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May 2014
Volume VXIII Number 1

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Kimberly Ratcliff Manages 25,000 acre Oakwood Ranch



If you would like to take a field trip to see a large ranch in operation, visit Kimberly Ratcliff at the Caney Creek Ranch, Oakwood Texas, on highway 84 West of Palestine, Texas. Visitors are welcome. See story page 3

EDITORIAL/OPINION

Texas Informer Celebrating nineteen years of printing.



run into in the grocery store. Through the years I had gone to the Rusk and Jacksonville public libraries searching for history on local African Americans. There was nothing. Newspaper clippings are the best record of history you can find sometimes, especially when there are no books available on the subject you need.

When I was in high school at G. W. Bradford, the history teacher was Mrs. Irene Hunter. The students loved Mrs. Hunter but hated history. The content was on World War I and II, the Civil War, and dead presidents and nothing on anybody who looked like us. One really deep class conversation led to the question, "Why are there no black people in the books?" Mrs. Hunter told us, "They say we have no history." Well, I went through twelve years of public school in Rusk without reading, studying or learning anything about

black history. Of course that leaves you empty with a desire to know. Black churches began to teach black history in the middle sixties after the passage of the Civil Rights Bill of 1964.

But this particular day in Dallas, the idea came to us that this kind of newspaper was just what we needed in East Texas. We returned home and began to research how to start a newspaper.

After a few weeks of digging, we found Joe Garner in Longview, Texas. He and Dr. Glover were publishers of The East Texas Review. I met with them in Longview and made arrangements for beginning the Cherokee County Informer. This was March of 1995. We supplied the local news and found businesses who purchased ads and May 1995 we printed the first issue of the paper. Larry Walker had just retired from coaching and teaching, so we did the first cover story on him. They printed the first three issues.

Since that time we have documented local black history on more than 225 people through cover stories, plus much more on

family reunions, family and church events, weddings, etc.

In 1996 we were invited to attend a meeting in Austin Texas and later to become members of Texas Publishers Association. We had the opportunity to meet Dr. Theodore Lee publisher of the Dallas Post Tribune, Thurman Jones, Publisher of the North Dallas Gazette, James and Mollie Belt, and many other black publishers who publish black owned and operated newspapers around the state of Texas.

Walter and I thank our fellow publishers who have kept us motivated over the years and the businesses who support us with advertisement. It gives us great pleasure to make this publication available to you our readers. Thank you for sharing with us and the community your personal and family joys and accomplishments.

Each month we receive request after request for back issues and the number of online readers continue to grow.

With this issue we celebrate the nineteenth birthday of the Texas Informer.

Thank you and may God continue to bless you all.

It was January, 1995. We were browsing in Black Images Book Store in Dallas when we ran across freshly printed copies of the Dallas Post Tribune and The North Dallas Gazette. We picked up several copies and between Dallas and Rusk read each one from cover to cover. This was the first time I had seen a newspaper published by African Americans for African Americans. Jive Magazine and Ebony had been around for many years, but the people they wrote about were not people that we knew or could possibly

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(The opinion of the writers is their own and not necessarily that of the Texas Informer.)

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Kimberly Ratcliff Manager Caney Creek Ranch

by Maxine Session

Kimberly Ratcliff is a thirty-seven year old graduate of Long Island University and Texas Christian University who manages a 25,000 acre ranch. She recently hosted more than one hundred farmers and ranchers and agrilife and natural resource conservation staff at a workshop held at the Caney Creek Ranch.

She manages the Caney Creek Ranch, is president of the 100 Ranchers Inc., an organization of East Texas Farmers and Ranchers, takes part in presenting workshops across Texas on all aspects of hay season, testing for embryos and producing and marketing cattle. Caney Creek Ranch is owned by Westly and Marie Ratcliff, Kimberly's parents. Westly is from Leviston, Texas and Marie is from Houston, Texas. They are both graduates of Prairie View A & M University.

Kimberly graduated from Carmel High School in New York. She earned her Bachelor degree from Long Island University. After living and working in Bloomburg, New York, ten years, she came to Texas to help manage the ranch. She attended Texas Christian University for ranching management.

The thirteen year old, 25,000 acre Caney Creek Ranch produces a large selection of breeding age Charbray bulls and females for sale. This breed of cattle is adaptive to the extremes of Texas and southern state climates.

In research at Texas A&M, McGregor, Texas, Charbray outperformed all other breeds tested for a 180 day weaning weight - both as a straight breed calf and when Charbray bulls were used on seven different breeds of dams.

Kimberly says the goal of Caney Creek Ranch is the continuing tradition of producing

Charbray bulls and females that possess superior performance, carcass, fertility and pedigree.

They offer many other services to the small or parttime rancher and farmer, custom springing service for both Tiffian 85 and Jiggs hay and embryo services. They take their best cows out of production and flush them to their superior bulls.

Following a full morning of workshops a barbeque lunch was served to the participants.

Some of those in attendance were: Kanand Brooks, Assistant State Conservationist Zone 4, Kenya Nicholas, USDA 2501 Program Director and Outreach Coordinator, Willie Brown, Billy Lawton, Horace Hodge, Willie Holmon, Outreach Specialist of Lufkin, Erica Blakemore, Soil Conservationist, David Henderson, Soil Conservationist, Dr. David Daniels, Program Specialist Co-operative Extension from Texas A & M, Lavern Manning of B. & L. Ranch and other local farmers and ranchers from as far away as Houston County were in attendance.

The Texas AgriLife Extension Department at Texas A & M and Prairie View A & M are composed of faculty helping farmers and ranchers learn about Agrilife through teaching research-based technologies throughout the state and nation. Their specialists are based in eight different regions of Texas. They are available to help Texans learn about areas such as beef cattle, dairy cattle, goats, horses, meat and other foods, sheep, and swine.

Kimberly, does her part in providing information and grants to assist farmers and ranchers through workshops, grants and 100 Ranchers, Inc. which she heads as president.



Charbray cattles used for demonstrations at workshop.



Dr. Dough Steel Director of US Department of Agrilife from Prairie A & M University and Kimberly Ratcliff, manager of Caney Creek Ranch.



Speakout! Where are the parents?

Just recently a sixteen year old male student in Houston ISD had a cell phone in class. When the teacher, 66 years old, took it away, he was shown pushing her until she fell backwards hitting her head on the floor. She was taken to the hospital and he was taken to jail. Student violence against teachers is a silent national crisis. Where are the parents? Who is at fault here? What can be done to stop this?

The following people speak out!

Donald Foreman

Chiquita Sparks

Earnest Shedd

Vanessa Boyd



NOT PICTURED

Young people have no respect for their elders. When they took discipline out of the schools it made it hard for parents to do anything with the kids. People use to go to church and take their kids. They use to read the bible and try to do what Jesus said. They were taught how to live and shown how to live by the adults in their lives. Now the kids get to decide what they want and when they want it.

It starts at home. When the law took the bible out of the schools, and when the law took discipline away from parents, they lost control of their kids. Because of the economy, parents are working overtime to try to keep home going and the kids are raising themselves. Where does it end?

Raising children should take place in the home. They are not being taught the meaning of no, so whatever they want goes. It used to be when parents told you something you listened or there were consequences like the switch. Kids used to respect grownups but now cell phones have taken over their lives. They think they can't live without them. Parents go along with the kids.

There are so many factors. You never know what's going on in a child's life. Some live in homes where everything, that shouldn't, goes on. I used to work in a school. The kids came to school with stories that would break your heart. I left, not because of the kids, but because of the parents. So many are messed up. The kids don't have adults to look up to. 85% of their problems is environment the other is choice.

The Lue Ella Abraham Denman and Oscar B. Denman, Sr family get together has been scheduled for Saturday, July 5, 2014 at the Edge Event Center located on Highway 79 West of Jacksonville. Activities will begin at 10:00a.m. Bring the children. There will be a bounce house, food and games for children and adults.

Contact Kenneth Denman, President, Sheila Ruffin or Daphne Session.

You may also call 903-683-5743 for additional addition.

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Segregated Schools

from page 10

Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal." In the aftermath of that ruling, scores of cities and towns implemented desegregation plans that often included mandatory busing, in some cases triggering an exodus of whites to private schools or less diverse communities. John Rury, an education professor at the University of Kansas, said the work at UCLA has revealed how many of the advances in desegregating schools made after the Brown ruling have stopped — or been reversed. While racial discrimination has been a factor, other forces are in play, Rury said. Educated parents with the means to move have flocked to districts and schools with the best reputations for decades, said Rury, who has studied the phenomenon in the Kansas City region. In the South, many school districts encompass both a city and the surrounding area, he said. That has led to better-integrated schools. Still, around the country, only 23 percent of black students attended white-majority schools in 2011. That's the lowest number since 1968. Advocates point to rulings by federal courts that have freed many of the schools from Brown-related desegregation orders since the 1990s. That, they say, is leading the country back toward more segregated schools. At the same time, there's been a demographic change in public schools. Between 1968 and 2011, the number of Hispanic students in the public school system rose 495 percent, while the number of black students increased by 19 percent and the number of white students dropped 28 percent, according to the Education Department. Today, many Hispanic students are attending segregated schools, particularly in the West. Chuck Brothers, a retired social studies and psychology teacher who taught in a low-income school in St. Lucie County, Florida, said the nation trips over how to solve these issues. "I think we haven't taken the time, and it's across the board, politically and socially, to really understand what we really do want out of education and how are we really going to make it available for everyone," Brothers said.

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Fairview CrimeStoppers/Trail Riders host Community event

Emerson Griffin elected to District Position



Rusk VFW Post Commander Emerson Griffin, has been elected to the position of District#19 Junior Vice Commander. Elections were held on April 19, 2014 in Lufkin, Tx.

His new duties will include posts' inspections and recruitment. This also positions him for the position of District commander in 2016. He recently was re-elected as Post commander for Rusk Post#3406, beginning his fifth year in that capacity.

L to R Front Row- Crystal Mandress, Jannie Clowers, Nina Dickerson, Nell Sturns, Adriana Sturns, Luther Charles, Terri Johnson, L. C. Punch, Jr., Vice President, BR-Reginal Dickerson, Michael Bagley, Secretary, George Orans, Daryl Sturns, Treasurer, Webber Johnson, Travis Johnson - President, Willie Lawson and Patrick Sturns.

Conservationists attend Oakwood workshop



Fairview community children enjoying outdoor activities and visiting with the Easter Bunny back center, Crystal Mandrell.

L to R. - David Henderson, Soli Conservationist, Erica Blakemore, Soil Conservationist from Alto, Texas and Dr. Nelson Daniels Program Specialist of Prairie View attend Caney Creek Ranch workshops for Farmers and Ranchers.

The Fairview Crimestoppers/Trail Riders hosted a community day on April 19, 2014 at the old Henry T. Sturns and Marian Sturns Homeplace in the Fairview Community. Children were treated to a bounce house, games and an Easter Egg Hunt. The crowd of about one hundred people enjoyed a full barbeque dinner, dominoes and card games.

The Sturns homeplace was chosen as the place to gather because of historical reasons. The property Many of the participants are either relatives or decedents. The property

homeplace and surrounding property still belongs to the Henry T. and Marian Sturns family, surrounded by property that still belongs to the late brothers and sisters of Henry T. Henry was born May 9, 1914 and Marian D. was born November 11, 1914. The house that still stands was built in the middle 1900 hundreds. Their grandchildren are the children of Raymond Sturns and the late Eurlene Sturns.

Texas Publishers hold officers election



L to R- Maxine Session Treasurer -Texas Informer, Mollie Belt - Vice President -The Dallas Examiner, Tommy Wyatt- Parliamentarian, Hattie Kelly - President Power Pages News, and Floyd Miller- West Texas Tribune, Secretary.

Austin, TX.- Texas Publishers Association held its annual election of officers April 12, 2014 during the regular monthly meeting in Austin, Texas. Elected are Hattie Kelly of the Power Pages News, President; Mollie Belt of the Dallas Examiner, Vice President; Floyd Miller of the West Texas Tribune, Secretary; Maxine Session of the Texas Informer News ,Treasurer; and Tommy Wyatt of The Villager, Parliamentarian. Appointed to chair the Political Action Committee was Wasseem Ali of the San Antonio Observer, Register and Tha Tymes. Tommy Wyatt will serve with him.

Members of TPA are Texas Informer - Rusk, Dallas Examiner, Dallas Post Tribune, MON-The Gazette - Dallas, Power Pages - McKinney, Elite News - Dallas, The Villager - Austin, San Antonio Observer, San Antonio, Register, Southwest Digest - Lubbock, Tha Tymes - San Antonio, and West Texas Tribune - Abilene. It has a working relationship with a total of 25 African American owned and operated newspapers serving virtually every region of Texas with a potential reach of 3.0 million African Americans.

The Black Press of Texas was established in 1986. The common goal is to provide information to the communities and culture we serve. Health and safety, business opportunities, entertainment, sports, social resources provide by governmental agencies, local, state and federal levels, along with recording our present and past history are examples of our day to day operations.

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The Millennium



will be resurrected before the millennium. They will rule with Christ and will be priests of God and Christ (Revelation 20:4). The unbelieving dead will wait for the second resurrection (Revelation 20:5).

After the thousand years, Satan will be released and will again resume his work of deceit (Revelation 20: 7-8).

The most important aspect of the millennium is the reign of Christ. Peter taught that Christ now rules from the right hand of God (Acts 2:33-36). that rule will last until His enemies are made His footstool "The Lord said to my Lord, "sit at My right hand, till I make your enemies Your footstool" (Psalms 110:1). The apostle Paul also understood Christ to be presently reigning in a period designed to bring all of God's enemies underfoot (Corinthians 15:25-27). Thus the impact of Christ's present rule over the earth from God's right hand must not be seen as unrelated to His future reign during the millennium.

The millennium is viewed by interpreters in several different ways. One position holds that the millennium only refers to Christ's spiritual rule today from heaven. This symbolic view is known as the amillennial interpretation. Another position views Christ's spiritual rule as working through preaching and teaching to bring gradual world improvement leading up to Christ's return. This is the postmillennial view.

A thorough reading and study of the scriptures referred to above will serve to give a clear understanding of the millennium and how Christ intends it to effect us.

The millennium is defined as being the thousand-year period mentioned in connection with the description of Christ's coming to reign with His saints over the earth (Revelations 20:1-9). Many Old Testament passages are reputed to refer to the millennium. (Isaiah 11:4; Jeremiah 3:17; Zechariah 14:9).

These and many other Old Testament passages are often taken to refer only to the thousand-year period itself. However, it is often difficult in these passages to see a clear dividing line between the earthly period of the millennium and the eternal state of new heavens and earth. Therefore, it is best to let one's teaching about the millennium be drawn specifically from words in Revelation 20. The other great promises to Israel, while they may have a temporary fulfillment in the thousand years, still await the fulness of the new heavens and new earth and the unhindered presence of Israel's king and the church's husband - Jesus Christ our Lord.

During that thousand-year period, Satan will be bound in the bottomless pit so he will not deceive the nations until his short release (Revelations 20:3,-7-8). The faithful martyrs who have died for the cause of Christ

What's Cook 'n?

Old Fashion Sweet Potatoe Casserole



Cook over medium heat until tender, drain and mash. In large bowl mix together the sweet potatoes, sugar, eggs, butter, milk and vanilla.

Mix ingredients until smooth. Put into 9 x 12 baking dish. In medium bowl mix sugar and flour. Cut into butter until coarse. Stir in pecans. Sprinkle over the sweet potatoe mixture. Bake in preheated oven thirty minutes or until the topping is lightly brown.

- 4 cups sweet potatoes (cubed)
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 eggs beaten
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 4 teaspoons softened butter
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/3 cup flour
- 3 Teaspoons butter
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans

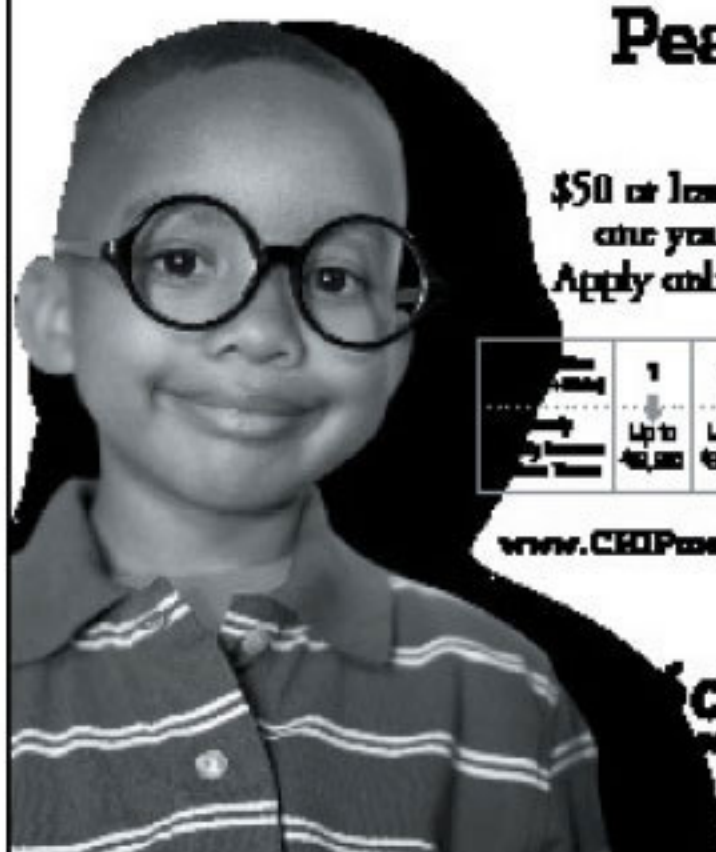
Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Put sweet potatoes in a medium sausepan with water to cover.

Orange Julius

- 6 oz. can frozen orange juice
- 1 cup whole milk
- 1 cup water
- 1/2 c. sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 10 ice cubes

Put all ingredients in blender and mix until ice is well crushed. Pour into glasses or cups. Servess 4.

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(AUSTIN) — The opportunity for Texans to save money on energy efficient appliances is fast approaching. The state's annual ENERGY STAR® Sales Tax Holiday is Saturday, May 24, through Monday, May 26.

"This is a great opportunity for Texans looking for ways to stretch their family budgets," Texas Comptroller Susan Combs said. "Shoppers can save money up front by not having to pay sales tax when buying appliances during the holiday weekend and the energy efficient products can help reduce utility bill costs."

Shoppers are expected to save an estimated \$3.8 million in state and local sales tax during the Memorial he sales tax break applies to ENERGY STAR® qualified air conditioners priced at \$6,000 or less; refrigerators priced at \$2,000 or less; ceiling fans; fluorescent light bulbs; dishwashers; dehumidifiers; and clothes washers. Day sales tax holiday.

There is more information at: http://www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/taxpubs/tx96_1331/.

Estimated annual energy and water savings for eligible products are listed in the chart at the bottom. Clothes dryers are not ENERGY STAR® certified.

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Source: U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Limp Understanding

A surgeon was discussing a case with medical students: "The muscle in the patient's right leg has contracted until it is shorter than the left, therefore he limps. What would you do in such circumstances?" A student raised his hand and said, "I'd limp too."



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Segregation is making a comeback in U.S. schools.

JESSE J. HOLLAND
KIMBERLY Helfing

AP) — Segregation is making a comeback in U.S. schools. Progress toward integrated classrooms has largely been rolled back since the Supreme Court issued its landmark *Brown v. Topeka Board of Education* decision 60 years ago, according to a report released Thursday by the Civil Rights Project at UCLA. Blacks are now seeing more school segregation than they have in decades, and more than half of Latino students are now attending schools that are Associated

In New York, California and Texas, more than half of Latino students are enrolled in schools that are 90 percent minority or more, the report found. In New York, Illinois, Maryland and Michigan, more than half of black students attend schools where 90 percent or more are minority. Project co-director Gary Orfield, author of the "Brown at 60" report, said the changes are troubling because they show some minority students receive poorer educations than white students and Asian students, who tend to be in middle-class schools. The report

urged, among other things, deeper research into housing segregation, which is a "fundamental cause of separate-and-unequal schooling." Although segregation is more prevalent in central cities of the largest metropolitan areas, it's also in the suburbs. "Neighborhood schools, when we go back to them, as we have, produce middle-class schools for whites and Asians and segregated high-poverty schools for blacks and Latinos," Orfield said. Housing discrimination — stopping or discouraging minorities from moving to majority-white areas — also plays a role in school segregation and "that's been a harder nut to crack," said Sherrilyn Ifill, president of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, which argued the *Brown* case in front of the Supreme Court. School performance can be entwined with poverty, too. "These are the schools that tend to have fewer resources, tend to have teachers with less experience, tend to have people who are teaching outside their area of specialty, and it also denies the opportunities, the contacts and the networking that

occur when you're with people from different socio-economic backgrounds," said Dennis Parker, director of the American Civil Liberties Union Racial Justice Program. For students like Diamond McCullough, 17, a senior at Walter H. Dyett High School on Chicago's South Side, the disparities are real. Her school is made up almost entirely of African-American students. She said her school doesn't offer physical education classes or art, and Advanced Placement classes are only available online. McCullough noted the school is named after a famous musician, Walter H. Dyett, and the school no longer has a band class. "We don't have a music chorus class," she said. "We barely have the basic

classes we need." Aquila Griffin, 18, said she transferred from Dyett to another high school 20 blocks away because she needed biology and world studies to graduate. The two traveled to Washington this week for a labor-sponsored rally outside the U.S. Supreme Court in support of public education. "Many blame the schools for failing, or teachers, but they never blame the bad policies put in place in schools," Griffin said. "A teacher can only teach to a certain extent with the resources. It's the policies put in place that's failing the students." On May 17, 1954, the Supreme Court ruled: "In the field of public education, the doctrine of 'separate but equal' has no place.

Segregated School Continue page 5

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100 Ranchers Inc. receives funds for Risk Management Education

Oakwood, TX.-The 100 Ranchers Inc. received funding from Southern Risk Management Education Center (SRMEC) for the purpose of Risk Management Education and Outreach to Socially Disadvantaged Agricultural Producers in Texas. The project focuses on beginning, retired and transitioning socially disadvantaged producers by providing the information, skills set, and tools they need to make informed decisions and enhance their profitability.

On May 30th, The 100 Ranchers will conduct a FREE workshop to increase awareness about The Beef Checkoff Program. The objective is to provide producers a better understanding on their National Beef Check program along with the vote on the Texas Beef Checkoff Dollar. Along with the educational opportunities, a forum will be provided for an exchange of ideas between attendees and presenters.

The FREE workshop will be held at Texas A&M Beef Center, 7707 Raymond Stotzer Parkway (Hwy 60), College Station, Texas 77845 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Speakers and Topics Include:

- Robert Wortham, Executive Vice President of Texas Beef Council
- Tracy Tomascik, Associate Director Commodity and Regulatory Activities for Texas Farm Bureau
- Todd Huedner, Manager of Sales Operation for Merial
- John M. Davidson, DVM, Diplomate ABVP (Beef Cattle) Vice-President, American Association of Bovine Practitioners Professional Services Veterinarian Farm Animal Business Novartis Animal Health

Registration is available online at www.100ranchers.org (look under education), along with more information on the workshop program and presenters, or by email kratcliff@100ranchers.org or 214-676-3357

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Obituary for Ms. Dora Mae Lacy

Funeral Services were held April 5, 2014 for Dora Lester at the Hamilton Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Church in Texarkana Texas with the Rev. James Anthony Morris Officiating. Dora Mae Lacy Lester, 89, peacefully passed away on April 1, 2014 after a gradual decline in health. She was surrounded and supported by her loving family. Dora was born on December 22, 1924 in Jacksonville, Texas to the late Green Lacy and Loveanna Fuller Lacy.

She received her primary education at Church Hill School in Jacksonville, Texas. She attended Butler College and received her Bachelors Degree. She did post graduate work at the University of Texas in Austin.

She met and married Henry Conley Lester, Sr., who preceded her in death. They moved to Texarkana, Texas in 1952. She began her teaching career in Lewisville, Arkansas. After attending the University of Texas in Austin, she was hired as a third grade teacher at G.U. Jamison Elementary School.

During her time there she also coached girls basketball. She also taught at Highland Park Elementary School. After leaving Texarkana I

ndependent School District, she worked for a short time for the City of Texarkana, Texas. She was a member of Top Ladies of Distinction and Las Amigas Social Club. After retirement, she devoted her time to studying the bible and raising her children. She felt it her mission in life to pray for her children and grandchildren. Her joy was that all of her children accept Christ and be Saved. She became a member of Hamilton Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Church where she attended Bible Study, Sunday School, Mission and supported the T.V. Ministry. Mrs. Lester is survived by: Two Sisters; Fannye B. Meadows (Preston) of Tyler, Texas and Savannah Bolden of San Antonio, Texas. Three sons; Henry Conley Lester (Barbara) of Ft. Worth, Texas; Lacy Lester (Angela) of Texarkana, Texas and James A. Lester (Radika) of Cedar Hill, Texas. One daughter; Jo Ann Rice (Arties) of Texarkana, Texas; grandchildren, great grandchildren nieces, nephews and cousins.

Juneteenth Celebration Scheduled

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

LEGAL NOTICE

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

Game #	Game Name / Odds	\$	Official Close of Game	End Validations Date
1450	Lucky Gems Bingo Overall Odds are 1 in 4.37	\$2	5/29/14	11/25/14
1572	Crazy Cash Overall Odds are 1 in 4.32	\$1	7/2/14	12/29/14
1574	Break the Bank Limited Edition Overall Odds are 1 in 4.26	\$2	7/2/14	12/29/14
1537	Bonus Cashword Overall Odds are 1 in 3.44	\$3	7/2/14	12/29/14
1528	Dallas Cowboys Overall Odds are 1 in 3.46	\$5	7/2/14	12/29/14
1529	Houston Texans Overall Odds are 1 in 3.62	\$5	7/2/14	12/29/14
1568	Cash Machine Overall Odds are 1 in 3.30	\$5	7/2/14	12/29/14
1570	Merry Money Overall Odds are 1 in 3.83	\$5	7/2/14	12/29/14

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~Marian Wright
Elderman

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



President Obama signs "My Brother's Keeper" initiative

NNPA Freddie Allen



Task force launched

Washington - No one had seen President Barack Obama more emotional than last week when he announced "My Brother's Keeper", a new initiative aimed at helping young black men. He spoke from the heart, recounting the pain of not having his father in the home and not always putting his best foot forward.

The details of the initiative have not all been worked out, but a memorandum, the president signed launching, "My Brother's Keeper Task Force" chaired by Broderick Johnson the cabinet secretary and assistant to the president, provides a closer look into how the president plans to move forward.

According to the whitehouse the task force is designed to:

- * Assess the impact of federal policies, regulations and programs of general applicability on boys and young men of color, so as to develop proposals that will enhance positive outcomes and eliminate or reduce negative ones.

- * Work with external stakeholders to highlight the opportunities, challenges, and efforts affecting boys and young men of color.

- * Reccomment to the president means of ensuring sustained efforts within the federal government and continued partnership with the private sector and philanthropic community as set forth in the presendential memorandum

- Create an administration-wide "What Works" online portal to disseminate successful programs and practices that improve outcomes for boys and young men of color.

- * Reccomend, where appropriate, incentives for the broad adoption by national, state, and local public and private decision makers of effective

and innovative strategies and practices for improving outcomes for boys and young men of color.

Flanked by students from "Being A Man" a chicago-based program that teaches discipline, conflict resolution and offers mentoring, the president shared details of his life that all too-often mirror the experiences of young men of color. "I didn't have a dad in the house", he said. I was angry about it, even though I didn't realize it at the time. I made bad choices. I got high without always thinking about the harm that I could do. I didn't always take school as seriously as I should have. I made excuses. sometimes I sold myself short."

The president shared that he "grew up in an enviroment that was a little bit more forgiving", and that he relied on a support network of family, teachers and community leaders that many young Black men don't have access to.

The president called on dozens of business leaders, nonprofit

organizations and corporations to invest in and offer support for the initiative. The foundations pledged to invest \$200. million over the next five years to liftup programs that are proven to work.

President Obama was joined by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, The Atlantic Philanthopies, Bloomberg Philanthopies, The California Endowmwnt, The Ford Foundation, The John and James L. Knight Foundation, The Open Society Fondations, The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, The W. K. Kellog Foundation and the Kapor Center Social Impact.

From the White House the President has been able to shine a light on issues that some of us have been working to address doe decades, "said Shawn Dove, the manager for the Campaign for Black Male Achievement at the Open Societies Institute. "It's a clarion call for collaboration and to handle some of America's unfinished business."



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

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