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Grand Jury voted to "No Bill" Alto Officer in Shooting

Rusk, Tx. - March 25, 2013 the Cherokee County Grand Jury for the Second Judicial District Court reviewed physical evidence, witness statements, and audio, video, and photographic evidence in the matter involving the shooting death of James Eric Griffin on January 23, 2013. Texas Ranger Rudy Flores, the lead investigator in the matter, testified before the Grand Jury regarding his investigation.

At the conclusion of the evidence, the Grand Jury deliberated and voted to "No Bill" the case. No criminal charges will be filed.

Police Officer Brandon Smith fatally shot and killed Eric Griffin, an ACCESS Patient, on Highway 69 South in Alto near a mini-wart where Griffin was alleged to have stolen a package of cigarettes, showing a mechete under his shirt when he was asked to pay.

Mr. Griffin's family and concerned citizens of Alto closely monitored the situation from beginning to end.

City Recognizes Councilman Walter Session for Thirty years of service



Rusk Mayor Angela Raiborn presents the key to the city and a plaque commemorating thirty years of service to City Councilman Walter Session, Mayor Protem and representative for District II.

Pre-K Head Start Enrollment Set



Rusk Primary School students. See information on page 6

EDITORIAL



Dr. King Fifty Years Ago

In the early evening of April 4, 1968, Martin Luther King, Jr. was killed by a single shot which struck his face and neck. He was standing on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee, where he had come to lead a peaceful march in support of striking sanitation workers. About an hour later, he was pronounced dead at 7:05 PM at St. Joseph Hospital. The night before he had delivered his well-known sermon called "I've Been To The Mountain Top."

Shortly after the murder, a bundle was dropped near the door of Canipe's Amusement Co. near the assassination scene, and a white Mustang sped away. Memphis police officers found the bundle to contain a .30-06 rifle, ammunition, a pair of binoculars, and other items. The rifle had been purchased in Birmingham by a Harvey Lowmeyer, later determined to be one of several aliases used by Ray.

Pursuit of the white Mustang was thwarted by CB radio transmissions which described a high-speed chase between the



The assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on the balcony of the Lorraine Hotel in Memphis Tennessee. April 4, 1968. The hotel is now a museum that looks virtually the as it did on this day.

occupants of a blue Pontiac and the white Mustang, and even describing gunplay between the vehicles. These broadcasts appear to have been a hoax or diversion. The broadcaster of these CB radio transmissions has never been identified. The assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was one of the opening acts which plunged 1968 into a year of turmoil. Coming on the heels of the Tet Offensive which showed the war in Vietnam to be in disarray, and President Johnson's decision not to seek re-election, King's assassination was itself soon followed by the murder of Robert Kennedy, violence at the Democratic National

Convention, and a general unraveling of the country into a period of violence and despair. Like the other assassinations of the 1960s, the King murder had its "lone nut," in this case James Earl Ray, an escaped convict who

purchased the rifle found near the assassination scene and was caught in flight two months later. But, also like the other assassinations, evidence of conspiracy was easily found, despite being ignored by government investigators.

Health Department at Rusk Primary May 3rd to administer vaccinations

Beat the Back to School Rush! Cherokee County Public Health will be on site at Rusk Primary School for Pre-K and Kindergarten Round-Up on May 3rd from 8:30 am - 12 pm, assisting parents in getting their children vaccinated prior to the start of the new school year. Immunizations are available for eligible children (changes to the TVFC program no longer allow children who are covered under private insurance to receive the vaccine except through their health care provider). Vaccine cost is \$7.00 for one or \$10.00 for two or more. There is no charge for

children with Medicaid and CHIPS (CHIPS Molina not accepted) but will need to bring a current card prior to receiving vaccines. School children will need to be vaccinated before the first day of school. If a student is not vaccinated, entry into school may be delayed by school administration. Vaccines will be given until stock is depleted. For more information please call 903-586-6191.

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Session Serves on Rusk City Council Thirty Years

by Maxine Session



Above: Jamie Cambell - Chief of Police, Jerry Leviston, Sam O'Neal, Brian Johnson, Callie Dearman, Felicia Session, Ann Dearman, Terri Franklin, Willow Jenkins.



Above - Maxine Session, Shirley Clark, Sarai Johnson, Eddie Harris and Jasmine Harris.

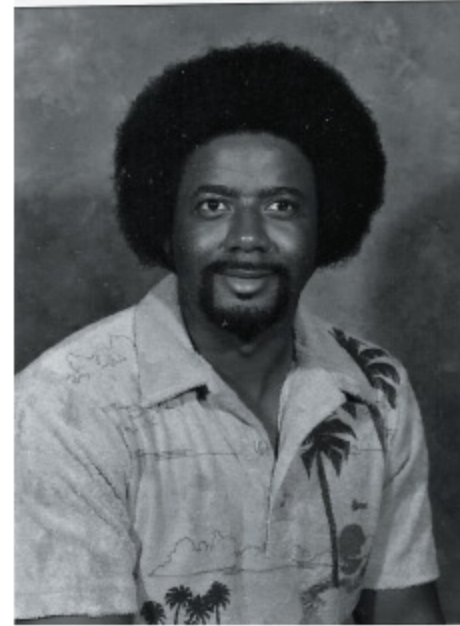
Rusk Citizens filled the Council Chambers on Thursday evening April 11th during a regular city council meeting, surprising City Councilman and Mayor Pro-tem Walter Session. City Manager Mike Murray and Mayor Angela Raiborn planned the surprise in celebration of Councilman Session's thirty years of service to the city.

The meeting had been called to order and was well on the way when citizens began to quietly enter the room. Councilman Session looked stunned. He later stated, "I was wondering if there was a problem that I didn't know about. I was also thinking, what is Maxine up to now?"

Everybody got a good laugh at his reaction and he relaxed after the mayor made known to him that this was a celebration of his thirty-year anniversary. Mike Murray spoke briefly about Councilman Session and the Mayor presented him with a plaque and the key to the city, then cake and punch were served.

Walter was first elected to the position in May of 1983. He says Rusk is still the same small town now as it was then with a few minor changes in business growth. He says he has worked with many mayors and city managers over the years including Emmitt Whitehead, Mike Crysyp, James Long, Higgins, Suzanne McCarty, and of course Angela Raiborn. City managers include Brenda Williams, Ron Cox, Tom Haddock, James Cambell, Kevin Bowden, Bill and Mike Murray.

Walter says we've come a long way. When he was elected in 1983, James Fisher was Mayor and Cindy Evans was city manager. The city manager's office was the council meeting place, the city had two firetrucks and the back parking lot was dirt.



Walter Session - thirty years ago.

The first serious decision the council made after he was elected is citizen approval of a city manager type government. Some of the highlights of his council years has been the construction of the current firestation and council chamber, Neighborhood improvement of streets and the building of new homes for low income families. He's happy he had a part in hiring Sandra Carter as the first black clerk to work in city hall, James Green as the first black police officer, the naming of Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, the naming of the Irvin C. Conley Park and the construction of the KOA that was put in place by the city. He is looking forward to completion of plans in action now for street improvements, parks and the building of six to eleven new homes for low-income families.

Continue Page 7

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1439	Lucky Game Bingo - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.37	\$2 4/18/2013	10/15/2013
1489	Golden Spades - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.87	\$5 4/18/2013	10/15/2013
1477	Dazzling 7's - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.13	\$2 4/28/2013	10/25/2013
1217	Bonus Word Crossword - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.44	\$3 5/20/2013	11/25/2013
1429	Bonus Break The Bank - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.81	\$5 5/20/2013	11/25/2013
1437	Monthly Bonus - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.94	\$5 5/20/2013	11/25/2013
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1460	Roadrunner Triple - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.00	\$1 5/20/2013	11/25/2013
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1468	Watersucker Cash - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.83	\$5 5/20/2013	11/25/2013
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Are you or your organization working to make your community healthier? Want to learn about tools and resources that can help you develop successful tobacco and obesity prevention and intervention programs? Get the new "Community Resource Guide to Address Tobacco Related Health Disparities". The Texas Health and Human Services Commission Center for the Elimination of Disproportionality and Disparities (CEDD) developed the guide with funding from the Texas Department of State Health Services' Communities Putting Prevention to Work Initiative. The guide is free and will be available online. In addition, for obesity prevention information and to build a plan for action that will make a difference in your community, visit: www.planhealthytexas.org <<http://www.planhealthytexas.org>>.

For more information about accessing the guide and addressing disproportionality and health disparities, please contact CEDD at: http://www.hhsc.state.tx.us/hhsc_projects/cedd/.



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Yearning for Yesterday

by W. Carwell (Palestine, Tx.)

Yesterday is gone and there's nothing left that remains
besides the footprints of memories that's left in memory lane.

Time after time I find myself drifting away,
back to the days as a child when the world invited me to play.

I would laugh for hours about some of the silliest things.

Oh, how I yearn for yesterday.

But things have changed. Everyday seems to consist of haste.
No time to do anything too busy moving at an alarming rate.

Too busy to smile, too busy to laugh, too busy to slow down
and realize we're moving too fast.

We've sold all our time for tomorrow

before we even began today

and already have next week lived

and not realizing how much time is ticking away.

But if we could stop and realize the opportunities
that we have let pass,

we would be able see our lives through the timeless hour glass.

Every day is made special

everyday should bring forth a smile.

We're not wrapped up in the cares of the world

we're back in touch with our inner child.

Loving, laughing, and playing the way we used to play.

Oh how I yearn, I yearn for yesterday.

Re-elect Incumbent Tracy Session RISD School Board Trustee



* Is married and has three children attending Rusk ISD

* Coaches youth sports and mentors children in Rusk ISD schools.

*Elder and Delegate for Cumberland Presbyterian Church of America.

*Named Employee of the year for 2012 as LVN at Skyview Unit.

*Member of Cherokee County Christian Brotherhood.

Tracy worked as a current member of the Rusk ISD Board of Trustees to interview and hire current Superintendent, Dr. Davis. He is a Rusk High School Graduate and member of TJC Alumni.

Early voting April 29 - May 7th (8 to 4) - Final voting May 11th (7to 7)

All voting held at RISD Administrative building.

I WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR VOTE!

Rusk Primary registration set for 2013-2014 Head Start/Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten classes



Pre-Registration for Rusk Head Start, Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten is set for Friday, May 3rd from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. Age requirements that must be met by September 1, 2013 include 5 years old for Kindergarten, 4 years old for full day Head Start/Pre-Kindergarten and 3 years old for ½ day Pre-Kindergarten. To register a child, parents will need to bring their current check stub and 2012 income tax return, W-2, and/or TANIF verification as proof of income. All applicants need to bring a certified copy of the child's birth certificate, social security card, proof of residency and complete immunization record. Cherokee County Health Department will be available during enrollment from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm at the Primary school to give shots to eligible children through the TVFC program. This registration is held to ensure that a sufficient number of classes can be planned for the coming school year. We must have 80 students pre-enroll to keep Pre-K classes as we have them now. Parents may call the school at 903-683-6106 for more information or visit Rusk Primary at 440 Collins St.

CAROLINE WALKER-EUBANKS 100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



Mrs. Caroline Walker-Eubanks, a long time resident of the New Summerfield community, celebrated her 100th birthday in San Antonio, TX, where she currently resides. Attending her birthday party at the Leon Valley Community Center in San Antonio were her nieces, nephews and other family members from across the country. Fondly called "Aunt Baby" by

almost all that know her, she received gifts, cards and a proclamation from the President and Mrs. Obama. Although not the baby of the family, "Aunt Baby" was the baby and was fondly called "baby" for seven years until the late Inez Jones (Taylor) was born (the real baby). All three of Inez and Taylor's children and one grandson were in attendance at the celebration. Attending was Ruth Stewart (Eddie) and John Thomas (Sandy), as well as their son John Thomas II from Denver, CO and Tom Jones from Dallas. Other family members in attendance were her late brother Red Walker's (Vel) daughter, Ruby Jewel Devereaux and son Terry, as well as the daughter and son of the late Doris (O.B.) Bennett, Emma Lois (Mop) (L.B.) and Byron Bennett. Aunt Baby currently resides with her sister Addie Starr's daughters, Nelva Jean Collins, Neva Joyce Moten, and Carolyn Starr, who hosted the birthday celebration.

Children have never been very good at listening to their elders, but they have never failed to imitate them.
~James Baldwin

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Walter Session



Pearlie Morrison, Sharon Ross, Evelyn Foreman, Sheryl Jackson, Gloria Jennings, Melvin Session, Kim Clark, Shunnon Ratcliff, Daphns Session, Bob Goldsberry, and Oliver Sturns.

Walter says we have a mayor, City manager and council who works well together. "It will take time, but the recently borrowed six million

dollars is going to make a big difference in the way our town looks as far as street improvements, the proposed new sports complex,

the proposed library expansion and industry.

Walter says he is proud to have been able to serve his community

and the city of Rusk for thirty years and he thanks those who have elected him to serve them over the years.

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April is National Distracted Driving Awareness Month

AUSTIN, TX- April is National Distracted Driving Awareness Month and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDot) is launching TalkTextCrash. The campaign, designed to raise awareness of the dangers associated with distracted driving, encourages Texans to put down their cell phones and to eliminate any cause of distraction while driving. Radio PSAs will air throughout the month of April to remind drivers to "hang up and drive." Is distracted driving really a problem? Distracted driving kills. The friends, family, and neighbors of the thousands of people killed each year in distracted driving crashes will tell you it is a very serious safety problem. The nearly half a million people injured each year will agree. What is distracted driving? Distraction occurs any time you take your eyes off the road, your hands off the wheel, and your mind off your primary task: driving safely. Any non-driving activity you engage in is a potential distraction and increases your risk of crashing. Distracted driving activities include conversing with passengers, eating, smoking, manipulating dashboard controls, reaching for something inside the vehicle, and talking or texting on a cell phone. If it's so dangerous, why do people do it? Some people still don't know how dangerous distracted driving is. Others know about the risks of texting and talking while driving, but still choose to do so anyway. They make the mistake of thinking the statistics don't apply to them, that they can defy the odds. Still others imply lead busy, stressful lives and

use cell phones and smartphones to stay connected with their families, friends, and workplaces. They forget or choose not to shut these devices off when they get behind the wheel. Who are the most serious offenders? Our youngest and most inexperienced drivers are most at risk, with 16% of all distracted driving crashes involving drivers under 20. But they are not alone. At any given moment during daylight hours, over 800,000 vehicles are being driven by someone using a hand-held cell phone. Sending or reading one text is pretty quick, unlike a phone conversation - wouldn't that be okay? Texting is the most alarming distraction because it involves manual, visual, and cognitive distraction simultaneously. Sending or reading a text takes your eyes off the road for 4.6 seconds. At 55 mph, that's like driving the length of an entire football field, blindfolded. It's extraordinarily dangerous. Is it safe to use a hands-free device to talk on a cell phone while driving? So far, the research indicates that the cognitive distraction of having a hands-free phone conversation causes drivers to miss the important visual and audio cues that would ordinarily help you avoid a crash. Why doesn't the U.S. Department of Transportation make distracted driving illegal? Passenger car driving behavior falls under the jurisdiction of the individual states, so the U.S. DOT can't ban it. Congress has considered a number of good laws to prevent distracted driving, but unfortunately nothing has passed yet.

However, many states have stepped up to pass tough laws against texting, talking on a cell phone and other distractions. Drivers under the age of 18 are prohibited from using wireless communication devices. Learners Permit holders are prohibited from using handheld cell phones during the first six months driving. Texas cities prohibit the use of cell phones and other handheld devices in school zones

You've already taken the first step by learning about the dangers of distracted driving. The next thing you'll want to do is protect yourself. Take the pledge to drive phone-free and turn your cell phone off when you turn your ignition on. And if you're a passenger, make sure your driver does the same.

I found that motherhood was a profession by itself, just like school teaching and lecturing.

~Ida B. Wells



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African American organizations ask for budget restoration

By AKWASI EVANS
TPA

Austin, TX – Considering the expanding economic success of the state of Texas, African American interest groups from the civil rights, business and education communities are speaking with one voice in their request that the Texas House of Representatives fully restore the prior \$5.4 billion cut from public education in addition to adjusting for inflation and rapidly growing student enrollment. Considering the Lone Star State's economic prowess, these organizations also believe that Texas can afford to accept the Medicaid expansion that would create healthier communities across Texas. The groups united for education and health are Texas NAACP, Texas Association of Black Personnel in Higher Education, Austin Area Urban League, Texas Association of African American Chamber of Commerce, and Texas Publishers Association. Leaders

from these organizations held a press conference on Wednesday at 2 p.m. in the Speakers Committee Room in the Texas Capitol to explain why these issues are of vital importance for the African American community and all of Texas. Yannis Banks of the Texas NAACP said the Texas legislature has not gone far enough in finding the necessary funding to improve the state status as one of the nation's lowest performing states. Banks said the legislature also has failed to restore funding to full day pre-K and the state financial aid programs. He said as tuition continues to go up it is imperative to fully fund grant programs for low income and rural students. Dr. Robert Flucker, executive director of the Texas Association of Black Personnel in Higher Education said his 600 statewide members are adamant about public

education. Flucker accused the legislature of taking baby steps toward funding public education. Jim Wyatt of the Texas Association of Chambers of Commerce said his 22 statewide chapters with over 10,000 members advocate for millions of African American entrepreneurs and citizens who seek greater inclusion in our state's economic and educational opportunities. They believe it is critical that businesses have an educated workforce to enhance our growth locally. Wyatt said Texas does not want to address African American community needs. "The state legislature has cut \$5.4 billion from public school funding," Dr. Julian Herlig said. He said the state has seen no improvement in African American SAT and ACT scores. Herlig stated the obvious when he said the state needs world-class programs to educate the workforce of the future. He recommended the state return to tracking students. Texas NAACP President, Gary Bledsoe said his organization recently sent a letter to Gov. Rick Perry asking him to commission a committee to go to Washington to meet with the Obama administration to discuss whether the state and the administration can find common ground. The letter indicated that everyone knows Texas has an

unusually large number of persons without health care. It said whether we like it or not we will be paying federal taxes in the future. Bledsoe bemoaned the fact that Texas has the largest number of uninsured people in the country. Texas ranks 49th of 50 states in educating the public. He said when Perry refused to accept the federal CHIPS money the resources went to other states. "Texas is in a dangerous place today," Bledsoe believes. As our entire nation is embroiled in economic difficulties, the primary reason that separates Texans from other folks is that Texans are threatened with a future with an unskilled workforce. He called the discrepancies in educational opportunity "incredible." Bledsoe contends the legislature seems to continue to give advantages to those who already have advantages while ignoring those who have always been forced to accept less. He said many small and predominantly minority schools don't even meet the state's requirement that they provide college credit classes. He said the Texas NAACP would be watching closely how the governor and Legislature respond to determine whether or not the results of their actions necessitate the organization going to the federal government for redress.

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Federal loan problems are hurting Black students

By Maya Rhodan

NNPA Washington Correspondent

[Editor's Note: This is the second of two stories by NNPA Washington Correspondents Freddie Allen and Maya Rodan examining how WASHINGTON (NNPA) – In many ways, the route Bonita Rex took to college is not unusual. After graduating from high school in 2007, family issues forced her to delay enrolling in college. Two years later, thanks to Pell grants and an improved family situation, she enrolled in the Community College of Philadelphia with a focus on general studies in cultural science and technology.

After Rex earns an Associate degree while holding down two part-time jobs, she plans to complete requirements for a bachelor's degree at California State University.

But recent changes made to Pell grants has Rex, 24, worried that she might not be able to complete her bachelor's degree at Cal State or anywhere else.

The Pell Grant program nearly doubled from assisting about 5 million students in 2009 to 9.4 million students in 2012. The program, which provides low-income students with financial aid they do not have to repay, was projected to face an \$18.3 billion shortfall during 2012-2013 academic year because of an increase in need.

In an effort to maintain the maximum grant of \$5,550 per academic year, Congress opted to eliminate four qualifications for the program, making an estimated 145,000 students suddenly ineligible for funds. In addition, students are no longer eligible to receive their Pell Grants during the summer semester.

During the 2012-2013 school year, if a student did not have a high school diploma or GED, had a family income of more than \$23,000, needed less than 10 percent of the maximum

award, or had received a grant for longer than 12 semesters, they were no longer able to receive Pell funds.

"Twelve semesters is kind of slim," says Rex. "It's unfair. They're forcing non-traditional students to rush through our courses so that we have enough money to last through an Associate's, Bachelor's, and potentially a Master's."

After this year, Rex will have completed nine semesters on her Pell Grant, leaving only three to lead her through her studies at her dream school of California State University where she wants to study to become a dietician.

The 1,200 community colleges across the U.S. educate about 8 million students every year, representing almost half of all undergraduate students, according to the National Center for Education Statistics. Of the nearly 40,000 students enrolled at the Community College of Philadelphia, 56.7 percent are Black. Nationally, 32 percent of community college students are African-American.

About 92 percent of Black students received financial aid during the 2007-2008 school year, 80 percent of which came in the form of grants. Blacks received \$4.5 billion in Pell Grant funds during the 2008-2009 school year.

A 2010 Journal of Blacks in Higher Education special report titled, "Pell Grants: The Cornerstone of African-American Higher Education," stated, "The importance of the federal Pell Grant program cannot be overemphasized. This federal grant program for low-income students is the life-blood for hundreds of thousands of African Americans seeking higher education. Without this important program, many black students would not be able to enroll in higher education. Hundreds of thousands of other blacks would have seeking higher education. Without this important program, many black students would not be able to enroll in higher education. Hundreds of

seeking higher education. Without this important program, many black students would not be able to enroll in higher education. Hundreds of thousands of other blacks would have financial aid programs that have occurred throughout the past year do not align with the president's plan to have the majority of Americans college-educated by 2020.

"The cumulative impact of the aforementioned within the past year has been nothing short of catastrophic," said Baskerville via email. "As the colleges and universities were developing innovative ways of addressing the challenges created by [the] Great Recession and the economic and financial challenges of the day, they were hit by what I call a 'quintuple whammy,' including shifts in the Pell Grant Program."

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) are also feeling the pressure of the changes.

This year, President Obama set a goal of having the majority of Americans college educated by 2020. To meet that goal, HBCUs will need to increase the number of students they graduate per year from 35,000 to more than 57,000 by 2020.

"To reach the goals, approximately 8 million more Americans must attain a 2- or 4-year degree, roughly 2 million more African Americans, 167,000 of whom must graduate from HBCUs," Baskerville said. "They cannot do this without an overhaul of the student financial aid system to invest more equitably and efficiently in expanding excellence, access, success, and diversity in higher education."

In 2010, according to the National Center for Education Statistics, 45 percent of Black students enrolled in an institution of higher education had parents with a high school diploma or less. Studies also show that a large number of HBCU students are from low-income families. In 2008, more than 155,000 students at HBCUs received federal Pell Grants—just 10,000 more

than the number of those now deemed ineligible for the grants under the new qualifications.

More than half of African American professionals are graduates of Historically Black Colleges and Universities. According to a report by the Journal of Blacks in Higher Education, the majority of HBCUs have student bodies where more than two-thirds of those enrolled are eligible for Pell Grants.

"In spite of these challenges, HBCUs and [Primarily Black Institutions] continue to do the lion's share of educating low-income, first generation, African American and diverse other students in STEM, health professions, teaching professions, and environmental profession," Baskerville added.

According to a study by the United Negro College Fund's Patterson Research Institute, 46 percent of HBCU students come from families with incomes lower than \$36,000 and an average of half of all students qualify for Pell Grants.

All but a handful of HBCUs are in the South and that region is also taking a beating.

Schools across the Deep South have also experienced a decline in enrollment this year, which the University of Alabama Education Policy Center attributes to the eliminations made to the Pell Grant program.

In three of the most uneducated and impoverished states in the nation—Alabama, Arkansas, and Mississippi—just under 250,000 students were awarded Pell Grants to attend public colleges and universities in the 2010-2011 school year.

Two-thirds of the full time community college students in the states are Pell recipients.

According to the report, enrollment decreased at 47 of the 62 two-year colleges in those states during

Kimberly Clark Runs for RISD School Board Trustee



I am Kimberly C. Clark and I am running for Rusk ISD School Board Trustee. I am a proud

2001 Rusk High School graduate. I work as an Assistant District Attorney for Anderson County. Even though I work in Palestine, I choose to reside in Rusk and commute each day.

After graduation, I attended The University of Texas at Austin where I obtained my Bachelors degree. I went on to obtain a Juris Doctorate and a Masters of Laws degree in Agriculture and Food Law Policy from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. I was admitted to the

Texas State Bar in 2008 and have been licensed to practice law for 5 years. I returned home to Rusk in April 2012. Among my duties as an Assistant District Attorney, I have the task of prosecuting Truancy cases (filed against parents/children for failing to comply with Texas Education laws regarding attendance) and representing the Texas Department of Family & Protective Services in CPS cases (filed against parents/conservators for abuse/neglect of children). In handling Truancy and CPS cases, I routinely hear many issues faced by children, parents/educators that affect the educational success of children. Often, families deal with circumstances too big for them to handle alone. I work with schools, CPS workers, parents, foster parents, and resource providers in the community to reduce/alleviate problems that hinder children's success both at school and home.

As a RISD Trustee I will bring a fresh perspective to the board. I bring a unique perspective as a prosecutor handling cases dealing with obstacles children, parents, and educators face on a daily basis.

Every graduate of RHS will not remain in the area after graduation. We have to make sure that curriculum/extracurricular activities offered adequately position students for success. We must expose them to a wide range of career possibilities that may not include post-secondary education.

The District has made great strides toward excellence and I feel those efforts need to be supported and strengthened. Our educators need not only increased parental support, but also that of the board and community. We must ensure our educators have every resource necessary to assist them in

molding the minds of our children. Members of the community need to feel that School Board Trustees are accessible and approachable. I want you to know that I will be available to listen to school/education issues outside of the boardroom. In order to work together and develop solutions for our district, I believe my time outside of scheduled meetings is just as important as the time spent in scheduled meeting. There must be greater communication and responsiveness to issues that affect our school and its programs.

As a RISD School Board Trustee I will work for the children, parents, educators, and our community to help our children achieve the educational success they deserve. I am asking for your vote/support in this election. Please vote for me, Kimberly C. Clark, for RISD School Board Trustee on May 11.



Warden Haynes- TDCJ, Councilman Walter Session, Maxine Session, Margaret Perkins, James I. Perkins, CEO Citizens 1st Bank, TJC Staff Member and Dr. L. Michael Metke President of Tyler Junior College.

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