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Magnificent Male Menu
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TEXAS INFORMER

May 2012
Volume VXi I Issue Number 1

Web: www.texasinformer.com
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P.O. Box 332
Rusk, Texas 75785

Texas Informer
Celebrating 17 years
with this issue

Kimberly Clark Anderson County Assistant DA

Fair on the Square

Downtown Rusk Thursday -
Saturday May 24 -26
Starts 4:00PM Thursday Dollar
Night with all rides \$1.00
Friday 4:00 PM Street Dance
Saturday 8:00AM - 5K Run



Attorney At Law Kimberly Chonda Clark poses in front of the State of Texas Seal in the Anderson County Courthouse, where she recently began job duties as Assistant District Attorney. Read more about this fascinating young lady on page 3.



Kierra Hart to graduate Alto
High School class of 2012
Valdictorian (see page 4)

The Cherokee County Juneteenth
Parade has been scheduled for
Saturday, June 16th to begin at
11:00AM downtown Rusk, Texas.

There will be a picnic in the I. C.
Conley Park immediately following
the celebration. Tracy Session and
Louis Sturns of Fairview will be
speakers.

EDITORIAL



Maxine Session

The first issue of the Cherokee County Informer, now Texas Informer, was printed May 1995. This month we celebrate our 17th Anniversary. A great big thank you goes out to the many advertisers who have supported us along the way, to our faithful readers and to family members who give support everyday. Most of all we thank God! We count it a big blessing! This month so far we have had 20,000 visitors to our website.

Just a reminder that the Bradford All School Reunion will be held the weekend of June 15th and 16th.

Remember: Be carefull how you use your priceless time...it's irreplaceable!

HappyMother'sDaytoallthewonderful moms who spend time making the family happy. As the heartbeat of the family, you have a loving but sometimes, demanding role to play. Again, HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

Veterans New Public Transportation Launched

Kilgore, TX - EasTexConnects, a transportation coordination committee administered by ETCOG, announces a new mobility program designed to give individuals in East Texas a way to get to the DFW area by using public transit options. EasTexConnects has declared Thursday, May 10th, Interconnectivity Day and has partnered with veterans organizations in East Texas to offer "Basic Training," an accompanied walk through of the program, to a group of 25 veterans giving them the chance to visit the VA Hospital in Dallas. We are currently targeting veterans with this program, because it eliminates the need to depend on friends or family to drive them two hours or more one way to Dallas for

an appointment or an afternoon on the town, and get them there for less money than if they took a private car. Public transit systems are already in place, and can be used by anyone. Our Basic Training will show folks how to use public transportation," said John Hedrick, Director of Transportation at ETCOG.he kickoff event, which will feature the veterans traveling from several East Texas cities (Marshall, Longview and Mineola) to Amtrak stations, taking Amtrak to Dallas, and then DART to their Dallas destinations (stopping at the Dallas VA Hospital), and then returning to East Texas without having to ask anyone for a ride.

Letters to the Editor

Texas Shows it's Prejudice in 2012

To the Editor;

Ten years ago two men were involved in a series of crimes that led to murder. Both men received the death penalty for their actions.

These two men were Beunka Adams, a young black man and Richard Cobb, a young white man. The state of Texas executed Adams (April 26, 2012) after they overturned a delay ordered by a Federal Judge. The delay could have been ordered because Adams testified over and over again that he was not the trigger man that claimed the life of one of the victims involved, yet they (the state of Texas) rushed his execution to the extent that they overturned the judge's order.

The other man, Cobb, is still on death row with no scheduled execution in sight. He could live ten or more years, or not be executed at all. The Justice System showed favoritism at a time that directly caused (to loose) an innocent man's life.

Beunka apologized for the victims's family for the wrong things he had done and asked for forgiveness, but he did not commit murder.

You CAN be branded something you're not!

Beunka's Family and Uncle Mike Williams

RHS Class Reunion A Success

Maxine,

Words cannot express my gratitude for your invaluable assistance in helping to get the word out about our recent class reunion.

It was an overwhelming success (so much so, we plan to do it again in three years) !

AND to anyone, or any organization, planning a gathering, the RHS Class of 1970 HIGHLY recommends the KOA in Rusk. EXCELLENT facility with staff catering to your every need, from decorating to cooking and serving .

Again, we so appreciate your advertising for us. Pray the upcoming Bradford Reunion is just as successful AND FUN.

Many Blessings,
Darlene (Beasley) Pruett
Abilene

LEGAL NOTICE

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




GAME #	GAME NAME / ODDS	\$	Official Close of Game	End Validates Date
1361	Triple 7's - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.00	\$5	05/13/12	11/29/12
1388	3 Times Lucky - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.68	\$3	05/21/12	11/17/12
1380	Groovy Cash - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.25	\$5	05/25/12	11/21/12
1396	Emerald 7's - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.28	\$5	06/02/12	11/29/12
1197	Set For Life - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.96	\$10	07/04/12	12/31/12
1310	Triple Your Money - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.66	\$2	07/04/12	12/31/12
1322	Funcky 6's - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.87	\$5	07/04/12	12/31/12
1333	Break The Bank - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.80	\$2	07/04/12	12/31/12
1363	Dallas Cowboys - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.67	\$5	07/04/12	12/31/12
1364	Houston Texans - Overall Odds are 1 in 3.66	\$5	07/04/12	12/31/12
1379	Gold Class - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.34	\$1	07/04/12	12/31/12
1382	Happy Hearts Cash - Overall Odds are 1 in 4.73	\$2	07/04/12	12/31/12

For detailed odds and game information, visit tlottery.org or call 1-800-37LOTTO. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. The Texas Lottery supports Texas Education. ©2012 Texas Lottery Commission. All rights reserved.

Happy Birthday to:

- *Jessie Burley
May 17th
- * Mary Session
May 3rd
- *Krystal Carter
May 1st
- Joel McGowan
May 22nd
- Lula Perry
May 18th



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Kimberly Clark Anderson County Assistant DA

Cover Story by Maxine Session

According to the U.S. Census, in 1930, there were only 1247 black lawyers in the entire United States out of a total number of 160,605 lawyers. Of the 1247, 1223 were male and only 24 were female.

Kimberly Chonda Clark is a 2003 Rusk High School graduate who has launched her career path from the beautiful hills of East Texas,

Some people sit passively by and endure the ills of the world while she chose to actively fight against them. She chose to become an attorney.

Her longtime dream and steps of preparation has been to land an appointment to the Supreme Court of the United States of America. To this day there has never been an African American female to sit in this position.

Born in Las Vegas, Nevada, she and her parents Charles and Shirley Clark moved to Texas when she was a small child.

Being an avid reader, Kimberly excelled in school from elementary through high school, academically as well as athletically. First she thought of becoming a medical doctor but, growing up in Rusk, she had never seen a black doctor.

By the time Kim entered high school her cousin Daphne had graduated law school and become an attorney. She decided, well I can do that too. At that time she began formulating a plan to start as an attorney with the goal to become a Supreme Court Justice. Coming from a now single parent home, she had to figure out how to pay for the years of education this required. Kimberly graduated with distinguished honors at place number six in her class of 118 at Rusk High school, earning thousands of dollars in academic scholarships. "It was hard to be in the top ten in high school", she said, but I

kept my eyes focused. A lot of people helped me along the way. There was a teacher who had just moved to Rusk, Ms. Peacock, and she helped me with the essays that went along with my applications for scholarships and to UT. I was the only one in my high school class to attend UT, a university with more than 52,000 students during my time of enrollment. I had a goal and I stayed focused on that goal. "

The four years following high school graduation were spent at the University of Texas at Austin. Kimberly excelled there earning a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology: Minor Social Work. She was also a part of the University of Texas Women's Track and Field Team as a Shot -putter.

Kimberly said she just worked hard and prayed hard and everything worked out alright. She prepared for and took the LSAT. When she applied to law school, she did not get the one she wanted here in Texas, but was accepted to The University of Arkansas School of Law in Fayetteville, Arkansas. At first she thought of going to work for a year after graduating UT, but she remembers a conversation with her uncle Walter when he said, time is going to pass either way, but if you are in school, you can be getting that degree. So, after she and her family took one visit to the campus, she packed up a U-haul truck, hooked her little car to the rear, and headed to Fayetteville. Kim said, "When you start on a new journey, its important to always reach out to someone who knows more than you do. There is not always anyone there, but in my case I was lucky, Aunt Daphne guided me through. "

Kimberly excelled in law school making the Arkansas Law Review. She was a quarter finalist in the William H. Barrister's Union Trial Competition, and a W. B. Putman Inn of Court, Pupil.



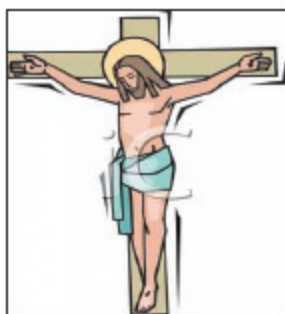
Kimberly Clark, Anderson County Assistant District Attorney

Miss Clark says to other young people who are mapping out educational and career plans, "Make your plans. You don't have to have all the parts in place when you start. Along the way you will meet people who will help you. You can't be afraid to step out. You never know where God will take you to get you there. Stay focused. A lot of things will distract you. You can juggle personal life and family. I never thought I couldn't do it. Once I thought I had failed a class, but got a top grade in it. You get frustrated and it can become overwhelming. As Mama Hazel used to say, some times you can't see the forest for the trees, but in the end it all becomes clear. "

Miss Clark went on to say, I have thought about my goal of getting to the Supreme Court, but when you look at it, the Chief Justices have all been white, all gone to Ivy League schools. They have had the best of the best which has included connections ordinary people don't have, but with the election of President Obama, he appointed

an Hispanic female. The court has been missing someone who has lived the life and must follow the law they make. Things are changing and I'm hopeful that someday my dream will be realized. After all, the first black woman was recently elected President of the State Bar of Texas. It saddens me that a lot of todays young people don't plan their future. People judge you on all sorts of things, but if you work hard and do the right thing, they remember. This helps to determine your character." Attorney Clark graduated UA Law School in 2008 and passed the State Bar of Texas in November 2008. She has had her own private practice in Rusk, Texas and has worked for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. She began her career with Anderson County as Assistant DA in April 2012. She is the daughter of Shirley Burley Clark of Rusk, Texas and Charles Clark of Las Vegas, Nevada. She is the granddaughter of the late Hazel Denman Session and Ms. Adeline Clark of Summerville, New Jersey.

Religion



At the age of 33 Jesus was condemned to the death penalty. At the time,

wounds to His hands and feet and even the spear wound to His side... But do we remember the many wounds Made to his body. A hammerDriving large nails through the wrists, the feet overlapped And a nail hammered through the arches, then a Roman guard piercing His side with a spear. And... Before the nails and the spear, Jesus was whipped and was

Beaten. The whipping was so severe that it tore the Flesh from His body. The beating so horrific that His Face was torn and his beard ripped from His face. The Crown of thorns (two to three inch thorns) cut deeply into His scalp. Most men Would not have survived this torture. He had no more blood To bleed out, only water poured from His Wounds. The Human adult body contains about 3.5 liters

(just less than a gallon) of blood. Jesus poured all 3.5 liters of his blood;

He had three nails hammered into His

Members; a crown of thorns on His head and, beyond

That, a Roman soldier who stabbed a spear into His Chest..

All these without Mentioning the humiliation He passed after carrying His own Cross for almost 2 kilometers, while the crowd spat in his Face and threw stones (the cross beam was almost 30 kg of weight, to which His hands were nailed).

esus had to endure this experience, So that you may have free access to God. So that your sins can be "washed" away.

All of them, with no exception!

Hart Valadictorian from page 1



Alto, Tx.- Kierra Hart , outstanding Alto High S c h o o l student is graduating c l a s s valadictorian

with a Grade Point Average of 100.296. She has also been very busy with extracurricula actives as a cheerleader, basketball player, track team member, Vice president of Student Council, Class President, Home Coming Queen 2011-2012, and Prom Queen. She was voted Best All Around, Most Likely to Succeed, and awarded the Brains & Bronze Metal at the All Sports Banquet .this year. Miss Hart has held the number one spot in her graduating class of 46 students since sophmore year. Since that time she has completed five

Advanced Course College classes.

This school year Kierra and her family have had to stay well focused.

When her parents felt her class ranking was placed in jeopardy by AISD Board action which went against its own policy in awarding extra points for college courses, they filed a law suit at the local level against Alto ISD. The Ruling Judge in the case, Judge Bascom Bently stated that student grades and policy fell under school jurisdiction and therefore he gave no ruling in the case. The Harts then filed in Federal Court and an investigation is ongoing at this time.

Kierra is only the second Alto ISD African American Valadictorian since 1968 when Mary Lou Griffin earned the honor. Kierra's parents are Ann and Chamberlain Hart. Grandparents are the late C. S. Hart and Ira Lee Hart, and Nathaniel and Odessa Buckingham.

Her parents would like to thank the Shady Grove Church of God in Christ, the Brotherhood , Attorney Mike Wallace, other family members and friends who gave them support.



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G. W. Bradford All-School Reunion

Scheduled for June 16th & 17th

Theme: "Cruising Back To The Fifties"

LATE REGISTRATION/PACKET PICKUP

6:00-8:00pm JUNE 16TH -BRADFORD GYM

For additional information contact any committee member or Marie Simmons Ealy Dallas Chapter, Lawanda Waggoner Rasberry Houston or Helen Colston Boston Rusk Alumni/Reunion Committee or Mail Registration to: Bradford Reunion 2012

P. O. Box 942
Rusk, Texas 75785

Registration: \$40.00 per person

Name: _____ Class: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St.: _____ Zip: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ No. People: _____

Ph. No. _____ E-mail: _____

Adams from page 8

to more competent legal counsel, and broader ability to challenge lower court rulings than inmates who are facing imprisonment only.

The "death is different" argument was rejected by the Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, citing several U.S. Supreme Court precedents.

Texas has executed more than four times as many people as any other state since the United States reinstated the death

penalty. The Death Penalty Information Center. Texas executed 13 people in 2011.

Cobb, who was 18 at the time of the holdup, was convicted and sentenced to die in a separate trial eight months before Adams, who was 19 at the time of the crime. Evidence tied the two to a string of robberies that happened around the same time.

Cobb does not yet have an execution date set.



Djuana Walker

Women: Manage Stress Better

We as women are stressed. We are stressed because we are mothers, wives, girlfriends, sisters, aunts, and cousins. We as women interact with different relatives, friends, and co-workers who all have different approaches to life. These constant interactions can be negative and cause stress.

Another stressful circumstance in our lives as women is that traditionally we are caregivers. This is an important concept in all women's lives because not only are we expected to be caregivers because we are female, we ourselves often develop guilt when we perceive that we are not providing caregiving adequately.

We as women should learn to love ourselves first and to care for ourselves well. When we do not care for ourselves well, we can not assist our families, friends, and others well. Prayer, eating vegetables and fruits, exercising, reading, making time for ourselves, and caring for pets are all positive ways to manage the stress in our lives as women.

Prayer. Janet Jackson, a famous singer and actress, states in her latest book, True You, that in the morning she reads scripture and prays. This is great advice for women who are stressed. Find time every morning to read your bible and pray. We as women are stressed. We are stressed because we are mothers, wives, girlfriends, sisters, aunts,

and cousins. We as women interact with different relatives, friends, and co-workers who all have different approaches to life. These constant interactions can be negative and cause stress.

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When you pray, pray for those who despitefully misuse you. When you pray for those who despitefully misuse you, you are really praying for yourself to change enough so to handle this stressful person successfully. Remember, you can not change people. God is a freewill God who allows us to choose and do as we please. People only change when they desire to change not through our efforts. Eat your veggies and fruits. Eat vegetables and fruits such as sweet potatoes, white potatoes, beans, peas, greens, and bananas daily. These foods have the vitamin

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Pam Joyce Bridal Shower Held



L to R - Renee Howard, Euralene Harkless, Lori Stewart, Pam Joyce, bride , Jrene Joyce, (Mother of the Bride), Bridgett Prather, Angela Johnson and Melanie Howard.

A bridal shower for Pamela Joyce and husband to be Tracy was held April 21st at the Holiday Inn in Jacksonville, Texas. Family and friends enjoyed an evening of great food, games and sharing wifely advice with the bride. The wedding will be held May 19, 2012.

Craig Caldwell retiring County Attorney receives plaque



Caesar Roy, Cherokee County Chairman for the Democratic Party, recently presented a plaque to County Attorney Craig Caldwell in recognition of his outstanding service to Cherokee County. Craig is retiring from his position to spend more time with his family.



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



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Piney Woods Fine Arts Association 21st Annual Spring Gala presented



Participants enjoy an evening "AT The Hop". Couples above demonstrate their skill in doing the Stroll, a dance from the 1950s.

Crockett, TX. - April 28th Participants took a stroll back in time as they attended the Pineywoods Fine Arts Association's 21st Annual Spring Gala. The event was held to benefit the Arts in Education for East Texas. Both a live auction and a silent auction were held.

The event was held in the old Crockett High School Gymnasium. A bright fifties theme with decorations, music and food allowed those present to take a stroll down memory lane. Through the organization, scholarships for the Jim Jefferies Summer Arts Workshops are available for Children.

Groves Foundation Presents the Magnificent Male Menu



Vendor mans booth as she waits for customers to make purchases.



Daphne Session, County Attorney, Billy "Hollywood" Groves and Dr. Ruth Watson, Misstress of Ceremony and Foundation board member.

Elect Mike Wallace



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- *Has recent and relevent experience in dealing with school law, and has helped families with school administration matters.
- * Previous small business owner in the East Texas Community
- *The change we need. The voice we deserve.

ELECTION DAY
Saturday, May 12th
RISD Administration Building
203 E. 7th Street
Rusk, Texas 75785

Crockett, TX. - The Groves Educational Foundation, Inc. A Nonprofit Tax-exempt 501(c)(3) Organization presented the 2012 "MagnificentMaleMenu" atCrockett High School on April 28, 2012. Ladies of the community designed and setup tables for the affair while the men preparedfood for the evening's menu. Funds raised will go toward the Groves foundation's mission of addressing the educational needs of the community. Mistress of Ceremony for the event were Dr. Ruth Watson and Dr. Brenda Atchinson. Special words were spokenbyBilly "Hollywood" Groves. Dr. Ianthia Fisher gave the Occasion. A wonderful meal was enjoyed by those in attendance.

T.7"



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Invites You to Attend:

"Doing Business Texas Style" Spot Bid Fair

In conjunction with: DFW Minority Supplier Development Council's ACCESS 2012

Monday, May 14, 2012

1:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Tuesday, May 15, 2012

8:30 am - 11:30 am & 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

The Texas Lottery invites small, historically underutilized, and minority-owned businesses to participate in a spot bid fair held in conjunction with the DFW Minority Supplier Development Council's ACCESS 2012. Businesses will have a unique opportunity to compete for bid awards and network with state agencies and institutions of higher education.

Location:

Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas
500 West Las Colinas Blvd | Irving, TX

This event is FREE of charge!

Bids available for view at:
<http://www.utexas.edu/administration/hub>

For more information contact:

512.471.2850 or
hub-admin@austin.utexas.edu

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Beunka Adams Executed: 243rd Execution in Texas Under Governor Rick Perry



Huntsville, TX.- Adams, 29, said just before he was executed that he was "very sorry for everything that happened," according to Jason

Clark, a spokesman for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

"I am not the malicious person you think I am," Adams said in front of witnesses including Vandever's family members and one of the



surviving victims, according to Clark.

"I was real stupid back then. I made a great many mistakes.

W h a t happened

was wrong. I was a kid in a grown man's world."

Prosecutors said Adams and his co-defendant, Richard Cobb, who was also sentenced to death, had robbed two other people at gunpoint before the convenience store incident.

Adams' case focused attention on the question of whether low-income defendants receive adequate legal representation when they are on trial for their lives.

Adams filed a flurry of motions asking various courts to overturn his death sentence on the grounds that he received inadequate legal representation at his trial. A federal court ordered his

execution blocked earlier this month, but a federal appeals court overruled that decision, and ordered the execution to be carried out. The U.S. Supreme Court on Thursday denied his request for a stay of execution.

Adams used what has become known as the "death is different" argument, claiming that people facing capital punishment are entitled to greater latitude in challenging evidence, the right

See Adams page 5

Cherokee County Veterinary Science Program Orientation Workshop Scheduled

The Cherokee County 4-H and Youth Development program will be sponsoring a program that will help youth begin a career in veterinary medicine. An orientation workshop to introduce the County 4-H Vet-Science program will be held at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, May 23, 2012 in the meeting room of the County Extension Office. The meeting is open to Cherokee County youth from ages 12 to 16 years. County 4-H Agent, Willie Arnwine and 4-H Adult Leader, Michele Partin will lead the workshop. During the session, the pair will outline the curriculum, goals, and objectives of the program; students will then have an opportunity to enroll in the program. Students who enroll will be committing to a 4 to 5-year study course and a career-oriented, job-trained apprenticeship program; meaning throughout the program they will work directly toward a career in veterinary medicine under the direct supervision of a local Veterinarian, formally known as a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM). However, High School students will have the opportunity to accelerate the time frame of the program to as little as 2 years. Every effort will be made to gear the coursework to the grade level of the students.



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Jarvis Christian College adds sports programs

Jarvis Christian College Approves Five New Sports Programs
On April 7, 2012, the Jarvis Christian College Board of Trustees approved five new sports programs for the upcoming academic school year 2012-2013:

- Men Baseball
- Men Track & Field
- Women Track & Field
- Women Volleyball
- Men Soccer

Jarvis Christian College is thrilled to expand its commitment of supporting collegiate athletics with the addition of these new programs of Athletics at 903-730-4890 ext. 2520.

Schools Commission on Colleges to award the baccalaureate degree.

“Bringing back baseball, volleyball, soccer and track & field will enhance our athletic program,” stated Elissa Burwell, Director of Athletics. “We feel that these new programs will have a significant impact on student campus life.”

For more information, please contact Elissa Burwell, Director ABOUT JARVIS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Founded in 1912, Jarvis Christian College is a historically Black College affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

VOTE Oliver Sturns for RISD Schoolboard



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- * Honest
- * Trustworthy
- * Dependable

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Early voting April 30th to May 8th
Regular Voting Day May 12, 2012
7AM -7PM

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A Black Man's Dilemma

"I have found the enemy, and he is us"

I spend a lot of time soliciting voters for the local Cherokee county Democratic candidates, as well as the re-election campaign for President Obama. I am quite disappointed with the response I get from many potential black voters; "I don't vote because "They" are going to do what they want to do any way and my voting makes no difference". I am often told "You are



Cecil A. Roy

wasting your time getting involved in local political activity because "They" will not let you make a difference".

It is not a profound revelation that this illusive "They" permeates through much of the black psyche. For example: "I don't participate in school board meetings or vote in their elections because "They"

will not let things change anyway". "I don't bother to attend city council meetings and express my views because "They" won't

listen to me. Why should I attend a Commissioner's court meeting?; "They" have already made their decisions"; "I don't get involved in local, state or national political activities because "They" have already made up their minds.

This thought process goes beyond the political arena. I often hear "I am not able to advance on my job because "They" are prejudiced against blacks". "Don't apply for that job because "They" don't hire blacks

It is difficult to define this illusive "They" group. Are they the people in office now who are trying to be re-elected? Are "They", the haves in our society as opposed to the have-nots. Are "They", the establishment

* politicians as opposed to the everyday working men and women. Or perhaps more explicitly are "They" simply white folks? I suspect that in the opinion of many blacks, this latter definition is more appropriate.

Perhaps we as blacks should look again at the immortal words of *Pogo, the comic strip alligator; "I have found the enemy and he is us". I suspect that if we look carefully for the "Theys", we will find that "They" is us.

Yes, black voices may very well be ignored by those running for political office because the candidate can, perhaps truthfully say "They" don't vote. Perhaps those who set the political agenda refuse to consider black concerns because "They" don't care to express them at the ballot box. Perhaps decisions are made in City Hall and the County Courthouse which adversely affect black citizens because "They" are not there to make their positions known. Black kids may suffer in the school system because "They" don't question our school board members. Sometimes blacks don't get promoted because "They" don't apply for the position. Sometimes positions don't open up for blacks because "They"

don't put pressure on the employers to hire. Sometimes the roads don't get fixed in black neighborhoods because "They" don't care enough to complain

What can be done to eliminate the "They" syndrome . The only


authentic change must come from a change in attitude by blacks themselves. I am convinced that an objective look at our present situation as compared to years past shows that black involvement has, in fact, made a difference.

Rosa Parks made a difference; Martin Luther King made a difference; Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton, whether you like them or not, continue to make a difference. You, "Mr/Mrs/Ms Cherokee county BLACK person" can also make a difference. There are well over 3000 potential black voters in Cherokee county; I believe 3000 votes can make a difference.

If the election of Barak Obama shows nothing else, it makes a resounding affirmation of the importance of the black vote.

Voting, though extremely important, is just one of the ways you can make a difference, find out first hand what's going on in your community by participating in the governing process. Attend school board, city council, and commissioners court meetings; go to meetings of your local political parties, write letters to your local newspapers expressing your opinion about issues of concern to you; and of course, you can always have a personal impact on the political process by running for an elected office in your jurisdiction.

These are just some of my thoughts on how "YOU" can truly become a significant "They"



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