



Hughley to host BET Awards
page 13

Minister Luther Barnes
comes to Crockett
See page 11

Charles Doty retires
page 11

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
Rusk, Texas
Permit #0332

Since 1995

Your
Gateway
to
East Texas

TEXAS INFORMER

May 2008
Volume XIII, Number 2

Web: www.texasinformer.com
e-mail: informernews08@aol.com

P.O. Box 332
Rusk, Texas 75785

Denman still singing the blues

Obama Clinches Democratic Nomination



Barack Obama has clinched the Democratic presidential nomination after sixteen months of campaigning, and Voters stated their preference in state primaries giving Obama the required 2,118 delegates making him the first Black candidate ever to lead his party into a fall campaign for the White House. Campaigning on call for change, Obama reached the delegate goal topping former First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton in an historic race that drew record turnout in primary after primary, yet exposed deep racial and gender divisions within the Democratic party and America.

The total for delegates was based on public declarations from delegates as well as from others who have confirmed their intentions to vote for Obama.

The Texas State Democratic Convention held in Austin, Texas began on Thursday (See page 13)

ETMC launches 10th annual free prostate cancer screening

Jacksonville, TX.- It's time to sign up for East Texas Medical Center Regional Healthcare System's 10th annual free prostate cancer screening for men. Last year, ETMC screened almost 1,500 men, according to Todd Sigmon, ETMC Cancer Institute Vice President. "From our annual ETMC PSA (prostate specific antigen) blood tests, 61 tests came back with abnormalities. These men were referred to their doctors for further evaluation," Sigmon said. The screening is a simple blood test, which identifies the level of PSA in the blood. An elevated level is an early sign of prostate cancer. During the past nine years, ETMC has screened more than 26,000 men during its annual June prostate cancer screening. You are at risk and eligible for the screening if:

- * You are 50 or more years of age.
- * You are 40 or more and are African-American.
- * You are 40 or more and have a family history of prostate cancer.
- * You have not been in the care of a urologist for any prostate-related problems or diagnosis in the past year.
- You have not had a PSA test since July 1, 2007

(See Page 7)



See Cover Story page 3

EDITORIAL



Our Children are our Future

Maxine Session

Our children are our future. It's up to us to set values, examples and boundaries for them beginning at birth. Psychologists say a child's personality is three-fourths of the way developed by the time he or she is four years old. This means we can't wait until they are as tall as we are to set values that develop the conscience to choose right over wrong. We can't wait to build positive self-esteem within them. Positive self-esteem is very important to the beliefs one has about self.

I was talking with my oldest granddaughter a few hours after the Democratic Primaries were over. She was elated to the point of being tearful when Barack Obama announced that he had gained the required number of delegates to become the Presumptive Democratic Presidential Nominee.

She couldn't understand why in the history of the United States, that it has taken so long for the heart of America to realize that someone of African descent is just as capable as anyone else to hold the highest office in the land.

Many black children have not pursued their dreams because of myths society has tied to skin color. History books and educational curricula that did not record and teach the history of Black Americans did a dis-service to both black and white Americans. Knowledge is the key to understanding.

As African Americans celebrate the Emancipation Proclamation which freed the slaves in 1863 (Texas 2 years later, June 1865) some, one hundred forty-five years later there has not been a dialog on race and racism between black and white America.

Barack Obama talks openly about his personal life, his parents and his grandmother. He tells the fact that his father was black and his mother white. Somewhere along the way he was confused about his identity and where he fitted into American Society, yet he found his place.

Forty long years after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther, King Jr. Barack Obama who was just 6 years old at the time, has made history. Somebody in his life took the time to help develop his values and to develop positive self-esteem in him. Somebody in his life understood that our children are our future.

America is judging Obama by the contents of his character and not the color of his skin. The history he is making will crack the face of racism and cause some black child to see him or herself in a different light...one that lifts the contents of character above race and racism.

To advertise in The Texas Informer
please call, fax or e-mail
(903) 683-1065
(903) 683-5743
(903) 683-1041
informernews08@aol.com
www.texasinformer.com

Texas Informer
Subscription
Mail to P. O. Box 332
Rusk, Texas 75785

Name: _____

Address: _____

\$12.50 six months

\$25.00 1 year

Our goal is to strengthen families,

Cherokee County Informer DBA Texas Informer

The African American Press of East Texas

*"Bringing you positive news about
local people"*

941 Loop 343

P. O. Box 332

Rusk, Texas 75785

Ph: (903) 683-1065

Ph: (903) 683-5743

Fax: (903) 683-8543

www.texasinformer.com

informernews08@aol.com

PUBLISHER/SALES MANAGER

Walter Session

EDITOR/WRITER

Maxine Session

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Krystal Ward Carter

Billy "Hollywood" Grooves

Ferlich July Arrington

James Breedlove

Published monthly it serves Anderson, Angelina,
Cherokee, Houston and Rusk Counties.

informernews08@aol.com

www.texasinformer.com

Don't let anyone tell you how to vote

Except us.



If you're registered to vote in Texas, you can vote — no matter your age, language education or physical ability. Visit www.votexas.org or call 1-800-252-VOTE (868). The Texas Secretary of State's office will show you everything you need to do to vote. As to who and what to vote for, well, you'll have to figure that out for yourself.

VOTEXAS.ORG
You count. Texas makes sure.

Happy

Father's

Day to

fathers

everywhere!

Sunday,

June 15th

Charles Denman still Sings the Blues Bebop and Swing Jazz

by Maxine Session

The Blues emerged in the late 1890s following slavery. Prior to that time the main ingredient of black music was field hollers which served as a means of communication and as work songs to keep time with a task and soothe the troubled minds of plantation slaves. The call and response of expression from the hollers style remained a part of blues music, but a new style was incorporated, whereby the blues singer responded to himself or herself.

Blues music reflected the new status that Black people gained with their freedom. The first recording of the blues was 1895, George W. Johnson's "Laughing Song". By the 1920s Mamie Smith's recording of "Crazy Blues" opened the doors for other classic blues singers when her recording priced at one dollar each sold 75,000 copies in the first month.

Former Ruskite Charles Denman has been singing since he was about six years old. He began singing with the family gospel quartet. His Dad, Oscar B. Denman, Sr. could site read music. He used his knowledge of music and a Pitch Pipe to teach three part harmony of gospel songs to the family, which they sang ocapala.

Denman was a sophomore student sitting in the audience in the school auditorium while the orchestra practiced. The vocalist was having a difficult time with timing on the selection he was trying to sing. This was before television was available. Radio was the main family entertainment. Charles spent a lot of time listening to the radio, so he knew the lyrics to most songs. He sang loud, clear, and on time the song the vocalist was trying to sing. When the music teacher shouted "Who is that out there singing?" He thought he was in trouble. He identified himself. The music teacher, Jesse Warner said, "Come on up here!" He had Charles sing along with the vocalist to help him keep time. He got the job as lead vocalist of the group. That's how he began singing the blues. His only problem was how to get around his mother? The young people in his family were not allowed to sing the blues or dance.

By that time his brothers were gone from home and they didn't have the gospel group at home, any longer, so nothing much came of his singing with the orchestra. They sang and played Blues and Jazz Bebop and Swing.

J. Mayo Wilder became principal just before this time. Music grew in the school under him. He organized choral groups and wrote the school song, "Old Bradford High". Jesse Warner, the music teacher, organized the first area high school orchestra and the first school band. The ensemble was called the Flamingoes. They were the only orchestra in the area so they played for their own high school proms

and others in the area. The Flamingoes played downtown Rusk at the Eagles' Nest even tho' segregation and racism were sanctioned by the law. They also played for patient activities at Rusk State Hospital.

Saturday nights were exciting times during football season. The games were played at Music Field Stadium. Charles' senior year the 1954-55 football team was a winner, falling only one game short of going to state competition. He and Norris Foreman were quarterbacks and J. W. Carter was their coach.

L. J. Walker, Billy George West, Howard Carter and Bobby Joyce Hardeway were also on the team.

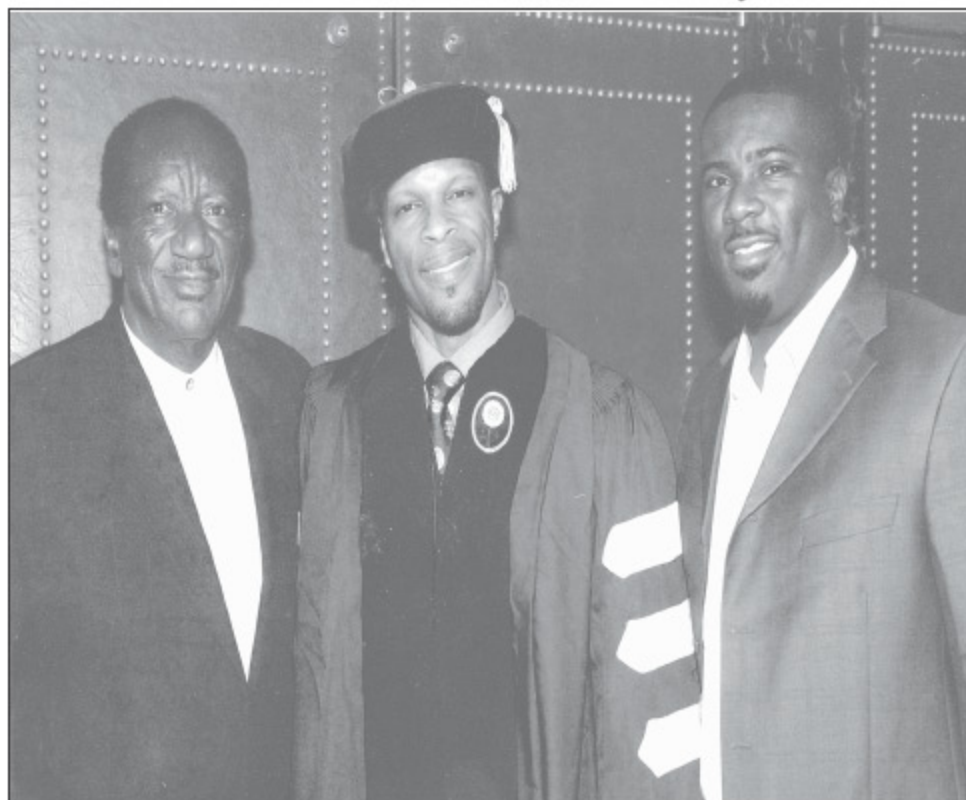
He had a great life, with limits, but after high school graduation Denman was looking for a change. He joined the Navy to see the world. At home, everything had been segregated. In the Navy and in San Francisco where he was stationed, everything was intergrated. He found the change he had been looking for in a whole new world. He became a Recruit Chief Petty Officer, continued music and enoyed the navy for three years and eight months. Joe Lewis became the heavyweight boxing champ and the Joe Lewis era began. Harry Belafonte recorded a hit called "Banana Boat" and the Calipso became the number one dance. They were black people that could be looked up to.

When he was in high school there was no black history taught so there was no history of black achievement and no one to look up to.

He returned home and basically nothing had changed. The difference appeared to be suffocating. Blacks were shutdown in the area; still made to feel ashamed of cultural connections to Africa. His nephew Cleo had grownup and was performing in the high school group. They enjoyed a lot of Jazz and music performances together.

He found a job working with his brother-in-law, James Rivers, on a construction crew. In those days Juneteenth was a really big holiday being second only to Christmas. It was traditional that every family had barbeque goat and red soda.

He stayed home for the better part of a year then got married. His itch to do music made him and his new wife return to California. He put together a group and performed



L. to R. -Charles Edward Denman, Sr., Dr. Charles (Chuckie) Edward Denman, Jr. and Anthony Denman attending Chuckie's graduation from University of Rochester, NY School of Medicine May 2007

at the Beverly Hills Hotel, Beverly Wilshire, toured San Francisco, Nevada and played Lake Tahoe. Playing the high society gigs put him in position to meet lots of important people like Mayor Tom Bradley and Lena Horn.

Denman recorded his first record in 1966 with London Records on a Gar Packs label. It was produced by singer writer Gary Paxton. Right afterwards Gary became famous for his own recording "Ally OOP" and "Monster Mash".

Soon alterwards music underwent a change from the smooth Sam Cook Style to easy Soul. "I couldn't make that change", Denman said. "It was too close to turning gospel music to blues. I had been taught to keep the two separate." He said his parents, Oscar and Luella Denmantaught him a lot of things that have helped him survive two of the most important of those, beong how to read the bible and pray.

Charles still sings the Blues. He has performed with some of the best big bands around the country and on University campuses including Jazz great Conrad Johnson of Houston. Again this month he will be singing with the Joe Teague Ensemble June 13th as part of the 10th Bi-annual G. W. Bradford Reunion.

Charles will be performing from time to time at the Thomas J. Rusk Cafe here in Rusk. He says music has long been a tool that brings about racial harmony.

Blues at one time appeared to become a lost art to this generation of young African Americans. Today, there is a ressurgenace of interest in tthe Blues, Jazz Bebop and Swing. Charles Denman says he plans to be a part of the movement that makes it as popular as it was in past years, because he plans to continue singing.

THE TRUTH CLINIC

by James Breedlove

Truth Misused Leads To Freedom Abused

Therefore, putting away falsehood, let every one speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. (Ephesians 4:25)

If ye continue in My Word, then ye are my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the Truth, and the Truth shall make you free. (John 8:31-32)

Scott McClellan's tell-all tome "What Happened: Inside the Bush White House and Washington's Culture of Deception" has created a firestorm of controversy and much discussion that questions McClellan's motivation for writing the book.

As with most controversies there are those that believe Mr. McClellan did the right thing in exposing the Bush administration's lies and others that express outrage since revealing the inner secrets of the White House is perceived as a lack of loyalty that breeches the unwritten code of honor high level government officials are supposed to embrace.

Little if any effort seems to be expended in determining if McClellan is telling the truth. However, true to previous precedent when anyone dared challenge the Bush administration attack squads were quickly deployed to undermine the perpetrator's credibility, loyalty, and patriotism. If you don't like the message, attack the messenger seems to be the administration's response against whistle blowers. McClellan's book goes beyond the simple expose. He declares that President Bush "convinces himself

to believe what suits his needs at the moment," and has engaged in "self-deception" to justify his political ends. He calls the war in Iraq a strategic blunder and identified the administration's biggest mistake as "a decision to turn away from candor and honesty when those qualities were most needed."

This deliberate distaste for truth, especially in an administration that champions its Christian foundation, casts an ominous shadow over America, its image, and its future role in orchestrating world affairs. Now, as in the past, disclosing any truth that rebukes the deceptions and lies of those in power will activate opposition. For ages, those who dared to advocate for truth have been denounced as seditious, heretical, divisive or disgruntled. Some people have a pattern of lying, often including lying to themselves first. When these people make their way into positions of power they continue their destructive behavior. The only reason they survive is that their deception and lies are rarely publicly identified. John 3:20 says, "For every one that doeth evil hateth the light,

neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved." When men see that they cannot maintain their exalted position by perverse interpretation of the scriptures they will revert to malicious acts to assault the character and motives of those who dare to shine the light on their misdeeds. Incredibly, the same people who are being deceived will accept without question the accusations made against the brave souls who demand the truth be told.

What is the duty of the messenger of truth? The truth is not received for the messenger alone but through its revelation the knowledge of God's truth might enlighten the earth.

Even when Israel would not heed to God's truth the messenger was exhorted to speak God's words to them whether or not they would hear or abstain from the word. In Isaiah 58:1 the messenger is told to, "Lift up thy voice like a trumpet and show my people their transgressions and the house of Jacob their sins." Should the house of Bush be treated any different?

America has paid and continues to pay a huge price for ignoring the messengers who foretold of the very manifestations highlighted in "What Happened." Read the concerned pleadings of Senators Byrd and Stark and then State Senator Obama made in October 2002 warning of the consequences for accepting the deception being perpetrated in the call to war.

Every new truth is beset with hatred and opposition. Persecution in its varied forms will exist to fight the truth as long as Satan exists. No man can speak a God centered truth without enlisting the

enmity of the hosts of darkness.

There are many pseudo-Christians in the world today who, out of fear of rejection or hostile reaction, use shading of the truth or a nuanced truth as an alternative to avoid adhering to the unpleasant or unpopular divine truths. Lacking in spiritual courage these Christian charlatans who know better will still mislead using reconstructed truths that may pass secular legal tests but cannot stand the test of God's truth.

A dense darkness is falling over America and the World. Truth-tellers are becoming an extinct breed. Many Americans are afraid to speak the truth or even to hear the truth, fearful of intimidation by the government, and ridicule and ostracism by their friends and family. Fear can never engender freedom.

For a real Christian, there is no shading of the truth. The Word of God must shine in its full glory with no shadows, no dark spots, and no hidden meanings. Any Christian who succumbs to shaded truth and a culture of deception that misleads is nothing more than a liar.

Perhaps McClellan can tell his detractors that The Truth is the language of God and there is nothing in this world worth lying about.

James W. Breedlove

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

Success is the result of perfection, hard work, learning from failure, loyalty and persistence.

~Colin Powell

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: (03 723-4847 SHOP (903) 723-3532

NIGHT (903) 922-2892

1203 WEST OAK

Palestine, Texas 75801

6TH ANNUAL JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION HOSTED

Houston, TX (BlackNews.com) - Dubbed the largest Juneteenth celebration in the nation, the 6th Annual Missouri City Juneteenth Celebration, presented by Wells Fargo Bank, kicks off today, Monday, June 9 and will continue through Saturday, June 14, 2008.

The event's host, the Missouri City Juneteenth Celebration Foundation (MCJCF), a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, will welcome 10,000 guests from across the country for the annual event highlighting education as a means to true freedom from poverty, abuse and stagnation in life.

MCJCF Founder Don Smith remarked, "Martin Luther King Jr. said, 'We must remember that intelligence is not enough. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.'" "This year, our goal is to focus on youth activities that build character. Also, four students will each be awarded a \$2,500

scholarship and we will seek internships for these students. Our youth no longer live in traditional environments. It truly takes a village to raise a child. We are all responsible for the success of the next generation," Smith said.

Events this year are designed to raise cultural awareness, build character in our youth and provide wholesome entertainment for the entire family regardless of background. 6th Annual Missouri City Juneteenth Celebration activities include:

June 9 ~ Celebrity Golf Tournament, Sienna Plantation Golf Club, One Waters Lake Blvd., Missouri City, Texas 77459. Fun and entertaining 18 holes of golf open to individuals of all skill levels and corporate teams. This annual event provides much needed revenue for scholarships. Highlights include: hole-in-one contest featuring a \$50,000 Mercedes Benz, mulligan "wayward ball" insurance, and awards for closest to the pin, longest ball, best scores, "Tiger" Hole Contest and a sports collectables silent auction. Shot gun start at 9 a.m.

June 12 ~ Freedom Tree Dramatization, James Hudson "Showtime Theatre".

June 12 ~ Picnic in the Park, Grand Lakes, Lake Olympia, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Youth enjoy games, prizes, and lunch.

June 12 ~ Community Service Awards Dinner, Sugar Land Marriott Town Square, 16090 City Walk, Sugar Land, TX 77479. Former U.S. Secretary of Education Dr. Rod Paige is the featured speaker of the Community Service Awards Dinner beginning at 6 p.m. Dr. Paige will deliver remarks on the changing culture of education and the potential impact of a new administration.

Several community leaders are being honored at the dinner for making significant contributions to the Fort Bend County community, including: Willie J. Alexander, founder, W.J. Alexander & Associates, P.C. and former Houston Oiler; Lauren Anderson, noted ballerina with the Houston Ballet; Judge Joel Clouser, Missouri City Justice of the Peace of Precinct 2; Rodney Harrell, president and CEO, Alpha Claim Service; George E. Johnson, president and CEO, George E. Johnson Development Inc.;

JFort Bend County Commissioner Precinct 2 Grady Prestage; Judge Clarease Rankin Yates, U.S. Immigration Court; Coach John Wilkerson, mentors youth through tennis and coached several top tennis players such as Zina Garrison and Lori McNeil; and Pastor Remus and First Lady Mia Wright, founders, Fountain of Praise Church.

June 13 ~ Director's Dance, Missouri City Civic Center, 1533 Texas Parkway, Missouri City, Texas 77459, 8 p.m. to midnight. A free event to the public, the Director's Dance is a forum to say thank you to the community. Features include DJ Keith Bynum, a strolling magician, African folk dancers and more. June 13 & 14 ~ Houston Rockets Blacktop Battle 3-on-3 Summer Tour, Hunter's Glen Park, 1340 Independence Blvd., Missouri City, Texas 77489. On Friday, June 13, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Hunter's Glen Park will turn into a street ball haven. City. To register, contact Chris Lord Templonuev, 713-758-7351.

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

Minimum \$7,000 cash down on trade equity and \$1,000 per month down payment.
All finance decisions subject to credit review and approval.

Cherokee County Juneteenth & G. W. Bradford Parade

and Celebration

Saturday, June 14th
Parade lineup 11:00AM
Austin Bank Parking Lot
downtown Rusk, Texas
for information call
(903) 683-5743.

The G. W. Bradford All School Reunion

has been set for the weekend of
June 14, 15, 16, 2008
to be held in
Rusk, Texas
For information e-mail
hbosto66840@peoplepc.com
or informernews08@aol.com

WAL★MART
SUPER CENTER

Now Hiring

1311 S. Jackson
Jacksonville, TX 75766
(903) 589-3434
FAX(903)589-3162

Hollywood's Time

Crockett, Texas news &
views

by Billy (Hollywood) Grooves

The Late great James Brown has been gone for a short while, this is me belated tribute to a man who made America a better place for African Americans. There was a time "when God created James Brown" and during this remarkable man's journey through life, he changed the world. In the mind of this journalist, the contributions of the late flamboyant "Godfather of Soul" to America, without a doubt made contributions better for Black people. James Brown rejuvenated and energized African Americans with his song "Say It Loud, Im Black and Im Proud", when opening Americas eyes to black culture and a race of people who had been through "pure hell" but were still Black and proud. James Brown grew up in the South, so he fully understood racism, Jim Crown Laws, White privileges, black retrictions



privileges, black retrictions and what was "acceptable behavior" to balck folks back then...Yet he masterfully navigated his way through all of teh barriers of segregation and bigotry to become one of the greatest most influential Americans who ever lived. While there are people, both black and white who dont really understand the importance of James Brown life, there are millions of other Americans that understand that James Brown in his own way articulated the Black experience in America

in a way that made black folks feel good about themselves and white folks understand that we (black people) were not ashamed of our race. I know that things that James Brown stood for are surely needed today by our modern blackBlack youth who seem to be proud of red and blue colors, video games, clothes, music and everything else except their race. If more African Americans would have the "Say it Loud, Im Black and ImProud" mentality,therewould be fewer Black gang members and less Black and Black crime of all ages. I could go on forever about James Brown's positive

great Rev. Al Sahrpton in New York, when he was a little boy. I will this article by saying that we losta great man. If you dobut the authenticity of Jamer Browns career, then go out and research his life for yourself-"please", "please"! God Bless America, Africa and future"James Browns" who make us feel proud to be black! effect on America, which also includes him discovering the

failure at his home in FloridaThe legendary singer and performer, known for his homemade square guitar, dark glasses and black hat, was an inductee into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, had a star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame, and received a lifetime achievement award in 1999 at the Grammy Awards. In recent years he also played for the elder President Bush and President Clinton. Diddley appreciated the honors he received, "but it didn't put no figures in my checkbook."

"If you ain't got no money, ain't nobody calls you honey," he quipped.

The name Bo Diddley came from other youngsters when he was growing up in Chicago, he said in a 1999 interview.

"I don't know where the kids got it, but the kids in grammar school gave me that name," he said, adding that he liked it so it became his stage name. Other times, he gave somewhat differing stories on where he got the name. Some experts believe a possible source for the name is a one-string instrument used in traditional blues music called a diddley bow.

Rock Pioneer Bo Diddley Dies at Age 79

From Heart Failure Bo Diddley, a founding father of rock 'n' roll whose distinctive "shave and a haircut, two bits" rhythm and innovative guitar effects inspired legions of other musicians, died after months of ill health. Diddley died of heart

FREE CHECKING PLUS

- Always FREE
- Always Pays Interest
- Free ATM's Nationwide*
- Free Gift with this Account

Big Sandy • Bullard • Emory • Garrison • Gilmer • Gladewater
Grand Saline • Jacksonville • Kilgore • Longview • Marshall • Nacogdoches
Rusk • Timpson • Troup • Tyler • Van • Whitehouse


Member FDIC

www.austinbank.com

*Certain restrictions may apply.



Chuck Hopson: Owner
506 E. Commerce
Jacksonville, TX. Call: (903) 586-
Call: (903) 586-2208



Education

With the cost of college education rising and the amount of federal aid decreasing—thanks to the Bush administration—students are looking for a more reasonable way to obtain a college degree or trade. Well, don't look any further help is here, actually it's been here under your nose the entire time—Junior Colleges!!! In the East Texas you have so many choice to choose from: Jacksonville Baptist College, Lon Morris College, Tyler Junior College, Angelina College, Paris Junior College, Kilgore Junior College, Angelina and Trinity Valley Community College and the list goes on. According to the American Association of State Colleges and Universities the average cost to attend a public four-year university is \$13,145 a year, while the average cost to attend a 2 year public college is \$10,458. However, the cost of tuition varies from institution to institution. In Texas the average cost of tuition and fees for community colleges is \$1,695 compared to the national average cost of \$2,361. Ridiculously, the cost of tuition has increased 6.3% nationally, according to College Board. In Texas alone the tuition has increased over 5% last year. Thank God for 2 year colleges' that allow students to obtain an associates

Don't Overlook the Junior Colleges

degree or training without incurring huge debt. Kilgore Junior College offers programs that enable students to obtain an associates degree or a trade from healthcare to automotive.



Krystal Ward Carter

At Kilgore one can gain a two year associates degree—16 months including one summer, 72 hours long— one can obtain a licensure of nursing degree, with a national median salary of \$52,230. One can become an auto mechanic with a

one-year certificate with the national median salary starting at \$50,000. They can earn even more once they own their own shop. Computer technology is for students interested in repair and programming with a beginning salary of \$35,000 to \$42,000 which increases with experience.

Emergency Medical Technician that prepares students for pre-hospital care of patients, that teaches students life saving skills, required for the fast paced work environment. Licensed paramedics can expect to make \$35,000 to \$40,000 dollars in the East Texas area and \$48,000 in larger cities. Physical hygienist, one who cleans and examine teeth,

start off at \$35,000. Air conditioning and refrigeration technicians install, maintain, and repair equipment and accessory units for commercial, residential, and industrial usage. Students study the therapist assistants complete a two year program and help physical therapist implement treatment plans. The average national salary for a PTA is \$41,360. As a Dental repair of home appliances, such as ice makers, window air conditioners, freezers, and refrigerators as well as servicing of commercial air conditioning systems, heating systems and heat pumps. According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, the national median salary for technicians is \$37,660—although this varies by location. In some areas of the country skilled HVAC-R tech's are making up to \$100,000 yearly. This program is a basic 12-month certificate.

The requirements for most of these programs are a high school diploma or GED. If you don't have either they have free programs, in convenient locations, to help you obtain your diploma or GED. As you can see, the choices that Kilgore junior college, or 2 year colleges in general, give you are endless. Don't let a few hiccups, having a family, no college diploma, or even money come between you and your education—it is almost essential to better living for you and your family today! For further information about the opportunities at Kilgore Junior College go to www.kilgore.edu.

Health

Prostate Screening

from page 1

Symptoms of prostate cancer may include a painful or burning sensation when urinating; difficulty starting or stopping urine flow or inability to urinate; continuous pain in the lower back, pelvis or upper thighs; painful ejaculation; frequent urination; and blood in urine.

"When prostate cancer is in its earliest, most curable stage, there may be no symptoms to warn you," according to James Kolker, MD, radiation oncologist, and medical director of the ETMC Cancer Institute. "Prostate cancer is highly curable when detected early."

According to the American Cancer Society, prostate cancer kills 28,660 men each year and every man has a one-in-six chance of developing the disease in his lifetime. Prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in men. One in 35 men will die from prostate cancer. This year 186,320 new cases will be found. African-American men are more likely to have prostate cancer and to die of it than are white or Asian men. The good news is that the death rate is going down because the disease is being found earlier.

"The earlier prostate cancer is detected, the more options you have," Dr. Kolker added. "In addition to surgery, radiation beam therapy, hormone therapy and various combinations of these treatments, such as radioactive seed implant are available. This is a one-day procedure in which small radioactive seeds are placed inside the prostate gland to give a direct, high dose of radiation to the prostate tumor. Many early prostate cancers can be treated this way. Also some prostate cancer may be able to be treated now with the Cyberknife technology." In June prostate screenings will be available at a number of ETMC sites including Athens, Bullard, Carthage, Cedar Creek Lake, Clarksville, Crockett, Fairfield, Gilmer, Jacksonville, Lindale, Mt. Vernon, Palestine, Pittsburg, Quitman, Rusk, Trinity, Tyler and Whitehouse. You must have an appointment to take advantage of these special screenings. Please call ETMC HealthFirst (Monday-Friday from 7 a.m.-7 p.m.) to schedule your appointment at 800-850-7050.

TOSH INSURANCE AGENCY, Inc.

We Moved!

142 Main Street

Rusk, Texas

Carol Stovall*Don Jones

For any type Insurance
we've got you covered!

(903) 683-5433

Fast Action Bail Bonds

Open 24 hours a day-

7 days a week

FAST, DEPENDABLE,
CONFIDENTIAL SERVICE

Call: (903) 683-1577

Earlisha Hackney



Earlisha Hackney

Congratulations Earlisha

On being TAKS commended in English and Social Studies. Earlisha recieved the A&B honor roll all year. She was co-most valuable player at the tournament in Cayuga and all academic all district, and also honorable mention. She will be a cheerleader and Drum Major for the 2008-2009 school year. We are so proud of her accomplishments. keep up the good work and remember "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Kaylen Lofton



Kaylen Lofton

Congratulations, Kaylen on your successful junior year at Alto High School this year. You excelled in both athletics and academics. We are all very proud of the way you set goals and work hard to reach them.
We Love you! Your Family

Ms. Kimberly Chondra Clark Earns Doctorate of Jurisprudence



Ms. Kimberly Chonda Clark

Fayetteville, Arkansas- Kimberly C. Clark, 2001 Rusk High School graduate, completed her Juris Doctor degree on Saturday, May 17, 2008 from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas. Kim earned her Law Degree after completing

four years of undergraduate work at the University of Texas Austin where she earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science.

More than one hundred thirty-three candidates received their degrees with more than four hundred relatives and friends attending the ceremony at Fayetteville Town Center.

Relatives traveling from Rusk to celebrate this very important day with Kim were her mother, Ms. Shirley Burley Clark, Aunt and Uncle Maxine and Walter Session, Terri Franklin, Daphne Session, Shunnon Ratcliff, Darren Franklin, Charnell Franklin and Krystal Ward Carter. Her friends Dwight Hall from Memphis, Tennessee, Wanda and Ashley White of Dallas also attended. Following graduation, a dinner and reception were held for Kimberly and her close friend Shyretta Rochelle McCrakin who also earned her Law Degree. Dr. Clark will take the bar in July in Arlington, Texas. She is also the daughter of Charles Clark and the granddaughter of Adaline Clark of Somerville, New Jersey and Hazel Session of Rusk.



Brittney Cunningham and Mary J. Blige

Brittney Cunningham meets Mary J. Blige

Rusk, TX. - Brittany Cunningham is a long time fan of Mary J. Blige. After years of keeping up on the latest with the famous recording artist, Brittany was finally able to meet her. "It was a dream come true," She said.

Brittany will further her education this fall by attending Southern Louisiana University pursuing a degree in Forensic Science.

Alto Nursing Center

305 Maggie Sessions - Alto, TX

(936) 858-2255

NOW HIRING

Apply in person only!
CMA needed for full-time position available for split shifts, 6-2, 2-10

Full and part-time Charge Nurses including weekend doubles. Nurs for passing medications only, split shift 6-2, 2-10. RN for weekend supervision (flexible hours).

Hunter & Griffin to wed



Mary Evelyn Hunter is announcing her marriage to Reginald Lewis Griffin of Tyler, Texas. Mary is employed by Mesquite Independent School District, she is the daughter of Arvella Hunter and the Late Muriel Hunter. Reginald is employed by Goodyear Tire & Rubber and son of the Late Lewis Griffin and Martha Eldoris Francis, he was reared by aunts and uncles Henry & Tommie Francis, Verlee Mumphy, Ernest Campbell Edith Moore and the late Milton Francis, Jr., Raymond Frarancis and LeRoy Francis, Sr. The wedding will be a 7:00 P. M., July 26, at Sweet Union Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Texas.

Terry's Cakes

Made to fit your your taste and your pocketbook!
Weddings, Birthdays, Special Occassions



Call: (903)
683-2918

Fax: (903)
683-1041

Give us a call
to set an appoint
ment to choose
your cake for
that special day!

Charles Doty Retirement Dinner Held



L. to R. - Front Row Charles and Hazel Doty, 2nd Row. - Floyd Fowler, Tiffani Doty, Torre' Doty, Charlvin and Loretta Doty, Jessie and De-Londa Poole, Marian and Tre-mayne Poole.



Co-workers and Union members of the AFLCIO Local #782 along with President Tony D. Hayes presents Charles with a retirement plaque.

Jacksonville, TX. - Sunday evening May 25, 2008, more than seventy-five people traveled to the Local Union Hall on Hwy 110 South Tyler, Texas to join in celebration of the retirement of Charles Doty. Mr. Doty retired after 41 plus years working at General Electric and TRANE of Tyler. Co-workers family and friends told of significant events in their lives and the very important role Charles played in those events. They witnessed that although he lives in Jacksonville, Charles was never late to work, not once in 41 plus years. He plans to continue farming in partnership with his brother-in-law H. P. Peoples. Children and grandchildren served a delicious BBQ dinner to everyone. Charlvin Doty was the Master of Ceremony.

We're Handing Out Tickets Left and Right.

Drivers and passengers, if you're not buckled up, you're getting a ticket. Fines up to \$200.



Myrtis Dightman 20th Annual Platinum Labor Day Weekend Rodeo & Trailride set

Crockett, TX. -The Best of Texas Rodeo Association (BTRA) has set its 20th Rodeo for August 30th, 2008, at Porth Agriculture Arena in Crockett, Texas.

This Rodeo was established in 1989 by the living legend Mr. Myrtis Dightman Sr. Mr. Dightman was the

first African American cowboy to make the Pro Rodeo National Finals seven times dating from 1964-1972, which was an outstanding accomplishment in history for Mr. Dightman. He is the first living Black Cowboy inducted in 1997 into the National Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City.

Dightman also recieved The Ring of Honor for the Professional Bull Riders Association (PBR) in 2003, which was presented to him by Ty Murray, a PBR championship bull rider. Other honors include being inducted into the Cowboy of Color Hall of Fame in 2002, and the Texas Rodeo Hall of Fame in 2001.

This year The Best of Texas Rodeo Association want to make the 20th Annual Myrtis Dightman Rodeo one

that will be remembered for great rodeo entertainment, far exceeding our goal supporting education, facilitating better youth agricultural practices through exhibitions and presentations, and for presenting scholarships to youth seriously interested in rodeo sports.

For more information contact Linda Hickman, Secretary @713 703-6328 or E-Mail > lish49@global.net



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

CITIZENS 1ST BANK

HOME OWNED AND SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1920
JUST AS IT SERVES RUSK STATE HOSPITAL

Rusk - 601 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

Member FDIC



OBITUARIES

Mrs. May Belle Wagoner Franklin

Services for Mrs. May Belle Franklin were held Monday May 19, 2008 at the Shady Grove CME Church in the Shady Grove Community, Rusk. May Belle Wagoner Franklin was born May 3, 1920. She was the first of seven Children born to the union of Ora willis and Charlie Wagoner. On Thursday May 15, 2008, she entered "Eternal Rest". She was reared in the small rural community of Shady Grove, located a few miles of Rusk TX. It was there that she attended grade school. After which she attended Fred Douglass High School in Jacksonville, Texas. May Belle was a life long member of Shady Grove C.M.E. Church. One of the happiest events of her existence was to go "down home(Shady Grove)" to church. She loved worshiping and visiting with her many realtives and friends. On September 6, 1939 she was united in Holy Matrimony with



Grady Lewis Franklin. To this union four sons, Melvin L. Franklin, Floyd E. Franklin, Larry D. Franklin and Elvin D. Franklin were born. She was a devoted wife and loving mother. Her life

evolved around her family. She was always concered about the well being of her sons and grandchildren. May Belle was preceded in death by her husband Grady I. Franklin, son Larry D. Franklin, mother, father, sister, and two brothers. To cherish her memory she leaves sons, Melvin (Elizebeth) Franklin of Kansas City, Floyd

Franklin of Jacksonville TX. and Elvin (Phyllis) Franklin of Grand Prairie, Texas; six grandchildren: Liz A. Bryant, Mark A. Franklin, Floyd A. (Terri) Franklin, Marlayna E. Franklin, Sterling Franklin and Miles Franklin; eight great grandchildren, seven great-great grandchildren, brothers: Charlie B. Wagoner, California, O.T. Wagoner and J.C. (Shirley) Wagoner of Jacksonville TX; several nieces, nephews and a host of other relatives and friends. Interment was at Jacksonville City Cemetary under the directions of Williams Funeral Home.

Mr. Jimmy Barret Drone

Palestine, TX. - Services for Mr. Jimmy Barret Drone were held May 17, 2008 at the South Union MIssionary Baptist Church Palestine, Texas. He was born in Larnesa Tx. March 15, 1951 to Catherine(Henry) Drone and Edward A. Barret. Jimmy accepted Jesus Christ at an early age while residing in Larnesa, Texas. He attended St. John Baptsit Church under the pastorate of Rev. J.H. Nelson. He was a faithful member. He graduated from Larnesa High School after which he served two years in the US Army and was honorably discharged. Jimmy gave of himself he met no strangers and he was kindhearted. All those he touched will miss him greatly. He is preceded in death by his father Edward A. Barret and four brothers, Bill Joe Lester, Arthur and Frank Barret. He leaves to cherish his memory four sons, Jermaine (Ashley) Benton of Newport VA, Alexander Starr of Hawaii, Jimmy

Drone Jr. of NA, Rashard Brookings of Palestine, TX; two daughters, Marion (Corey) Wright of Dallas, TX, Veronica Starr of Huntsville, TX; eight grandchildren, Corey, Jr. Kiona, Joi, Ashanti, Israel, Brayland, Jacoby, Cha-Haliley; mother, Catherine Renfroe of Lamesa, TX; two brothers, W.G. Drone, Jr., Charles Barrett, sisters, Beverly Cooper, Janelle Drone, Chyrek Angton, Betty Blake, Edna R. Gibbs, Esther Riddle; one special niece, Ramonika robinson, two special friends, Linda Thomas, Anneta Mitchell, hosts of nieces, nephews, other realatives and friends.

Blessed Images

Beauty Salon

Owner/Operator
Carla Gaddis

Open by appointment

Tues. - Saturday

Call (936) 858-2511

233 Smith Street

Alto, Texas 75925

CHEROKEE COUNTY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE



(903)683-2248

1-800-992-4280

OUTAGE HOTLINE NUMBER

1-866-244-4826



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.jkqu@statefarm.com



LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR, STATE FARM IS THERE.®

statefarm.com®

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company - Bloomington, IL

O. T. Allen & Son

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

Serving area
families over 85
years

Provides all your funeral needs.

Religion

Forgiveness

Source - The Bible

But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. **Matthews 5:44-45**

“And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins. **Mark 11:25**

For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. **Matthew 6:14**

On the contrary: “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.” **Romans 12:20**

But love your enemies, do good to them and lend to them without expecting to get anything back.

Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because He is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. “Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

Special Premier Designs High Fashion Jewelry Showing!

Come join us for fun,
food and fashion
Saturday, June 21, 11:00a.m.

Hosted by Sarai Johnson
941 Loop 343
Rusk, Texas

Presented by
Sondra Johnson

You don't want to miss it!

Give Me That Old Time Religion

Featuring



Minister Luther Barnes
National Recording Artist

July 13, 2008 - 3:00PM
Harvest Church
Crockett, Texas
and many others

No charge...come on out and join us
For more information call Darrell J. Jones @ 936 204-2682

Chapman Pharmacy

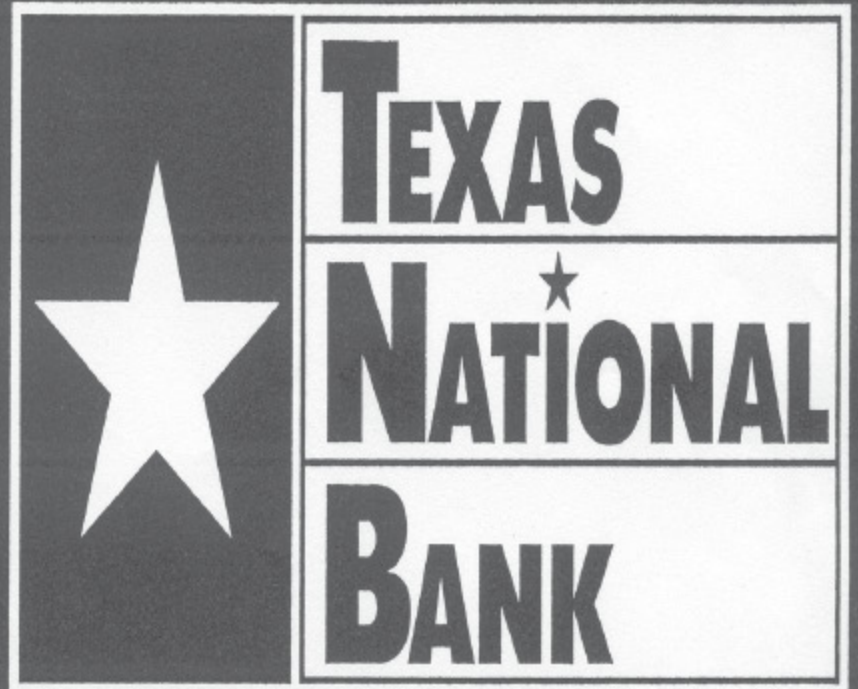
100 East 5th Street "Oth Square" in Rusk
We are a Participating Medicare Provider

We honor All
Prescription Cards



903 683-2422

1-800- 657-1873



LOOKING FORWARD ★ REACHING HIGHER



MEMBER
F.D.I.C.

586-0931

300 Neches Jacksonville
www.tnbjacksonville.com

FULL SERVICE BANKING

Texas National Bank

Total Access - 24 Hr - 586-0044

683-8899

1106 N Main Rusk

HUGHLEY Hosts BET AWARDS 08' LIVE from LA June 24th

New York, NY (BlackNews.com) - Actor and comedian D.L. Hughley will take the reins as the host of BET AWARDS '08. Tagged as "the hottest ticket on television," BET AWARDS '08 is raising the stakes as the biggest stars in music, sports and entertainment unite under one roof at Los Angeles' historic Shrine Auditorium on Tuesday, June 24 at 8:00 p.m.*. Continuing in its landmark tradition, BET AWARDS '08 will feature LIVE performances by some of today's hottest artists, including Usher, Lil Wayne and Nelly.

Newly announced performers include Alicia Keys, nominated for Best Female R&B, Video of the Year and Viewer's Choice; multiple nominee Kanye West (Best Male Hip Hop Artist, Best Collaboration with T-Pain on the single "Good Life" and Video of the Year for the same); Chris Brown, who has locked in four nominations including Best Male R&B, Viewer's Choice and Best Collaboration with T-Pain on "Kiss Kiss"; and Best Collaboration nominee Young Jeezy. In keeping with the history-making track record of the most highly anticipated night in Black entertainment, BET is pulling out all of the stops in naming this year's special honorees. Legendary R&B icon Al Green will be in the house to receive BET's Lifetime

Achievement Award. Joining him will be celebrated producer/arranger/composer Quincy Jones, who will be honored with BET's prestigious Humanitarian Award for his outreach to young African-Americans through the Listen Up Foundation, a charity which connects youth with music, technology and culture. In addition, Jones helped launch the We Are the Future project, giving hope to children in poor and conflict-ridden areas.

For the past seven years, the BET AWARDS has boasted unforgettable moments such as Michael Jackson's surprise appearance during James Brown's tribute; Rick James in his final duet with Teena Marie; Will Smith presenting Muhammad Ali with the first-ever Humanitarian Award; Prince onstage backing Chaka Khan; Stevie Wonder, Yolanda Adams and India.Arie in a powerhouse tribute to Rufus' first lady of funk; Destiny's Child's steamy lap dance; the reunion of one of hip hop's most beloved trios, The Fugees; and last year's touching opening performance with Jennifer Hudson and Jennifer Holliday.

BET has once again teamed up with Cossette Productions, the famed producers of the GRAMMY Awards® and the seven record-setting BET AWARDS shows, to handle production of the telecast.

Obama

from page 1

June 5th and ended on Saturday with the 46-year-old first-term senator declared the winner in Texas with 99 Texas delegates to the August Democratic National Convention in Denver. Sen. Hillary Clinton gathered 94 delegates based on voting on primary day and the Texas March primary-night caucuses. **Obama Wins Texas.**

The results were verified on Saturday morning when Kirk Watson, chairman of the convention, announced the results of the presidential preferences recorded by delegates signing in for the state convention on Friday. Specifically, 7,239 delegates signed in; 4,144 for Obama (57 percent) and 3,088 (43 percent) for Clinton.

The 99-94 Obama edge doesn't take in how 35 superdelegates from Texas will vote. Our pre-convention count of them had it 14 for Obama, 14 for Clinton and 4 undeclared, with three spots to be filled after party Chairman Boyd Richie nominated them.

The first general assembly of the more than 15,000 convention attendees began on a divided note Friday evening, but by the time Chelsea Clinton spoke to the excited crowd, it was clear that party unity would come.

Senator Hillary Rodom Clinton's Saturday morning speech called for her supporters to support Barack Obama. The speech was played on two gigantic screens to the 11:00AM general assembly. Technical problems caused interruptions.

Hillary Clinton's endorsement of Barack Obama brought Hillary supporters and many Obama supporters to their feet.

Clinton's speech was interrupted minutes later by technical difficulties as the satellite feed in Austin broke down. As Democratic leaders took the stage in unisome, Clinton and Obama supporters stood in the audience and held hands across the huge convention center floor in a show of party unity.

It looked like there would be a vote on the convention floor on a proposal to change the Democratic Party's two-step primary and caucus system for allocating delegates in a presidential election.

Scott Cobb, an Austin delegate who initiated the proposal, collected enough signatures — 30 percent of the delegates — to force a floor vote on the matter.

Before that could actually happen, though, Dallas State Sen. Royce West moved to table the proposal. West chairs a task force appointed by the state party to study the state's "primacaucus" approach and report recommendations to the party after hearings around the state.

"We plan on making certain nothing is off the table," West told delegates.

By a roll-call vote, delegates agreed to table Cobb's proposal. Seventy-nine percent of the delegates voted to table, 21 percent voted against that. Party officials had said before the convention they planned to wait to act on the primary-caucus system until they had gathered more information from delegates and held public hearings across the state on the issue.

Forrest K. Phifer Attorney-At-Law

Family Law

*Divorce

*Custody

*Child support

Wills & Probate

*Preparation

*Probate

*Guardianship & Power of Attorney

Social Security Disability

(903) 683-4730

(Leave Message 24 hours)

509 N.Main St. Rusk, Texas 75785

Accepting All Major Credit Cards

Licensed by Texas Supreme Court for
General

Practice Of Legal Specialization

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

Imagine lifesaving surgery through an incision as small as this



That's what East Texas Vascular Associates surgeons are doing in special surgical suites at ETMC Tyler.



S. Edwin Duncan, MD
Vascular surgeon



J. Blake Harrison, MD
Vascular & colorectal surgeon



D. Brent Kerns, MD
Vascular surgeon



David L. Young, MD
General surgeon

Board-certified surgical experts.

Vascular surgeons Dr. S. Edwin Duncan, Dr. J. Blake Harrison and Dr. D. Brent Kerns are using incisions as tiny as a baby's toe to clear arteries, remove clots, repair aneurysms, prevent strokes and perform other procedures that used to require major surgery.

Their partner, general surgeon Dr. David L. Young, also uses minimally invasive techniques for gallbladder, hernia, thyroid, gastrointestinal and other appropriate surgeries.

Dr. Kerns explains, "The field has transformed from doing open surgery to more minimally invasive techniques, which lead to smaller incisions, shorter hospitalizations, less pain and a more rapid recovery—and that's a great advantage for the patient."

For more information, call HealthFirst at 1-800-648-8141.

One with East Texas.

A not-for-profit organization committed to improving the quality of life in East Texas communities.

Advanced care at ETMC.

The surgeons from East Texas Vascular Associates perform these small wonders in new, high-tech surgery suites at ETMC Tyler.

Dr. Duncan is a frequent user of the dedicated endovascular surgery suite: "This endovascular room allows us to do things from an imaging point of view that otherwise would not be possible."

Dr. Harrison, who is also board certified in colorectal surgery, relies on ETMC, too: "I've trained all over the country and the facilities and the people here at the East Texas Medical Center really are as good as you'll find any place."

Lifesaving, cutting-edge surgery with hardly any cutting. From East Texas Vascular Associates and ETMC.



**East Texas Medical Center
Regional Healthcare System**

www.etmc.org

Maybe she would still be alive

By Tuala Williams
Texas Publishers Association

Pam, a freshmen at Lubbock, Texas' Estacado High School, lies peacefully still, eyes closed, hands crossed over her chest, beautifully arrayed in her Sunday best as friends, loved ones and acquaintances file by to say their final goodbyes. But she will not speak back. Her mother cries out in grief for her child, stolen from her so young in life, but her cries will not bring her back, nor will the mourners who fill the church to capacity be able to ease her agony. No mother should know such loss, no human should know such pain. No one should have to die this way.

Pam had slipped out with her boyfriend hours after her mother thought she was in bed asleep, thinking she would be home before sunrise, she left the bedroom window unlocked. But Pam never made it back through that window. At 4 a.m. her mother was awakened with horrifying news. Her daughter had been in a terrible accident. The mother grappled with the news. How could this be true when she had just seen her child go to bed only hours earlier. But after going to the youth's room to verify the facts, all she could find was an empty bed. Pam was gone - this time for good.

Witnesses say Pam's boyfriend was drunk the morning he plowed into the light pole. According to sources, as Pam went flying through the windshield, the light pole came down across the hood of the car, landing on her head. Onlookers, who stood by helplessly, said they heard blood curdling screams as Pam lie pinned beneath the pole.

Mourners could not help but question how the boyfriend escaped with only a broken nose, while Pam was dead. It seemed so unfair, so senseless. And it was. Had Pam been wearing a seatbelt, she would very likely have walked away unscathed. While Pam's death was avoidable, not wearing a seatbelt was not a crime in 1983.

Stories like Pam's prompted Texas lawmakers to enact a law in 1985 requiring motorists to buckle up, because something as simple as a seatbelt can save a life.

Some might argue that Pam was simply at the wrong place at the wrong time and that disobedience caused her death. While that may be true, it is also true that all that stood between life and death for Pam were 14 inches of fabric - a seatbelt.

According to the Department of Transportation, Texas has the second highest number of fatalities, following Colorado. Texas streets and highways can be a dangerous place to drive. Yet, while more than 90 percent of motorists believe seatbelts can save lives, less than 14 percent actually wear them. What many are really saying is, "It won't happen to me." But according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, one in every five U. S. motorists will be involved in a traffic accident this year. Approximately 35,000 will be fatal and more than half of them (17,000) would more likely live if they simply wore a seatbelt.

Each year, Texas Department of Transportation kicks off the "summer" season by launching the "Click It or Ticket" campaign in hopes of encouraging motorists to buckle up to save lives - their own and their loved ones.

The fine for not buckling up in Texas can be as much as \$200. The value of saving a life - priceless.

**Buckle up!
The life you save
might be your
own!**

Church Directory

St. Paul Baptist Church

558 N. Main Street

Jacksonville, TX. 75766



Phone: (903) 586-6006
 Contact: Sharon Sims
 Sunday School

10:00AM

Morning Ser. 11:00AM
 Wednes. Bible Study

7PM

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

Woodville CME

FM 343
 Rusk, Texas



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

Rev. Joe Radford, pastor

MOUNT PLEASANT CME Church

207 Reeder St.
 Rusk, Texas



Rev. Greenie Phillips, Pastor
 Sunday School 9:45AM

Sunday Worship Service
 11:00 AM

2nd & 4th Sunday Service
 Contact: (903) 683-3441 or
 Rt. 2, Box 417A - Rusk, Texas 75785

Mt. Olive Baptist Church

911 Egbert Street
 Rusk, TX. 75785



Rev. Mertis Bartley, Pastor
 & wife

Evangelist Stella Bartley
 Assistant Pastor

Contact: Sis. Sandra Carter

Ph: (903) 683-2100

Sunday School 9:00AM - Worship: 10:00AM

Wells Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

Wells, Texas



Pastor: Daryl Cranford
 (936) 867-4522

4th Annual Eddie D.

Harris

Scholarship

Tournament

Friday & Sat.

June 20th & 21st

Rusk High School

gymnasium

For information

Contact: Marcus

@903372-2521

Sweet Union Baptist Church

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



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

MorningWorship: 11:00AM

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

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

Cherokee County Juneteenth Parade

Saturday, June 14, 2008.
 Lineup begins 11:00 AM
 behind Austin Bank,
 downtown Rusk.
 Please come out and join
 us!

For information call (903)
 683-5743

Daphne L. Session Attorney At Law

* Child Custody &
 Guardianship

* Trusts/Power of Attorney

Annulment * Will/Probate

*Divorce

910 Loop 343
 Rusk, Texas 75785
 Fax: (903) 683-1041 Ph: (903) 683-1065

CRIMINAL DEFENSE
 FAMILY LAW

213Martin Luthet King, Jr. Blvd
 Crockett, Texas 75835
 Fax: (936) 545- 9931 Ph: (936) 545-9929

2008 Juneteenth Pageant scheduled



The third annual 2008 Juneteenth Pageant will be held June 19, 2008 at the AM Story School beginning at 6:00PM. The pageant is sponsored by the Negro Historical Preservation Society. Pictured above are contestants from the 2007 pageant., Miss Catherine Celeste Williams crowned Miss Juneteenth, Erin Michell Williams crowned Junior Miss, Miss Shaster Carwell and Miss Terrian Watts.

G. W. Bradford 10th Bi-annual School Reunion

June 13,14,15,2008

"CELEBRATING 70 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE"

*Friday late registration 5:30PM -Bradford Gym
Talent Show, Bradford Ensemble with Joe Teague, Charles Denman, Charles VanZandt, Jessie Ray Bradley, Marie Simmons Bennett, MC. Saturday Morning Brunch 9:30AM
Bradford Gym

Juneteenth & Bradford Parade lineup 11:00AM
Downtown Rusk -begins 11:30AM

Mayor Protem Walter Session Grand Marshall
Patriotic Program - Jerry Leviston MC
Saturday Night Banquet 7:00PM The Woods
Country Club Jacksonville, Speaker
Gail Session Simmons

Sunday Worship Bradford Gym 10:00AM
Speaker, Elder Jerry Don Wickware, Cairo III.
Pulpit Devotion, Rev. Claude Slaughter
COME JOIN US! Late registration @ door

YATES

Buick * Pontiac* GMC

(903) 657-8999

Yates welcomes
Michael Fry back
as Sales Manager!
www.yatesbuick.com



Come by for the best deal in East Texas!

215 Hwy 79 North

Henderson, Texas 75654

Southern Cherokee Federal Credit Union

"We're Here To Serve You"

144 North Henderson P. O. Box 589
Rusk, Texas 75785



WEB SITE: scfcutx.com

Ph: (903) 683-2527

Fax: (903) 683-3499

CHECKING

ATM

SAVINGS

SAFE DEPOSIT BOXES

LOANS

DEBIT CARD

SHARE CERTIFICATES

IRA

INTERNET BANKING