



CIRCULATION  
VERIFICATION  
COUNCIL

*Celebrating Nineteen Years!*



Since 1995

Your  
Gateway  
to  
East Texas

# TEXAS INFORMER

July 2014  
Volume XIX Number 3

Web: [www.texasinformer.com](http://www.texasinformer.com)  
e-mail: [informernews08@aol.com](mailto:informernews08@aol.com)

P.O. Box 332  
Rusk, Texas 75785

## *Inside this issue*

Bobby Womack Remembered..

Senator West

Juneteenth celebratiton Rusk

Juneteenth Celebration

Palestine

Speakout

Religion

Holly's Time

What's Cook'n

Black Business Owners

Survey

Texas Sales Tax Free Holiday

Slocum Texas Massacre 1910

G. W. Bradford Picnic

An "Old School Picnic" will be hosted by the Rusk, Houston and Dallas G. W. Bradford Alumni on Saturday, August 16, 2014 at the Texas State Railroad Park, in Rusk Texas. Former students from G. W. Bradford and Rusk High school are invited to attend from 12:00 noon until 4:00pm. Lunch will be provided.

## The Lufkin Chapter of Concerned Black Men, Inc. impacting the lives of youth since 1992



Teachers and coaches are: Director Shana Rogers, Gym- Coach James Holcomb, Lavata Hill and Emillio Hernandez; Science -Victor Travis, Computers - Linda Bell and Math - Latessa Rogers. The average daily attendance is 180 students a day. They are impacting Angelina County youth in the name of Concerned Black Men, Inc. of Lufkin, Texas. This Don E. Boyd Summer Camp has been available to youth for the past 17 years.

## EDITORIAL/OPINION



Maxine Session

**Remember The History of July 4th**

It's just automatic that we celebrate the 4th of July each year. It has been a National holiday in the United States since 1841, but it has traditionally been celebrated since 1776. That year, with the war still going on, representatives of the 13 colonies weighed a resolution that would declare their independence from Great Britain. On July 2nd, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence. A five man committee made up of Thomas Jefferson of Virginia, John Adams of Massachusetts, Roger Sherman of Connecticut, Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania and Robert R. Livingston of New York was appointed by Congress to draft the document. Two days later on July 2nd its delegates adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted mostly by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 until the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with typical festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues.

Did you know that according to history, in the years before the revolutionary war, colonists had held annual celebrations of the king's birthday, which traditionally included the ringing of bells, bonfires, processions and speechmaking. By contrast, during the summer of 1776 some colonists celebrated the birth of independence by holding mock

funerals for King George III, as a way of symbolizing the end of the monarchy's hold on America and the triumph of liberty. Festivities including concerts, bonfires, parades and the firing of cannons and muskets usually accompanied the first public readings of the Declaration of Independence, beginning immediately after its adoption. Philadelphia held the first annual commemoration of independence on July 4, 1777.

In 1941, provisions were expanded to grant a paid holiday to all federal employees. Over the years, the political importance of the holiday declined, but Independence Day remained an important national holiday and a symbol of patriotism.

In July 1976 the entire United States of America celebrated the Centennial or the 100th anniversary of the independence of these great states.

Today it marks the middle of summer and the time when many Americans plan family vacations and leisure time along with outdoor activities. Many towns and cities still hold Fourth of July parades complete with the sale of fireworks.

In past times it was a tradition that each day in the public schools began with a prayer, the singing of a patriotic song and the pledge to the U. S. Flag. The words to the songs America The Beautiful, The Star Spangled Banner and My Country Tis of Thee were common knowledge to every student.

John Adams believed that July 2nd was the correct date on which to celebrate the birth of American independence, and would reportedly turn down invitations to appear at July 4th events in protest. Adams and Thomas Jefferson both died on July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence.

It is great to know that we live in the greatest country in the world. It is great to know that we can and do celebrate this freedom. Thanks to our Armed forces and our Government.

## Letters To The Editor

A Thank you

Congratulations!

Dear Publishers Walter and Maxine Sessions:

Congratulations to you both and The Texas Informer Newspaper on your 19th year of "Bringing you positive news about local people."

I enjoy reading your very well put together and informative newspaper online. And I try to model my newsletter after yours. \*:~) happy I love your column Title name (Faces from the past)... I hope you dont mind me borrowing it to accompany old photographs in my newsletter? Just let me know.

Keep up the outstanding work! May God continue to bless both of you with many more happy years.

Sincerely,  
Alonzo Hardy  
Editor  
352-216.7489

A man must evolve for all human conflict a method which rejects revenge, aggression, and retaliation. The foundation of such a method is love.

~Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dear Editor,

We would like to thank you for your support of CAMP SHAW, because of your efforts our first camp was a huge success. We would like to continue to impact the youth around the community by doing another camp in July. Attached is a flyer for our upcoming CAMP SHAW JUNIOR and would be honored if you can help us spread the word. Thank you so much and have a blessed day.

Gregory Denard Shaw Jr.  
Director of R.E.A.L Athletics  
(903) 724-0961  
Realathletics75@gmail.com  
Palestine, Texas  
P.O. Box 4406  
4406-75802

### The Texas Informer

P. O. Box 332  
941 Loop 343  
Rusk, Texas 75785  
Ph: (903) 721-3111  
(903) 721-3112  
Office: (903) 683-5743  
Fax: (903) 683-1577  
e-mail > [informernews08@aol.com](mailto:informernews08@aol.com)

Web: [www.texasinformer.com](http://www.texasinformer.com)

The Texas Informer is published Monthly  
"Bringing you positive news about local people."

Co-Publisher: Walter Session

Co-publisher: Maxine Session

Contributors: Billy "Hollywood" Groves

A. J. Rhodes

#### Letters to the Editor Policy

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please send to P. O. Box 332, Rusk, Texas or [informernews08@aol.com](mailto:informernews08@aol.com). Letters must include name of the sender.

# Concerned Black Men, Inc. Lufkin, Texas , breaking community organization records

~by Maxine Session

It appeared to be just another normal school day in June when entering the Lufkin Middle School building on this day. Students were busy learning during the Don E. Boyd Summer Camp.

Each summer for the past seventeen years students have attended the Don E. Boyd summer camp sponsored by the Concerned Black Men of Lufkin.

This summer, according to Director Shana Rogers, there were 256 applicants with 256 being approved for the program. Currently, 200 students are being served with an average daily attendance of 180 students. Certified teachers and coaches teach science, math, reading, computer science and reading. There is a recreational component where students are provided physical activities to improve their health. The camp serves students ages six to fourteen.

The camp began June 9th and will end July 17th. Students are provided a wholesome lunch with many fieldtrips to the science museum, skating rink, the Science discovery Place in Tyler, Career Day on campus, trip to Memorial Hospital's Radiology Lab, bowling,

museum in Diboll and much, much more. Educational field trips are provided to increase the youths' exposure to positive cultural aspects and history in surrounding communities.

Each of the current staff members have worked the camp at least five of the seventeen years it has been held. Shana Rogers has been the director for the past fourteen years.

This program extends over a period of six weeks to eight weeks, beginning in June from Monday through Thursday. The camp is held on the Lufkin Independent School District's Middle School Campus. Breakfast and lunch is served along with afternoon snacks and refreshments for each participant daily. Each year the Concerned Black Men of Lufkin write and receive a grant which is used to pay expenses for the six -week summer camp.

During the fall of 1991, the Lufkin, Texas Chapter of Concerned Black Men, Inc. was formed. It was founded with the goal of redirecting the energy of young black males by providing positive role models and some of life's basic necessities

to as many as could be reached. Concerned Black Men of Lufkin" was based on the National Organization in Washington, D. C. which was founded in 1975. They formed a board of directors, developed by-laws and applied for non-profit status under the directions of their president, Darryl Mayfield. The executive committee consisted of Officer Ralph Bean, Rotley Tankersley, Oscar Kennedy and Wilbert Adams.

This group of professional men dedicated themselves to making Lufkin a better place for youth and the community as a whole. Their goals are (a) to establish, promote and encourage initiatives which improve the quality of peoples lives by reaffirming and promoting the responsible role of black males in the family and the community through youth and adult education and the promotion of social welfare programs; and (b) encourage these goals by participation in a group with common interests in achieving non-profit community service activity objectives, establish, promote and encourage initiatives which improve the quality of peoples lives by reaffirming and promoting the responsible role of

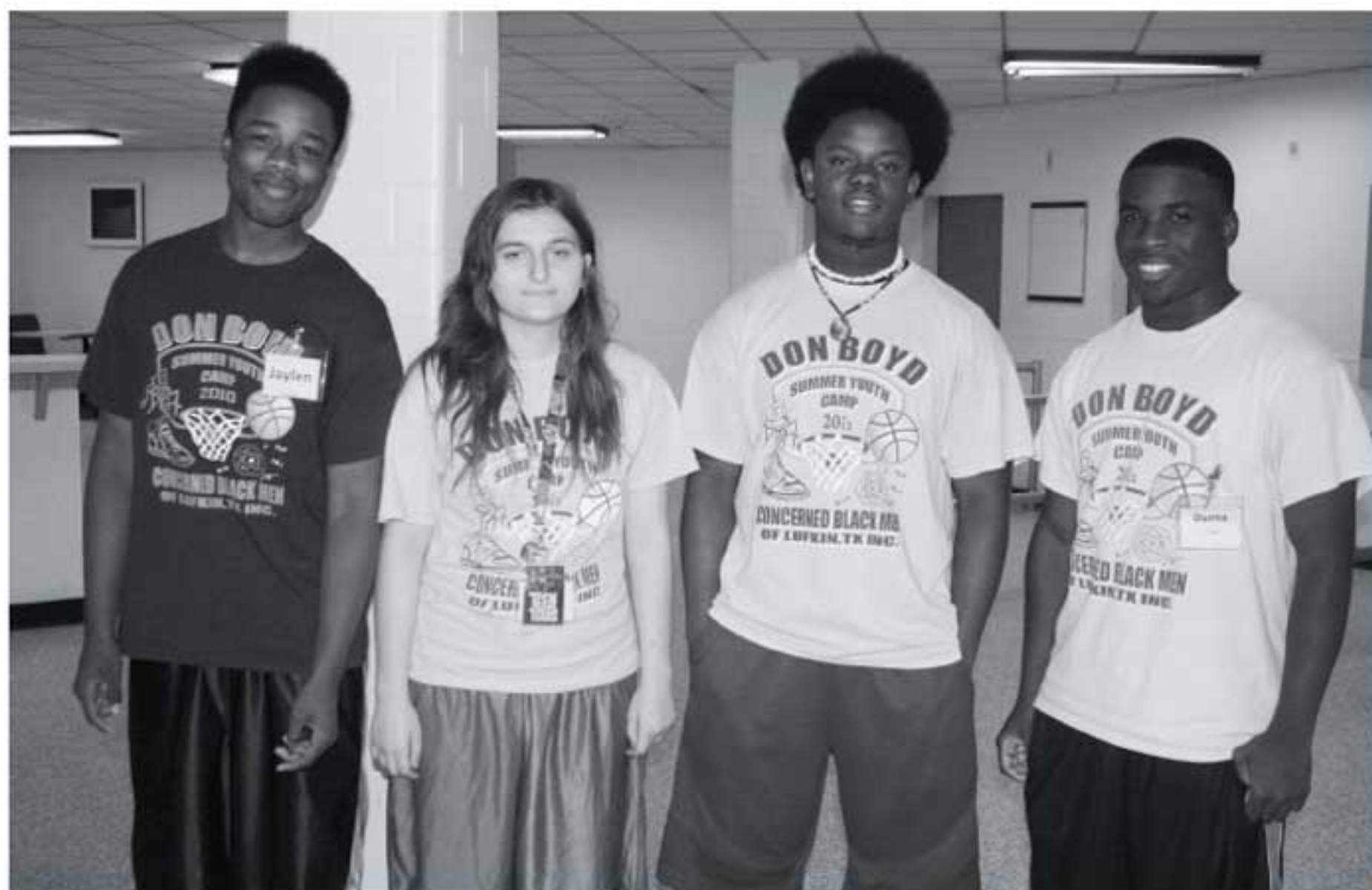
black males in the family and the community. Another part of their philosophy is to offer themselves as positive role models. The membership soon grew to thirty. They directed their efforts toward young males 11 to 14 years of age. This age group was chosen because the organization felt this was a critical period in a child's life and it was important not to lose them when they were beginning to develop their personal value system. The first major project was participation in the mentor program with the Lufkin Independent School District at Dunbar Intermediate School.

Twenty-two years have passed and since that time they have impacted the lives of many young people both male and female, parents and the community as a whole through successful endeavors such as the annual Teen Summit, Church Visitations, School Visitations, annual Heritage Festival participations, their annual Holiday Gayla held each December and of course the Don E. Boyd Summer Camp. They have also been very instrumental in making Lufkin a safer and more secure community.

Current CBML officers are Ralph Bean- President, Johnny Giles- Vice President, Kenneth Self - Secretary, Rotley Tankersley - Treasurer, and Royce Garrett - Sargent at Arms. They are still holding strong on their committment and are to be commended for the work they do and their sincerety about making a difference in the lives of youth and the community.

The summer camp held each summer is named for an outstanding man of the community, Don Elwood Boyd, who passed away in 2002. Mr. Boyd was the first black councilman for the City of Lufkin, Texas elected in 1979. He served for 23 years. He was also a dedicated member of the Lufkin Independent School District Board of Education.

Each member of CBML holds fast to his committment to serving as a positive role model. President Bean, a 22 year member of the Lufkin Police Department is a school resource officer for Lufkin ISD and is President of East Texas Youth Football.



Pictured above are some members of the junior staff. Junior Staff are Adrian Edwards, Ashley Harper, Deunta Simpson and Katrina Adkinsion. Junior volunteers are Kaley Harper and Jaylon McCloud. Those who volunteer two years can become staff.

# West meets with state agencies Black Press

By MOLLIE BELT & MAXINE SESSION  
Texas Publishers Association

Austin, TX. - Taxpayer dollars are not spent fairly by Texas state agencies. Black businesses are often left out. Texas Publishers Association, representing twenty-five Black owned newspapers in the state is aware of this and has monitored the situation for years. Senator Royce West met with state agencies to determine how they are spending advertising dollars.

On Tuesday, June 3, 2014, Senator West convened a meeting between state agencies and Texas Publishers Association. Attending the meeting were the Texas Department of Transportation, Texas Department of Motor Vehicles, Texas Health and Human Services, Texas Department of Health Services, the Secretary of State Office and the Texas Publishers Association executive board. The meeting was held in the Civil Rights Room of the State Capital. Mollie Belt, publisher of The Dallas Examiner and Vice President of the Texas Publishers Association briefed the group on the history of Black newspapers in the state receiving advertising from state agencies. She informed the group of the declining numbers of Black businesses certified by the State of Texas as Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB) primarily because they do not receive business as a HUB from the state of Texas.

TPA has a Buying Service that represents 25 Black owned and operated newspapers in the state. Currently TPA has a contract with the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, but this is the only award from a state agency. Other advertising placements by state agencies are only token.

State agencies have advertising budgets to educate and involve the public on services available to them. These awareness campaigns cover many areas including health services, family and protective services, voting, traffic safety, and clean air. Black newspapers are not being used to participate in these campaigns. State agency public awareness budgets can reach in excess of \$16 million dollars and can include radio, television, billboard, social media and newspapers.

State agencies place advertisement out for bid. Currently, three advertising and marketing agencies hold the current fiscal year bid and are outsourcing state advertisement. The state legislature has put in place budget compliance guidelines that must be met. In the case of the agencies present, no staff member could confirm that the ad agencies are compliant.

Blanket contracts are awarded to marketing/advertising firms that have a range of capabilities, everything from a full-service marketing/advertising firm that can provide all services detailed in the RFP, to firms that specialize in a more limited range of services. Firms receiving awards are not choosing to utilize Black newspapers in their awareness campaigns.

An effort was made during the meeting to explain the importance of Black newspapers in the Black community. Black newspapers reach a niche market because they carry messages to places where main stream media cannot. Maxine Session stated her newspaper is distributed in rural areas in East Texas where many do not have access to computers. Tommy Wyatt stated there is no appreciation for Black newspapers, so they are not included in awareness campaigns even though Black represent a disproportionate number of people with health diseases i.e. HIV/AIDS, diabetes. However, Black newspapers are expected to carry other messages free. They receive press releases all the time and are expected to print them free. Publishers stated that we want a healthy Texas



and in order to do this mixed media should be used and Black newspapers should not be excluded. Senator West requested agencies submit to his office within 30 days reports outlining each campaign and how they spent their funds last year. He also asked for compliance rating for the ad agencies they awarded contracts to during the fiscal year. Attending the meeting were nine staff members from state agencies, Senator Royce West, Kelvin Bass, Senator West's assistant, Mollie Belt, The Dallas Examiner, TPA Vice President; Tommy Wyatt, The Villager, TPA Parliamentarian; Maxine Session, TPA Treasurer, and Walter Session, Texas Informer. Hattie Kelly, Power Pages News, is TPA President and Floyd Miller, West Texas Tribune is Secretary.

## L & P Paint and Body Professional Collision Center

\*Computer Estimates \*Frame Machine \*Paint Booth \*Digital Camera \*System to Fax to Insurance Company \*24 Hour Wrecker Service

Fax: (903) 723-4847 SHOP (903) 723-3532  
NIGHT (903) 922-2892  
1203 WEST OAK  
Palestine, Texas 75801

# POETRY

## Rock Bottom

~by Willie Carwell - Palestine

Dragged by the chains of my transgressions,  
and shadowed by my past.  
A slave to my form of temptation  
caused footprints of my sin to last.

I came to a rock,  
that was called bottom  
where living water continually  
flowed,

I lowered my head  
into the stream  
and found a love

I had never known.

Now I'm not chained to my transgressions  
or over shadowed by past,  
because when I was at  
rock bottom

I found love and salvation  
and the foot prints of my sin  
is a testimony,  
if I'm asked.

## Destiny

~by Jill Darden - Dallas

Destiny and I  
had a westling match,  
I pinned her down,  
took the key to the latch  
and almost opened the door.

She wrapped her rules  
around my neck  
and made me sit  
as she spat  
steps and sequences,  
series and time  
reaping and sowing,  
waiting in line.

With key in hand,  
she paused and said,  
all things in time  
not a moment before  
It's to your benefit,  
that I guard this door.

## Cherokee County Offers Extended Vaccination Clinics

— Cherokee County Public Health (CCPHD) is now offering extended-hour vaccination clinics to better serve our community.

Hate doing things last minute? Great! Take advantage of our extended immunization clinics - be cool and get ready for back to school!

All day extended-hour clinics will be held on June 20th and 27th, July 11th, 18th, and 25th and August 1st, 8th, 15th, 16th, 22nd, 23rd, all from 8am until 4pm.

We will also have extended hours the weeks of August 11th and 19th, open until 8pm. Questions? Call us at 903.586.6191. Immunizations are the first step to ensuring health and wellness," says Chris Taylor, CCPHD Executive Director. "In recent months, we have seen a variety of cases of diseases like Pertussis, often called whooping cough, that we don't normally see. This may

"have happened for a number of reasons, but we want to be sure that everyone understands, when immunizations are not obtained, we will see the return of illnesses that we have been able to keep away." "We don't want to see our children sick," adds Taylor. "Vaccines are required to register for school. When everyone waits until the last minute, it taxes our resources, backs up local doctor's offices and causes the schools to spend a lot of unnecessary time making sure everyone has the appropriate immunizations."

Not sure which immunizations your child needs? No problem, our staff will gladly find out for you and make the process simple. Cherokee County Public Health, preventing, protecting and promoting for over forty years.

*"When a man is wrapped up in himself, he makes a pretty small package."* ~John Ruskin



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.

# Citizens 1st Bank



EQUAL HOUSING  
LENDER

Member FDIC

**CITIZENS 1ST BANK**  
HOME OWNED AND SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1920

Rusk - 125 North Main Street (903) 683-2277  
Jacksonville - 825 South Jacksonville (903) 586-2201  
Tyler - 2001 East South Easty Loop 323 (903) 581-1900  
Nacogdoches - 3010 University (409) 5601401

CD'S  
Savings  
Home Loans

# MAKE A WINNING IMPRESSION!

We invite you to attend:

## Texas Lottery Commission Annual Historically Underutilized Business Forum

### Location:

Texas Lottery Commission | 611 East 6th Street | Austin, Texas

**Tuesday, July 15, 2014 | 1:00 pm – 4:30pm**

The forum will provide a brief overview of the TLC's HUB program, procurement processes, and Mentor Protégé initiatives. The highlight of this event will be roundtable networking sessions with Lottery Commission staff and a number of our key contractor representatives. **Roundtable assignments will be made on a first-come, first-serve basis on the day of the forum.**

**The TLC HUB Forum is FREE of charge!**

Register on-line on or before 7/11/14 at: [www.txlottery.org/hub](http://www.txlottery.org/hub)

**For more information contact:**

Joyce Bertolacini, HUB Coordinator: (512) 344-5293 or  
[joyce.bertolacini@lottery.state.tx.us](mailto:joyce.bertolacini@lottery.state.tx.us)



## Texas Sales Tax Holiday is Aug. 8 to 10

(AUSTIN) — Texas Comptroller Susan Combs reminds shoppers they can save money on certain items priced under \$100 during the state's annual sales tax holiday. This year, the sales tax holiday is scheduled for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 8 -10.

The law exempts most clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks priced under \$100 from sales tax, which could save shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend during the weekend.

"Families gearing up for the new school year will not pay any sales tax for many back-to-school items ranging from pens to blue jeans," Combs said. "When the back-to-school list is long and the money is short, it can be difficult for Texas families. We hope this tax break will help ease that burden."

Lists of apparel and school supplies that may be purchased tax free can be found on the Comptroller's website at [www.TexasTaxHoliday.org](http://www.TexasTaxHoliday.org).

This year, shoppers will save an estimated \$82.7 million in state and local sales taxes during the Sales Tax Holiday. The tax holiday weekend has

## Tree Identification & Care

The Cherokee County Extension Office will be holding a tree identification and care program Tuesday, July 29th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Jacksonville Public Library. The night's main speaker will be longtime extension agent, Truman Lamb, Anderson County CEA-Agriculture & Natural Resources. There is a \$15 participation fee. For more information regarding this program please contact: Kim Benton at [kim.benton@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:kim.benton@ag.tamu.edu) or call our office at (903) 683-5416. Persons with special needs should call (903) 683-5416 to inform us of your special needs. We request notification of three working days prior to the event to enable us to assist you to the best of our ability.

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

# TPA Attends State Black Chamber Luncheon June Nineteenth



Austin, Texas - Members of the Black Press of Texas, Texas Publishers Association, attended the Texas Association of African American Chambers of Commerce Juneteenth Business Commemoration, from "Galveston to Greatness". It was held at the downtown Austin, Austin Club.

Luncheon remarks were given by Dr. Juliet K. Walker, Founder and Director of the Center for Black Business History, entrepreneurship and Technology of the University of Texas, Austin.

Others participating were Charles O'Neal, lead consultant for strategies, a Dalls based consulting Firm, welcome, Rev. Dante Wright Invocation, Charles O'Neal the occasion and introductions, Dr. Bruce Kellison, U. T. Austin gave highlights of the Survey of Texas Black-Owned Businesses.

Closing remarks were given by Jim Wyatt, President of the TAAACC and benediction by Rev. Dante Wright.

Those interested in a copy of the "Survey of Texas Black-Owned Businesses" may request a copy at [sonia.gillard@gov.texas.gov](mailto:sonia.gillard@gov.texas.gov) or call 512-463-2981.

Pictured L to R- Members of Texas Publishers Association; Tommy Wyatt, The Villager Austin, Walter Session, Texas Informer Rusk, Maxine Session Texas Informer Rusk, Mollie Belt Dallas Examiner and James Belt II, Dallas Examiner. Not pictured, Thurmon Jones, Publisher of the North Dallas Gazette.

ALL STAR FORD

## CREDIT CLINIC

- ★ Bankruptcies ★ Repos
- ★ Slow Pay ★ Charge Offs

*with a little money from you...we can get you on the road!*

**BRING THESE FEW THINGS AND DRIVE HOME TODAY!**

- Proof of Income
- Proof of Residence
- Cash Down Payment
- Complete References

THE **All-Star** SOLUTION  
**Guaranteed** Credit Approval

2929 S. Loop 256 • Palestine, TX  
 903-729-2171 • 800-234-6171

We make \$1,000 cash down on trade-in by mail \$1,000 per month. Maximize dealer's approval. Credit approval is subject to dealer approval.

## Custom Loans Built Here.



## Austin Bank

Member FDIC

200 E. Commerce • Jacksonville • 903-586-1526  
 1700 S. Jackson • Jacksonville • 903-589-8800  
 216 S. Main • Rusk • 903-683-2254

[www.austinbank.com](http://www.austinbank.com)

30 Locations Throughout East Texas



# Cherokee County Juneteenth Celebrated Parade Speakers and Picnic in the park



Daphne Session Houston County Atty and Pam Joyce Townson Counselor and educator were speakers for the celebration.



Marcus and Max Carter, Houston, Charlie Waggoner and nephew California.



Children enjoying the day and waiting for lunch to be served.



Maxine Session, Essie Hart, Sharon Session, Alvin and Dorothy Sneed, Grand Prairie, Doll Skinner and Minnie Hooper enjoy Juneteenth.



Krystal Carter, Charnell Franklin, Houston, Detective Garrick Ward Phenix Arizona, Madelyne Carter and Kay Carter. Background Waggoner and Rev. Grenie Phillips.

Citizens and former citizens of Rusk celebrated one hundred and forty-nine years of freedom from slavery for African Americans June 14th. More than twenty-five entrants took part in the parade which began downtown Rusk at 11:00a.m. and ended at Conley City Park. A program of celebration began immediately afterwards at the Mt. Pleasant Church with Rev. Jerry Leviston as MC and participation from Oliver Sturns, CCB President, Walter Session Mayor ProTem, Rev. Melvin Session, Jasmine Harris who sang Proud to Be An American, Rev. Phal Carter, Kathy Harris, and Cangelia Mallard Cook. Pam Joyce Townson and Daphne Session were speakers for the event which was coordinated by the Cherokee Brotherhood Association and the Texas Informer. The food was prepared and served by Jerry Hart and

Michael Session with assistance from volunteers Felicia Hart, Dorothy Coleman, Terri Franklin and Sue Brown. Local businesses who made donations toward the event were Citizens 1st Bank, Texas National Bank, Austin Bank, Brookshire Brothers and Wal-Mart. The Emancipation Proclamation signed by President Abraham Lincoln ended slavery in the United States January 1, 1863. The state of Texas ignored the proclamation until June 19, 1865 when General Gordon Granger and U. S. Troops entered Galveston, Texas with the news of freedom.



# Leaders Announce results of historic Black Business Survey



State Senator Royce West, Jim Wyatt, TAAACC, Dr. Bruce Kellison and UT President Dr. William Powers release survey of Black Businesses in Texas in front of the Texas State Capital in Austin on Juneteenth.



Crowd attending the news conference include members of Texas Publishers Association Mollie Belt and James Belt, Jr., Dallas Examiner, Walter and Maxine Session Texas Informer Rusk and Tommy Wyatt The Villager, Austin and Gary Bledso State NAACP President.

The Texas Association of African American Chambers of Commerce hosted a news conference on the steps of the Capital on June nineteenth to unveil the results of a survey of Black-owned businesses in Texas.

The survey was spurred by the urging of longtime TAAACC supporter Arthur McDonald, Director of the University of Texas Austin's Historically Underutilized Business Department and commissioned by UT President Dr. William Powers.

The survey represents an important first step in reconciling survey findings with the realities of inequities that continue to challenge Black-owned businesses in the state of Texas.

Dr. Juliet E. K. Walker, Director of the Center for Black Business History, was the speaker at the Juneteenth Business Commemoration Luncheon held at the downtown Austin Club hosted by TAAACC following the news conference.

## Concerned Black Men of Lufkin



Pictured above and to the right are members of the Concerned Black Men of Lufkin founded in 1991. Each year the organization impacts Lufkin youth with the Don E. Boyd Summer Camp and many other activities. This year the camp served more than 200 youth in science, reading, computers and athletics for six weeks.



# The Dolls of Essence dance team perform



Rusk, TX. - Practice began months ago for the newly formed Dolls of Essence dance team directed by Cangela Cook and Keisha Nelson. They performed recently in the conley Park and are preparing for fall competition.

# Legendary Singer Bobby Womack Passes away at age 70



In addition to his solo work, Womack also collaborated with artists across the spectrum of genres. He toured with the Faces in 1974, worked with Janis Joplin, and played on Sly & the Family Stone's "Family Affair", Elvis Presley's "Suspicious Minds", Dusty Springfield's "Son of a Preacher Man", and Aretha Franklin's "You Make Me Feel Like a Natural Woman," among many other songs.

Bobby Womack, the veteran singer, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist whose work spanned decades, has passed away at the age of 70, Rolling Stone reports. The cause of death has not yet been revealed, though Womack was diagnosed with Alzheimer's in 2013 and previously fought colon cancer.

A memorial service for Womack will be held on Thursday July 11th at the City of Refuge church in Los Angeles. Bobby Womack was born on March 4th, 1944 to Friendly Womack and Naomi Womack, and grew up in the Cleveland slums, so poor that the family would fish pig snouts out of the local supermarket's trash and cook them to make a meal.

In the early 1950s, Womack and his four brothers formed a gospel group called the Womack Brothers, later the Valentinos. They became friends with Sam Cooke, who signed them to his label, SAR Records, in 1961. Womack played guitar on Cooke's song "Twisting the Night Away". (Womack would go on to marry Cooke's widow just months after Cooke's death in 1964, he said, to take care of her and his children.)

The Valentinos' song "It's All Over Now", written by Womack, became a huge hit for the Rolling Stones. Womack began his solo career with 1968's Fly Me to the Moon, and released several albums in the early 70s, including Understanding and Across 110th Street. In 1981, he had a hit with "If You Think You're Lonely Now", but spent most of the 80s struggling with drug addiction.

Womack was inducted into the Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame in 2009, and had begun to experience a career renaissance in recent years. Damon Albarn recruited Womack to appear on Gorillaz songs on Plastic Beach and The Fall.

In 2012, Womack teamed up with Albarn again, as well as Richard Russell of XL Recordings to record The Bravest Man in the Universe. It marked his first album of original solo material since 1994's Resurrection. Womack was scheduled to embark on a European tour this summer. He was at work on a new album, collaborating with Stevie Wonder, SnoopDogg, Rod Stewart, and Levert.

Womack is survived by Regina Banks and four children, Gina, Bobby Truth, Cory and Jordan; he also had the tragedy of a stillborn child in the Sixties, an infant son, Truth, who died at four months of age in 1978, and a son, Vincent, who committed suicide in 1986, at age 21. He died just two weeks after playing the Bonnaroo festival in Tennessee

**TEXAS**  
**NATIONAL**  
**BANK**

LOOKING FOWARD ★ REACHING HIGHER

 MEMBER F.D.I.C  
 FULL SERVICE BANKING  
 Texas National Bank  
 Telebank 24 Hr  
 1-866-586-0044  
 www.tnbjacksonville.com

- LOCATIONS:  
 903 586 0931  
 ★ 300 Neches Jacksonville  
 903 683 8899  
 ★ 484 North Main Rusk  
 903 894 5030  
 ★ 524 East Main Bullard  
 903 663 0587  
 ★ 612 East Hawkins Longview  
 903 938 5400  
 ★ 716 East End Blvd. Marshall

## Things Could Be Worse

When Jesus started His church, the pastor (Jesus) was executed. The chairman of the board (Peter) was cursing, swearing and denying his position. The treasurer (Judas) committed suicide after embezzling funds. The other board members (the disciples) ran away. The only ones left were a few from the Ladies Fellowship. You see, your church is not all that bad!

# Hollywood's Time

By Billy (Hollywood) Groves Special Writer to The Texas Informer and CEO of the Groves Standard Crockett, Texas.



In the aftermath of the tragic deaths and trials of Trayvon Martin and Jordan Davis, both seventeen year old African Americans in Florida, I think the time has come for America to take a closer look at the infamous "Stand Your Ground Laws" and how they are used unfairly against African Americans. For starters the law seems to work in favor of racism. Based on previous experiences involving African Americans, "Stand Your Ground Laws", one would have to describe things this way.

Apparently, If you are a white person and you get into any type of altercation or misunderstanding with a black person; regardless of whether you started the altercation or not, you can evoke the Stand Your Ground Laws and basically "take your gun out, blow the brains out of that person and legally get away with it." When you get to court all you have to say is, "I was afraid of that black teenager or that black person." Look at a Florida case which occurred around the same time of the Trayvon Martin murder, involving an African American Woman.

In Florida Evidently this is sufficient to obtain an acquittal. Florida, the state with the most blatant antagonistic form of Stand Your Ground Laws, leaves no doubt that racism is rearing its ugly head through so called legal means. If you need further proof that this law is racist, Court sentenced a young black woman to 20 plus years in prison for firing a warning shot in the air at her abusive husband who was threatening was facing a "real threat" in a situation where her husband wasn't just an "alleged woman abuser", but had a

# Are "Stand Your Ground Laws" Ushering in New Age Racism?

criminal history of abuse involving his former wife and an admitted confession that he was going to hurt his current wife, before she fired the warning shot in the air. These facts didn't change the outcome of the verdict. A Florida court disregarded the facts in her case, which fit all the qualifications her life. She tried to use the Stand Your Ground Law at her trial, where she was facing a "real threat" in a situation where her husband wasn't just an "alleged woman abuser", but had a criminal history of abuse involving his former wife and an admitted confession that he was going to hurt his current wife, before she fired the warning shot in the air. These facts didn't change the outcome of the verdict.

A Florida court disregarded the facts in her case, which fit all the qualifications for Stand Your Ground laws. Florida judicial system's arrogance clearly sends the message that this is not a black person's law. This is a law that is only available to be used by certain privileged groups of citizens against those they deem to be "thugs or unsavory characters." The problem with the way the Stand Your Ground Law is, is the arbitrary manner in which it is upheld in U.S. Courts, especially in Florida. This malfeasance is just plain, un-American, wrong and the forerunner of a new age of racism in America. At some point we have to forget political correctness and call the "Stand Your Ground Laws what they really are— New Age Racism.

Florida judicial system's arrogance clearly sends the message that this is not a black person's law. This is a law that is only available to be used by certain privileged groups of citizens against those they deem to be "thugs or unsavory characters." When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him.

Isaiah 59:19 (KJV)

# East Texas Shout Outs!

Jesus Christ, President Barack Obama, Dr. Ruth Watson Houston, Rev. and Sis. Jimmy Tillis, Ester, Walker, Walker and Walker Funeral Home, Dr. Ianthia Fisher, Chief Jimmy Fisher, Eric Holder, Buddha Ali Shaw, Wendy Davis, Jerry "Hype" Johnson, Dr. Helen King, George King, Rev. Delvin Atchison, James and Rose McCullough, the Crockett High Bulldogs, Judge Erin Ford, Sis. Earlie Groves, Roberta Mason, Dr. Carolyn Jackson, Rev. and Sis. Winston Spencer, Sr., The Hickman Family, Deacon and Sis. W.L. tillis, Muhammad Asif, Victoria Essien, Rob T. Turner, Wicked Crickett, Richard "Dick" Taylor and Wife, Joe Mack Pink, Otis "Bimbo" Hampton, Charles Veasely, The Taylor and Hampton Families of Tyler, Texas, Ricky "Maceo" Mayfield, Charles "Polo" Porter, KB Dakidnappa, Youngest In Charge, Slim Thug, Flip, Chalie Boy, Earl Josphe Sorrell of Ohio, Dr. Dotti Jones, Dr. Lynn Ellison, The BTW Ex's of Texas, City, Charles Arnett of Arkansas, The Shepherd Family, Pat Perry, Chester Crawford, Royce "Doc" Craft, Lloyd Archie, Mt. Moriah Baptist Murray, The Castro Brothers of San Antonio, Texas, Floyd Mayweather, Oscar Delahoya,

Evans, The late: Ruby Davis, Lowell Davis, Palmetta Marshall, Lillie Bell Groves and Lavern Brown. Leroy Bryant, Hubbard, Justin Gilbert, Tameka Handy, Larry Robbins, Muriel Williams, James (Palestine) Smith, Cam Benton and Marie, Just Brittany, Tyrone "Six" Colter, Dominique Wheeler, Lela Wheeler, James and Jurlinda Gentry, Linda Warfield, Rodney Freeman and Family, Dr. Kim Reagans, Rev. Norman and Linda White, Rev. Norris and Sis. White, Gwen "Fee" Spurlock, Ashley Spurlock, Jacob Aldaco, Joni Clonts, Kylene McCreight, Darrell and Betty Church Charles Holmes, Gerald Barkley and the Late Wesley Rodgers. Church, Rev. Lance Mann, Dr. Brenda Atchison, Ronnie Coleman, The Essien Family, The Crockett Post Office Crew, The Grapeland Sandies Basketball Team, The Grapeland Public Library, The Crockett Public Library, The Marshall and Cooper Families, Roy and Shirley Molonson, The Informer of East Texas, Walter and Maxine Session, County Life Magazine, Penny Lynn Webb, the Houston

Continue page 15



## EVERY ONE IS IMPORTANT.

You can help keep your child healthy with regular checkups and vaccines. Every one is important. And they're free with Children's Medicaid.

Your child will also get other health benefits like free prescription drugs, dental care, eye exams, and glasses. Even rides to and from the doctor or dentist's office. Call today or visit our website to apply.

[www.CHIPmedicaid.org](http://www.CHIPmedicaid.org)  
1-877-KIDS-NOW

 **Children's Medicaid**  
We've got your kids covered.

CHILDREN WITH MEDICAID CAN GET FREE RIDES TO THE DOCTOR OR DENTIST'S OFFICE. CALL 1-877-MED-TRIP TO LEARN MORE.

Christianity



Believe

Acts 16: 16-40

If you were arrested on a bogus charge, stripped and beaten in front of an angry mob, and thrown unceremoniously into the local jail, how would you respond? With anger, fear, indignation, or despair? How about singing?

Most of us would probably not feel like singing hymns of praise as we nursed our wounds, surrounded by other prisoners in a filthy jail cell. That, however, is exactly what Paul and Silas did as they sat in the dungeon in the city of Philippi.

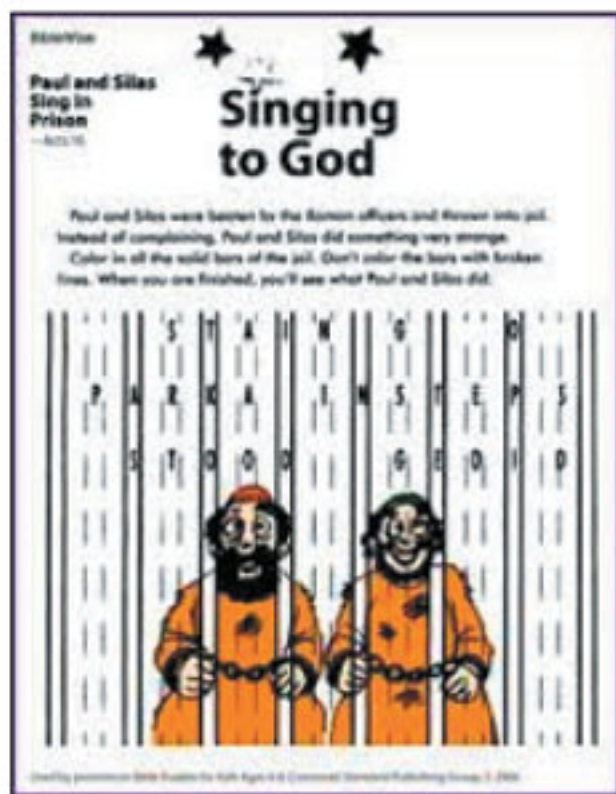
Paul and Silas had to come to Phillippi in order to preach the Gospel of salvation by the grace of God through faith in Christ alone. Along the way, however, they had encountered a slave girl who was possessed by a demon.

As horrifying as that was, however, the girl's owners did not wish to see her made whole since her fortune-telling was a source of income for them. So when Paul cast the demon out of the poor girl, her masters were enraged. They "grabbed Paul and Silas and dragged them before the authorities at the marketplace" (verse 19 NLT). They were beaten, put in jail, and restrained with their feet in stocks - rather unlikely setting for a praise and prayer service, wouldn't you say? About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them.

26 Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose. The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!"

The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." Then they



spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.

When it was daylight, the magistrates sent their officers to the jailer with the order: "Release those men." The jailer told Paul, "The magistrates have ordered that you and Silas be released. Now you can leave. Go in peace."

But Paul said to the officers: "They beat us publicly without a trial, even though we are Roman citizens, and threw us into prison. And now do they want to get rid of us quietly? No! Let them come themselves and escort us out."

The officers reported this to the magistrates, and when they heard that Paul and Silas were Roman citizens, they were alarmed. They came to appease them and escorted them from the prison, requesting them to leave the city. After Paul and Silas came out of the prison, they went to Lydia's house, where they met with the brothers and sisters and encouraged them. Then they left.

A wise person will understand what to do, but a foolish person is dishonest. Fools don't care if they sin, but honest people work at being right.  
~Proverbs 14: 8-9

GoBus service hours reduced

Kilgore, Texas - Effective June 16, 2014, GoBus service hours will reduce from the current hours of 6:00 AM - 7:00 PM to 6:30 AM - 5:30 PM in order to serve GoBus customers in a more efficient and cost-conscious manner. These new hours will apply to all trips within the 14 counties served in East Texas as well as the Marshall flex bus routes. Maps to the three Marshall flex routes can be seen here. Due to the new service hours, all Marshall flex route arrival times had to be changed. New approximate arrival times can be viewed here.

ETCOG's rural transportation system, GoBus, makes approximately 600 trips a day, 5 days a week, throughout the 14 counties of East Texas. There are approximately 40 vehicles in the GoBus fleet which provide demand/response service within the region and a flex route service in Marshall. To schedule a trip, call 1.800.590.3371 before 2:00 pm the day prior to the requested service. You may call up a week in advance to schedule a ride.

Slocum Texas Massacre of 1910

In late July 1910, a shocking number of African Americans in Texas were slaughtered by white mobs in the Slocum area of Anderson County and the Percilla-Augusta region of neighboring Houston County. The number of dead surpassed the casualties of the Rosewood Massacre in Florida and rivaled those of the Tulsa Riots in Oklahoma, but the incident—one of the largest mass murders of blacks in American history—is now largely forgotten. As we reflect on the anniversary of Juneteenth, E.R. Bills investigates the facts behind this harrowing act of genocide

Bills, an Austin, Texas writer has conducted research in recent years and uncovered little known facts surrounding this horrifying event which to this day impacts the lives of surviving family members. The book entitled, "The 1910 Slocum Massacre: An Act of Genocide in East Texas (Paperback) By E. R. Bills, can be purchased online, Brazos Book Store, or Barnes and Nobles Book Store.



EVERY ONE IS IMPORTANT.

You can help keep your child healthy with regular checkups and vaccines. Every one is important. And they're free with Children's Medicaid.

Your child will also get other health benefits like free prescription drugs, dental care, eye exams, and glasses. Even rides to and from the doctor or dentist's office. Call today or visit our website to apply.

www.CHIPmedicaid.org  
1-877-KIDS-NOW

Children's Medicaid  
We've got your kids covered.

CHILDREN WITH MEDICAID CAN GET FREE RIDES TO THE DOCTOR OR DENTIST'S OFFICE. CALL 1-877-MED-TRIP TO LEARN MORE.

# Speakout! Those who don't work, don't eat!

There is a growing trend across America and across racial lines that shows healthy, able bodied men who won't work, won't marry and won't contribute to the social, spiritual and economic well-being of the family. They take no responsibility for anything. Many who are fathers are as old as forty years old and have never been gainfully employed. This means that a woman/mother, grandparents or the government is putting food on the table. Is it time to go back to the old saying, "Those who don't work, don't eat?" What is the solution to this problem? The following people speak out!



Gene Eddie - Diana



Herbert Freney - Longview



Lue Ann Attaway Freney - Longview



L. C. Davis - Diana

There is no solution. The Bible is being fulfilled. Each generation is growing wiser but weaker. The Bible says the order of the family is for the man to be the head of the household. Until we get it right there will be no change. These men are ignorant to the true facts of life.

Isiah Chapter 4. It all goes back to family values. Back when I was growing up children came with two parents. When there is one and that one is always out working to provide for the family, who raises the children? Who educates them and teaches them family values? Who teaches them honesty, fairness and work ethics?

There is a solution. It lies within women and the choices they make. If young women could see themselves in a different light. If they had self respect. They are making life hard on themselves, their parents and the children they bring into this world by trying to carry the whole burden. If they would stop and think about the possible results of some of the choices they make, that in itself would make a difference.

There is no solution. These men were not taught family values, according to the Bible, and work ethics. It goes back to the fact that parents don't have time for their children. They don't teach the Bible at home and they don't go to church. That means the children don't go. Everybody use to go to church. You could count the ones who didn't. Now you can count the ones who do.

## Thank you to the Nueces and PEAR Units

I would like to acknowledge the Nueces and PEAR Units of RSH. You were all wonderful people to work with. Thank you for the retirement parties and for making the time I worked with you so enjoyable.

Sincerely,  
Debbie Rushing

## The City of Rusk, Texas

**"A City Planning for the Future"**  
*Drop by and Apply*

**Always Taking Applications**  
**"Always looking for good people"**

**406 North Main**  
**Rusk, Texas 75785**  
**(903) 683-2214**

*He who pats himself on the back may dislocate his shoulder.*  
~Earnest Legouve



See me today and get the discounts and service you deserve.



**Austin Young, Agent**  
400 N Main Street  
Rusk, TX 75785-1332  
Bus: 903-683-5486  
austin.young.jkgu@statefarm.com



LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR, STATE FARM IS THERE.®

# Juneteenth Celebrated in Palestine

# Youth 912 Camp Gets A New Name... Youth 913 Camp is Just Around the Corner



James Smith, M. C. and Honor Guard



Civil War Soldiers and crowd look on as they wait to take part in re-inactment.



Heritage program recognizes youth at Calhoun park following parade.

Our 3rd Annual Youth Camp will be held on July 22nd – 25th at the Cherokee County Expo Center in Jacksonville. This camp will follow a similar format as the two previous years. It will be a hands-on day camp for kids ages 9 to 13 years old from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. each day. This camp is meant to be an introduction to some of the major proj Projects and Water Education & Appreciation.

Meals, snacks and refreshments will be provided. You may pre-register for this camp by contacting the County Extension Office at (903) 683-5416. We will then send you the registration form that you can either mail in or drop off in person by the registration deadline (July 16th). This camp is open to to camp. non-4-H members as well as 4-H members. In fact, if you are a

member and planning to attend, you are encouraged to bring a non-4-H member with you. Enrollment fees for this camp are as follows: Non-Member: \$90.00

Current 4-H Member: \$60.00

If a family will have multiple siblings attending camp, a declining schedule will be applied to each subsequent enrollee. First child enrolls at full rate; each additional child enrolls at \$10 less than the child before them. Example: Family with three non-members attending would be \$90+\$80+\$70=a savings of \$30.00.

Remember the deadline to register is July 16th at 5:00 p.m. A late registration is open on the 17th and 18th fee of \$15.00 will assessed to each enrollee.

## Glasses. Medicine. Dentist visits. Peace of mind.

\$50 or less covers all your children for one year.

Who can get it?

Family Size (Adults + Kids)	Yearly Family Income Before Taxes
1	Up to \$24,053
2	Up to \$32,408
3	Up to \$40,788
4	Up to \$49,143
5	Up to \$57,499
6	Up to \$65,879

Apply online or call anytime. CHIPmedicaid.org 2-1-1



## O. T. Allen & Son

Provides all your funeral needs.

703 East San Antonio  
P. O. Box 495  
Alto, Texas 75759  
936 858-4111

Serving area families over 85 years

# Black Business Owners See Obstacles to Growth in Texas, Report Says

June 19, 2014

AUSTIN, Texas — The number of black-owned businesses in Texas is growing, but the firms remain small in comparison to other Texas businesses, and their owners perceive significant barriers to growth and profitability, according to a new report from the Bureau of Business Research at The University of Texas at Austin.

Based on census data and a survey of black business owners, the report shows the number of black-owned businesses in Texas is growing faster than the state average for all businesses. The state saw a 74 percent jump in the number of black-owned businesses between 2002 and 2007, compared with a 25 percent rise in the number of Texas businesses overall during the same period.

But the vast majority (95 percent) of black-owned businesses in Texas have no paid employees other than the owner. In sales and number of employees, black-owned businesses lagged behind state averages. In 2007, the average black-owned business had 10 employees and \$60,000 in sales, while the average Texas business had 23 employees and \$1.2 million in sales. In their survey responses, a majority of black business owners indicated they felt they had the education and skills needed to succeed. They saw room for improvement in the areas of political access and contracting opportunities.

A majority of those surveyed (76 percent) said they perceive black-owned businesses to have less access than other firms to government decision makers who influence procurement opportunities. A majority of survey respondents also believed that black-owned businesses were unfairly excluded from taking part in contracting opportunities with government (63 percent) and the private sector (70 percent). "The survey showed a strong need among black business owners for more financial training and increased access to working capital," said report co-author Bruce Kellison of the Bureau of Business Research. "Many of our survey respondents have businesses in the service sector, a growing segment of the state and national economy. But their firms have difficulty scaling and remain smaller than the average Texas business. As a state, we must work together to address their needs for financial training, better access to capital, and increased contracting opportunities, all of which appear to be constraining this growing and vital part of our economy."

"We are grateful to the Texas Association of African American Chambers of Commerce for collaborating with us on this important survey," said university President Bill Powers. "A better understanding of the obstacles faced The Bureau of Business Research,

by black business owners will help the association, and all of us across the state, formulate strategies to create a healthier economy for all Texans." part of the IC2 Institute at The University of Texas at Austin, surveyed 914 black-owned businesses across the state. Additional survey findings dealt with:

**Access to capital:** More than 50 percent of the respondents had never applied for a business loan and almost 20 percent had applied but never received one, while 28 percent had received business loans.

**Perceptions of profitability:** In general, respondents believed their businesses were less profitable than their peers in the same industry, a perception that was especially strong among nonemployer firms.

**Training needs:** Accounting and finance were seen as the top training needs.

In 2012, the Bureau of Business Research published a similar report on the state of Hispanic-owned businesses in Texas.

For more information, contact: J.B. Bird, University Communications, 512-750-3512(m), 512-471-4550(o); Bruce Kellison, IC2 Institute, Bureau of Business Research, 512-475-7813.

## Hollywood's Time

East Texas Shout Out! County Courier, Joe Batts, Rev. and Sis. Hosea Dolphus, Rev. R.C. Emanuel, Lee Anthony Young, Quanell X, Texas Southern University, Sam Houston State, Stephen F. Austin, Prairie View A&M, University of Houston, Rice University, Angelina Community College, Rev. Johnny and Beverly Taylor, Willie Carter, The Prosperity Bank Crew of Crockett, Bill Holcomb, Lillian Davis Marshall, Rich Kid, Cherry Rich, Deon Ballard, Cessily Walker, Charles Allen Jimmy Spivey, Pete Miles, Daphne Session, Bridgette Lamb, Betty Jackson (Greensboro, N.C.), Marshall Bradford (Birmingham, Alabama), Mas Mazerati (Los Angeles, CA) U.S. Rep. shelia Jackson Lee, State Rep. Alma Allen, U.S. Rep. Al Green, Rev. John McKnight Jr., Sis. Legora White, Mary Martin, Shirley "Sue" Murray, Elmer (Con't page)

## Glasses. Medicine. Dentist visits. Peace of mind.

\$50 or less covers all your children for one year.

Who can get it?

Family Size (Adults + Kids)	Yearly Family Income Before Taxes
1	Up to \$24,063
2	Up to \$32,408
3	Up to \$40,788
4	Up to \$49,143
5	Up to \$57,499
6	Up to \$65,879

Apply online or call anytime. CHIPmedicaid.org 2-1-1



Happy 101 Birthday to Mrs. Inez Reeder Conley July 24th



Inez Reeder Conley

# New Hope hosts Vacation Bible School



Alto, TX. Pictured above are some of the more than fifty students attending the July Vacation Bible School taught at New Hope Baptist Church Alto. Pastor Tracy Clater and staff provided a full week of bible education and hands on activities for students from the Rusk, Alto and surrounding areas. Ephesians 6:10-18 was the theme for the week: 10 Finally, be strengthened by the Lord and by His vast strength. 11 Put on the full armor of God so that you can stand against the the tactics of the Devil. Right above Rev. Clater uses a student dressed in armor to provide a demonstration for the lesson.



Lufkin, TX. Victor Travis and students from his life science class display bottle rockets made from discarded soda bottles. Teaching is the second career for this retired military man. This class is a part of the Don E. Boyd Summer Camp held each year at Lufkin Middle School.