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Southwest Digest

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Drug Smuggling Causes Customs Service To See Black

Although Jamaican singer Peter Jackson is a non-smoker and non-drinker, U.S. Customs agents automatically targeted him as a potential drug smuggler when he came to America last fall for a promotional tour.

White Customs agents at the Baltimore-Washington Airport subjected Jackson, 27, to a harrowing interrogation and strip search before hauling him to a hospital in handcuffs where an X-ray finally confirmed Jackson's pleas of having no drugs.

"They terrorized Peter Jackson... treating him as you would treat an ax murderer," said attorney Marvin Elin, who is preparing a lawsuit against the U.S. Customs Service for Jackson. "They made up their minds when he got off the plane from Jamaica that he must have drugs."

The U.S. Customs Service's practice of disproportionately targeting Blacks and other non-Whites for drug searches at international airports is a nationwide controversy, sparking fierce criticism from U.S. Senators, a probe by the U.S. Treasury Department and numerous lawsuits.

Customs Service spokespersons deny unfairly targeting Blacks, defending intrusive searches as both legal and an unfortunate consequence of the "war on drugs."

Agents searched Peter Jackson, spokespersons say, because Customs considers Jamaica a drug source country and not because of his skin color.

However, Customs Service claims of non-discriminatory drug searches clash with disturbing evidence of racism.

"They absolutely pick out people based on race," charges attorney Ed Fox who filed a class-action lawsuit in June alleging Black women are unlawfully targeted by Customs for drug searches at Chicago's O'Hare Airport.

Customs agents found no drugs after searching the women represented by Fox, who are predominantly professionals with no criminal records.

"One of my clients is a lawyer and an actress who was returning from Germany with Germans and Asians. This Black woman gets picked out for a search," Fox noted. "What factor is unique to her except her race?"

Black women comprised 45 percent of the 104 strip searches conducted by Customs at O'Hare last year yet women accounted for only half of the 27 strip searches where Customs found drugs according to records obtained by Sen. Richard Durbin (D-Ill.).

"Outrageous" is how Durbin described the O'Hare statistics. Chicago businessman Eugene Morris is sure racism is why Customs agents targeted him and his wife for a humiliating drug search while returning from Montreal in May.

"My wife and I happened to be the only African-American people in the entire customs area, and out of close to 200 people, we were the ones they stopped 'randomly' and detained for almost an hour and subjected to this meticulous search," Morris stated in a June letter to U.S. Senator Carol Moseley-Braun (D-Ill.), a critic of Customs searches.

"We are both hardworking, law-abiding citizens," continues Morris' letter. "We resent being singled out for harassment by government officials who relate African Americans with dishonesty, criminality and drug dealing."

Customs Service spokesman Pat Jones says while many people are randomly chosen for drug searches, race is not a reason for their selection.

"Ethnicity, race and religion play no role in our determining who should be examined more thoroughly," Jones said.

Jones, calling strip-searches a "very sensitive" subject for Customs, said, "This is not something we like to do. The problem is these drug dealers who have three pounds of heroin in their gut inside condoms."

Contradicting Jones, Black Customs Service employees say many White agents do selectively target African Americans and other non-Whites for drug searches.

"White agents do target Black travelers more than Whites," said a Black Customs employee in Baltimore, who did not want to be named. "They tell us not to target, but it is in their minds. They feel Blacks must be doing something wrong. It is bold, blatant and wrong."

The those worst entry airports for Black travelers are Atlanta, Baltimore and Chicago, according to Black Customs employees.

In Atlanta, for example, an all-White team determines which travelers to inspect for drug searches.

"Last year one of the few top Black Special Agents in Customs was stopped and searched here in Atlanta," said a veteran Black employee in Atlanta. "Customs has a broad search and seizure policy. They don't have to have a reason. That's why they can get away with it."

NAACP Marks 1998 Milestones Gears Up For 90th Anniversary Commemoration

BALTIMORE, MD - 1998 marked a strong and momentous year for the NAACP as witnessed by milestones that included the election of civil rights activist Julian Bond to Chairman of the Board, stepped up calls for passage of the Hate Crimes Act in the wake of the James Byrd and Matthew Shepard murders, major focus on HIV/AIDS at its largest national convention to date and the historic protest and arrests over law clerk diversity at the U.S. Supreme Court led by President and CEO Kweisi Mfume.

"We are doing America's work; we want all Americans to join us. There are no racial, gender, ethnic or religious barriers to membership in the NAACP; anyone who shares our values and goals is welcome," said Chairman Bond.

"The NAACP has put the fight for justice and equality for all in this country back on the radar screen of the American public," said President & CEO Mfume. "We seek new allies in helping us beat back racism, sexism, anti-Semitism. Those who continue the practice of union bashing, immigrant bashing and city bashing will forever find resistance from an energized and reinvigorated NAACP," Mfume said.

The membership of the NAACP is the lifeblood of the NAACP branches are the outposts in the fight against inequality. In 1998 the NAACP Branches proved that not only has the goal of true equality and democracy not been achieved, but through a surge of activity, our many units are still challenging the forces of bigotry and building coalitions to advance and protect the interest of all minorities in America.

For example, The Yonkers, New York Branch waged a decades long battle with housing authorities which resulted in a victorious court ruling on school desegregation while the Mississippi State Branches assisted and monitored the case of the Ku Klux Klansman convicted after five trials for the 1966 firebombing death of NAACP Branch President Vernon Dahmer.

The nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization took an impressive and powerful stand on many of the major topics in 1998 from affirmative action, school vouchers, minority motorist profiling, social security reform, the Census 2000 debate, to the impeachment of the president.

"The NAACP is tackling issues some don't think are 'civil rights issues' but people of color hope for a decent job, good education, quality health care, a responsive government and a secure retirement just like everyone else. We want to make sure that any plan Congress or any state legislature passes doesn't pass us by," said Bond.

A former 5-term member of Congress, Mfume said, "In the New Year our battles will be political, social, legislative and economic. We will also continue to grade the hotel and telecommunications industries as

well as expand our emphasis on economic empowerment.

Heavy voter turn out in the Black community was also a priority on the NAACP's 1998 Agenda. The Association returned to the practice of scoring members of Congress with the NAACP Legislative Report Card. This tool helped galvanize the branches' Get Out The Vote efforts in several states such as North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama to decisively defeat enemies of fairness and to change the leadership of the House of Representatives.

"We're going to spend a lot of energy in 1999 registering and educating voters, and in 2000, we're going to spend our resources making certain every African American voter votes. The stakes will be too high to let anyone pull us down by staying home," Bond said.

The Chairman noted that although the NAACP spent \$70,000 and immeasurable human power in an ultimately unsuccessful attempt to defeat the anti-civil rights Initiative 200 in Washington State, "Through strong branch activity we were on the case delivering our message to a diverse community and if we have to, we'll do it again and the next time, we'll win."

The NAACP also fortified its commitment to young people in this nation and experienced tremendous growth in youth and college memberships. It has more youth members than any other secular organization with both adult and youth memberships. Thirty-four new youth branches were chartered ranging from Princeton University and the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill on the east coast to southern rural areas of Biloxi, Mississippi and Jasper, Texas to the University of Wisconsin and the University of Cincinnati in the Midwest to Hercules, California on the west coast.

Mfume said, "To grow and better sustain the NAACP, we have intensified our outreach and recruiting of young people as evidenced by the Million Youth Movement in Atlanta this fall. This is not your grandmother's NAACP. Young people are not only in our future, they are working with us now. It is vitally important to our association to reach out and embrace the dynamism and ideas that today's young people bring."

The NAACP is gearing up for its 90th Anniversary next year. Both Bond and Mfume agree that in 1999 the NAACP will combine "doing the old things better with doing the new things better" all with the sole purpose of making the NAACP's voice on civil rights stronger and more viable than ever before.

Bond said, "I want to make sure that whenever race is discussed, from the Oval Office to corporate suites to the neighborhood beauty parlor, someone says - Here's what the NAACP thinks about that."



Actress-director-choreographer Debbie Allen and NAACP President Kweisi Mfume host the 1999 TRUMPET AWARDS, being held at Atlanta's Omni Hotel at CNN Center Monday, January 11th at 6 p.m. and premiering on TBS Superstation Sunday, February 21 at 7 p.m. (ET/4 p.m. (PT)).

Hospitals Name Change Takes Effect

LUBBOCK, TX - The name changes of Covenant Health System's two cornerstone hospitals officially took place on Friday, Jan. 1, 1999.

Effective with the advent of the new year, Methodist Hospital will be known as Covenant Medical Center, while St. Mary Hospital will become Covenant Medical Center-Lakeside.

These changes complete the process for all Covenant Health System (CHS) member hospitals. Methodist Children's Hospital was first to change its name, becoming Covenant Children's Hospital on Oct. 1, 1998. Partner hospitals in Levelland and Plainview recently updated their names as well - to Covenant Hospital Levelland and Covenant Hospital Plainview, respectively.

In addition, the system's home

health agency, Total Home Health Care, is changing its name to Covenant Home Health Care at most of its locations across Texas.

According to CHS President/CEO Charley Trimble, these name changes are more accurately reflect the system's vision "to be recognized as a leader in providing regional integrated health care promoting health improvement and creating healthy communities."

"We are proud of our histories of service to this community as Methodist and St. Mary hospitals, and we look forward to a future where people recognize the Covenant name as the one they can count on to provide the medical needs of their entire family," Trimble said.

Sign changes at all CHS member institutions will begin taking place this spring.

We Will Make Some Changes in 1999!

By T.J. Patterson and Eddie P. Richardson

Since September 9, 1977, this newspaper has been in the forefront for reporting to the best of our ability for the Black community. We've done this, many times, standing vertical by ourselves and the help of our God. We've stood, many times, alone, and there was no help in the community. But we were able to withstand many obstacles, and have become better for all of it.

We've asked for the support of the various churches and organizations in the Black community, but it hasn't always been there. We've often wondered why the Black Churches and organizations haven't come to our rescue, but we do understand. But we have never understood why more Black Churches haven't become subscribers to the Southwest Digest. For just a nominal fee, we have offered to make the Southwest Digest available to any Black Church. But this has never happened.

On the other hand, there are a few Black Churches who have reached out to help us, and we are grateful. Each Black Church know who they are. But let us remind all Black Churches, we have always printed the news from the various congregations, without any questions asked.

We will always be indebted to the efforts of Ruby Jay's Corner, Pastor D. A. Smith, The Outreach Prayer Breakfast, and "Thank God For Jesus." We have appreciated their efforts.

We are also appreciative of

the Pastor and Members of the St. John Baptist Church and Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church members for their purchasing of the Southwest Digest each week. We are most appreciative.

As we look back over the nearly 22 years of publishing the Southwest Digest, let it be known we have never missed a publication. We've stood tall, and we pledge to continue to do so. But we must make a few changes.

Among those changes will be certain fees placed on some of the articles printed as requested by the originator of the said article. For advertisement, unless the owner of the advertisement has been approved for payment, then the advertisement will not be seen in these pages of the Southwest Digest.

In other words, we want to make the Southwest Digest a much stronger business in the Black Community. We believe we have the ability to do just that. We will work hard to make it happen in 1999.

Hopefully, before year's end, the Southwest Digest will have an investigative reporter to look a various issues in the Black Community. We need to be about this, and will pledge to do just this.

So look for our changes. They are only being done for the future of the Southwest Digest. We will not make this announcement again, just take note to what we will be doing in 1999!



President Kweisi Mfume (L) from the NAACP, announces with James Brown ("World's Finniest," R) Montell Jordan (Def Jam Recording Artist, second from R) and Tamala Jones (WB's "For Your Love", second from L) the recipient and nominees for the Image Awards airing on FOX.

Christmas Tree Drop Off Sites

The Solid Waste Department is announcing its Annual Christmas Tree Recycling Campaign. The purpose of the campaign is to reduce the amount of waste taken to the landfill and to provide beneficial reuse of the discarded Christmas trees. Residents are encouraged to take their trees to one of the 6 drop-off locations located throughout the city. The trees will be ground into mulch to be used at city parks and given away to the public in February.

The 1997 Christmas Tree Recycling Campaign resulted in

the collection and reuse of 70 tons of Christmas trees.

Dates and Locations of drop-off sites:
December 26, 1998 through January 11, 1999.

1. 1631 84th Street (Recycling Drop Off Center at 84th and Ave. P)
2. 58th and Temple (vacant lot)
3. 2300 Webber (Simmon's Swimming Pool)
4. Indiana Avenue and Clovis Road (across from General Steel)
5. 4315 50th (Holland Garden's)

6. 79th Street and Lola Avenue (behind Cornerstone Bible Church)

Christmas trees should not be placed in dumpsters or deposited in the alleys. Persons who can't take their Christmas tree to one of the above locations during the collection period can take it to the Recycling Drop Off Center at 1631 84th Street throughout the month of January.

For more information, contact the City of Lubbock Solid Waste Department at 775-2482.

Ruby Jay's Corner



The New Hope Baptist Church, 2632 Birney Avenue, is the "Church Where The People Really Care", and the Rev. Billy R. Moton is the proud pastor. If you are looking for a church home, the doors are always open at New Hope Baptist Church. Come and visit!

Services began this Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. with Sunday School and Superintendent Virgil Johnson was at his post of duty. Each class and teachers were in their various classrooms for 30 minutes of instruction. All reassembled at 10:15 a.m. marching and singing to "Love Lifted Me." Prayer was given by Sister Doris Dailey.

High points of the morning lesson were given by members of Adult Class No. 1, 2, 3 and 4. Very inspiring words came from Bro. Johnson and Sister Joan Jones. All were very good. Sister Bernetta Cooper presided over the discussion.

Bro. James Sterling acted as secretary. Youth Department; the Junior Class received the Offering Banner while the Senior Class retained the Attendance Banner. Adult Department; Adult Class No. 1 retained the Attendance Banner. Pastor Moton's Class received the Offering Banner. There were two students who reported two hundred and nine dollars.

There were two visitors in Sunday School.

The morning devotional period was conducted by Sister Joan Ervin and Brother R. J. Givens.

The Male Chorus marched in the processional singing "Can't Nobody Do Me Like Jesus." Altar prayer was offered by Brother F.T. Jenkins. A song, "Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus," was sung. The morning scripture was I Corinthians 13 and was read by Bro. Robert Cork. Prayer was given by Bro. Harry Stokley. Another song was sung. It was "Send It On Down." Responsive reading was led by Bro. T. Cooper with the congregation standing. The morning hymn was "I'll Fly Away."

Pastoral observations were given by Pastor Moton. He reminded us we should always thank God for being in church services on the first service in 1999. Isn't God good? Another song, "Lord, Don't Give Up, Your Change Will Surely Come. The hymn of preparation, "Amazing Grace," was sung.

Pastor Moton's sermon was entitled "Let's Go From Glory To Glory in 1999!" His scripture text was II Corinthians 3. Pastor Moton told us like it really is!

Remember the sick and shut-ins in the community. Remember prayer always pays off.

Remember the bereaved families in the community. Among them include funeral services for Doris L. Lamb who passed away last week. She was Bang's sister who lost her life last August in a car wreck.

The Leadership Workshop at New Hope Baptist Church will be held January 11, 12 and 13, 1999 from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Massengill Misleads Public through Fraudulent Ad

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The National Black Nurses Association (NBNA) refutes any alleged relationship with Massengill, a part of SmithKline Beecham—the 5th largest drug company in the world, or the endorsement of its products. The purported relationship and product endorsement was featured in Massengill advertisements that appeared in Essence and Heart & Soul magazines that fraudulently represented the NBNA through the unauthorized usage of its name and logo.

"It appeared as though Massengill deliberately misled thousands of African-American women without concern for their well-being by the unauthorized usage of our name and logo," according to NBNA President Dr. Betty Smith Williams. "Thus, striving to establish credibility and promote their product through the misrepresentation of an alleged relationship that simply does not exist."

The NBNA's mission is to investigate, define and determine the health care requirements of African Americans and other diverse communities to foster optimal health and health care services commensurate with that of the larger community. In August of last year, the NBNA issued an emergency resolution, Feminine Hygiene Educational Outreach, on the hazards associated with vaginal douching. The emergency resolution outlined that, "several studies have suggested links between douching and ectopic pregnancy (tubal), possibly mediated through an effect of douching on pelvic inflammatory disease." From 1970 to 1992, ectopic pregnancy rose dramatically from 17,800 to 108,800 annually. In keeping with its mission, the NBNA cannot endorse a product that has been linked by the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) to contribute to any adverse health risks for African American women.

To ascertain the pervasiveness of the affects from the deceptive ad, the NBNA seeks the assistance of nurses who may have recommended use of the product, as well as members of the public who may have used the product

based on the purported relationship between the NBNA and Massengill. The NBNA strives to clarify to every person involved, both present and the public who were misled, that they in no way endorse Massengill products, the efficacy of their products, nor do they encourage the use of those products as compared to any other products which claims to deliver similar benefits.

The NBNA has been working diligently to educate its membership, other health consumers, and the public about the hazards associated with vaginal douching. It has also been working to modify the behavior practices of African-American women who have been taught and strongly believe that vaginal douching is an accepted health care practice for feminine hygiene. It is reported that as many as 66 percent of African American women douche regularly. The NBNA cannot and does not endorse a product which clearly puts the well-being of African American women at risk.

As a leader in health promotion, prevention, and providing consumer health education, the NBNA is appealing to the African-American community and nurses to report any participation, i.e., appearances at conventions or neighborhood stores, in its efforts to clarify the number of individuals who have been affected from the purported relationship between the NBNA and Massengill.

"This misrepresentation cannot be tolerated. Lives are at risk. We need everyone who was affected or felt mis-

led to come forward," said Dr. Williams.

Information can be reported to the NBNA, 1511 K Street NW, Suite 415, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 393-

6870.

The NBNA is a professional organization representing 160,000 registered nurses, licensed vocational/practical nurses and nursing students.

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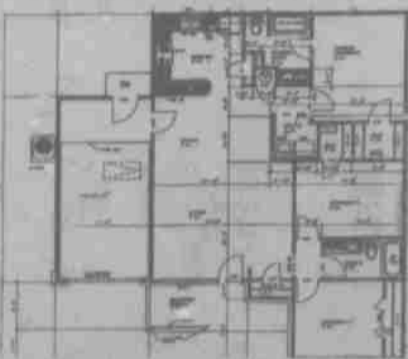
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Obituary



Margiree Terrell

Funeral services were held for Margiree Davis Terrell at the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Tahoka, Texas with Elder K.R. Anderson officiating.

Burial was held in Nevels Cemetery in Tahoka under the direction of White Funeral Home.

She passed away Friday, December 25, 1998 at her residence.

She was born April 27, 1930 in Cameron, Texas. She attended elementary school in Cameron. She married John Robin Payton, and he preceded her in death. She married Floyd Terrell on July 27, 1975.

She moved to Tahoka from Big Spring, Texas in 1953. She moved to Lubbock, Texas from Tahoka in 1976. She worked for Tahoka Nursing Home.

She worked for First Baptist Church in Lubbock. She was a personal caretaker and homemaker. She also worked for White Funeral Home in Tahoka and Idalou, Texas for many years. She was a member of Antioch Bible Fellowship in Amarillo, Texas and the Church of the Living God in Slaton, Texas.

She leaves to mourn her passing: her mother, Lillie Williams of Synder, Oklahoma; a son, Marshall

Payton of Amarillo, Texas; a daughter, Diane Wilkerson of Lubbock, Texas.

Nora Lang



Final rites were read for Nora L. Lang last Monday afternoon December 28, 1998 at the Wesley Memorial Chapel with Rev. Joseph Moore officiating.

Burial was held in Peaceful Gardens in Woodrow, Texas under the direction Ossie Curry Funeral Home.

She passed away Wednesday, December 23, 1998 in Methodist Hospital. Born May 24, 1949, she attended Wheatley Elementary School and Alderson Junior High School. She received her GED and attended Pasadena City College in Pasadena, California. She worked for the Social Security Office in Lubbock, Texas. She was a member of Trinity Baptist Church.

She leaves to mourn her passing: a daughter, Talaya Annette Lang of Lubbock, Texas; three sisters: Mary F. Adams of Sacramento, California, Annie Thomas and Linda Klenelo, both of Lubbock, Texas; and her parents, Annie and Andrew Lang.

Beginning Freehand Drawing Class For Adult/Teen Being Offered at the Garden & Arts Center in January

LUBBOCK, TEXAS — The Municipal Garden & Arts Center is announcing a beginners drawing class for adults and teens in January.

Highly reputable and locally-known artist Pat Greene will teach a beginning drawing class learning or improving basic drawing skills free-handed style. Emphasis will be on contour and value drawing. The class will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays

starting January 19 through February 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30a.m. The cost is \$50 per person. Please call for supply list.

Registration is now until the start time of the first class, and all classes are conducted at the Garden & Arts Center located at 4215 University Avenue. For more information or to register for a class, please call the Center at 767-3724.

Register Now For Garden & Arts Centers' 1999 Adult and Children Spring and Summer Art Classes

LUBBOCK, TEXAS — The Municipal Garden & Arts Center has its 1999 Spring and Summer art class schedule for adults and children and is now taking reservations.

We can either fax, email, or mail our class schedule, or

stop by at the Garden & Arts Center located at 4215 University Avenue. For more information on how to obtain a class schedule, please call 808-767-3724, fax 806-767-3726, or email at psimpson@mail.ci.lubbock.tx.us.

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NOTICE OF THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A PUBLIC HEARING

RE: City of Lubbock/Citibus Section 5307 Capital, Technical Studies, and Operating Assistance Grant Application

Notice is hereby given that an opportunity for a public hearing will be afforded, in the Citibus Conference Room, 801 Texas Avenue, on January 19, 1999 at 12:00 noon for the purpose of considering projects for which financial assistance is being sought from the Federal Transit Act of 1964, as amended. The financial assistance is as follows:

CAPITAL ASSISTANCE GRANT: Program of Projects: this project will consist of the following: the purchase of 2 expansion vans and 1 replacement van for Demand Response Service, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); the purchase of 5 replacement buses for the fixed route service; spare parts and preventive capital maintenance, administration, and operations equipment which include tools and computers; and other ADA Paratransit capital assistance expenses.

This project is estimated at \$2,559,070. Of this, \$2,047,256 will be provided by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307 funds, \$511,814 will be provided by local funds. This project is proposed to begin October 1, 1998 and be completed by March 31, 2000.

TECHNICAL STUDY GRANT: Program of Projects: this project will consist of the following training and travel for professional development; development of a five-year capital plan and five-year marketing plan; conducting short-range planning; and the purchase of office equipment, including computers.

This grant is estimated at \$80,000. Of this amount, \$64,000 will be provided by FTA Section 5307 funds and \$16,000 will be provided by the City of Lubbock. This project is proposed to begin October 1, 1998.

OPERATING ASSISTANCE GRANT: Program of Projects: this project will consist of providing the transportation services in the Lubbock urbanized area, which are provided by City Transit Management, Inc., d/b/a Citibus and includes the following:

Providing the transportation services beginning October 1, 1998. This portion of the grant is estimated at \$3,543,500, of which \$1,540,000 will be provided by FTA Section 5307 funds, \$260,100 by the City of Lubbock, \$836,000 by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), and \$906,400 by non-farebox revenues.

Interested persons or agencies may submit, orally or in writing, evidence and recommendations with respect before 11:00 a.m. January 19, 1999. The preliminary Program of Projects is available to the public at the Citibus offices, located at 801 Texas Avenue. The final projects will also be available to the public at the Citibus offices.

General Manager
Citibus
P.O. Box 2000
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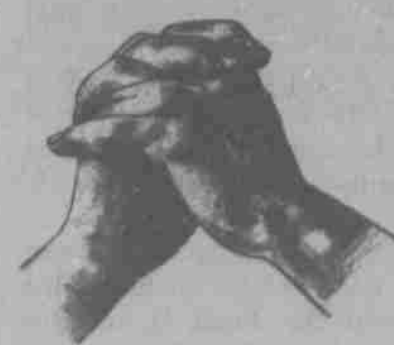


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Editorials • Comments • Opinions



THIS N THAT

WE WILL DO OUR VERY BEST IN 1999! THIS N THAT ... is happy over what the ... SOUTHWEST DIGEST ... has done for nearly ... TWENTY-TWO YEARS ... as a weekly newspaper ... And we are very proud of our accomplishments ... but we wish we would have done more ... When we began in ... SEPTEMBER 9, 1977 ... it was a ... GREAT CHALLENGE ... and it is today ... EXPENSES ... since that time have ... TRIPLED ... and we are quite proud we never ... MISSED A PUBLICATION ... Many times ... WE ... didn't see how we were going to make it ... but by ... HANGING IN THERE ... with the help of our ... GOD ... we've been able to prevail ... Much knowledge has been acquired since we began this newspaper ... which was first named the ... LUBBOCK DIGEST ... and was changed at the request of ... READERS ... who did not live in the Lubbock community ... Because of the cost to ... DO BUSINESS ... there will be some changes this year ... THIS N THAT ... will pledge to do it's very best as well ... THIS N THAT ... would hope more ... BLACK CHURCHES AND BLACK ORGANIZATIONS ... would ... SUPPORT THE SOUTHWEST DIGEST ... We're praying for this to become a ... REALITY IN 1999 ... On the other hand ... THE CO-PUBLISHERS OF THE SOUTHWEST DIGEST ... EDDIE P. RICHARDSON & T. J. PATTERSON ... will do their ... VERY BEST ... to bring ... NEW FEATURES ... to this weekly publication ... Hopefully ... ONE OF THE NEW FEATURES ... will be the addition of an ... INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER ... who will be assigned to ... COVER THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY ... Anyway ... no matter how you look at ... keep in mind the ... SOUTHWEST DIGEST ... will make some ... CHANGES IN 1999 ... and we will continue to do our ... VERY BEST IN 1999! ...

SHIRLEY CANADY THE BARBER SAYS: "A MAN OR WOMAN ... too busy to take care of their ... HEALTH ... is like a ... MECHANIC ... too busy to take care of his ... TOOLS!" ...

SUPPORT MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CELEBRATION! THIS N THAT ... would like to encourage all of you ... to the support the upcoming ... ANNUAL DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CELEBRATION ... which will begin ... THURSDAY NIGHT ... January 14, 1999 ... at 7:00 p.m. ... at the Pilgrim Baptist Church ... 6119 19th Street ... YOUTH NIGHT ... will be ... FRIDAY NIGHT ... January 15, 1999 ... at LakeRidge United Methodist Church ... 4701 82nd Street ... A special ... GOSPEL EXTRAVAGANZA ... will be held at New Hope Baptist Church ... Saturday night ... January 16, 1999 ... beginning at 7:00 p. m. ... The Annual ... MASS CITY-WIDE CELEBRATION ... will be held at the ... Lubbock Memorial Civic Center ... 1501 6th Street ... beginning at 5:00 p. m. ... CLOSING SERVICES ... will be on Monday night ... January 18, 1999 ... at Estacado High School ... 1501 East Itasca Avenue ... beginning at 6:30 p.m. Come and take part in this annual event ... This year's theme is ... "I BELIEVE I CAN FLY" ...

VISIT A SCHOOL THIS YEAR! THIS N THAT ... would like to encourage ... THOSE WHO CARE ... to take the time to visit a ... SCHOOL ... this year ... Let our young people know you really care about them ... Take time this ... WEEK ... and visit a ... SCHOOL ... this week

A New Advantage For Short-Term Money

The Jumper Strategic Advantage Fund has been created by The Jumper Group, Inc., to give investors an edge over money market funds. The new fund's manager, Jay C. Jumper, brings many years of successful portfolio management experience to this fund. The fund officially opened on October 26, 1998.

Consisting primarily of short term fixed income securities, the goal of the Fund is to give institutions and individuals seeking to limit general market risk, an opportunity to achieve a total return exceeding that earned by money market funds primarily investing in investment grade instruments. The Jumper Strategic Advantage Fund is a "no-load" fund, which means that every dollar invested has the great-

est potential for higher returns.

Mr. Jumper said, "We feel that this fund is very timely due to the Fed's recent cuts in short-term interest rates, and the SEC's 2A-7 rule limiting money market funds to a maximum average maturity of 90 days. The Fed funds effective rate as of September 30 was 6.14%. It has plunged 149 basis points since October 6, to 4.65%. This is due to the recent rate cut by the Federal Reserve. This will be showing up shortly in the yields of these funds."

"The Jumper Strategic Advantage Fund will be able to maintain higher yields in a declining interest rate environment due to the fund's ability to maintain an average maturity of about 365 days. We also have the flexibility to shorten maturities when rates are rising.

We want to preserve capital while also seeking a 1-1.5 percent better return than money market alternatives."

"Mutual funds have become particularly popular investments as many Americans are putting savings for their retirement into them, and with our \$5,000 minimum, we are an attractive alternative for the smaller investor, as well as serving large institutions with assets of \$1-to-30 million in cash," Mr. Jumper said. He said this latter group is often under-served.

Further information and a prospectus can be obtained by calling toll-free 800-943-7005; E-mail JJUMPER629@aol.com, or by mail to The Jumper Strategic Advantage Fund, One Union Square, Suite 505, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402.

Judge Certifies Black Farmer Class Action Lawsuit

WASHINGTON—The racial discrimination lawsuit filed by hundreds of Black farmers in 1997 has been officially designated as a class by U.S. District Court Judge Paul Friedman. The decision opens the door for thousands of Black farmers who have suffered discrimination in lending and other programs at the hands of the Agriculture Department (USDA).

The \$2.5 billion lawsuit filed in 1997 includes nearly 800 farmers claiming discrimination dating back several decades. Recently another bias lawsuit was filed by Black farmers for \$500 million, claiming discrimination since USDA Secretary Dan Glickman admitted that USDA systematically treated Black farmers unfairly last year.

"On behalf of suffering Black farmers, I want to thank Judge Friedman who has heard our plea by certifying the class. This is a major victory for Black farmers, and the government has suffered a major defeat," said Ralph Paige, executive director of the Federation of Southern Cooperatives/Land Assistance Fund.

According to the farmers' lawyers, there will be three groups of farmers qualifying for the class: those who filed complaints and never received a ruling, those whose complaints were mishandled and those whose complaints were lost. Four Black farmers from each group will represent all Blacks who farmed during the last 15 years.

Black farmers and their supporters consider USDA discrimination part of a conspiracy to get Blacks out of agriculture and off the land.

"From 1920 to 1992, Black farmers dropped from 925,710 to 18, 816. USDA complicity in this is reprehensible," said Gary Grant, president of the Black Farmers and Agriculturists Association. Black farmers lose up to 9,000 acres a week, with just about 1.5 acres remaining.

Further insuring that Black farmers get some compensation is legislation expected to be signed by President Clinton removing a statute of limitations barring thousands of farmers' dated complaints. "Many of our most vulnerable farmers have also had to face an obstacle that no one in America ever should have to confront: racial discrimination. Over 1,000 minority farmers have filed

claims of discrimination against USDA's farm loan programs in the 1980s and early 1990s that the statute of limitations bars from being addressed," President Clinton stated in a veto of a House of Representatives bill he considered too weak.

In July, Secretary Glickman told the NAACP convention that USDA will pay farmers who can prove discrimination and he again promised to attack racism. "We need to pay reparations for documented cases of past discrimination," he said. Recently though, the USDA inspector general found the agency's civil rights office to be in "disarray" more than a year after Black farmers filed suit.

IN CINQUE

By Renetta W. Howard



This is, by all means, the end of the worst political year in the history of the United States, ending with the impeachment of a president of the United States, whose only harm has been to himself and his loved ones because of his concept of morality. Morality is a characteristic which we are not born with, but must learn and work to become morally mature. That includes being truthful about whatever you feel that you are morally mature to do. It is rather inherent of living the kind of life where there are no skeletons in your closets. In other words, your life and lifestyle should be an 'opened book.'

Whether your life is an 'opened book' or not, there are still limitations to your personal life that you do not want others poking around in, and questioning you about. This does not have to involve your sexual activities either. As an example, I applied to purchase a lot from a certain governmental unit and I was asked the question, "Where did you get your money to make this purchase?" I did become indignant and canceled the application in a

resentful manner because I felt that my personal affairs were being intruded upon, especially since I was going to pay cash. Had I borrowed the money, I felt there may have been some need for such a question, but using cash, I felt insulted, degraded and angry.

No matter how morally mature we are, there are certain personal matters that we just do not want to discuss with other people, no matter how close they are to us or how pertinent the information we have is to someone else. When we are put in a situation to be contrary, this is what often happens. It can happen to any human being no matter how many god-like characteristics they have. No human is infallible and that is not one of the characteristics of a president of the United States as described by the Constitution.

As 1998 comes to a close, we find ourselves involved in a combat crisis in Iraq, a political, partisan impeachment of the President, inflation, rising personal debts, quality education declining, rising crime rate under-recorded, control substance use still out of control, increase in homelessness, decrease in employment and decrease in faith in God. It is time that we get 'in cinque' and get 'our heads on straight,' because with all of these problems, 1999 needs the right start. May we all have a Happy New Year!

THIS WAY FOR BLACK EMPOWERMENT Going Home To Chester

By Dr. Lenora Fulani

Several weeks ago I traveled to my hometown of Chester, PA to speak to a group of people, many of whom were high school and college students. The event was held in a bookstore in downtown Chester, a city devastated by poverty and decay. I felt as if I had entered a ghost town that was still occupied by people, trying hard to make a life for themselves, many of them very, very young.

The last thing that I wanted to project to them was that I was the home girl that done good. No! What I wanted to convey was my commitment, a commitment that growing up in Chester had burned into me, to creating some things of value for my community. I had left Chester to become a psychologist and in the process had met people among them my mentor Fred Newman who had shown me how anti-developmental traditional psychology (and politics and culture) had become. Together, we worked for 20 years to create a new approach to human development. I wanted to give that to Chester.

Twelve people, many of them youth, signed up to work on bringing elements of our approach to their city. While several adults argued about the sanity of building

coalitions and whether white and Black Americans were of the same species, the young people kept interrupting me to ask: Do you have to live in New York to join the Development School for Youth? Can we bring the All Stars Talent Show Network here? Will you help us build a third party in Chester? Chester needs it. Is it possible that even Chester can develop?

I was deeply touched by the interactions, the two hours spent there and the potential for development amongst these ashes of poverty and ruin.

One of the questions that I am often asked in reporting on our work in development is, How do we know it works? What that usually means is, Are there statistics or studies that show some long term gain and impact of what you are doing? While I understand the importance of gauging the success of various models, in these situations I sometimes have to repress my true responses. Here's why. I actually don't care if these transformations that we witness in person after person — young and not so young — are measurable or not. Actually, I am extremely suspicious of what is measured by our standardized tests. As one of the Talented 10th who was able to make it out of Chester (that term refers to the handful of people that are



successful in the Black community) I have no interest in analyzing why I was able to do that. I am much more interested and invested in the untalented everyone else who end up stuck in our communities without a clue about the potential of development. For me, the best answer to "How do we know?" is the thousands of young people who show up at our doors willing and ready to grow, the adults who come from very well-to-do communities who are willing to experience the strangeness of the inner cities so that they too can grow, the young people who come up to me on the streets and say Hi, Dr. Fulani you doremember me? I'm from the All Stars. I have stopped smoking weed and I am in a GED program at 26... Or, I work at K-Mart and I'm one of the night managers there... I'm in a Masters program at Cornell..."

So from my vantage point I believe the answer to "How do we know?" is much more profound and goes much deeper. It's not simply what we know. It's what we create.

BLACK NEWSPAPERS VS. DAILY NEWSPAPERS

The Power Of The Black Newspaper

Black adult readers of both Black newspapers and general circulation dailies rated Black newspapers higher in the following categories:

	BLACK NEWSPAPERS	DAILY NEWSPAPERS
Newspapers deal with subjects of special interest to me.	82.2%	58.9%
Newspapers show an understanding of my kind of life.	69.9%	40.4%
Newspapers are honest and truthful.	72.2%	36.0%
Newspapers use my kind of language.	79.5%	61.4%
Newspapers are necessary and important for me.	71.3%	61.8%

Source: Scarborough Segment Corporation

Keeping an eye on Texas

New Texans
The top 15 names for babies born in 1997 included Jose for boys and the top girl's name of Ashley.

Most popular names for Texas babies in '97

<p>Boys' names</p> <p>Jose Michael Christopher Jacob Joshua Matthew David Daniel Jonathan Brandon</p>	<p>Girls' names</p> <p>Ashley Emily Jessica Sarah Alaina Jennifer Hannah Samantha Victoria Taylor</p>
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SOURCE: Texas Department of Public Accounts and Texas Department of Health.

Memorial News

Air Force Capt. Phyllis I. Hobbs has been decorated with the Air Force Commendation Medal.

The medal is awarded to those individuals who demonstrate outstanding achievement or meritorious service in the performance of their duties on behalf of the Air Force.

The captain's superb nursing skills and pivotal leadership abilities promoted quality patient care in both the obstetrical unit and the pediatric clinic. Her ongoing efforts in inpatient and outpatient health care significantly contributed to the medical group's overall "excellent" rating. The captain's communication skills led to the development of comprehensive lesson plans that addressed the educational needs of parents with children 2 weeks to 15 months of age. These plans continue to impact over 3,000 families annually, directly influencing and enhancing parental knowledge of infant care.

Hobbs is a staff nurse with the 97th Medical Group at Altus Air Force Base, Okla.

She is the daughter of Joyce M. Lee of 3715 46th St., Lubbock, Texas, and sister of William E. Brahm of Levelland, Texas.

Nelson George's Hip Hop America

NEW YORK, NY - Drawing on twenty years of writing about the cultural phenomenon that has moved from the gritty streets of New York to impact innumerable aspects of worldwide culture, African American author and cultural critic Nelson George's new book **HIP HOP AMERICA**, was published October 12 by Viking (\$24.95, 256 pp).

"Like hip hop itself, this book both honors the past, and suggests the future of not just African American music, but how the culture will evolve into the next century," explains George.

The book is the natural progression of George's exploration of Black pop music, which began with *Where Did Our Love Go*, *The Rise and Fall of the Motown Sound* in 1985, and continued in 1988's *The Death of Rhythm & Blues*. *HIP HOP AMERICA* defines and expounds upon the hip-hop aesthetic, delineating numerous examples of how the art form has influenced the culture, and how American outlooks and mores have propelled this latest form of Black pop music.

At times controversial (see the chapters entitled "Black Owned?" and "Too Live"), at others explanatory ("The Permanent Business"), *HIP HOP AMERICA* is always insightful, and often humorous. In it, George chronicles the development of hip-hop from music played by deejays in the parks and playgrounds of New York to its current stature of a multi-million dollar industry that impacts music, fashion, advertising, and language. From the Sugar Hill Gang and Russell Simmons to Sean "Puffy" Combs and Tupac Shakur vs. The Notorious B.I.G., George weaves personal anecdotes with insightful analysis, as he chronicles both his own experiences and those of many of hip-hop's well-known names and faces.

Says George: "My experience with hip hop goes back to the days of Kool Herc and DJ Hollywood, so I have grown up alongside the culture, which is as big a surprise to me as it is to anyone. I would have had a very different career, if it wasn't for hip hop."

HIP HOP AMERICA is the tenth book from George, whose non-fiction also includes best seller *The Michael Jackson Story* (1984); *Buppies B-Boys, Baps & Bohos: Notes on Post-Soul Culture* (1992); *Elevating the Game: Black Men in Basketball* (1992); and *Blackface: African-Americans and the Movies* (1994). George has published two novels, *Urban Romance* (1993) and *Seduced* (1996), the former which will be available in paperback in January. He has also co-written two films, *Strictly Business* (1991) and *CB4* (1993).

George, a life long resident of Brooklyn, New York, is currently the consulting producer on HBO's *The Chris Rock Show*. He was *Billboard Magazine's* black music

Her husband, Tommy, is the son of Edward K. Hoops of 102 Pine St., Gordon, Texas.

The Captain graduated in 1979 from Coronado High School, Lubbock, and received a bachelor's degree in 1993 from the University of Texas, Arlington.

Cassie R. Herrea has joined the United States Army under the Delayed Entry Program at the U.S. Army Recruiting Station, Houston, Texas.

The program gives young men and women the opportunity to delay entering active duty for up to one year.

The enlistment gives the new soldier the option to learn a new skill, travel and become eligible to receive as much as \$50,000 toward a college education. After completion of basic training, soldiers receive advanced individual training in their career specialty.

Herrea will report to Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C., for basic training January 24, 1999.

She is the daughter of Dianna S. Hill of 1207 114th St., Lubbock, Texas, and sister of Jason E. Herrera of 12515 Ann Lane, Houston, Texas.



editor from 1982 to 1989, a columnist for *The Village Voice*, and is a frequent contributor to *Playboy Magazine*.

Lubbock Fine Arts Center To Put On Exhibit

LUBBOCK - The Lubbock Fine Arts Center announces the opening of the exhibition *Four Wheels, One Eye: Art Cars in the Eyes of the Image Makers*. The exhibition will open Monday, January 11 at the center's gallery at 2600 Avenue 2.

The exhibition, organized by The Orange Show Foundation and the Ineri Foundation as part of Houston's 1998 FotoFest, includes 50 photographs by Harrod Blank, Amelia Blyth, Dick Craig, George Hixson, Clare La Groue, Andy Mann, Maurice Roberts, Phillip Taplia, Irv Tepper, and Dave Wilson.

The Orange Show Foundation produces the world's largest Art Car Parade annually the third weekend of April and the Ineri Foundation most recently produced *Art Cars: Revolutionary Movement*, a book of photographs of art cars. In collabora-

tion, the two Foundations have gathered some of the very best and most impressive images of art cars. "We are all really looking forward to presenting the work of so many talented photographers. The subject matter is one of our favorites - art cars - because art cars, like folk art environments, are the extraordinary artistic expressions of 'ordinary' people," says the Art Car Coordinator for Orange Show Foundation, Jennifer McKay.

The Orange Show Foundation is a non-profit arts organization, formed in 1980 to preserve the folk art environment of the same name built by Houston postman, Jeff McKissack. The Foundation preserves and presents the extraordinary artistic expressions of ordinary people. A variety of programs are produced 8 months of the year. 450,000 visitors have experienced the simple pleasure and profound

joy of one man's dedicated effort to make his private vision a concrete reality. Foundation funding is provided by individual contributions as well as, the Texas Commission for the Arts, the City of Houston through the Cultural Arts Council of Houston/Harris County, the Brown Foundation, Houston Endowment, and in kind contributions. The exhibit is funded in part by the Ineri Foundation and The Orange Show Foundation.

The Ineri Foundation, formed by Ann Harithas in 1983, is dedicated to the promotion and development of alternative fine art media, and to bringing important and precious works in the fine arts environ-

ment. The inaugural project for Ineri was *Collision* (1983), which exhibited noted artists such as Mel Chin, Alfonso Ossorio, Larry Ruess, David Best and Jesse Latt. Other projects have included *Jesse Latt: The El Financero Method* (1989) and *Symphony of Idols* (1990). The Foundation has recently published *Art Cars: Revolutionary Movement* (1997) distributed through FotoFest. Ineri Foundation is based in Houston, Texas.

Four Wheels, One Eye: Art Cars in the Eyes of the Image Makers will remain at the Fine Arts Center through February 19, 1999. Call the Fine Arts Center at 767-2686 for more information.

Party Houses Accepting Applications

Lubbock Parks and Recreation is now accepting reservations for Party Houses and park shelters for 1999.

Anyone planning events such as family reunions, graduation parties, holiday festivities, company picnics or even birthday parties next year is encouraged to contact Parks and Recreation as soon as possible. Party Houses and park shelters are quite popular and annual holiday dates like Christmas Day, Memorial Day and July 4th are booked early. All reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis.

There are five Party Houses available for rental. Party Houses are available year-round except for Christmas Eve, New Year's Eve and Thanksgiving Eve. Cost varies for \$50 to \$120 per day, depending on which Party House is selected. Weekend rates are slightly higher. Each features tables and chairs, some have kitchen facilities and some are located near playgrounds. All have heating and evaporative air conditioning. A refundable deposit of \$100 is required. Rental payment and deposits are by check or money

order only. Cash is not accepted.

The Party Houses are Landwer House in the Buddy Holly Recreation Area at Canyon Lake 2; the Outdoor Center in Mackenzie Park; A.B. Davis Park at 42nd and Nashville; K.N. Clapp Park at 46th and Ave. U; Mahon Park at 29th and Chicago; and Lou Stubbs Park at 36th and Ave. N.

Reservations for Party Houses can be made over the telephone, but the rental fee must be paid within one week of making the telephone reservation.

Park shelters are ideal for outdoor activities such as picnics, barbecues and family gatherings. There are 22 such shelters on parks around the city. Each rents for \$25 and features picnic tables, benches and a barbecue grill. Some are located near game courts such as volleyball and tennis courts and some are near park playgrounds. No deposit is required on park shelters. All reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations can be made over the telephone, but the rental fee must be paid within one week of making the telephone reservation.

For more information about Party House Rentals and park shelter rentals, call 775-2668 or come by the Parks and Recreation Department at 1010 9th Street.

JUNETEENTH INFORMATION

Texas has once again made history in being the first and only state to establish a Juneteenth Cultural and Historical Commission. During the 75th Legislative Session, House Bill 1216, sponsored by Rep. Al Edwards of Houston, was signed into law by Gov. George W. Bush. Thereby creating the Texas Emancipation Juneteenth Cultural and Historical Commission. The Commission consists of six commissioners appointed by Gov. Bush of which one being Eddie P. Richardson of Lubbock, Texas; two state senators appointed by Lt. Governor Bob Bullock; two house of representatives appointed by Speaker Pete Laney; and the executive director of the Texas Historical Commission.

The purpose of the Texas Emancipation Juneteenth Cultural and Historical Commission is to erect monuments and markers, raise funds, establish a national Emancipation Cultural and Historical Museum, and establish headquarters. In addition, the Commission was also established to develop effective historical and cultural programs, educate citizens on the effects and significance of emancipation, and develop leaders and role models for the citizens of Texas.

Anyone interested can be a part of the local activities. Here are the meeting dates you may look forward to: November 9, January 11, February 8, March 8, April 12, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 and June 7 and 14.

All meetings will be held at Mae Simmons Senior Citizens Center, beginning at 7:00 p. m. Everyone interested in making a positive contribution to this program is invited to attend and bring their ideas and input.

All area and South Plains Juneteenth Programs are urged to contact Commissioner Richardson at 902 E. 28th St., Lubbock, Texas or 806-762-3612 to become part of the statewide and national effort. For information or to participate, call Eddie Richardson 762-3612.

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Birthday Celebration Activities & Events

Theme: "I Believe I Can Fly" Isa. 40:31

OPENING SERVICE
Thursday, January 14, 1999
7:00 P.M.
Pilgrim Baptist Church
6119 - 19th Street

Rev. Wilbur Tanner Host Pastor

YOUTH NIGHT
Friday, January 15, 1999
7:30 P.M.
Lakeridge United Methodist Church
4701 - 82nd Street

Rev. Bill Couch Host Pastor

GOSPEL EXTRAVAGANZA
Saturday, January 16, 1999
7:00 P.M.
New Hope Baptist Church
2002 Birch Avenue

Rev. B.R. Moton Host Pastor

MASS CITY-WIDE CELEBRATION
Sunday, January 17, 1999
5:00 P.M.
Lubbock Memorial Civic Center Theatre
1501 - 6th Street

CLOSING SERVICES
Monday, January 18, 1999
6:30 P.M.
Estacado High School Auditorium
E. Itasca and M.L.K. Blvd.

Mr. Kenneth Wallace Host Principal



CHURCH DIRECTORY



WE THANK GOD FOR JESUS

“NOW TRY JESUS!!!”

PSALM 2:1,2, WHY DO THE HEATHEN RAGE, AND THE PEOPLE IMAGINE A VAIN THING? THE KINGS OF THE EARTH SET THEMSELVES, AND THE RULERS TAKE COUNSEL TOGETHER, AGAINST THE LORD, AND AGAINST HIS ANOINTED (JESUS).

DOING THIS UN-GODLY, UN-GRACEFUL, UN-BELIEVING XMAS SEASON; WHY DID YOU OBSERVE IT? JUST THINK: WHAT WAS YOUR REASON???

WHEN YOU ENTER THE STORES, HAVING NO MONEY; FOR WHAT REASON? PRICES TOO HIGH; CAN'T BUY A GIFT; IS STEALING YOUR XMAS SEASON???

GALATIANS 6:7,8,BE NOT DECEIVED; GOD IS NOT MOCKED; FOR WHATSOEVER A MAN SOWETH, THAT SHALL HE ALSO REAP. FOR HE THAT SOWETH TO HIS FLESH SHALL OF THE FLESH REAP CORRUPTION; BUT HE THAT SOWETH TO THE SPIRIT SHALL OF THE SPIRIT REAP LIFE EVERLASTING.

(THE THING ABOUT SOWING AND REAPING, IS YOU ALWAYS GET MORE THAN YOU SOWED. YOU CAN TAKE A GALLON OF CORN TO SOW(PLANT), BUT WHEN YOU REAP IT YOU'LL NEED A PICK UP TRUCK TO BRING IT IN!!!)

*****DID YOU ROB GOD ON THAT XMAS SEASON??***** WAS IT ANOTHER DAY OFF? TO DRINK LITE-BEER AND WINE; TO LAUGH AND CURSE WITH YOUR FRIENDS; SAYING WE'RE HAVING A GOOD TIME!!!

JOHN 4:10,14, JESUS SAID, IF THOU KNEWEST THE GIFT OF GOD, AND WHO IT IS THAT SAITH TO THEE, GIVE ME DRINK; THOU WoulDEST HAVE ASKED OF HIM, AND HE WOULD HAVE GIVEN THEE LIVING WATER, BUT WHOSOEVER DRINKETH OF THE WATER THAT I GIVE HIM SHALL NEVER THIRST; BUT THE WATER THAT I SHALL GIVE HIM SHALL BE IN HIM A WELL OF WATER SPRINGING UP EVERLASTING LIFE.

DID YOU COMMIT THE SIN OF FORNICATION, OR THE SIN OF ADULTERY? TO NEGLECT YOUR HOUSEHOLD; AND SUPPLY GOODS TO YOUR MISTRESS' FAMILY!!!

MATTHEW 24:12, JESUS SAID, BECAUSE INIQUITY (SIN) SHALL ABOUND, THE LOVE OF MANY SHALL WAX (GROW) COLD.

WAS YOUR XMAS A RERUN? OF WHAT YOU DID ON THANKSGIVING DAY; WATCH FOOTBALL, PLENTY OF FOOD; AND DIDN'T EVEN BOW TO SAY GRACE!!!

2 TIMOTHY 3:12, THIS KNOW ALSO, THAT IN THE LAST DAYS PERILOUS TIMES (DANGEROUS) SHALL COME. FOR MEN SHALL BE LOVERS OF THEIR OWN SELVES, COVETOUS, BOASTERS, PROUD, BLASPHEMERS, DISOBEDIENT TO PARENTS, UNTHANKFUL, UNHOLY.

*****ITS NOW TIME TO TRY JESUS!!!*****

THE WHOLE WORLD IS GONE CRAZY; DOCTORS, JUDGES, AND THE ANALYST; THEY HAVE TRIED MANY WAYS; BUT THEY CAN'T GET THE PROBLEM LICKED!!!

ISAIAH 1:18, COME NOW, AND LET US REASON TOGETHER, SAITH THE LORD: THOUGH YOUR SINS BE AS SCARLET, THEY SHALL BE AS WHITE AS SNOW; THOUGH THEY BE RED LIKE CRIMSON, THEY SHALL BE AS WOOL.

THE DOCTORS GIVE OUT PILLS, CIGARETTES AND ALCOHOL FOR THE BRAINS; TRYING TO KEEP THIS WORLD FROM GOING INSANE!!!

MATTHEW 11:28-30, JESUS SAID, COME UNTO ME, ALL YE THAT LABOUR AND ARE HEAVY (OPRESSED) LADEN, AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST. TAKE MY YOKE (THE HOLY BIBLE) UPON YOU, AND LEARN OF ME; FOR I AM MEEK AND LOWLY IN HEART; AND YE SHALL FIND REST UNTO YOUR SOULS. FOR MY YOKE IS EASY, AND MY BURDEN (SERVICE) IS LIGHT. GOD IS NOT THROUGH WITH US YET. SO LETS PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER ALWAYS.

WRITTEN BY EVANGELIST BILLY B.J. MORRISON, III YOUR BROTHER IS CHRIST JESUS!



from the Desk of Parson D.A. Smith

The Church of God

The fallen state of man can best be described by one word, sin. Sin is failure, error, iniquity, transgression, trespass, lawlessness and unrighteousness. It is unmitigated evil. The most characteristic feature of sin, in all of its aspects, is that it is directed against God.

The effect of sin has polluted our world's system, our nation's values, our state's government, our city's policies. It is responsible for the iniquities in our neighborhood. The stench of sin has visited our own homes making its characteristic expression in and through our lives.

Romans 6:23 tells us that, "the wages of sin is death." So devastating is the impact of sin in our lives that it leaves a wake of death

Heaven and Hell are In The Eye of the Beholder

His disciples questioned: "When will the Kingdom come?" Jesus answered: "It will never come if you are expecting it. Nobody will say, 'Here it is or there it is.' Rather the Kingdom of the Father is spread out upon the earth and men don't see it." Saying #113 Gospel of Thomas

Contrary to popular misconception we do not see with our eyes. Our eyes are merely receptacles which take in vibrations and reflections of light. Our nervous system and brain then processes these images and we "see" according to the way we have been socialized to recognize or define what we are observing. What we "see" is more a function of our perceptions and our point of view which includes our mental and physical perspective/location, our belief system, socialization, biases, memory and emotional responses to past experiences. Seeing is a cognitive as well as a physical process.

It has been said that one man's heaven is another man's hell. It all depends upon your perspective, orientation and values. By heaven and hell I mean states of consciousness rather than physical places of eternal bliss or suffering. Life presents us with a myriad of experiences. It is not what happens to us in life that counts, it is how we perceive ourselves and the event that determine our emotional response and how we cope or handle the situation. Our perceptions are based upon our self-image belief system, expectations and how we define our capabilities. What if we perceived our environment as the Kingdom of God, meaning one of divine potential? How would these beliefs and perceptions influence the way you conducted your affairs?

If you passively allow life (outside forces) to dictate your pace and experiences, you are nothing more than a puppet. I know there are

things in life you have no control over, but you always have control over how you perceive (define, evaluate or respond to) what is going on. You and only you, unless you have abdicated this power, can determine your expectations, limits, horizons and responses to life's vicissitudes. Is your life a heaven or a hell? Do you look for the divine potential in every situation, even tragedies and setbacks? When you expect things to work out in your favor, they usually do, no matter how bad the situation seems. They may not turn out exactly the way you planned or how you thought they would. But, they will turn out well if you look for the lesson in every situation.

We live in the here and now. What if we were socialized to believe we experienced heaven or hell in the here and now. What if we understood that our thoughts words and deeds initiated consequences and conditions that were either pleasant (heavenly) or dis-stressful (hellish). By heaven I mean atonement (at-one-ment, union) with our higher selves even in the midst of adversity, and righteous application of our talents leading to self-actualization, success, health and prosperity. Hell refers to the pain and suffering we bring upon ourselves when we fail to use our knowledge and abilities a right repeating the same mistakes over and over again.

If we live righteously now and if there is DIVINE JUSTICE, we will reap our just rewards both here and now and later. If we really believed that how many addicts would there be? Very few I think. Wouldn't we respect ourselves and our fellow man? Wouldn't we be more mature about life? Wouldn't we have a different outlook on setbacks and failure? If we believed the Kingdom Of The Father was spread out upon the earth, wouldn't we take advantage of all we have been given? Food for thought.

What, In A Man Himself, Interferes With Love?

I want people everywhere, including very much the readers of the San Antonio Register, to know what I was so fortunate to learn about love from Aesthetic Realism, the education founded in 1941 by the great American poet, critic and philosopher, Eli Siegel, for it changed my life and made true love possible!

Before studying Aesthetic Realism, like so many men, I went back and forth between blaming my failure in love on other people and my upbringing, the insufficiencies of the opposite sex, my bad luck—and then feeling there was something terribly wrong with me, without having any notion what that something was.

In the international periodical, The Right of Aesthetic Realism to Be Known, titled "What Opposes Love?" Mr. Siegel explains:

"The answer, then, to the question: What opposes love? is: The narrow self opposes love, with its great continual treasure, contempt. Love is either a possibility of seeing the world differently because something different from ourselves is seen as needed and lovely; or it is an extension of our imperialistic approval of ourselves in such a way that we have a carnal satellite."

Learning this enabled me to go from being a person who felt cynically that real love did not exist, to having a passionate conviction it does. That is what I feel in my marriage to the

woman I respect and care for so much, Donna Lamb, who is an Aesthetic Realism consultant.

Should We Need Anything?

Mr. Siegel has defined love as "proud need." But before studying Aesthetic Realism, I had increasingly a terrific desire not to need anything. "A person longs for love," Ellen Reiss explains in The Right Of #1136—but also feels that he is more important needing no one."

As a young boy I could spend hours playing tag and riding my bicycle with my friends; but as I got older, I felt more and more that people were bothersome, too changeable, too demanding, and the only person I could rely on and should need was myself. By my teens, while I would still hang out with friends on Friday night, I spent more and more time alone, feeling this was when I could do what I wanted, unencumbered by people who, as I put it, were "in my way" and "slowed me down." And I arrogantly felt there was hardly a thing another person could do for me that I couldn't do better for myself.

But as time passed, with all my smug self-reliance—and even as it was the last thing I would ever admit to—I worried about myself, feeling I would never have love and would spend the rest of my life in loneliness.

In an Aesthetic Realism class I had the honor to attend, Mr. Siegel explained a great mistake of my life: "When we see the outside world

wanting to assist us, we don't like it, even though the direction we've adopted for ourselves may not be the best."

And he put into words what he called my "very unwise motto": "Everything that happens to me must be done by myself; I won't let anything else affect me well!"

I love Mr. Siegel for criticizing straight the terrifically hurtful track I was on, enabling me to feel prouder of needing other people. Where I once couldn't be in a conversation with another person for more than two minutes without getting impatient and annoyed, for the first time I began listening to other people with pleasure. And instead of defending myself vociferously against anyone who questioned anything about me, I wanted to know people's observations of me and changed for the better through them. This made it possible for me really to have hope about love! It is a great pleasure to tell now about an instance of the rich education I've received on this subject in classes taught by the Class Chairman, Ellen Reiss.

Self-Love vs. Care for Another

A friend of mine once described so aptly an attitude of mine. He said I felt that I was doing a woman a great favor by granting her my occasional company, and that once I did, she should rest easy and be assured her wishes for a good life had been met. Despite the fact that again and again women made it

clear to me in no uncertain terms that they objected to being seen this way each time, I was shocked and hurt and felt I was the one being mistreated.

I am so grateful to Ellen Reiss for her tremendous good will in having me understand what stopped me from having true love and how this could change. In one class discussion, as I spoke dolefully yet so complacently about a recent breakup with a woman, Miss Reiss asked me, "Would you rather feel sad or change something central in yourself—the belief that you have the right to feel superior, to have contempt?" "I'm not sure," I answered. And she explained, "How much self-love interferes with love, you haven't wanted to look at...Do you think there is something you feel you're entitled to, and it doesn't go over with the ladies, and it doesn't go over with yourself?" I said yes.

For the purpose of enabling me to study that something instead of being run by it, Miss Reiss suggested I write each day, "An Instance of My Self-Love and How It Hurt Me." I wrote, for example:

"After leaving the museum today, what was most memorable to me were not the beautiful paintings I had seen, but what I thought were my very keen observations of them. I hurt myself because I could have had more feeling for these works but instead I chose to use some of the great art of the world to love myself, which is clearly not their purpose."

and destruction everywhere it has been. Where would we be without a Savior?

In John 10:10 Jesus described the contrast between His work and the devil's as it related to people. "The thief (devil) cometh not," sayeth the Lord, "but for to steal, and to kill and to destroy; I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."

Jesus is able to give us abundant living by wiping away our sin. He took our sins to the cross with Him so that we might have access to a Holy God, and so that we might walk this life here on earth in victory. "He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we were healed" (Isaiah 53:5).

City Wide ushers Will Meet

The City Wide Ushers will meet at the Greater St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church, 306 East 26th Street, Saturday, January 9, 1999, beginning at 5:00 p. m. Rev. J. H. Ford is the host pastor.

Saints, this is a new year, so let's all put God first in our lives for wisdom and might are His. He changes the times and the

seasons. Daniel 2:20-21.

Since this is the beginning of a new year, let's don't forget our canned items. Thanks to all of you for cooperating together last year. We would like to give a big "thank you" to the Southwest Digest.

Brother Robert Cork, president; and Sister Minnie Dardard, reporter.

The Outreach Prayer Breakfast

The members and friends of the Outreach Prayer Breakfast, last Saturday morning, January 2, 1999, at 9:00 a. m. in the lovely home of Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Hood, The main agenda of the meeting was to validate some things we will be doing in the City of Lubbock for this year such as prayer intercessors which will be in all the churches for a special purpose.

The meeting opened with songs of praises, with the scripture read by Rev. Sister Christine Burleson. Prayer was given by Sister Dorothy Nash. Testimonies were given by various members. Special remarks were also given.

I Psalms says: "We will be blessed if we walk not in the counsel of the ungodly." 23rd Psalms: "David said, even when we walk through the dark valley of death, we will not be afraid." If Timothy says: "For God hath not given us the spirit but of power and of love and a sound mind."

No doubt about it, we are faced with many problems which grows larger and larger by the day. As we seek to solve them in our own selfish insufficient way, we keep drifting into chaos. Our self centered greed blinds us to the answers which would help us in our need.

God knows our spirit, and makes us aware that our future depends on our sacrifice and prayer. Forgive us our transgression and revive our faith anew, so we may all grow closer to each other and to You.

When a nation is too proud to daily kneel and pray, it will crumble into chaos and descend into decay. So Lord, shake us again, and stir us to have compassion and raise our standards higher. Take away our lust for power, and make our one desire to be a shining symbol of all that's great and Godly in this City and Nation, as you lead us in our struggle toward a new found "Brotherhood." We have been handed a clean sheet for this year. Let's get it right this time!

REPENT - REPENT - REPENT! Read II Chronicles 7:14 and Mark 11:22-26. Love people! It does not matter the color, or if they are unlovable. Grit your teeth, and do it! You will be blessed! Think about it!

Breakfast was served last Saturday morning. It was nice and hot. We ate two ways: Spiritually and Physically. Come, you're always welcome. Look for our next meeting place in our weekly report.

Write to this group. We don't mind praying with you no matter what the problem which is in your path. Write: Outreach Prayer Breakfast, P. O. Box 1222, Lubbock, Texas 79408. Do it today!

Sister Dorothy Hood, president; Rev. Sister Christine Burleson, vice president; and Sister Ernestine Fraizer, secretary.

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Oprah Winfrey Takes An Incredible Journey In Toni Morrison's Beloved

I Am A Black Woman... One black woman born in Kosciusko, Mississippi, 22 miles from Jackson, 18 miles from Meridian where everybody still goes to catch the train just a hop, skip, and a jump from the Nile...
—Oprah Winfrey

WASHINGTON - Eleven years ago while reading Toni Morrison's novel "Beloved," talk show host and actress Oprah Winfrey saw a reflection of her own life in the character of Sethe. Like Sethe, she had suffered the death of her own child at age 14. Winfrey was determined to some day bring the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel to the silver screen and portray the character that mirrored her early years.

"Beloved" tells the story of one woman's determination to escape the memories of slavery, but is haunted by its painful past.

"From the very first day that I read ['Beloved'], I always saw myself as Sethe," says Winfrey, who was in Washington, D.C. recently to promote the upcoming release of "Beloved."

"I always saw myself as Sethe. And, I always saw Paul D as Danny Glover."

"Beloved" reunites Winfrey with actor Danny Glover, with whom she worked in Steven Spielberg's "The Color Purple." Working with the talented actor has been an incredible learning experience for Winfrey.

"Danny is an extraordinary human being," she said. "And even more, he is deliberate in his acting. He elevates everybody who is in the scene with him. You just feel like, 'Oh my God, he is so good. Oh my God, how can I be that good? I just want to be that good.' So, he makes you want to be better. He brings the truth out of you."

Taking on the complex character of Sethe presented Winfrey with many obstacles and fears as an actress. She found herself constantly questioning her own ability to play the character. My greatest fear was that [Sethe] would just be acted," says Winfrey. "that Sethe would just become a character and that I wouldn't be able to transform myself and let the purity of who I knew she was through. That was my greatest fear up until the very end." Another obstacle that Winfrey faced was her emotional personality - a quality that gave Toni Morrison

doubts about her ability to play the character.

"I heard [Morrison] told Jonathan Demme, 'Oprah Winfrey is emotional, Sethe is not, which is true,' she says. 'Sethe is not emotional at all. She's just iron-willed, in denial, and has beaten back the past.'"

To lose her emotions and the sadness of the painful moments that Sethe faced, Winfrey would go into her trailer to empty her sympathy for the character.

"There would be many a day when I would do the scenes and I would go and cry for what had happened in the scene, or cry before to empty myself. You've got to let that go and just tell the story."

In her search for a director for "Beloved", Winfrey encountered many roadblocks.

"Many years into it when people weren't responding to the first script that was written by Akosua [Busia], every director was telling me, 'you can't get that on the screen,'" says Winfrey. "And, 'you can't play [Sethe]' or 'let me decide if you can play her.' And I started to

think, well, maybe they're right. Maybe they're right and I'm wrong."

Unwilling to give up, Winfrey continued her search for a director until she contacted Academy Award-winning director Jonathan Demme, who had directed "Philadelphia" and "The Silence of the Lambs."

"Nobody believed me, but Jonathan Demme," says Winfrey. "I needed a director who was willing to let me try. I wasn't willing to give it up to somebody who just point blank said, 'you can't.'"

Born in Kosciusko, Miss., Winfrey began her broadcasting career at age 19. She made broadcasting history when she became the youngest African-American woman to anchor the news on Nashville's WTVF-TV.

In 1977, Winfrey went to Baltimore to work as a co-anchor at WJZ-TV with the late Jerry Turner. Several years later, she moved from the anchor desk to co-host of the once popular daytime talk show "People Are Talking" with Richard Sher.

During her tenure at Channel 13, Winfrey gained popularity for her honesty and warmth. In 1983 she left Baltimore for Chicago. After taking over as host of Chicago's "AM Chicago," the daytime talk show's ratings went through the roof. A year later, "AM Chicago" began taping "The Oprah Winfrey Show." The rest is history.

Winfrey gained national recognition as an actress when she played Sofia in Steven Spielberg's screen adaptation of Alice Walker's novel "The Color Purple." Her brilliant performance earned her rave reviews along with Academy Award and Golden Globe nominations.

According to Winfrey, 10 years ago she "wouldn't been able to do what was necessary" let go of herself while playing Sethe. But thanks to the stern advice given to her by the late Adolph Caesar who she says, "taught me how to act," she was able to tackle the character without any difficulty. "I was scared to death, scared to death every day," says Winfrey, as she recalls her days on the set of "The Color Purple." "I was terrified up to the very last day

of shooting the movie. I never relaxed."

Winfrey's nerves weakened when director Steven Spielberg asked her to cry in a scene. Unable to find tears, she spent the rest of the evening in her room crying until Caesar knocked on her door. She recalls the moment with a chuckle. "[He] came in and said, 'What is your problem?' And I said, 'I know I failed and Steven is going to fire me. He asked me to cry and I couldn't. I know he's going to have to start this movie all over.'"

Winfrey imitates Caesar in a firm, gruff voice. "You're trying to force the character to do something the character doesn't want to do. You give yourself over to the character. Let the character take control. You give yourself over, you hear me? You give yourself over damn it! And they take control. You're trying to control the character. And if the character wants to cry, she will cry. And not even Steven Spielberg can make her cry if she doesn't want to cry." And so I got it and it clicked with me."

After her triumph in "The

Color Purple," Winfrey went on to form Harpo Production which produces films, min-series, and TV series. Two of her most popular productions have been "The Women of Brewster Place" and "There Are No Children."

Winfrey has expanded her production duties with friend and co-producer Kate Forde. The two have formed "Oprah Winfrey Presents," a series of original films for television. Her latest projects have included Dorothy West's "The Wedding" and "Before Women Had Wings."

Now that "Beloved" has opened nationwide, Winfrey is both relieved and excited that her 11-year dream has become a reality. She hopes that audiences look beyond the "ghost story" and "walk away with whatever [they] bring."

"For some people, it's just a ghost story," says Winfrey. "And that's fine with me if you think she's just a ghost. But [the story is] layered... layered deep. There's not a gratuitous moment in the movie, so there's something there for everybody."



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Mississippi Head Start Program Receives \$2,777,214

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Today United States Representative Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS) announced that Coahoma Opportunities, Inc. in Clarksdale, Mississippi would receive \$2,777,214 grant from the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

Congressman Thompson said, "The Head Start programs in Mississippi continues to make significant investments in our children that will yield an immeasurable return in the future. These funds will enable thousands of low-income children to have a jump start on their futures."

Head Start is a national program that provides comprehensive developmental services for America's low-income, pre-school children ages three to five and social services for their families. There are approximately 1,400 community-based nonprofit organizations and social systems that develop unique and innovative programs to meet specific social service needs.

Head Start began in 1965 in the Office of Economic Opportunity and is now administered by the Administration for Children and Families.



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