

TEXAS INFORMER



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P.O. Box 332
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Bringing you positive news about local people since 1995!

Dr. Richard Hackney Chairs Cherokee County Historical Commission



HSCT board meeting in San Augustine, Texas.

“Please Vote!”

Early Voting begins Monday April 24th and ends Tuesday May 2nd. Regular Voting day is Saturday, May 6th 7am -7pm

EDITORIAL

Denise Rolark Barnes
Publisher The Washington Informer

In 1827, with the publication of the "Freedom's Journal," John Russwurm and Reverend Samuel Cornish established the Black Press and boldly declared their mission: to be the voice of the African-American community, standing up for victims of injustice, and championing the unsung. Dedicated, resilient and strong Black women, who account for a significant number of the 211 African-American owned newspapers and media companies that are members of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), stand at the forefront of that mission, today. As Women's History Month concludes, NNPA President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., said that it's important to recognize publishers like Rosetta Perry of "The Tennessee Tribune," Elinor Tatum of the "New York Amsterdam News," Janis Ware of "The Atlanta Voice," Joy Bramble of "The Baltimore Times," Brenda Andrews of the "The New Journal and Guide" and the many Black women that own and

BLACK WOMEN PUBLISHERS DRIVE THE BLACK PRESS

States and around the world. Chavis said that it's also important to acknowledge the role that women play as leaders of the NNPA.

"Four out of five members of the NNPA executive committee are women and, in 2017, that shows that the NNPA, as a national trade organization, is out in front of all other organizations when it comes to putting women in the top positions," said Chavis.

Denise Rolark Barnes, the publisher of "The Washington Informer," serves as chair of the NNPA; Karen Carter-Richards, publisher of the "Houston as treasurer; and Shannon Williams, the president and general manager of the "Indianapolis Recorder," serves as the organization's secretary. "Forward Times" holds the position of first vice chair; Atlanta Voice publisher Janis Ware serves "For the Black Press, Women's History Month becomes more noteworthy, because of the women of the The business isn't for the faint of heart and being a female publisher requires you to be even stronger," Richards said. "Because of what my mother taught me, Forward Times Publishing Company has grown to become a multimedia company and an award-winning national publication."

NNPA and their very important roles," Chavis said.

Still, the pressure of operating a newspaper isn't lost on publishers like Carter-Richards of the 57-year-old Houston Forward Times.

Carter-Richards took over the Forward Times after the death of her mother, Lenora "Doll" Carter, whom she shadowed at the paper for more than 30 years. Chida Warren-Darby, the managing editor and co-publisher of the "Voice & Viewpoint" in San Diego, said that being a female publisher has proven to be an "amazing experience." Warren-Darby also offered advice to the next generation of women.

"[Women publishers] should always remain true to themselves and never conform. There's a lot of authenticity missing in the world of journalism and the media industry as a whole," Warren-Darby said. "I believe it's slowly returning, but it will take the next generation to maintain that authenticity. I would also encourage them to know that their voices and ideas matter, to never underestimate what they bring to the table, and to never feel like it's too late."

See Black Press page 11

Letters to the Editor

Teagues endorse Hubert Robinson

JACKSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL RACE DISTRICT 1

Hubert Robinson, the current district 1 city councilman is running for re-election. I'm asking for your support in his re-election campaign.

Hubert has served this district well for a number of years. I see no reason for change. I'm asking district 1 voters to reelect Hubert for the following comments: Experience, knowledge of the district.

Knowledge of the city of Jacksonville. Honesty and loyalty for his time with the council.

We feel that Hubert's dedication and time spent for the district and the city of Jacksonville is a real plus for the citizens of Jacksonville.

Please join us in supporting Hubert Robinson and give him your vote on May 6.

Joe and Lois Teague

Mt. Mariah Cemetery located on FM 1304 and Bagley Road in Cherokee County is in need of upkeep.

Those who have family members burried there are asked to volunteer with mowing and weedeating or send donations to

**Mt. Mariah Cemetery Fund,
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Letters to the Editor Policy

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please send to P. O. Box 332, Rusk, Texas or informernews08@aol.com. Letters must include name of the sender. We reserve the right to edit content and to accept or reject letters.

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Dr. Richard Hackney Heads Historical Commission

Cover Story
by Maxine Session

This saying has floated around for many years, "If you want something done, ask a busy person." Well if you want something done that enhances history in Cherokee County, ask Dr. Richard Hackney. Dr. Hackney has actively been a part of the Cherokee County Historical Commission since his return home to the East Texas area several years ago and is deeply committed to preserving history.

Born and raised in Bullard, Texas in 1942 tenth child of Jim and Dinella Hackney, he learned first hand how to be organized and dedicated with his part of work that helped maintain the forty-acre family farm. J. W. Holloway, his high school principal heavily influenced Richard to major in Pharmacy. After graduation he enrolled in Texas Southern University School of Pharmacy at Houston. In 1967 he graduated from TSU with a B. S. becoming a Registered Pharmacist. Again his organization, dedication and faith in God had enabled him to succeed. He had made many sacrificeslived with an older sister in Ft. Worth during the summer to work buffing floors nights for five years at Methodist Hospital Houston while attending classes days to reach this goal.

Richard and Theresa Rhodes Hackney, his wife, met and married while they were attending TSU.

In 1972 Richard was accepted and enrolled at the University of Tennessee in Memphis and earned a doctorate of Pharmacy Degree.

Soon he had worked as Chief Pharmacist at Jefferson Davis Hospital Houston, Director of Pharmacy for the City of Memphis Hospitals and Assistant Professor of the College of Pharmacy at the University of Tennessee. He and his family lived in Memphis until they decided to move back to Texas where he accepted a position at Texas Southern as Assistant Professor of Clinical Pharmacy and Director of Development. Later he was recruited by Bristol Meyers Oncology Division as an Oncology Specialist, promoting drugs for treating cancer patients.



Volunteers clean headstones in Alto Cemetery initiated by Cherokee County Historical Commission and the Historical Cemetery Society of Texas.

After 18 years he took early retirement from Bristol Meyers Squibb. Full retirement was not in the plan so later he was appointed Director of Development and served as Interim Vice President of Institutional Advancement and Development at Texas Southern.

After many years The family moved back home to East Texas to the family farm in Bullard. Richard was not finished with his career. He accepted a position as HUD/HBCU Program Manager at Texas College and developed his own business, The Hackney Group. Along with John Citizen, workshops were held in Houston, Texas focusing on preparing individuals interested in Pharmaceutical sales for the interview process. After 8 years of workshop planning and successfully assisting many individuals in getting jobs in the Pharmaceutical industry, he added another component to his business Hackney & Associates, LLC. When developing this business he was offered a position

as a Consultant Pharmacist with American Pharmaceutical Services as a Long-Term Care Pharmacist consultant. After 6 years he started working full time with his own consultant company providing Geriatric Pharmacy Services throughout East Texas.

Moving back home did not cause a pause for Richard, but helped enhance many areas of volunteer work with the Cherokee County Historical Commission where he serves on the board and recently became chairman. He has researched the history of African American Churches, Cemeteries, and families. Much of this history came from interviews and personal church and family files, but is now placed in the historical commission files to where there is public access. He also serves as President of the Historical Cemetery Society of Texas. Richard has written multiple articles for a local newspaper, speaks at colleges, healthcare organizations

and community events, shares his knowledge on pharmacy, ran for public office as a state representative, and he continues to run his business Hackney and Associates, LLC.

Richard says God's grace and favor have been an abounding force in his life and the lives of his family members from an early age. He displays this in his everyday life and his work as a Deacon and community Liason of Corinth Missionary Baptist Church where his wife Theresa partners with him. They have two daughters, eight grandchildren and one great-grandson. Their oldest daughter Cherice Hawkins married Dr. Gerald Hawkins, MD and they have two daughters, Shelby Hawkins and Arrica married to Ryan Lagsding who reside in Fresno, Texas.

Richard and Theresa's youngest daughter Shannon married Pastor Craig Hayes who is the Pastor of Crossing Point Church in Fresno, Texas and they have five daughters Endia, Sommer, Lauren, Madison and Eryn and one son Craig Jr.

DALLAS HOMELESS SURGE FELT STRONGEST IN LOCAL CLASSROOMS

By David Wilfong (North Dallas Gazette/NNPA Member)

Dallas is looking at a large, and continually growing homeless population. While the spread-out geography of a city like Dallas may make the appearance of the homeless less visually constant, the problem is growing large enough that people are starting to take a second look at it.

One of the most obvious places where the homeless issue arises is in Dallas classrooms.

Mark Pierce of the Dallas Independent School District's Homeless Education program has characterized the numbers he is seeing as "catastrophic." According to Pierce, the school district is currently working to educate approximately 3,700 homeless students. He also warns that there may be another 1,000 children in the city who are homeless, but not currently enrolled in school. Dallas having a homeless population is nothing new, but Pierce said he thinks the problem has swelled in the past couple of years.

"There's a lot of reasons [for homelessness]," Pierce said. "The one that stands out the most is that property costs have gone up a lot recently. So apartment complexes are raising their rents, and so it's harder for people with lower income to find a place to live."

Pierce has been working with the homeless in the district for 21 years, and he said that one of the programs that has been most successful are the campus "Drop-In" programs. In 2012, beginning at North Dallas High School, the district, in partnership with the Episcopal Church of the Incarnation and utilizing a grant from Baron & Blue, opened its first campus Drop-In in 2012. The district now runs Drop-Ins at 12 Dallas high schools and two middle schools. Once a week the Drop-In centers are open to help students with a wide range "I would like to see one of these at every, single high school in Dallas, and throughout the

rest of the country actually," Pierce said. "People would be surprised. Even in the wealthier suburbs there are probably kids who have no home for one reason or another and could use a little assistance." As for what needs to happen in the near future, Pierce keeps his expectations reasonable.

"I'm an educator, I believe the kids should be in school," Pierce said. "I believe that public schools can help meet their most basic needs and help them through a difficult time, and get them educated and graduated from high school at the same time."

Pierce also said he would like to see universities join into the process, realizing that many students could be coming to college campuses without a "home base" to operate from.

In the meantime, the district mans the Drop-In centers and works to reach students where they are, often delivering food and other essentials to families currently stuck in hotel living situations, both during the school year and in the summertime, as well.

"The Dallas ISD has been at the front of this and we are doing some really wonderful things," Pierce said.

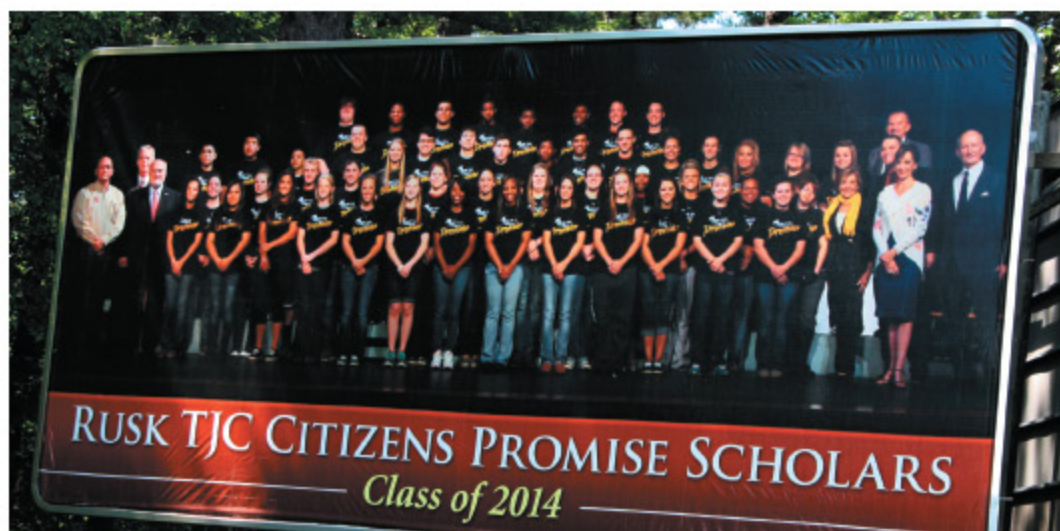
Help to alleviate the homelessness

quite extensive, but it comes in fragmented form, with the funds and other resources being distributed throughout the city from a wide array of public and private interests.

Services of Hope, a local nonprofit on the front line, sees the need when working with the school district and local apartment complexes which offer an after-school program.

"We work with a nearby Dallas ISD school and provide items such as personal hygiene, clothes, food and any other supplies we can get our hands on because more than 20 percent of the school's population is defined as homeless. Their families are either living in shelters, their cars or short-term extended stay hotels," shared Doris Prescott Services of Hope board member. Dallas Housing Director Bernadette Mitchell briefed council members on the current condition of assistance resources for the homeless during a February 21 briefing of the Housing committee. She advised members that, in total, approximately \$26.5 million is allocated toward the homeless problem in Dallas,

See Dallas Homeless page 9



Rusk High School Class of 2014 TJC Citizens Promise Scholars, Perkins Family Foundation members, graduated from Tyler Junior College on Wednesday, May 11, 2016. Each received \$8,000.00 dollars, two years free tuition at Tyler Junior College.

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What's Cooking?**Mexican Beef Casserole**

Ingredients

1/2 lbs ground beef
 1 onion, chopped
 1 green bell pepper, seeded and diced
 1 -2 tablespoon fresh minced garlic
 1 large jalapeno pepper, seeded and finely chopped (optional)
 2 -4 teaspoons cumin (or to taste) salt and black pepper
 2 (10 ounce) cans red enchilada sauce
 1 (15 ounce) can black beans (rinsed and well drained)
 2 cups frozen corn
 9 corn tortillas

2 cups shredded Mexican blend cheese, divided (can use more or less)

TOPPINGS 2 plum tomatoes, finely chopped
 sour cream
 green onion
 coarsley crushed tortilla chips

Directions

Set oven to 350 degrees.

Grease an 11 x 7-inch baking dish.

In a large skillet brown the ground beef with onion, garlic, green bell pepper and jalapeno (if using) until the beef is no longer pink; drain any fat then return to skillet and add in one can of enchilada sauce, black beans, corn and cumin.

Bring the ground beef mixture to a boil; reduce heat to medium-low and simmer for 20-25 minutes stirring occasionally, then season with salt and lots of black pepper.

Arrange 3 corn tortillas in the ottom of the baking dish, cutting as needed to cover bottom of the dish.

Spread 1/4 cup canned enchilada sauce over the tortillas in the baking dish.

Cover the sauce with 1/3 of the cooked ground beef mixture, then about 1/3 of the shredded cheese.

Repeat the layers twice but omitting the final cheese layer on top.

Drizzle any remaining canned enchilada sauce (from the second can) on top.

Cover with foil and bake in a 350 degree F oven for 25 minutes.

Remove foil and sprinkle with more cheese (any amount desired) then return to oven and bake for another 5 minutes or until the cheese has melted.

Let stand 10-15 minutes before slicing.

Top with sour cream and/or tomatoes, green onions and crushed tortilla chips if desired.

Mrs. J's 411

New Life through Jesus Christ

Ferlich July Arrington

Some people don't have a clue as to why we celebrate Easter. Most kids think Easter is about the Easter Bunny bringing eggs and candy to them.

Easter is also called Resurrection Sunday. It is a festival and holiday celebrating the resurrection of Jesus from the dead described in the New Testament as having occurred on the third day of his burial after His crucifixion by the Romans at Calvary C. 30AD. It is the culmination of the Passion of Jesus, preceded by Lent, a forty day period of fasting, prayer and penance. The meaning of Easter also symbolizes the complete verification of all that Jesus preached and taught during His three year ministry.

I hope all of you have a Happy Easter.

Until then - take care of yourself, Ferlich July Arrington.

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 Christin O'Conner April 22
 Mildred Waters April 27
 Shaira Stewart April 17

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CONGRESSWOMAN SHEILA JACKSON LEE MULLS "HIGH CRIMES AND MISDEMEANORS" FOR TRUMP



PHOTO CAPTION - Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-Texas) said that she has considered pursuing impeachment proceedings for President Donald Trump, during a ceremony honoring Lenora "Doll" Carter, former publisher of the Houston Forward Times. (Freddie Allen/AMG/NNPA)

By Harry Colbert, Jr. (Insight News/NNPA Member)

WASHINGTON, DC—On a day that honored a stalwart of the Black Press and saw a liaison of the Trump Administration walk out on a breakfast with members of the Black Press, it was the words of Representative Sheila Jackson Lee (D-Texas) in a university library that rang the loudest. Rep. Jackson Lee delivered remarks on March 23 in memory of Lenora "Doll" Carter, long-time publisher of the "Houston Forward Times," who was just enshrined in the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) Gallery of Distinguished Publishers at Howard University's Founders Library. The enshrinement ceremony is one of the signature events of Black Press Week, an annual celebration in Washington, D.C., attended by NNPA members, partners, sponsors and Black Press contributors. The NNPA is a trade group of more than 200 Black-owned media companies operating in 70 markets in the United States. During her impromptu talk after the enshrinement ceremony, Jackson Lee dropped a bombshell. In talking about the nation's current president, Jackson Lee minced no words. "This is not a government, right now," said Jackson Lee in front of nearly 50 members of the black press, Jackson Lee added: "I'm on the route of impeachment."

Jackson Lee said there are a litany of reasons that should disqualify President Donald Trump as president including his potential ties to Russia and its interference in November's election, but she also said America is unsafe under Trump.

"I'm concerned about our nation. I'm concerned about what happens when we get that call about North Korea in the middle of the night," said Jackson Lee. "You have in office an individual that is unread and unlearned."

Jackson Lee's statement rang loud, because she is also a member of the House Judiciary and Homeland Security Committees.

Some have expressed concerns that an impeachment of Trump would leave the nation under the control of Vice President Mike Pence, who is seen as a staunch conservative with far right-wing views. Jackson Lee does not share in those concerns. At least he understands government," said the Texas representative. "And I'm focused on getting him (Pence) out in 2020, anyway."

Jackson Lee also remembered "Doll" Carter, fondly. "Doll was larger than life," remarked Jackson Lee. Carter lived in Jackson Lee's district.

Insight News is a member publication of the National Newspaper Publishers Association. Learn more about becoming a member at www.nnpa.org.

Representative Eric Johnson Files Bills to Support Women and Minority Owned Businesses



AUSTIN, TX. - Representative Johnson recently filed House Bill 1489 to freeze the pay of any state agency heads who miss their Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) contracting goals. By law, a certain percentage of all state agency contracts are required to be awarded to women and minority-owned businesses, and this bill serves as a necessary accountability measure.

Representative Eric Johnson (D-Dallas) also filed House Bill 671, a

bill that would direct ten percent of the funds from the Texas Enterprise Fund to the Capital Access Fund, which was founded to help banks providemuch-needed financial assistance to women and minority-owned businesses. The State of Texas fails to support HUBs year after year. While I applaud the Governor's efforts to "highlight Texas' successful women entrepreneurs in his State of the State address, there is significant room for improvement with respect to the state's support for minority-owned businesses. These pieces of legislation will provide crucial mechanisms to incentivize the government to invest in these valuable pillars of our communities," said Representative Johnson. For more information or to schedule an interview with Representative Eric Johnson, please contact Troy Williams at (281) 726-5271.

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Sturns Celebrate first year in the ministry



Minister Oliver Sturns and wife Sonya Sturns

Shady Grove C.O.G.I.C. cordially invites you to worship with them as they glorify God and celebrate the first year in the ministry for Minister Oliver Sturns and wife Sonya Sturns. Minister Sturns began his ministry from the pulpit one year ago at the Shady Grove Church of God In Christ, the church in which he

grew up. He was trained under the church pastor, Superintendent Donnie Timmons. Minister Sturns is the speaker for services at the church for each third Sunday morning worship.

The anniversary celebration will be held May 21, 2017 at 600 Cherokee Street, Rusk, Texas 75785 at 3:30PM. The speaker is Rev. K. B. Klater, pastor of Lee Springs Baptist Church Flint, Texas. The public is invited to attend.

Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is a process; working together is success.
~Henry Ford

A Salute To Educators

Linda Martin Skinner



Linda Martin Skinner grew up in Alto, Texas and has given back to her community in many ways. One important way has been time spent in Alto ISD as a teacher. She has touched the lives of Alto children forty years, teaching one year in Head Start and 39 years in Elementary. Although she retired three years ago, she is still vested in the classrooms of Alto as a substitute teacher, teaching, testing and using

her experience where ever needed.

Linda is the daughter of the late Emery and Mae Belle Martin and the widow of the late Rollie Skinner. She is the mother of Crispin, Byron and Craig Skinner.

Serving at St. Thomas Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church as a member of the choir, Trustee Board and Steward Board along with volunteering with the Cherokee County Historical Commission, working with the Booker T. Washington Alumni Association and spending time with family keeps her very busy.

Linda attended Booker T. Washington High School of Alto graduating with the class of 1968. She attended Stephen F. Austin State University graduating in 1971 with a Bachelor of Science Degree and in 1978 with a Master's Degree. Linda has one brother, George Martin.

Tough Questions

Since announcing my run for City Council a few months ago, I have tried to make one thing clear to everyone that I speak to about my candidacy, and that is that my decision to run has never been, nor will ever be, an attempt to discredit my opponent's service to our community. On the contrary, I feel as if anyone who has willingly served in any civic position for any length of time should be commended and respected. This is a sentiment that I have expressed to my opponent directly during one of our own recent conversations.

However, after living in District 1 for nearly a decade and having been a part of so many conversations with others who occupy my district, I am confident that I represent a growing number of individuals who feel as if it is time to start a new community conversation; one that includes difficult and even uncomfortable questions. Questions like:

What is our vision for the future? Are all voices being heard in regards to the decisions being made that will shape the future of our community?

How are we currently supporting our growing number of minority owned businesses in our community, many of which reside in District 1? Are they being supplied with the information and support that they need to remain a viable economic force for us in the future?

Are any initiatives being implemented to increase the level of minority leadership in our community? Who are our future leaders and what are our responsibilities to them?

What actions are being taken to ensure that the citizens of

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✓ Committed

Allison Hale has a passion for service and will work side by side with the citizens of District 1 to ensure that their voices are heard.

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Political Advertisement paid for by Allison Hale for City Council Campaign

District 1 feel safe and adequately supported by city government?

Is my opponent willing to initiate the important conversations, ask the tough questions, and aggressively push for true progress?

These questions are valid, and asking them is, in no way, disrespectful to my opponent. I have lived in District 1 for nearly 10 years now, and I still love it! It is vibrant, culturally diverse, and filled with good and hard working families. They deserve a leader who is willing to go beyond the normal call of duty to ensure that their voices are heard!

It is time to get to work! It is time for a new conversation! Ready to chat?

Allison Hale
ahale4council@yahoo.com

CHRISTIANITY



Holiday symbols help us remember what scripture tells

Are your children in bible study at home or in church? If not, maybe they should be. This is a choice you make that could impact the rest of their lives. one were to search for the word "Easter" you could find its mention in the King James Bible, Acts 12:1-4. There is a lot they don't know that nobody explains, like the rabbit is a symbol of fertility and the "egg" is a symbol of new life, which Jesus brings to us through His death, resurrection and ascension.

one were to search for the word "Easter" you could find its mention in the King James Bible, Acts 12:1-4. Romans 6:3 - 5. Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

The resurrection of Jesus is the culmination of all things meaningful, faith and fact, in establishing a relationship with God.

Whether it is called Easter or Resurrection Sunday is not as important as the event and purpose of the resurrection. However, the timing of the crucifixion and resurrection is significant. While Jesus was admired and praised as a teacher, healer, and for performing miracles, He was put to death on the cross. But God raised Him from the dead. Had the witnesses not believed what they saw, Christianity would not have spread across the globe and remained a profound belief to this day.

The Bible says, In Luke 24:46-48, "the risen Jesus gave His disciples a greater understanding of the resurrection when He told them: "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things." Jesus foretells of His resurrection in John 16; then to one of the doubting witnesses, Thomas, He says the following in John 20:29:

OBITUARIES

Jimmy Lee Polk



Services were held March 25, 2017 at noon at Mount Pleasant CME Church, Rusk, Texas for Jimmy Lee Polk. Rev. Darrell Cranford and Minister Eustacia Hackney were Officiants.

Jimmy Lee Polk, age 61, of Dallas, Texas was called home on March 21, 2017. He was born in Chisolm, Texas to the late Jewel J. Polk and Ola Mae Polk on September 8, 1955. During his young years his family made Rusk their home. He accepted Christ at an early age at Mount Olive Baptist Church in Rusk, Texas. He later united with Spirit of Praise Family Holiness Church of Grand

Prairie, Texas until his passing. He served in the united States Army from 1974-1978. He retired from Max and Ed's Tire Shop in Dallas, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers: Melvin Polk, Buddy Jay Lofton, two sisters: Ola Jean Polk and Mattie Polk. He leaves to cherish his memory a daughter Lavergne Pringle, one grandson Crystian Pringle both of Tyler, Texas; Brother Billy Shedd, Sr. of Desoto, Texas; three sisters: Anna Mae Mitchell, Annie Fay Patton of Dallas, Texas; Minnie Hooper of Rusk, Texas; neices DeAnna Jones, Sonya Polk, Ola Fay Wickware, Mellaine Wickware, Sonji Shedd, Niki Shedd of Dallas, Texas; Carylon Polk, Eustascia Hackney, Kendra Hooper of Rusk, Texas; Nephews: Jimmy Mitchell, Jammie Mitchell, Billy Shedd, Jr. Demitric Larry of Dallas; French Hooper of Rusk, Texas; a host of great neices and nephews, relatives and friends.

Services were under the directions of Golden Gate Funeral Directors of Dallas and burial was at Rusk Memorial Cemetery, Rusk, Texas.

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Dallas Homeless

continued from page 4

The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) is your only homeless entitlement grant that comes directly to you from HUD," Mitchell said. "So when you look at the other grants, the purposes are different."

In the 2016-17 budget, the City of Dallas allocated more than \$1.1 million for numerous Dallas-based agencies serving the homeless population from its ESG grant funds.

though the city itself does not administer the majority of it.

Other resources available locally include Continuum of Care Grants from HUD of more than \$16.6 million. The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) provides another grant of more than \$1 million and an additional \$811,130 through the TDHCA Homeless and Housing Services program. A \$1.5 million contribution comes from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. Finally, another \$6.5 million is spent via various Dallas County programs.

Currently, city staff is working on recommendations as set forward by the Dallas Commission on Homelessness. These recommendations include: increasing targeted street outreach

housing placement and support services; conversion to the community-wide coordinated entity and single-system HMIS; facility development and shelter capacity; increasing permanent supportive housing; and preventing homelessness within criminal justice and treatment facilities.

Councilmembers Tiffinni A. Young and Carolyn King Arnold, who represent districts highly affected by the problem, both expressed frustration with the growing numbers of homeless people, and also with the difficulty in finding the right resources on the ground when the problems arise. For those who may want to pitch in a little extra, specifically for the students, there is a donation button available online at the Homeless Education page of the Dallas ISD website (www.dallasisd.org/Domain/109).

The North Dallas Gazette is a member publication of the National Newspaper Publishers Association. Learn more about becoming a member at www.nnpa.org.

SEO KEYWORDS: Dallas Independent School District's Homeless Education program, homelessness in Dallas, national, David Wilfong, Continuum of Care Grants from HUD, Dallas Housing Director Bernadette Mitchell

My name is Cocaine

(anonymous)

My name is Cocaine - call me Coke for short.
I entered this country without a passport.
Ever since then I've made lots of scum rich.
Some have been murdered and found in a ditch.
I'm more valued than diamonds, more treasured than gold.
Use me just once and you too will be sold.
I'll make a schoolboy forget his books.
I'll make a beauty queen forget her looks.
I'll take renowned speaker and make a bore.
I'll take a mother and make her a whore.
I'll make a schoolteacher forget how to teach.
I'll make a preacher not want to preach.
I'll take all your rent money and you'll get evicted.
I'll murder your babies or they'll be born addicted.

Poetry Corner

I'll make you rob and steal and kill.
When you're under my power you have no will.
Remember my friend my name is "Big C".
If you try me just one time you may never be free.
I've destroyed actors, politicians and many a hero.
I've decreased bank accounts from millions to zero.
I make shooting and stabbing a common affair.
Once I take charge you won't have a prayer.
Now that you know me what will you do?
You'll have to decide, It's all up to you.
The day you agree to sit in my saddle.
The decision is one that no one can straddle.
Listen to me, and please listen well.
When you ride with cocaine you are headed for hell !!!

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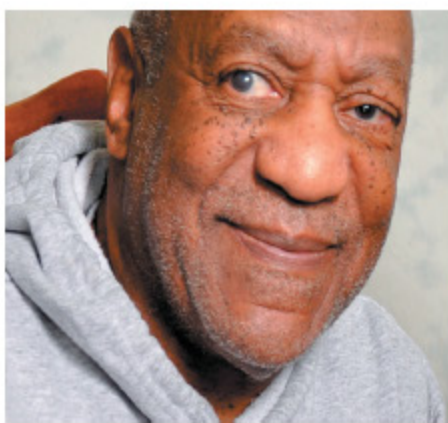
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BILL COSBY FINALLY BREAKS HIS SILENCE

Bill is blind

By Stacy M. Brown (NNPA Newswire Contributor)



Bill Cosby

Wyatt said that his star client has decided that it's time to talk. Together, Wyatt and Cosby said they grew comfortable that the NNPA Newswire would be more interested in "facts over sensationalism."

Cosby has shunned most media inquiries, since allegations of sexual misconduct surfaced in late 2014; some of those accusations dated back almost fifty years. In 2015, According to CNN, Cosby was charged with three counts of felony aggravated assault in a case involving Andrea Constand, a former Temple University employee.

Earlier this year, CNN reported that Cosby's, "criminal sexual assault trial will stay in Montgomery County Court in Pennsylvania, but the jurors will come from another Pennsylvania county."

In February, a federal judge dismissed a defamation lawsuit filed against Cosby by accuser Katherine McKee, according to USA Today. "This marks the third defamation lawsuit against Cosby that was

either withdrawn or dismissed recently, prompting some Cosby crowing," USA Today reported. "However, another defamation case against him, filed by six accusers, is still pending in the same federal court in Massachusetts."

While the beleaguered superstar declined to address any of his legal cases, his youngest daughter, Evin felt compelled to speak out.

In a statement, which can be read in its entirety on BlackPressUSA.com, Evin, 40, questioned the veracity of the allegations against her father.

"The harsh and hurtful accusations...that supposedly happened 40 or 50 years ago, before I was born, in another lifetime, and that have been carelessly repeated as truth without allowing my dad to defend himself and without requiring proof, has punished not just my dad but every one of us," Evin said.

Devin T. Robinson X, an actor and renowned poet who's been featured on MTV, NBC, CBS and BET, said that Bill Cosby represents the finest example of someone being found guilty in the court of public opinion without ever facing trial.

"Punishing people before they're convicted in court only seems accurate when it serves a media narrative that doesn't hurt a specific demographic," Robinson said. Dr. E. Faye Williams, the president and CEO of the National Congress of Black Women, Inc., agreed. "If the President of the United States

can go on working in the White House after he has bragged about doing gross, sexually-explicit and abusive things to women, without their permission, then justice requires that Bill Cosby should not be punished, unless he is convicted of crimes," said Williams.

Perhaps, the closest Cosby came to addressing his ongoing legal battles during the interview was when he opened about the true history of America.

"The history about African-Americans is a history of the United States; but the true histories, not the propaganda that is standard in our nation's history books," Cosby said. "The great writer, James Baldwin, said, 'If you lie about me, then you lie about yourself.' The revolution is in the home. There is something about someone saying, 'I didn't know that,' that could cause a change in that person's thinking."

Cosby said he thinks about his illustrious career that, at least for now, has been placed on hold because of the court cases.

Few have achieved the legendary status enjoyed by Cosby. His career has spanned more than six decades and includes a host of best-selling comedy albums and books, gold and platinum records, and five Grammy Awards.

With his role in "I-Spy" in the 1960s, Cosby became the first African-American co-star in a dramatic series, breaking TV's color barrier and winning three Emmy Awards.

Thank you
for your
continued
support!



Walter Session, City Councilman for District II

I have no opponent in this May 2017 election for Rusk City Councilman District II.

I thank you, the citizens of District II, for supporting me over the years with votes and ideas for continued improvement.

I ask you to go to the poles during the election to vote for me and in the city and schoolboard elections.

Early voting April 24th - May 2nd. Regular voting Sat. May 6th.

*Many people
hope to be
elected to
heaven who
are
not even
running for
office!*

LEGAL NOTICE

These Texas Lottery Commission scratch ticket games will be closing soon:

Game #	Game Name / Odds	\$	Official Close of Game	End Validations Date
1811	\$100,000 Cash Overall Odds are 1 in 4.11	\$5	4/8/17	10/5/17
1815	Garland Riches Overall Odds are 1 in 3.89	\$5	4/21/17	10/18/17
1760	Word Games Overall Odds are 1 in 4.08	\$3	4/24/17	10/21/17
1809	Texas A&M University Overall Odds are 1 in 4.70	\$1	5/31/17	11/27/17
1810	The University of Texas Overall Odds are 1 in 4.70	\$1	5/31/17	11/27/17
1776	Cowboys Overall Odds are 1 in 3.99	\$5	5/31/17	11/27/17
1777	Houston Texans Overall Odds are 1 in 3.99	\$5	5/31/17	11/27/17
1813	Hit The Jackpot Overall Odds are 1 in 3.70	\$5	5/31/17	11/27/17

For detailed odds and game information, visit tollottery.org or call 800-375-6116. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. The Texas Lottery supports Texas education and veterans. PLAY RESPONSIBLY. For help with a gambling problem, stopgambling.org. © 2017 Texas Lottery Commission. All rights reserved.



Black Press from page 2

Others have spelled out what the Black Press has brought to the table.

"The New York Times" noted that, well before the Civil War, publications and, more recently, radio and television stations owned and operated by African-Americans have provided an important counterweight to mainstream media, simultaneously celebrating and shaping Black culture—from politics and government to fashion and music.

It all starts with the Black Press and many of its talented and savvy female publishers.

"The Black Press has been the heartbeat of Black America since its inception," said Tatum, publisher and editor-in-chief of the New York Amsterdam News, one of the most influential Black-owned and operated media businesses in the world, which ran its first edition in 1909. "From the abolition movement to the Civil Rights Movement to the Women's Rights Movement, the Black Press has been our voice, a voice not heralded anywhere else."

Tatum continued: "It's a voice so true to itself, that our community still heeds the call today. A voice in many cases owned by women, run by women and nurtured by women."

Mt. Olive Baptist Church

Rusk Texas

Pastor & Wife Appreciation

May 21, 2017-Time: 3:00pm

Speaker -Rev. Jimmy Foreman

West Union Faith Ministry

Rusk, Texas

Pastor: Rev. Jerry

Leviston

& wife Ann Leviston

The public is invited to attend

Texas Informer celebrates 22 years of printing May 2017! Thank you to our readers & supporters!

Friends and love ones remember the late Eddie D'Wayne Harris on his birthday, April 16th.

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Juneteenth Extravaganza

Attention area church youth directors and parents!

There will be a Juneteenth Extravaganza in Rusk in conjunction with the Juneteenth Parade and celebration June 16, 2017 for youth age 3 and up. This will include participation in the talent show or fashion show which will be held Friday night June 16th at the Rusk Junior High cafetorium and taking part in the Parade Saturday June 17th at 11:00A.M.

To register your child or for additional information call Angela Maddox at 903 284-1107 or Roslyn Brown, Cora Session, Terri Franklin, Sonya Baker, Daphne Session, Misty Session, Shinitta Foreman or Kadeshia Jefferson.

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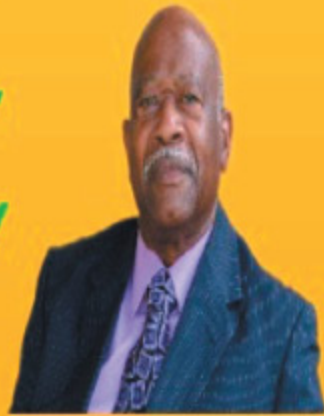
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Election Day May 6, 2017

Early Voting April 24 - May 2

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Success...at last! The ground breaking ceremony was held on March 6th in the City of Wells for the US 69 widening project improving the hurricane evacuation route for 1/3 of Texas. ETCOG partnered in the project by helping secure a \$2.3M loan/grant combo from United States Department of Agriculture and a \$700,000 disaster recovery grant from the Texas General Land Office. ETCOG is proud to partner with TxDOT, USDA, the City of Wells, and Cherokee County on such an important project.