



Ask A. J.
Confederate Cannons or Chili
Cookoff and beer? Pg. 13

Crockett Unveils Texas African
American Brochure page 11

RISD Board Upholds Lev. I and
II Parent Complaint page 9

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P.O. Box 332
Rusk, Texas 75785

Confederate Flag Flown and Removed from Anderson County Courthouse



African Americans protest silently, turning their backs when flag was raised beneath the American and Texas Flags. See page 3

Editorial



Maxine Session

President Obama has released the long and short form of his birth certificate letting those who believe he is not an American born citizen know without question that he is genuine. He is not the first politician of African decent to face adversity because of his race. The election of John Mercer Langston to the House of Representatives in 1890 shows that African American political power did not evaporate completely with the end of Reconstruction in 1877. The son of a white planter and a mixed raced mother, Langston had attended Oberlin College, studied law with a judge, and been admitted to the Ohio bar in 1854. After the Civil War, he organized the Law

Department at Howard University before serving as its first dean and then president from 1873 to 1875. Then, after a brief stint as resident minister and consul general to Haiti and charge d'affairs to the Dominican Republic, he won the 1888 election to the House of Representatives, but took his seat on September 23, 1890, only after the House had determined that his Democratic rival had cheated. He was a member of the House for less than six months, and his stint showed some of the difficulties of being an African American representative after Reconstruction. When Langston's term ended on March 3, 1891, he failed to get reelected.

Every candidate for election to the house, senate and so on should be vetted by the same set of rules. President Obama is the first know candidate for president to face such adversity about a birth certificate, his religion to where his children go to school.

His calm demeanor and common sense approach to problems no matter how small is an example for us all to follow.

The glory of the young is their strength; the gray hair of experience is the splendor of the old. -Proverbs 20:29

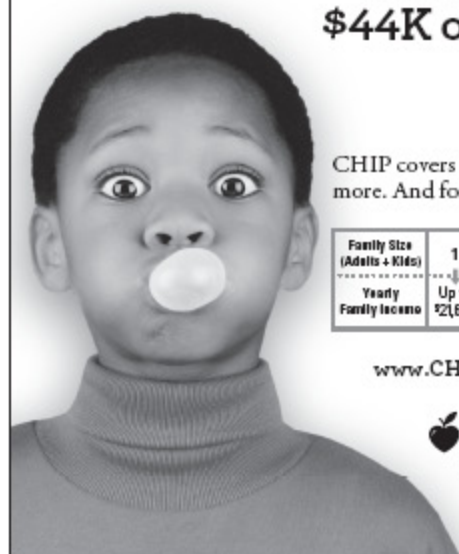
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1229	Crazy Wild 6's - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.67	\$5	04/28/11	10/25/11
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Confederate Flag Controversy



Texas sons of Confederate Veterans conduct ceremony and raise Confederate Flag along with the United States and Texas Flags to fly over the Anderson County Courthouse.



Bystanders stand silently by watching the ceremony and holding signs of protest.

Palestine, TX. - Friday morning April 1, 2011 the Confederate Flag was raised over the Anderson County Courthouse in Palestine, Texas only to be removed a few days later, after causing controversy and racial tension. The Sons of the Confederate Veterans John H. Reagan Camp #2156 and United Daughters of the Confederacy Davis-Reagan Chapter #2292 raising of the flag came with all the ceremony, pomp and circumstance of the United States Flag or the Texas Flag. Yet, employees of the County, many right inside the courthouse, and other important Palestine officials stayed away.

Members of the local NAACP stood silently by carrying signs that read "Protest" while a sheriff patrol stood watch around the ceremony area and courthouse square.

Anderson County Commissioner's voted 3 - 2 at their March 28th Meeting for approval of honoring

Confederate Soldier's during the month of April at the request of Ronnie Hatfield and group of the Sons of the Confederate. Commissioners Rashad Mims and Kenneth Dickson voted against the request and Commissioners Joe Chaffin, Joe Hill and Robert Johnson voting for approval.

Members of the Confederate groups say honoring the Confederate soldiers and flying the flag is not about racism but honoring the men who fought in the Civil War.

War veteran, Kenneth Davidson, president of the local NAACP led a group that turned their backs in protest when the flag was raised. "I could not do it. I could not do it, Davidson Said, referring to turning his back as the controversial flag was raised. "I have no problem with them celebrating their history, but what I do have a problem with is them flying that flag over our county courthouse. I fought for the U. S. Flag. I do not honor that flag that is a symbol of pain and suffering inflicted on

our race of people as they were slaved, hanged, raped and made to live in poverty and degradation." I would like to sit down with them and learn more about their history but I would also like to tell them about black people's, my ancestors, experience with that flag. They are only opening the door for other flags to fly, like this one, that do not honor all men."

The groups who raised the flag say they do not understand what the controversy is about. African American history is generally not taught in the public schools of East Texas, so the true story has not been told of why the flag is a symbol of racial hatred to African Americans. Many don't understand that slavery was the key issue for fighting the Civil War and they don't know the purpose for which that flag and the flag with cross bars and stars were used. They were used by hate groups to incite racial hatred and they were used as they carried out violence against African Americans.

The Mayor of Palestine called for an emergency meeting the following Monday for the purpose of passing a resolution asking the county to remove the flag.

The flag was removed by the chapter of the sons of Confederate Veterans on Monday night just as the Palestine City Council was meeting to call for its removal.

It's not the load
that breaks you
down, it's the
way you carry it.

~Lena Horne

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*** Saturday June 18th**

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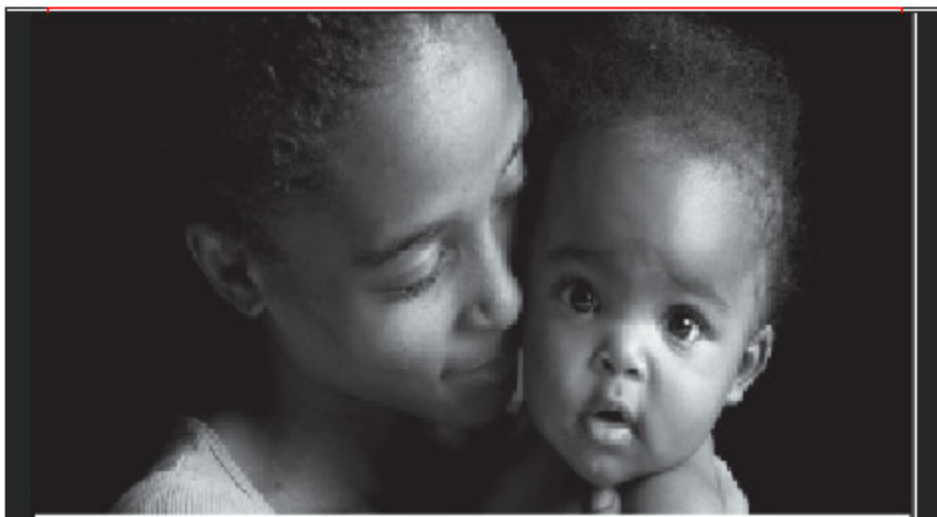
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Texas House passes budget bill with deep cuts

By IMANI EVANS

A Look Back

Continued from pg. 7

In a vote that sharply reflects the deep ideological fissure within the state, the Committee Substitute for House Bill 1 (CSHB 1), the general appropriations bill that sets the budget for the state, passed the Texas House of Representatives Sunday by a vote of 98-49. The bill cuts tens of billions from public and higher education, health and human services, and public safety programs, while keeping the state Rainy Day Fund mostly intact



stood the message that the voters are sending when they say 'less government, more efficiency,'" said Rep. Helen Giddings. "They do mean that. But then you have to go further and ask them the specific question, 'Do you want to see cuts in education?' And the answer to that, overwhelmingly, is 'no'. 'Do you want to see cuts in assistance to

nursing homes?' The answer is 'absolutely no'. So we have to be sure we understand the message the voters are sending us." It has been no small challenge for Democrats to broaden the budget discussion to include corporate tax exemptions passed by previous legislatures. But many, such as Rep. Mike Villarreal (D-San Antonio) feel that it is time for those who backed such legislation to come forward and publicly defend their choices in light of the current crisis. "We need more transparency, we need a systematic review of all tax expenditures," Villarreal said. "Similar to the way we scrub our budget, we need to be evaluating tax loopholes that leak billions of dollars from our state coffers and treat one taxpayer differently than another." The Texas Legislative Study Group, in a report submitted last Sunday during the third day of floor debate, offers this grim assessment: "In the wake of a recession, this budget will years, 44 percent of which are

deliver an economic blow that costs Texas over 335,000 jobs over the course of the next two private sector jobs." "Voters don't want waste, and neither do I," Rep. Giddings said. "But I also want to make sure that we take care of our elderly, and we make sure that there are opportunities there for young people that want to go to college, and who don't have to take out loans in such amounts that they will be indebted for many years to come."

"The thing I always call people's attention to is that there are a lot of people in this House who are still campaigning, rather than governing," said Rep. Harold Dutton (D-Houston). "When the campaigns end and the election's over and the winners have been decided, it's my observation that people ought to come together and do what's best for Texas. What's happening here is that people are trying to do what's best for party." Implicit within these remarks may be the harshest charge of all: that within Republican circles there is a strain of thought that practically hopes for fiscal crises to occur, to ease the path for budget cuts that serve to shrink the size of government according to conservative designs. Texas Republicans, of course, deny that they have any designs other than obeying the Texas Constitution and adhering to the popular sentiment that less government is better. "This budget reflects the economic realities facing our state, and it only spends available revenue," said the bill's sponsor, Rep. Jim Pitts (D-Waxahachie) in a statement. "This bill, combined with the votes we took yesterday on HB 4 and HB 275, fulfills our constitutional responsibility to have a balanced budget."

even though many times, the odds were not in his favor. Then tragically on April 4, 1968 in Memphis, Tennessee, the dreamer's life was cut short by an assassin's bullet to the head. He was killed, but his dream lives on in the hearts and minds of all people with the courage to raise their voices in protest against evil and those who continue an unwavering commitment to help all enjoy full participation in our society regardless of their race, creed, or color. And finally, I thank God for sending Martin Luther King Jr. our way. To the Groves family, I extend my most profound gratitude for the space and opportunity to reflect on the life of a great man, a portion of our turbulent history as a people, and my own personal journey through life.

Labor

The desires of lazy people will be their ruin, for their hands refuse to work.

-Proverbs 21:25

Hard workers have plenty of food; playing around brings poverty.

-Proverbs 28:19

If you are too lazy to plow in the right season, you will have no food at the harvest.

-Proverbs 20:4

It is good for workers to have an appetite; an empty stomach drives them on.

-Proverbs 16:26

NAACP Report Ties State Spending on Prisons to Low Education Achievement



Ben Jealous NAACP National President

Conservative leaders, prison guard union, education and business experts join bipartisan call to reduce incarceration. Multi-city billboard campaign will kick off federal, state and local efforts to reform criminal justice policy and influence state budgets. State and city data available in report.

(Washington, DC) – On Thursday, April 7th, the NAACP will announce an upcoming report that examines escalating levels of prison spending and its im-

act on state budgets and our nation's children. "Misplaced Priorities: Under Educate, Over Incarcerate" uncovers a disturbing connection between high incarceration rates and poorly performing schools.

Misplaced Priorities tracks the steady shift of state funds away from education and toward the criminal justice system. For instance, in Houston, Los Angeles and Philadelphia, more than 65 percent of the lowest-performing schools are in neighborhoods with the highest rates of incarceration. Researchers found that over-incarceration most impacts vulnerable, often minority populations, and that it destabilizes communities.

The report offers recommendations that would help policymakers downsize prison populations and shift the savings to education budgets. The effort is part of the NAACP's "Smart

and Safe" campaign, an initiative designed to reform the nation's criminal justice system.

The April 7 press conference will feature representatives of law enforcement and a growing bipartisan coalition calling on state lawmakers to rethink decades-old criminal justice policies. In addition to NAACP President and CEO Benjamin Todd Jealous, speakers will include:

- Rod Paige, former Secretary of Education under President George W. Bush;
- Grover Norquist, President of Americans for Tax Reform;
- Mitchell Kapur, entrepreneur, philanthropist and founder of Lotus Development Corporation;
- Mike Jimenez, a member of the executive committee of Corrections USA, which represents 80,000 corrections officers nationwide, as well as President of the California Correctional Peace Officers Association;
- Pat Nolan, President of Prison Fellowship;
- Lindsay McCluskey, Presi-

dent of the United States Student Association.
- Laura Murphy, ACLU Director
- Washington Legislative Office
- David Gelbaum, CEO of En-tech Solar, entrepreneur and philanthropist
"We need to be 'smart on crime' rather than 'tough on crime' and address soaring incarceration rates in this country," stated Jealous. "Failing schools, college tuition hikes and shrinking state education budgets are narrowing the promise of education for young people all across the country. Meanwhile, allocations for our incarceration system continue to increase, sending our youth the wrong message about their future."

A billboard campaign will accompany the report's release. It will be displayed in airports around the United States, including Houston, Los Angeles and Philadelphia. The ads will feature jarring statistics about our nation's criminal justice system. One message will read: "Welcome to America, home to 5% of the world's people and 25% of the world's prisoners. There is a better way."



Mr. James I. Perkins, Citizens 1st Bank President, received one of the greatest honors that can be bestowed upon an individual. January 29, 2008 the Stephen F. Austin College of Education was named the James I. Perkins College of Education in his honor. Seated here, Mr. Perkins and Indianapolis Colt, Cody Glenn, also former Citizens 1st Bank employee; Andrew Melontree of the Tyler Bank and Walter Session, Rusk City Councilman. They are viewing a thank you card to Mr. Perkins from Rusk State Hospital Employees and Superintendent Ted Debs for support given to RSH. The card is signed by each employee and has been framed and placed on display in the bank. RSH provides about 936 jobs to East Texas.

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A Look Back on the Road to Progress and Peace in America

~ James Mccullough

In recognition of the April 5th Anniversary death of Dr. Martin King Jr., I would like to share some of the personal reflections on those turbulent times in our nation's history. As a combat military policeman, I was among the 25,000 soldiers sent to the University of Mississippi in 1962 to help quell the violence on the campus precipitated by the enrollment of James Meredith, a native Mississippian and Air Force Veteran. The violence which ensued caused hundreds of injuries to both soldiers and civilians. It is estimated that as many as 11 persons were killed or died as a result of the conflict in the three days of rioting. My unit spent 41 days on the "Ole Miss" campus guarding the classrooms in which Meredith was in attendance, and the dormitory in which he was housed. As a young soldier, I found the experience to be both shocking and revealing. Again, a couple of years later, I was exposed to violence as a young soldier sent to serve in Vietnam. After Vietnam, I was

discharged. My goal was to enter Texas Southern University to pursue a degree in what I perceived to be a peaceful and harmonious environment, however this proved to be an illusion which was quickly shattered. The civil rights conflict was in full bloom across America and much of the unrest had spread to black colleges and universities across America. Much of this unrest was due to a call to arms by Dr. King to help remake America an America for all people instead of just a privileged few. At Texas Southern University, marches and protests ensued on almost a weekly basis which many times involved law enforcement agencies that often went to great lengths to quell or stifle the protests - often through violent beatings and jailing. By this time, I was beginning to internalize the feeling that I had traded one war zone for another. A few years earlier, Dr. King had stood on the grounds of the U.S. Capitol and proclaimed to the world his now famous "I Have a Dream" speech.

This set the tone for what he saw as a mission to liberate blacks and others from the yoke of oppression. In attempting to do so, his nonviolent movement triggered a violent reaction from those intent on maintaining the status quo. Many deaths and much destruction occurred which severely impacted the lives of many people of different races. Dr. King and others of the civil rights war labored

on in spite of the overwhelming odds arrayed against them. They did so partly due to a feeling that much of the racial hatred and violence manifested by some white Americans was not indicative of all white Americans, including those who one day would rise up to work in tandem with blacks and other citizens of color to combat crimes and evil of an oppressive society. This feeling gave him the continued strength to persevere,

Continued on pg. 5

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~Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



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Mt. Pleasant Church celebrates 123 years



on land donated by the late Irvin C. Conley and wife Inez Reeder Conley who is presently the second oldest living member of the church and the church Mother. Cecil Frazier, age 102, is the oldest living member.

Services are held the second and fourth Sunday of each month. Breakfast is served at 9:30 AM. Sunday School begins at 10:00AM and worship service at 11:00AM.

the Summer Lunch Program begins Monday, July 11, 2011.

RHS seniors enjoy prom



L -R standing- Ginger Marshall, Lula Perry, Lissett Bennett, H. R. Waggoner, Floyd Franklin, Maddison fields, Zoe' Fields, Vanessa Boyd, Kamaal Mahummed, Walter Session. Sitting L -R Mary Session, Maxine Session, Elizabeth Rivers, Sarai Johnson, Rev. Greenie Phillips, Pastor.

Some of the students from the RHS 2011 Senior class pose for a final picture before heading out to prom. Among some of the students are: Randall Upshaw, Paytn Woody, Hayley Dyke, Camisha Hunter, Priscilla Hernandez, Amanda Session, Shawanda Session, Maddie Wallace, Morgan Ford, Kendrieka Hart, Victor Simmons, and Michael Nickle.

Founded March 10, 1888, Mt. Pleasant Church Rusk, Texas celebrated the 123rd church anniversary on Sunday March 24, 2011. The church was first located one-half mile north of downtown Rusk at the present site of Brookshire Brothers grocery store. In 1952 the church was torn down and rebuilt at it's present location, 138 Reeder Street

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Rusk ISD Board Upholds Administrative Decision in Parent Complaint Filed October 2010



Holcomb



Roy Cavozos



Tracy Session



Francis Long



Dana Young



Britt Patterson



Rodney Huggins

Rusk, TX.- In an April 7th Special called meeting, members of the Rusk Independent School District Board of Trustees un-
 anomously upheld administrative decisions reached in a Level I and Level II parent complaint filed with the district. Michael

Felicia Session, parents of a graduating senior and tenth grader, filed the complaints with the district against four employees. Copies of the complaint stated they had been falsely accused of causing trouble at a girls volleyball game. Named were Scott Schwartz, RHS Principal, Coach Cheryl Parsley, Ashley McElroy and Coach Wilbanks, following their ousting by Mr. Schwartz and a Rusk police officer from a varsity girls volleyball game on October 1, 2011. According to complaint documents, it was not explained to the Sessions on that night why they were told to leave the coliseum, but told it would be explained in a conference the following Monday.

On Monday they were told the no investigation had been conducted and they would be notified when a meeting date was set. When they were able to meet with Mr. Schwartz the following Thursday, October 7th, they were told someone may have used the "B" word and were presented a contract to sign. When they refused to sign the contract, they were told by Mr. Schwartz they were banned indefinitely from all extra-curricular contests that involved Rusk ISD students.

Mrs. Session was actively involved with Project Graduation, and was working the concession that night, which is not a direct school activity but was ousted from duties there when a school official called the president of that project and told her not to involve Mrs. Session in duties with the project. They went from Mr. Schwartz's

office to Dr. Largent's office on October 7th. The conversation was basically the same. He told them he agreed with Mr. Schwartz and added that they could not attend RISD activities held at out of town schools. If so, the police would be notified.

Mr. & Mrs. Session filed the Level I Parent Complaint October 14, 2011. The three-hour long hearing was held November 3, 2011 at RISD Central Office with Mr. Schwartz presiding. In conflicting written statements from coaching staff and students, both Mr. and Mrs. Session were accused of using the "B----" word and she the word "trash".

In a letter dated November 10th, Mr. Schwartz notified the Sessions that he concluded RHS Administration had been fair and upheld the consequence of them not being able to attend any further extra-curricular activities at RISD.

A Level II Complaint was filed November 18th and a Level II hearing was held at RISD December 14th at Central Office With Dr. Largent Chairing and the school attorney sitting in on the meeting.

Again the decision was to uphold the level I decision.

The special called April 7th meeting brought about thirty people to the parking lot (meeting was closed) in support of Mr. and Mrs. Session. The parents were represented by Attorney Kimberly Clark.

A motion was called which would have allowed the parents to regain the right to attend extra-curricular activities.

Prior decisions made by administrators were upheld as no motion was made.

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House approves Slocum Massacre Resolution

A new day
continued from pg. 16

AUSTIN - As the first order of legislative business this morning, 96-year-old Myrt Hollie was wheeled into the Texas House chamber and seated next to Speaker Joe Straus, who happily shook Hollie's hand. Hollie's sons and granddaughters stood to his rear.

Then they listened as House members unanimously approved a resolution that formally acknowledged a forgotten racial atrocity, one that has haunted the Fort Worth resident and his family for more than a century.

In 1910, mobs of East Texas whites killed at least eight African Americans. One of Hollie's uncles was among the dead, another was badly wounded, and ancestors were forced to abandon their property near the small village of Slocum, located 150 miles southeast of Fort Worth.

For decades, Myrt Hollie and his family have sought to restore the atrocity to its proper place in history. For them, Wednesday morning at the Capitol had a dreamlike quality.

"I was overwhelmed with joy," Hollie said later as he sat in the office of State Rep. Marc Veasey, D-Fort Worth, who sponsored the resolution. "I didn't think this day would ever come. I didn't ever dream that I'd see the change the way we have. I didn't think I would live that long."

Veasey began preparing the resolution after learning about the slaughter in a Star-Telegram article in February. On Wednesday, he was joined at the front of the House chamber by Reps. Chuck Hopson and Byron Cook, both Republicans who represent areas in East Texas where the massacre took place.

So many members, Republican and Democrat, came up to me afterward and thanked me for doing that," Veasey said later.

"They said, 'I've never heard of that. I didn't know that happened.' I thought it was a great day for the House, a great day for Texas, and more importantly for that family."

The House resolution called the Slocum massacre "a horrific incident and one that is deserving of attention and discussion."

"Only by shining a light on previous injustices can we learn from them and move forward toward a future of greater healing and reconciliation," the resolution said.

It also summarized events as they are known to have occurred in the summer of 1910, when racial hatreds were ignited in and around Slocum, and mobs of whites took up arms against their African American neighbors. The dead were later found to be unarmed and most had been shot in the back.

"They hunted the Negroes down like sheep," Sheriff W.H. Black, a white from nearby Palestine, said at the time.

Seven white men were indicted for murder by a grand jury in Palestine, and their cases were transferred to Houston. But none of the accused men were ever brought to trial. Years later, the presiding judge suggested in his memoirs that prosecutors did not want to spend money necessary to prosecute whites for killing blacks.

At the time, the Slocum incident was reported in newspapers around the nation. Historians now say it was one of the worst racial atrocities of its kind in the post-Civil War era. But in the decades since, except for family stories passed down through generations, it has been largely forgotten.

"Despite the notoriety of the massacre, it has faded from history, and no one knows why," Veasey said in House remarks before the resolution passed. "Mr. Hollie, we thank you and your family for your

persistence. You kept digging. You kept looking for the facts. You kept searching for justice." Veasey said Wednesday that he would help the Hollies investigate why the Slocum defendants were never prosecuted. Family members said yesterday they will also continue to attempt to determine what became of the family property.

"This isn't the end. This is just the beginning," said Constance Hollie-Ramirez, Myrt Hollie's granddaughter.

But for the family and House members who greeted them Wednesday, the moment seemed healing. About 20 members of the Hollie family lingered in the Capitol Wednesday, taking dozens of happy photographs.

"They at least were able to see that an official body of government acknowledged that what happened was bad and it was wrong," Veasey said.

After the resolution passed, Myrt Hollie was asked about his old pain that has lingered from the tragedy.

"It's gone now," he said. "With this exercise, other people know about it.

years with The North Texas Job Corps Human Relations Committee. Kelly has won numerous awards for her dedication and service to her community and surrounding areas. In 1995, God gave Kelly a new career, The Power Pages News, and a profession that has brought great joy into her life and the lives of many others. Kelly accepted Christ at an early age and accepted her call into the ministry in 2001. She attended Servant Hood Ministries and upon graduation was ordained a licensed minister of the gospel. Kelly serves at the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church in Farmersville, under the leadership of Pastor Paul Mack Sr., and is president and CEO of H.K. Ministries. Kelly is the proud grandmother of eight and great-grandmother of nine. "Like Fannie Lou Hamer, Minister Hattie Kelly is our 'shero,' serving the community with a spirit of grace and dignity," stated Betty Veasey, president of National Hook-up of Black Women North Central Texas. At the Hilton Garden Inn in

Juneteenth Parade and Celebration

Saturday June 18, 2011

Parade beginning 11:00 A.M

**Downtown Rusk in the Austin Bank Parking
Lot**

Celebration Speaker: Mrs. Essie Hart
**Refreshments will be served following the
celebration.**

Contact Number for Information: (903)-721-3112

Crockett Area Chamber Unveils State African American Brochure "A Lasting Legacy" African Americans in Texas



Crockett Citizens pose near brochure.



Display of Houston County's Hopewell Community History



Willia Wooten sings a medley of gospel songs .



Mark Wolf speaks after unveiling African Americans in Texas.



County Attorney Session attends unveiling and poses for Picture.

Unveiling of the State of Texas African Americans in Texas: A Lasting Legacy was held March 26th at the Crockett Civic Center. The event was sponsored by the Crockett Chamber of Commerce. Jeana Culp, President Crockett Area Chamber gave extended a warm welcome to the excited crowd in attendance. Present and participating were Houston County Historical Commission Vice Chair Barbara Wooten, Texas Historical Commission Executive Director Mark Wolfe, who unveiled the Brochure, Rev. Hosea Delphos Pastor of Greater St. Paul Baptist Church, Texas Forest Trail Board of Director Barbara Parmley and Willia Wooten who sang a medley of spiritual songs, Vivian Gant, local poet did poetry.

reading and Pipp & Gary Gillette provided Blues music. The sites featured in this educational travel guide are organized according to the 10 heritage regions in the Texas Historical Commission's nationally award winning tourism initiative, the Texas Heritage trails Program. It includes such historic sites as the Historic Zion Hill District of Nacogdoches and the Buard History Trail which is a driving tour overview of Marshall's history and includes important African American sites such as Wiley College, New Town and the Old Powder Mill Cemetery. A copy of the brochure can be picked up at the Crockett Chamber of Commerce.

Chili Cookoff with beer VS Civil War Cannons and Confederate Memorabilia



Ask A. J.?

What do you think?

A. J. Rhodes

In the march "Letters to the editor", the writer asked, "Wouldn't a chili cookoff with beer be more family friendly than reenactors of the Civil War (Confederate) blasting cannons and selling Confederate memorabilia?"

You ask and I'll give you the answer from my point of view. Yes it would. Given the history of past events in Cherokee County and present day, the undue influence from the Confederate Flag philosophy and all associated with it is very much present. African Americans know it as a symbol of deep racism. Black people pay taxes and vote, yet if you look at employees paid with tax dollars, you'll see black

families being hurt economically, because they are locked out of employment there. Look at the pictures and paintings from the basement to the second floor. How many are African Americans? You might say, What does this have to do with the Confederate Flag? I repeat, Influence of the beliefs of people who support that flag is still felt in this county just as it was in the forties, fifties, and sixties. The ancestors of some of those same people were involved with the Ku Klux Klan that met in the upstairs of a downtown Rusk building just to the east of the courthouse. Just like now, with the cannons and talk about the revolutionary war and succession, both black and white people fear that, but feel powerless to do anything about it.

Locally, the truth is written out of much of the county history. Contributions made by black people to this county have been totally ignored. Nobody

writes or talks about the horrific and inhumane treatment black people received. Black families have passed it down in stories told from one generation to the next. The hangings of innocent people because their skin was black, and working them with no pay. If you were black you were subject to be spat upon just for walking the streets. The jail was located on the third floor and as you walked or drove through downtown, it was common to hear the screams of black people being beaten by the sheriff, the deputies, the bondsman or anyone else who had a bone to pick with them.

How do you keep the past from repeating itself? Know the true history of what really happened in the past.

The answer to the problems we face today is not war, blasting cannons and

preaching racial hatred, but peace and love.

I agree whole heartedly with you, a chilli cookoff and beer would be much more family friendly.

Dignity

Dignity is the ability to stand strong and tall in the face of adversity while being able to bow to the elderly and crawl with the children.

Dignity is taking a stand for your beliefs without closing your mind to another's opinion.

Dignity is being an example by your deeds and through your words avoiding gossip, anger, and lies.


Dignity will manifest itself in the warmth of your smile, the depth of your love, and the kindness of your fellowman.

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Please Vote for Bruce Bradley Rusk ISD Trustee



- * Fair
- * Honest
- * Dependable
- * Visible in the schools
- * Concern for all children

Election day Saturday May 14, 2011

Delmar/ Holly Springs Community Pride Day Set

Rusk, TX.- Family friends and loved ones connected in any way to the Delmar/Holly Springs cemetery and communities and churches are invited to take the opportunity to participate in the second annual Community Pride Day. This day is set annually to cleanup, reset headstones, identify markers and remove brush and debris.

Volunteers are asked to come

out and join in this very worthwhile project beginning about 9:00 A.M. on Saturday, April 23, 2011.

You are asked to bring your own tools. Water and soft drinks will be provided. You may contact committee members H. R. Waggoner 903-795-3274, Sarai Johnson 903 683-4747, Sandra Carter 903 283-8433 or Alice Matthews 903 795-3866.

Emerson Griffin relected VFD Commander



Veterans of Foreign Wars recently re-elected Emerson Griffin as Post Commander of American Legion post #293. The next activity will be the Memorial Day Veterans Program 10:00AM May 30, 2011 North side of the Cherokee County Courthouse. The number to call for rental of the building is 936 858-2142.

Jimmy Turner Celebrates 60th birthday



Jimmy and wife essie Turner

Jimmy Turner celebrated his 60th birthday with family and friends on March 19th at Woodmen of the World. The elaborate birthday party was hosted by his daughter Shell and sons Lamont and Jimmy.

What's Cook'n Tasty Chick- en Salad

8 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves, cooked into chunks
2 cups coarsely chopped walnuts
1 small red onion, diced
1 cup Miracle Whip salad dressing
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon ground red pepper
1 can (11 ounces) Mandarin orange segments, drained

Mix chicken, walnuts, onion, salad dressing, salt and pepper in large bowl; cover.

Refrigerate at least 1 hour or until ready to serve. Stir in additional salad dressing, if desired. Garnish with orange segments.

Makes 8 servings.

Greens Galore

6 cups water
1 1/2 pounds smoked ham hocks
3 pounds assorted greens (collard, mustard and/or turnip), washed, stems removed and cut into pieces
1 teaspoon sugar
1 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper

Bring water and ham hocks to boil in large saucepot. Reduce heat to low; cover and simmer 1 1/2 hours or until ham is very tender. Remove ham; cool slightly. Remove ham from bones. Return to pot; discard bones.

Add greens, sugar, salt and pepper. Cook on medium heat, stirring and pushing greens down frequently, 30 to 35 minutes or until greens are tender.

Makes 10 servings.

Discipline

For a servant, mere words are not enough - discipline is needed. For the words may be understood but they are not heeded.

-Proverbs 29:19

To discipline and reprimand a child produces wisdom, but a mother is disgraced by an undisciplined child.

-Proverbs 29:15

If you love your children, you will be prompt to discipline them.

-Proverbs 13:24



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Contact: Sharon Sims
Sunday School 10:00AM
Morning Ser. 11:00AM

Wednes. Bible Study 7PM

We Exist to lift up the name of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ and to bring souls to Him. We share the gospel of Christ and help meet the spiritual and financial needs of the community.



Woodville CME

FM 343
Rusk, Texas

Ph:(903) 683-6214
Sunday School 9:45
Sunday Worship 11:00

Pastor: Betty Smith Rogers

MOUNT PLEASANT CME Church
"Letting His Light Shine"

FOUNDED March 1888

138 Reeder St.
Rusk, Texas 75785



Rev. Greenie Phillips, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45AM
Sunday Worship Service
11:00 AM

2nd & 4th Sunday Service
Contact: (903) 683-3441 or Fax:
903-683-1041

P. O. Box 942 - Rusk, Texas 75785

Mt. Olive Community Church

911 Egbert Street
Rusk, TX. 75785

Rev. Mertis Bartley, Pastor
& wife

Evangelist Stella Bartley
Co-Pastor

Contact: Sis. Sandra Carter

Ph: (903) 683-2100

Sunday School 9:45AM - Worship: 11:00AM
Bible Study - Wednesday 6:00PM



Wells Chapel
Missionary
Baptist Church
Wells, Texas

Pastor:

Daryl Cranford
& Wife

(936) 867-4522



County Line Baptist Church

CR #3
Douglass, Texas

Sunday School 10:00AM
Sunday Worship 11:00AM

Rev. Julius Session, Pastor
Sis. Gladys McCloud, Sec.

Cherokee Brotherhood Association

Meeting time: 4th Monday night in each month. 6:00 PM

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Rusk, Texas 75785

Members:

Travis Session Sam O'Neal Tracy Session
Frenchie Hendrson Walter Session Phal Carter
Jerry Leviston Floyd Franklin Michael Session
Jerry Hart John Griffith Melvin Session
Oliver Sturns - Pres.

New Beginning Church of the Living God

Highway 175 West
Frankson, Tx. 75763

Sweet Union Baptist Church

302 North Main Street
Jacksonville, Texas
903-586-4578

Sunday School:
9:45a-10:45a

MorningWorship: 11:00AM

Wednesday Night Bible Study/Prayer Meeting:
6:00pm

Pastor, Rev. Williams "Come Worship with us at Sweet Union"



Woodville CME Church

FM 343E
Rusk, TX. 75785

10:00AM Sunday School

11:00AM Sunday Worship

Pastor: Minister Betty Smith Rogers

Celebrating 119 years
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Pennell Chapel CME Church

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Worship 11:00AM

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It's A New Day

Minister honored for lifetime achievement



Hattie Kelly

Kelly, much like Hamer, has had a life that defies much of what should have been accomplished by one woman from the South. Kelly was born and raised in Josephine, Texas. She is the daughter of Isaiah and Luveter Clark and the 13th child of 15 siblings. At the tender age of 15 she found herself married, and by the time she was 20 years older she found herself the mother of five children. At the age of 6, she began picking cotton to help the family. She said, "By the time I was 13, I was picking 200-300 pounds." Hamer only attended school after the harvest, which wasn't for very long. "My parents tried so hard to do what they could to keep us in school, but school - for Black children - didn't last but four months out of the year, and most of the time we didn't have clothes to wear. I dropped out of school and cut cornstalks to help the family." She dropped out after the sixth grade. Even though she did not obtain a formal education, she became a dynamic speaker and civil rights worker. Kelly, after her children were in school, decided to go back and get her GED. In 1971, she attended Cosmetology School and went on to become a cosmetology instructor. She worked as a cosmetologist until a serious illness caused her to give

up that career. She is featured in "Who's Who Among American Business Women" and was invited to the State Capitol for tea with then Governor Ann Richards. Hers was the first Black-owned and -operated business in Farmersville. Hamer was also a catalyst in the development of various programs to aid the poor in her community, including the Delta Ministry, an extensive community development program, and the Freedom Farms Corporation in 1969, a non-profit operation designed to help needy families raise food and livestock, provide social services, encourage minority

business opportunities, and offer educational assistance. And from 1974 to 1977 she was a member of the board of trustees of the Martin Luther King Center for Nonviolent Social Change. Kelly also became very involved in her community and started the Farmersville NAACP. She became so tired of racism in her city, she decided to do something about it and, as a result of her actions, two restaurants were closed for failing to abide by the law allowing Blacks to come in through the front door. She worked with the Farmersville Human Relations Committees and she served several

Continued pg.

Bradley Runs for Rusk ISD Board Position



Bruce Bradley has filed for a seat on the Rusk Independent School District Board of Trustees. The lifelong Cherokee County resident is a 1984 Rusk High School Graduate. He and his wife Sheila have three daughters; Alisha a gradu-

ate of Rusk High School, Delesa an eleventh grader and Joy, a fifth grader now attending in the district. They also have a grandson Ayden. Bruce is a 23 year employee of the state of Texas. He began his career with the state as a temporary Summer Worker and later became full-time where he worked eleven years. After receiving a Bachelor Degree in Safety from the University of Texas at Tyler, he attended the Department of Public Safety Academy and received his Peace Officers Certification and was commissioned by the state. His first assignment as a State Trooper was in Athens Texas. He later transferred home to Cherokee County where he has served as State Trooper for the past twelve years. Bruce is the son of Willie and Melba Bradley.

Bradley Says, "I attended RISD, I am a lifelong citizen of the county, and I have children who are students in the district. This uniquely qualifies me to help steer Rusk Schools in the right direction in these difficult

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