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Sixty Years After Brown v. Board of Education

Sixty years ago, Brown v. Board of Education ended legalized racial segregation in our schools, but the significance of the case extended far beyond the classroom. It was the resounding victory of equality and multiculturalism over disenfranchisement and white hegemony that was felt across the country, from the lunch counter to the ballot box. The momentum from Brown led to the passage of critical legislation: the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Today, however, the very states whose segregated schools, poll taxes, and Jim Crow laws necessitated federal intervention in Brown are once again limiting the educational opportunities for people of color. Rather than explicitly refusing to admit students of color into school, these states have found new, more clandestine ways to marginalize people of color. In this new segregated system, states disadvantage students of color by providing fewer resources to schools serving the highest concentrations of students who need them the most. By perpetuating this inequitable system and rejecting powerful and effective

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Juneteenth Celebration Scheduled

The Cherokee County Juneteenth Parade and celebration has been scheduled for Saturday, June fourteenth at 11:00a.m. Lineup begins at 10:45 behind Austin Bank. The celebration continues at Mount Pleasant CME Church with Daphne Session, Houston County Attorney, Crockett, Texas and Ralph Carter, U. S. Postal Services Houston, Texas as speakers. The public is invited to participate.

Sam O'Neal Keeping Fit



See story page 3

EDITORIAL

Greatness takes time

Maxine Session



tell about the struggles we faced in getting that degree, finding that just right job and earning what we felt to be that great salary. But, every struggle was worth every benefit we are now reaping.

The natural order is to climb the ladder one step at a time beginning with step one. Starting at the top?... Well, just think about it.

Congratulations to all of the 2014 high school and college graduates. You are about to embark upon a new season of your life. Make the most of it and enjoy! When the struggles come, be patient. You are destined to be great, but greatness takes time!

A five year old girl, returning home from the funeral of her grandmother rode in the car with her other grandmother. "Where did Grandma go?" she asked. "We believe she went to be with God," the grandmother answered. How old was she? "Eighty", she replied. "How old are you?" "I am eighty-three" The child thought a bit then said, "I hope God hasn't forgotten you."

Affordable Care Helps family

Letters to the Editor

Letter to the Editor.

At the close of this year's sign up period for the Affordable Care Act, I want to write in support of the law and about how my own family benefited. We have gone from a monthly insurance bill of \$1359 to \$693.

Due to a pre-existing medical condition we have been locked in to paying an ever rising premium, no thanks to the uninsured who drive up our premiums and medical costs. After Thanksgiving, we went onto the Marketplace at healthcare.gov, got phone assistance and signed up for a new health insurance policy at a much lower price.

Once we established we would not require a supplement, we were given a list of seventeen plans, all Texas Blue Cross Blue Shield. We selected a Gold level plan at \$693 a month. That represents a huge saving for our family. We still see our same excellent doctor. Of course, we could have just called the insurance company directly since the Affordable Care Act prevents them from denying us due to any pre-existing medical conditions. You can call an insurance company too, or see if you qualify for a financial supplement at healthcare.gov.

All the political misinformation has denied our community much needed care and coverage. We're lucky. We took advantage of the new protections in the law and saved a lot of money in the process. That is a lesson for all the nay sayers to take to heart.

Joanna Reagan Bullard

When high school ends next month, the doors will open to spill out many graduates seeking to find their fortune. It is sometimes difficult to convince young people to be patient when it comes to getting that dream job, earning that great salary, performing those extraordinary feats that are classed as great.

Those of us who have been there and done that know that preparation must come first in the form of job experience, college, technical school, vocational school and the list goes on, but it does not come instantly and most of the time, not with the first job.

Those of us who are set in our careers or who have completed the job and are now retired, have a story to



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Letters to the Editor Policy

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please send to P. O. Box 332, Rusk, Texas or informersnews08@aol.com. Letters must include name of the sender. We reserve the right to edit content and to accept or reject letters.

Sam O'Neal keeping fit and inspiring others to do the same

by Maxine Session

Samuel O'Neal could be labeled, fitness guru. Since retiring from TDCJ a few months ago, each day for him begins at 5:30 a.m. in the ETMC Olympic Center Rusk. He is there to open the doors and get ready for a day of adjusting fitness machines and assisting those new to the fitness gym by teaching them how to use the machines. As a fitness technician, he demonstrates the machines at the gym but still puts in a five to six mile run most days.

Fitness has just always been a part of Sam's life style. He went from being active in high school to being active in the Marine Reserves six years, then the Army National Guard two years.

Born in Shreveport, Louisiana, and raised in Bossier City, Sam graduated Airline High School in 1982. He joined the Marines Reserve and migrated to East Texas, making Jacksonville his home.

incarcerated in the prison. They come with so much baggage. They've been involved with gangs, drugs, and they seem to have no understanding of the joys and balance that life should offer. In other words, they seem to have no understanding of or conscience about what is right and what is wrong.

they seem to have no understanding of the joys and balance that life should offer.

They come with all this stuff that has put them behind bars and caused problems in the lives of others. Some you can talk to and make a difference with them. Others just seem to be lost.

One solution to this problem is for parents to take control of their children

There has been nobody in their lives to show them the right way.

Many of them have had no parental guidance or support. One solution to this problem is for parents to take control of their children at a very young age...before elementary school, and show them the difference between right and wrong. Let them see it and live it everyday. Children look up to their parents. Parents must teach values. Turn off the television and spend time with your children. Talk to them and don't be afraid to let them know you have made mistakes. Don't put it on the schools to teach your children values. A big mistake that a lot of parents of



Le'Asha, Wyvonne and Armistia

didn't bother to send them. When I was coming up, my parents kept us in church. It was not my decision to make. It was just understood that on Sunday, you go to church. I have a four year old grandson Ja'Havon, who shadows me. When I go out to work in the yard, he is right beside me. When I walk or run for exercise, he is right beside me. When I carry out my duties at church, he is walking and standing near me soaking it all in.

When parents wait until a child is in junior high to start teaching values and disciplining to enforce them, most of the time it is too late.

Sam is an ordained Deacon at Mount Olive Community Church, Sunday School Teacher, member of the choir and he does odd jobs around the church such as cleaning and making sure the facilities and everything are in working order.

Sam is serious about not only his health and staying fit, but his faith and family.

Once each month he travels home to shreveport to check on his Dad, Robert O'Neal and attend church with him. He says what kept him on the straight and narrow is God, the faith his parents raised him with, and his parents. He and Wyvonne have been there for their children. Armistia is an LVN now attending RN School and Le'Asha will soon graduate college with a degree in Fashion and Merchandising. He is the son-in-law of Charles and Gennell Hicks of Rusk.



the greatest challenge...dealing with young black males incarcerated

He began working at The Texas Department of Corrections in 1989. Soon after that he met and married Wyvonne Session and made Rusk his home.

June 30, 2013 Sam retired from Texas Department of Corrections after putting in twenty-four years and ten months.

"My schedule is just busy enough", He says. His life revolves around his family, his church and community involvement with the Cherokee Christian Brotherhood organization and as much as he can on his own. Sam says the greatest challenge he faced in the twenty-four years he worked at TDC was seeing and dealing with the many young black males who were

OBITUARIES

Missionary Eurilene Sturns

Services were held for Missionary Eurilene Sturns, March 29, 2014 at Rusk First Baptist Church with Supt. Donnie Timmons officiating. She was born July 12, 1944 to the parents of R. C. Carey Sr. and Darcus Samson. She received her education at Carver High School Pamper, Texas where she participated in basketball and track.

Missionary Sturns started out as a dish washer and later became a custodial worker. She was employed at the Damon and Ramon Plant Farm in Reklaw, Texas. In 1977 she was hired at Oak Park Nursing Home. She was a dedicated worker who took pride in her job. She was known and well-liked by the people she cared for and their families. Eurilene was employed at Oak Park for 29 years and was never late. She retired from there in March of 2006.

United in holy matrimony to Oliver Raymond Sturns, they became parents of fifteen children. Missionary Eurilene Sturns united with Fairview Baptist Church when she was a child. In 1973 she became a member of Shady Grove Church of God in Christ. In 1994 she became

a licensed Missionary under the leadership of Supt. Donnie Timmons and Bishop David R. Houston. She was church mother and remained a faithful member until her passing.

She departed this life March 24, 2014 at the Hospice of East Texas Center Tyler, Texas. She is preceded in death by her father, one brother R. C. Carey Jr., three children Debbie Lewis, Charles and Eddie Sturns, one grandchild Tyrell Sturns and two great-grandchildren Darrion Sheppard, Jr. and Nykashia Polk.

Missionary Eurilene Sturns leaves to cherish her memory, a husband, Oliver Ramond Sturns, four sons: Darel (Nell) Sturns, Oliver (Sonya) Sturns of Rusk; Minister Michael Sturns of Lufkin, Patrick (Jonnie) Sturns, Sacul; eight daughters: Joy Nell (John) Cook, Marion (Lyndon) Thompson, Sharonda (Chris) Sturns, all of Rusk; Doris (Charles) Cross, Martha (Pastor Joe) Robinson, all of Jacksonville, Deloris Miller, Angela Boykins both of Tyler, Vickie (Harry) Myers of Lufkin. Mother Darcus Samson, one Brother, Arthur Ray Samson, Dayton Ohio. fifty-two grandchildren, fifty-one great-grandchildren, two great-great grand children, five aunts, a host of neices, nephews and other relatives and friends. Mercy McGowan Funeral Home in charge.

Mr. Willie Lee Glenn

Willie Lee Glenn was born on July 29, 1945 to the parents of Lonzo and Beatrice King Glenn and Clotilda Henderson in Rusk, Texas. He graduated from G. W. Bradford High School and joined the United States Army to serve his country.

He married the love of his life, Dovie Ann Simmons Glenn on July 1, 2005 in Dallas, Texas. He later moved to Seagoville, Texas. Willie Lee Glenn entered eternal rest on March 10, 2014 with his wife by his side.

He leaves to celebrate his precious memory: his wife, Dovie Ann Simmons Glenn, one son, Willie G.

Justin Lamar McGowan

Funeral Services were held for Justin Lamar McGowan at Sweet Union Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Texas with the Rev. Michael Hollie and Rev. Travis McGowan officiating. Justin was born on November 11, 1986 in Jacksonville, Texas to Ronnie and Vivian McGowan. He accepted Christ at a young age and United with Elm Grove Baptist Church. As an adult he served under watch care at New Birth Baptist. Justin lived in Rusk when he was a child. Later his family moved to Kilgore, Texas. He graduated from Jacksonville High School in 2005 and attended Dallas Mortuary School in Dallas, Texas. Justin assisted with the family business at Mercy McGowan Funeral Home. He was employed with Progressive in San Antonio, Texas at the time of

Glenn, Jr. both of Dallas, one stepson, Patrick D. Estes of Palestine, step daughter Jessica Y. Esters, Seagoville, six grandchildren all who reside in Dallas; two sisters Clotilda (Ellis) Horn, Edna M. Glenn, all of Tyler; nine brothers, Lonnie L. (Veora) Glenn of Virginia Beach, Virginia, Earnest Glenn of Dallas, Donnell Glenn of Plainview, Robert E. (Venita) Glenn of Floydada, Texas, Rodney (Sh'Angela) Glenn of Tyler, Darrayl Glenn of Tyler, Ander Glenn of Jacksonville, Kevin Glenn of Tyler and a host of neices, nephews and other love ones. Burial was under the directions of Golden Gate Funeral Home Dallas.

his death. On Saturday, March 29, 2014, in Crockett, Texas, God called Justin to peaceful rest. He leaves to cherish his memory: daughter, Jade McGowan; two sons, Justin McGowan II and Jaden McGowan; loving parents Ronnie and Vivian McGowan of Jacksonville, grandmother Dorothy Stafford, Troup, two brothers David (Kayla) McGowan and Davieon McGowan, one sister Yolanda (Ray) McGowan Gilbert all of Jacksonville. honorary brothers James Johnson and Sidney Rider of Jacksonville, along with a host of cousins, aunts, uncles and friends. He was preceded in death by Novaline and Jessie McGowan and Wilburt Stafford. Burial was at Plainview Cemetery under the directions of Mercy/McGowan and Community Funeral Homes.

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CHRISTIANITY

What The Cross Means to You

~The HBSC Bible



Jerusalem is the capital of the southern kingdom of Judah, located 30 miles (48 km.) from the Mediterranean Sea and 18 miles (27 km.) west of the Jordan River. (Joshua 10: 1,2; Samuel 5:5).

In present Day Jerusalem, The Church of the Holy Sepulchre is one of the most Holy sites in the Christian world, the site of the burial place of Jesus.

Not far from there is Calvary, (Luke 23:33) the place where Jesus was nailed to the cross between two thieves and crucified for our sins.

The cross was a scene of indescribable horror for Jesus, but not chiefly for the reasons you may think. Certainly

the piercing nails, of humanity, torn flesh, and taunting crowds pained Him, but His greatest suffering was due to an invisible transaction in which God the Father poured out His wrath against human sin. The earth shook and the sky blackened as God punished His innocent Son for the wrongdoings.

Why did it happen this way? What does Jesus' suffering and death mean for you and me? To find answers we must first identify the human condition.

The Bible teaches that God made humans in His image. This means we are rational, personal beings who think, relate and make choices that shape the world. The Bible also says all humans have broken union with God by choosing sin over righteousness. This means we are all rebels and lawbreakers. The moral laws that we have broken are not merely items on God's list of do's and don'ts; rather, the laws reflect God's eternal nature. God is holiness itself. His laws serve as guidelines for defining His holiness and His expectations for our lifestyles. Any unholy act or disposition is therefore anti-God. sin is not just a bending of

rules, but an assault on God's being. This means you personally are guilty of aggression against your Maker. The moral fabric of the universe would tear to pieces if God were to let such rebellion go unpunished, for this would mean that His character, nature, and laws do not matter. God will not allow such contempt for Him, and so humans need atonement for sins. To atone means to make right a broken relationship or to repair a wrong. The terms or stipulations for atonement must be defined by God, not humans, for it is God who is offended.

What does God require for atonement? In the Old Testament He revealed that animal sacrifices should be made. The lifeblood of sinless bulls and goats was spilled over Hebrew altars in expression of sinful humanity's need for pardon from God, but this was merely a provisional method since the blood of animals cannot serve as an adequate replacement for the errant humans to whom God's wrath is due. To serve as an adequate substitute in God's atonement program, the sacrificial victim needs to be sinless, truly representative of humanity, and able to bear on His lone moral frame the debt owed by countless sinners. Obviously this means we are describing the need for a human sacrifice. More to the point, a superhuman sacrifice. This is the most breathtaking reality of the Bible. The holy God who made humans in His image would someday require that one of His image bearers, a morally perfect human being, stand in the place of His fellows and give satisfaction for the boundless sin debt. What man could be adequate for such a task? Only one: Jesus the divine Messiah, sent from heaven to be a human and stand-in for Adam's stray children.

Jesus lived as the ideal human. He loved God above all else, obeyed Him always, and loved His neighbors as Himself. This made Jesus the ideal substitute for God's requirement that a man acceptable to Him should live in complete righteousness from beginning to end. Due to this perfect righteousness and His divine capacities to endure the Father's infinite wrath against sins, Jesus presented Himself as the only sufficient substitute for our death penalty. Therefore, on the cross Jesus endured not just the punishment that

men handed out, but also God's infinite punishment against sin. God judged sin in human flesh and thereby satisfied the requirement of His justice. By faith in Christ's death and resurrection you and I can enjoy full pardon from God, not because God just let us off the hook, but because Jesus fully satisfied God's wrath by enduring the blows that were due us. We can live because He died in our place.

~Jeremy Royal Howard

LBJ Presidential Library to Host Civil Rights Summit to Mark 50th Anniversary of Civil Rights Act of 1964

AUSTIN, TEXAS – The LBJ Presidential Library will host a Civil Rights Summit April 8-10, 2014, to mark the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. President Lyndon Baines Johnson drove passage of the legislation and signed it into law. The Summit will be both a look back at the civil rights movement of the 1960s and a look forward at the civil rights issues still facing America and the world.

President Obama will be joined by three former Presidents who will also deliver remarks at the Civil Rights Summit: Jimmy Carter will speak on April 8; Bill Clinton will speak on April 9; and George W. Bush will speak on the evening of April 10.

The Civil Rights Summit is this year's cornerstone event of a multi-year anniversary celebration of President Johnson's prodigious legislative legacy. Throughout the course of the next several years, the LBJ Presidential Library, the LBJ School of Public Affairs at The University of Texas at Austin, and the LBJ Foundation will partner to commemorate the anniversaries of seminal laws signed by President Johnson that continue to resonate today.

Be kind and loving to each other, and forgive each other as God forgave you in Christ.

~Ephesians 4:32



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Caesar Roy 80th Birthday celebrated



On Feb 15th, A celebration honoring the the 80th birthday of Caesar A Roy was held at the "Castle on The Lake".

Over 70 guests attended the event, including Caesar's children, siblings, grandchildren and cousins from across the country.

A host of friends and well wishers from his church, high school classmates and the Cherokee County Democratic Party, were also in attendance. Serving as the Mistress of ceremonies was Dr Sabrina Roy Hopson (daughter). Mrs. Delores Roy (wife) gave an entertaining and inspiring tribute to her husband of 59 years.

The attendees were also treated to musical renditions from Son Caesar A Roy III and Granddaughter Melody Roy.

Caesar and Delores Roy and the Roy family which included Caesar's brothers Bobby and Byron and sister Yvette, gathered at the Castle on The Lake on February 15th to celebrate Caesar's eightieth birthday.

Rev. Mertis Bartley and wife Stella closes an eighteen year chapter of pastorage at Mount Olive Community Church



Former Co-pastor Stella Bartley delivered a stirring message from Exodus on April 27, 2014 at Mount Olive Baptist Church in Rusk, Texas as she and her husband, Former Pastor Mertis Bartley II prepared to past the torch and begin a new chapter of their lives.

Rev. Bartley was installed as the Pastor there in March of 1996. On May 3, 2014 they will host the grand opening of their new ministry in Tyler, Texas at Devine Destiny Ministries.

Deacon Sam O'Neal presented a gift from the church in the form of a check and Ann Leviston presented Co-pastor Stella Bartley with a beautiful handbag and scarf. They were also presented with a beautiful picture frame and full Texas Informer Newspapers from the March 1996 Pastor's Installation from Mount Pleasant Church, Rusk.

Many comments were made by those present expressing their sadness at seeing the pastors go, but wished them well in their new journey.

Former Co-pastor Stella Bartley and Pastor Mertis Bartley II were presented with gifts and well wishes April 27th as they begin a new chapter in their lives.

Vivian Meador Johnson celebrates 100th birthday



Vivian Meador Johnson

Freeman & Bartley, III to wed



Mr. & Mrs. Sirls and Mr. and Mrs. Stephan Freeman would like to announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter Jasmine Freeman to Mertis Bartley, III, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mertis Bartley, II. The wedding will be held Saturday, the twelfth day of April two thousand fourteen at five o'clock in the evening. The ceremony will take place at St. Titus Church Of God In Christ, located at 14383 FM 2707 Tyler, Texas 75705, which is also the Chapel Hill Community.

Vivian Meador Johnson will celebrated her 100th birthday April 14, 2014. He daughter Margie, brother Preston and other relatives, church family and friends will celebrate the grand occassion with her at the Holiday Inn on South Broadway in Tyler on April 14, 2014.

Vivian was born April 14, 1914 in the Pine Grove Community of Jacksonville, Texas. One of ten children born to Eddie and Lizzie Meador.

Other than church she now enjoys three poassion, dominoes, listeneing to sports and fishing. Vivian lives at home in Tyler,

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Vote For Tracy Session RISD Board of Trustees



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- * Employee of the year 2012 LVN Skyview/Hodge @TDC
- * Attends First Baptist Church
- * Volunteers as Mentor to RISD Students
- * Coaches Youth Sports in the Community
- * Member Cherokee County Christian Brotherhood Club

* Worked as a member of the RISD Board to interview and hire current Supt. Dr. Davis

Tracy is a husband and father who supports the education of his three children who attend RISD and mentors to others

Early Voting Begins April 28th - May 6th
Final Voting May 10th 7am to 7 pm

What's Cooking?

Elegant Carrot Cake



1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Grease and flour a 8 x 13 inch pan.
2. In a bowl, beat together eggs, oil, white sugar, and 2 teaspoons vanilla. Mix in flour, baking soda, baking powder, salt, and cinnamon. Stir in carrots. Fold in pecans. Pour into prepared pan.
3. Bake in the preheated oven 40 to 50 minutes, or until toothpick comes out dry when inserted into center of cake. Let cool in pan for 10 minutes, then turn out onto a wire rack and cool completely.
4. To make frosting: In a medium bowl, combine butter, cheese, confectioners' sugar, and 1 teaspoon vanilla. Stir in chopped pecans. Frost the cooled cake.

Abraham - Denman Family Reunion announced
 The Lue Ella Abraham and Oscar B. Denman, Senior Family reunion has been set for Saturday, July 5, 2014, beginning at 10:00am at The Edge located on Highway 79 west of Jacksonville,, Texas.
For information call (903) 683-5753

State of the Black Family Survey

CHICAGO (April 1, 2014) — In the May issue of EBONY magazine, the publication partnered with the W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF) to release the State of the Black Family Survey. In the study, a national sample of 1,005 African-American respondents identified job loss and financial insecurity as the number one issue confronting Black families.

The survey polled African-Americans on their views on the economy, education, relationships, race relations, health care, employment, finances and media trends.

The findings from the study revealed the following:

- 84% of respondents says racial discrimination still pervades American society
- 74% think society isn't doing enough to support young men and boys of color
- Almost two-thirds of respondents say they are better off financially than they were five years ago, but 82% are concerned that Whites still make more than Blacks for doing the same jobs.
- 52% see the media portrayal of African-Americans as generally negative.
- 60% of respondents agree we are making progress in providing access to health care.
- 50%, however, feel that we are losing ground in reducing the gap between rich and poor.
- Almost 1/3 are concerned that their children are not getting a quality education.
- 44% of survey respondents said they know someone that has been killed or committed suicide
- 30% said "improving the creating more jobs/good paying jobs" as a top issue of concern.

La June Montgomery Tabron, president and CEO of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, noted that poll respondents expressed concerns about the impact of racial bias and the income inequality gap that is prevalent within the African American community, as well as other demographics in American society. "We have a lot of work to do in creating jobs and making sure that people of color receive the training and education needed to obtain those jobs," she said. "We believe the lack of employment is really critical and impacts a child's well-being and limits opportunities." She added that a recent study, "The Business Case for Racial Equity," by the Altarum Institute with funding from WKKF underscores the potential benefits to business, government and the economy if racial inequities are addressed. "Discriminatory policies and disparities in housing, education, health and crime and justice are outlined and we estimate substantial economic benefits of racial equality, including an increase of almost \$2 trillion in minority purchasing power and millions of job opportunities for college graduates."

LEGAL NOTICE

These Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off games will be closing soon:

Game #	Game Name / Odds	\$	Official Close of Game	End Validations Date
1569	I Love Cash Overall Odds are 1 in 4.26	\$2	3/30/14	9/26/14
1544	Veterans Cash Overall Odds are 1 in 4.43	\$2	4/30/14	10/27/14
1523	Joker's Wild Overall Odds are 1 in 3.84	\$5	4/30/14	10/27/14

For detailed odds and game information, visit tlottery.org or call 1-800-37LOTTO. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. The Texas Lottery supports Texas education. © 2014 Texas Lottery Commission. All rights reserved.



"Do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who are cruel to you."

~ Luke 6:22-28

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Poetry Corner

Wisdom's Key

-by Michael Guinn

The lost child

-by Willie W. Caldwell

We breathe the same air and stay in the same home, but you couldn't tell by looking at us... miles apart we have grown.

I remember taking you to events and we would be in engaged in conversation for hours, now my vehicle is so awkwardly silent rather than try to create conversation we end up with blank stares and looks that are sour.

I know your heart, but sadly I can't read your mind. I can see you right here in front of me, but you still are so hard to find.

Behind those eyes I see the child I truly want to reach, but all I get is this adult you are trying hard to be.

I refuse to let you vanish so no matter how awkward it gets You are worth fighting for and I don't have it in me to quit, so I'll be right here until you're ready to see that you could never be lost when You always have me.

Leary, I've watched dams as third eye lakes flood, leaving tracks of muddy tear Prints on the wrinkled faces of weary mothers

Mothers whose cries have gone unheard because the snap of life-limbs were louder than the sound of love thy brotha

Now, young trees suffer root rot, get got with forget me knots fast becoming the broken black reminders of hope's final call

And as the moss thickens, poisonous metal mushrooms bloom in the minds consumed with the doom that looms from decay of bright days and old ways, leaving pride hobbled, as it leans on crack crutches, crawls on hardwood floors in search of little white rocks unable to stop the tick tock of clocks that seemed locked on one place in one space

And we are left limping into a new millennium with only amputated inspiration Because so few volunteer to carry the torch, pride is scorched by dying black flame, while hatez spread pain with slave names, showing no shame taking no blame for their role in genocide's killing game

But we've got to step beyond dark shadows and start listening to the fast fading whispers of black son's and daughters

We've got to stop putting dreams on layaway, pawning pride, cashing in coupons looking for refunds on broken promises, because we can only get so many extensions on lifetimes, before we forever damage cultural creditability

In this millenennium our legacy will not just be captured on canvass, or etched in stone by the skeletall hands of time in the new millennium there will only need to be two things engraved on tombstones Tribe-ZULU - Occupation - Warrior

Because your responsibility, is to wipe away brotha's tears, carry the torch and light the fire of new generation no matter how hot it gets

And THAT is your obligation, your destiny, your purpose.

Rusk Primary registration set for 2014-2015 Head Start/Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten classes

Pre-Registration for Rusk Head Start/Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten is set for Friday, May 2nd from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. Age requirements that must be met by September 1, 2014 include 5 years old for Kindergarten, 4 years old for full day Head Start/Pre-Kindergarten and 3 years old for 1/2 day Pre-Kindergarten. To register a child, parents will need to bring their current check stub and 2013 income tax return, W-2, and/or TANIF verification as proof of income. All applicants need to bring a certified copy of the child's birth certificate, social security card, proof of residency and complete immunization record. This registration is held to ensure that a sufficient number of classes can be planned for the coming school year. Pre-Kindergarten classes have limited spaces so this enrollment date is important. Parents may call the school at 903-683-6106 for more information or visit Rusk Primary at 440 Collins St.

Juneteenth Celebration Scheduled

Rusk, TX -The Cherokee County Juneteenth Parade and Celebration has been scheduled for Saturday, June 14, 2014 in Rusk, Texas. Parade lineup will begin at 10:45 a.m. behind Austin Bank and the parade will begin at 11:00am. The parade will end at the Conley City Park and a program will begin immediately after the parade. Speakers for the program are Daphne Session, Houston County, County Attorney and Ralph Carter retired U.S. Postal Services, Houston, Texas. Lunch will be served in the park. The celebration is sponsored by the Cherokee Christian Brotherhood and The Texas Informer. For additional information contact Oliver Sturns or Walter Session at (903) 721-3112.

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SPEAK OUT!

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A CHRISTIAN AND A NON-CHRISTIAN?

According to a recent Gallup Pole, the percentage of Americans who identify themselves to be Christians was 77%. A majority of Americans report that religion plays a "very important" role in their lives. The majority of Americans (73%) identify themselves as Christians and about 20% have no religious affiliation. 51% professing attendance at a variety of churches that could be considered Protestant, and 25% professing Catholic beliefs. 15% of the adult population claim no religious affiliation, and 5.2% said they did not know the difference between a Christian and a Non-Christian, or they refused to reply.

The following people were asked, "What do you think is the difference between a Christian and a Non-christian?"



Robert Cloudy - Dallas/Center, Tx.

Actually, looking at people. I don't see a big difference between a Christian and a Non-christian. I think one believes in God and goes to church and the other one does not..



Crystal Taylor - Dallas

It starts with your faith and your relationship with God.....how you're living and, once you've given yourself to God, how people will be able to tell by the way you're living, that you are a child of God.



Faith Jordan - Nacogdoches/ 2nd year student SFA

I really don't know. I think a Christian is someone who believes in God and the things Jesus teaches us (through the Bible) we should do.

One Christian says, "But when the holy spirit came into my life, things changed. God softened my stony heart and gave me a heart of flesh. He empowered me to live holy and start to hate sin. He opened up my eyes to His truth and taught me to know Him. I hope you have seen the same thing in your life. It's what God wants for His people. And in fact, it's what it means to be His people."

The following scriptures tell us who and what we should be as Christians.

Romans 8:11 - But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Acts 1:8 - ...but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

Dear Lord, thank you for reminding me that when I think I'm standing alone, I'm not. Thank you for being my hope in difficult times, and holding me up when I want to sit this one out. Help me to remember You are a very present help in times of need. In Jesus' name. ~ Amen.

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Annual Women's Day Program

May 18, 2014
 3:30pm in the evening

The Public is invited to come out and join us in praise and worship to
The Lord

All women are asked to wear white

Pastor: Supt. Donnie Timmons
 First Lady: Evelyn Timmons

PALESTINE OLD TOWN REUNION

FRIDAY, JULY 18, 2014

7:00 p.m. -10:00 p.m.

Meet & Greet Reception

Palestine Civic Center

SATURDAY, JULY 19, 2014

8:30 a.m. -10:30 a.m.

Celebrating Memories of Old Town

Narrated Bus Tour

Departing from Palestine Civic Center

(Registered participants only)

11:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m.

Old Town Summer Festival

Palestine Civic Center

7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

The Legacy Banquet

Palestine Civic Center

10:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

After-Hour Dance (Adults Only)

Palestine Civic Center

SUNDAY, JULY 20, 2014

9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

The Antioch Church | Fellowship Hall

Hosted by The Antioch Church

10:30 a.m.

Worship Services

The Antioch Church

Reverend Roy G. Duncan, Pastor

Palestine Herald Press Articles

Articles highlighting Old Town's history, citizens, and the reunion are published on the second Saturday of each month in the "YOUR LIFE" Section B of the newspaper as follows:

February 8, 2014

March 8, 2014

April 12, 2014

May 10, 2014

June 14, 2014

July 12, 2014

www.palestineherald.com

Contact Information

PALESTINE OLD TOWN REUNION

P. O. Box 2423

Palestine, Texas 75802

903.729.0390 | 281.459.2296 | 713.633.0462

For additional reunion information, please visit our website at www.palestineoldtownreunion.com or write to us at palestineoldtownreunion@yahoo.com.

\$60.00 May 5 Deadline

\$65.00 June 5 Deadline

\$70.00 July 5 Deadline

Registration Includes:

* Ticket to each event!

* Imprinted Souvenir Bag!

* Visitor's Center Bag!

* Commemorative Booklet!

Brown Continued from page 1

education reforms such as the Common Core State Standards, these states effectively reclaim their legacy of systematic racial discrimination.

Contrary to what you might expect, the American public education system provides fewer resources and more inexperienced teachers to schools serving low-income and disadvantaged students. For example, African American and Latino students are taught by a teacher with 3-years of experience or less almost twice as often as their peers. College preparatory courses are largely unavailable to students of color. In the 2009-10 school year less than a third of the schools serving high concentrations of students of color offered calculus.

These inequities have had devastating results. On the 2013 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) eighth grade math assessment, only 14 percent of African American and 21 percent of Latino students scored proficient or advanced compared with 44 percent of White students. In the same year only 66 percent of African American and 71 percent of Latino students graduated on time, while 83 percent of White students finished high school in four years. These sobering facts threaten our core beliefs about education and fairness, while also undermining our national ability to be competitive in the global economy. from the clear benefits of the Common Core, these states actively choose to perpetuate a two-tiered education system that habitually provides lower-quality education to students of color. This reveals that for some states little has changed in their understanding of the moral dimensions of equality for all. Some underperforming states such as Alabama, Georgia, and Oklahoma have already pulled out of the

assessments. Now, it will be virtually impossible for states to determinewhether or not they are truly preparing all students for college and career. Whether it is the intended outcome or not, the decision to abandon the Common Core assessments hurts students of color and Although the Common Core will not overcome this educational inequity on its own, these more rigorous standards will hold all students to the high expectation of college and career readiness. They will change the way teachers teach and help students become critical thinkers and analytical problem solvers.

These skills do more than prepare our children for college and career; they also prepare them to become active and engaged citizens. aCentral to this effort are the assessments developed by two state consortia: Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) and Smarter Balanced. These next generation assessments, which are aligned to the new standards, require students to demonstrate complex reasoning, writing, and problem solving skills rather than a simple fill-in-the-bubble test. Despite the clear benefits to students, under achieving states with a history of systematic racial discrimination have withdrawn from the Common Core-aligned assessment consortia. Last month, South Carolina, which according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress, ranks in the bottom half of the country for African American and Latino student achieve low-income students more than their peers. Brown made clear that equality under law can only be achieved by the full inclusion of all people, regardless of race, into the whole of our country's society. Separate cannot be equal.

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Community Day held in Nacogdoches Richie Street Park

"Community Day" was held recently in the Nacogdoches, Texas Richie Street Park. Several hundred parents and children turned out for a day of food and fun sponsored by Donte Green and Dawg House Entertainment, a local independent music company.

The six acre park has a basketball court, baseball practice field, soccer field, covered pavillion for serving food and playground equipment.

The park is used to serve lunches to the local children in summer, and the Rotary Literacy Mobile Library is setup there in summer to provide books to local children.



On-lookers enjoying the day.



Children at play in Ritchie Street Park.



Donte Green and DHE provided food and entertainment for families. The Community Day was held in memory of Former DHE member Jerome Murchison who was killed in a car accident 3 years ago.



Margarett Perkins, Laura Perkins, James I. Perkins and Dr. L. Michael Metke President of Tyler Junior College enter into agreement making possible the Rusk TJC Citizens Promise. The James I Perkins Family Foundation and Tyler Junior College established this scholarship program for Rusk High School graduates. The top fifty-percent/qualifying students will have \$8000. scholarships to TJC beginning with the class of 2014.

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