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P. O. Box 332

Daniel Bryant, vintner, introduces "Running Tigers" label to East Texas



g: Running Tigers

When I moved from the South (Birmingham, Alabama to be exact) to the Wine Country in California, I had no idea I'd become fascinated and passionate about wine. Thirteen years later, Running Tigers Wine was created. Consistent with my southern background, I've graciously helped thousands "enjoy the pleasure within a bottle of quality wine". Now we bring this same consistent quality to Running Tigers Wine. As we know, a tiger's stripe pattern is the same as the pigment of their skin through and through. Founded with the belief that enjoying wine should be an overall experience consistent with the quality of wine, Running Tigers shares this passion and is committed to excellence which can be tasted in every glass through and through.

g: Running Tig

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INTRODUCING: Running Tigers Syrah



Dark like a blackberry jam, Rich like a raspberry chocolate tart, and spicy like white pepper".

When I moved from the South (Birmingham, Alabama to be exact) to the Wine Country in California, I had no idea I'd become fascinated and passionate about wine. Thirteen years later, Running Tigers Wine was created. Consistent with my southern background, I've graciously helped thousands "enjoy the pleasure within a bottle of quality wine". Now we bring this same consistent quality to Running Tigers Wine. As we know, a tiger's stripe pattern is the same as the pigment of their skin through and through. Founded with the belief that enjoying wine should be an overall experience consistent with the quality of wine, Running Tigers shares this passion and is committed to excellence which can be tasted in every glass through and through.

Enjoy,

Daniel & Twiana

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Bill Cosby's new book "Come On People" said to air African American family dirty laundry. see pg. 10



Tyler Perry's "Why Did I Get Married?" ranked #1 in USA Box Office Summary raking in \$21 million dollars. See page 2.

Aides and African Americans-
pg. 4

Tribute to the late
Mr. J. W. Carter page 18

Old Rosenwald School
seek repairs pg. 9 & 12

Editorial

Birthdays are Blessings *Especially those over fifty!*

A few weeks ago I celebrated one of my, over-the-hump, birthdays. One of my closest friends, who was also a classmate, celebrated her's a week later. I was happy and light-hearted about my birthday, even laughing under my breath thinking, this is nothing to worry about, my friends and classmates are going right along with me!



A few of us Baby Boomers are at the point where a look in the mirror reflects a face that looks like mother or daddy, but its O. K.! The great thing about is we have probably reached a point in our lives where a few wrinkles, a little gray hair and a little steak and potato budge is nothing to agonize over.

I wish I had the knowledge forty years ago that I have now. I'd probably have

fewer wrinkles, a little less gray hair and be a multi-millionair to boot.

I've reached a place in life, like most of my friends where I don't sweat the small stuff. Where I take one day at a time, enjoying each simple pleasure, a nice ride from home to the city, a few hours with good friends or family, good church service and yes, the smiling face of an old friend that I haven't seen in forty years.

Here's something to think about:

- *Smile alot. It costs nothing and is beyond price.
- *Every so often, invite the person behind you to go ahead of you.
- *Life will sometimes hand you a magical moment, savor it.

Then, two weeks ago I attended the funeral of Mr. J. W. Carter, former teacher, neighbor and beloved father. It was a beautiful service befitting him. There were so many of his former students there that it could have been mistaken for a reunion. The school closed in 1968, mind you, so the youngest to even have attended kindergarden would be at least into their early forties. To make a long story short, afterwards as I walked past groups standing around the outside of the church and at the dinner, I heard parts of conversations like, "Did you see So and So? she looks great for her age", and "Did you see So and So? I haven't seen him in forty years."

Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married

Tyler Perry's new movie, **Why Did I Get Married?** opened October 12th in 2000 movies and topped out number one with over \$21 million dollars in tickets sold while movies of his mainstream counterparts opened in 3,000 theaters. 'Set in a Rocky Mountain resort, "Yet though every action is telegraphed — as are the moral lessons — Madea's absence allows Mr. Perry to explore a less cartoonish universe.

"Why Did I Get Married?" follows four couples who meet each year for a therapeutic vacation. Friends since college, they converge to discuss their relationships and address marital difficulties. This being a Tyler Perry film, there is much to discuss; we also know there will be secrets revealed, sermons delivered and forgiveness sought. No violence, no nudity, no sex, if you haven't seen it, go! It's the movie to see!

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Daniel Bryant changing the face of wine: releases Running Tigers wine label

Cover Story

For thousands of years, wine has held an important place in ceremonial, religious and social circles. Today, with the emergence of different cultures and the advancement of new technologies, wine has become even more diversified, securing its role as a cultural icon.

East Texas is experiencing emerging visibility of the wine culture as evidenced by Keiper-sol Winery with locations at Bullard, Texas and downtown Tyler, Texas. Daniel (Tiwana) Bryant, son-in-law and daughter of Jacksonville natives Jean and Odell Hinton and Claude and Katie Armstrong are doing their part to enhance the wine culture. Daniel is the owner of "A Color of Grape" Company which organizes wine-tasting seminars and custom tours for African Americans to wineries throughout Napa, Sonoma and Mendocino Counties in the state of California.

Daniel released his first wine under the label of "Running Tigers" two and a half years ago.

He and his family teamed with Kathleen at Larissa House Restaurant to host a wine tasting event in Jacksonville in July of this year called "Wine Tasting 101". Local residents got a chance to ask questions and sample different qualities of wine including Daniel's 2004 Dry Creek Syrah from the Running Tigers Cellar.

He has hosted many others around the states including Chicago, Illinois and the University of California. Bryant is President of the Association of African American Vintners. The association works to promote African American Wines which are now a part of California's booming wine industry. Seven African American owned Wineries are members of the group: Stover Oaks, Vision Cellars, Black

Coyote Chateau, Esterlina Winery and Vineyards; Marc Norwood Vineyards and Winery, Inc., Poston Creek Nineyard, Sharp Cellars and Bryant's company A Color of Grapes.

Daniel was born and raised in Birmingham, Alabama graduating High School there and college at Clarksville, Tennessee.

He was the oldest child of the oldest child and a standard of excellence was set for him by his mom

and the women of his family who he says gave him strong support and the men, mostly businessmen, who set the best of examples for him. Being from a close knit family who raised him with a can-do attitude, Daniel's first exposure to wine was the tattered unkept appearing wino who stood on the corner drinking wine from a bottle wrapped in a brown paper bag.

Bryant says the wino was seen as a bad thing in his community and it was never a habit he planned to acquire. "My, how times have changed" he says. Today he boasts of being a wineaux- same pronunciation, but with a very, very different meaning. Although the word is not yet in Webster's Dictionary, wine aficionados define it as someone who knows very fine wine.

The tours and seminars "A Color Of Grape" hosts teaches people how to get their palates used to quality wines, to taste the various components, to be comfortable around wine and to know how to order a good bottle. African American acceptance of vintners is growing, making up 10% of wine drinkers. "We are consumers and once we become educated, we will make a significant impact on the industry," He lived in the wine country of Sonoma County six years. Prior to that, Bryant lived 45 minutes to an hour from Napa, Daniel says.



Tiwana Armstrong Bryant, 5th from left, and classmates of JHS class of '79 attending Wine Tasting event at Larissa House, Jacksonville.

where he went once or twice a month and where he first developed a palate for quality wine.

With the ability to venture out to different wineries he was able to develop a mature palate and learn to discern different flavors. "We are passionate about producing an excellent quality of wine, a product that is unique and of high quality of a consistent level similar to that of a tiger's stripes. "Running tigers is moving nicely with clients all over the country," Daniel says. Wine critics have written several nice writeups about his label. Laube writes a description in the August 28th article for the Wine Spectator. He describes it as "the richly flavored Dry Creek Sara I from Running Tigers Cellars. Bryant was asked to submit his wine to The Wine Spectator and to South Florida Business Journal Wine Competitions. It is in three of the top restaurants in Sacramento. Two others are reviewing it. One store in San Francisco, two restaurants in Chicago, and the COPIA center in Napa, as well as one of the top restaurants in Sonoma County are reviewing it.

Mac McDonald, Daniels' good friend and mentor, of Vision Cellars provided counsel to Daniel's idea of becoming a vintner and has inspired him

along the way as well as his mom and stepdad Gladys and Joe, dad Benny, grandparents Abron and Tinsley and Ben and Margaret Hart. He is full of confidence because his wife Tiwana, daughters Naiko and Alex are with him all the way. He says, of course the business is for them. They will have to work in some capacity to help make it reach the successful goals he foresees in the future. Alix (age 7) is getting herself positioned to take control, says she's the boss and everyone works for her. www.runningtigerswine.com daniel@runningtigerswine.com



AIDS and African American Women

~By Dr. David Pryor

African American communities are being ravaged and attacked by an epidemic of AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). At issue is our lifestyle. Although a number of AIDS cases can be attributed to Injection Drug Use (IDU), too many of us – whether gay, straight, male or female – continue to have unprotected sex with multiple partners or people we barely know.

The AIDS rate among Black women is three times as high as that among Latino women and 18 times as high as that among White women. Today Black women make up more than half of all women who have died of AIDS.

African Americans make up 13 percent of the population, yet we now account for 41 percent of all AIDS cases in the United States. The Harvard AIDS Institute estimates that by the year 2010 more than half of all our country's AIDS cases will be within the African American community.

What is HIV?

HIV is the abbreviation for human immunodeficiency virus. HIV is the virus (infection) that causes AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome), a disease that can destroy one's life. Human immunodeficiency virus infection occurs when infected cells in blood, semen, or other body fluids are spread from one person to another.

HIV infection attacks and breaks down the body's immune system which normally produces white blood cells and antibodies that fight against viruses and bacteria. The infection-fighting cells are called CD4+T-cell lymphocytes. When

ger able to effectively protect the body against diseases. The infected person is more open or susceptible to illnesses that usually do not affect healthy persons.

Dr. David Satcher, the Surgeon General of the United States, states that there are 33.4 million HIV-infected people around the world, and 665,000 in the United States. It is estimated that 50 percent of all new HIV infections in the United States are among people under 25, the majority of these young people are infected sexually. Nearly half (44 percent) of the HIV-infections in the age group 13 to 24 were reported among young females and over half (63 percent) were among African Americans. It is important to remember that HIV can be present in the body for up to twelve years without producing any outward signs of illness. The infected person is no longer able to effectively protect the body against diseases. The infected person is more open or susceptible to illnesses that usually do not affect healthy persons.

How Can You Become Infected?

Women, because of the structure of the female genital tract, run a higher risk of contracting the AIDS virus from a man than men do from women. That's why the disease is increasingly transmitted through heterosexual activity and is claiming the lives of African American women at such an alarming rate. Common ways of acquiring HIV infection are:

Having unprotected (without a condom) sex with someone who has HIV.

Sharing needles and/or syringes used in IDU (injection drug use). A pregnant woman with HIV can give it to her baby during childbirth or while breastfeeding (this does not always happen, however).

Blood transfusions. Since 1985, however, people have seldom received HIV from an infusion of blood or blood-products because better safeguards are practiced against such occurrences.

What is AIDS?

AIDS is a late stage of HIV infection, and is present when the body becomes overpowered by one or more opportunistic infections. These opportunistic infections ultimately cause death because the body cannot defend itself against them.

Also, if a person's CD4+T-cell count drops below 200, he or she is considered to have AIDS. A healthy person usually has from 800 to 1,200 CD4+T cells.

David Pryor, MD
Internal Medicine
Oakland CA.

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Hollywood's Time

by Billy "Hollywood" Groves (Sept.-07)

The Jena Report

by Billy "Hollywood" Groves

As a seasoned journalist, I looked forward to going to see what was going on Jena, Louisiana from East Texas, along with my mother, Sis. Earlie Groves, of Crockett. While getting gas for the trip at a local gas station in Crockett, we ran into former Houston County District Attorney Cindy Gardner. The former D. A. gave us some grim news about the Jena, Louisiana area, saying in a Southern East Texas dialect, "Y'all be careful, there are some mean rednecks over there in Jena". With that ominous warning, we set off on highway 21, headed to Nacogdoches and eventually, Jena, Louisiana. I didn't think much about what the former D.A. had said until about halfway through trip when I saw a highway sign that said Jasper, Texas 30 some miles away. Unless you've been on the planet Mars or Jupiter you have heard of Jasper and the brutal racial murder of James Byrd a few years ago. That sign suddenly made me realize that I was not only in a racist area, but "I lived in a racist area." When we arrived in Jena, an out of the way little town of about three thousand people, with a dominant White population and a vibrant Black community, out of site of tourists, it was very much like similar small

towns in Texas. The first thing that got my attention was the thousands upon thousands of serious looking African American people there, who had come from every place in the United States. The second thing that caught my attention was the calmness, determination and unity of the large mass of Black humanity. The third thing that caught my attention was a White guy in a Ford truck with a rebel flag on his front license plate tag, riding down East Oak Street, the main street through Jena. Most of the large police/law enforcement presence were friendly and courteous to the marchers and newcomers. In my mind and in the inner thoughts of some of the Black people there (who shared their inner thoughts with me), "The law people were super friendly, because they were super out numbered." I spoke with some of the Black people and White people who were in Jena, on September 20, 2007.

Daniel Gutridge of Wilmington, Delaware, a Black man in his early 40's had this to say. "I came off of my regular route said Gutridge to support these young Black men". Gutridge, a long distant truck driver, told me with a tired enthusiastic smile. He added that he was also there because, "It's not



about Black and White, but wrong and right". Ruttham Johnson of Atlanta, Georgia said their group came to Jena because, "They wanted to leave a mark that will not be erased." Kevin Borden of St. Louis, Missouri said, "I think our actions speak loudly, we exposed their prejudices." Brent Thibeaux, Keith Clayton and Cory Platt, are students at Grambling University. They said they were concerned students who came to Jena to support their fellow African American youth who are being unfairly persecuted. Disk Jockey, DJ Chela, came with a large number of people on buses from New York City. DJ Chela, a native of Durham, North Carolina, who works and lives in Brooklyn, New York was wearing a Free The Jena Six, t-shirt when she marched in Jena. She said she came to support the cause and show solidarity for the Jena Six.

Sabreen El Amin of Chicago told me he was there to support the Jena Six. David Trigiano of Houston and California described himself as a Jewish White person. He said he was there because he wanted to see justice for all people, especially African American young men. Valencia Mohammed of Washington D.C. is an editor/reporter for the Afro American Newspaper of Washington D.C. Valencia said she came off of her vacation on a cruise ship in the Bahamas to Jacksonville, Florida to get to Jena for the march and rally. She told me that she thought the march was a "wonderful thing" and her interest in the Jena Six case went beyond her job. She can be reached at VMohammed@Afro.com. Robin Adams is a native of New Orleans's third ward who was displaced by Hurricane Katrina. She currently drives a taxi cab in Alexandria, Louisiana. She told me she was glad that everyone came to Jena because things are bad down here and the world needs to know about it. Wayne Hayes, James Wilkins, George Hayes, Willie Lundy and Willie Hayes came from Coldwater, Missis-

...Continued on page 7

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Lon Morris College Presents Old Lace

On November 1, 2 and 3, at 7:30 p.m., and on November 3 at 2:30 p.m. the Theater Program at Jacksonville College will present the classic Arsenic and Old Lace by Joseph Kesselring. The show, which was made into a very popular movie in the 1940s starring Carey Grant, is a favorite for both community and educational theater. The story is about two charming and innocent older ladies who bury the remains of lonely old men in their cellar with the help of their brother who thinks he is Teddy Roosevelt. Other characters include their nephew Mortimer, a theater critic who hates the theater, and his brother Jonathan, whose plastic surgeon has turned him into a Boris Karloff [Frankenstein] look-a-like.

The production is directed by Evelyn James. Stage manager is theater major Amy Sherman from Rusk. Assistant Stage Manager is Anna Sweet. The set is being setup by theater major Cynda House from Kemp. Properties mistress is theater major Anna Marie Jones from Sulphur Springs. Sound designer is Jamie Newburn and lighting designer is Crystal Sandoval. Make-up and hair

is being designed by theater students Amy Murcheson and Heather Storen. Graphic design for the production will be done by theater student Jarin Martin and theater major Justin Taylor from Big Sandy. House Manager is Krystal Simmons. Other students involved in technical support for the production are Brady Bolton, Augustin Yamiley Charlottin, Stephen Hanna, Starla Mathis, and the Theater Appreciation class.

Characters in Arsenic and Old Lace are Christian Lawrence as Mortimer Brewster, Heather Storen as Martha Brewster, Andrea Carter as Abbey Brewster, Anna Marie Jones as Elaine Harper, Mark Stephens as Teddy 'Theodore Roosevelt' Brewster, Stephen Hanna as Jonathan 'Boris Karloff' Brewster, and Sean Maylum as Dr. Einstein. Also appearing are Marvin Robison as Dr. Harper and Lt. Rooney, Justin Taylor as Officer Brophy, Andrew Haverty as Mr. Gibbs and Mr. Witherspoon, and Joshua Hill as Officer O'Hara. This production of Arsenic and Old Lace is being entered as an associate production in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). It is possible that two

of our actors will receive a nomination for an Irene Ryan scholarship. Additionally, Amy Sherman will enter her work as stage manager and Christian Lawrence will enter his work in design in the regional KCACTF competition which will be held at Sam Houston State University in February 2008. Come join us for an hilarious production as Mortimer tries to untangle the difficulties created by his very sweet but rather loony aunts and his exceedingly vicious brother. Tickets are \$5.00 for adults in advance \$6.00 at the door, and \$3.00 for students in advance \$4.00 at the door. Tickets can be purchased from the book store or business office at the school or from Marie's Christian Book Store. Call Mary Lewis at (903)589-7132 or email mlewis@jacksonville-college.edu for information about the production. Group ticket prices are available.

of our actors will receive a nomination for an Irene Ryan scholarship. Additionally, Amy Sherman will enter her work as stage manager and Christian Lawrence will enter his work in design in the regional KCACTF competition which will be held at Sam Houston State University in February 2008. Come join us for an hilarious production as Mortimer tries to untangle the difficulties created by his very sweet but rather loony aunts and his exceedingly vicious brother. Tickets are \$5.00 for adults in advance \$6.00 at the door, and \$3.00 for students in advance \$4.00 at the door. Tickets can be purchased from the book store or business office at the school or from Marie's Christian Book Store. Call Mary Lewis at (903)589-7132 or email mlewis@jacksonville-college.edu for information about the production. Group ticket prices are available.

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BLACK WOMEN & BREAST CANCER: SECOND VERSE, SAME AS THE FIRST

By Dr. Mary S. Harris, Executive Producer, Journey to Wellness

Atlanta, GA (BlackNews.com) - Well, it's October--breast cancer awareness month again, and not much has changed for African-American women since this time last year. In fact, the news is worse. The American Cancer Society estimates that in 2007, approximately 19,000 Black women will be diagnosed with breast cancer, and about 5,830 will die from the disease--190 more than the projected 5,640 deaths for 2005. Moreover, Black women still die from breast cancer at a higher rate--36% higher death rate--than their white female counterparts.

Despite the abundance of public education about mammography and the importance of early detection and treatment over the years, the numbers continue to show a marked disparity between Black women's survival from this disease as compared to other women in the United States.

Why? Because even though we do a reasonably good job of providing mammograms to women who can't afford them, we don't do a very good job of making treatment available for women who cannot afford to pay. We've got to realize that we don't do poor or uninsured women a favor by offering them free mammograms, telling them that they have breast cancer, but not offering them a way to obtain the necessary treatment. Not long ago, I met with representatives from a local hospital to discuss the logistics of a breast cancer screening initiative. I was dismayed to learn that although there are many funding sources to provide free mammograms to women who cannot afford them, there is precious little funding available to provide the costly follow-up treatment that's required, should that mammogram indicate further evaluation is necessary. When you consider that an initial mammogram may begin a cascade of additional expenses including a follow-up mammogram or ultrasound,

lumpectomy or mastectomy, which generates more surgical fees and hospitalization costs; and radiation or chemotherapy, which generates oncologists' fees. If you add to this the costs for childcare during treatment and time lost from work, you have a huge financial burden that many women simply cannot afford. It's no wonder that so many women avoid taking the first step (a mammogram or breast self exam) and simply hope for the best. It's no wonder that by the time many African-American women visit the doctor, they have waited until the disease has taken over and they have late-stage breast cancer, which is very difficult to treat. It's no wonder that so many Black women are dying--unnecessarily--from this disease. Many women fear the financial consequences of treating the disease as much, if not more, than they fear the disease itself.

We've got to do a better job of providing accessible, affordable treatment for breast cancer patients who can't afford to pay. Research has demonstrated that when Black women and white women with breast cancer at the same stage of the disease receive the same level of care, the outcome is no different. That is, there is no disparity in survival--the Black women's survival is equal to that of the white women. My hope is that in the ensuing year, more funding will be made available to provide accessible, affordable treatment for breast cancer for women who cannot afford it. Increased resources for breast cancer treatment will go a long way to eliminate the disparity in breast cancer survival and begin to turn the tide of survival for Black women. Until that happens, I'm afraid that next year, the statistics for Black women's survival from breast cancer will not, unfortunately, show any improvement over this year's dismal numbers or the numbers that have preceded it for far too long.

*Dr. Mary S. Harris, President
BioTechnical Communications,
Inc. & Executive Producer,
Journey To Wellness*

Continued from page 5...
The Jena Report
by Billy "Hollywood" Groves

-sippi. They told me they were to support the Jena Six. Dan Meylor of Brooklyn, New York told me that he thought the large number of supporters and marchers of the Jena Six will have an effect on the case. Sherry Dorsey of Wilmington, Delaware is the President and CEO of SWAP Productions, (Sisters with a Purpose), she was in Jena for the rally. She called the march and demonstration a good thing, adding that it was time for something like this in the South. Nia Nah Tumpe works for Radio Station KCFV-89.5 in St. Louis, Missouri. She told me she was there to cover the Jena story and called the march a "Freedom March".

Sis. Earlie Groves of Crockett, who referred to herself as a Christian, said she came to Jena because she wanted to see what was going on for herself. Ron Smith of St. Louis, Missouri, told me he came to protest because, "Where there is no justice, there will be no peace." Jerome Scales and his cousin James Poole of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, were in Jena cooking food for the demonstrators. They said they know about "Good old boy" politics in Louisiana and they were there to support the young men of the Jena Six, who they called, "Our people".

During the day I talked with many more people and they all were saying the same thing. "Where there is no justice, there is no peace."

Thank you for your time and patience in reading this letter.
Sincerely Yours,
Billy "Hollywood" Groves

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United Women of Strength host breakfast



Jacksonville, TX. - The United Women of Strength, formerly National Council of Negro Women, hosted its first event since undergoing a name change. The breakfast was held Saturday morning, October 6th at the Hot Biscuit Restaurant. About fifty people, mostly new members and their spouses attended the event. The Organization boasts a strong beginning with thirty-one members on the roll. Recruitment is still in progress. Meetings are held at 6:00PM each third Monday of the month at North Side Community Center. United Women of Strength is a service organization, serving families in need of assistance with a wide variety of social issues including burned out homes, deaths and illness in the family. Those interested in becoming a member can pickup an application from any member or contact: Lois Teague, President or Callie Walker, Vice President.

Sagging Pants a Problem?

Dear A. J.,

Today I pulled out some of my old copies of the *Informer* and read them. I noticed that you discussed black history and the answers to a lot of issues back then. I decided to write you about a problem that seems to be a problem in the cities and rural areas with some young males, black and white, but especially black. They are wearing the waist of their pants to the knees exposing their underwear. It makes me sick that they would disrespect women and themselves in this way. Do they have mental problems? Are they low IQ? Some of them are in their twenties and thirties. Just what is their problem? Disgruntled Grandmother
Rusk, Texas

First I would advise you to pickup a copy of Bill Cosby's latest book called, "COME ON PEOPLE". In the book he talks about the whole range of issues that black families are experiencing now, starting with sagging pants and ending with guns.

A lot of people are not going to like what he is saying. They call it airing the dirty laundry of African Americans, but he's, *telling it through his teeth!* And, it applies to *ALL Races, NOT just Black!* In my opinion, a lot of it has to do with the way parents are NOT raising their children, law enforcement's interpretation and use of legislation, racism and how it is applied unequally to black men.

Ask A. J. ?

about to say, but at age fourteen when my son came walking out in front of me and his grandfather(his mom's dad) with his pants hanging I didn't have to open my mouth, granddaddy took off his belt and put it to good use then laid down the stern rules that went with the belt. That solved the problem from that day to this.



A large majority of parents are afraid to talk to their kids, set rules and give them guidance. They are afraid to check kids bedroom and see what's there or even set a curfew on the times they go and come.

On the unequal use of laws and legislation, people need to watch the people they vote into offices like the sheriff, the county judge, the county attorney, district attorney and yes the people you put in Austin for representatives, senators and governors. Call or go see these people when you see an injustice. Most of the time they will listen. If they don't, spread the word and help vote them out!

Parents and neighbors need to tell these men just what they are doing to themselves when they limp around with underwear exposed. They look and act like they're mad at the world! I wouldn't hire one to work for me and neither would most businesses. I can't answer your question about mental problems or low I. Q., but I would say a little counseling about the appropriate way to dress and work ethics couldn't hurt. Oh, yes, be sure to pickup a copy of Bill Cosby' book. Send your letter to A. J. to P. O. Box 332, Rusk, Tx. 75785 or informernews08@aol.com



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City of Alto Sets Community-wide Cleanup

Friday & Saturday October 26-27, 8:00am - 12:00 noon and
1:00-5pm. No household garbage or paint will be accepted.

Metals, batteries & mattresses will be picked up at a later
date. Call city hall at 936 858-4711 for more information.

Woodville School repairs possible Anniversary Celebrated



John Griffith, Dora Griffith, Denise Alexander-National Trust for Historical Preservation, Melvin Session, and

The Woodville Community Center Board met recently with Denise Alexander, a representative of The National Trust for Historical Preservation. The Woodville School was established in 1884 and was housed in a church building until 1920 when John Willis and John Session donated the land and Julius Rosenwald built the School, located on CR 1201. He built this school and 29 others. Denise conducted a walkthrough evaluation on the school building which houses the center, determining the foundation to be sound and the building worth renovating. Funding could be made available through the foundation to help conduct renovation. This historical school and 2 others are the only ones left standing.



Mr. Brown, Rev. Darrell Cranford and wife Tangie Cranford, Mrs. Brown and their son present the Cranford's with gifts during the celebration.

Well, TX.- Several visiting Churches and their choirs joined with the Wells Chapel Baptist Church Family in celebrating the ninth anniversary for their Pastor, Rev. Darrell Cranford and his new wife Tangie, of one year. Guest Speaker was Rev. Jimmy Foreman of West Union Faith Ministry, Rusk, Texas.

Choirs participating in inspirational singing were West Union, Sweet Union, New Center Prospect, Linwood Male Chorus, Mt. Calvary, James Chapel and Mt. Pleasant CME. Mistress of Ceremony was Sis. Vivian Warren.

Texas Unclaimed Property



Susan Combs Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts



Claim the treasures that are searching for you.



It isn't often that lost treasure comes looking for you. But if your name is on our list, today is the day!

In Texas alone, more than \$1.7 billion remains unclaimed. Financial institutions and businesses report unclaimed property to the Comptroller of Public Accounts every day.



Our goal is to reunite Texans with their unclaimed cash and valuables – from unclaimed checks, deposits and refunds to royalties, securities and valuable safe deposit box contents.

Check the list

Each year the Comptroller publishes a list of individuals and businesses with unclaimed property.

On Sunday, Oct. 21, look for your name or business name under the city where you currently live or under any other Texas cities where you have lived in the past.

Any person with a legal or beneficial interest in the reported property may obtain information about the amount and description of the property.

Don't See Your Name?

If your name is not on this list, you may still have unclaimed property! This published list represents property reported in the past year only and does not include property valued under \$250.

Visit the web:

www.window.state.tx.us/up

You can also call (800) 654-3463, e-mail us at unclaimed.property@cpa.state.tx.us or write: Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Unclaimed Property Research and Correspondence Section, P.O. Box 12019, Austin, Texas 78711-2019.

Remember, it's never too late to claim your property.

96-1057 (09/07)

YOUTH

Charnell Franklin named RHS Student of the Month



Charnell Franklin, Rusk High School Junior, was named "Student of the Month" for the month of October. Miss Franklin is the daughter of Floyd and Terri Franklin. She is an Honor Roll Student, Member of the Rusk High School Marching Band & Twirler, member of the Lady Eagle Varsity Volley Ball, Basketball and Track teams. She is an ETMC Tyler student volunteer for the past three summers and she is a member of

BILL COSBY Strikes Again, Addresses Black Community in New Book

Cosby's book, titled *COME ON, PEOPLE! ON THE PATH FROM VICTIMS TO VICTORS*, is touted as "a powerful message for families and communities as they lay out their visions for strengthening America..." and will address "the crises of people who are stuck because of feelings of low self-esteem, abandonment, anger, fearfulness, sadness and feelings of being used, undefended and unprotected." The book's purpose is "to help empower people to make the daunting transition from victims to victors." The description for *COME ON, PEOPLE!* seems to be a different approach than his notorious 2004 NAACP speech which revolved around his belief that, "the lower economic and lower middle economic people are not holding their end in this deal." Here's a reminder of some of the things Dr. Cosby said:

"I'm talking about these people who cry when their son is standing there in an orange suit. Where were you when he was two? Where were you when he was twelve? Where were you when he was eighteen, and how come you

don't know he had a pistol?"

"Those people are not Africans, they don't know a damned thing about Africa. With names like Shaniqua, Shaliqua, Mohammed and all that crap and all of them are in jail."

"50 percent drop out rate, I'm telling you, and people in jail, and women having children by five, six different men. Under what excuse? I want somebody to love me. And as soon as you have it, you forget to parent. Grandmother, mother, and great grandmother in the same room, raising children, and the child knows nothing about love or respect of any one of the three of them. All this child knows is 'gimme, gimme, gimme.'"

"The city and all these people have to pick up the tab on them because they don't want to accept that they have to study to get an education."

It's not what they're doing to us. It's what we're not doing. 50 percent drop out. Look, we're rais-

ing our own ingrown immigrants. These people are fighting hard to be ignorant. There's no English being spoken, and they're walking and they're angry. Oh God, they're angry and they have pistols and

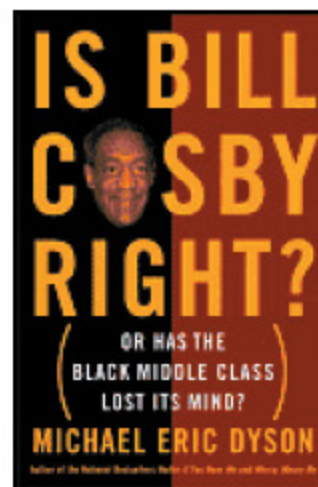
they shoot and they do stupid things. And after they kill somebody, they don't have a plan. Just murder somebody. Boom. Over what? A pizza? And then run to the poor cousin's house.

"You can't keep asking that God will find a way. God is tired of you." According to Publishers Weekly, *COME ON, PEOPLE!* will be co-written with Alvin Poussaint (he

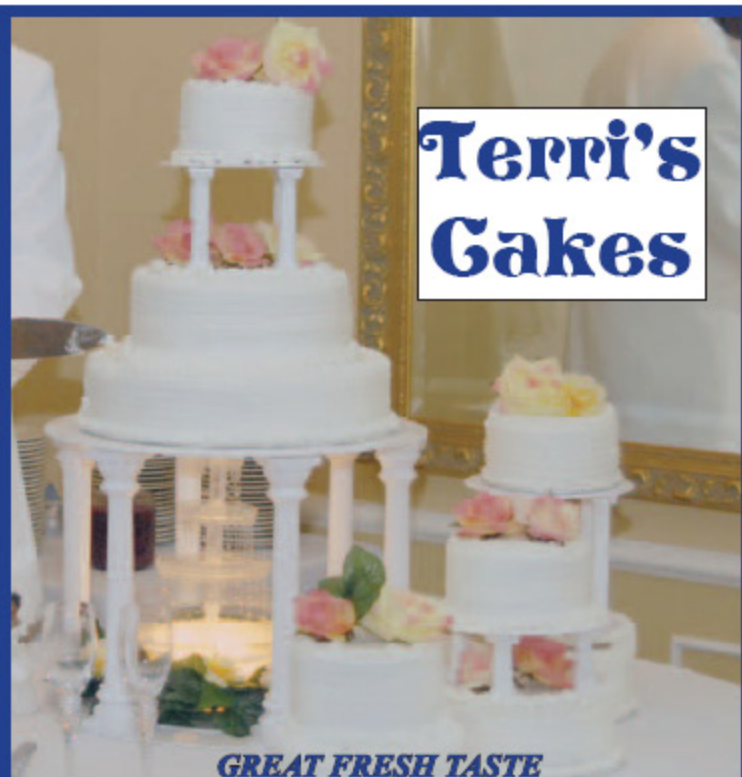
wrote the introduction to Cosby's book *FATHERHOOD* and is the co-author of a book called *RAISING BLACK CHILDREN*) and is slated for publication in October 2007 by Thomas Nelson, a Christian publisher. Yes you read that right, a Christian publisher.

I suspect Poussaint will help to ensure that the book doesn't read like one long rant. Hopefully Cosby will offer productive and comprehensive commentary, insights, and solutions because anything else would be a waste.

Regardless, I'm sure *COME ON, PEOPLE!* will be a New York Times bestseller, no matter what it says or doesn't say.



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WHO IS LISTENING TO OUR CHILDREN?

~by James W.
Breedlove

THE TRUTH CLINIC

During an interview with Marilyn Manson, while producing the award winning documentary *Bowling For Columbine*, Michael Moore asked Manson what he would say to the killers if he could have spoken to them on the day of the shooting. Manson replied, "I wouldn't say a single word to them; I would listen to what they have to say, and that's what no one did."

The Columbine Massacre occurred in 1999. The same sad response Manson made then is applicable following the recent school shooting at Success Tech Academy in Cleveland, Ohio. A 14-year-old troubled student, Asa Coon, after firing two revolvers on October 10 and wounding two students and two teachers triggered another cycle of pain, suffering, disbelief, and the inevitable post shooting question of Why?

Coon who killed himself after the shootings is reported to have been upset with teachers, because they wouldn't listen to his side of the story regarding a recent after-school altercation that resulted in his suspension.

Whether it is at Virginia Tech, Santee, Littleton, Paducah, Jonesboro, or any other killing field in America the common denominator seems to be that middle class white children are reaching out for help using blazing guns. Even when students openly discuss their intentions to murder classmates, as was the case with Asa Coon, the prevailing mind-set spurns the idea as a playful joke. Several students have stated Coon threatened to blow up the school but his threats were not taken seriously by school administrators. Research studies have shown that children who are bullied and ostracized by their contemporaries can transform from a passive milquetoast to a violent terminator. The pressure of competition, being in the right clique, and the physical and mental anxieties of maturing can create havoc in a teen's mind,

especially if there is no support system to explain and ease the pain they are suffering. The United States is notorious for the astronomical number of people killed by firearms each year. *Bowling For Columbine* asserts that the conventional answers of easy availability of guns, violent national history, violent entertainment and even poverty are inadequate to explain this violence since other cultures that share those same factors do not have the equivalent carnage.

Bowling For Columbine's central premise is the Columbine type massacres are a product of the "climate of fear" that is engendered by America's leaders and promulgated by the media. America's culture of fear, bigotry, and violence are the tools of manipulation used by the powerful elite political and corporate interests to feed their own greed. School shootings are just one of the acceptable consequences.

Moving to the "safe suburbs" does not automatically solve the problem. The assumption that mayhem, murder, drugs, and alcohol went unheeded. This false sense of security lulls those isolated in suburbia into the collective mind-set that it can't happen here. When it does happen, there is an instant outcry of amazement and shock followed by a face saving investigation. The need to take serious corrective action dies out soon after the main stream media loses interest in the event and its back to business as usual.

Nobody understands how a number of warning signs and threats from the troubled student was overlooked. In the Cleveland shooting Coon who had been suspended but was able to get into the school despite 26 security cameras and a guard on duty. School officials also were investigating only in the urban ghettos is a convenient placebo. Coon had spent time in two juvenile facilities and threatened to commit suicide while in a mental health facility. When he was 12 he was charged in juvenile court with domestic violence. He was also suspended from school last year for attempting to hurt a student.

Metal detectors had been installed at Success Tech following other high profile school shootings but were only used intermittently. None were in operation at the time Coon began his shooting spree.

Perhaps it is time to reaffirm that educating our children is more than sending them to a quality school. Biblical guidance involves a total education and training program for children overseen by parents. It was essential to have the education and training complemented with both word and example. The total program designed to match the maturity of the child included: The knowledge and

understanding of God; Honoring of the father and mother; Tailored guidance in obeying both God's law and civil law; Respect for the elders; Obedience to authority; Practical training in adult living skills; and Academic three R skills. Without this complete mentoring in education and life skills misguided and disturbed youngsters who are left to their own devices often resort to violent outbursts that result in frightening shooting statistics.

Marvin Gaye asked the question and suggested a solution back in 1971 as part of his "What's Going On" album. Who really cares? Little children today are really going to suffer tomorrow. Oh what a shame, such a bad way to live. Live life for the children. Let's save the children. Let's save all the children.

The shootings over the past seven years are trying to tell America that something is seriously wrong.

Ignoring the plaintive cries of our children is an extremely high risk proposition.

James W. Breedlove

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

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Pecan Harvest Festival

November 3, 2007

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or (636) 858-3637

The event is sponsored by Alto
Chamber of Commerce

Senior deadlines for college prep approaching

Ready Set, Start Applying !

Now that school has started and you're settled in your classes, don't let senioritis kick in just yet! Colleges, especially universities are known to withdraw offers of admission to students that drop prep courses and earn unusually low grades. So take this valuable time to get ahead by researching college application deadlines and fees.



cords, test scores, and applications sent to prospective colleges/universities. If you decide to apply to

a school that has not already received your ACT/SAT scores, you can ask ACT to send your scores to that college.

4. Make the most of personal references.

Begin now asking people you know well, if they can write you a strong

letter of recommendation. Prepare legible reference form that provides guidance on what should be included in the letter. Give your references ample time to write a sound letter, at least two weeks!

5. Write an outstanding essay. Since most college applications require an essay, spend sufficient time writing an essay that captures the readers attention. However, great an essay is, it will probably not get you into college if you don't meet the other minimum requirements.

6. Be ready to interview, audition, or submit a portfolio. Some colleges may require a personal interview or examples of work in special areas such as art or music.

7. Keep a copy of all your application materials

Just in case your application is lost in the thousands of applications, keep a record of all documents. Including receipts for money orders or checks sent in for housing, applications, and parking permits. For more information email Krystal_ward@hotmail.com

Each school has different requirements, pre-requisites, and levels of selectivity. Listed below are a few tips that may help make the best use of your time this fall.

1. Start Early:

Since the ACT and SAT are only given limited times throughout the school year, if you have not taken your test you should prepare and plan to take it soon. This will also allow you to re-test for a competitive score. Keep a planner or calendar with the application deadlines and scholarship deadlines for each school.

2. Follow instructions and proofread:

Since, most colleges don't require interviews, the application is the first contact with a prospective student. Make a good impression with a neat application free of spelling and grammatical errors.

3. Work with your high school to send transcripts and test scores. Develop a relationship with your guidance counselor. You will need their help getting all transcripts, re-

Old Rosenwald School in Pine Grove Community to get Needed Repairs

~by Preston Meador
Jacksonville, TX. - The Board of Directors for the Pine Grove Community Improvement Organization are in the process of generating funds to make much needed repairs to the OLD PINE GROVE COMMON SCHOOL #6, known as the ROSENWALD school. Julius Rosenwald, an American Philanthropist, helped to build nearly 5,000 schools for African American children during the early twentieth century. The Rosenwald schools were located throughout the south. The one in the Pine Grove Community is still standing and serves as a community center.

The board of directors have sent out letters to more than seventy people with ties to the community and school asking for financial pledges to support the improvement project. They are also pursuing assistance from Private Grant Foundations. The board chairperson, Preston Meador, says the response is going very well. He continued, "If the pledges continue to come in as they are now, we should be able to start the renovation project by mid 2008".

In addition to the chairperson, the Board consists of Margene Williams, Vice-Chairperson; Joyce F. Session, secretary; Jearline Dennis, treasurer; Venita Johnson, Director; Louise Porter

Director and Gerald Porter, Director.

There were thirteen Rosenwald schools built in Cherokee County, Texas. There are three still standing. The old schools served to help black children obtain the fundamentals of an elementary and secondary education. The schools were separate and unequal to their white counterparts. Against great odds, the Rosenwald schools were able to open the doors that allowed many black children to go on to serve the community as lawyers, doctors, teachers, politicians, scientist and other highly professional individuals. Keeping the old school building and grounds intact for the current and future generations to know, respect, and understand our heritage and history is very important to the Board of Directors of the Pine Grove Community Improvement Organization.

A Thank you is in order to those pledges who have sent their pledges. We believe there are many others who will send donations to this very worthy cause. If you wish to help, please send your donations to:

Pine Grove
Community Center
1780 CR 3114
Jacksonville, Texas.

Your name will be added to the plaque that will be made to recognize individual pledges and displayed on the WALL OF HONOR.



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BACK FOR THE 6TH YEAR
BY POPULAR DEMAND**

**3rd Weekend
in OCTOBER!
OCT. 19, 20, 21, 2007**

The Historic US 80 Hi-Way Sale will begin at 8 a.m. daily on Oct. 19, 20, and 21, 2007 and should draw crowds from far and wide looking for a bargain. For more info, contact ETТА at office@etta.com. The event will be held in conjunction with fall auto cruises, with motorists encouraged to hit the highway in their vintage and not-so-vintage vehicles. ETТА's Tucker Conley is in charge of the cruises, and can be reached at tucker@etta.com. The first sale, stretching more than 200 miles, was basically a free-for-all. Previous sales, despite rain, have drawn large crowds of shoppers and vendors, and auto rallies. Calls have been coming in from a wide area asking about this year's sale. Chambers of Commerce along the route are again encouraged to recruit vendors for crafts, household items, antiques, candy, water, and anything else-up to and including the kitchen sink-to set up booths along Highway 80. The interest is in-



or information or vis-
it <http://www.us80.com/> to
get a local contact number.

The event is part of ETТА's 15-year effort to draw attention to the byways of its region. Each city along the U. S. 80 route will be responsible for its part in each upcoming Hi-Way Sale.

U.S. 80 was designated in 1926 and was the nation's first transcontinental highway in the Southern states. It ran more than 2,700 miles from the Atlantic Ocean in Georgia to the Pacific Ocean in California. Just like Route 66, ETТА wants to increase the awareness and appreciation of Highway 80, coast to coast. They want people to cruise it, and write stories and songs about our own 'mother road'.

What ETТА is trying to do is push forward the preservation of this highway - its roadside architecture, the old 'mom and pop' motels and service stations and all the things that relate to the 30s and 40s and 50s, as well as little remaining sections of the original road. We're trying to jog people's memories. It really is a national treasure that's been overlooked and gradually forgotten since the interstate was created.

News of the sale is spreading among antique car, motorcycle, RV clubs and flea market enthusiasts. While shoppers will be searching for great deals, cities along the route hope they find the highway's more permanent treasures, such as bed and breakfasts, motels, restaurants, and historical sites. The traffic on Interstate 20 is almost 40,000 vehicles per day. Along US 80, it's just about 3 to 4,000 per day. And there are no historic markers on interstate highways. ETТА's goal in promoting tourism is to get more people off the interstate, slow down, and spend more time and money in East Texas.

The Rusk State Hospital Haunted Tours:

Go to the Main Gate Entrance on US Hwy 69 and follow the signs

Thursday, 10/25/07 from 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Friday, 10/26/07 from 8:00 PM - Midnight

Saturday, 10/27/06 from 8:00 PM - Midnight

Monday, 10/29/07 from 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Tuesday, 10/30/07 from 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM

The ticket price for the tour is 6-12 years old, \$1.00, 12 years & over, \$2.00 and children under 6 not permitted, a waiting room will be provided.

For additional information, please call (903) 683-7247

**City of Rusk
Fall Cleanup
Sat. Nov. 3rd
& Sat. Nov. 10th**

**For city residents only,
dump sites at city barn US
hwy 69 & Conley Park,
Reeder Street
for information call:
(903) 683-2213**

There is a Place For Good Manners and A Way To Teach Them

Please see September 07
for Part I

Ms. J's 411

5. Selfishness - "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility. Consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others." Philippians 2:3,4 This attitude may be revealed in the refusal to share, the taking of the bigger piece of the pie, and the unwillingness to be generous with possessions.

6. Grumbling to Complaining- "Do everything without complaining or arguing." Phillipians 2:14

7. Resistance to seeking forgiveness- "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins He is faithful and just



and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" I John 1:8-9 "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed." James 5:16 Okay, we know as parents we are suppose to discipline our children (Proverbs 19:18) and we should be committed to cov-

ecting our children to help them grow up as righteous men and women so, I hope that by demonstrating and discussing these seven attitudes, if needed. Families who have begun to correct attitudes have seen a radical turn around in the emotional climate of their home. Your home will be a more positive loving place to live and your children will begin to correct root attitudes that affect them for a lifetime. Until next time, take care of yourself Mrs. Ferlich July-Arrington

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Daphne L. Session Attorney at Law opens new office location



Daphne and co-workers from Houston County Courthouse enjoy conversation following lunch.

Crockett, TX - On September 17th Daphne L. Session, Attorney at Law hosted a luncheon at her new office location for friends and co-workers. The office was located at 304 East Houston downtown Crockett. The newly remodeled location is located at 213 Martin Luther King. Stopping by to tour the office and enjoy lunch were: Jerry Durrett, Angela Dion, Carolyn Rains, Walter Stanley, Misty Swan, Laura Miller, Laura Godley, Angela Cross, Donna Kasper, Mary Navarro, Bridget Lamb, Beverly Taylor, Dr. Ianthia Fisher, JoAnn Perry, Debra Jackson, Billy Groves Untwayn Johnson, Juan Murillo, Miss Session's mother Maxine and Rita office manager. The other office location is 910 Loop 343 Rusk, TX.



Mr. James I. Perkins, Citizens 1st Bank President, was inducted into the Rusk High School *Wall of Honor* Friday night September 8, 2007. He is pictured here with Nabaska 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.

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THE TRUTH CLINIC
BY James Breedlove

The disparity of crack cocaine punishments has evoked racial overtones because crack is treated more harshly than powder cocaine and the vast majority of crack defendants are black.

This disparity is a direct result of the infamous and equally onerous Anti Drug Abuse Act of 1986 hastily passed by Congress in response to the death of Len Bias, the African American college basketball star who died from complications related to drug and alcohol ingestion three days after being drafted by the Boston Celtics. Len Bias' death shocked the nation and sparked a media frenzy largely focused on crack cocaine that had been mistakenly suspected of killing him. Prior to Len's death on June 19, 1986 recreational use of cocaine made occasional headlines and its potential harm did not get much attention. But the death of this phenomenal athlete, who was being touted as the next coming of Michael Jordan, immediately placed crack cocaine in the spotlight.

Within a few weeks of Bias' death, Congress under pressure from the media attention devoted to crack and the approaching mid-term elections decided to act quickly. The regular legislative procedure was set aside based on the perception that the nation was under siege from crack. Because of the expedited legislative schedule there was no committee report to document Congress' intent for the law or to analyze how the legislation resolved the problem. Few hearings were held in the House and the Senate conducted only a single hearing on the extreme 100:1 penalty ratio between a crack and powder cocaine offense. President Ronald Reagan signed the Anti Drug Abuse Act into law on October 27, 1986. The law established for the first time mandatory minimum sentences based on specific quantities of cocaine. The Act provided that

individuals convicted of crimes involving 500 grams of powder cocaine or just 5 grams of crack (the weight of two pennies) were sentenced to at least 5 years imprisonment and that individuals convicted of crimes involving 5000 grams of powder cocaine or 50 grams of crack (the weight of a candy bar) be sentenced to 10 years imprisonment.

Two years later, with drug-related crimes increasing, Congress intensified its war against crack cocaine by legislating a 5-year mandatory minimum and 20-year maximum sentence for simple possession of 5 grams or more of crack cocaine. The maximum penalty for simple possession of any amount of powder cocaine remained at no more than 1 year in prison.

In the twenty years since the passage of the Anti Abuse Act many of the myths and perceptions surrounding crack cocaine have been dispelled, as it became clear that there is no scientific or medial justification for the 100:1 disparity ratio. The United States Sentencing Commission, created by Congress in 1984 to study fair federal sentencing guidelines, concluded that crack is not appreciably different from powder cocaine in either its chemical composition or the physiological and psychoactive reactions of users.

On three separate occasions the Sentencing Commission has urged Congress to reconsider the statutory penalties for crack cocaine. The discrepancy remains despite the Commission's recommendations and concurrence from judges, federal prosecutors, medical professionals, and other experts.

On the 20th anniversary of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act, the American Civil Liberties Union issued the report, "Cracks in the System: Twenty Years of the Unjust Federal Crack Cocaine Law." The report chronicles dis-

criminatory effects of the drug law that continues to devastate African American and low-income communities. It also explains how the 100:1 disparity between crack and powder cocaine causes an unjustified racial disparity in our penal system.

As law enforcement focused its efforts on crack offenses a dramatic shift occurred in the incarceration trends for African Americans. This trend effectively transformed federal prisons into institutions increasingly dedicated to incarcerating African Americans.

The report includes data showing that African Americans make up 15 percent of the country's drug users, yet they are 37 percent of those arrested for drug violations, 59 percent of those convicted, and 74 percent of those sentenced to prison for a drug offense. More than 80 percent of the defendants sentenced for crack offenses are African American, despite the fact that more than 66 percent of crack users are white or Hispanic. Policy recommendations included in the report are: The quantities of crack cocaine that trigger federal prosecution and sentencing

must be equalized with the current levels of powder cocaine. Federal prosecutions should focus on high-level traffickers of both crack and powder cocaine. Mandatory minimums for crack and powder offenses, especially the mandatory minimum for simple possession, should be eliminated.

The Supreme Court heard testimony on October 2, 2007 on the disparity in crack and powder cocaine sentences. Hopefully, the justices will provide guidance on giving judges discretion in imposing equitable sentences for crimes involving crack cocaine and powder cocaine.

While it is fortunate the Supreme Court agreed to hear this case the public should demand that Congress address this 20-year old unjust law. Since the sentencing disparity between crack and powder crime is a direct result of Congress' hasty and irrational actions the responsibility for correcting the inequity should also be theirs and not thrust upon the judiciary.

James W. Breedlove

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

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THE BALM IN GILEAD PRESENTS ITS NATIONAL BLACK CHURCH INSTITUTE FOR HIV/AIDS AND OTHER HEALTH DISPARITIES

New York, NY (BlackNews.com) -

The Balm In Gilead, a non-governmental organization whose mission is to improve the health status of people of the African Diaspora by building the capacity of faith communities to address life-threatening diseases, especially HIV/AIDS, presents The Black Church Institute for HIV/AIDS and Other Health Disparities to be held October 23-26, 2007 at the Hilton Oceanfront Resort in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. Now in its 7th year, The Black Church Institute on HIV/AIDS and Other Health Disparities brings together African American church leaders and representatives from across the country to enhance and strengthen their capacity to address HIV/AIDS, as well as other diseases that are disproportionately affecting African Americans such as cervical cancer and Hepatitis C. This year's Black Church Institute will include keynotes and workshop sessions from religious leaders who represent some of the nation's top historical denominations and institutions.

Some of these speakers include: Rev. Dr. Stephen Thurston, president, National Baptist Convention of America and senior pastor, New Covenant Missionary Baptist Church, Chicago, IL; Rev. Dr. Claude Alexander, senior pastor, University Park Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC; and, Keith Rawlings, medical director, Peabody Health Center, Dallas, TX. In addition, the conference will feature an unprecedented session led by the Rev. Dr. James A. Forbes, Jr., senior pastor emeritus of The Riverside Church in The City of New York along with his brothers Drs. David C. Forbes and Ronald O. Forbes and his sister Anna Forbes Towns. This renowned

family will host a plenary on A Comprehensive, Spiritual Approach to Effectively Addressing HIV/AIDS. Other conference speakers for this year's Black Church Institute on HIV/AIDS and Other Health Disparities include: Bishop Michael V. Kelsey, Sr., New Samaritan Baptist Church, Washington, DC; George Roberts, PhD, Centers for Disease and Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA; Rev. Dr. Renita Weems, Teacher of Spiritual Insight; and Bev. Smith, host, "The Bev Smith Show," American Urban Radio.

"Many African American congregations across this country are making the 'crisis of health' a major focus of their ministry," says Pernessa Seele, Founder and CEO, The Balm In Gilead and organizer of the conference. "For many congregations, HIV/AIDS is no longer a silent subject within the pew. It now has a major place within the ministerial body of the church. Our 2007 conference will provide training and support that will strengthen established health ministries, as well as educate and empower other pastors and laity to do the same."

Information and Registration A registration fee of \$295.00 (\$325 after October 15, 2007) covers all conference materials, activities and meals. Information on overnight accommodations at The Hilton Oceanfront Resort is available in the conference brochure. Individuals interested in attending The Black Church Institute for HIV/AIDS and Other Health Disparities may contact The Balm In Gilead at 1-888-225-6243 for a conference brochure or visit <http://rs6.net/tn.js?pt=mlgnoecab.0.qrkg8bab.dinu5xbab.45664&ts=S0279&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.balmingilead.org>

Chicago, IL (BlackNews.com) - Beauty Genesis International, LLC (BGI.), a 100-percent minority-owned developer and marketer of healthy-lifestyle focused health, beauty and wellness products, announced an exclusive partnership with Walgreens, the nation's largest drugstore chain, to launch its innovative line of hair care products Simply Healthy® Hair, the only four-part health, growth and beauty program featuring natural Grapeseed Oil, in over 400 stores and on Walgreens.com nationwide.

"It's a great honor and privilege to be featured so prominently on Walgreens shelves," stated Johnathan Carthon, creator and general manager for BGI. "To secure placement in over 400 stores from coast to coast is an exceptional achievement and represents a tremendous milestone for BGI. and our brand Simply Healthy®." Known for its high concentrations of Vitamin E ALPHA, Grapeseed Oil outperforms all other natural oils by delivers 50 times more anti-oxidants to protect the hair and scalp from environmental damage and airborne impurities, while providing heat protection, lightweight shine and maximum hydration. "Regardless the length, texture or style women want healthy hair. We have taken all the amazing protective and hydrating benefits of

with proven growth and strength enhancing vitamins and proteins to promote faster, healthier hair growth," exclaimed Carthon.

Simply Healthy® Hair product line consists of: Part 1: Cleanse-Hydrating & Growth Shampoo, Part 2: Condition-Hydrating & Strength Conditioner, Part 3: Protect-Leave-In Conditioner & Body Booster, Part 4: Shine & Style-Hydrating & Growth Shine Crème and Sparkling Shine Hair Polish.

"Through is exclusive partnership, Walgreens continues to show its commitment to supporting small and minority-owned businesses that are dedicated to delivering high-quality, innovative products that meet its customer's needs. We look forward to a long and prosperous relationship," concluded Carthon

About BGI. Beauty Genesis International, LLC Winner of the 2005-2006 Miller Brewing Urban Entrepreneurs Series as one of the Top New Business Concepts and honored by Harvard Business School AASU for its Innovative Business Model & Marketing Expertise, BGI. Beauty Genesis International is committed to conceptualizing, marketing and distributing progressive, healthy-lifestyle focused health, beauty and wellness products for today's and tomorrow's global consumer.

About Walgreens

Walgreens is the nation's largest drugstore chain with fiscal 2006 sales of \$47.4 billion. The company operates 5,992 stores in 48 states and Puerto Rico.

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The City of Rusk, Texas

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Obituaries

A Tribute to the late Mr. J. W. Carter

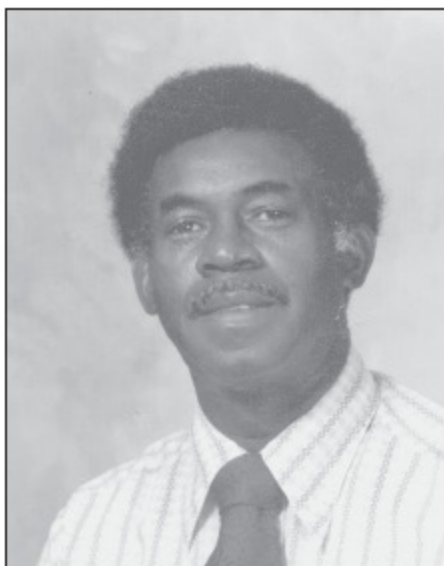
February 28, 1924, John Wesley Carter was born to the late Pete and Margrette Lenzy Carter. After suffering illness and hospitalization since February 2007, September 23, 2007 at 11:27 AM his life long journey came to a close.

He was named for his maternal and paternal grandfathers John Wesley Lenzy and John Carter. He grew up in the Delmar Community second oldest of thirteen children and graduated G. W. Bradford High School in 1944. J. W. played college football at Tyler Bishop (Butler) College. After graduating with a Bachelor Degree in Education in 1948 he began a long teaching and coaching career at G. W. Bradford High School Rusk, later earning a Masters Degree from Prairie View A & M University. J. W. and the late Billie Jean Bennett were married in October, 1953.

Mr. Carter drove the school bus, taught math, coached boys football, basketball and track for twenty years earning a special place in the hearts and lives of the students he touched and in history. Upon intergration of the schools and the dismantling of Bradford, he taught math at Rusk High School retiring after 37 years in Rusk ISD. In addition to classroom teaching at the high schools, he taught Adult Basic

Education and Counseling thirty at years. After retiring from Rusk ISD in 1985, he worked six year at Rusk State Hospital.

Mr. Carter was the first appointed Black City Councilman for the City of Rusk. He also served on various other committees including Rusk City Parks Board, Cherokee County Mental Retardation



Association Board, Texas Retired Teachers Association, Rusk Zoning Board, Rusk Housing Authority Board, Rusk - Cherokee County Community Action Board, The Cherokee County Summer Food Program, Cherokee County Shelterd Workshop Board and a volunteer teacher at the Inez Reeder Conley Learning Center in recent years.

Mr. Carter was a member, Deacon, Sunday School teacher and secretary of Delmar Baptist Church until it closed in the late 1990s. He was currently a member and Deacon of Elm Grove Baptist Church.

The service celebrating his life was held Saturday, September 29, 2007 at First Baptist Church Rusk, Texas. A great number of his former students were there to pay last respects to his memory and the Carter fam-

ily. Mr Carter will always be remembered for his famous math classes, coaching, happy demeanor, witt, humor and love for his family. He was preceded in death by his wife Billie, parents, son John Wesley, Jr., grandson John Travis, brothers Pete Carter, Jr., Travis Carter, Sr., Charles Carter, Howard Carter and sister Virginia.

He leaves to cherish his memory two daughters, Sandra Carter, Ladora Carter both of Rusk; one son Randy (Tracie) Carter of Desoto, Texas; five brothers, James (Altha) Carter Minneola; George (Betty) Carter, Mercede, California; Tommy Carter, Waco; Marvin (Norma) Carter, Los Angeles, California; Vernell (Barbara) Carter, Arlington, Texas; three sisters, Geneva Taylor, Dallas, Texas; Corine Waggoner, Las Vegas, Nevada; Myrtle (W. F.) Garmon, Henderson, Texas; one aunt Ruby Lenzy Banks, Los Angeles, California; one uncle Melvin Lenzy, Los Angeles, California; twelve grandchildren Kandrea (Myron), Jessica, Marcus (Krystal), Nina, Monique, Amahdrick, Mychilette, Matthew, Mickeala, Meagan, Ja'Tia and Allenah; six great-grandchildren, Kadrick, Myshiona, Cynara, Kavesdeon, Kammayah, Karter, neices, nephews, relatives and friends.

**For the Son of man
shall come in the glory
of his Father with
His angels; and then
He shall reward every
man according to his
works.**

Matthew 16:27

Religion



Lord Please Help me to Shut my MOUTH

Prayer

~By Nelvin

I won't speak until I know it is you, Lord, no matter what I think.

Even if I think I should be contributing to a conversation,

Lord, help me to wait on you.

Your word, Psalms 103:8,

I want to be like you, so I must obey your word.

Please help! Give me a heart like yours and the wisdom to as to how to handle every situation.

Guard my thoughts, my words, my words and my decisions.

With your help I can be a pure vessel that honors you and your word.

Lord set a guard over my mouth that I might not speak until I hear from you. (Psalm 39:1.) Why does my mind speak so quickly and judge so final before I hear from you. Please help me Lord!

Your word Proverb(Proverbs 21:23....says he who keepth his mouth and tongue keepth his soul from troubles. Help me Lord to stay out of trouble with my mouth that I might be able to encourage others wisely. I need extra strength from you Lord so please set a guard over my mouth that I might not have to deal with idle words that I have uttered in the flesh, before I stop to think about what I am saying so LOrd please always set a watch before my mouth and keep the door of my lips. (Psalms 141: 3.

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 Morning Ser. 11:00AM
 Wednes. Bible Study 7PM
 Rev. Sedrick Moore, Pastor

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Rev. Greenie Phillips, Pastor
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Sunday Worship Service
 - 11:00 AM

2nd & 4th Sunday Service

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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

Bible Study - Wednesday 6:00PM

Elm Grove Baptist Church

Hywy 110 North
Rusk, Texas 75785

Annual Women's Day

October 20, 2007

Sunday School 10:00a.m.

Morning Worship Service

11:00a.m.

Speaker: Sis. Debra Broughton
 Tyler, Texas

Pastor: Rev. Timothy Bircher

Wells Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Wells, Texas



Pastor: Daryl Cranford
 (936) 867-4522

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