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April 13 - 19, 2000

VOL. XXII No. 13

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

NEWS-WIRE

History-Making Atlanta Perinatologists Align with NASA on Fetal Heart Monitor

Atlanta, GA (NNPA)—Atlanta Perinatal Associates, a trio of highly publicized perinatologists, are scoring new medical heights, utilizing technology invented by National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) which once monitored the efficiency of airplane wings. Doctors Brad Bootstaylor, Dexter Page and Kevin Gomez are the first and only medical practice in the world to utilize the portable fetal heart monitoring device developed by NASA. Dr. Gomez led the recently completed series of NASA-sponsored clinical trials of the device at Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) in Atlanta, which he inaugurated while on the faculty.

The collaboration between Atlanta Perinatal Associates and NASA marks the revolutionary melding of medical and space technology. Atlanta Perinatal Associates specializes in high-risk maternal fetal medicine, and is deeply committed to research and futuristic technology to provide unparalleled care to pregnant patients. NASA has a history of generating technologies for space-related tasks which are modified for commercial consumption; many leading to advances in electronics, robotics, medicine, and many other areas of human activity. The alliance yields a non-invasive and commercially economical way for patients to check fetal heart behavior in the privacy and convenience of their homes.

As an extension of evaluation originally launched at MSM, Atlanta Perinatal Associates is the incubator site for testing and fine-tuning the portable fetal heart monitor to insure that the monitor meets federal.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) deadlines before it is licensed for public usage. Results are being compared to those recorded via Doppler ultrasound and scalp-electrode monitors, and also to standard accepted measurements.

Dr. Gomez estimates that the self-contained technology will be on the market for home usage by Spring 2001. In its present form the fetal monitor is a compact easy-to-use unit, designed as a soft belt embedded with sensors, which straps around a patient's abdomen, and then plugs into a computer terminal. The nationally acclaimed specialty group explained that once the patient is connected to a computer terminal, the fetus's heart rate is recorded, and transmitted over telephone lines via the Internet to physicians.

The device is as easy to use as tuning a radio, and is comfortable to use, according to doctors Bootstaylor, Page, and Gomez. Because the material used for wing surface measurements was flexible, it was deemed ideally suited to fit over the curved surface of a maternal abdomen for fetal testing according to Allan Zuke, way of Langley's Advanced Measurement and Diagnostic Branch.

"The portable fetal heart monitoring system will be as economically accessible as glucose monitors, and in most cases covered by insurance; making the technology convenient for the indigent, traveling executives, and patients who are confined to bed rest, or otherwise unable to keep appointments," said Dr. Gomez. Current fetal heart-monitoring devices cost thousands of dollars and are restricted to usage in a clinic or doctor's office.

"In today's world patients desire to work, shop, and conduct business as usual, states Dr. Bootstaylor, "the fetal monitor liberates the patient to carry on their daily activities as an alternative to visits to the doctor's office." All of Atlanta Perinatal Associates's patients are considered high-risk, due to maternal complications of pregnancy or fetal abnormalities.

As vanguards in their field, Dr. Bootstaylor said that in addition to their alignment with NASA, Atlanta Perinatal Associates acts as Beta-site for 3-D ultrasound, for Medison America, world leaders in 3-D ultrasound technology. Pleasanton, California based Medison America designs, manufactures and researches 3-D ultrasound equipment. The highly evolved ability to see a developing baby in 3-D is helpful in diagnosing certain conditions, and in the patient's ability to comprehend the genetic defect or condition.

Like NASA fetal monitor, Medison's 3-D ultrasound exemplifies Atlanta Perinatal Associate's technologically superior research related initiatives. According to Dennis Wisner, Director of Education and Research for Medison America, there are only 100 clinical users of 3-D ultrasound in the nation, with Atlanta Perinatal Associates being the exclusively selected site for Georgia. "We pick the highest specialists in expertise based on geographic location, and Medison America found Atlanta Perinatal Associates to be quality leaders in their field. We garnish their feedback in using our technology to detect fetal abnormalities," said Wisner.

Dr. Page who dubs the fetal monitor as a form of "fetal surveillance" noted, "our patients are thrilled when we explain that they are statistically significant in helping us reach our definitive conclusions, and critical analysis." Page says that the group's synergy is spurred by their pioneering spirit. "Many times we get trapped in the footsteps of those before us, relying solely on their methods, and their conclusions. It's a big step to be daring enough to research and examine new medical options. When NASA first sent to the moon it was a small step for man, but a giant step for mankind. Atlanta Perinatal Associates embarks to take giant steps that will improve fetal well-being."

LCU INSTRUCTOR SEEKS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



LUBBOCK, TX--March 29, 2000--Lubbock Christian University has been blessed over and over again. One of our newest blessings came with the hiring of our first full time African American faculty member, Patricia Frances. Patricia is an instructor in the Department of Nursing. "I love the people I work with. I love the small classes and the size of the school." She has been a part time faculty member since 1996. She brings a lot of experience and enthusiasm to the department. She has never stopped learning and is now ready to share her experience and knowledge with her students. At the

same time she is working toward another degree and hopes to become the first African American nurse in Lubbock with a Ph.D.

Patricia was actually born in Miami, FL, but her father's career in the Air Force soon landed her in Lubbock. She graduated from Frenship High School in 1971. She attended Texas Tech where she got her BS in Physical Education with a minor in nutrition in 1988. She worked at the Lifestyles Center at Methodist Hospital helping heart patients go through rehab. It was then that she first knew she wanted to spend the rest of her life helping people. Her family moved back to Miami where she earned her Associates of Nursing degree from Miami Dade Community College in 1992. Upon moving back to Lubbock, Patricia enrolled as one of the first students in LCU's new nursing program. She chose LCU because LCU made it convenient for a working nurse to complete a degree without having to quit her job to do so. This was very important to her as a single mom with five children relying on her for financial support. She completed her Bachelor's of Nursing at LCU in 1996. She then went on to Texas Tech where she received her Masters of nursing degree in December 1999. Even before

completing her masters degree, she was asked to begin working as an instructor at LCU. She brings 8 years experience as a practicing nurse to the job--something very valuable in her teaching. She worked as a medical surgical night shift charge nurse at St. Mary's hospital. When asked why she chose to teach at LCU, Patricia said, "I love the people I work with. The Nursing Department at LCU mentored me while I was a student and it seemed like a natural transition to teach here. I love the small classes and the size of the school. I can give one-on-one attention to my students. The department chair has given me the freedom to be innovative and creative in my teaching methods. That is very important to me. Also, I love the spiritual environment at LCU. As a nurse I believe in treating the whole patient--spiritual as well as physical. It's what we in the medical profession call a holistic approach." According to Francis the one thing she wants to communicate to her nursing students is the importance of being an advocate for their patients. This involves helping patients make their own decisions about their health and health care.

I asked her how it felt to be the first African American

faculty member on our campus. She said that she felt very blessed to hold that distinction. "I feel that LCU is a great choice for minority students because of all the personal attention given to students here." And she feels a real calling to help recruit and mentor minority students. She is working on developing relationships with Estacado High School health occupation students. She spoke recently to students of Alderson Jr. High about the importance of learning good writing and

communication skills, especially if they are thinking about going to college.

Patricia believes in the power of a good education. She has two children of her own at Texas Tech and one who has already graduated. The other two plan to go to college as well. Patricia is an active member of the Central Church of Christ, the Texas Nursing has for the future, she said that she wants to continue to achieve and to be an example to others in serving her students and her community.



School Trustee Goes Back to School



Linda DeLeon, wife, mother, Lubbock school trustee, community worker, and full-time customer service technician for Southwestern Bell Telephone, has found time this semester to attend a class offered by the Lubbock Campus of Wayland Baptist University.

The busy lady was encouraged by her family to resume her work on a college degree in business administration. Her youngest daughter will enter college next year and the two older daughters are currently attending college. Mrs. DeLeon thinks it would be nice to get her degree about the same time as the children. She said that her employer helps with tuition support and that the Wayland program in Lubbock provides convenient times for classes.

Mrs. DeLeon is an example of non-traditional students enrolled in Wayland's Lubbock programs. The enrollment is growing, from 413 students last spring to 550 now.

The school trustee, who begins her fourth term in June, is enrolled in the course, "Economic Development in Low Income Areas." Students meet in the Maggie Trojo Center for one evening each week. Another course, "Business Development in East Lubbock," is offered in the Mae Simmons Center. These courses do not rely on textbooks, but are "student-driven" and focus on real needs in Lubbock, according to Dr. Kent Brooks, director of the Lubbock

Wayland campus.

The students in the two business courses are currently analyzing needs in the areas of the city, determining obstacles for economic and business development, and preparing recommendations on how to work on the problems. Resources include political, city and other government leaders, and business operators from the areas of the city that are studied.

Mrs. DeLeon is classified as a junior student at Wayland. Noting that time is always a factor, she said that going back to college just requires making it a priority. With her daughters in college next year, she wants to show them by example that a college education opens up doors and is a must in today's world.

Numerous students work full time and attend evening classes offered by Wayland. Most of the courses are taught in the spacious Wayland Plaza at 2002 W. Loop 289. Courses include the areas of Bible, English, mathematics, science, history, government, criminal justice, physical education, sociology, psychology, computer information systems, economics, marketing, and management.

The majority of the students are women, the average age is 36, and they earn an average of 21 hours of credit per year. Many of the students receive help with tuition.

Mrs. Loretta Austin is Financial Aid Counselor. She is a former entertainer and former mayor of Pasadena, California. She was the first woman black mayor of a city over 100,000 in population. Her husband, the Rev. Elijah Austin, is pastor of New Jerusalem Baptist Church in Lubbock.

In addition to university offices and classrooms, the Wayland Plaza houses several businesses which have about 800 employees. Persons interested in more information about the Wayland programs in Lubbock are invited to call 785-9285 for an appointment on campus with the director of the Lubbock campus, Dr. Kent Brooks, or with Mrs. Austin.

City sells first installment of bonds for \$7 million

The City of Lubbock successfully sold the first installment of bonds for \$7 million on March 23 to finance the five-year \$35 million construction improvement program approved by voters last September. The first installment will be used for streets and parks improvements.

The sale was the first time the City accepted bids electronically via the internet in addition to its traditional acceptance of bids via fax, mail, and phone. The City also provided the official statement, which is the bond offering document, via the internet. Offering the preliminary official statement, which provides detailed information to bidders about the bond sale, electronically increased distribution from 150 to more than 500 and saved \$3,000 in printing and postage. The offering document is also available on the City of Lubbock website at www.ci.lubbock.tx.us

The City hosted three site visits for three credit rating agencies and a prebid conference for

bidding underwriters. "Lubbock has a great story to tell," said City Finance Director Betsy Bucy. "When we can tell that story to the market we see positive results in lower rates."

The City achieved excellent bond ratings of AA from Fitch IBCA and Standard & Poor's. Moody's gave the City an Aa2 rating.

Comments made by the rating agencies include the following:

"The rating reflects the stability of the local economy, superior financial and administrative management, solid financial operating results, and a low debt burden."

"Financial operations continue to be maintained in a sound manner, as evidenced by the city's comfortable reserve levels and generally stable year-end cash position. This is further supported by the ongoing savings generated through the city's cost recovery program."

* Per capita retail sales

exceed the national average by 26 percent, reflective of Lubbock's position as a regional trade and service center."

More than 29 underwriting firms participated in the electronic bidding. The successful low bidder was a syndicate headed by J.C. Bradford & Company with a true interest cost bid of 5.527812 percent. The second low bid was from a syndicate headed by U.S. Bancorp Piper Jaffray with a true interest cost bid of 5.53 5956 percent. According to recognized indexes, the City of Lubbock, while rated a "AA" rating, effectively sold bonds at "AAA" rates.



Ruby Jay's Corner



The New Hope Baptist Church, 2002 Birch Avenue, is the "Church Where The People Really Care," and the Rev. Billy R. Moton is the proud host pastor. If you are looking for a church home, then come and visit New Hope Baptist Church. We will be happy to have you visit with us. May God bless you.

Services began last Sunday morning at 9:30 a. m. with Sunday School. It was Youth Day. All officers and teachers were at their post of duty for 30 minutes of instruction. All reassembled to the main auditorium at 10:15 a. m. marching and singing God's praises. What a time!

After prayer, high points of the morning lesson was given by Sister Hattie Gipson, teacher. Her students also participated in the remarks. They were wonderful!

Secretary's Report: Youth Department — Primary Class received the Offering Banner with an offering of \$103.75. The Senior Class retained the Attendance Banner.

Adult Department: Adult Class No. 2 retained the Attendance Banner. Adult Class No. 2 received the Offering Banner with an offering over \$700.00.

The Youth Department was in charge of the devotional period last Sunday morning. They did a wonderful job. Praise God for our Youth.

The Youth Choir marched in the processional singing out of their hearts. Altar prayer was offered by Rev. Jeff Brown. A selection, "Lord, We Praise Thee," was sung. The morning scripture was read by Lisa Skief, and another youth read the gave a prayer. The responsive reading was done with the entire congregation standing. The morning hymn, "He's Worthy To Be Praised" was sung.

Rev. Moton gave his pastoral observations. Another selection was sung. Pastor Moton's sermon was entitled "Neighbor, Tell Me The Story of Jesus." His scripture text was Acts 2:22-24. It was a very good sermon.

New Hope was special guest at the 79th Church Anniversary of the Greater St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church. Pastor Moton was guest speaker.

Among those who are sick at this report include Rev. E. L. Harris, pastor of St. James Baptist Church. He is home recuperating. Sister Louise Fields, wife Rev. Solomon Fields of St. John Baptist Church, is still a patient in the hospital. Pray for Rev. Fields and daughter.

Pray for our bereaved families. Among them include the Sister Mae Pearl Jackson family and the Williams and Gipson families.

The New Hope Baptist Church will celebrate its 74th Church Anniversary on Sunday afternoon, April 16, 2000, beginning at 3:00 p.m. The entire community is invited to attend.

Local Attorney Recognized



(Austin) The College of the State Bar of Texas recognized 4,100 attorneys as members of the College during its Annual Awards Luncheon in Austin on February 5. This distinguished group of attorneys accounts for less than eight percent of the total number of attorneys in Texas.

The College was created in 1982 by the Supreme Court of Texas as a means of recognizing members of the State Bar who voluntarily attain an extraordinary number of continuing legal education credits each year. To qualify for membership, attorneys must complete 80 hours of continuing legal education (CLE) within a three-

year period or 45 hours during the current year. To maintain membership in the College, an attorney must complete at least 30 hours of CLE each year, twice the number of hours required of all lawyers in Texas.

Awards were given to several College members, including an award for the best article written for a continuing legal education seminar. James E. Brill, Houston, and James H. (Blackie) Holmes, Dallas, received the State Bar College Professionalism Award for outstanding contributions in the area of professionalism with the legal profession. Paula Sweeny and Valerie Mosman, both of Dallas, received the

CLE Article award for their article entitled "Medical Malpractice & Hospital Liability Law" from the State Bar of Texas, Advanced Personal Injury Law Course. The Outstanding Legal Article award was presented to the Honorable John McLellan Marshall, Dallas, for his article "Ethical Concepts in American Jurisprudence" published by Maria Curie-Skłodowska University of Poland.

Bobby D. Dyess, Dallas, Chair of the State Bar College Board of Directors, presided over the ceremony. State Bar College Board members Jay B. Goss, Bryan, and Isaac M. Castro, Hamlin presented the awards.

Guadalupe-Parkway Neighborhood is holding Annual Founders Award Dinner

Guadalupe-Parkway Neighborhood Center will be holding their third annual Founders Award Dinner on April 13, at 7:00 p.m. at McInturff Center.

After an evening meal featuring speaker Dr. Robert Ewalt, and musical entertainer by

John Ray Watson, the Center will be honoring all nominees for the annual award and presenting the award to the nominee chosen for a display of outstanding service to young people in the Lubbock community.

The Center offer an array

of programs centered on promoting leadership skills and productive activities within the community. These programs included such activities as We Can Read, Homework Hour, dance classes and a variety of sports activities at a low cost to

families. This annual event offers an opportunity to assist young people in a positive way in Lubbock and tickets for the event are available at \$30.00. If you are interested in attending please call 763-3963.

The Death Penalty Needs Revisiting

By Emory Curtis

(NNPA) — Republican Governor George Ryan of Illinois' moratorium on execution of the state's death penalty has opened the gates for a real soul-searching review of how the 38 states with the death penalty and the federal government decide who should be sentenced to capital punishment. Since successful politicians copy what works from others, I sure wish other governors would copy that act from the successful Illinois governor.

Both proponents and opponents of the death penalty should welcome such a review of that phase of our justice system.

On the proponent side, Governor Ryan is not a "soft on crime liberal," he is a death penalty proponent. And for those of us who don't believe in the death penalty, the reason he instituted a moratorium is one of the key

reasons we oppose the death penalty. The governor looked at what has happened in his state since the death penalty was reinstated in 1977. Twenty-five people had received the death sentence; 12 had been put to death by the state; 13 had been taken off death row because they were found innocent in new trials ordered by higher courts or they were cleared by DNA evidence. In other words, over one-half of those sentenced to death by Illinois courts were later found to be innocent. Obviously, in those cases, the sentencing was a mistake.

Once in a while in every jurisdiction some of those convicted of a crime are later found innocent while serving their sentence in jail or prison. The state then corrects that error by releasing them, wiping that conviction off the records, and, in some cases, making monetary payments.

For death penalty cases, once the sentence is carried out, the government has no means of giving redress to a governmental mistake in sentencing. Death by lethal injection or the electric chair is final, like any other death. If anyone believes that the justice system doesn't make mistakes that imprison innocent people, many deliberately, the Los Angeles situation ought to open their eyes wide. In Los Angeles, the police chief, Bernard Parks, a good brother and a good policeman, has recommended that the district attorney act promptly to overturn the conviction of more than 100

hundred prisoners who were convicted by police planting evidence and lying on the witness stand. In a report to the Los Angeles City Council, the City Attorney's office stated that settling the lawsuits from the 120 cases of illegal convictions uncovered so far will probably cost the city \$125 million. And that total doesn't include the cost of hiring more attorneys and acquiring more space and support staff for the added attorneys.

Those 120 cases are just the first cases to come from an internal police investigation of one division, Rampart, of the Los Angeles City Police Department. The district attorney's office has sent the public defender's office a list of 3,000 cases involving the testimony of police officers involved in the Rampart Division scandals. Therefore, you can bet that there will be more than 120 cases of illegal convictions coming out of the Rampart Division and the settlement costs will be more than \$125 million. There is no logical reason to believe the Rampart Division is the only Los Angeles Police Department unit with officers who planted evidence and/or lied on the witness stand to get some person illegally convicted of a felony. Logically, if it is happening to that extent in Los Angeles, it is happening to some extent or another in police departments across this country. The blame for many of those innocent people sitting on death row is being placed on the incompetence and restricted

resources of their defense team, using the word "team" loosely. Actually, the blame should be placed on the justice system, both the investigating and prosecuting arms of the system.

Los Angeles, through the O. J. Simpson case and the Rampart Division corruption scandal, has laid before all of us how investigative sloppiness and deliberate lying on the witness stand can subvert the justice system from its basic goal — justice. Those are very good reasons why we should be extremely careful in allowing the justice system to carry out the final punishment in our name from which there is no return — death.

The strong embracement of the death penalty by this Christian nation has always been a quandary to me, until I did a bit of research on the (supposed) principles of religiously organizations and the actions of their followers. For instance, Christians, followers of Christ who support the death penalty are in direct opposition to Jesus Christ who, in his first sermon, the Sermon on the Mount reiterated the Ten Commandments including "Thou shall not kill." There are no commas, butts or exceptions to that Commandment to dilute its "Thou shall not kill" directive.

Anyway, whether it is on a religious basis or on a plain "doing what is right" basis, across this country there ought to be a moratorium on the death penalty and an extensive look at the plain "fairness" of the process that leads from accusation to conviction to finality.

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OBITUARY

STACEY NORRIS



ed Dunbar Struggs High School. He received his GED and certificate for carpentry in Job Corp in McKinney, Texas.

Survivors include Peggy Jackson of Lubbock, Texas; his son, Stacey DeShawn, Jr. of Lubbock, Texas; his step-mother, Patricia A. Norris of Aurora, Colorado; a brother, Jeffery L. Norris of Aurora, Colorado; a sister, Yolanda R. Norris of Lubbock, Texas, other brothers and sister; his paternal grandfather, Vernice Norris, Sr. of Lubbock, Texas, his paternal grandmother, Jessie Norris of Lubbock, Texas; his maternal grandmother, Lula Bradley of Lubbock, Texas.

Funeral services were set held for Stacey Norris last Saturday morning, April 8, 2000, at the Manhattan Heights Church of Christ with Brother Tyrone Dubose officiating.

Interment was held in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Ossie Curry Funeral Home.

Norris passed away here at the University Medical Center Saturday, April 1, 2000.

He was born March 25, 1967 in Lubbock. He attend-

FUND RAISING PROJECT SET FOR CHATMAN HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

The members of the Chatman Hill Neighborhood Association is sponsoring a fundraising program to complete the construction of the entrance signs located at East 19th Street and Birch Avenue.

Tickets are being sold at \$5.00 each for the drawing of 50 pounds of meat from Haynes Meat Market. The drawing is set for Sunday, April 23, 2000. You need not be present to win.

See any neighborhood association member in order to purchase your tickets.



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April 29, 2000

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What is Easter?

Revernd Pastor Norman R. Garrett, Sr.



Did you know that we Christians are celebrating "EASTER", as though God inspired it? We have been following an ungodly tradition passed down from the European founders of this country. As a matter of fact, most of our customs are inherited from spiritually unlearned Christians. We have been taught wrong. And it is time to do it right.

I believe that most Christians want to worship God in Spirit and in Truth. The following excerpts are from two different encyclopedias. You will note that they are favorable to paganistic and demonic worship practices and say they are Christian.

PRE-CHRISTIAN TRADITION

Please note that the word easter existed before Christ was crucified. It existed even before there was such a name as Christians. As you read on you will see the names of demon gods, idols carved from stone or wood or fashioned from metals. The True name for the Holy Days is The Passover."

Easter, is a Christian festival, embodies many pre-Christian traditions. The origin of its name is unknown. Scholars, however, accepting the derivation proposed by the 8th-century English scholar St. Bede, believe it probably comes from Castr, the Anglo-Saxon name of a Teutonic goddess of spring and fertility, to whom was dedicated a month corresponding to April.

Her festival was celebrated on the day of the vernal equinox; traditions associated with the festival survive in the Easter rabbit, a symbol of fertility, and in colored easter eggs, originally painted with bright colors to represent the sunlight of spring, and used in Easter-egg rolling contests or given as gift. (Purely of the devil, to dull our minds of the true suffering of the Son of the Living Gods Jesus The Christ.)

Such festivals, and the stories and legends that explain their origin, were common in ancient religions. A Greek legend tells of the return of Persephone, daughter of Demeter, goddess of the earth, from the underworld to the light of day; her return symbolized to the ancient Greeks the resurrection of life in the spring after the desolation of winter. Many ancient peoples shared similar legends. The Phrygians believed that their omnipotent deity went to sleep at the time of the winter solstice, and they performed ceremonies with music and dancing at the spring equinox to awaken him. (Our God never sleeps or slumbers, easter is absolutely not ordained of God.) The Christian festival of Easter probably embodies a number of converging traditions; most scholars emphasize the original relation of Easter to the Jewish festival of Passover, or Pesach, from which is derived Pasch, another name for Easter. (Note: How could easter be called the Passover, when we know that the passover had to do first with the children of Israel in bondage to the Pharaoh of Egypt and how God

Destroyed the firstborn of everyone who did not have the blood of a lamb on their doorpost, so that the death angel would pass over their house. The early Christians, many of whom were of Jewish origin, were brought up in the Hebrew tradition and regarded Easter as a new feature (which was not of God) of the Passover festival, a commemoration of the advent of the Messiah as foretold by the prophets.)

Easter," Microsoft® Encarta® Encyclopedia 99.© 1993-1998 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

EASTER is a Christian festival that celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is the most important holy day of the Christian religion. People attend churches and take part in religious ceremonies.

The following reference for easter is taken from the World Book Encyclopedia, 1971-73.

In most countries, Easter comes in early spring, at a time when green grass and warm sunshine begin to push aside the ice and snow of winter. Its name may have come from Eostre, a Teutonic goddess of spring or from the Teutonic festival of spring called Eostur. Most Christians observe Easter on a Sunday between March 22 and April 25. Members of Eastern Orthodox Churches sometimes celebrate it later than other churches do. The story of Easter comes from the Bible. The Gospels tell that the body of Jesus disappeared from His tomb on the third day after His Crucifixion. An angel appeared to His followers and announced. He is risen." Christians everywhere celebrate Easter with great rejoicing. In many areas, children collect candy and chocolate bunnies, and hunt colorful Easter eggs. Many persons wear new spring clothes to church on Easter.

Eggs represent the new life that returns to nature about Easter time. The custom of exchanging

eggs began in ancient times. The ancient Egyptians and Persians often dyed eggs in spring colors and gave them to their friends as gifts. The Persians believed that the earth had hatched from a giant egg. Early Christians of Mesopotamia were the first to use colored eggs for Easter. In some European countries, people colored eggs red to represent the joy of the resurrection. In England, friends often wrote messages and dates on the eggs they exchanged. Elaborate candy eggs with a window in one end and tiny scenes inside were popular gifts in the 1800's. Children today often find chocolate eggs or cardboard eggs filled with candy.

Why are we still under the bondage of easy, fake and fun religious practices? When will we wake up to the commandments of God, especially since Christ actually suffered and died for our sins? We have been taught through erroneous worship practices, to use the name of a demon-goddess (Eostre) to celebrate our Lords Atonement for our Sins. The only place in the bible where the name easter appears is in Acts Chapter 12, verses 1-4. Please read and see for yourselves that this scripture is relating to a pagan and demonic ritual that extended beyond the Passover, of which the Feast of unleavened bread is a part.

Acts 12
Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church. And he killed James the brother of John with the sword. And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.) And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people. The King James Version, (Cambridge: Cambridge) 1769

What is Apostasy?

Apostasy is when True Believers dare to serve God in error or when we serve other gods or make God equal in value with any thing or anyone else. Again I say Saints, we must not continue in false worship to idols installed by man. Please note from Matthew Henry Commentary:

Matthew Henry Commentary Notes from Judges 2:11-15 n: Cycles of apostasy, oppression, repentance, and deliverance, 2: 11-15.

11-13. The statement that they served Baalim (vs. 11) indicates that they worshiped localized Baal deities, thus the plural form im is used. Baal was a fertility god. He was looked upon as the chief vegetation god of the Canaanites and was thought to bring productivity to crops, animals, and men. He was also associated with the occurrences of weather and was usually depicted in Canaanite carvings as holding a lightning bolt in his hand. Thus, he is also called the "god of fire," indicating the significance of Elijah's challenge to the prophets of Baal.

(1 Kgs. 18). The Hebrew word ba'al means "master," or "lord." When the Israelites settled in Canaan, they soon discovered the local Baal deities were looked upon as the individual lords of the land. Thus, by worshipping him they were forsaking the lordship of their God for the lordship of Baal! The text also refers to their serving other gods... of the people among whom they lived. As they forsook the Lord, they... served Baal and Ashtaroth. The Hebrew ending ot is also a plural ending, indicating they worshiped localized Ashtar deities. These were multi-breasted female fertility deities, whose worship often included bizzare sexual practices. The Babylonian form of this deity was Ishtar, and the Roman form was

Easter (whose fertility signs, interestingly, were a rabbit and an egg).³

14-15. Since idolatry was regarded as a breach of covenant with the God of Israel, His anger was expressed against them by allowing them to be delivered ... into the hands of spoilers (1:1, enemies). Because of the Israelites' tendency to turn to Baal worship in times of peace, God kept the pressure on them by allowing invasions of their enemies so that they were greatly distressed. Since their worship of Yahweh was the unifying factor among the Israelite tribes, the apostasy into Baal worship also tended to decentralize the strength of the nation. Their neglect of the covenant which bound them to the Lord, and also bound them together, caused them to present a divided front to their enemy invaders.⁴

King James Version Bible Commentary (Nashville: Thomas Nelson) 1997, c1994.

The Feast of the Passover

The Feast of the Passover was ordained by Jehovah/God, first in the book of Exodus Chapter 12. If you really want to know Please read the entire chapter. Also note, the first time Passover is used in the New Testament in Matthew 26:1, and was called the Passover by Christ Himself. He never said easter. Let us be obedient to the Lord and pray for His direction in how He wants us to commemorate this Holiday. As for me and my house, We Will Serve the Lord.

Please be Looking in next weeks edition for "Did Christ Die on Wednesday or Friday?"



Editorials • Comments • Opinions



THIS N THAT

RODNEY ELLIS "GOVERNOR FOR A DAY"! THIS N THAT ALONG WITH SCORES AND SCORES OF OTHERS were present at the INAUGURATION OF RODNEY ELLIS WHO WAS SWORN IN AT HIGH NOON on the Capitol Grounds southside last Saturday in Austin As a state senator from Houston, Texas this was a special effort as it is an opportunity when the GOVERNOR and LT. GOVERNOR are out of the state Pre-Inaugural Music was made possible by the Texas Southern University Band and the University of Texas Band It was well done and with the Ross Volunteers of Texas A&M University as honor guard and the color guard was the Prairie View A&M University Color Guards. Administration of the Oath was done by The Honorable James DeAnda of Houston with the NINETEEN GUN SALUTE done by the Texas Army National Guard Introduction of Ellis was done by The Honorable Ann Richards former Governor of Texas She gave some very strong remarks which included this kind of diversity in Texas A special song "hope" was sung by Hanq Neal with lyrics "AS SURE AS THERE IS A GOD THERE IS HOPE!" Oh yes it was some day and it made a lot of sense THANKS SENATOR RODNEY ELLIS fro serving as TEXAS' GOVERNOR FOR A DAY WHAT A DAY!!!

SISTER MAE PEARL JACKSON WILL BE MISSED! THIS N THAT will certainly miss SISTER MAE PEARL JACKSON WHO PASSED here last week She made many positive contributions to the COMMUNITY through her directing many musical programs and directing her church choir at the Community Baptist Church A lady who always had a song to SHARE WITH OTHERS She will no doubt be missed by young and old THANKS Sister Mae Pearl Jackson for what you did do

CHATMAN HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION SPONSORS A FUNDRAISING PROJECT! THIS N THAT is advising you of a fundraising program being sponsored by the CHATMAN HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION Its membership is selling TICKETS for a meat drawing Tickets are \$5.00 each For more info contact its president CAREY DON CHILDERS at 762-0464 or contact any member THIS N THAT wishes them the VERY BEST!

PENNY HASTINGS THE BARBER SAYS: "HAPPINESS is essential, essentially a state of GOING SOMEWHERE wholeheartedly one directionally WITHOUT REGRET OR RESERVATION"

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED! THIS N THAT is asking for your HELP If you have any idea or know of any info about the MURDER of a 44 year old African American woman who was discovered dead in the street in the 2200 block of Fifth Street last week. She has been identified as TRACEY ANDERSON If you have any info call Crime Line at 741-1000. Your help is needed! She became the SIXTH HOMICIDE in Lubbock this year Will you help??

We must Do Our Share!

By Eddie P. Richardson



We moan! We groan! And we complain over 90% of the time. We are uninformed or without fact. We complain about politics and politicians, but, yet, we still do not vote! If you fail to vote, then shut the heck up! You don't have any voice or reason to complain.

We complain about what is happening or not happening before we spread misinformation or assumptions. We must check the source and get the facts at public hearings, town hall meetings, and when we attend, don't just sit there like a knot on a log. Ask questions, voice your opin-

ions at the sessions. Don't leave and come back to the neighborhood and criticize and complain.

One gets out of life what one puts into it. If you put nothing into it, then why look for the government or some white folks to take you by the hand and lead you to the promise land with no investment. Even if we have no money, we can bring something to the table. Every project cost money. If we have no money, we can at least bring ourselves with a positive attitude, ideas, work, and the desire of positive change or improvements. But, most of all, we must have the facts. Remember, no one owes anything. Why in the heck should we expect others to do for us what we fail to do for ourselves.

We must clean up our own act before we complain about what others are not doing for us, and what they are not doing for ourselves. We continue to allow illegal activities go on in our neighborhoods. We allow drug selling, burglary, and illegal gatherings, and then say: "I/we don't want to be involved." Or if they call this writer, T. J., the paper, and others. Hell, why not call the authorities. We (Southwest Digest) are not law

enforcement, and are not there. Remember, you are you, and you do not even have to give your name when you report these illegal activities. You see when this writer sees illegal activities, this writer will report and notify the proper sources and give my name freely.

We claim fear and blame others for our shortcomings when things go wrong in our neighborhoods. We fail to get involved or report them. If this is your role, you are as guilty as they are if we fail to take the lead in cleaning up our own communities. Then who should we blame? US!

On the other hand, we should not get mad at businesses, developers and others for not spending their money when we hide behind blinders. Businesses, investors, and other sources look at and to profits. Money is what they see first to see if it is a good or bad investment. We need to be able to sell our neighborhood by presenting a positive image.

Remember, you can't beg and bargain at the same time. We can't demand others to spend their money in our communities. We must sell them!

Nuff Sed! Why Not?

This is the Time For AIDS Leadership

(NAPS)—In 1999, African Americans were eight times as likely as whites to be diagnosed with AIDS. In Africa, AIDS has galloped past war, malaria and tuberculosis to become the leading killer in the region. Nearly 14 million Africans have lost their lives to AIDS.

After years of stagnant funding, Congress did act this year to grant a welcome \$100 million increase in spending for the global epidemic.

Here at home, African-American leadership—slow to respond at first—has turned to action. The Congressional Black Caucus obtained \$156 million for AIDS prevention and care in communities of color. Prompted by the NAACP and other organizations, the Centers for Disease Control have made HIV prevention among African Americans their top priority.

But for the world's greatest leader, in a time of marked prosperity, this new commitment is still more than a dollar short. American spending per year on the global AIDS crisis, for example, is less than the cost to the U.S. of three days of NATO intervention in Yugoslavia.

African Americans cannot sit idly by as Africans die by the millions in what UNAIDS, the United Nations

AIDS program calls "a human disaster on a scale never seen before." African-American leadership, finally waking up to AIDS at home, must rally its political might to open the nation's eyes and pocketbooks, to this growing tragedy. Consider the following:

- In the U.S., half of all new HIV infections occur among African Americans. AIDS mortality rates are ten times higher among African Americans than among whites.

- In sub-Saharan Africa, some 23.3 million Africans—more than 12 million women and more than 10 million men—are estimated to have HIV. Nearly all are expected to die within ten years.

- By the end of the year, 12 million children will have lost one or both parents to AIDS, 5 percent of them in Africa.

- In many African countries, hard-won economic and political advances are being threatened or reversed by AIDS. In South Africa, beacon of democracy, more than half the population will not live to reach the age of 60.

The most tragic part of this unfolding catastrophe affecting Black people around the world is that it is largely preventable.

A handful of developing nations, notably Uganda and Senegal,

have demonstrated that with consistent political commitment and widespread AIDS prevention efforts, infection rates can decline. On an international level, the U.S. Agency for International Development and UNAIDS have shown that we can help improve developing countries ability to fight HIV.

But international funding for AIDS is vastly outpaced by the epidemic. Global HIV infection has grown more than twice as fast as the funding to fight

it. While the U.S. provides more funds than any other country, it ranks ninth out of 13 industrialized countries in the percentage of GNP devoted to international AIDS programs.

It's time for Congress to treat AIDS like the global emergency it is. The U.S. has invested considerable resources in helping Africa struggle toward economic development and democracy—we can't afford to let AIDS destroy that progress now.

ALL BANQUET SET FOR ESTACADO MATADORS

The Estacado Booster Club will be having its Annual Banquet for all athletes of Estacado High School Matadors. It will be held Monday evening, May 1, 2000 at Danny's Fins and Hens, 5001 Avenue Q, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

The public is welcome to support and attend this banquet for our Matadors.

PARKWAY MANOR CARE CENTER HAPPENINGS

The Staff and Residents of the Parkway Manor Care Center would like to give a special "Thank You" to the Joyous Sounds on Adult Day. The activity center had as its special guest Blues Singer, Mr. Edward Higgins, who did a marvelous job in singing. City Councilman T. J. Patterson was present as well as friends and family members. All came out to celebrate the monthly birthdays of the residents. What a marvelous time, we all had together.

Also, a special "Thank You" to Mrs. Windy Sitton, Mayor of the City of Lubbock, for the special recognition to Parkway Manor Care Center. It was wonderful! Again, we, the Staff and Residents, want to say "Thank You" from the bottom of our hearts.

On Friday morning, April 14, 2000, at 9:00 a. m., Parkway Manor will have its annual Easter Egg Hunt. Rise Academy Day Care Center students will be the ones who will hunt for the eggs. Friends and family are welcome to come for the event.

JUST REMEMBER, anybody can serve. You only soul generated with love. Small things done with everybody can be great, because need a heart full of grace.

Small thing done with great LOVE brings joy and peace

Gloria Newman, Activity Director, is a patient at Methodist Hospital, Room 463 South. She is doing nicely at this report. We are all praying for her. We ask you to do same.

Ms. Gloria Newman, Activity Director.

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FUND RAISING PROJECT SET FOR CHATMAN HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

The members of the Chatman Hill Neighborhood Association is sponsoring a fundraising program to complete the construction of the entrance signs located at East 19th Street and Birch Avenue.

Tickets are being sold at \$5.00 each for the drawing of 50 pounds of mean from Haynes Meat Market. The drawing is set for Sunday, April 23, 2000. You need not be present to win.

See any neighborhood association member in order to purchase your tickets.

SOUTHWEST DIGEST

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The Southwest Digest is an independent newspaper serving the Lubbock, West Texas, South Plains of Texas and Eastern New Mexico areas printing the news impartially supporting what it believes to be right without opposing what it believes to be wrong without regard to party politics.

Devoted to the Industrial, Educational, Social, Political, and Economical Advancement of African-American People

We may be critical of some things that are written, but, at least you will have the satisfaction of knowing they are truthful and to the point.

People will react to that which is precise, and we will publish these articles as precisely and factually as is humanly possible. We will also give credit and respect to those who are doing good things for the Lubbock Area and the people. We will be critical of those who are not doing as they have said they would, and this, we think, is fair.

So, this is our resolution to you. Feel free at any time to call this office for information concerning this newspaper or any other matter that is of concern to you.

This is not a propaganda sheet made to chastise or vilify. This is a newspaper made to educate and not to agitate.

The opinions expressed by guest columns or editorials are not necessarily the opinions of the publishers/editors or those of the advertisers. Comments and pictures are welcome but the publishers are not responsible to return articles unless a self-addressed envelope is submitted. All notices must be paid in advance. Story deadline is 12 p.m. Monday. Advertisement deadline is Monday 5 p.m. the week of publication.

Member A.O.I.P. (Assault on Illiteracy Program)
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The people to worry about are not those who openly disagree with you, but those who disagree with you and are too cowardly to let you know.

Rites of Passage 2000: Bringing "Coming of Age" Traditions to Contemporary Cultures



The Nation's Foremost Black Women's Empowerment Conference

San Diego, CA - In African tradition, a young girl or boy comes in to adulthood through the passing on of knowledge and customs from village elders. In contemporary times, ancestral rituals are near non-existent. Instead, "street wisdom" from the media, pop music and their peers has often marked our youth's "rite" of passage into adulthood.

African American Women on Tour, celebrating its 10th Anniversary, has a decade-long tradition of offering Rites of Passage programs for both girls and boys, as well as for young women and adults. Through its programs, young people learn what the community

expects from them, teamwork, leadership, values and responsibility. Youth learn through empowerment, instead of through fear.

In 2000, the ExxonMobil African American Women on Tour conference series, presented by Sprint, offers Rites of Passage retreats for youth, women and now men as a part of this season's schedule of events:

• **July 14-16, 2000, Coronado Springs Resort, Orlando, FL:** Girls, Boys and Young Women's Rites of Passage; Women's Rites of Passage; Men's Rites of Passage;

• **July 21- 23, 2000, Brooklyn Marriott, Brooklyn, NY:** Girls, Boys and Young Women's Rites of Passage;

• **August 3 - 5, 2000, Hilton Chicago & Towers, Chicago, IL:** Girls, Boys and Young Women's Rites of Passage; Advanced Women's Rites of Passage;

• **August 25 - 27, 2000, Atlanta Hilton & Towers, Atlanta, GA:** Girls, Boys

and Young Women's Rites of Passage; Advanced Women's Rites of Passage;

• **September 29 - October 1, 2000, Airport Marriott, Los Angeles, CA:** Girls, Boys and Young Women's Rites of Passage; and Advanced Women's Rites of Passage.

African American Women on Tour has featured the Rites of Passage program for women for seven years. It's increased popularity led to the offering of an advanced program for 2000. "Many of us (women) didn't have the opportunity to graduate from a girls' Rites of Passage program," states Mutima Imani, the women's Rites facilitator. In 2000, her advanced program for graduating "queens" offer women the opportunity to share their healing stories and "recommit to conscious living."

Men have asked, "what about us?" African American Women on Tour now features a Men's Rites of Passage program in Orlando, FL, headed by

Demetri Kornegay and Mark Sanders. This 2-day retreat entitled, "Men Under Construction," focuses on history, personal responsibility, conflict resolution, negative media images, male/female relationships, spirituality among other empowering topics.

While each program is structured in the traditions of African Rites of Passage programs, they feature elements specific to the gender and age level of the participants. Adult women experience a metaphysical approach to self-assessment and self-empowerment. Young women, ages 19 - 25, led by Shquestra Sitawi, learn techniques for living a balanced life during the years of self-discovery and productivity. Girls, directed by Emily Guntef and Phaebra Croft; and boys, facilitated by Cary Graham, ages 12 to 18, learn goal setting and conflict resolution, as well as responsibility and commitment to self, family and community.

African American

Women on Tour is title sponsored by ExxonMobil Corporation and presented by Sprint. Co-sponsors include Agouron Pharmaceutical, American Airlines, Bank of America, JC Penney, Nabisco, Hanes Hosiery, Time Warner, Warner Music Group, Heart & Soul magazine and Arabesque Books.

For additional information about African American

Women on Tour, call 1-800-560-AAWT (2298), fax to 858-560-9190, e-mail aawot@mindspring.com, or visit the website at www.aawot.com. African American Women on Tour is produced by PROMOTrends, Inc., a Black female-owned company located at 3914 Murphy Canyon Road, Ste. 216, San Diego, CA 92123-4423.

COMBEST HOSTS LOCAL MINISTER AS GEUST HOUSE CHAPLAIN

Washington, D.C.- Rep. Larry Combest (R-TX) introduced Reverend Elizabeth "Liz" Sisco (Levelland) as Guest Chaplain for the U.S. House of Representatives, Wednesday, March 22, 2000. Combest nominated Rev. Sisco to serve as a Guest Chaplain for the House, and an invitation was then given by the House Chaplain for her to deliver the morning invocation

on the House floor.

"I am honored to have Rev. Sisco as our guest Chaplain," Rep. Combest said. "She is a remarkable pastor and civic leader who has enriched the lives of many in our community."

Reverend Sisco serves as Senior Pastor at Christ United Methodist Church in Levelland, Texas. A former attorney and

Lubbock Independent School Board member, she is also a wife, mother and grandmother. She was called to the clergy when she discovered that she could change lives with her keen understanding of theology and ability to draw individuals together. She has since served as pastor of Christ United Church for six years and is also an ordained elder in the Northwest Texas Conference.

"Rev. Sisco is a deeply respected community figure and I commend her for her gift of service to our region," Combest concluded.

The Reverend opened the U.S. House of Representatives' daily session with her prayer, which which covered live on C-Span television at approximately 9:30 a.m. CST.

LIFE IS TOO SHORT FOR CHEAP BEER

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South Plains College News



LUBBOCK PTK INITIATES — Lubbock residents were among those inducted into Kappa Mu, chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at South Plains College Thursday night during spring initiation ceremonies. Seated from left are Coral Mabie, Desiree Rochen, Devyn Hadley, Alayna Ebeling, Kendra McCallister and Kristi Melander, and standing from left are Jessica Mata, Samuel Roberts, Sam Al-Hashmi, Bobby King, Quentin Vierege and Amy Stovall. (SPC Photo)

Citibus Announces New Pass Program

Lubbock- Citibus has announced a new program offering current monthly pass holders a reduced rate on pass renewals beginning April 1, 2000.

The new program will allow current pass holders an opportunity to purchase new monthly passes at a reduced rate of \$45 instead of the traditional rate of \$52. Passengers will need to turn in their monthly pass within 30 days of its expiration date to receive the discount. Each monthly pass allows passengers unlimited use on Citibus route during that designated month.

Monthly passes can be purchased at the Citibus Administration Office located at 801 Texas Ave. or the Downtown Transfer Plaza at 801 Broadway Ave.

For more information, please call Jessica Black, marketing coordinator at (806) 767-2380 ext. 240.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY



IN JESUS NAME "The Trial of Jesus!!!"

Matthew 26: 59,60a, Now the Chief Priest, and Elders, and all the Council, sought false witnesses against Jesus, to put him to Death; but found none: Yea, thought many false witnesses came. ST. Jesus;

In the eyes of this sanctified Court reporter; they come to witness again there is hate in their eyes and heart; so much I can't believe it???

They said: Jesus said, if you destroy this temple in any faze; I will raise it up: within the matter of just three days.

V. 61. They said, This fellow (Jesus) said, I am able to destroy the temple of God, and to build it in three days.

Here comes the man from the Pork Co. saying.. He killed 2,000 of my hogs; that was when he cast out Demons from a man; and should not have been put in a dogs (Your Honor: After drowning our Hogs, People are afraid to buy our pork. They say it contains: Mad Hog Disease; they afraid they might have Devil chillings, Devil pig feet, Devil ribs, devil pig ears. They think our pigs are demon possessed. He has caused us to lose our business.)

Mark 5: 11,12, Now there was there nigh unto the mountains a great herd of swine (hogs) feeding, and all the devils besought him (Jesus), saying, send us into the swine that we may enter into them.

Now here comes the man from the drug & Alcohol; hate on his mind; He said: Jesus was moon-shinning; No licenses: turning water to wine!!!

John 2:9a, When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was.

Here comes: Dr. Bishop Joa'tham, this Jesus over turned our tables; saying his house is for prayer; its not his house: He is a fable.

Matthew 21:13, Jesus said, it is written, my house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.

The Bishop said: He is robbing our churches; feeding fish and bread; and the people are believing him; He has no place to lay his head!!!!

And he is no real preacher: He haven't been to our seminary; he is not licensed; he is even preaching in our cemetery.

Luke 8: 27, When he (Jesus) went forth to land, there met him out of the city a certain man, which had devils long time, and ware no clothes, neither abode (lived) in any house, but in the toms.

Dr.Bishop said: He is not one of us; he have not been ordained; he even had a wild man following him: John the Baptist; he was insane!!!

Matthew 3:1,3a,4. In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, the voice of one crying in the wilderness, prepare ye the way of the lord, and make his peths straight. And the same John had his raiment (Clothes) of camel's hair, and a leather girdle about his lions, and his meat was locusts and wild honey.

Dr. Bishop said: we're tired of his preaching; telling us what to do; I can in this trail; only one nfan, Pilate; wanted to know what is truth???

John 18: 37b, Jesus said, thou sayest that I am a King. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness of the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.

God is not through with us yet. So lets us Pray for one Another always. Written by evangelist Billy B.J. Morrison, III. Your brother in Christ Jesus!!!

Come! join us as we sing for joy to the Lord:
help us shout aloud to the rock of our salvation.



Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church
2202 Southeast Drive • Lubbock Texas 79404

Sunday School: 9:30a.m. • Sunday Worship Service: 10:45a.m.
Bible Study: Wednesday's at 12:00 noon & 7:00 p.m.



from the Desk of Parson D.A. Smith

"Riasing to the Challenge"

"And a certain ruler asked him, saying, Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? ... And when he heard this, he was very sorrowful: for he was rich."—Luke 18 & 23.

It is said that on a small island off the coast of Nova Scotia is a strange pit reputed to be the hiding place of a fabulous treasure. Various search parties have dug there over many years without success. The search is hampered by a series of wooden platforms, one below another underground to a depth of a hundred feet. Another handicap is the sea water that floods the pit.

Of course, no one is really sure if there is any treasure in the pit at all. However, many people have spent their life saving in an effort to find a treasure that only may be a mytn.

Jesus challenged the rich young ruler to give up all he had for a treasure that is eternal in the heaven. However, this rich young ruler decided against that. Perhaps this young ruler was one of the few who came to Jesus that went away in worse condition than when they came.

This young man had a lot in his favor. He was moral and religious, earnest and sincere. He was the kind of person most preachers would like to have in their congregations.

When we look at this man by comparing Luke's account with Matthew and Mark, we get a complete picture. Luke tells us that he was a ruler—a man highly respected in the Jewish community. Matthew tells us he was young, and all three gospels tells us that he was rich. He "had great possessions."

Mark tells us that Jesus loved the young man. This is important. The man's life was one to be admired. He was morally pure. He was independent and brave. Otherwise he would not have dared to come openly to Jesus and show Him such respect. Mark tell us that eagerly he "came...running, and kneeled" before Jesus and asked that all important question: "What shall I do to inherit eternal life?" Apparently he thought eternal life must be earned; but when Jesus told him what to do, he refused to obey. He

wanted salvation, but he wanted to make no such sacrifice. How many people make this same mistake today.

The young ruler pleaded his case to Jesus about his religious devotion and piety. Jesus told him "yet lackest thou one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me."

The young ruler at that moment stood at the turning point in his life. Jesus challenged him to become one of his disciples and imposed upon him the condition that he sell his possession, distribute the proceeds to the poor; and thereby gain for himself treasure in heaven.

We all know that no one is saved by giving to the poor, but no one can be saved who will not repent of his or her sin, whatever that sin may be. The young man was possessed with the love of money, and he could not escape. He came short of God's requirement. The challenged was one he would not feet. Faced with a choice, he chose his wealth rather than the service of Christ.

Luke's gospel tell us that the man refused to do what Jesus asked, but the accounts in Matthew and Mark both say he "went away." The picture is clear that Jesus' appeal was in vain. The ruler failed to rise to the challenge. The cost of being a disciple of Jesus was more than he was willing to pay.

Yes, Jesus challenged this rich to give up all that he had for a treasure that is eternal in Heaven, available to those who follow the Master. However, we not again that he would not take up the challenge. How many today with less treasure on earth are following his example.

God is able to speak worlds into existence. God is able to separate land from water. God is able to scoop valleys out of earth's floor. God is able to make mountains bulge up above the sea level then he is able to put clothes of fleecy white clouds on their bony shoulders. God is able to carpet the landscape with green grass, and in the early dawn he places diamond-like dewdrops upon her blade of grass. He is eternal life! Will you rise to the challenge of giving your all to him.

THE OUTREACH PRAYER BREAKFAST

The members and friends of the Outreach Prayer Breakfast are praying for the Lubbock Public School System and our children.

"Father, we thank you for the entrance of your word which brings light. Thank you for watching over your word to perform it. Father, we bring before you today the Lubbock Public School System and the men and women who are in position of authority within the system.

We believe skillful and Godly wisdom have entered into their hearts. Praying your knowledge be pleasant to them and deliver them from the way of evil and from evil men. We pray men and women of integrity, blameless, and honesty in your sight. We pray only these remain in these positions, but the wicked be cut off and the reacherous be rooted out in the name of

Jesus. Father, we bring our children — our young people — before you. We speak forth your word boldly and confidently that our children are taught in the Lord and great shall be their reward with peace and happiness. They're redeemed from the curse of the Law for Jesus which was made a curse for us. Our sons and daughters are not under the curse, but are free to grow up knowing they can be what God says they can have. They can do what God says they can do. We pray for parents all over this city they will train their children and bring them up in the way they should go, and when they are old, they won't depart from it.

May our children shrink from whatever might offend you, Father, and discredit the name of Jesus. May all of them grow up to be

children who are precious in your sight in the midst of a crooked and wicked generation. Thank you, Father, for giving them knowledge and skills in all learning wisdom, and bring them into favor with those around them.

Father, we pray and intercede with these young people, their parents, and the leaders in the school system and hope they will separate themselves from contact with contaminating and corrupting influences, and they will cleanse themselves from everything that would contimate and defile their spirits, souls and bodies. We're asking they shun immorality and all sexual loosenesses flee from impurity in thought, word or deed. We hope they live and conduct themselves honorably and becomingly as the light of day. We pray they will

shun youthful lust, and flee from them in that the name of Jesus. We pray.Amen."

"Butterfly In The Wind" A Child is a butterfly in the wind; some fly higher than others; but each one flies the best that it can. Why compare one butterfly against another?

Each one is different.
Each is special.
Each one is beautiful.
Keep those drive by prayers out there everyday. Have you walked your block and prayed for your neighborhood yet? If not, then do it today. Also pray for the Franklin Graham Festival. Sister Dorothy Hood, president; Sister Christine Burleson, vice president; Sister Ernestine Fraizer, secretary; and Sister Elnora Jones, acting secretary.

Def Jam Artist Donald Lawrence Presented Acclaimed Tri-City Singers

On Their EMI Gospel Debut Album "tri-city4.com" First Album in 5 Years Combines 21st Century Technology With Old World Vocals

EMI Gospel debut, "tri-city4.com" combines state-of-the-art 21st century studio technology and themes with hard core Biblical solutions and the most polished vocalise in gospel music today.

Lawrence has been so low-key as a behind-the-scenes pioneer of contemporary gospel, many have forgotten that the mixed Franklin's groundbreaking, urban cross over smash, "The Reason Why We Sing" way back in 1994. Before that, Donald had sharpened his urban skills as a mixer for En Vogue, Stephanie Mills' musical director and as a founding member of the acclaimed Warner Brothers R&B quartet, Company. The 34 members of the Tri-City Singers hail from three distinctive areas from which their name was inspired: Spartanburg/Greenville, South Carolina; Gastonia, North Carolina; and Charlotte, North Carolina.

One of the many attention-

grabbing tracks on the new album, which is designed as an hourlong e-mail conversation on the internet, is a churchy, old school duet entitled "God's Favor" between R&B power-house Kelly Price, and urban gospel divas Kim Burrell and Karen Clark-Sheard. The legendary Williams Brothers gospel quartet lend their talent to "Sign Me Up." Through out the project, a variety of the Tri-City Singers get to perform hair-raising solos. However, no one voice is as recognizable as Lawrence's dry talking style of sermonizing over the lush, lush backdrop of the City Singers. If there's a theme to the album, it can probably be found on track #11 "Blessed." On it, Lawrence softly raps to God: "I have so many issues but your love for me has never changed 'It's an old home-tested message for a new uncertain time.



Kirk Franklin may have asked the musical question, "Do you wanna revolution?"; but, was Def Jam artist/producer Donald Lawrence who answered with the thumping basses, sampled drum loops and extremely intricate vocal phrasing of the Tri-City Singers when he introduced the choir back in 1993. Their debut album "From A Songwriter's Point of View" was a top ten smash and raised the bar of excellences for gospel choirs. It wasn't just about ministry. It was ministry with panache, perfectionism and the pulse of urban America.

The choir followed it up with their even edgier Grammy-nominated

concept album, "Bible Stories, n which spent more than a year on Billboard's gospel charts and peaked at #1 in 1995. At the time, a U.S.A. Today reporter wrote: "Portrayals of Jesus, Job, Mary and others are modernized and funkied up in spiritual jams that blend up-to-the-minute urban music with old fashion choir vocals. The lyrics are nearly openic in their storytelling." Then, came their lush, ear-to-the-ground Christmas album "Hello Christmas" which netted them performances on NBC's "Today Show" and BET's "Teen Summit." Now, after five extremely long years, Donald Lawrence has re-introduced Tri-City for a new millennium of listeners. Their new

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CHOIR REHEARSALS

A mass choir is being assembled to minister through music at the Franklin Graham Festival each night, April 28-30, 2000. No auditions required. Anyone age 18 and older wishing to sing in the choir is welcome to attend the rehearsals. Attending the rehearsals does not obligate you to sing at the Festival.

Monday, April 24, 7:00 - 9:00 PM
Southcrest Baptist Church 3801 S. Loop 289 Lubbock, Tx 79423

Tuesday, April 25, 7:00-9:00 PM
First Foursquare Church 18781 Indian Ave. Lubbock, TX 79423

Thursday, April 27, 7:00-9:00 PM
Calvary Baptist Church 5301 E. 84. Lubbock, TX 79424

Friday, April 28, 7:00-9:00 PM
Temple Emmanuel Assembly of God 4201 Ave. J Lubbock, TX 79405

Saturday, April 29, 10:00 AM- Noon
First Baptist Church 2301 Broadway Ave. Lubbock, TX 79401

West Texas Festival 2401 with Franklin Graham Phone: 2042 W. Loop 289, Box 118 PO Box 16090 Lubbock, Texas 79400 (806) 780-5800 Fax: (806) 780-5904, e-mail: westtexas2000@tspg.org Website: www.west-texas-festival.org

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Former California Mayor and Entertainer Works with University Students



Mrs. Loretta Jean Austin can be seen often on Sundays at churches in Lubbock, sharing her musical abilities and teaching skills. During the week, she goes to her office in the Wayland Plaza in West Lubbock where she serves as Financial Aid Counselor for the Lubbock Campus of Wayland

Baptist University. Mrs. Austin (formerly Loretta Thompson-Glickman), is a former mayor from Pasadena, California and served two terms in the early 80's. She has the distinction of being the first black woman mayor of a large city with a population of 100,000. Prior to her years in

public office she taught high school English, was a professional singer entertainer, and traveled extensively. She sang with rock groups from London Fog to folk group The New Christy Minstrels and was one of 8 dancers for The 5th Dimension.

Her stint in politics is a story in itself. It was in the mid 70's when school desegregation and busing issues were receiving much attention. Then husband and president of the local American Federation of Teachers announced during a Joint city/school board meeting that his wife was going to run against the incumbent city council member.

With a chuckle, Mrs. Austin notes that she was out of the city on a road tour at the time with her musical entertainment pursuits, unaware of what was happening in Pasadena when she receives a copy of a clipping from the paper in the mail. By the time she arrived home, in 1975, citizen committees were in place and a campaign was ready to be launched. The timing was right. After months of deliberation she finally agreed to run.

April of 1977 the city of Pasadena elected its first homemaker to the city council. On May 3rd she was unseated and surprise, surprise, three days later she gave birth to son Sam. Throughout her pregnancy she campaigned, walking the streets and knocking on the

doors of constituents. Mrs. Austin has four children, Jacob 24 (adopted son), Sam 23, Charles 12 (adopted), and Ashuana 11 (adopted).

This California lady was born in New York. Her mother attended Juillard School of Music, but Pasadena was home until the move to Lubbock. Her mother's name was Virgil, and Mrs. Austin said that her mother was accepted at Peabody Institute of Music, but couldn't stay when it was learned that she was a woman and black. Austin studied music and at the University of Southern California and Graduated with a degree in Secondary Education from UCLA.

Austin has many fond memories of her 14 years in elected office. From riding in the Rose Bowl Parade, negotiating super bowl contracts, revitalizing old town, foreign travels with the National League of Cities, hosting foreign exchange students, serving on national committees, developing sister city relations, to working with her constituents. Austin believes that the influence of these travels on her older sons who traveled with her, many times helped to mold them. Looking back, she states "I believe that these experiences have all help to make me the person that I am today with a greater understanding of this colorful mosaic of different cultures that make up our communities and this nation."

The Lubbock resident moves fast forward to the 1990's with her story. She came to Lubbock equipped with a letter from the United Methodist Conference introducing her to the First United Methodist Church here where she later joined. Later, she was a Methodist lady who married Baptist Pastor (Rev. Elijah W. Austin). Through the years, she has continued her music in church ministry. She lead the music for New Jerusalem Baptist Church, teaches a women's Bible study and Youth Sunday School, is active with the Interdenominational Ministers Wives Alliance, Black Church fellowship of Lubbock Baptist Association, serve as secretary for the Executive Committee of the Lubbock Baptist Association, and plays piano one Sunday a month for the Mt Vernon United Methodist Church.

"When I left California," she said "I realized that I was embarking on a journey of faith. I knew no one and had no family here. I could easily have given up and gone back to familiar surroundings, but I believe that my strength and determination came from God's Will for me and my family," she remarked. "God placed us where we need to be."

In September of 1998 she joined the Staff of Wayland Baptist University when the institution

moved to the Wayland Plaza. "I learned of Wayland from a friend who told me about their garage sale. I am always looking for things for the church. I ended up working that Saturday at the garage sale at their former site."

She continued, "Now I have an opportunity to witness and share my faith and work with hundreds of students to encourage them in getting back or staying in school. Helping them find financial resources is but a part of my work."

The mother and grandmother related that her son, Sam, was 15 when they moved to Lubbock. He was angry at the move, but later accepted it, attended Estacado High School, and finished at Coronado High School. At the same time he was going to barber college evenings and weekends. Her son now has his own business. After graduation Sam started working with D.C. Kinner and took over his shop after D.C. and his brother retired. He feels that God had plan for him, she said. He and his wife and three children now live in Atlanta, Georgia.

Prospective students at Wayland are invited to contact Mrs. Austin at 785-9285 for an appointment. The Lubbock campus is located at 2002 W. Loop 289. The summer term begins May 29 with registration during the two weeks prior to the term.

Coors Names Maple Vice President



GOLDEN, Colo. - Coors Brewing Company has promoted Dennis Maple to area vice president for the South Central Field Business Area (FBA) based in Irving.

Maple heads the Coors field sales operations for a six-state area. He is responsible for directing more than 50 team members

to meet volume and profit goals in Texas, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Arkansas.

Maple joining an outstanding group of sales and marketing professionals who are driving great growth in Coors Light and other Coors brands," said Maple. "My focus is on expanding our

portfolio success and continuing the outstanding results achieved in the FBA during 1999."

Maple joined Coors in 1994, working as retail account director in the Gulf Coast area, based in Atlanta. He served as field marketing director for the Midwest area in Cincinnati for two

years and director of market development in Denver. Maple's strong consumer package goods experience includes work with Kraft-General Foods, Pepsi Cola and The Quaker Oats Company.

Maple reports to Vice President of Sales - West Region Tex McCarthy, who

was promoted from senior area vice president for the South Central area. Maple works closely with the network of local Coors distributors and their retailers in the six-state region. He plans to continue his volunteer work in the community when his family relocates to Texas.

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