



Seminary Heights COC presents Community Impact Awards during Black History Celebration. See page 4

Youth tell what's on their minds page 7

Academy Award winner Forrest Whitaker and Samuel L Jackson make Obama campaign stops in East Texas. 5

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Session runs for Co Attorney

When it comes to voting Texas is a two-step state

When Texas voters go to the polls to vote for their candidate of choice either early voting or on March 4th, its not over. Voting polls will open 7:00AM to 7:00PM on Tuesday March 4th. Voters should return to the polling place at 7:00 PM to attend the precinct convention. This allows voters to take part in delegate selection for the candidate of their choice. The purpose of this meeting is to choose delegates to the county convention which will be held at the County Courthouse in your county on Saturday, March 29, 2008.

From this convention, delegates will be sent to the state Republican or Democratic Convention. Delegates from this convention will be chosen for the Republican or Democratic National Convention. From these delegates, the party nominee for president will be decided.

Reunion for former school set

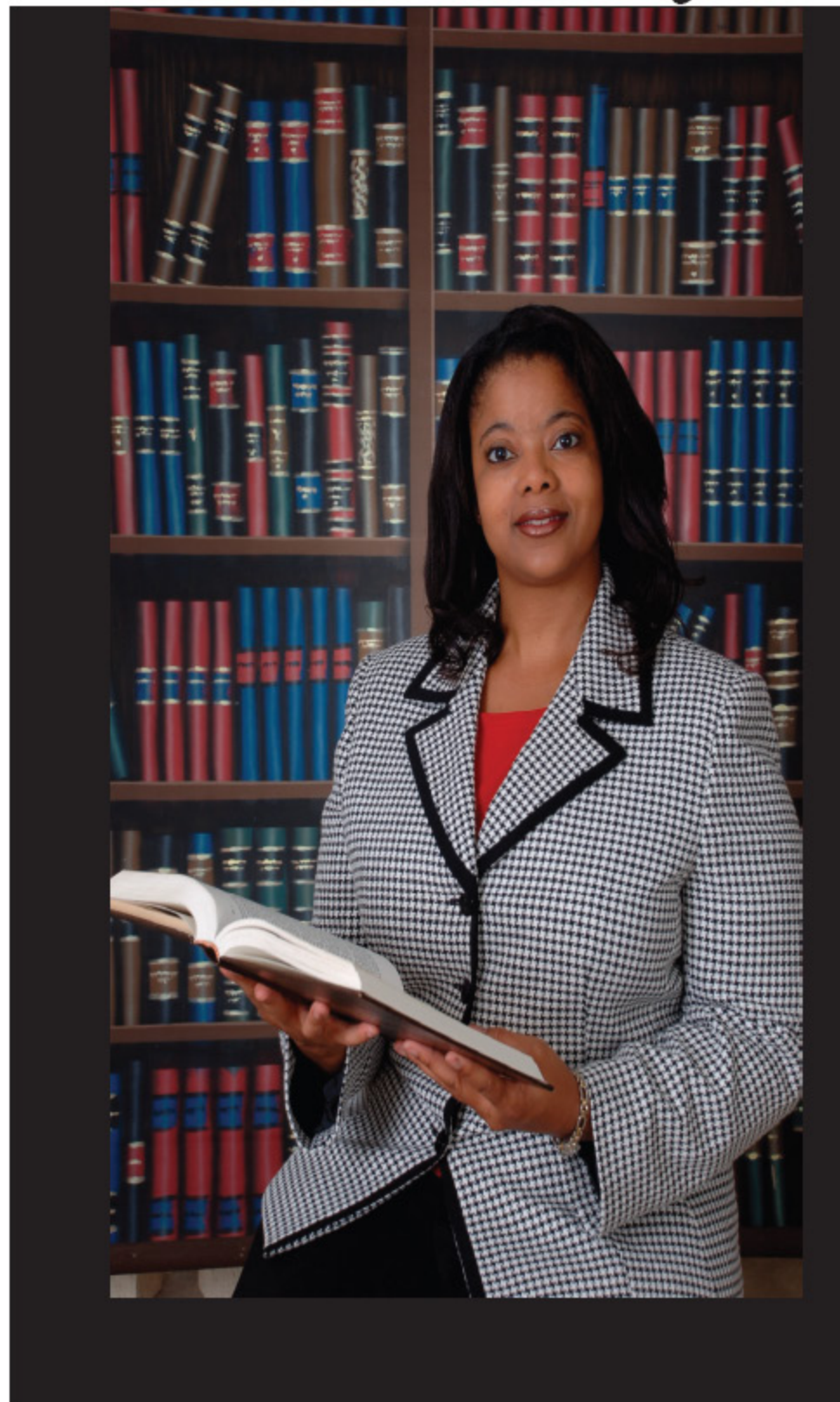
Rusk, TX.-The 2008 G. W. Bradford All School Reunion has been set for June 13, 14, 15, 2008. Mailing and e-mailing addresses are being collected: Please mail to P. O. Box 371 Rusk, Texas or call:

Nation's Economic Woes Hit Black Workers Hardest

All workers have suffered in the past seven years. But black workers, even those in unions, have been hit hardest.

African American incomes are dropping, at the same time fewer African Americans belong to unions. The percentage of African Americans who either are members of or represented by unions fell by half from 31.7 percent of all black workers in 1983 to 15.7 percent last year, according to a new report from the Joint Center For Economic Change.

In Jacksonville, Texas a recent closing announcement by two major job providers, Alliance Data Systems and Astro Air will cause a loss of more than 500 jobs impacting mostly Hispanic and African American families. From 1976 to 2006 African Americans who worked in manufacturing declined from 23.9 percent to 9.8 percent, a drop of nearly 60 percent. Manufacturing jobs, especially good-paying union jobs in the auto industry, played a big role in creating the black middle class. Fewer manufacturing jobs and lower union membership is threatening to erase the economic gains blacks made in the 1990s. According to a recent study, a whopping 55 percent of union jobs lost in 2004 were held by black workers. More stunningly, African American women accounted for 70 percent of the union jobs lost by women in 2004.



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EDUCATION



Finish Strong!

by Krystal Ward

Carter- I'm sure the education articles from here to May are going to seem like I'm singing to the choir, but this is one of the most critical points in your preparation for

college. You've come too far to be distracted or procrastinate. Needless to say, the semester is half over. There are so many distractions right now with track meets, prom around the corner, sports banquet, senior portraits, and cool events for the seniors. However, don't let the senior bug get you now, time is of essence and there is plenty to do before the end of the school year.

1. Get help Completing FAFSA: Don't make the mistake of putting off applying for financial aid: the earlier you apply the more you may receive. FAFSA: Free application for Federal Student Aid. With this application the government collects information used to determine your eligibility for federal student aid programs like grants, loans, and work study. Check out this web site www.fafsa.ed.gov to fill out the application online or print an application to do on paper. Remember in order to complete this you will need your social security number, your driver's license (if you have one), your 2007 W-2 forms and other records of money earned, and bank statements. If you need help doing this please contact someone you know that is in college, contact your guidance counselor or go to the nearest college campus. How can you get help if you don't ask? Don't let this opportunity pass!

2. Send transcripts to schools: Ask your guidance counselor to mail all first semester transcripts to the schools that you have applied. Then remind them again in May to send your final transcripts to the college you will attend. Crucial, although this doesn't happen too often if you were borderline being accepted into that school or falsified your GPA on your application they can deny you acceptance into the school. That would be humiliating, so please be honest on your applications and don't let your grades drop-only 3 more months!

3. Visit colleges that have invited you to enroll: If you haven't had the opportunity to visit the colleges you applied to do it now-use those excused absences to visit the colleges. I suggest going during the week, during a school day and observe the campus, the students, the dorms, the cafeteria, and even sit in on a class. There is no better way to know if you like a school or not than visiting the campus. Plan to contact the school's admission office and they will provide a campus guide (person), that can show you the campus and answer any questions you may have.

4. Decide which college to attend, and notify the school of your decision. This may be one of the toughest decisions you have ever made about your life and future up to this point, but you're prepared to make it right? By this point you have researched the schools you're interested in, visited the campus, talked with students that have attend the school, and made sure the school had a major that you're interested in. Of course, no school is perfect, but if you can't stand cold weather it would not be a wise decision to go to school up North, right? Seriously, think about these kind of things which environment do you learn better in? Would you prefer a large campus or a small campus? Do large lecture halls seem like an inviting place to learn? Would you prefer a college town-where the town evolved around the school and students? Would you prefer going to school where there is more to the city than the college? Are you going to like community showers or sharing a room with someone? These are all the questions you need to ask before you decide to go to school, trust me! You want to be in an environment that will allow you to

Michelle Obama to speak at U T Tyler Rally Monday

Michelle Obama, the wife of Senator Barack Obama will appear at a Stand for Change Rally in Tyler, Texas, Monday March 3rd at the Herrington Patriot Center, 3900 University Blvd. Tyler, Texas.

The event is free and open to the public. Tickets are not required, but an RSVP is strongly encouraged. Space is available on a first-come, first-served basis. For security reasons, do not bring bags. Those attending are asked to limit personal items. No signs or banners are permitted. Doors open: 12:15 p.m.

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PUBLISHER/SALES MANAGER

Walter Session

EDITOR/WRITER

Maxine Session

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Krystal Ward Carter

Billy "Hollywood" Grooves

Ferlich July Arrington

James Breedlove

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Daphne Session runs for County Attorney in Houston County

Makes history as female attorney in private practice

Being first is much like being that first courageous woodsman who goes out with his machete or his ax and toils endlessly cutting that first pathway through a dense forest. Once he opens the way the path becomes easier for the next person to follow and it proves that the task can be done. Daphne Session is the first person in a long line of her ancestors.....Burleys, Duprees, Dotys, Denmans, Duncans and Sessions to become a lawyer. May of 2006 she became the first in Rusk to open her own private practice. In August, 1999, she became the first black Assistant District Attorney in the history of Anderson County. Now in 2008 she is running for the position of County Attorney in Crockett, Houston County, Texas. The stereotypical image of an East Texas Prosecutor is not that of a woman nor an African American. Daphne feels that what she is doing is nothing out of the ordinary. In private practice she has taken on many challenges to defend her clients both private and court appointed. We conduct the following interview to give an up-close view of her personal side and hopefully inspire some other young African American and some other young woman to pursue their dream.

Informer: The Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery in 1865 and with the passing of the nineteenth Amendment in 1920 women were given the right to vote....in essence, given equality. Again, reinforcement came in 1964 when the civil rights act was passed giving everybody civil rights. Much of which has not come to be. The proof is clear with the U S never having had a woman or African American as president and the first woman and the first African American now in a unique position to finally get there. Why do you think it has taken this long?

Daphne: In the past, discrimination barriers against women and African Americansmore recently, probably just a feeling that it couldn't be done. And, false information and discouragement.

Informer: When did you decide to go into law?

Daphne: I was born in 1970. When I was a child there were times when I was discriminated against. Two times I remember in particular because I guess they were very traumatic for me. The first time was when I was about six years old. Me and my two older sisters wanted to see a movie at the Cherokee Theater in Rusk. Terri remembers that it was called "Blue Beard's Ghost". Mama drove us there, watched up pay and go inside then she went home. We were to call home as soon as the movie was over. Kathy paid the teenage girl in the ticket booth. We went in, sat down and started watching the movie. A while later a man came in and said, "niggers can't sit here. You have to go to the balcony." We watched the rest of the movie from the balcony. When mama came to pick us up we told her what had happened. She went to the man's office and I sure he was in for a shock! They didn't get anymore of our money, because we never went there again.

The second time was the summer Katrina Whitley, Authenia Pettus and I were nine. It was a hot day in July, 1980 and we wanted to go swimming. Mama usually took us to the Jacksonville Lincoln Park pool to swim every summer but this summer she was

evenings taking census. The three of us got permission from our parents and Kathy drove us to what was the Lion's Club swimming pool in Rusk. The pool was full of kids from school that we knew and Kathy and Terri's junior high band teacher was at the gate. Kathy let us out and she drove away. When we got to the gate, the teacher told us there was too much chlorine in the water for us to go in. White kids continued to pay and walk past us to go inside. Finally, he told us we couldn't go in to swim because we were black. Then he took a quarter out of his pocket, kissed me on the cheek and told me to call someone to pick us up.

To make a long story short, Kathy called mama. Mama called daddy. Daddy called other men in the community and a civil rights lawyer.

Informer: For the record the men Walter called were Irvin Conley, Donald Dickerson, your uncles Charles Denman, Charles Clark, and Erastus Johnson. The next week they met with the officers of the pool and three weeks later the Lion's Club rules changed allowing all kids to swim.

Daphne: Aside from my parents telling me to, I guess it was then that I believed the only way to stand up for my rights and others was to become a lawyer.

Informer: Did high school prepare you for the field?

Daphne: No. College didn't prepare me either. I didn't have a family member in law who could tell me to join a debate team in high school and college, or to read very difficult readings, or to get me to begin thinking like an attorney. I was in foreign territory.

Informer: What did you do to prepare?

Daphne: I studied on my own and took the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) at A&M University in College Station. I didn't do as well as I had hoped, but I was accepted by one law school. I decided to wait awhile and went to work. I found out about a LSAT preparation course....took it and a speed reading course. Then I retok the LSAT and was accepted by five law schools. One of those schools was Texas Tech in Lubbock, which included a scholarship. Terri and I flew Texas Tech in Lubbock to look at their law school. I liked what I saw, made preparations to quit my job as an adult probation officer and entered law school to pursue my childhood dream.

Informer: And....

Daphne: The first year was a difficult challenge both mentally and physically. I was in class from 8:30 until 2:00 each day. I left class only to prepare for the next day. It was stressful and highly competitive. After the first year...with lots of prayer...you learn how to deal with it. You learn to read and do research faster.

Informer: What would you say to a young person thinking about entering law school after graduation?

Daphne: Start to prepare now. Join a debate team. Read things that are technical...difficult to understand. Pickup and read articles that are



foreign to you. Take math classes to prepare for the analytical portion of the bar. Take writing intensive courses in college, and READ, READ, READ! I have mentored my cousin Kimberly the past few years. She is attending Fayetteville University at Arkansas and is graduating in May. We are all so proud of her. Coming from a small town and a very small high school she has proven that it can be done.

Informer: How is the campaign for County Attorney going?

Daphne: At this point its going very well. I don't have a Democratic apponent but I do have a Republican apponent in the November election.

Informer: Years ago you spoke at the Sisters United Banquet in Palestine. You made comments to Joyce Ann Brown, an author. The comments were regarding the impact of her life story on your life. Will you share your comments with the readers?

Daphne: I cannot remember exactly what I said but basically I told her that I read her book before I went to law school. Ms. Brown was sentenced to prison for a crime she did not commit. In her case, the system failed her, and it was 9 years before she was released. When I was in law school I thought about her and what happened to her. Today on my job, I still think of her. I pray that I make good choices and decisions in my job. Because of her, I make sure I review the cases and the evidence very carefully. I pray that by doing this it will keep someone from going through what Ms. Brown had to go through.

(Cover story continued on page 9)

Seminary Height C.O.C. "Spots" history makers

Jacksonville, TX. - Seminary Heights Church Of Christ ended February Black History Month counting the years and recognizing citizens who have impacted the community. Rosalyn Tindel, Lon Morris College Head Womens Basketball Coach was the keynote speaker. She is a Wichita Falls, Texas native. Coach Tindel played basketball at St. Mary's University in San Antonio as a freshman before transferring to Midwestern State University where she completed playing career. While there, she also played on two teams that advanced to the NAIA National Tournament and was a member of a conference championship team as a junior.

Phillp and Johnathan Garrett, local gospel recording artists performed gospel selections.

On behalf of the church, Steven Scott and Rev. Roy McClelland presented awards of recognition to five couples who have been married fifty plus years. They also presented the Community Impact Awards to Asaree Ragsdale, longtime beautician; Tyree Wells war hero and Sarah Robinson, owner of Kids R' Us. Each year the church reconizes those who have impacted the community.



Clifford & Mary Lou Holman 52 years



Willie and Bobby Taylor celebrating 53 years



George and Mary Thirkill celebrating 52 years



Emerson and Mattie Brown celebrating 61 years



Coach Tindel



Asaree Ragsdale Community Impact recipient.



Berry and Ruby Robinson celebrating 59 years of marriage.



Pictured left to right - Semnary Heights Pastor Kelvin Dansby, Sarah Robinson Community Impact Award Recipient, Kid's R'Us students and Steve Scott.

This was the third annual Black History Program to honor those who have significantly impacted the Jacksonville community.

Young people of the church in costume portrayed important figures in Black History such as Mary McCloud Bethune.

On hand to help celebrate the evening of activities were Jacksonville Major Robert Haberly, City Councilman Hubert Robinson and City Manager Mo Raissi.

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Samuel L. Jackson and Forest Whitaker Making Obama Campaign Stops in East Texas

Actor Samuel L. Jackson will be in Tyler on Saturday March 1st and Grammy Award winner, Forest Whitaker will be there on Sunday afternoon March 2nd to campaign on behalf of Democratic presidential candidate Senator Barack Obama.

According to Cherokee County Democrats, Jackson, the motion picture star will speak at about 12 Noon Saturday and Whitaker will speak about 3:00 PM on Sunday afternoon at 610 WSW Loop 323, the Tyler Obama campaign office and former location of the Furniture Row stores.

Jackson is also set to make appearances on Sunday at 3:45 p.m. at 304 Gilmer Road in Longview and at 12:45 p.m. at 323 W. 7th St. in Texarkana. Whitaker will speak at 12:45 PM on Sunday at the Wiley College gym in Marshall, Texas. They will be available to talk to Obama supporters and answer questions as to why they support the Illinois

Senator.

Jackson is known for acting in numerous top rated motion pictures including *Shaft* and *Jumper* which is currently in theaters. His many other movie roles include *Pulp Fiction*, *Snakes on a Plane* and *Coach Carter*.

Whitaker is known for his role in many movies including *King of Scotland* and most recently *The Great Debaters*. The Wiley College story produced by Denzell Washington and Oprah, putting Marshall Texas on the map. Obama and Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton are locked in a dead heat in Texas for the Democratic presidential nomination. The Texas and Ohio primaries on March 4 are key to either candidate's chances of winning. Obama has campaigned in Houston, Austin, Dallas and San Antonio in recent weeks. While Senator Clinton and her husband former President Bill Clinton have campaigned in the same areas of the state including Tyler.

The Dawn of a New Renaissance

Preston's Point of View

by Preston Meador-

I believe we are on the threshold of a new awakening. The dawning of a new America. An America free from the shackles of indifference, free from the shackles of hate, free from the shackles of ignorance, and free from the shackles of fear. Even our elder Americans with life long and deep tempered shackles are looking for hacksaws and cutting torches. It is very hard to break old habits. Some people will die shackled to the past. But believe it, this is the dawn of a new level of civilization, a civilization that will reach for and achieve superb heights in human achievements. I believe America is approaching the true greatness that can be. True greatness will not be instantaneous but, I believe it will come and that planet earth will be the better for its coming.

I am the grandson of slaves. I have seen America through glasses of many tints. I have seen the dark tints, clouds of evil float over America. I have seen some clear spots in the dark clouds where the azure sky would briefly show itself and offer a glimmer of hope. I cherish those brief moments of clearness and promise.

America has been in a quasi Dark Age since 1619, when twenty humans from the Motherland of Africa, (the Cradle of Civilization), were sold into slavery on its shores.

perience has changed their lives. We want to help these future leaders to succeed, and to become viable parts of his or her community I believe the great "Bells of Freedom" are about to ring anew in this land. We are witnessing a great moment in American history. Never before has America stood at this level of hope and greatness. A moment where a woman or a descendant from the Motherland may stand at the helm of the ship called HOPE and guide this nation through perilous time as it awakens to a new day.

For the past few months, I have been talking with young people, people under fifty. My central question has been: Why do the majority of young Americans seem to support Obama for president so vehemently? Their answers have been; He has fresh ideas; He seems to have a vision of greatness for America; He has fresh ideas; He can cut through the THEM-AND-US Mentality in Washington, DC; He has a positive attitude; He has integrity.....

No matter which democratic candidate is elected president in November, 2008, I believe that a lot of the evils in American History will somehow be vindicated, and America will have made a giant step in the right direction to usher in the NEW RENAISSANCE.

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Joel & Vivian McGowan



Mr. and Mrs Regnal Joel McGowan, II were married in a beautiful double ring ceremony 4:00PM Saturday, February 16, 2007 at New Hope Baptist Church in Alto. He proposed to her and presented her with a diamond engagement on February 16, 2006. The bride is a 2003 Alto High School graduate and East Texas School of Nursing and is employed with Lufkin State School. She is the daughter of Angela Moore and Roy and Kimberly Pope. she is the granddaughter of J. B. and Jessie Moore Jack and alberta Pope all of Alto.

Joel is a 2002 Rusk High graduate and Sam Houston State University. He is employed with Lufkin ISD as a physical education teacher and track coach. The newly weds will live in Lufkin, Texas.

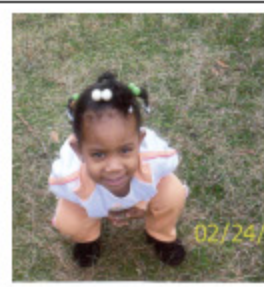
*For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is God's love for those who fear Him.*

Psalm 103:11

Sammie Mae Attaway Celebrates Birthday

Rusk, Texas - More than seventy-five members of Sammie Mae Attaway's family and friends gathered recently at Shady Grove Church of God and Christ to celebrate her eightieth birthday. All of her children, Michelle, Jackie, Craig, Jerald and Lou Ann were in attendance.

A roast and salute to her gave fun and laughter to everyone. A full course sit down buffet dinner was served to everyone, including her famous peach cobbler.



J'Na Arrington
Happy 2nd Birthday
March 6th

Weddings

Silliness and Egotism con't from page 8

Michael Eric Dyson; and Michael Steele hold the fort and thoroughly discuss the role African Americans must play to create an America as good as its

Or did the Tavis personal ego overlook the real possibility of Obama ushering in a new America that moves beyond race and seeks the high moral ground that embraces all God's people?

In state after state, voters are agreeing with Obama that "this campaign can't only be about me. It must be about us." They want change they can believe in. They are rallying and chanting "Yes we can." promise in education, health, the justice system, and wealth-building?

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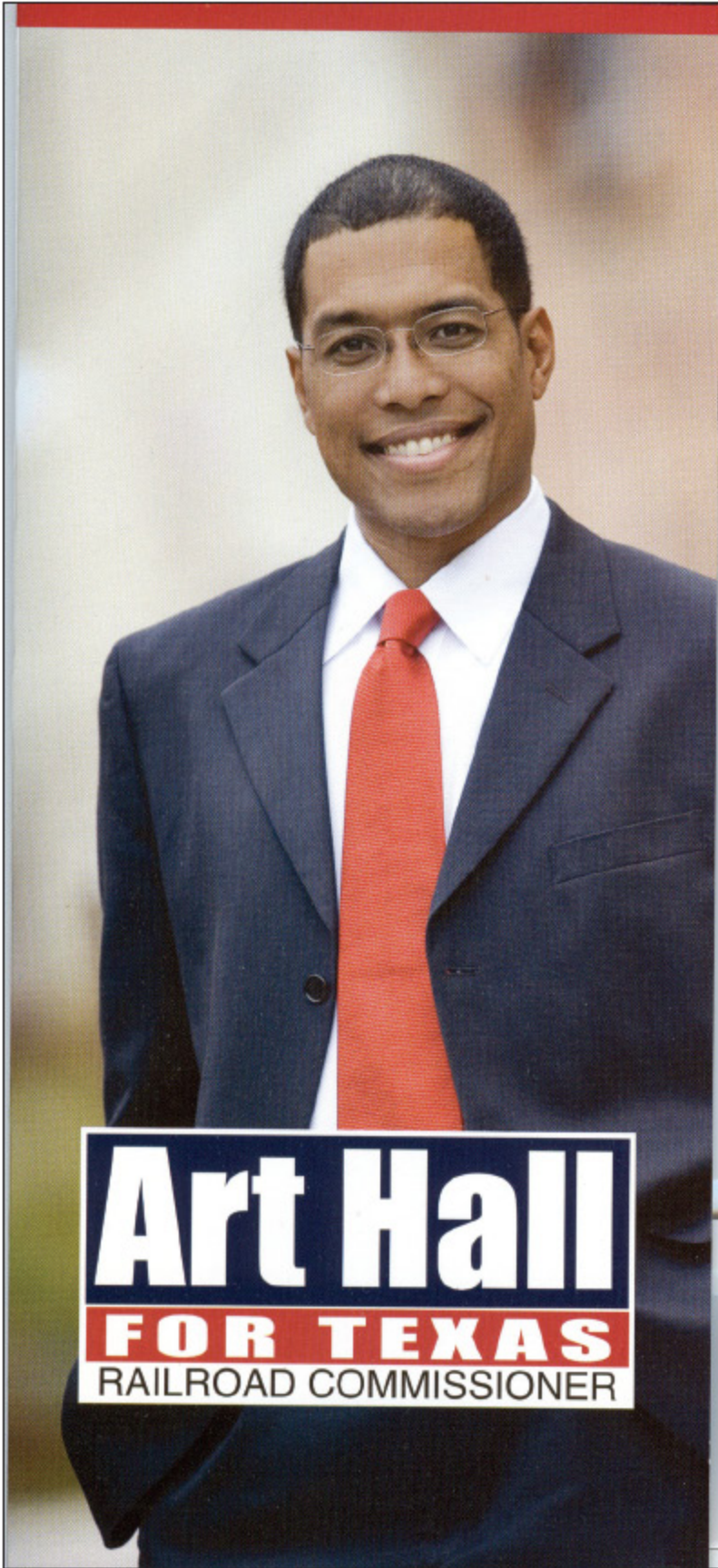
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What's on your mind?



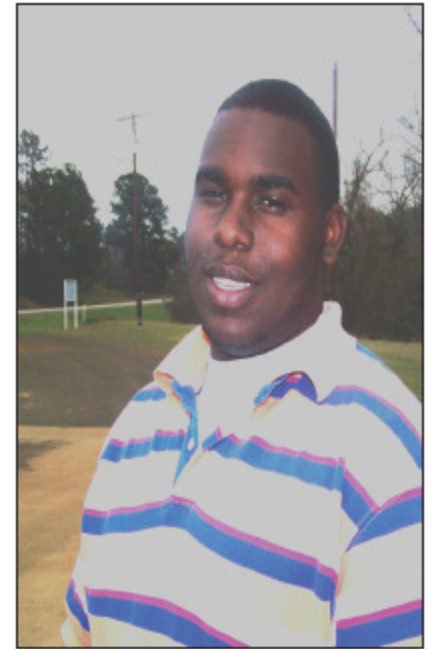
Traneisha Hunter

I'm involved in basketball, track, band, and avid. After I am done with High School I plan to attend TJC or another college to get my basic classes. Then later on I plan to attend a University to become a medical doctor. I think that Obama is trying to get elected so he can change things while Clinton on the other hand is busy criticizing him instead of trying to make a change. Our parents have to work too hard and the money won't buy much. That's what we need is change.



Jeremy Lavergne

I am in band and choir at school. I plan to attend Tyler Junior College after I finish high school in May. I hope Obama wins the election and becomes president of the United States. I think he would really work to fix some of the problems people are facing like the very high cost to go to college.



Matthew Davis

I'm involved in football and band. I plan to attend college and become a computer engineer after I finish high school in May of this year. The news and talk shows are full of talk about the presidential elections. I think we should get a president in office who is going to take care of people here in the United States before people in these far away countries.



Kadrick Session

I'm involved in student council, keyclub, choir, band, and I'm also the Vice President of my class. After High School I plan to attend the University of Texas Austin and major in psychology. I think Obama should win the election because he is talking about a change and he has good morals.

SILLINESS AND EGOTISM ATTACK THE OBAMA EXPRESS

by James Breedlove- The much anticipated primary debate that was supposed to be the beginning of the come back for Hillary Clinton was held at the University of Texas on last Thursday night.

Pre-debate publicity promised fireworks on issues that included healthcare, immigration, the war, and the economy. There were a few feisty exchanges but both Obama and Clinton seemed to be taking the political high road by defining their differences in a civil manner.

However, civility was ignored for a moment when Senator Clinton went on the offense and jabbed at Obama over a previous allegation that he had appropriated words from the 2006 campaign of Massachusetts Gov. Deval L. Patrick and used them in his campaign speeches. Her campaign had labeled this as out-right plagiarism. Clinton chastised Obama with, "I think that if your candidacy is going to be about words, then they should be your own words. That's, I think, a very simple proposition. Lifting whole passages from someone else's speeches is not change you can believe in, its change you can Xerox."

The audience must have perceived her comments as negative. There was a collective gasp and spontaneous booing, indicating a rejection of her attack.

Obama responded by referring to the attempted put down as "silly" since Gov. Patrick, one of his national campaign co-chairs and a personal friend, had suggested that he use the material to help emphasize his vision of hope and unity. Speaking in Milwaukee two nights later, Obama drew a standing ovation when he defended his speech-making and continued appeal to the people's sense of hope as tools of a worthy leader. He said, "The most important thing we can do right now is to reengage the American people in the process of governance and get them excited again.

Even if Obama and Patrick didn't know each other it is highly probable that they might use some of the same phrases. Precedent indicates that public figures speaking on similar issues frequently draw from common resources of public rhetoric. Labor leaders often quote Walter Reuther or A. Philip Randolph; civil rights leaders use the same scriptural passages and historical references; conservative Republicans repeatedly invoke Ronald Reagan; and Democrats lean toward Franklin D. Roosevelt or John F. Kennedy.

The tangential non-issue allegation of Obama's plagiarism took on a life of its own and stoked the fires of media attention. Was this simply a case of the pot calling the kettle "Barack" or possibly the desperation response of a mortally wounded campaigner grasping at a last straw? Obama's press secretary, sent out several memos in which Clinton used Obama catchphrases such as: "Yes We Can," and "Fired Up And Ready To Go.

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It seems that Smiley was miffed enough by Obama's decision not to attend that he spoke out to several media outlets. "I think it's a missed opportunity on Mr. Obama's part."

Smiley also indicated said that his criticism of Obama has resulted in backlash via angry e-mails and threats both to himself and his family.

Obama had sent a letter to Smiley earlier in the month commending him for his efforts in structuring the forum and explained his need to focus on the very critical and crucial March 4 primaries. "In the final stretch, I will be on the campaign trail every day in states like Texas and Ohio talking directly with voters about the causes that are at the heart of both my campaign and the State of the Black Union forum. That is why, with regret, I am not able to attend the forum."

So what is the real beef with Obama not attending the SOBU annual conference?

Black leaders, whether they support Obama or not, should understand the urgency of seizing the opportunity that could close the deal on the democratic nomination. Texas and Ohio are statistically close. Personal visits to as many precincts, counties, and cities to fortify support and clarify message in the few remaining days available just might turn the tide in Obama's favor and preclude potential convention chicanery.

And for this one conference could not the likes of Mayor Ray Nagin; Cornel West; Bishop Paul S. Morton; the Rev. Al Sharpton; the Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr.; Dick Gregory;

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Session

con't from page 3

anything else you would like the readers to know?

Daphne: Yes. I would like for everyone to know that I thank God for blessing me to accomplish my goal. He knew that I had to have a strong support system to make it. He gave me parents, and grandparents, two sisters, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, a host of friends, and loved ones that encouraged me every step of the way. Whenever I felt like giving up, they were there cheering me on.

Ms. Session is a 1988 Rusk High School graduate. She earned her associate degree from Tyler Junior College in 1990, and her bachelor's degree in Criminology and Corrections from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas in 1991. She worked a short while as youth activities supervisor at Crockett State School and joined the Anderson County Adult Probation Office as


an adult probation officer in 1992. She attended Texas Tech School of Law graduating with a Doctorate of Jurisprudence in May 1999. She took the Texas State Bar exam in July 1999 passing with her first attempt. She received results of that exam on November 2, 1999. Daphne was sworn in as an attorney by Judge Bascom Bently III in the Anderson County District Courtroom on Thursday, November 4, 1999. She has been assistant DA in Anderson, Smith and Houston Counties. She opened private practice law offices in both Rusk and Crockett in May 2006.

Daphne is a Christian woman who has made a name for herself by providing the best possible service to all of her clients. Ms. Session is the daughter of Walter and Maxine Session of Rusk. Grandparents are Mary and the late Tobbie Session and Hazel Session and the late Jessie Burley. She has two sisters, Kathy Harris and Terri Franklin both of Rusk.

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Ms. J's 411

Jacksonville, Tx. -Sometimes our lives seems like nothing but work. We work when we are at work, and we keep on working once we come home, cooking, cleaning, doing laundry, dishes etc. When will we find the time for our most important job: being a parent to our children? One way to share more time with your children is to involve them in household work. Treat chores as a normal part of life, not as punishment. When children help with family chores, they seem to enjoy it gaining self-respect and learning competency. Kids also feel good when they see how they contribute to family life, and when everyone helps with household chores, there is more time for favorite family activities. All family members can help in some way, no matter how young. Toddlers can carry clothes to the laundry. Preschoolers can carry their dishes to the sink after dinner and put their toys up at the end of the day. With a little training from mom and dad, older children can assist more complex household tasks. Vary the work assignment to keep your children interested up. Try one of these strategies: Kids Choose- Chores can be laid out in choices, with selecting which they will do. Disagreements are a good time to learn about turn taking and compromise. Luck of the draw- Write each chore on a piece of paper in a can or small tissue box, each family member chooses one or two slips of paper. This is an easy way for all to take turns with the least and most like jobs. 10 minute pick up- Give each family member a work area to clean, make sure everyone has the cleaning supplies they need

Plan family fun

to do their jobs, Set the timer for 10 minutes and shout "Go"! When time is up, allow a few minutes for last minute touch up. Then stand back and join in a round of applause for all who did so much in such a short time. A great lesson of family teamwork. Cooking time is for everyone- Some families develop favorite meals because there's a role for everyone. Tacos make a great meal for this reason-even the youngest children can wash and tear the lettuce, school age children can grate cheese and cut tomatoes, and older children and teens can cool beans or meat. Work-N-Talk-Remember the conversations you had as a child with parent, sister, or brother while you washed dishes or cleaned room together? Try sharing jobs with your children so you can use work time for family tasks. Its a natural time to share the darp events or to bring up some of the serious matters you need to raise with your children or just share jokes and laughter together. Praise and hugs- Its the effect that counts most when kids do family chores. A childs version of a job may not be as tidy as an adults but it deserves praise and an extra hug. Help your children stay on tasks by following chore time with a favorite family activity, board game, maybe a chapter in the family reading book, a walk with the dog or treats while watching T.V. shows. Family members can join in the fun once their work is done. These are just suggestions. Until next time take care of yourself.

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Sunday Worship Service
11:00 AM

2nd & 4th Sunday Service
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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

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Wells, Texas



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(936) 867-4522

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for Rev. & Sis. Travis McGowan
Sunday, March 2, 2008
3:00PM

Speaker: Rev. R. E. Thomas, Moderator
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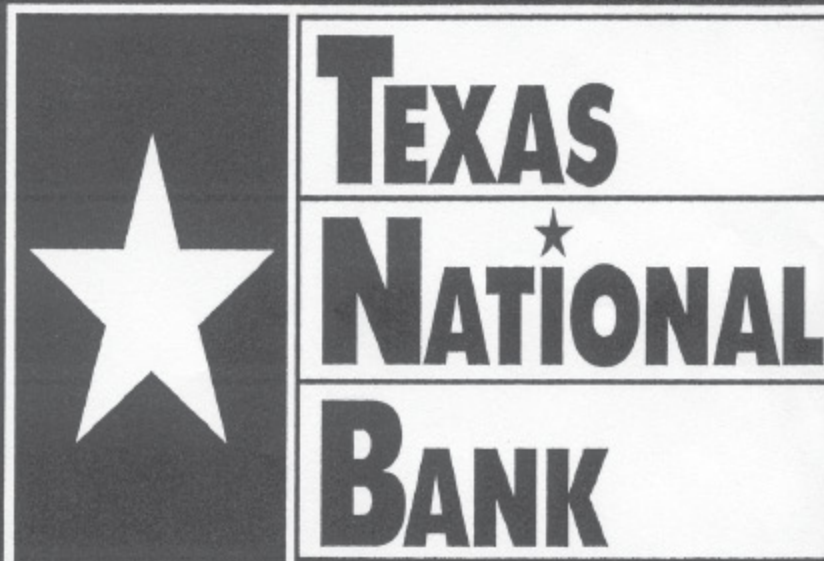
Election Night Poll Watch Party for Cherokee County Democrats!!!

When: Tuesday, March 4, immediately after you attend your 7:15 p.m. (be there at 7:00) precinct primary meeting (caucus) at your polling place
 Where: Best Western Hotel (Jacksonville, Hwy 69 south), breakfast room (big screen TV there)

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Mr. James I. Perkins, Citizens 1st Bank President, received the greatest honor 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 Running 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.

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