

# TEXAS INFORMER



March 2015  
Volume IXX Number 11

Web: [www.texasinformer.com](http://www.texasinformer.com)  
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P.O. Box 332  
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*Bringing you positive news about local people since 1995!*

## Rusk gets newly renovated library

## Lahoma Sanders brings joy through music



Rusk, TX. -Sunday, March 1st marked the Grand Opening of the newly renovated Singletary Memorial Library downtown Rusk. Work began on the 1.25 million dollar facility January 2014. The 5,800 square feet addition now faces Lone Oak Street with parking in that area. Upon completion, visitors can enjoy a genealogy and community room with seating capacity for 75 to 125, 12 computers to do research, a coffee bar with sandwich cart and an outdoor patio.

## Inside This Issue

105 year old story

What's Cook'n

PineCrest debuts remodeled rehab center

Mary Allen Heritage House

Taking the Right Precautions For A Family Member With Dementia

Speak Out

Selma To Montgomery March 1965

Christianity

Lahoma Sanders of Jacksonville shares her life's enjoyment of music and family  
see page 3



## EDITORIAL COMMENT



Maxine Session

### A Change Is Going to Come

we were the envy of every other class on campus. We had the most handsome and popular boys and, if I must say, the smartest and prettiest girls on campus, but of course, every other class would have said the same thing about their class, if they had been asked..

With so much going on, there was always great expectations and excitement in the air.

Yet, when we left our protected school and home environment, there was the forever present racial discrimination that we had to face. For the most part we had dealt with it with closed mouths and silent response, except to each other.

Our teachers always expressed the point of staying in school and getting a good education because the "world was changing". The principal, W. R. Meador, once said that he would be retiring and going home to Pine Grove to stick his toes in the sand, but we would have to face the challenges ahead. that these changes would bring.

They were right, the world was changing. We could see bits and pieces of that change as it unfolded on the evening news.....listening to KZEY radio station and listening to our parents talk about the violence in Selma and the struggle for the right to vote. ... the persistence of those who knew the right to vote went hand in hand with getting a good education.

As I look back on those times and remember, how it felt to watch people being treated in such an inhumane manner.....it serves to place the spotlight squarely on what we are seeing in the evening news now.

The blood, sweat and tears shed to bring the right to vote to those who could not because of skin color should serve as a reminder that the privilege of being able to vote should not be taken for granted, but should be used at every opportunity.

Changes have come, but more are needed to assure that every American has his or her civil rights.

A must read account of one civil rights struggle:

## Beyond the burning bus

MONTGOMERY, AL — Beyond the Burning Bus: The Civil Rights Revolution in a Southern Town is an account of civil rights history that deserves a retelling. Accounts shared by author Phil Noble bring a timely message on where we've been in the civil rights journey and how blacks and whites have and could work together for the better of their communities.

Anniston, Alabama, is a small industrial city between Birmingham and Atlanta. In 1961, the city's potential for race-related violence was graphically revealed when the Ku Klux Klan firebombed a Freedom Riders bus. In response to that incident, a few black and white leaders in Anniston took a progressive view that desegregation was inevitable and that it was better to unite the community than to divide it. To that end, the city created a biracial Human Relations Council which set about to quietly dismantle Jim Crow segregation laws and customs.

This was such a novel notion in George Wallace's Alabama that President Kennedy phoned with congratulations. The Council did not prevent all disorder in Anniston—there was one death and the usual threats, cross burnings, and a widely publicized beating of two black ministers—yet Anniston was spared much of the civil rights bitterness that raged in other places in the turbulent mid-sixties. Author Phil Noble's account is carefully researched but told from a personal viewpoint. It shows once again that the civil rights movement was not monolithic either for those who were in it or those who were opposed to it.

"Phil Noble, Presbyterian minister extra-ordinaire, belongs to that odd company of folk—all the way back to Moses—who found their life taken up in a struggle for the things of God. Like Moses and his ilk, Noble was going about his business (in his case ministry) when his immediate context, infused with God's purpose, put him front and center in the struggle for racial justice, a struggle he pursued with grace, wisdom, and passion." —Walter Brueggemann, Columbia Theological Seminary

James Phillips Noble is a Presbyterian minister who served as pastor of four churches, the last being the historic First (Scots) Presbyterian Church in Charleston, South Carolina. He served the Presbyterian denomination as Co-President of its Board of Pensions. He is the author of Words and Images That Seep Into the Soul (2013) and Getting Beyond Tragedy (2005). He is now retired and lives in Decatur, Georgia.

*Beyond the Burning Bus: The Civil Rights Revolution in a Southern Town*

James Phillips Noble

NewSouth Books (2003)

ISBN: 978-1-60306-010-3

Pages: 336

Binding: Paperback

Price: \$19.95

Category: History/Civil Rights

Format: Trade Paper, 172 pages  
eBook available for Kindle, Nook, iPad

*Beyond the Burning Bus* is available at NewSouthBooks.Com, Amazon.com, local bookstores, and through other online booksellers.

Happy birthday  
Sherman Johnson  
March 2nd

### Prayer

Dear Lord, thank you for your healing grace and mercy. Teach me to be still, to listen, and to appreciate the blessings you give us daily. In the name of Jesus. Amen



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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](mailto:informernews08@aol.com). Letters must include name of the sender.

*Black History is world history that everyone should know.*



# Lahoma Sanders creates inspiring music

~by Maxine Session

Gospel music is rooted in the spirituals and is a modern form of religious singing that emerged in the 1890's mainly in the Holiness or Pentecostal churches of the urban North and South. Because of the role of C. Albert Tindley who wrote gospel songs in the early 1900's and Thomas Dorsey, who not only wrote many songs, but distributed single sheets of music for sale to singers in churches, the movement spread. Then, at the 1930 National Baptist convention in Chicago, two gospel songs were allowed to be performed. This music was usually accompanied by pianos, tambourines, and drums. The overwhelming enthusiasm for the music broke down the resistance by Baptist and Methodist churches and was the beginning of the singing of these songs in those churches..

Lahoma Sanders is a singer/soloist and choir director who has made beautiful contributions to people's lives through music, and she has lifted the spirits of many congregations with her musical talents. While she is lifting the spirits of others, she is also lifting her own. Music is rooted in her blood. She remembers her mother, Norris Marshall always kept music going in their home where she grew up in Cuney. Her mother is a wonderful singer and

her father, Troy Walker and his late twin brother Roy Walker were a part of a gospel group many years ago with the late Robert Session.

Lahoma has been singing since the age of six. She was the youngest member of the Rock Hill Baptist Church Choir. She led her first song "King Jesus Is All" at the age of eight.

Lahoma worked with Charles Hollie many years ago as the director of the Jacksonville Youth Mass Choir.

Music brought Lohoma and the love of her life, husband Federico, together in 2010. She was a member of St. John Baptist Church, Tyler. After Rose of Sharon Baptist Church of Tyler and St. John Bible Church combined, she began attending Rose of Sharon Baptist Church. Federico was Minister of Music there. She became choir director so, the two of them worked together in the music department.

It was not love at first sight. The two of them were in a transition period in their lives. She says, "At the time we both had and still have a passion for music and the up building of God's Kingdom". As they worked together they became good friends. As the friendship grew, they found many commonalities. The love of all t



Lahoma and Federico Sanders

types of music, the love of God, each has three children from previous marriages, he and her youngest son share the same middle name, some of his childhood friends are also friends that she went to school with and they even share the same birthdate, February 6th. All these commonalities just brought on more conversation and it was as if they had known each other their whole lives. They wew married August 2011 by her good friend and classmate Michael Hollie.

Mr. and Mrs. Sanders currently belong to New Hope Baptist Church, Bullard, Texas under the leadership of Pastor Ray Charles Wren. Lahoma is the choir director and Federico is the Minister of Music.

Federico has been in music since his early teens. He, too, grew up in a musical household. His mother Betty Sanders is a very gifted singer and his father, Elder Edward Sanders is the pastor of Bethany Word of Life Church, Tyler, and a great musician. Fedrico developed a love for and learned to play piano from an old piano that sat in their garage. His older brother Cyo taught him the basics and with much practice he learned to play. Both men have the playing talents of their father. and still grt together to play

and share music with each other.

The Sanders are parents to six children ranging in ages from 28 down to 13., R. L., Latrice, Joseph, Adriana, Kalana and Omar. They also have six beautiful grandchildren and are raising their nine year old granddaughter Ra'Nyia who keeps them on their toes. She has picked up a great interest in music. Last year she sang with the Texas Mass Choir, Youth and Young Adults, under the direction of Betty Smith Rogers, traveling to Fort Worth to perform. Ra'Nyia loves to praise dance and she mimics her grandmother as choir director.

Lohoma is employed by the Cherokee County Appraisal District, Rusk, as Collections Supervisor and has been with the district a total of 22 years as of August of this year. She was hired by Chief appraiser Sid Danner as collections clerk in 1989 under the supervision of the late Cardelia Hassell. In 1996 to 98 she worked for Cherokee County Federal Credit Union, then took off two years and was a stay at home mom.

In 2000 she was approached by Sid Danner's successor Chief Appraiser Lee Flowers and asked if she was ready to get back into the workforce.



Singing group Gift of Love. Members of the group were Federico Sanders, Lahoma Sanders, Peggy Cartwright, Shannon Peoples, Renee Peoples and Lisa Thomas.



**WHAT'S COOK'N**



**Skinnny!**  
Cheesy Chicken and Broccoli-Rice Casserole

Original recipe makes 8 servings

Change Servings

2 cups water

2 cups uncooked instant rice

2 (10 ounce) cans chunk chicken, drained

(10.75 ounce) can condensed cream of mushroom soup 1

1 (10.75 ounce) can condensed cream of chicken soup

1/4 cup butter

1 cup milk

1 (16 ounce) package frozen chopped broccoli

1 small white onion, chopped

1 pound processed cheese food

**DIRECTIONS**

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).

2. In a medium saucepan, bring the water to a boil. Mix in the instant rice, cover, and remove from heat. Let stand 5 minutes.

3. In a 9x13 inch baking dish, mix the prepared rice, chicken, cream of mushroom soup, cream of chicken soup, butter, milk, broccoli, onion, and processed cheese.

4. Bake in the preheated oven for 30 to 35 minutes, or until cheese is melted.

Stir halfway through cooking to help cheese melt evenly.

**“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”**

~Jeremiah 29:11

**A & M Forestry Service Celebrates 100 years**

LUFKIN, TEXAS - The Texas Forestry Association passed a resolution Monday, Feb. 23, 2015, honoring Texas A&M Forest Service for their century of safeguarding Texas forests. “For 100 years, the people of Texas A&M Forest Service have been watching over this state’s forests, improving its health and productivity while working with landowners on sustainable land management practice, and, serving as the lead agency in wildfire suppression and education to prevent, prepare for and protect against wildfire,” said Ron Hufford, Executive Director of TFA. What is now the Texas A&M Forest Service began in 1914, when members of the newly formed trade organization Texas Forestry Association lobbied the state of Texas for the creation of a state agency to protect and grow the natural woodlands in Texas. In 1915, through their efforts, the Texas Forest Service was created

under Texas A&M College. Since then, the Forest Service has made giant strides in protecting Texas’ forests, recognized recently for their technological advances in developing web portals to ascertain the risk of wildfire to a specific location. “We are very grateful for all that the Texas A&M Forest Service has done to promote and protect the forests in this state,” Hufford said. “We look forward to another century of remarkable advancement and continued improvements in forestry in Texas through their efforts.”



*Happy Birthday  
Terri Session Franklin  
March 17th*

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# Twin Evils: Terrorism and Racism

By Benjamin F. Chavis, NNPA Columnist

There are two related violent phenomena in that are now getting renewed public attention and research around the world, as well as considerable debate and denial. The twin evils are terrorism and racism.



languages, born of different races and ethnic groups, belong to different religions. We are here today because we are united against the scourge of violent extremism and terrorism."

It was a welcomed display of a growing,

diverse international coalition of governments and organizations emerging to make public their collective intention to work together to confront violent extremism wherever it exists. Given the changing demographics fueled by the "browning of America," the extremist violence attacking Black Americans and other people of color should be on a decline. On the contrary, there appears to be a national resurgence of racial violence against people of color inside.

Black America has had to challenge and endure centuries of violent acts of extremism in the forms of domestic terrorism and racism. The Ku Klux Klan (KKK) even to this day claims to be a Christian organization. But no one refers to the KKK as Christian extremists or terrorists. Within a week, there will be the 50th anniversary recognition of "Bloody Sunday" in Selma, Ala., where violent law enforcement "extremists" attacked unarmed civil rights marchers who were nonviolently demanding voting rights for Black Americans in 1965.

It is ironic that a new study concerning the systematic lynching of Black Americans was recently released. The study, produced by the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI), was titled, "Lynching in America: Confronting the Legacy of Racial Terror." The findings of the EJI report documented that there were at least 3,959 lynchings of Black Americans in 12 Southern states between the Reconstruction Era and World War II: Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Kentucky, Arkansas, Florida, and Texas. And those were just the documented cases. There were many others that were never documented or

reported in the news media because during that period, racist lynchings were the socially accepted norm and not the exception in the South. That type of extremist terrorism against Black America was commonplace. Yet, there were no international commissions or conferences by major powers to end the practice.

Lynching was the impetus for the creation of the NAACP. As it states on its Website, "The NAACP was formed partly in response to the continuing horrific practice of lynching and the 1908 race riot in Springfield, the capital of Illinois and resting place of President Abraham Lincoln."

Among the founders were W. E. B. Du Bois, Ida B. Wells-Barnett and Mary Church Terrell along with a group of White liberals, including Mary White Ovington and Oswald Garrison Villard. The founding of the NAACP was predated by the DuBois-led Niagara Movement of 1905.

The "Lynching in America" report concluded that "lynching of African Americans was terrorism, a widely supported phenomenon used to enforce racial subordination and segregation. Lynchings were violent and public events that traumatized black people throughout the country and were largely tolerated

by state and federal officials."

Today, the lynching and terrorizing of Black America is also done via the rope of the so-called criminal justice system. Prosecutorial misconduct in the cases of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo. and Eric Garner in New York are contemporary manifestations of lynching. Racially-motivated lethal violence by police officers is another form of extremist terror and violence against Black America that must be stopped – now!

## Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party

Founded at a rally, on April 26, 1964, the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party was SNCC's attempt to create an Alternative Democratic Party in Mississippi. The idea began when SNCC workers attempted to create separate voter registration requirements for Blacks who were otherwise prevented from registering to vote under the rules of the Democratic Party. But the idea soon blossomed into a much more ambitious attempt to challenge the legality of the Mississippi delegation at the Democratic National Convention held that year in Atlantic City, New Jersey. During the summer Project, SNCC workers encouraged 17,000 African Americans to register to vote, although the authorities showed only 1,600 registered.

## TOWN AND COUNTRY BEAUTY SALON

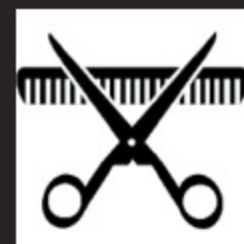
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# Christianity



## Jesus- Teacher and Preacher

As Jesus traveled around the countryside visiting the towns and villages of Palestine, he taught people spiritual truths- how to look at their lives afresh. He told them how they should pray to God and treat other people. He taught in different ways. Sometimes He gave sermons, addressing large crowds. Other times He talked with His disciples. He often taught with parables - short memorable stories that illustrated a particular point He wanted to make. The longest and most important of Jesus's teachings occurred when, according to Matthew, He once addressed a crowd on a hillside. This talk became known as the "Sermon On The Mount" and it forms the heart of Christian teaching. The sermon has five parts to it.

### THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

In the first part Jesus declared that eight types of people would be blessed for the way they lived their lives. These included, those who were merciful, pure in heart and who were peacemakers. The list of the blessed is known as the Beatitudes.

In the second part Jesus told His disciples that they must let their spiritual light shine out. And He reassured them that He had not come to sweep away the Jewish Law but rather He wanted to

complete it with His own teachings. For instance, whereas the Jewish tradition taught that murder was wrong, now Jesus added that "anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgement," too. Similarly, although adultery was against the Law, now anyone who even looked at "a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart". And whereas the Law had declared that a wrong doing could be repaid "eye for and eye, and a tooth for a tooth", Jesus now said that if "someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other other, also." In other words, instead of hating one's enemies, people should love them and "pray" for them.

*John 12: 1-8 and Matthew 5-7. - THE BEATITUDES*

**Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**  
**Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.**  
**Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.**  
**Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.**

**Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.**

**Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.**  
**Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for their's is the kingdom of heaven.**

## Mary Allen Museum con't from page 7

American genealogy, and a children's and a children's learning center. It will also offer traveling exhibitions, art training, school and community education lectures, oral/living history, and classic African American film series. Additionally, the Museum will offer space to host community events. Economically, the restoration and reinvention will benefit the area, however, the most important aspect is that the facility will make visible a facet of African American history which will continue to educate, inspire, and enrich lives in Crockett and surrounding areas

Members of the Mary Allen Museum Board of Directors are Jesselyn Reese - President, Jean Shepherd Vice President, Suzanne Steed Secretary, Nikita Warner Treasurer, Sandra Berry, Assistant Secretary, Gloria Wooten, Steve Lewis, Francine Frazier, Dr. Thelma Douglass, Larry Robbins, Budget & Finance, Lincoln Steffans

Communications, Jefffield Jefferson, Public Relations, Vikktor Ewing.

**Advisory Council members** are Barbara Wooten, Earlene Clebourn and Deleta Curtis-Jones.

All gifts to the Mary Allen Museum of African American Art and History, Inc. are tax-deductible to the extent of the law. Please consider a gift at one of the following levels:

- \* Legacy \$10,000.
- \* Visionary 5,000.
- \* Benefactor 1,000.
- Patron 500.
- Partner 250.
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### Contact:

**Mary Allen Museum**  
 P. O. Box 324  
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# Mary Allen Museum of African American Art & History



Mary Allen Heritage House Office and Collections Center located at 1503 South 4th Street, Crockett, TX.

Ms. Megan Kathryn Wilson was the lecturer for the "Tour of Conversations: African and African American Artworks Dialogue" Friday February 20, 2015 at the Mary Allen Heritage House in Crockett, Texas.

For the 12:00 Noon session, participants brought a brown bag lunch, and enjoyed hearing "the Importance of Local History Museums in the Era of National African American & Civil Rights Museums."

She also spoke at the 5:30 p.m. "After Work Lecture". Ms. Wilson has her Master of Arts in Art and Museum Studies.

The board of directors of The Mary Allen Museum of African American Art and History, Inc. has partnered with the Houston County Historical Commission, Crockett Economic Development & Industrial Corporation and Preservation Texas, Inc. to establish the Mary Allen Heritage House located directly behind Angelina Community College, within the Crockett Industrial Park Subdivision. Their mission is to collect, preserve, and share the historical experiences and cultural heritage of African Americans by restoring Mary Allen Hall and landscape

as a museum, to provide art and history exhibits, and educational resources for schools and community organizations. To serve as a regional and national tourist attraction.

### History of Mary Allen Seminary/College

In 1871, Rev. Samuel Fisher Tenney established a Sabbath school for African American children in the Presbyterian Church, U. S. The school was named Crockett Presbyterian Church Colored Sabbath School from 1871 to 1875, Mofatt Parochial School from 1875 to 1885, and Mary Allen Seminary from 1886 to 1933. Extension education in the county was also conducted by young African American students themselves. Richard H. Allen, secretary to the denomination's Board of Missions for Freedmen, was invited to Crockett. Prominent businessmen joined Tenney in his efforts, and the Crockett community offered a grant of then acres on a hilltop plot north of the city. Allen's wife, Mary Esther Allen, actively promoted the boarding school through the Women's Executive Committee of the Board of Missions for Frwrdmen. When Mrs. Allen died suddenly, the Board agreed that the official name of the school should be Mary Allen Seminary. In 1933 the school changed its name to

In 1942 the Crockett Chamber of Commerce proposed that the property of Mary Allen Junior College be donated toward a state college and T Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. approved this proposal, however, it failed and the property was sold. The school reopened in 1944 under the control of the Missionary Baptist Convention of Texas and was fully operational until September 1976..

Mary Allen College became a beacon of hope in Crockett. Established in Crockett, Texas in 2000, the Mary Allen Museum Board has worked tirelessly to restore "Mary Allen Hall/ Administration Building, which is the remaining building of the college. The property was purchased from Stowe Lumber Company in 2001 with a matching grant from the Texas Historical Commission. Directors solicited donations and conducted fundraisers to contribute toward the \$17,000. neede to match the grant.

The museum will provide an art and history museum as well as an interpretive center, house "local artifacts and memorabilia of Mary Allen Seminary/College and Alumni, and legacies of other African Americans. It will offer writing writing and genealogy workshops, a library of local African

Continue page 6

Everything that we see is a shadow cast by that which we do not see.  
~ Dr. Martin Luther King

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# Recognition given for achievements in life



Pictured are memers of a new social club, Jacksonville called Street Heat Diamonds special guests of the event sponsor. Pictured Resha Golden, Kenya Golden, Tameka Brooks, Erieka Caba, Cangela Cook and Sharday Thrikill .



Pictured are Jessica Bolton - teacher, Jeremy Bolton - coach/teacher, Maxine Session , retired teacher, principal & administrator, Larry Dearman, Asst. teacher, and Jennifer Dearman.



Pictured are Rev. Jerry Leviston retired R. N., Ann Leviston, R.N., Katy Session, LVN, Tasha Griffith , LVN, Armistia Sanders , LVN and Teresa Franklin , RN.

Rusk, TX. - On Saturday, February 28, 2015 an "Honoring Achiements in Life " event was held at Rusk Junior High Cafetorium to recognize local Rusk, Jacksonville and Alto teachers and nurses and to encourage a youth group called East Texas Jazzy Dolls of Essenze. Armistia Sanders was mistress of ceremony. The more than 20 young people present participated in "Walk the Run Way", a fashion show. The East Texas Jazzy Dolls of Essence performed dance routines.

Words of encouragement were given to the youth from the Street Heat Social Club and everyone was treated to dinner.

The East Texas Jazzy Dolls of Essence is a competition ready dance group that was begun February 0f 2014. They compete with dance groups in the East TEXAS Area. Cangela Mallard Cook is the group sponsor.



Ronny Claiborn presented certificate for achievement



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Pastor: Rev. G. Harrison  
127th Church Anniversary  
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Rev. Lyons Speaker  
Goodwill Baptist Church  
Lufkin, Texas

**New Community****U.M.C.**

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**Mt. Olive  
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Pastor's Installation for Rev. Jerry  
Leviston and wife Anne  
Sunday, March 15th - 3:00pm

Installation conducted by Rev.  
Mertis Bartley II, DDM  
Tyler, Texas 75701

**BLOUNT CHAPEL  
BAPTIST CHURCH**

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Pastor's Appreciation  
Sunday March 15th - 3:00pm  
for  
Pastor Rev. W. D. Brown & wife



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

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## POETRY

### My Hair is Nappy

~by W. Carwell

Like the shadows over the cotton fields all spread out over the land, The tightness of my hair complements the color of my hands.

Resistance, unyielding is the way my hair is paved which complements the struggles of my people in the days when they were slaves.

No waves, nor curls represent this crown of glory, my ethnicity is evident when you wonder about my story.

This is my birth mark, my kiss from heaven, my line drawn in the sand, I'm an African queen but most importantly inside and out a beautiful human.

My hair is nappy

### Destiny

~by Jill Darden

Destiny and I had a wrestling match.

I pinned her down, took the key to the latch and almost opened the door.

She wrapped her rules around my neck and made me sit as she spat steps and sequence,

series and time reaping and sowing, waiting in line.

With key in hand, she paused and said,

All things in time, not a moment before It's so your benefit that I guard this door

## Lahoma from page 3

She was hired as Assistant Supervisor of Collections under Brenda Martin. Brenda retired and Lahoma was promoted to Collections Supervisor. Lahoma says, "Both Cardelia and Brenda were wonderful supervisors and really knew their 'stuff'. Their shoes can never be filled, but I pray that I make them proud." She says that collections can be tough. They collect for ten different entities now (not including the county) that they must answer to as well as the taxpayer. She says times are tough and they realize that. They try to assure everyone that the appraisal district staff are just people like everyone else. They pay taxes just like other taxpayers, so they understand. She went on to say, "It is important to go to school board meetings and city council meetings when the budgets are being set. Calculations of taxes are based upon the rates set by these entities and multiplied by the values that are assessed by the Appraisal District. A certain amount of monies must be generated to accommodate budgets. The only

way for the taxpayer to know what is going on is to go to these meetings."

Federico is a clerk at the Rusk Post Office. He has worked for the United States Postal Services about 17 years. He started at the processing center in Tyler. When the announcement came that they were shutting it down, he was given the opportunity to bid on other positions. He placed fourteen bids. While he was bidding, she was fasting and praying. Her prayers were answered. Federico was placed in the Rusk Post Office as opposed to having to drive two hours one way to other Post Offices or processing centers that had opened.

Lahoma is the oldest of four children and grew up in Cuney, Texas. "I give my mother credit for where I am in life today," She says. "She raised me to love and fear God as well as to be independent. I thank God that I am not hindered and do not have to hide my Christian beliefs at any point or place in my life." The Sanders live in Jacksonville. They bring uplifting music each Sunday morning to the congregation at New Hope Baptist church in Bullard, Texas.



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## PineCrest debuts remodeled rehab center and names Dr. Roy Guse Rehab Medical Director

Short term and long term transitional rehabilitation services now include "pre-hab"

LUFKIN—Dr. Roy Guse, an orthopedic surgeon who has practiced in the area for more than 17 years, joins Dr. Jansen Todd as Medical Director for PineCrest Healthy Living Community. Dr. Guse will more specifically provide medical direction for the newly remodeled rehabilitation center as their Rehab Medical Director.

Dr. Guse will retain his practice while he serves in this new role for PineCrest Transitional Rehab. Dr. Guse feels his contribution will benefit PineCrest by establishing a care guidance philosophy and a close coordination of therapy care following medical procedures.

Dr. Guse shares with the PineCrest staff his sharp focus on new Medicare requirements under the Affordable Care Act, which strive to get patients through rehabilitation and back home where they often feel more comfortable as they continue the healing process. As a result, "pre-hab" is now being offered at PineCrest in an effort to ensure a more successful healing process and transition to home sooner.

"Pre-hab helps patients prepare for surgery, so we encourage them to enter physical therapy prior to their medical procedure in an effort to build strength," said Dr. Guse.

Pre-hab therapy improves patients' abilities to push up, get out of bed, sit and stand up with minimal help or without assistance at all. It can be doubly important for patients who live alone and have little or no support network.

Pre-hab also includes a home assessment component prior to the medical procedure to ensure that trip hazards are eliminated, mobility issues are addressed and shower safety conditions are secure.

"Our focus is on achieving shorter stays in rehab so we can get people back home where they want to be," said Amy Thomas, PineCrest executive director.

PineCrest's Transitional Rehab features all new rehab equipment, and therapies are provided in separate areas, which allows the entire length of the building to serve as a walking area. The center has also been re-configured to provide a separate entrance for out-patient therapy.

When it officially opens in mid-March, PineCrest will offer the only rehab center in the area devoted solely to short-term rehab. The center will provide the traditional therapies that include physical, occupational and speech and also offer specialty therapies such as VitalStim for addressing swallowing deficiencies. Therapy needs for residents in long-term

skilled nursing care will continue of the Methodist Retirement to be met at PineCrest's Woodland Communities. For more information, Healthcare Center. PineCrest is a member contact Amy Thomas at 936-634-1054.

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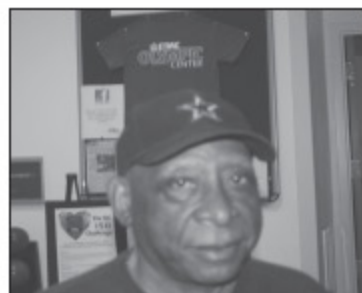
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**SPEAK OUT!**

Two hotly-debated gun bills are one step closer to possibly becoming law in Texas. Campus carry and licensed open carry bills were approved by the Senate State Affairs Committee Thursday evening. "With the new license, a person could either carry concealed or openly as long as the openly-carried gun is in a shoulder or belt holster," said Estes. "The requirements for getting and keeping the new license would be the same as they are now for a concealed handgun license, including a criminal background check, the mental health requirements and handgun proficiency course." **What do you think about openly carrying a hand gun or wearing one in a holster on your hip? The following people speakout!**



H. R. Waggoner



Sam O'Neal



Lee Carpenter



Adrian Silmon

First I believe that everyone has the right to own and bare arms. Also, I believe that everyone has the right to protect themselves and their properties. However, I think that carrying fire arms give people a false sense of security. Guns are made to kill and using them as a threat can lead to serious consequences. Too often disagreements are settled by deadly force, instead of agreeing to work things out in a peaceful manner. Guns are great for combat but not good for the average citizen to carry on a daily basis. Most citizens are

With all the things going on around us, in this day and time, the licensed open carry of hand guns in the hands of responsible people would be a good thing. It should make the "BAD GUY" of criminal think twice about doing something wrong.

The big thing though, we must respect one another.

not properly trained or qualified to make the best decision with their gun....and this is very frightening to me.

Open carry is totally ridiculous. It's unnecessary and would lead to more death and destruction in this state.

If you haven't been convicted of any felonies and you meet the required guidelines as far as training and having a license, then you should be able to carry a gun just like a police office.



Larry Wofford

It's not a good law. There are too many people with anger management problems. If they have a gun handy when there is, "what they call a problem", they'll take it out and shoot you.



Shun Fry

Only law enforcement officers should wear guns on their hips. A gun will change the whole attitude of some people and give them nerve to act without thinking.

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*I try to do the right thing at the right time. They may just be little things, but usually they make the difference between winning and losing.*

~Kareem Addul

Jabbar

## LEGAL NOTICE

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

Game #	Game Name / Odds	\$	Official Close of Game	End Validations Date
1655	Happy Holidays Overall Odds are 1 in 4.40	\$1	4/29/15	10/26/15
1633	Twisted Bingo Overall Odds are 1 in 3.54	\$3	4/29/15	10/26/15
1634	Bonus Cashword Overall Odds are 1 in 3.45	\$3	4/29/15	10/26/15
1656	Holiday Gold Overall Odds are 1 in 3.83	\$5	4/29/15	10/26/15
1580	50X The Cash Overall Odds are 1 in 3.06	\$10	4/29/15	10/26/15

For detailed odds and game information, visit [tdottery.org](http://tdottery.org) or call 1-800-37LOTTO. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. The Texas Lottery supports Texas education. © 2015 Texas Lottery Commission. All rights reserved.





# 105 Year Old Secret

by Felix Green



Felix Green



Texas Historical Marker



John Anderson Pierson

on the 100year anniversary of the Massacre. E.R. Bills recently wrote the book, "The 1910 Slocum Massacre" in which I volunteered pictures of my granduncle and grandfather. Due to these reminders and the efforts of Mrs. Hollie-Jawaid, The Texas Historical Commission approved the request to construct a marker commemorating the 1910 Slocum Massacre on January 29, 2015. However, the process of writing the inscription, choosing the material, construction and placement will take time before the dedication.

One-hundred and five years ago, there was a massacre in Slocum, Anderson County, Texas. The 1910 Slocum Massacre was just that, innocent people were murdered basically behind a lie for land. I never knew how my grandfather (John Anderson Pierson)lost his left leg. It was a well-kept secret and no one even spoke of the incident. After twenty-three years of research, I was finally able to verify what had happened. Newspaper articles were written in 1910 but other names were

(This is an example of markers that have been erected at various places in Texas). listed as being killed or injured .An interview of my cousin Elvie Ewell of Frankston, Texas by Mrs. Maxine Session in 1998 included the names of my grandfather, my granduncle and other cousins of which two were killed. Mrs. Ewell told of how they had to hide in thecottonfieldsandleave their home in Slocum and travel to Palestine. From Palestine they proceeded to Frankston, (all in the samecounty).



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Stanley Johnson March 2nd  
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# Health

## Taking the Right Precautions For A Family Member With Dementia

Modifications Help Create A Home That's Safe and Supportive  
~ by Kerry Mills

Not every person struggling with dementia lives in a nursing home or assisted-living facility.

In fact, more than 15 million Americans – usually family members or friends – provide unpaid caregiving to people with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia, according to a 2014 report by the Alzheimer's Association.

Although it's wonderful so many are willing to assume that responsibility, it's also important they take steps to make sure the home is a safe place, says Kerry Mills, co-author with Jennifer Brush of the book "I Care: A Handbook for Care Partners of People With Dementia." ([www.ngagingalzheimers.com](http://www.ngagingalzheimers.com))

Part of that is to focus on potential hazards. The concept is not unlike new parents making a house "childproof." Many of the concerns are similar, such as stairs, electrical sockets, sharp objects and swimming pools. At the same time, it's easy to go too far, Mills said. Ideally, the environment for the person with dementia should be as unrestricted as possible. "For example, if your loved one enjoys cooking for a hobby and can safely cut and peel vegetables, then by all means, encourage it," Mills says.

Mills suggests several ways to

make a home safer for someone with dementia.

- For the front and back doors. Use bells on the doors, motion sensors that turn on lights or alerts, or other notifications that make the care partner aware when someone has gone out. Add lamps or motion-activated lighting so people can see where they are going when they are entering or leaving the house. "Another way to discourage someone from wanting to leave the house is to make sure that he or she gets plenty of outside exercise whenever possible," Mills says.

- For stairways and hallways. Add reflective tape strips to stair edges to make stairs more visible. Remove obstacles, such as mats and flowerpots, to minimize risks of falls on or by the stairs. Also, install handrails in hallways and stairways to provide stability, and install a gate on the stairway to prevent falls. Improve the lighting around hallways and stairs by installing more ceiling fixtures or wall sconces.

- For the bathroom. Install grab bars and a raised toilet seat to help both the individual with dementia and the care partners so they don't have to lift the person on and off the toilet.

Add grab bars inside and outside the tub, and a non-skid surface in the tub to reduce risks of falls. You can also add colored tape on the edge of the tub or shower curb to increase contrast and make the tub edge more visible.

Lower the water temperature or install an anti-scald valve to prevent burns, and remove drain plugs from sinks or tubs to avoid flooding.

- For the possibility the person becomes lost. Provide your loved one with an identification or GPS bracelet in case he or she wanders. Label clothes with the person's name, and place an identification card in his or her wallet with a description of the person's condition. Notify police and neighbors of the person's dementia and tendency to wander. Kerry Mills, MPA, is an expert in best care practices for persons with dementia both in the home and in out-of-home health care residences and organizations.

## East Texas Pro Logger Training

LUFKIN, TEXAS - The Texas Pro Logger Training, hosted by the Texas Forestry Association (TFA) will begin April 9, 2015, at the Texas Forestry Service Cudlipp Training Center and Angelina College Community Services Center in Lufkin, Texas.

The workshops are designed to promote sustainable forestry among those in the logging industry, including logging contractors as well as foremen and foresters. Sessions will begin Thursday, April 9, 2015 at 1 p.m. and will last through the afternoon on Saturday, April 11, 2015. Topics include Best Management Practices, Business Management, Wildlife, Special Sites, who hold the Pro Logger status to maintain safety recertification. Endangered Species, and ends with a safety training session, allowing those Cost for the training is \$40 per person per workshop, or a total of \$160 for the entire weekend. Seating is limited and early registration is required. To find out how to register, please visit the TFA website at [texasforestry.org](http://texasforestry.org) or call 936-632-8733.

In order to receive designation as a Texas Pro Logger, all four courses must be attended and continuing education must be taken yearly to maintain that status.

The training is sponsored by the State Implementation Committee, the TFA, Texas A&M Forest Service and the Texas Logging Council, and exists to promote forest stewardship through logger training, landowner outreach and public awareness.

Happy Birthday  
Shirley Freeney Jones  
March 8th

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# Selma To Montgomery March 1965



*50 years later,  
our march for justice continues.*

It's 2015, but voting rights continue to be in peril for rural, older, college-enrolled, disabled, and black and brown voters. Those who live in states with a documented history of voter suppression now face new laws aimed at keeping our most vulnerable populations away from the polls.

Today, thousands of civil rights leaders and activists like you are gathering in Selma to kick off a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the historic Selma-to-Montgomery March.

And while we commemorate the anniversary of this great march, we must also remember that our rights are still not secured—Selma is now. On Saturday, exactly 50 years after “Bloody Sunday,” President Barack Obama will

make a special address to honor the lives lost, the courage displayed, and the revolutionary results of this day in our history. The three Selma to Montgomery marches in 1965 were part of the Voting Rights Movement underway in Selma, Alabama. By highlighting racial injustice in the South, they contributed to passage that year of the Voting Rights Act, a landmark federal achievement of the 1960s American Civil Rights Movement. Activists publicized the three protest marches to walk the 54-mile (87 km) highway from Selma to the Alabama state capital of Montgomery as showing the desire of African-American citizens to

exercise their constitutional right to vote, in defiance of segregationist repression. Southern state legislatures had passed and maintained a series of discriminatory requirements and practices that had disenfranchised most of the millions of African Americans across the South since the turn of the century. The African-American group known as The Dallas County Voters League (DCVL) launched a voters registration campaign in Selma in 1963. Joined by organizers from the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), they began working that year in a renewed effort to register black voters. Finding resistance by white officials to be intractable, even after the Civil Rights Act of 1964 ended legal segregation, the

DCVL invited Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and the activists of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) to join them. SCLC brought many prominent civil rights and civic leaders to Selma in January 1965. Local and regional protests began, with 3,000 people arrested by the end of February.

With Governor Wallace refusing to protect the marchers, President Johnson committed to do so. The third march started March 21. Protected by 2,000 soldiers of the U.S. Army, 1,900 members of the Alabama National Guard

under Federal command, and many FBI agents and Federal Marshals, the marchers averaged 10 miles (16 km) a day along U.S. Route 80, known in Alabama as the “Jefferson Davis Highway”. The marchers arrived in Montgomery on March 24 and at the Alabama State Capitol on March 25.[8] With thousands having joined the campaign, 25,000 people entered the capital city that day in support of voting rights.

The route is memorialized as the “Selma To Montgomery Voting Rights Trail,” and is designated as a U.S. National Historic Trail.

It serves as a reminder of just how important the right to vote is to the American way of life and democracy.

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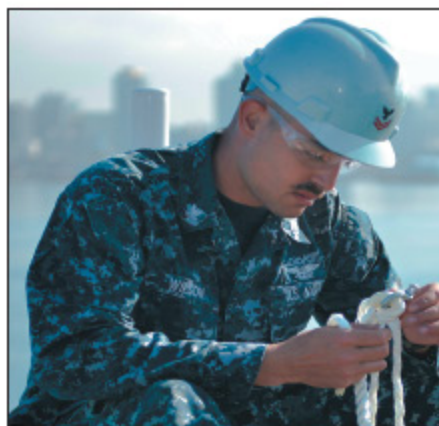
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## Palestine native Serving his country



SANDIEGO(Feb.26,2015)Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) 2nd Class Randall Wilson, a native of Palestine, Texas, ties a safety line onto a shackle aboard the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76). Reagan is homeported in San Diego and is undergoing a Planned Incremental Availability maintenance period at Naval Base Coronado. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Cody Hendrix/Released)

2nd Class Randall Wilson

## HIWAY 80 RESCUE MISSION, GATEWAY TO HOPE ENTER AGREEMENT

Hiway 80 Rescue Mission Ministries and the board of directors for Gateway to Hope have joined forces to allow Hiway 80 Rescue Mission to operate the Gateway to Hope facility for a six month time period. We are working together to establish the particulars of this arrangement. This process involves determining the date that Gateway to Hope will reopen to provide services for the local homeless population.

"We understand that Gateway to Hope provides essential help to homeless men and women in the Tyler community. Hiway 80 Rescue Mission wants to continue and enhance those assistance efforts," said Rev. Eric Burger, Executive Director for Hiway 80 Rescue Mission. "We are in

the process of working out the details of this agreement. We will announce this information to the Tyler community as soon as our course of action is finalized."

Hiway 80 Rescue Mission Ministries has been serving the homeless and the needy in East Texas since 1955. The Mission provides rehabilitation for homeless men, women and children in crisis through the Men's Shelter and Women & Families Shelter in Longview and the Tyler Outreach Office.

The Mission is a non-denominational, Christian, social services organization. For more information, please contact Eric Burger, Executive Director of Hiway 80 Rescue Mission, at 903-759-8101. Access the Mission website at: [www.hiway80rm.org](http://www.hiway80rm.org).

# Building the Future of East Texas! Now in Our 60th Year!

When Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."  
~John 8:12

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