe as he does continue impact others to think in that manner and to use their power and control in the banks where African Americans are turned down for business and home loans, in the workplace where hiring and promotions are withheld from qualified Africans.

God bless America, Africa and the rest of the world.

We commend Rev. Betty Kennedy, Pastor of Abundant Life church of Lufkin, Texas for her longtime commitment to her church and the community of Lufkin and East Texas.

Family of the month



Front Row L - R Jermichael, Oliver Sturns, Sr. Oliver Sturns, Jr., Sonya, Daron. Back Row L to R Katina, Daron and Felicia.

The Oliver and Sonya Sturns family is highlighted this month as family of the month. They are members of the Shady Grove Church of God In Christ where they and the children are actively involved. Ms. Sturns chairs the hospitality committee. The Sturns are the happy parents of six children ages seven months to 19 years. They live and are employed in Rusk.

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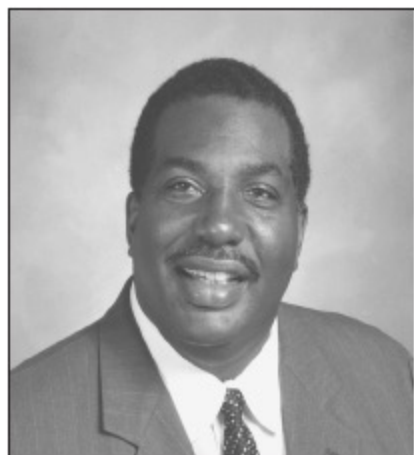
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Senator West files homeless bill



State Senator Royce West

ancestry, age, or sexual preference. "Approximately 44% of homeless individuals sleep without any form of shelter, making them vulnerable to violent 'hate-driven' attacks. It is my intent, as it should be our responsibility as a body of lawmakers, to do what is necessary to protect our most vulnerable citizens from senseless acts of violence," said Senator West. "It's the right thing to do."

"While several other states have taken steps to decrease hate crimes against the homeless, Texas should be the leader on curbing this disturbing trend", said Representative Naishtat.

Senator West and Representative Naishtat will hold a Joint Press Conference on Tuesday, February 20, 2007 at 1:00pm in the Capitol Press Conference Room, 2E.9.

For more information, please contact Kelvin Bass or Lauren Doss at 512.463.0123(Sen. West) or Nancy Walker at 512.463.0668(Rep. Naishtat)

AUSTIN -- State Senator Royce West (D-Dallas) joined State Representative Elliott Naishtat (D-Austin) in filing legislation to protect homeless persons from hate crimes. SB 536 and HB 1360 will add "homelessness" to the Texas hate crimes statute thus increasing penalties of criminals found guilty of attacking homeless individuals. Current-law offers such protections for people based on race, color, disability, religion, national origin,

Ms. J's 411 continued from page 15

When this great news was received, there were prayers, shouts and songs of joy and praise as they fell to their knees and thanked God. Of course the slaves of Texas were left out of this joyous occasion because it was two and on-half years later on June nineteenth before union soldiers came to Texas to tell them.

Since 1862 black people have continued to gather annually on New Year's Eve to watch the old year out and the new one in, but most of us were never told how this long-standing tradition began.

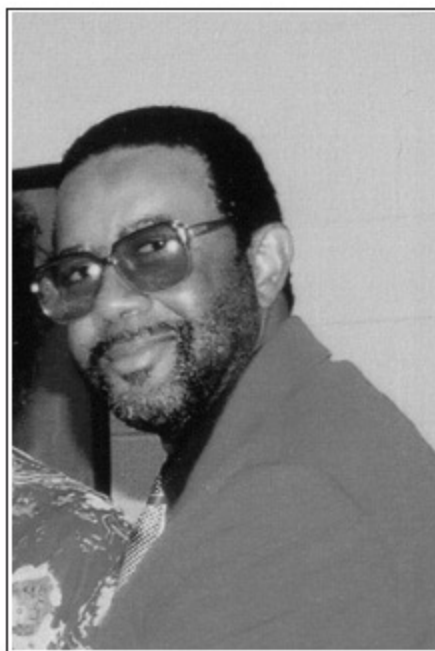
Many of you probably remember that our daughter was born it seems just a few months ago, but guess what! We celebrated her, Estebiana J'Nae Arrington, 1st birthday March 6th. Time does fly.

Until next time, take care of yourself. Be kind to others for everyone you meet is fighting some kind of Battle.

Vote for Experience VOTE WALTER SESSION COUNCILMAN, DISTRICT II

Hello citizens of district 2. I am asking you to vote to re-elect me for city councilman. I have been your councilman for many years and with your help have accomplished many goals and worked out many issues. I am proud of our community and our town and will put it second to none. Some of the many accomplishments made over the years, just to mention a few are:

1. More paved streets
2. Removal of the eye sore railroad trestle
3. I.C. Conley Park
4. More fire hydrants/bigger water lines
5. Naming of M.L. King blvd.
6. Eight new homes without cost
7. Many renovations of homes/rental property
8. 1st. black police officer
9. 1st. black clerk hired at city hall
10. Safer streets for our citizens
11. Curtail drugs in our town
12. Kept taxes at a minimum
13. Maintaining the name Bradford Campus at Rusk Primary
14. Voted to keep the city bus in operation
15. Voted to keep the swimming pool open
16. Voted removal of junk cars/property cleanup and
17. Removal of 22 dilapidated houses in District 2 alone



Let's show the citizens of Rusk that we are in unity and appreciate the right to vote by going to the polls on May 12, 2007. Vote for WALTER SESSION councilman, District 2 for continued representation.

For I know the plans I have for you, "declared the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

Jeremiah 29:11-13

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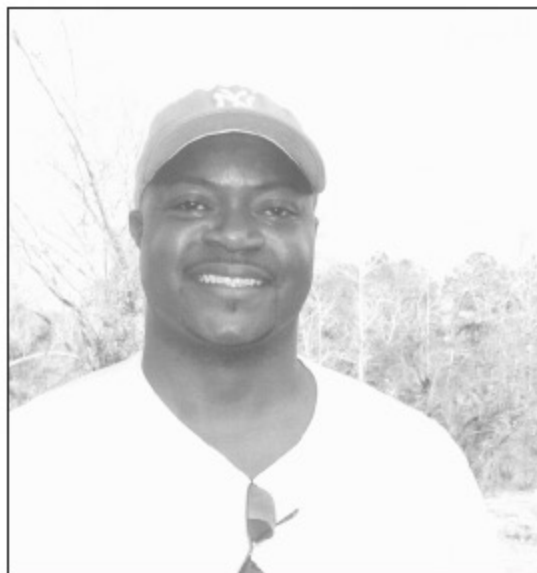
Speak Out!

Will American voters elect Hillary Clinton or Barack Obama next president?

The United States of America has been an independent Nation since July 4, 1776. In the two hundred thirty-one year history of this nation, never has there been a woman president or a black president. The top two Democratic contenders for that position is Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama for the November 2008 presidential election. The following people speakout when asked this question, "Do you think the voters will elect one of them as president or maybe both on the same ticket? Why?"



Palestine, TX.- Thomas Reeves



Rusk, TX. - Travis Session



Palestine, TX.- Marcus Jones

Yes. I think she has a great chance of being elected. Now that we look back, her husband was a good president and she was right there working closely with him. That's called experience. I am going to watch Obama and read up on him before I make a decision about him.

Yes, I hope so. I would vote for them both. Its time this country had a change. Obama is my first choice, but, I would like to see both of them on the same ticket with him as president and her as vice or her as president and him as vice.

Yes. Hillary Clinton is already familiar with the Whitehouse and Washington politics. She could get this country back on track. We talk about equal opportunity for everyone.....Most people will probably vote for her because she is a woman who understands the problems the average citizen in the country faces.

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