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An Independent Pictorial Newspaper for All People • Primarily Serving the Black Population of Lubbock County and the Surrounding Area • Black Press of America

## NATIONAL NEWS

### Racial Policies of Oil Giants Involved in Merger Prompt Community Concern

The merger of two oil giants with histories of racial discrimination is prompting the concern of national civil rights groups and community organizations, many of whom receive funds from the two. Los Angeles based community groups, political leaders and representatives of national civil rights groups, including the Congressional Black Caucus, TransAfrica, CORE and the NAACP, held a press conference on March 19, 1997 to protest the merger of Shell and Texaco. The merger of their refining and marketing in 28 Midwest and Western states will make the new operations the largest in the domestic oil industry. Texaco was the subject of a nationwide boycott after tapes were made public featuring company executives making racist comments. Shell is currently the subject of a discrimination lawsuit by African-American employees, who charge the company with creating and maintaining a company-wide policy of racial based discriminatory employment policies. One plaintiff in the case against Shell said she heard she was not given a better performance review, because she reminded the regional manager of an "old washerwoman." This is the same plaintiff who in 1994 received the best numbers in her region but claims she was denied an internal award.

### Elders Address Disparity in AIDS Death Rates

According to new data released this month from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the overall death rate due to AIDS has declined for the first time since the beginning of the epidemic. However, while the overall death rate from AIDS declined by 13 percent, tremendous disparity was seen in the death rates among Hispanics and African Americans when compared to whites. Among whites, the AIDS death rate declined by 21 percent, while the decline was 10 percent among the Hispanics and only two percent among African Americans. In a recent telephone press briefing Dr. Joycelyn Elders, former U.S. Surgeon General and current professor of pediatric epidemiology at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences at Arkansas Children's Hospital, was joined by Moises Agosto, a patient advocate with the National Minority AIDS Council and Dr. Alberto Avendano, executive director of the Florida AIDS Action Council, to discuss the disparity. Key issues addressed included the potential barriers that may limit access to treatment and prevention information in affected populations, the importance of knowing one's HIV status and how to access assistance and the need for a clearer understanding of recent treatment advances as well as the importance of seeing a medical professional.

### Gov. Whitman Leads First-Ever International Conference for Minority and Women Entrepreneurs

New Jersey governor Christine Todd Whitman will be the keynote speaker at the 1997 Minority Business Conference and IMBC National and International Business Exposition, scheduled to be held at the Garden State Convention Center in Somerset, NJ on April 15 and 16, 1997. The International Minority Business Corporation (IMBC), a Newark-based non-profit organization, is the moving spirit and main organizer behind the event, the first of its kind in New Jersey. The conference theme is "Countdown 2000: Innovative Approaches for Building Relationships and Expanding Business Opportunities." Dignitaries from emerging market nations in Asia, the Pacific Rim, the Caribbean and the Americas, and representatives from U.S. corporations and government agencies will be present at the event. Scheduled seminars and workshops will focus on developing innovative partnerships and strategic alliances heading into the next century. More than 1000 minority and women business people are expected to attend the event where in addition to exhibiting their products and services, these entrepreneurs will also be able to investigate opportunities for their individual businesses. In an awards ceremony, the Rev. Leon H. Sullivan will be honored with the Ronald Brown International Trade award. The Chairman's Distinguished Public Servant award will go to the Hon. Donald Payne, congressman from New Jersey. For details about "Countdown 2000" call Scott Marioni at (908) 382-1066, ext. 241 or Rajesh Joshi, ext. 228.

## D.C. Kinner Retires After 50 Years of Barbering



They were known as the Kinner Brothers, that is, D.C. and H.C., who arrived in Lubbock, Texas in July of 1947. It will be 50 years of professional barbering come July of this year. Brother, H.C., expired here in January of this year. It was the last day of business as a barber, on Saturday evening, March 22, 1997 when D.C. closed the door of history in Lubbock, Texas. "It has been a great opportunity for us a barber," says D.C. Kinner. "Of course, I'll miss barbering, but that's life," he smiled. A very quiet gentleman, he would always have a smile on his face and willing to talk to the person in the chair or those who were waiting. "It was just great to be able to have something to say to our customers over the years. But you know, that's the way of life, things will change," he continued. Hoping the establishment at 1704 East 4th Street, he is happy over the youth who have filled the barber shears there. With the name of Estacado Matadors Barber Shop, the Kinner Brothers occupied this location since 1969. "It was a great location, and will miss going there each day," admitted D.C. Kinner.

Looking back over the years, D.C. Kinner admitted he couldn't believe how fast time passes. "You know, it has been fun and wonderful to be able to make positive contribution to the community in which you live. Being able to make someone feel good about the way they look, to me, a blessing," he said. He told the Southwest Digest, the Kinner Brothers first employment as a professional barber was with the Waymond Henry Barber Shop, located near New Hope Baptist Church on Birch Avenue; next they organized and founded the Kinner Brothers Barber Shop on East 19th Street; also worked in the barbers shop owned by the late Arthur Blanton. Prior to their location at 1704 East 4th Street, the Kinner Brothers were located at the Parkway Drive Shopping Center.

When asked what kind of advice he would leave for those young barbers at the Estacado Matadors Barber Shop, he said, with sincerity, "Be prompt with your business and have a correct time to open and close. Be consistent in your opening and closing. But most of all, please, be courteous with your precious customers."

After 50 years of professional barbering, Lubbock, Texas will miss the Kinner Brothers. Both made an outstanding contribution to Lubbock. For that, Lubbock, Texas is a much better place for all of us to live and work.

## WARE, TOWNSEND ENSHRINED IN BLACK PRESS HALL OF FAME

By the NNPA Communications Department

J. Lowell Ware, founder of the Atlanta Voice and Arthur Patrick Townsend, founder of the Precinct Reporter and the Tri-County Bulletin were enshrined in the Black Press Hall of Fame, in ceremonies held March 20, 1997 at Howard University.

Mr. Ware and Mr. Townsend join a sterling group of African-American publishers who have shaped and nurtured the Black Press over the last 170 years since John Russwurm and Sam Cornish established the first Black newspaper, Freedom's Journal, in 1827.

"We honor those who have gone before us and led the way in this fight," NNPA President Dorothy Leavell told family, friends and fellow publishers at an afternoon luncheon to honor the two men. Program participants included Howard University President H. Patrick Swygert, Dr. Thomas Battle, head of the Black Press Archives project and singer Robin "Sugar" Williams.

Later, in a candlelight ceremony, the names of Mr. Ware and Mr. Townsend were added to a roll-call of previously inducted publishers. In addition, personal reflections about the two were given by current NNPA member publishers. Atlanta Inquirer publisher John Smith recalled Mr. Ware's dedication to young Black students, while

Black Voice News publisher and NNPA 1st Vice President Hardy Brown described Mr. Townsend as a man "very committed to his community."

The off-spring of Mr. Ware and Mr. Townsend were also presented with plaques honoring their fathers, duplicates of which will hang in the Archives in HU's Moorland Springam Library.

The publisher of the Precinct Reporter in San Bernardino, CA and the Tri-County Bulletin, also in California, Mr. Townsend was a long-time member of the National Newspaper Publishers Association.

A founding member of the West Coast Black Publishers Association, Mr. Townsend was a former branch president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and was largely responsible for council districts being redrawn in San Bernardino during the 1960s, paving the way for the election of the first Black official in the history of the area.

He established the Precinct Reporter, the widest-read weekly newspaper in the Inland Empire of Southern California in 1965. The paper has received national recognition and several editorials have been introduced into the Congressional Record. He published the Reporter for more than 23 years, until his

death in 1989. Mr. Townsend was also the publisher of the Tri-County Bulletin, the only Black-oriented weekly newspaper in Orange County.

Mr. Ware was also a dedicated newspaperman, who perceived publishing as the essence of his life's work.

"My mission has been, from the beginning to improve the lot of our people, to promote the welfare of the Black community, to speak for Black folk, to demand and ask for their rights, to report the news as fast and as fair as I can for the Black community," Mr. Ware wrote in 1987.

His devotion began early in life. By the time he was a sophomore in high school, Mr. Ware was working in the press room at the Birmingham (Alabama) Mirror.

He established the Atlanta Inquirer as a voice for the Black community in 1960, and in 1966, he teamed with another African-American newspaperman, Ed Clayton to publish the Atlanta Voice. "The paper's influence and popularity became so pervasive the Atlanta Police Department planted an informer inside to probe its news gathering operation," recalls one longtime observer.

Mr. Ware died in 1991 after publishing the Voice for more than two decades.

## 1996 Newsmaker Honorees Salute Black Press for its Support



1996 Newsmaker Honorees Salute Black Press for its Support. By the NNPA Communications Department. Congresswoman Maxine Waters, comedian Dick Gregory and talk show host Joe Madison saluted the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) for its support, after receiving the organization's 1996 Newsmakers of the Year award in a gala dinner, Thursday, March 20, 1997 in Washington, D.C.

The three were selected by NNPA's 200-plus member publishers for their "courage and commitment in exposing the horrors of the CIA/Contra/crack cocaine scandal," said NNPA President Dorothy Leavell. "We must honor those who lift us up...on the road to freedom. These three people had truly led with the torch."

In accepting her award, Rep. Waters, who has pushed for legislative hearings as well as federal investigations into the matter, said she had become involved with the CIA/crack issue because "we are sick and tired of having people play with us."

"I wanna thank you for carrying the story," said Rep. Waters, whose Los Angeles district has been severely affected by the crack epidemic. Co-awardee Mr. Gregory, who has been on a fast for over four months to force the government to declassify material relating to the CIA's involvement in the deadly proliferation of crack in urban America, was also grateful for the role the Black Press has played in keeping the issue in the public eye.

"What a beautiful feeling to be among peers, to be validated by your peers," he said. "We have come here to tell you thanks... God made you the keeper of the flame," Mr. Gregory told audience members.

Mr. Gregory also announced that protesters would again be targeting the CIA headquarters in a Good Friday demonstration. He and others were arrested outside the Langley, VA facility last year while attempting to deliver a copy of articles from the California-based San Jose Mercury News. According to the newspaper CIA-backed operatives pumped \$1 billion worth of crack cocaine into Black neighborhoods, in Watts, Compton and South-Central Los

Angeles during the 1980s. The profits from the sales were used to buy arms for Nicaraguan Contra rebels, the investigative articles allege.

In addition, Mr. Gregory described a long-term plan which would include the commercial boycott of Thanksgiving and Christmas, if documents relating to the CIA's role in the matter are not re-released by July 4.

Mr. Madison, who has used his Washington, D.C.-based talk show to publicize the issue, encouraged the Black Press to "stay on the story and editorialize about the issue... We have to rattle these cages," he said.

The second annual Newsmaker of the Year Dinner attracted some of the nation's top officials, including Rep. Shelia Jackson-Lee (D-TX); Rep. Donna M. Christian (D-Virgin Islands); Washington, D.C. Mayor Marion Barry; Dr. Henry J. Lyons, president of the 8.5 million member National Baptist Convention USA Inc.; Patrick Ayendi from the Nigerian Embassy; Washington, D.C. Council members Sandy Allen, (D-Ward 8) and Hilda Mison (S-At-large); D.C. Shadow Representative Sabrina Sojourner; D.C. Shadow Senator Paul Strauss; C. Delores Tucker, national chair of the National Political Congress of Black Women and Archbishop George Stallings, head of The African-American Catholic Congregation.

NNPA President Dorothy Leavell reminded attendees that the Black Press is just as relevant today as when John Russwurm and Sam Cornish established the nation's first African-American newspaper, The Freedom's Journal in 1827.

"There is still a need for the Black Press in America. We've got the power, and we've got to use it," she said.

The NNPA Newsmaker of the Year, which is in its second year, recognizes African Americans who have most influenced issues of concern to Black America and who have made significant strides in bringing about positive change. Last year, Na'ima of Islam's Minister Louis Farrakhan was named 1995 Newsmaker of the Year for his spearheading of the Million Man March in October 1995.

## REP. THOMPSON BILL ASSISTS LOCATION OF ABDUCTED CHILDREN

(House Committee hears testimony from Mexican Delegation)



State Rep. Senfronia Thompson, Chairwoman of the House Judicial Affairs Committee, recently welcomed a delegation from Mexico, in Austin to provide information about child abduction and measures which can be taken to improve the process of finding missing children on both sides of the border. Rep. Thompson has introduced legislation that will assist law enforcement in the location of children, including those abducted by one of their own parents.

The bill requires school districts to obtain birth certificates and information regarding prior attendance at other schools from new enrollees under 11 years of age. It also requires law enforcement to notify the Bureau of Vital Statistics at the Texas Department of Health when a child is reported missing. The Bureau must then flag that child's records and notify law enforcement when a request is made for that child's records. Other requirements involving notice to out-of-state law enforcement is included.

Rep. Thompson said the sharing of information by the various entities can lead to the location of a child abducted by one parent and taken to another area of the state and enrolled in school there, or taken to another state.

The abduction of a child by a non-custodial parent is an increasing problem that requires

special attention by the Legislature," Thompson said.

"Unfortunately we cannot legislate common sense and cooperation by feuding ex-spouses. This legislation will help law enforcement locate and return children to the custodial parents and end the instability of their life on the run."

Texas Attorney General Dan Morales, who also testified at the hearing, said: "There is one common thread running through child custody and child support problems. It is that the children are emotionally traumatized and in other ways deprived by the animosity and lack of cooperation between the warring ex-partners." "In one instance, the parent runs and hides from his or her financial responsibility to the child, depriving the child of necessary food, clothing and adequate housing. In the other instance, one parent deprives the child of important, nurturing contact with the other parent," Morales added.

The Attorney General said that the increasing number of international marriages is increasing the number of parental child abduction cases across international boundaries. In 1995, the U.S. State Department reported it had 1,200 active, unresolved, international parental child abduction cases on file. It is known that in 1995, at least 320

Texas children were abducted by their non-custodial parents.

For parents whose children are taken across international boundaries, the task of finding and regaining custody of the child is much more complicated. Federal Senator Alicia Lopez De La Torre of the State of Coahuila, Mexico, told the committee that child abductions are on the rise in Mexico, which has led to the formation of various foundations dedicated to finding those children as well as children missing from the United States. In most cases, the victims families have themselves started these groups in order to help police and other victims. Two women, whose children were kidnapped in Mexico by strangers and are still missing, also testified before the committee. One of them formed the "Foundation for Abducted Children of America."

"Our visit to Texas represents our desire to establish cooperative measures that will help parents on both sides of the border," Lopez said. "We are here to learn about your laws and problems in this area and share information about ours."

Several representatives from the Consul General's Office of Mexico also attended the hearing as well as an expert witness from the Santa Clara, California District Attorney's Office. Members of the House Judicial Affairs Committee are: Rep. Senfronia Thompson, Chairwoman, D-Houston; Rep. Will Harnett, Vice Chairman, R-Dallas; Rep. Ron Clark, R-Sherman; Rep. Joe Crabb, R-Humble; Rep. Vilma Luna, D-Corpus Christi; Rep. John Shields, R-San Antonio; Rep. Jim Solis, D-Harlingen; Rep. Zeb Zbrancik, D-Winnie; and Rep. Domingo Garcia, D-Dallas. Legislation co-sponsors are: Rep. Jim Solis, D-Harlingen; Rep. Miguel Wise, D-Westlaco; Rep. Henry Cuellar, D-Laredo; and Rep. Gilberto Serra, D-El Paso.

NOTICE! The Southwest Digest is now in its 20th year. Watch out for a major event coming in the future.





## Ruby Jay's Corner

Services at the New Hope Baptist Church, 2002 Birch Avenue, last Sunday morning were really great. Our pastor, Rev. Billy R. Moten, is our spiritual leader. New Hope is the "Church Where The People Really Care."

Services began last Sunday morning with Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. with Assistant Superintendent James Sterling at his post of duty. Classes received instruction for thirty minutes and returned to the main auditorium singing "What a Fellowship".

High points of the lesson were given by Class No. 2 with Sister Dorothy Kinner as teacher. Sister Kinner gave some very good points.

Secretary Report: All classes reported a positive report.

The morning devotional period was led by Brother and Sister F.J. Jenkins.

The Male Chorus marched in the processional singing "On the Battlefield." Altar prayer was offered by Deacon Earnest Swain. A song, "Tell the World Jesus Is Lord", was sung. Scripture, Psalms 104:1-4, was read by Brother Napoleon Cooper. Prayer was given by Brother Harry Stokley. Another song, "Haven't Been to Heaven, But Been Told Streets are Paved with Gold," was sung. The sermon hymn of preparation was "Blessed Assurance."

Pastor Moten's scripture was Judges 7:16-21. His subject was "Trust God for

Victory." This sermon left something for all to think about all this week.

An invitation to discipleship was extended. Two came for prayer; one for restoration; one for baptism; and one was just returning back home. What a blessing!

Rev. Jeff Brown was absent from services last Sunday morning as he preached at Rising Star Baptist Church. Pastor F.B. Bell, pastor of Rising Star Baptist Church, was ill. Our prayers go out to him.

Let us continue to pray for our sick and shut in citizens. Sister Linda Henderson had a fall last week. Sister Ruby Tennison is still a patient at St. Mary Hospital. Sister Edwina Woods is home from the hospital.

The Deaconess and Trustees of New Hope Baptist Church are entourage of devotionals at New Hope during Prayer Meeting and Bible Study for the month of April. This will happen each Wednesday evening from 7:00p.m. until 7:30.

Christine Roberts attended a Marketing Class from Southwest College held last week in Dallas, Texas.

Louise West visited a cousin who is very ill in Nacogdoches, Texas last week. Sister Mary Roberts visited a very sick cousin in Crosbyton, Texas last week. They as for your prayers. God is able.

Let us pray for Sister Colquitt's sister, Mrs. Anderson, who is very ill in the hospital.

## Major League Baseball and the Jackie Robinson Foundation Honor Barrier Breaker on 50th Anniversary



Major League Baseball and the Jackie Robinson Foundation (JRF) today unveiled a series of initiatives celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Jackie Robinson's entry into the major leagues, and advancing the barrier-breaking spirit that guided Robinson throughout his life as an athlete, businessman, and social activist.

The cornerstone of Major League Baseball's efforts is dedicating the 1997 championship season to the memory of Jackie Robinson.

The initiatives undertaken by both organizations are aimed at educating adults and young people about the significance and importance of barrier breakers, while also raising funds for the Jackie Robinson Foundation scholarship and leadership development programs.

"Fifty years ago, Jackie Robinson and Major League Baseball together made history and forever moved the United States to a higher level of equality," said Allan H. (Bud) Selig, chairman of the Major League Executive Council. "We are honored to join with the Foundation in celebrating Jackie's legacy during this anniversary year."

Jackie Robinson first appeared in a Brooklyn Dodger uniform on Opening Day in April, 1947, shattering a barrier that had excluded baseball players of color from the major leagues for more than a half century. By the end of the 1950s, every major league club had players of African and Latino descent on their rosters. "Jackie's life is a symbol of what can be achieved," said Rachel Robinson, founder of the Jackie Robinson Foundation. "The goal of the Foundation is to cultivate the leadership talents of young people who embody the same determination, integrity, and passion that guided my husband's actions on and off the ballfield."

Leonard S. Coleman, Jr., president of the National League and chairman of the Jackie Robinson Foundation, said: "The impact of Jackie Robinson's breakthrough was so profound that Americans began to see themselves, and their favorite sport, in a new

light. Jackie's ascendancy foreshadowed the greatest civil movement in America in the 20th century. His contributions on the playing field and as a civil rights leader led to barriers being broken in business, education, politics, and sports."

Dr. Gene A. Budig, president of the American League, said: "All of baseball reflects in the glory of the courage and stamina of the man who took those first difficult steps as well as those who immediately followed. Baseball is a greater game because of them and we will always remember and honor their contributions."

Betty Phillips Adams, president and CEO of the Jackie Robinson Foundation, said: "The 50th Anniversary offers the Jackie Robinson Foundation the opportunity to expand our external base of financial support. In 1996, the Foundation provided scholarships to 43 college freshmen, the largest class ever, and we are confident that Jackie's anniversary year will result in the ability to support an increased number of JRF Scholars."

Among the initiatives planned for the year (see attached for complete listing), major and minor league players, umpires, and RBI youth program members will wear commemorative patches on their uniforms throughout the season. Also, fundraising activities to benefit the Foundation scholarship programs, as well as cross-licensing and sponsorship activities, will be conducted by Major League Baseball, its teams, and the Foundation.

The Jackie Robinson Foundation is a public, not-for-profit national educational foundation established by Rachel Robinson in 1973. The Foundation serves as an advocate for outstanding young adults with financial need, and its programs are concentrated in the field of college scholarships and leadership skills development. Since its inception, the Foundation has provided almost 500 students with scholarships and a comprehensive range of support services throughout their college years.

## ALL ABOARD FOR BUSINESS!



Pepsi-Cola executives Fred Canady, Director, Minority Business Enterprise Development, left, and Peter Wilcox, Manager, Government Affairs, right, welcome guests to a reception for riders on New Jersey's 60th Annual Chamber of Commerce roundtrip train to Washington, D.C. With them is Dr. Henry Johnson, publisher of the City News in Plainfield, N. J. More than 1,300 New Jersey riders took the special train to Washington for discussions of economic issues with elected and appointed officials

and corporate executives. At the reception and during the train ride, Canady promoted Pepsi's interest in furthering a pro-growth business environment for minority entrepreneurs. He also joined with other corporate leaders in discussing potential business partnerships and new initiatives. Since its inception in 1981, Pepsi's Minority Business Enterprise Development Program has purchased more than \$900-million in goods and services from minority business persons

## Coors' Annual Black History Month Celebration in Denver



GOLDEN, Colo. -- Donning contemporary African attire, Coors Brewing Company executives L. Don Brown, senior vice president of Operations and Technology, left, and Moses Brewer, national program manager of African American programs, right, join Ahneva Ahneva, director of Designers Network International, at Coors' annual

Black History Month celebration in Denver. This year's event featured Fashion Heritage: The Cultural Connection, a theatrical fashion show celebrating the influence of ancient African artistry on modern fashion design. More than 400 people attended the event which was sponsored by the Coors African American Association, an employee group

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**New Community Coordinator**

December 17th 1996  
 Blanche Swisher was elected Community Coordinator, which meets the first Monday of every month. Blanche works as Community Coordinator for the AARP.

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## A Partnership for Public Education

by Kweisi Mfume and Carole Shields



Across all racial and gender lines and transcending the ideological borders of our political parties, one belief should unite us as Americans: that public education should be a consistent, national commitment to every child. As long as we commit to keeping our strong schools strong and making our weak schools better, we know that our children can do anything.

But now, our nation's covenant with our children is in question. That is why two organizations committed to strong public schools -- the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and People For the American Way -- are proud to announce a Partnership for Public Education. This partnership seeks to ensure that public education will remain a fundamental guarantee for all our children.

What threatens our children and what threatens our children's schools? A pernicious, steal-from-the-poor-and-give-to-the-rich scheme known as vouchers. Voucher proposals now pending in both houses of Congress as well as nearly two dozen state legislatures would take money away from our public school students and give it to private schools. And abandon many of our children in the process.

These proposals represent a dire threat to public education in this nation.

What is wrong with vouchers? Plenty -- but our foremost objection is this: They leave children behind. There aren't enough classrooms and there aren't enough desks in private schools to hold all of the children who might want to be included. And, private schools are selective. Unlike our public schools, they are not required, nor are they inclined many times, to regard children as equally desirable to their school when it comes to race, gender, faith, national origin, disability, educational challenge. Vouchers take us to a world in which private schools cherry-pick the best and the brightest, leaving the other children behind to languish in schools that are robbed of precious funds. Skin color, religion, economic class, language group, need for remedial work -- all of these things would be barriers to acceptance and success in a system designed around the

choices of the private schools, not the choices of the parents and students. And what happens when private schools do let economically disadvantaged kids in? In the few places where voucher programs exist -- Milwaukee and Cleveland, for example -- vouchers pay only part of the tuition bills. Parents pay the rest. Transportation costs? Parents pay. Extracurricular activities, such as sports or band? Parents pay. Books for learning? You guessed it -- parents pay.

Although none is so pressing as the attack they represent on our children's future, other problems exist with respect to voucher proposals. Vouchers would assuredly result in many Americans paying more in property taxes -- either directly or through higher rents. Urban school districts, faced with an even greater exodus of students and dollars, would be forced to prevail upon state legislatures for multi-million-dollar bailouts, or they would disintegrate altogether. And last but not never least: Let us not forget that the U.S. Constitution expressly precludes spending public funds on the advancement of religion -- and that is exactly what would happen if public tax dollars are funneled to private schools, including sectarian ones.

Voucher proponents argue that the public schools are like sinking ships. But they are trying to throw life preservers to a few, select children. We know that it's better to make our public education ship seaworthy and safe. We can do this by taking an interest in our schools, by attending school board meetings and parent-teacher conferences, by asking our kids what they did at school that day -- and listening closely to their answer.

The NAACP and People For the American Way formed a Partnership for Public Education because we feel it is time to reclaim our public schools, and our national commitment to the opportunity of every child. Every child counts. All children need free and open access to quality education. And not one child must be left behind.

Kweisi Mfume is President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization.

Carole Shields is President of People For the American Way (PFAW), a national nonprofit organization dedicated to defending civil rights and promoting the democratic values of freedom, respect for diversity and tolerance of difference.

## OVERTURN THE ANTI-WELFARE LAW

Thousand will protest on April 27 when Clinton comes to Philadelphia

Declaring that their intention is to overturn the welfare legislation that was passed last year, a national network of organizations has announced that thousands of protesters will greet President Clinton, George Bush, and Colin Powell when they host the Summit on America's Future in Philadelphia on April 27, 1997.

The April 27 protest is the "First step in creating a mass movement to overturn both the welfare and immigration reform bill," stated Pat Tucker of the National People's Campaign (NPC). She said that busloads of demonstrators would be coming to Philadelphia from New York, Boston, Baltimore, Washington D.C., Cleveland and twenty other cities.

On behalf of the NPC Tucker said, "The cruel inhuman anti-welfare law will create a disaster for millions of people. We demand that President Clinton use his legal powers of executive authority to suspend the application of this vicious law and prevent a national disaster that will impover-

ish at least 2.6 million people, including 1.1 million children. In a rich country like the United States it is unconscionable that 800,000 immigrants are about to lose their Supplemental Security Income, and that between 100,000 and 200,000 disabled children will also lose their SSI. It is criminal that corporate welfare continues unabated, that the biggest defense contractors will be provided \$280 billion to make weapons of mass destruction while 11 million families will lose income averaging \$1,300 per family as a result of this law. These cuts have nothing to do with helping people to get jobs. Welfare is a fraud to help employers get cheap labor and give an excuse to throw mothers, children and helpless individuals off the welfare rolls."

The April 27 demonstration will also demand a new trial for African-American journalist and death row prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal is a well known critic of racist practices by the Philadelphia police department.

## Obituary



MARY NELL MENELEE ALLEN

Dallas, Texas - Funeral services were held Saturday morning, March 15, 1997 for a former resident of Lubbock, Texas. She was Mary Nell Menefee Allen. Services were held at the Macedonia Baptist Church with Rev. Everett Bruner officiating. Rev. L.J. Taylor is pastor.

Interment was held in Laurel Land Memorial Park, Dallas, Texas, under the direction of Cedar Crest Funeral Homes.

She was born March 4, 1938 to Estella and Hardey Menefee in Marling, Texas. She received her formal education at Dunbar High School in Lubbock, Texas. After graduation, she moved to Dallas where she enrolled in Madame Coleman Beauty School from 1959 until 1960.

At an early age, she confessed her faith in Christ and united with the Lyons Chapel Baptist Church in Lubbock, Texas. She married John P. Allen in 1962. She also united with Macedonia Baptist Church under the pastorate of Rev. L.J. Taylor. She was a very active member and served as the President of the Senior Choir, Church Clerk and Secretary.

Mrs. Allen was employed by NationsBank of Dallas, Texas for eighteen and a half years. She was also a hair stylist part time, until her death.

She is survived by her husband, John P. Allen of Dallas, Texas; a daughter, Sherry L. Allen of Dallas, Texas; a son, Ronald Menefee of Lubbock, Texas; a step-son, Norman Perry of Dallas, Texas; four grandchildren: Carl Govan, Jr., Shantercia Govan, Juan Ross and Shanique Ross; one god-children, Keith White. She also leaves her mother, Mrs. Estella Bonner of Lubbock, Texas; a sister, Thelma Eden of Lubbock, Texas; a brother, Hardey Menefee of Los Angeles, California; nephew, Jerry White of Lubbock, Texas; and a host of aunts, uncles and cousins.



JOE FOUNTAIN

Funeral services were held March 12, 1997 for a longtime resident of Lubbock, Texas, Joe Fountain, at the Ford Memorial Church of God in Christ with Elder Henry Johnson, superintendent, officiating.

Interment was held in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the directions of Rix Funeral Directors.

Fountain died here Friday, March 7, 1997, at St. Mary Hospital.

A resident of Buffalo, Texas, he was born September 1, 1948. He moved to Lubbock in

1958. He attended Dunbar High School, and was a U.S. Army veteran of the Vietnam War. He married Dovie C. Howard on January 25, 1974 in Lubbock.

Survivors include: his wife, Mrs. Dovie Fountain of the home; a son, Elex Fountain of Lubbock, Texas; a daughter, Angela Fountain of Lubbock, Texas; his mother and step-father, Roberta and Abe Clark, Jr., both of Lubbock, Texas; five sisters: Louise Sheppard, Geraldine Ellis, Mae Lacy and Gennell Nails, all of Lubbock, Texas and Bobbie Dean of Dallas, Texas; a brother, Gerald Fountain of Anaheim, California; and three grandchildren.

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# EDITORIALS • COMMENTS • OPINIONS

## THIS N THAT

**THANKS FOR YOUR CONCERN, FAMILY OUTREACH!!** THIS N THAT... walked in the heavy rains, last Thursday evening ... to be in a special service for honoring the lives of the children who died... FROM CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT IN 1996... This special ... CANDLELIGHT VIGIL... was sponsored by the... FAMILY OUTREACH CENTER OF LUBBOCK... It was very emotional effort... and the program... made us aware... that is... those in attendance... of the PROBLEM... facing our ... YOUNG CHILDREN... in Lubbock... and the State of Texas, as well as the nation... Just last year, 1996... there were ... ONE HUNDRED AND ONE CHILDREN... who are no longer with us... in Lubbock ... because of ... CHILD ABUSE... or... NEGLECT... surely... this can be corrected... and it can be corrected... if we as... CONCERNED CITIZENS... would get involved and look at the real picture... of what is happening in our community... Some will say that this doesn't impact our community... but it really does... Anytime you lose... ONE HUNDRED YOUNG PEOPLE TO CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT... There is a tremendous impact on the ... ENTIRE COMMUNITY... THANKS... FAMILY OUTREACH CENTER OF LUBBOCK... for what you do... and hopefully ... more in Lubbock and surrounding area will get involved with what you are doing...

**SISTER SHIRLEY CANADY THE BARBER SAYS:** "SUCCESS... is getting what you WANT... HAPPINESS... is wanting what you GET..."

**MAE SIMMONS SWIMMING POOL WILL GET NEW LOOK!!** THIS N THAT... has learned that... BIDS... are in place to do something about the MAE SIMMONS SWIMMING POOL... and... it could be in place for the ... SUMMER SWIMMING PARTIES ... for our community... How many of you remember when... MAE SIMMONS SWIMMING POOL... would have a ... "MISS MAE SIMMONS POOL"?... Now couldn't this kind of an activity... or some other kinds of activities could be put into place... for our community... anyway... let's hope there will be ... MANY MANY ACTIVITIES... at this swimming pool... say come this summer... Are there any church or community groups who would like to get involved in some activities... at MAE SIMMONS SWIMMING POOL...

**NEED TO LISTEN TO "SPEAK OUT LUBBOCK!!"** THIS N THAT... would like to advise of a very

interesting ... RADIO SHOW... which is heard each... SATURDAY NIGHT... over radio station KLFB... 1420 A.M. from 8:00 a.m. until 9:30 P.M.... Why not check it out... and tell other to ... TUNE IN... and visit with radio host... T.J. PATTERSON... by calling... 765-5016... If you have something to talk about then... GIVE A CALL!

**MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE WORKING ON BACCALAUREATE SERVICES!!** THIS N THAT... has learned from REV. D.A. SMITH... pastor of Smith Temple Community Church... and the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance... of the upcoming... BACCALAUREATE SERVICES... for graduating seniors of ESTACADO HIGH SCHOOL... are being planned for MAY, 1997... More on this in the near future... It has been learned that the services will be held at the ... MT. GILEAD BAPTIST CHURCH... School Board member... MRS. KATHYL ANDERSON... District 2 is working with the project... according to Rev. Smith...

**DR. CARTER G. WOODSON CLUB MEETS AT PATTERSON LIBRARY!** THIS N THAT... advises of the weekly meeting of the ... DR. CARTER G. WOODSON CLUB... each Thursday... from 4:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. at the... Patterson Library... 1816 Parkway Drive... Let's get involved with this effort!

**MLK LEAGUE OPENS SATURDAY!!** THIS N THAT... advises of the... OPENING OF THE MARTIN LUTHER KING LITTLE LEAGUE... Saturday... April 12th... Come out and support our little people ... boys and girls... THIS N THAT... enjoys watching the young people... PLAY T-BALL!! WHAT A GAME!!

**GLAD YOU CAME FOR A FEW DAYS!!** THIS N THAT... had opportunity to visit with a young lady... CLARA MONTGOMERY... who is a resident of ... LAKE CHARLES, LA... and also a former... CLASSMATE of... co-publisher... EDDIE P. RICHARDSON... She spent a few days in our city last month... to visit her friend and his mother... MRS. HELEN HEREFORD... THIS N THAT... notes of how important it is for ... FRIENDS... to remain... CLOSE FRIENDS... over the years... THANKS... CLARA MONTGOMERY... for visiting our city and may you come again.....

## WHY CAN'T WE DO RIGHT?

by Eddie P. Richardson



I have been an observer, supporter and sometimes critic of City Hall for over 30 years and noticed leaks behind the scenes meeting behind the press. Something is wrong, very wrong, very moral dampening every small detail is not necessary for every citizen to know because if they do not know all the details and why it can only lead to more confusion, misunderstanding, and misguided opinions.

The latest media frenzy has caused confusion misunderstanding the media for ratings and being first with sound bites deadlines and time allocations gives just enough coverage to confuse the public. Another media fault is trying suspects before they go to trial forms opinions, hampers investigations serves no worthwhile purposes but to protect or clear people before they face a judge or jury.

### TWO IMPORTANT HISTORICAL EVENTS

As we look at the entrance into all white baseball which changed the course Jack Roosevelt, Jackie Robinson, he was a gentleman, scholar, and tremendous athlete he was the best for his time to meet the challenge he did not hoop and holler, keep up a lot of noise, wear an earring, paint his hair he did his on the field by hits, runs, stealing bases, and being a gentleman. He also was an advocate for civil rights and human justice, his main goal was baseball, setting a tone for Black athletes, he put his money where most of us put our mouth, he set the tone for Arthur Ash he was also a gentleman, scholar, and athlete who was a huge civil rights advocate. Thanks Jack (Jackie) Roosevelt Robinson for your contribution to your

race, America and baseball. Another event recent anniversary along with Jackie's entrance into segregated baseball was murder of Martin Luther King at the Theresa Motel in Memphis, Tenn., James Earl Ray was apprehended, confessed and immediately recanted his confession after years of recanting his confession, with every thing being to convenient in the first place.

Ray was a drifter, unemployed if he committed the murder he was not alone how did he get to Canada?

Years of research and investigation has proven he did not commit the murder and even if by chance he did he was not alone who paid him? Who told him top confess and they would take care of him? After this did not happen he figured out he had been duped and wanted to change his story.

The man is not educated no doubt was a devout racist so he was easy to recruit but the man is now dying it is very doubtful anyone will donate him an organ his only hope is a miracle from God. The man should be heard in court if possible dying in need of an organ even after years of research and investigations even the King family believes he is innocent and should have a trial.

Some of the chief suspects are J. Edgar Hoover it is no secret King was high on his hit and hate list others the CIA and mob along with others. That was not racist including Hollywood actors, entertainment person and anyone else that believed in human and civil rights was on Hoovers list. The CIA's list is not good on anyone who does not go along with the good ole boy, Bubba, racist tradition including students Thank God it is not what it used to be but it is still not what it ought to be. The more people communicate with each other the better it becomes: we have come along way, we are no there yet but we are on our way.

## IN CINQUE

by Renetta W. Howard



Too many of our young people are leaving home these days for some reason or another, when they are really too young and innocent to cope with all of the evils of a fast-paced society. Time was, eons ago, young men especially, left home at an early age; some as young as thirteen years of age, to find gainful employment with which they could support themselves and in some instances send money back home to 'Dear Ole Mom', if the exodus had been a pleasant one.

Many of the young men had a minimum amount of education but a lot of 'motherwit' and common sense which enabled them to survive in a rugged society which required men to be men. Do not be mistaken, there was a lot of evil around in the 'good ole days,' also. The reality was, however, that the average person with all of his wits about him could readily see and avoid much of the evil. Good Samaritans were not as rare in those days as they are now. Today, a Good Samaritan is suspect of having a hidden

agenda. Everyone is suspect of having a hidden agenda. Do not mis-understand, there are devils out there, masquerading as Good Samaritans, so it does pay to be careful.

The complex world today makes it imperative that parents talk to children about what they will find outside their homes that might make life 'out in the world' not that great bowl of cherries that they think it is. If parents find it difficult to get their children to open up and talk to them, they should leave the door open so they can talk when they decide to do so. Communication is of utmost importance.

Lack of communication is one of the things which causes many young people to run away from home. A lack of understanding on the part of parent and child too often leads to lack of communication. The child does not talk to his parent because he feels that his parent 'does not understand; him or his situation.' It is time that we get 'in cinque' and pay more attention to our children and all of their needs. They need to stay at home with adult parental supervision until they have the world of work skills to survive in a fast-moving complex world.

## COPING

By Charles Faulkner  
A Woman Being "Used"

Dear Dr. Faulkner:

I had a wonderful relationship with a man I recently met. For the first two weeks, things were going just great. Then he started being unreliable. He would promise to pick me up at 9 but wouldn't come until 11. He would promise to take me out but would cancel the date at the last minute. (Sometimes he wouldn't bother to call to cancel the date). So, one evening when he called to say that he would be two hours late, I simply told him that I was tired and had gone to bed. Now he calls once a week. What have I done wrong?"

Hillary,  
Portland, OR

Dear Hillary:

You certainly have my sympathy, but you may have blown the relationship. Here is why. Your friend must have found you attractive in order to have shown the initial interest in you that he did. Then, it happened. You probably submitted too easily in either a sexual or

social way. In other words, your behavior suggested to him that you were easy, and desperate, that you were not popular with other men, and that he did not need to be on his best behavior in order to befriend you. This may not have been true, but he probably believed that it was.

The fact that he has apparently lost great interest in you could well mean that he has relegated you to the status of his "available anytime girl," the person he calls when no one else is available.

Considering that you selected an intelligent man, because you are also intelligent, he probably interpreted your statement, that you were "tired and had gone to bed" differently from the way you wanted him to. You intended to suggest that you were "hard to get" but he probably thought that you were angry at his tardiness. To him, this meant that you wanted desperately to be with him and were angry because you couldn't be. He knew that you would be available whenever he called again. I'll bet that if you

had told him that you were getting ready to go on a date with another man, he would have begged you to wait for him. Strategy is everything.

You attracted him initially, by conveying the impression that you were a highly selective lady who was "choosy" about the men she wants. (Women want men who other women want, also). However, after his first weeks with you, he concluded that you had no other male friends to compete with him. Dating you no longer enhanced his ego. You allowed "the chase" to end. Or, in simpler terms, you failed to play "the game." Being sincere unfortunately does not always have its rewards.

However, please do not stop being sincere. In the future, determine the extent of your friend's sincerity before releasing your emotions. Accept him, initially, as a friend and no more. Just as you attracted him, you will attract other men, so maintain your dignity and accept this as a learning experience.



**BRIGHT SMILES, BRIGHT FUTURES™ IS LAUNCHED IN LOS ANGELES:** Reginald Jones-Sawyer (right), Assistant Deputy Mayor, presents Dr. Marsha Butler (second from right), Director of Global Oral Health Improvement and Consumer Education, and Cathy Phillips-Garrison (third from right), National Program Manager, Colgate-Palmolive Company, with a Commendation at the official launch of Colgate-Palmolive Company's Bright Smiles, Bright Futures™ Program. The launch was held at Norwood Street School. Joining them are Dr. Robert Byrd, President, The Angel City Dental Association, Dr. Ramiro Sanchez, President, The Latin American Dental Association, Dr. Bassette Gayasso Jr., Coordinator, Bright Smiles, Bright Futures™ Los Angeles, and Ms. Christy Stewart, Assistant Coordinator, Bright Smiles, Bright Futures™ Los Angeles. PHOTO CREDIT: Rodney E. Raschke



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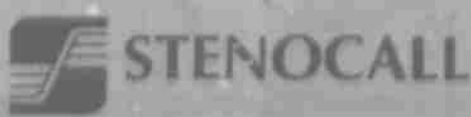
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## National Leaders Honor Percy E. Sutton: BLF Gala Draws Public, Private Stars



When the Black Leadership Forum, Inc. (BLF) launches the first Awards Gala in its 19-year history on April 10, 1997 at New York City's Tavern On The Green, honoree Percy E. Sutton will receive BLF's First Annual Lamplighter Award for Leadership. BLF Chairman Joseph E. Lowery, president of SCLC, will be assisted by the Gala's National Honorary Co-Chairs Coretta Scott King and Louis Gossett, Jr., in making the presentation to Sutton. In addition to Lowery, most of the high profile Black organizational presidents and CEOs, who make up BLF's Board of Directors, expect to be joined at the Gala by hundreds of top leaders and luminaries from national corporations and businesses, and from the civil rights, service, advocacy and entertainment communities.

Sutton, who served as the first African-American President of the Borough of Manhattan, will be cited for his accomplishments as a businessman, communications industry mogul, attorney, civil rights leader and activist. During the 1960s he organized and led Freedom Rides, Sit-ins, demonstrations and protests to challenge opponents of civil rights and equity for Blacks. For over 40 years, Sutton has practiced law in the U.S. and the Virgin Islands, representing and advising such national figures as 1984 and 1988 Presidential candidate Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, Sr.

Percy Sutton is the founder and Chairman Emeritus of the Inner-City Broadcasting Corporation. He also is Chairman of Queens Inner-City Cable System (QUICS) and of Africom Telecommunications, Inc., an African-based satellite company promoting telephone service to the African continent. He was the force behind restoring the Apollo Theater in Harlem, where he currently promotes new talent and produces the famous live televised "Show Time At the Apollo." In the international arena, Sutton was a delegate, along with other nationally recognized business leaders, to the G-7 Nations, Ministers and Leading Industrialists Roundtable on Telecommunications in Brussels, Belgium.

The Black Leadership Forum was founded in 1978 by 11 Black leaders including Rev. Lowery and Mrs. King; Vernon Jordan, then head of the National Urban League; Dr. Dorothy I. Height, of the National Council of Negro Women and several Black elected officials and leaders of other advocacy organizations. Today, BLF consists of top leadership from 21 organizations, and "...provides creative and coordinated Black leadership, diverse in membership but clear on its priority

to empower African Americans to improve their own lives and to expand their opportunities to fully participate in American social, economic and political life."

During the past year, BLF's agenda has included negotiations with Texaco, and dialogues with Eddie Bauer, Inc. and several other corporations confronting problems of access and diversity; monitoring and intervening to assure Black representation in the Clinton administration; public education on proposals for Welfare Reform; involvement in voter education about California's Proposition 209 and also in assessing the process of disclosure regarding reported illegal drug trafficking in that state.

The April 10th First Annual Lamplighter Awards Gala will launch a new BLF initiative to recognize, support, identify and assist in the advancement of new generations of Black leaders, into and within public and private institutions. Gala entertainment will be provided by the Sherry Winston Band. Tickets must be purchased in advance of the Gala's 7:30 p.m. opening. Those interested in attending may call 202-789-3505, or 212-222-9400 for information and reservations.

In addition to Chairman Joseph E. Lowery, the BLF officers and members are: Vice Chairman Eddie N. Williams, president, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies; Secretary Hugh B. Price, president, National Urban League; Treasurer, Dr. Ramona H. Edelin, president, National Urban Coalition; Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Yvonne Scruggs; Norman Hill, president, A. Philip Randolph Institute; Oscar Eason, Jr., president and CEO, Blacks in Government; William Lucy, president, Coalition of Black Trade Unionists; Bishop Roy L.H. Winbush, chairman, Congress of National Black Churches; The Honorable Maxine Waters, chair, Congressional Black Caucus; Dexter King, president and CEO, Martin Luther King Center for Nonviolent Social Change; Kweisi Mfume, president and CEO, NAACP; Elaine Jones, Esq, Director-Counsel, NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc.; The Honorable Mary Pinkett, National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials; The Honorable Lois DeBerry, president, National Caucus of State Legislators; The Honorable Emanuel Cleaver II, president, National Conference of Black Mayors; Dr. Dorothy I. Height, president, National Council of Negro Women, Inc.; Dorothy R. Leavell, president, National Newspaper Publishers Association; Daisy M. Wood, president, National Pan-Hellenic Council; Dr. C. DeLores Tucker, chair, National Political Congress of Black Women, Inc.; Herman Art Taylor, president and CEO, OIC's of America, Inc. and Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, president and CEO, Operation PUSH, Inc.

## AT&T Helps Magnify African American Presence on the Worldwide Web



Washington DC (March, 1997) -- AT&T recently provided a sneak preview of a new web site, "Afrocentricity," and marked the second year of its partnership with the Afro-American newspapers, one of the nation's oldest black newspaper chains. The new site, set to launch on March 31 of this year, will connect the African-American, African-Caribbean, African communities and others interested in these related on-line resources, products and services. With 800,000 on-line subscribers, AT&T has aggressively moved into the Internet arena, becoming the second-largest Internet access provider in the U.S. in only nine months.

The new site, now under construction by Netrite, a New Jersey-based African American company, will provide Afrocentric messages in both English and French. It will include an interactive page called the "Cybersoul Rap Room," where participants can exchange views and information. "Oja," an on-line marketplace and links to employment opportunities will also appear on the site. Afrocentricity will also include multimedia images and sound. The site will link users from the AT&T Learning Network, who use the service from participating private, elementary and secondary schools. The AT&T Learning Network provides five month of free dial-up access to

the Internet through AT&T WorldNet service.

AT&T is also expanding its partnership with the Afro-American newspapers, a family-owned chain of newspapers in Baltimore and Washington. This site includes important news articles and feature stories from an African American perspective by the newspaper's reporters. The site connects on-line users to historical resources on African American life and culture and includes in-depth reporting on events like "The Million Man March". There are also an archives which features articles on "The Tuskegee Airmen," "The Scottsboro Boys" case and other historical information.

"Our partnership with AT&T has allowed us access to state-of-the-art technology, which has permitted an enormous growth in the numbers of people who access our site," said John Jacob Oliver, Jr., chief executive officer and publisher of the Afro-American company of Baltimore City, Inc. "We in turn, have been able to put more information on our site, so that it is truly becoming a critical resource for those who want information on African Americans and people of African descent around the world," Oliver said.

Traffic on the site has exploded from 8,000 to 12,000 accesses per day in 1996, to an average of more than 50,000 accesses per day in 1997. The Afro's WAN (Wide Area Network) also allows the newspaper to connect its news rooms and printing facilities.

Recent surveys show that African Americans own computers at home at a rate of 13 percent compared with a rate of over 30 percent for whites. However, since African Americans spend \$9.2 and \$6.6 billion annually on telecommunications and personal computers, the prognosis is that the number of household computers and related products will increase dramatically in the African American community.

## BLACK CONSERVATIVES IN AMERICA: Has Their Time Come?

From the 1996 Republican National Convention to the 1997 Presidential Inauguration, the past year has only been especially bright for Congressman J.C. Watts (R-OK.). The only African-American among 282 Congressional Republicans, watts has come to symbolize a new wing of the Republican Party-one that is aimed at attracting more African-American voters.

"But, is there a place for African-Americans in the GOP? According to Watts, it's a matter of redefining the word 'conservative.'" "The word 'conservative' scares many African-Americans because of what it conjures up from the 50's and 60's," he says.

This week on America's Black Forum, watts rebuts charges that he is merely a puppet for the Republican Party. Regarding the question as to whether he will eventually join the

Congressional Black Caucus (CBC), Watts responds: "...I believe the CBC and J.C. Watts wan the same thing for the Black communit-

He also defends House Speaker Newt Gingrich's decision to put a hold on the issue of tax breaks, especially if it brings President Clinton closer to the Republican table. "I think this thing about tax breaks is something we have to discuss...and give some thought to."

Host Juan Williams leads the discussion, along with commentators Julian Bond, Deborah Mathis, and Armstrong Williams. America's Black Forum, a half-hour weekly television program, airs on 70 television stations nationwide. Please check your local listings for airtime and station.

## STATES PLAN FEWER BUSINESS INCENTIVES

Lexington, KY, March 1997—After a decade of offering more and more business incentives, many states are considering de-escalating the interstate bidding war for businesses. A recently released study by The Council of State Governments' Center for State Trends and Innovations finds that 32 states plan to decrease their tax and financial incentives or maintain them at their current level for the next five years, and only 18 states expect to offer more business incentives.

States are questioning whether they should continue to create financial and tax incentives to attract out-of-state businesses. Incentives finance job creation, but they also pull dollars away from public service and infrastructure improvements. State Business Incentives: Trends and Options for the Future examines the

pros and cons of this debate. The report provides a comparison of business incentives across the states. For those who wonder where businesses can find the best deals, the report analyzes and compares programs and legislative action in the 50 states.

This unmatched, comprehensive report also offers strategic recommendations for policy-makers who want to pursue interstate cooperation instead of interstate competition. Among the suggestions are:

- Offer business incentives primarily to support the existing business base.
- Subject incentive programs to periodic evaluations.

State Business Incentives: Trends and Options for the Future is your one source for business incentive information. To

order a copy of State Business Incentives: Trends and Options for the Future, call CSG's Publication Sales Department at 1-800-800-1910. The 179-page report is \$45 and the 16-page executive summary is \$15.

The Council of State Governments is a nonpartisan, multibranch, organization of the states and U.S. territories that champions excellence in state government and works with state leaders across the nation and through its regions to put the best ideas and solutions into practice. CSG conducts research, maintains a national information clearinghouse, produces numerous leading publications, showcases innovative state programs, promotes federal-state partnerships and conducts leadership development programs.

## CHILDWATCH

### Working Parents Squeezed Out of Health Care System

At the end of each month Tom and Michelle Lancaster would gather up all the new medical bills that poured into their Vestaburg, Pa., home and tuck them into a quiet corner of the living room.

"All I can do is stick those bills somewhere out of the way," said Michelle, who, along with her husband Tom, is struggling to make ends meet and yet makes too much to qualify for Medicaid for themselves and their three daughters. "I just got two bills in the mail for over \$1,000. I really want to pay them, but I can't do anything about them right now. My kids have to be fed, we have to have heat in the house, and we can't do without electricity."

Although Michelle works full-time and Tom works 20 hours a week—he goes to technical school for another 20 hours—neither is provided health insurance through their jobs. Their mortgage costs \$184 a month, and their monthly grocery bill is over \$100. They no longer have a car payment because their car was recently repossessed. Together, they earned \$15,000 last year.

The Lancasters' middle daughter, Candi, age 9, has asthma and other medical complications, which cost \$300 a month to treat. And all three children and both parents have caught the flu several times this

winter and visited doctors. In addition, Michelle broke her arm and Tom had to get extensive tests to see if he had a blood clot in his lungs. They are still waiting for the results of his exams—and the latest stack of medical bills.

"A lot of people forego doctor visits for their kids because they can't afford it," said Michelle, who suffers from asthma too. "But I would never do that to my kids. If they get sick, we go to the doctor, they bill me, and we do the best we can to pay. I can only give what I have."

The good news, is that the Lancasters were notified just days after the original interview for this column that they now qualify for a special Pennsylvania health insurance plan that will cover the children.

The bad news is that there are millions of other parents in America who work hard every day to provide for their families and still earn too little to afford private health insurance and too much to qualify for Medicaid—and there is no special state plan to rescue their families.

Ten million American children—one in seven—lack health insurance, mainly because their parents have been squeezed out of the health care system because of high insurance costs. Many of these families are forced to live from paycheck to

paycheck with few choices but to pray and hope their children will stay healthy. This is wrong and we must insist that our political leaders provide coverage.

Too many children suffer with ailments that would otherwise be treated routinely by doctors. Studies show that most uninsured children with asthma, like Candi, and one-third of uninsured children with recurring ear infections never see a doctor during the year. Many children with asthma are hospitalized with preventable problems, and many children with untreated ear infections suffer permanent hearing loss. Some children never get a healthy start in life, as at least 400,000 pregnant women a year are uninsured and often lack access to critical prenatal and postnatal care. Every day, hundreds of low birthweight babies are born to mothers who received late or no prenatal care.

Every child deserves a healthy start in life. Providing health coverage for 10 million children, mostly of hard-working families that are playing by the rules, is morally right and economically necessary. Write, call, and meet with your state and federal legislators, and sign and circulate petitions in your congregations, clubs, or places of work during lunch, urging federal officials to vote for sound health coverage for all children.

# SUPER SPEEDWAY

## Buckle-up for the ride of your life!

**NOW SHOWING!**

**SATURDAY**  
11:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00 & 10:00

**SUNDAY**  
1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00 & 8:00

# TITANICA

**35TH ANNIVERSARY**

**SAT: 12:00 & 8:00**  
**SUN: 8:00**

**OMNIMAX 745-MAXX**





# CHURCH DIRECTORY



## We Thank God For Jesus "TO THE LUKEWARM CHURCHES!!!"



Revelation 2:7a, JESUS SAID HE THAT HATH AN EAR, LET HIM HEAR WHAT THE SPIRIT SAITH UNTO THE CHURCHES.

Luke 13:35, JESUS SAID, O JERUSALEM (CHURCH), JERUSALEM (CHURCH) WHICH KILLEST THE PROPHETS, AND STONEST THEM THAT ARE SENT UNTO THEE; HOW OFTEN WOULD I HAVE GATHERED THEM (YOUR) CHILDREN TOGETHER, AS A HEN (VERY SMART MOVE) DOTH GATHER HER (NOT FOREIGN YET) BROOD UNDER HER WINGS (CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME), AND YE WOULD NOT!!!

TO THE CHURCHES: that preach, go ye for this GOOD HONEST CANDIDATE, JESUS SAID, IF I BE LIFTED UP; I'M THE TRUTH, THE LIGHT, AND THE WAY.

John 14:6, Jesus said, I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE: NO MAN COMETH UNTO THE FATHER BUT BY ME.

TO THE CHURCHES: that preach on, WOMAN SHOULD NOT WARE PANTS, GOD IS NOT CONCERNED; ABOUT THE CLOTHES ON THEIR BACKS; CAN I GET A- AMEN?

(EVERY WOMAN IN THAT CHURCH WARES PANTS! PANTS IN THE TWIN- SISTER TO APNTIES; THE TWIN TO PANTIE- GIRLDE, TO PAJAMAS, IT THE LEGS GOING THRU THE WAIST-LINE OF A GARMENT!!! TIME TO STOP PLAYING CHURCH!!!)

TO THE CHURCHES: THAT PREACH, YOU'RE NOT TO WALK WITH THE SINNERS, JESUS WALKED WALKED THREE YEARS WITH 12 OF THEM; AND IT TURNED OUT TO BE WINNERS

Matthew 10:1a, 2-4, JESUS CALLED: unto HIM HIS TWELVE DISCIPLES. Now the name of the twelve apostles are these: Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip, and Bartholomue; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James the son Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus; Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, WHO ALSO BETRAYED HIM (JUST AS THE CHURCHES ARE DOING TODAY!!!)

\*\*\*\*\*WILL THE CHURCHES ROB GOD???\*\*\*\*\*

TO THE CHURCHES: THAT PREACH ON CLOSE SO TO CELEBRATE MARTIN LUTHER'S B. DAY, JESUS WANT YOU TO BE ABOUT HIS BUSINESS; HE SAID HE WAS THE ONLY WAY!!!

Romans 1:21a, 23a. Because that, when they knew GOD, THEY GLORIFIED HIM NOT AS GOD, NEITHER WERE THANKFUL. PROFESSING THEMSELVES TO BE WISE, THEY BECAME FOOLS. AND CHANGED THE GLORY OF THE UNCORRUPTIBLE GOD INTO AN IMAGE MADE LIKE TO CORRUPTIBLE MAN.

WHILE YOU LUKEWARM CHURCHES: ARE PLAYING YOUR CLUB LIKE GAMES, THE CULTS ARE MOVING IN VERY, VERY, FAST: SHAME, SHAME, SHAME!!!

Jude 12 there are spots in your feasts of CHARITY, WHEN THEY FEAST WITH YOU, FEEDING THEMSELVES WITHOUT FEAR: CLOUDS THEY ARE WITHOUT WATER, CARRIED ABOUT OF WINDS: TREES WHOSE FRUIT WITHERETH, WITHOUT FRUIT, TWICE DEAD, PLUCKED UP BY THE ROOTS.

TO THE CHURCHES: THAT PREACH, GIVE THE PREACHER A BIG ANNIVERSARY, YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO PLEASE THAT PREACHER; BECAUSE HE IS FULL OF GREED.

Isaiah 56:11, GOD SAID YEA, THEY ARE GREEDY DOGS WHICH CAN NEVER HAVE ENOUGH, AND THEY ARE SHEPHERD THAT CANNOT UNDERSTAND: THEY ALL LOOD TO THEIR OWN WAY, EVERY ONE FOR HIS GAIN (\$\$\$), FROM HIS QUARTER (ANNIVERSARY).

JESUS STARTED THE CHURCH; IT WAS TO BE A PEOPLE SENT OUT WITH GOOD NEWS, BUT JESUS BUSINESS HAS BEEN PUT ON HOLD; AND THE COUNTRY NOW HAS THE BLUES.

Jeremiah 6:13, THE LORD SAID, FOR FROM THE LEAST OF THEM UNTO THE GREATEST OF THEM EVERY ONE IS GIVEN TO COVETOUSNESS (GREED); AND FROM THE PROPHET EVEN UNTO THE PRIEST EVERY ONE DEALETH FALSELY.

\*\*\*\*\*WILL THIS COUNTRY ROB GOD???\*\*\*\*\*

Matthew 7:21, JESUS SAID, NOT EVERYONE THAT SAITH UNTO ME, LORD, LORD, SHALL ENTER INTO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN; BUT HE THAT DOETH THE WILL OF MY FATHER WHICH IS IN HEAVEN.

GOD IN NOT THROUGH WITH US YET. SO LETS PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER ALWAYS.  
Written By Evangelist Billy B.J. Morrison III YOUR BROTHER IN CHRIST JESUS!!!

## CITY WIDE USHERS

The City Wide Ushers will meet Saturday, April 12, 1997 at 5:00 p.m. at St. Matthew Baptist Church 2020 East 14th St. where Rev. R.S. Stanley is Hash Pastor. We are hoping for as many ushers from as many churches as possible. Please be there, if not, you will miss a treat. God is pleased when we mend our differences with our brothers and sisters no matter how turbulent the storm, God is with

us. Please don't forget your non-perishable items. It's two a month or twenty-four in one month.

- |                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Brother Conk      | President            |
| Sister Conway     | Secretary            |
| Sister M. Bogus   | Vice President       |
| Sister M. Basby   | Asst. Secretary      |
| Sister L. Harris  | Treasurer            |
| Sister H. Sanders | Dictyony/Instruction |
| Sister M. Jassis  | Treasurer            |
| Sister Minnie     | Santhand Reporter    |



from the Desk of Parson D.A. Smith

Love—"The Keynote of Christian Faith"

"If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us."—1 John 4:12

The story is told of John the Apostle, how that when he was very old and feeble and unable to walk, he would be carried into the house of worship. There he would stretch forth his hands in blessing and say, "Little children, love one another."

Jesus said, "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another." This is the keynote of the Christian faith—love for God and love for others. People of pagan culture would marvel at the early Christians and would say, "Behold, how they love one another."

John writes, "This is how we know if God dwell in us, if we love one another." Such love is not selfish or fickle. It is God's divine and perfect love.

God's love is beyond dimension. "Who shall separate us from the love of God?" Paul asks. Then he lists man afflictions and trials and sings out, "Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors." Love conquers all.

In Jesus Christ we see the embodiment of God's love. Jesus always reached out in compassion to the sinner and the sick

and diseased. His great and kind heart yearned over the common people, whom He saw as sheep having no shepherd. His love for those who persecuted and crucified Him.

Again we hear John plead, "Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God and everyone that loveth is born of God and knoweth God." This wonderful love of God is shed abroad by the Holy Spirit into our hearts. We cannot work up love like this in our own strength.

Many in this uncertain and troublesome age that we live are starving and dying for the need of love. This is evident by the recent mass suicide of the members of a cult who were waiting to connect with an alien spaceship. The love that people are longing for is not the fickle love we hear so much about, but the warm, forgiving, comforting love of our heavenly Father. God places the responsibility squarely on the shoulders of Christians to tell the world and show the world His love.

James—the Apostle, teaches that a true believer will not only love in word—but in deed. He further suggests that when we see those who are poverty-stricken, we immediately put our love into action and provide their need. For "faith without works is dead."

## ATTENTION SOVEREIGN GRACE BELIEVERS

who believes in the "Doctrines of God's Grace" (T.U.L.I.P.)  
Please Join Us in Worship at Only Sovereign Grace Baptist Church in Lubbock at 1532 E. 19th Street.

- |                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Sunday School              | 9:45 a.m.  |
| Worship Services           | 10:45 a.m. |
| Evening Worship            | 5:00 p.m.  |
| Wednesday Evening Services | 6:30 p.m.  |

For more Information Contact  
Elder Charles Baker  
744-5894

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## The Outreach Prayer Breakfast

Members met at 8:00 a.m. in the home of Delbert & Dorothy Hood with Sis Christine Burleson presiding.

Songs and praises, prayer by Sis Dorothy Nash, Sis Burleson and Sis Ardelia Hardrick.

Sis Ardelia Hardrick taught the morning message Joshua 1; Gen. 12:15-32, 26-37:39 Deut 28, 1 Sam 17:45; 1 Kings 17; Isaiah 53, Phillip 4:13-19, Coloss. 2:14-15; Luke 10:17

Sub: Devil we're not going under we're going over.

Joshua 1 as the book of Joshua opens the Israelites are camped along the East Bank of the Jordan river at the very edge of the promised land. Thirty nine years earlier after spending a year at Mount Sinai receiving Gods love.

The Israelites had an opportunity to enter the Promised Land but failed to trust God. As a result, God did not allow them to enter the land, but made them wander in the wilderness until the disobedient generation had all died.

During their wilderness wandering, the Israelites obeyed God's Laws so that they might enter the Promised Land, (also called Corban) as the children grew they were often reminded that faith and obedience to God brought victory. No one will be able to oppose you as long as you live, for I will be with you just as I was with Moses; I will not abandon you or fail to help you. Be strong and brave, for you will be a successful leader of my people, and they shall conquer all the Land I promised to their ancestors. You need only to be strong and courageous and to obey to the letter every law Moses gave you, for if you are careful to obey every one of them you will be successful in everything you do. Be bold and strong; Banish fear and doubt. For remember, the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

This sister said we are "Winners in Jesus".

God can work all by himself. Let's triumph over the Devil. Tell him get behind me. Our Lord went to the cross that we be victorious. There are several other scriptures for you to read. We are somebody in Christ. Just believe it.

Thanks for this Lesson of encouragement. God bless you Sis Hardrick, we love you.

Thought, to think about:  
The lack of knowledge is darker than night not to know is bad not to wish to know is worse, the dawn does not come twice to wake a Man. Think about it.

To the sick and hurting read Mark 11:22-24, II Chro 7:14, James 5:14.

Come Join us anytime and keep smiling even if you don't feel like it.

Write Outreach Prayer Breakfast, P.O. Box 1223, Lubbock, Texas 79408

D Hood Pres  
Christine Burleson Vice  
Ernestine Frazier Sec.

## "CELEBRATING 76 YEARS OF ECCLESIASTICAL FREEDOM"

Existing in the name of The Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Happy New Year and may God's blessing be upon you all. This is the latest update on the 1997 Synod, August 6 - 10, 1997 in Lubbock, Texas.

Hotel: Dear Western Lubbock Regency  
Address: 6624 Interstate 27 Lubbock, TX 79404  
Phone: (806) 745-2208 or 1-800-585-5677  
Room Rate: \$45.00, up to four people per room.

Rev. Fr. McKinley  
Shepherd Appointed To  
The Office Of Vicar General

Rev. Fr. McKinley Shepherd was appointed to the office of Vicar General for Texas and the Southwest by Archbishop and Primate of the African Orthodox Church. The announcement was made at the last day celebrating the "Chair of St. Peter", the first Bishop of Antioch, through which the African Orthodox Church system is apostolic succession. The services were held at Holy Cross Pro-Cathedral in Harlem (New York City). The Primate, Iken Bernhardt, issued a decree stating that "after due prayer and supplication to our God, I would the decision to appoint Rev. Fr. McKinley Shepherd to the office of Vicar General. I believe that Rev. Fr. McKinley Shepherd will be a blessing to the African Orthodox Church and the his dedication and allegiance to the African Orthodox Church will prove to be worthy of his appointment as Vicar General."

The Vicar General functions as the Bishop's deputy, he has wide ranging responsibility for the executive functioning of the diocese. Rev. Fr. Shepherd is the Pastor of "St. Moses The Black" African Orthodox Church here in the City of Lubbock.

The questions: Transportation to and from the airport and to the South Plains Mall is provided at no charge.

Affiliates: American and American expts, Continental and Southern.

Registration: \$32.00 per person.  
As past Synods we have had a lot of confusion as to who is entitled to what and who is expected to pay delegate's fees and who is exempted. We spent a great deal of time discussing ways to alleviate this problem for next year, we are working toward a solution that will allow us definite numbers of people to plan for.

This year, everyone that attends the synod will be considered a Guest if guest is anyone that attends the Synod. This has no bearing on whether or not the person is a voting delegate. All Guests will be responsible for paying a Guest Registration fee either pre-registration or registration at the Synod. The AGC Church assessment is \$10.00. The AGC Assessment is for the national church and will be collected as usual for members of the clergy, life members and church memberships.

The purpose of the Guest registration fee is basically to help us pay for the expenses realized as a result of the General Synod. This will include payment for 1-Transportation to and from scheduled events and services not held at the hotel, 2-Entertainment activities, working cost, etc. 3-Miscellaneous costs such as the meeting rooms, hospitality rooms, etc. 4-Rolls.

"St Moses The Black"  
African Orthodox Church  
211 Broadway Lubbock, Texas 79601  
(806) 741-0736

SUNDAY SCHOOL	8:30 A.M.
HERITAGE CLASS	10:00 A.M.
MASS	10:30 A.M.
WEDNESDAY MASS	5:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAY MASS	6:30 P.M.
Fr. J. Bernhardt	Vicar General
Rev. Fr. M. Shepherd	Rector
Vic. Martin	Secretary



**NNPA: Creed of the Black Press**  
 The Black Press believes that America can best lead the world away from racial and national antagonisms when it accords to every person, regardless of race, color or creed, full human and legal rights. Hating no persons, the Black Press strives to help every person in the firm belief that all are hurt as long as anyone is held back.

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### INSIDE Out

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**Have you seen me?**



Name: Amanda Lynn Tinsley  
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**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**  
 Sealed proposals will be received at Community Housing Resource Board until 4:00p.m., April 10, 1997, to furnish all labor and materials to perform all work rehabilitate an 8-unit apartment complex at 1010-1012 Avenue R, Lubbock, Texas. This a Federally funded project subject to Equal Employment Opportunity provisions and HUD Section 3 regulations. On Tuesday, April 1, 1997, 10:00a.m., a walk through of the complex has been scheduled. Bid packets may be obtained then or at Community Housing Resource Board at 1628 Main between 9:00a.m. to 11:00a.m. Monday through Friday. All sealed bids will be opened Friday, April 11, 1997 at 10:00a.m. Bidders will be notified of the results of the bidding process on April 11, 1997, before 3:00p.m. by phone.

**Employment**


\*AVON, Reps Needed, No Inventory, IND/SALES/REP, 800/236-0041

Clerical Specialist III-Safety-Must be proficient with WordPerfect, Excel, Paradox, Harvard Graphics, and Windows, minimum four years clerical experience, excellent communication skills and organizational abilities. Attention to detail is critical. This position assists the management of Environmental Health and Safety and Vehicle Fleet Management. Apply at Drane Hall, Room 143. AA/EOE/ADA.

**SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE COORDINATOR OF SPECIAL SERVICES**  
 Minimum qualifications: Master's degree in education, or equivalent certification in special education, or other appropriate discipline with three years professional experience required. Experience required: Developing and implementing appropriate educational accommodations for special populations and testing administration; Superior communications skills and administrative abilities required. Certification in educational diagnostics preferred. Experience with adults and/or community college experience preferred. Salary commensurate with education and work experience. Excellent benefits. Federal funded position. Request application materials and submit SPC Employment Application, college transcripts, resume and cover letter to Personnel Department, South Plains College, 1401 S. College Ave., Levelland, TX 79336. (806) 894-3811, ext. 2177. Questions should be directed to: Claudine Oliver, Director of Guidance and Counseling, (806) 894-9611 ext. 2364. Applications must be received by April 30, 1997. South Plains College reserves the right to extend the search or not offer position advertised. An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Educational Institution. For more information: www.apc.cc.tx.us

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**HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR, LUBBOCK COUNTY:** Lubbock County is seeking an individual to create and lead a Human Resources Office for the County, an employer of over 750. The qualified applicant will serve elected officials and department heads of the County and will work under the supervision of the Commissioners Court. Prefer bachelor's degree in Personnel Management, Business Administration or a related field and five years general personnel experience. Salary commensurate with education and experience. Pick up application at Lubbock County Courthouse, Office of the County Judge. Position open until filled. EOE.



# ACTRESS RUBY DEE HONORED AT AT&T OFFICIALS



Basking Ridge, NJ --Actress Ruby Dee (left) accepts the AT&T "Nia" Award from Curt Fields, AT&T vice president for Strategy and Marketing Services. The "Nia" Award is an original sculpture produced by Venise Rangiseo, a well known carver from Zimbabwe.

Basking Ridge, NJ - As part of a Black History Month celebration, AT&T paid tribute to one of the icons of African American film, noted actress and performer Ruby Dee. During World War II, Ms. Dee worked for AT&T "wiring gyroscope radio equipment for airplanes."

Recently, Ms. Dee was the keynote speaker during an evening of Black History "Reflections...and Renewals"

at the AT&T headquarters in Basking Ridge, NJ. Her dramatic presentation, entitled "Dreamers," offered the audience of more than 200 AT&T employees a glimpse of works from black authors and Zora Neale Hurston and Langston Hughes. According to Ms. Dee, both Hurston and Hughes were visionaries who through their writings, brought alive the magic and beauty of blacks

whose culture had not been celebrated. She also paid homage to slain civil-rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. whose dreams were something he "whispered, shouted and died for."

Following her presentation, the actress was presented with the prestigious "Nia" Award by AT&T's African American Markets Leadership Committee, sponsors of the Black History celebration event. "Nia" or "purpose," is one of the seven principles of Kwanza. "Ruby Dee is entitled to this recognition because of her many contributions to black history and culture," said Curt Fields, an AT&T vice president, Strategy and Marketing Services.

In addition to Ms. Dee's performance during the evening of "Reflections...and Renewals," the audience was also entertained with a number of show tunes and spirituals by the Newark Boys Chorus. After the program, the chorus received a grant for \$50,000 from AT&T to help sponsor the group's tour of South Africa next year.

The AT&T African American Markets Leadership Committee is an organization of employees from the company's management, public relations, advertising, human resources and marketing divisions.

# International Automotive Protection and Accessory Chain Selects Lubbock to Open Two New Locations.

(Detroit) -- Ziebart TidyCar, the world leader in automotive protection and aftermarket accessories, has chosen Lubbock to open its latest North American stores. The new Ziebart locations, which will be located at 4811 West Loop 289 and 1701 Broadway, are scheduled to open on April 18, 1997.

Ziebart TidyCar provides services that renew the interior and exterior of used vehicles as well as services that protect new and used vehicles against premature aging. These services are becoming increasingly essential to car owners considering the increasing cost of vehicles today and the fact that vehicles are being kept longer.

"With the average age of vehicles on the road today more than eight years, we are confident that Lubbock motorists will welcome

our renewal and preservation services," said Jim Bender, president, Ziebart Corporation. "We look forward to helping them care for their vehicles and keeping them looking as great as when they first bought them."

In addition to being the leader in protection and car cleaning/renewal services, Ziebart is also North America's largest installer of aftermarket accessories. The company offers complete lines of sunroofs, car alarms, remote car starters, trailer hitches, bedliners, window tinting, running boards and other accessory items.

Ziebart TidyCar, a subsidiary of Ziebart Corporation, is headquartered in Troy, Mich. The company has more than 550 locations in 42 countries around the world.

# ALL-NEW INTERNET POETRY CONTEST

Now Poets Have Two Ways to Enter! Owings Mills, Maryland (USA)--Poetry enters the 21st century with a brand new Internet poetry contest, [www.poetry.com](http://www.poetry.com)! All poets, published or unpublished, are encouraged to submit their poems for a chance to win more than \$48,000.00 in cash and prizes. The deadline for the new North American Open Amateur Poetry Contest is April 30, 1997.

"Now, it's easier than ever to enter this contest over the Internet," says spokesperson Howard Ely. "Many poets prefer to enter this way, to make sure they get their poems in by the deadline date. It's much faster, easier, and more reliable than the mail"

The contest is open to everyone, and entry is FREE. Beginners are

especially encouraged to compete for over 250 prizes. Every poem entered also has a chance to be published in a deluxe, hardbound anthology.

To enter, go to [www.poetry.com](http://www.poetry.com). Or mail ONE original poem, no more than 20 lines, any subject and any style, to: The National Library of Poetry, 1 Poetry Plaza, Suite 19811, Owings Mills, MD 21117-6282. The poet's name and street address should appear. Entries must be postmarked or sent via the Internet by April 30, 1997. A new contest opens May 1, 1997.

Founded in 1982 to promote the work of contemporary poets, The National Library of Poetry is the largest poetry organization in the world.

# CHANGING THE IMAGE OF JESUS

by Bernice Powell Jackson



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Founded in 1982 to promote the work of contemporary poets, The National Library of Poetry is the largest poetry organization in the world.

# Why Don't We See the Triumph of Rosewood?

By Earl Ofari Hutchinson, Ph.D.

It's always risky business making comparisons between a film and the book that it's based on. A film is geared to mass audiences and must convey the story in as simple and entertaining a manner as possible. Often many of the book's characters and plot details are stripped, and shorn away in the film. That's why some of us walk out of a theater after seeing a movie based on a book we've read and complain that "the book was better." Unfortunately that's the case with the film *Rosewood*, directed by John Singleton. For while, the film shows us in bloody and horrifying details of the tragedy of the town of Rosewood, it doesn't show us the triumph.

That triumph was well documented by Michael D'Orsa in his powerful book, *Like Judgment Day*. In fact, D'Orsa in his subtitle for the book "The Ruin and Redemption of a town called Rosewood" practically cries out for the filmmakers to make the victory of the survivors of the violence a principal part of the story. Singleton certainly knew all of this. He wrote the preface to the paperback edition of the book.

Here's what the film shows us. Rosewood was the mostly Black town in western Florida that was virtually obliterated from the map in 1923 following a wild orgy of racial violence. The violence was touched off by an unsubstantiated rumor that an African-American male had raped a white woman. White vigilante mobs quickly formed and went on a bloody rampage. When the smoke cleared nearly every Black home had been burned to the ground, and perhaps a dozen or more Blacks were killed or wounded, while hundreds of men, women and children were sent fleeing in terror into the woods.

The carnage would have been even greater if not for the heroic act of a white train engineer who whisked the terrified Blacks hiding in the woods onto his train and spirited them out of

the county. There was also the valiant stand of a small group of whites in a nearby town who confronted the mob at gun point and defended the Blacks in their town.

Still, at the time, there was no public outcry against the violence and no arrests were made. It was the type of racially motivated violence that all too often was characteristic of the South during the lynching era in America.

To Singleton's credit, the tragedy and the heroism of Blacks and whites is admirably depicted in the film. But he omits the crucial and compelling reason the Rosewood story ever made it to the screen in the first place. The violence ultimately attracted national attention and the Rosewood survivors did receive a much belated measure of justice.

Here's the story that isn't shown. In 1982, a reporter for the St. Petersburg Times heard tales about the violence and spent months tracking down and interviewing the survivors. The Times then published a lengthy series on the Rosewood massacre. The next year CBS News' *Sixty Minutes* did a segment on Rosewood based on interviews with the survivors. The brief press attention set in motion a remarkable series of events. A handful of the survivors, the descendants of the survivors, and relatives doggedly began a decade long campaign to get the state of Florida to admit that it was legally culpable for failing to protect the lives and property of the Black townspeople of Rosewood and to compensate the victims.

They faced mountainous obstacles. At first state officials refused to consider their claims, law enforcement agencies refused to investigate, and some Blacks even questioned the wisdom of pursuing the case. But the group persisted against the odds. Their battle ultimately would involve the local and national press, academics, law enforcement agencies, batteries of attorneys, civil rights lead-

ers, local and state political leaders, and the Justice department.

The survivors partly based their case on the precedent set by the U.S. government's apology and payments to Japanese-Americans for slapping them into relocation camps during World War II and the German government's payments to Jewish survivors of the Holocaust. Their efforts and labor finally paid off in 1994. In an emotion packed scene, the Rosewood survivors vividly recounted for the full Florida legislature the night of violence 70 years earlier and the personal pain and trauma that they had to live with throughout their entire lives.

Many of the spectators and legislators were moved to tears by the simple eloquence and dignity they displayed in telling their story. After a bit more partisan political wrangling, the legislature, finally capitulated and awarded the survivors \$2 million. The moment the claims bill was approved, the spectators gallery erupted in cheers, tears, and prayers of thanks.

While the award could never adequately compensate them for their pain, suffering and loss, it was more than a symbolic victory. It marked the first and only time in U.S. history that African Americans have ever gotten a government body to formally admit that it was liable for a racially-motivated act of violence against them. Without their inspiring victory, the tragedy of Rosewood would almost certainly have remained buried deep in history.

Their are many lessons that we can learn from the triumph of the Rosewood survivors. The most important is that the crimes of the past must not and should not be forgotten and that justice can be attained if enough people are willing to work and fight for it. To ignore this in the film *Rosewood* is not only regrettable, it's inexcusable.

# Why Are So Few White Males Behind Bars?

By Earl Ofari Hutchinson, Ph.D.

For the last few years the Sentencing Project, a Washington D.C.-based public advocacy group, has issued a report on crime and punishment in America. Its findings are well-known and predictable. Nearly one out of three young Black males are in prison, on parole or on probation. And they make up nearly half of those incarcerated in America's prisons. The response to the report is just as predictable. Many Blacks and liberal critics of the criminal justice system say Blacks are jailed in huge numbers because of racially biased judges, juries, and prosecutors, discrimination in the enforcement of drug laws, poverty, lack of education, and the prison construction boom.

Many conservatives, and law enforcement officials say it's because young Blacks commit more crime than whites; their crimes are more violent and that much of the public, including many Blacks, demand that they be locked up. While both sides debate the issue of why so many Black males are behind bars they don't ask why so many white males who commit

crimes aren't. The recent shoot-out between the LAPD and two young white bank robbers in North Hollywood make this a more a crucial question than ever.

Few would argue that the two would-be hold up men were dangerous criminals. One of the bandits had three arrests and two felony convictions. One of the convictions was for weapons violations in L.A. The other was a felony conviction for real estate fraud in Denver. After pleading guilty to the charge in Denver he fled the state to avoid sentencing. The other bandit had a felony conviction for the weapons charge. Yet the fact that the pair were on the streets of North Hollywood and not behind bars raises the following questions about the workings of the criminal justice system.

•When they were stopped in Los Angeles in 1993 with what one expert called a "bank robbers kit" of legal and illegal weapons and military equipment in their car and arrested, did authorities thoroughly check to determine if they were wanted for crimes in other states?

Did they discover that one was a wanted felon? If so, why wasn't he extradited to Colorado for sentencing? Did the Denver police send notices about his flight to the FBI and local police agencies nationally?

•When they were released from jail why were some of their weapons returned? The police said they were ordered by the court to return them. But the presiding judge in the case disputed that. He indicated that he authorized release of their weapons only after the District Attorney "agreed" to the release and the police had "no objection" to their release. So who did what? And why?

•When other white males are arrested on weapons charges and police confiscate their banned firearms, what charges are filed against them? How vigorously are they prosecuted? If the charges are subsequently dropped, are their guns returned to them?

•When young white males, who are repeat offenders are arrested and again convicted of serious crimes, how many actually receive and serve their prison sentences? How

many are allowed to plea bargain lesser sentences, receive probation, community service, are fined and make restitution, are referred to diversion or rehabilitation programs, or are placed under house monitoring?

The North Hollywood bandits are probably not the exception. In 1990, 32,000 more young white juveniles were arrested for murder, forcible rape, robbery and assault than young Blacks. Yet more Blacks than whites were imprisoned and more Blacks than whites were tried as adults.

In 1991, more than 70 percent of males arrested were white, and 25 percent were Black. But between arrest, trial and prison many seemed to disappear from the system. Only 35 percent of whites were held in custody while 44 percent of the Blacks were held.

According to annual FBI Uniform Crime Reports since 1991, more whites are arrested for murder, rape, robbery, assault and drug related crimes than Blacks, but they are less likely to be imprisoned than Blacks. The gaping disparity between arrest and imprisonment is greatest in

California. Although Blacks are seven percent of the population, they account for 20 percent of felony arrests, and 31 percent of those imprisoned. By contrast whites are 53 percent of the population, and account for 33 percent of felony arrests, but only 29.5 percent of those are imprisoned. Blacks are 4.7 times likelier to be arrested than whites and 7.8 times more likely to be incarcerated.

Even if we accept the argument that Blacks disproportionately commit more crimes than whites, and avoid muddying the issue by claiming a racial taint to the enforcement of California's three strikes law, it still does not explain why so many fewer whites that are convicted of felony crimes are imprisoned than Blacks who commit similar crimes.

If the answer is legal incompetence, official indifference or racism, we should say so. As the tragic events in North Hollywood proved, when violent offenders no matter what their color are allowed to slide through the legal cracks, we all pay a heavy and deadly price.