

RHS Class of 1970 plans 2012 Reunion page 12 Online Webinar on Adopting African American Infants page 12 Faces From The Past page 4

Since 1995

Your Gateway to East Texas

TEXAS INFORMER

October 2011

Web: www.texasinformer.com

P.O. Box 332

Ohomo molz

Barack Obama makes Dallas visits

Dallas, Texas - President Barack Obama spent a brief time in Dallas while making his rounds at fund-raiser events in Texas on Monday. As reported by the Dallas Morning News, Obama served as guest of honor at the home of Russell and Dorothy Budd in Highland Park while raising money for Democratic campaigns.

As noted in the report, Obama landed in Dallas shortly before 4:00 in the afternoon and left by 6:00 p.m. The president made a stop in Austin prior to his Dallas visit.

Jose Gomez, a senior majoring in petroleum engineering at the University of Texas in Austin is quoted in the report as stating of lining up at 4:30 a.m. to hear Obama speak, "This is something that we will never get to experience again. Waiting a few hours is nothing."

Lawsuit Filed Against ALTO ISD

Alto,TX. - Decisions made at a September 19, 2011 schoolboard meeting has resulted in the filing of a lawsuit against Alto Independent School District Board Members (Freddy Johnson, President; Randy Low, Lee Pearman, Jay Jones) Dr. Ray Despain, Superintendent, Kerry Birdwell, Alto High School Principal and Jerry Bennett, Alto High School Dean of Students.

Alto ISD has a dual credit articulation agreement with Angelina County Junior College which offers students the opportunity to take as many as six courses (18 college credit hours) while still in high school. Alto ISD Schoolboard Policy allows a student ten (10) extra grade points per semester which are applied toward student grade point average and class ranking. Schoolboard policy allows a student, with the approval of the principal, to retake any college course with a grade below 70.

Parents, Chamberlain and Stephanie Hart filed a lawsuit against the district when their minor child, the number one ranked student for the past four years, retook a failed class (History 1301 Angelina College) and in a letter received from Birdwell and Bennett dated August 31,2011 denied the ten extra credit points Attorney Wayne Hagland presided over the September 19, 2011 school

Continued page 3

Ozell Walker local writer tells of book "Eternal Gain"



Mr. & Mrs. Walker pictured with copy of book "Eternal Gain"

Jacksonville, TX.- Evangelist and now noted author, Ozell Walker recently released her book "Eternal Gain". The book tells of the hard life she endured as a child and as a young adult. She hopes that sharing how God, and her faith in Him, brought her through almost unbearable living conditions in hopes of bringing someone else to Christ.

When she was born her mother gave her up for adoption. She did not know her mother was her sister until she was age twelve.

Ozell travels from church to church speaking to congregations and sharing her life story.

Books can be purchased at 903 589-3170 or go to the website at eternalgain.yolasite.com

THE TRUTH CLINIC RACISM IS UNDERMINING AMERICA'S GLOBAL DOMINANCE ~James Breedlove

Racism is at the core of the internal division that keeps America from maintaining its position of global dominance.

Racism is pervasive. Its effects are devastating both to the individual and also the nation. The battle to eliminate racism and the resultant discord injected into our society poses one of the biggest challenges America faces.

Improving race relations is consistently part of the national dialogue but racism still remains a virulent virus apparently immune antidote. And the lightening rod "N****R", that is racism's dreaded calling card, is always lurking in the background. It may lie dormant for months or years; beguiling the nation into thinking the racism virus is in remission. Then, suddenly, like a striking viper it is injecting its poisonous divisionist venom into the veins of an unsuspecting nation.

No nation can thrive if its "all men are created equal" foundation is rotting away. It is absolute racism when a majority of the congress, who have mandated by the constitution with the fiduciary responsibility to legislate and spend wisely for the benefit of the people decide they will let the country go bankrupt rather than permit a black president to participate in creating viable solutions for the declining economy, widespread joblessness, ballooning debt, escalating health costs, and unaffordable highly from any social, moral or religious questionable wars that beset the nation.

Racism is biasing government decisions to the extent that they are making the nation's domestic and global problems worse.

"Let's Call them Ni***R" is a controversial book that confronts racism head-on. The author insists that an open dialogue must take place between Black America and White America if America is to stop its self-destructive slide into third world status.

The book suggests that a new corrective paradigm be developed to save America from its programmed demise and implemented to replace the ineffective methods that are not producing satisfactory results for either Black America or White America.

Neither Blacks nor Whites seem to understand that their destinies are inextricably intertwined. The emotionally charged dialogue stimulated by N****ritis and other race based viruses in which people are talking at each other and not with each other is not only meaningless but also counterproductive. When the ship of state sinks the devastation will be universal and not race specific.

Blacks and Whites need to become informed about the N****R Virus and be freed from the fear mentality that encourages irrational reactions even on issues of mutual concern.

The book is available at: TAYLOR GROUP BOOKS

James W. Breedlove

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

Letters to the Editor

Thank you

To The Editor:

Booker T. Washington Alumni and Ex Student Association of Altot Texas would like to thank you for taking time to come out and take pictures at our banquet on June 18th, 2011.

We are in the final stages of completion of the Booker T. Washington Community Center located at the site of the original Booker T. Washington School on Hiway 69 North, Alto, Texas. The Center is for use by the community.

We have held fundraiser fish fries and garage sales to gegnerate funds. At this time we are asking the community to make donations no matter how large or small, to help get the center to completion. Donations can be mailed to:

Booker T. Washington P. O. Box 141 Alto, TX. 75925

We would also like to thank Hollands Crosssing Cafe of Rusk for catering the great food for the reunion.

Dahl, Alumni President Dallas, Texas



EVERY ONE IS IMPORTANT.

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

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

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



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

VFW Food Drive Rusk, Texas

Now through November November through December Contact No. (936) 371-2099

Wells Texas citizens can leave items at the Good Sameritan Food Pantry - Wells

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

GAHE#	GAME HAME/000S	•	Official Close of Game	End Validations Date
1331	20X The Money Overall Odds are 1 in 4.18	\$5	10/10/11	04/07/12
1314	Spin To Win Overall Odds are 1 in 4.73	\$2	10/28/11	04/25/12
1352	\$250,000 Bingo Overali Odds are 1 in 3.14	\$10	10/29/11	04/26/12
1267	Bonus Word Crossword Overall Odds are 1 in 3.44	\$3	11/30/11	06/28/12
1909	\$100,000 Jackpot Overall Odds are 1 in 3.82	\$5	11/30/11	06/28/12
1316	Lotenta [®] Texas Overall Odds are 1 in 3.99	\$3	11/30/11	06/28/12
1323	Triple Cash Overall Odds are 1 in 4.85	\$1	11/30/11	06/28/12
1324	Texas Lottery Black II Overall Odds are 1 in 3.32	\$10	11/30/11	06/28/12

For detailed odds and game information, visit telettery.org or call 1-800-37LOTTO. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. The Texas Lottery supports Texas Education. © 2011 Texas Lottery Commission. All rights reserved.

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

~Colin Powell

Alto ISD Lawsuit continued from page 1

board meeting. It was determained in the meeting that Alto HIgh School Principal and Jerry Bennett, Dean of students acted without legal counsel or board approval when they went against schoolboard policy.

Mr. and Mrs. Hart went through district grevience procedure in presenting their complaint to the board. The Hart's were represented at the meeting by Attorney Mike Wallace of Day and Wallace, Jacksonville, Texas. The suit was filed when School board members Freddy Johnson, President; Randy Low, Lee Pearman and Jay Jones voted against AISD Policy to support the high school administration. Board members Britton Tilley, Crispen Skinner and Lionel Whitaker voted against supporting the administration.

The AISD Handbook as it existed on August 22, 2011, when the minor student re-enrolled in History 1301 at Angelina College, provided that the highest of the semester grades would be used for calculating grade point average and class rank. This provision in the handbook provided no limitations on the number of times the student could take a course at the high school or college level.

The minor student was allowed to enroll at Angelina College in History 1301 on August 22, 2011, by the administration at Alto High School, and she was allowed under the Handbook to potentially receive a higher grade and an additional ten (10) points on her grade, the Defendants decided on or about August 31, 2011, that they would change the policy in order to punish the Hart's daughter, a minor student.

On August 31, 2011, Defendants Birdwell and Bennett sent a letter to all students and parents of AHS, which stated that "due to recent events and circumstances, a clarification (was) in order regarding the "weighting" or ten (10) extra points added to the student's grade point average." The August 31, 2011, letter went on to explain that "if a student fails and then retakes a dual credit class, we (AHS) will

not consider the grade from the retaken or repeated college course for calculation in the grade point average and rank...If a student takes a course and fails it at Angelina College (or makes a lower grade at Angelina College than at Alto), the student may re-take the course at Angelina, but will not be awarded the ten extra weighting points from the second attempt.

As of June 9, 2011, the minor student who is an AHS senior, was ranked number one in a class of fifty (50) students and had a GPA of 98.486. The so-called clarification by the defendants took place August 31, 2011 could have a tremendous detrimental effect on the student in her class ranking and final grade point average, and could cause her to loose her standing at May graduation as Class Valadictorian. She, as of August 22, 2011, had a vested right to receive the ten(10) extra points upon her completion of History 1301 at Angelina College, and she likewise would be entitled to have the grade she receives in the course to be used in calculating her grade point average if she receives a higher grade than what she received in the equivalent course that she previously The Defendants took at AHS. August their actions on 2011. have unlawfully deprived her of her vested rights. The lawsuit alleges the Defendants conduct is in direct violation of the Alto High School 2011-2012 Student - Parent Handbook and it also alleges the the Defendants unlawful change in policy is in direct violation of Article I, Section 16 of the Texas Constitution.

BUT FOR OURSELVES
WHO KNOW OUR PLIGHT
TOO WELL, THERE IS A
NEED OF GREAT PATTERNS
TO GUIDE US, GREAT LIVES TO
INSPIRE US, STRONG MEN AND
WOMEN TO LIFT US UP AND
GIVE US CONFIDENCE IN THE
POWERS WE, TOO, POSSESS

Health Matters

Arguments Against Seasonal Flu Shots Don't Wash, so Get 'em Right Away

Quick true-or-false quiz:

1.Karen displays a savvy, realistic attitude when she declares that she's skipping her seasonal influenza shot because "I already had it last year, and besides, you always hear about people who get their flu shots and catch it anyway."

2. You've got to salute Candace's candor when she admits, "I'm scared to death of needles; no shots for me unless they're legally required!"

3.Office supervisor Anthony is setting an admirable "take one for the team" example when he goes to work with a 100-degree fever and a persistent cough.

If you rated any of these statements as true, state health officials would like a moment of your time. All three situations, they say, put family members, friends, co-workers and others at risk of a serious, potentially dangerous illness. And although no preventive measure is foolproof, we can make a big difference by getting our flu shots every year and following simple steps to avoid contagion.

"Influenza differs from many other illnesses in terms of how it's processed in the body," said Dr. Robert Kaspar of the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS). "Your immunity to the flu wanes faster and, because the virus changes out in the world, your immune system may not continue to have the same response. That's why you need to get your recommended flu shots every year."

Influenza can be caused by a host of viruses, so it's impossible to brew a vaccine that offers 100 percent protection. That's why you occasionally hear of people catching the flu despite having their seasonal vaccinations. This year's strains are anticipated to be the same as last years, but Kasper urged Texans to get this year's shots to strengthen their immunity and account for any changes the viruses may have undergone.

They also should get the shots as soon as possible. DSHS has already seen an increase in flu-like illness in Texas over the last few weeks, and vaccines take about two weeks to become effective.

Some needle-phobes may be able to catch a break. Nasal spray vaccines are available for people who are healthy, not pregnant and between the ages of 2 to 49. There's also a new type of shot that uses a much shorter needle and can be given under the skin rather than into a muscle. Check with your doctor or pharmacist to see if it's available in your community.

Smart preventive practices also are important as flu season comes around. If you're coughing or sneezing, cover up to protect others from airborne transmission. Wash hands often with soap and water or hand sanitizer. And if you're sick, stay home.

This last point, Kaspar admits, contradicts some folks' basic nature and cultural conditioning. "We all like to feel we're very important at work, and we don't want to let people down. But if we give the flu to all our co-workers we're not doing much of a favor to them — or to ourselves. Just as a general guideline, wait until you're free of fever for 24 hours or more before going back to work or school."

Most healthy people recover from flu without problems, but older people, young children, pregnant women and people with chronic health conditions are at risk of serious complications and even death. Vaccinations are especially important for these high-risk groups, but everyone six months and older should get their shots. Children up to 8 years old who didn't get at least one dose of vaccine last year should get two this season.

Convinced? Contact your health care provider, local health department or 2-1-1 to find out where to get a flu shot. Flu information and tips for protecting against the flu are at www. texasflu.org.

Faces from the past



Front Row - L to R- Marlene Johnson, Marene Johnson, Geneva Carter, Catherine Gray, Betty Jean White, Lois Lindsey, Sarah Neeley. Second Row L to R. - Dee Waggoner, Jr., Howard Carter, Marilyn Carter, Billy Joy West, Artie Francis Neeley, Kenneth White, Charalie Waggoner and J.W. Carter back row.

L & P Paint and Body Professional Collision Center

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

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



Texas Comptroller's Office Schedules October Tax Help Seminars

A diverse economy, growing work force and friendly business climate attract more businesses to the Lone Star state every day. Texas Comptroller Susan Combs' office regularly presents free taxpayer seminars throughout the state to help new and existing business owners understand their state tax responsibilities.

Nineteen seminars will take place throughout October at various locations across the state. A complete list of locations, dates and times is available at www.window.state. tx.us/taxinfo/seminars.html.

At the seminars, taxpayers can learn about sales tax forms, filing and paying taxes electronically, taxable goods and services, e-services to help taxpayers manage their accounts online, the Comptroller's e-mail subscription service that alerts taxpayers when new tax information is posted online, and the array of other services and information available from the Comptroller's office to assist taxpayers. Comptroller representatives will answer questions and provide assistance to attendees.

"A strong and diverse business community is the key to Texas' economic strength," Combs said. "We are committed to assisting Texas businesses by making taxes simpler, smarter, faster and, above all, transparent. We owe it to our taxpayers to provide the best customer service possible."

For more information about the seminar in your area, call the Comptroller's field office in your area

Those who are unable to attend the seminars can call the Comptroller's tax assistance line at 1-800-252-5555. Tax forms and tax information can also be found on the Comptroller's website, www.window.state.tx.us.

Annual Mens Conference held Woodville CME Church



Pictured are Frenchie Henderson, Blount Chapel Baptist Church, Andre Price, Shady Grove CME, Rev. Sam Willis Pastor Faith Holy Tabernacle, Church Pastor, Rev. Betty Smith Rogers Woodville CME Pastor, Associate Pastor Rev. Melvin Session, Rev. Mikel Smith Assoc. Pastor, New Home Baptis Church-Arp, Rev. Greenie Phillips Mt. Pleasant CME Pastor, Rev. Lonnie Johnson, Shady Grove CME Pastor. Pictured above are the ministers who spoke at the one-day conference held at Woodville CME in September and those who introduced them. The Theme was "I Am" John 8:58.



Texas Publishers Donate to Rusk Volunteer Fire Department

Rusk, TX. - Walter Session, Rusk City Councilman and Co- Publisher of the Texas Informer recently presented a check for \$200.00 to the Rusk Volunteer Fire Department on behalf of Texas Publishers Association. Fire Chief Donald Lankford and James Sanchez accepted the check. The department played a vital role in fighting wildfires around Texas during the outbreaks this summer.

Texas Publishers Association is a state organization representating member publishers throughtout the state. TPA officers are President Hattie Kelly, Power Pages News, Farmersville, Texas; Vice-president, Molly Belt, Dallas Examiner, Dallas, Texas; Dairy Johnson, Secretary, Corsicana Examiner, Corsicana, Texas; Maxine Session, Treasurer, Texas Informer News Rusk, Texas and Tommy Wyatt, The Villager Austin, Texas, Parliamentarian.

United Women of Strength hold annual organization meeting



Jacksonville, TX. - United Women of Strength met September 19th at the home of Lois Teague, organization president,

The organization is a nonprofit organization home based in Jacksonville ,Texas. The service organization supports the community by recognizing those who have made contributions to the community. They host Christian Celebrities each December and give assistance to families when illness or other catastrophies occur such as fire or longterm illnesses.

Current members are Kate Armstrong, Alma Bagley, Louise Battle, Annie Blanton, Billie Brown, Lillian Duffy, Charlie Esco, Francis Freeman, Jean Hinton, Felicia July, Jessie Foreman, Barbara Sscott, Vergie Lee, Ethel Rollins, Helen Scott, Maxine Session, Veronica Starling, Lois Teague, Gladys Thompson, Evelyn Wilcox. Annie McClelland, Flora Waits, Callie Walker, Linda Thompson, Annetta Williams, and Ozorine Ward.

TERRI'S CAKES



Made to fit your pocketbook and your taste

* BIRTHDAYS

* WEDDINGS

*ANNIVERSARIES

*RETIREMENT

*WEDDING &

BABY SHOWERS

CHOOSE YOUR DREAM WEDDING CAKE FROM MANY WELTON CAKE BOOKS! CALL: (903) 683-2918

Happy 3rd Birthday Trinity Small



Trinity celebrated her September 26th, third birthday, with birthday cake, goodies, family and lots of little friends at the Mt. Pleasant Church Fellowship Hall. Trinity is the daughter of Tiffani and Kerry Tubbs and the grandaughter of Reggie McGowan and Kathy Harris. She was born on her grandmother, Kathy's birthday.

Obituaries

Elroy Kellum

Rusk, Texas - Friends and family gathered at the home of Elroy Kellum in Rusk recently to remember him with a memorial service. Rev. Phal Carter delivered the message. Elrov Kellum, son of Pearl Lou Dennis and L. J. Kellum was born in Jacksonville. Texas on August 4, 1947. He departed this life Sept.13, 2011 in Dallas, Texas. He was also known as Kilroy. He attended Alberta Street Elementary School, Fred Douglass High School and in 1964 he moved to Rusk to live with his grandmother and step-grandfather Mrs. Lilly Halloway and Mr. Joe Holloway. In Rusk he attended Bradford High School. He was a very gifted athlete during high school. Kilroy met and married Billy Freeney in 1966. This union was blessed with one daughter, Lori Kellum Jarvis. In the year 2000, Kilroy moved to Tyler, Texas where he met his long time companion, Josie Richardson. He accepted Christ as his Personal Savior and was baptized in 2005 by Pastor Chris Athey.

He was gifted with his hands. A very talented artist, he often shared his unique and interesting drawings and other works of art with family and friends. He also possessed a passion for cars, spending time repairing and rebuilding engines. He sometimes raced the cars that he rebuilt.

Elroy was preceded in death by his mother Pearl Jefferson, two brothers Charles Bernard Dennis, and Wythesis Yarbrough, his



Senator Royce West District 23

Vote Tuesday November 8th

DALLAS - One year and one month sounds like a long time, but we're inside 13 months before Americans return to the polls for the 2012 Presidential Elections. But there's a few matters of business to tend to before that time and the question is, "ARE YOU READY TO VOTE?"

Actually, your first opportunity to flex your political muscles comes in less than a month. That's when Texas voters have the opportunity to go to the polls on November 8 to weigh their opinions on 10 proposed amendments to the Texas Constitution that are required companions to bills passed during this year's legislative session. Dallas County voters - as well as those across the state - will also be able to decide on local issues I ask again, ARE YOU READY TO VOTE? I do so to prepare you for possible changes to voter eligibility due

grandmother Lilly Holloway and step-grandfather Joe Holloway.

He leaves to cherish his memory daughters Lori Kellum Jarvis, Oakland, California, Kay Kay Hill, Dallas, Texas, son Kenneth Kilroy Kellum, Dallas, Texas; two sisters Mary Francis Kennedy and Dorothy Lee Dennis both of Tyler, Texas and a host of grandchildren, neices, nephews, cousins and other family and friends.



Election time - It's sooner than you think ARE YOU READY TO VOTE? CONTACT: Kelvin Bass

to new laws on Voter ID that passed this year. As of January 1, 2012, the voter registration card that will arrive at your doors over the next ew weeks will no longer guarantee your ability to cast a ballot. Under new Texas law, all voters will be required to show an approved form of photo ID in order to vote. Your timehonored voter registration card is now a supplementary document that only confirms the nformation that will appear on county voter rolls and polling locations. Under the new state law, there are seven forms of photo identification that will allow you to cast your all important ballot; a Texas driver's license or Texas ID card, a U.S. Military ID, a U.S. passport, a U.S. citizenship certificate and a state-issued concealed handgun license. In addition. a new free voter certificate was created for persons whocannot afford or do not have the other acceptable forms of identification. All documents must be current or not have expired for more than 60 days to be eligible. Seniors who do not hold or cannot afford a Texas driver's license.state-ID or other eligible document may obtain the free

voter certificate. It doenot expire if issued to a person 70 years or older. Texas is one of seven states to have passed new laws this year that will require a form of photo ID to vote. Similar legislation was introduced in 27 other states in 2011. The new law could also cause problems for potential voters whose names have changed since they last voted. For instance ladies, if you have married, un- married (divorced), hyphenated or otherwise changed your legal name since you last voted, your information may not match that appearing on voter rolls and your eligibility could be challenged. Student photo IDs are also no longer acceptable. The November Constitutional Amendment Election is the first of what will be a yearlong season of politics and ballots. Next come the March 6 primary elections followed by possible run off and local elections in May. These of course, lead up to your chance to have a role in making U.S. history. Don't wait until November 6, 2012 to find out that you will be an observer of - rather than a participant in democracy.

214-467-0123/214-948-9378



LOOKING FOWARD * REACHING HIGHER



FULL SERVICE BANKING

Texas National Bank Telebank 24 Hr

1-866-586-0044 www.tnbjackonsville.com

LOCATIONS:

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

New Sales Tax Exemption Registration for Agriculture and Timber Operators

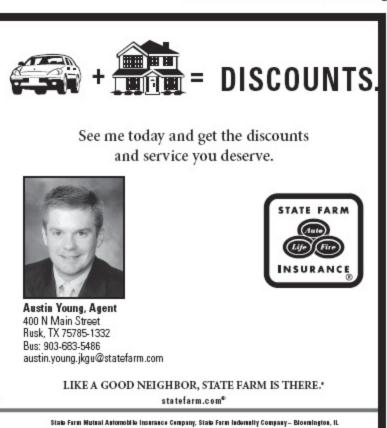
(AUSTIN)—Beginning Jan.1, 2012, farm, ranch and timber operators who produce agricultural and timber products for sale will need a special registration number to claim a sales tax exemption on taxable products used in those businesses. Texas Comptroller Susan Combs announced they can get a registration number through either a mail-in application or an online application that begins Oct. 3.

Registration is required by House Bill 268 passed in the recent legislative session and supported by retailers and agriculture groups. "Beginning Jan. 1, anyone who wants to claim the agriculture or timber

P057#15 9/WS

sales tax exemptions for qualifying products will need a registration number to show retailers, instead of simply signing an exemption certificate at the time of purchase," Combs said. "The new registration process takes the burden off retailers to verify whether a purchaser is eligible for exemption. And it narrows the pool of purchasers claiming the sales tax exemption to those actually involved in production of agriculture and timber products for sale."

Thenewlegislationrequires are gistration number to claim tax exemptions when buying items such as machinery and equipment; fertilizers; insecticides; irrigation equipment; and off-road motor vehicles used for farming and



The City of Rusk, Texas

"A City Planning for the Future"

Drop by and Apply

Always Taking Applications "Always looking for good people"

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

Chapman Pharmacy

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

We honor All Prescription Cards



903 683-2422

1-800-657-1873



Min mam \$1,000 cash down or trade equity and \$1,000 per morth income. More men declars stipularions. Chefin approvatile subject to dealer approximati

Religion

How Do I Get Forgiveness For My Sins?



Question: "Got Forgiveness? How do I receive forgiveness from God?"

Answer: Acts 13:38 declares, "Therefore, my brothers, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you."

What is forgiveness and why do I need it?

The word "forgive" means to wipe the slate clean, to pardon, to cancel a debt. When we wrong someone, we seek their forgiveness in order for the relationship to be restored. Forgiveness is not granted because a person deserves to be forgiven. No one deserves to be forgiven. Forgiveness is an act of love, mercy, and grace. Forgiveness is a decision to not hold something against another person, despite what they have done to you.

The Bible tells us that we are all in need of forgiveness from God. We have all committed sin. Ecclesiastes 7:20 proclaims, "There is not a righteous man on earth who does what is right and never sins." 1 John 1:8 says, "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." All sin is ultimately an act of rebellion against God (Psalm 51:4). As a result, we desperately need God's forgiveness. If our sins are not forgiven, we will spend eternity suffering the consequences of our sins (Matthew 25:46; John 3:36).

Forgiveness – How do I get it?

Thankfully, God is loving and merciful

– eager to forgive us of our sins! 2

Peter 3:9 tells us, "...He is patient with
you, not wanting anyone to perish, but
everyone to come to repentance." God
desires to forgive us, so He provided for
our forgiveness.

The only just penalty for our sins is death. The first half of Romans 6:23 declares, "For the wages of sin is death..." Eternal death is what we have earned for our sins. God, in His perfect plan, became a human being — Jesus Christ (John 1:1,14). Jesus died on the cross, taking the penalty that we deserve — death. 2 Corinthians 5:21 teaches us, "God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God." Jesus died on the cross, taking the punishment that we deserve! As God, Jesus' death provided

forgiveness for the sins of the entire world. 1 John 2:2 proclaims, "He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world." Jesus rose from the dead, proclaiming His victory over sin and death (1 Corinthians 15:1-28). Praise God, through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the second half of Romans 6:23 is true, "...but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Do you want to have your sins forgiven? Do you have a nagging feeling of guilt that you can't seem to get to go away? Forgiveness of your sins is available if you will place your faith in Jesus Christ as your Savior. Ephesians 1:7 says, "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace." Jesus paid our debt for us, so we could be forgiven. All you have to do is ask God to forgive you through Jesus, believing that Jesus died to pay for your orgiveness - and He will forgive you! John 3:16-17 contains this wonderful fmessage, "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only

whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him."

Forgiveness - is it really that easy?

Yes it is that easy! You can't earn forgiveness from God. You can't pay for your forgiveness from God. You can only receive it, by faith, through the grace and mercy of God. If you want to accept Jesus Christ as your Savior and receive forgiveness from God, here is prayer you can pray. Saying this prayer or any other prayer will not save you. It is only trusting in Jesus Christ that can provide forgiveness of sins. This prayer is simply a way to express to God your faith in Him and thank Him for providing for your forgiveness. "God, I know that I have sinned against You and am deserving of punishment. But Jesus Christ took the punishment that I deserve so that through faith in Him I could be forgiven. I place my trust in You for salvation. Thank You for Your wonderful grace and forgiveness! Amen

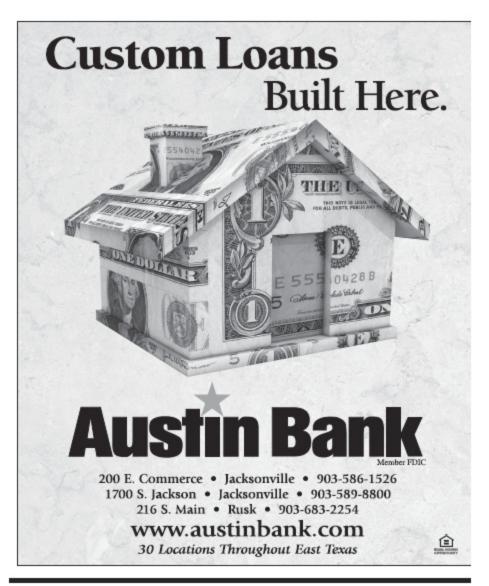


ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE



(903)683-2248

1-800-992-4280



O. T. Allen & Son

703 East San Antonio P. O. Box 495 Alto, Texas 75759 936 858-4111 Serving area families over 85 years

Provides all your funeral needs.

Church Directory

Pennell Chapel CME
Pine Grove Community
Jacksonville, Texas

Appreciation for

Joyce Session
Church Musician
The public is invited to attend

3:00PM Sunday, Nov. 13, 2011

Speaker: Rev. C.L. Anderson

Church Paster Rev. Madlock

Calendar of Events

First Friday Dance

The Ross Activity Center's First Friday Dance will be held Friday, Nov. 4 at the Rusk Civic Center, 555 Euclid St., in Rusk. Admission is \$5 a person. Doors open at 6 p.m.; dancing starts at 7 p.m. The Texas Express classic country band will provide music. Patrons are welcome to bring snacks and finger foods to share. Nonalcoholic beverages will be available. Dances are sponsored by Friends of Singletary Memorial Library, Senior Care of Jacksonville, the city of Rusk and JP Auto. Proceeds benefit the Friends group and the Ross Activity Center.

Veterans Chili Supper

The Ross Activity Center will honor local veterans with a chili supper and dance at 7 p.m. Nov. 11, at the Rusk Civic Center, 555 Euclid St., Rusk. Chili will be served from 5 to 7 p.m. Admission is \$10 for both the supper and dance. Admission to the dance only (after 7 p.m.) is \$5. Caddo Creek county swing band will provide the entertainment. Proceeds benefit the Friends group and the Ross Activity Center.

Mt. Olive Community Church Rusk, Texas

Will host a
Benefit Fish Fry
with trimmings
for
Sandra Carter
November 18, 2011
10-3:00PM
Location
941 Loop 343
(Texas Informer Office)
Sponsored by
The Women's Choir

MOUNT PLEASANT CME Church

138 Reeder St.

Rusk, Texas 75785

"Letting His Light
Shine since March 10, 1888"
Rev. Greenie Phillips, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45AM
Sunday Worship Service
11:00 AM
2nd & 4th Sunday Service
Contact: (903) 683-3441 or
P. O. Box 942
Rusk, Texas



Woodville CME FM 343 Rusk, Texas

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

Rev. Betty Smith Rogers, pastor

St. Paul Baptist Church

558 N. Main Street Jacksonville, TX. 75766

Phone: (903) 586-6006 Contact: Sharon Sims Sunday School 10:00AM Morning Ser. 11:00AM Wednes. Bible Study 7PM

Rev. Sedrick Moore, Pastor



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



Sweet Union Baptist
Church
302 North Main Street
Jacksonville, Texas
903-586-4578

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

MorningWorship: 11:00AM
Wednesday Night Bible Study/Prayer Meeting:
6:00pm

Pastor, Rev. Willams "Come Worship with us at Sweet Union" 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 Wells United Christian Church Pastor: Daryl Cranford



Highway 69 North Wells, Texas

Rusk High Class of 1970 Plans 2012 Reun ion

The Rusk High School graduating class of 1970 is planning a Class Reunion for May 5, 2012.

Every attempt is being made to locate ALL former class members. Contact information is needed for the following persons:

Dennis Benedict

Rhonda Black

Janis Bobbitt

Shala Bobbitt

Evelyn Colson

Barbara Brooks

Johnny Cox

Joann (Bryant) Johnson

Mary Dosser

Sharon Furgerson

Gwen Henderson

Donna Hix

Leonard Jackson

Philip Jenkins

Byron Jones

Don Matthews

Alicia (Miley) Rains

Randy Williams

Ricky Swarz

Laura Wickware

David Welch

James Moore

MarkScallon

Linda (Session) Godfrey

Judy Thornton

Larry Sanders

Charlsey (Munsinger) Jakubik

Raymond Kendall

Please send contact information to: Darlene (Beasley) Pruett 4061 N. 10th St. Abilene Tx 79603 or

pruzoo@nts-online.net

or by calling (325) 672 0548

You may also leave information on the RUSK HIGH SCHOOL CLASS

OF 1970 Facebook Page.

FREE ONLINE WEBINAR ON ADOPTING AFRICAN-AMERICAN INFANTS

Urgent Need for African-American Applicants in our Domestic Open Adoption Program

Adoptions From The Heart Hosts

Free Online Webinar on November 9th at 7pm EST

Philadelphia, PA - Adoptions From The Heart (AFTH), a licensed, nonprofit adoption agency, will hold a free online webinar on November 9, 2011 at 7:00 PM EST. Attendees will learn about our agency and our programs. The webinar will focus on the part of our Domestic Adoption Program open to couples or singles living anywhere in the U.S. which places African-American infants with families directly from the hospital. We have AN URGENT NEED for African American applicants. The webinar is open to anyone living anywhere in the U.S., and will be led by an AFTH social worker who will be available to answer any questions. A webinar is an online version of our free information meetings. Participants are emailed a link and a phone number that will connect them to the presentation. Registration is required to join the webinar. Online registration is available at:

https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/160845513

CITIZENS IST BANK

Jacksonville - 825 S. Jackson Tyler - 2001 East South East Loop -Nacogdoches -3010 University Drive



CD'S

SAVINGS

HOME LOANS

LENDER

Congratulations to the Tyler Junior College Rusk LVN graduating class of 2011

Home owned and serving the community since 1920

Member FDIC