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A newspaper for the 21st century, representing the Black community's ideas and ideals since 1977.

December 13, 2007

VOL. XXV, No. 11



Community Meetings

This is a list of what is happening in Lubbock, to help complete the unfinished, community-building work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

- African American Chamber of Commerce, Lubbock: meets on the 3rd Monday of each month, from 5:30-6:30pm at the Parkway Community Center, 405 MLK Blvd., 806-771-1815.
- Lubbock Area Client Council meets on the 2nd Saturday, 1:00pm at the Patterson Branch Library
- Hub City Kiwanis meets every Tuesday, 7:00pm, 1708 Avenue G
- Dunbar Alumni Association meets 2nd Saturdays, 4:00 pm
- Booker T. Washington American Legion Post 808 meets every 2nd Tuesday at 7:30pm, American Legion Building in Yellowhouse Canyon
- Forgotten West Riders meets on the 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:00 pm, Patterson Library
- East Lubbock Chapter AARP meets every 4th Thursday at 1:00 pm, Mae Simmons Community Center
- Lubbock Chapter of Black Alumni meets every 3rd Tuesday, 5:30 pm, TTU Merket Alumni Center
- Dunbar/Mahattan Heights Neighborhood Association meets every 1st Thursday at 6:00 pm and every 4th Thursday at 7:00 pm at the Dunbar-Mahattan Heights Neighborhood Outreach Center at 1301 East 24th St.
- West Texas Native American Association Pot Luck Supper meets on alternating months prior to meeting, meetings held on 2nd Saturday of each month at 7:00 pm. Educational presentations and demonstrations.
- Texas Juneteenth Cultural & Historical Commission - Lubbock Affiliate meets at Patterson Branch Library every 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm
- West Texas Native American Association meets 2nd Saturday each month at Groves Library, 5520 19th Street, 7:30 p.m.
- West Texas Chapter of 100 Black Men meets the 3rd Monday evening at 7:00 pm at the Parkway Neighborhood Center.
- The Parkway Guadalupe & Cherry Point Neighborhood Association meets the 3rd Tuesday evening of each month at 7:30 pm at Hunt Elementary.
- Chairman Hill Neighborhood Association meets the 2nd Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm, at Des Elementary Cafeteria.



Rev. Walter E. Fauntroy (pictured center, left of Dr. King), present at President Johnson's signing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (July 2, 1964).

4th Annual Southern Maryland Martin Luther King Jr. Prayer Breakfast Monday, Jan. 21

(St. Mary's City, MD) The fourth annual Southern Maryland Martin Luther King, Jr. Prayer Breakfast will be held on Monday, Jan. 21. The ceremony comes during the 40th anniversary year of King's death. Breakfast service begins at 7:30 a.m. at St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM), with a program running from 9-10:30 a.m. The service will feature guest speakers Rev. Walter E. Fauntroy and Herbert Jordan III. The breakfast is in the College's Great Room, located on the second floor in the Campus Center. Admission is \$7 and includes a full breakfast. The event is sponsored by SMCM and the St. Mary's County Human Relations Commission. Early arrival is recommended as space is limited, but advanced registration is not required. For more information contact Robin Kendall at (240) 895-4191.

The service will also feature musical performances by St. Peter Claver Gospel Choir and the St. Mary's College Gospel Choir.

Last year's event pulled in over 300 attendees. The annual breakfast attracts leaders from the Southern Maryland community to honor Dr. King's legacy and continue to work towards improving race relations.

After attending Yale University Divinity School, Walter E. Fauntroy became an important figure in the Civil Rights Movement. He was chosen by Martin Luther King, Jr. to be the director of the Washington

bureau of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and acted as a liaison between the group and Capitol Hill. He served as the D.C. coordinator of the historic March on Washington of 1963, coordinator of the Selma to Montgomery march of 1965 and the Meridith Mississippi freedom march of 1966. He was elected to Congress as delegate for Washington, D.C., in 1971 and continued to serve in that capacity until 1991. During that time he helped to found the Congressional Black Caucus and served as chairman from 1981-1983. He continues to work as pastor for New Bethel Baptist Church in Washington, D.C.

Herbert Jordan, III is assistant secretary of the governor in Maryland's Office of Minority Affairs (OMA). OMA is the principal advocate for the more than 400,000 small, minority, and women-owned businesses in Maryland. During his tenure, he has played a key leadership role in the successful reengineering of the state's small and minority business programs.

St. Mary's College of Maryland is ranked one of the best liberal arts colleges in the nation by U.S. News & World Report. The Princeton Review and Kiplinger's. With roots going back to 1840, SMCM is the state's only public honors college, offering the academic excellence of a top private college with the openness and affordability of public education.

Vote may cut sentences for 19,500 crack inmates

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Buoyed by a Supreme Court ruling, some 19,500 federal inmates and their families, most of them black, are hoping the U.S. Sentencing Commission is ready to make its recent easing of crack cocaine punishment guidelines retroactive.

The seven-member commission, which provides guidelines for sentencing federal convicts, meets Tuesday to discuss retroactivity, and a vote is likely.

Inmate family representatives and other advocates of retroactive easing said a Supreme Court decision Monday could only improve chances the commission would dismantle yet another portion of the long-criticized disparity in sentences for crack and powder cocaine offenses. Crack is predominantly used by blacks; powder cocaine, predominantly by whites.

Making the guidelines retroactive is opposed by the Bush administration. A senior Justice Department official warned Tuesday that retroactive guidelines could have a disastrous effect on crime-riddled communities that are not ready to receive crack offenders who could be released early from prison as a result.

"Areas that already are seeing an increase in violent crime — this is going to affect those areas dramatically," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the commission had not formally acted.

The Justice Department previously opposed retroactive changes to sentences for LSD and marijuana offenders.

In two decisions Monday, the Supreme Court upheld judges who rejected federal sentencing guidelines as too harsh and imposed more lenient prison terms, including one for crack offenses.

In the crack case, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's majority opinion said Derrick Kimbrough's 15-



Advocates argue that crack-cocaine offenders are unfairly targeted under sentencing guidelines.

year sentence was acceptable, although guidelines called for 19 to 22 years. "In making that determination, the judge may consider the disparity between the guidelines' treatment of crack and powder cocaine offenses," Ginsburg said.

Kimbrough is black. So are 86 percent of the 19,500 inmates who might see their prison terms for crack offenses reduced if the commission approves retroactive easing. By contrast, just over a quarter of those convicted of powder cocaine crimes last year were black.

The sentencing commission recently changed the guidelines to reduce the disparity in prison time for the two crimes. New guidelines took effect November 1.

Under the commission's plan, retroactive sentence reductions would not be automatic. A judge would have to review each inmate to decide whether a reduction was merited.

"The Kimbrough decision is a tremendous victory for all who believe that the crack and powder cocaine disparity is unjust," said Mary Price, vice president of Families Against Mandatory Minimums.

Kimbrough's case, though, did

not present the ultimate fairness question. Congress wrote the harsher treatment for crack into a law that sets a mandatory minimum of five years in prison for trafficking in 5 grams of crack cocaine or 100 times as much powder cocaine.

Seventy percent of crack defendants get the mandatory minimum.

Kimbrough is among the remaining 30 percent who, under the guidelines, are supposed to receive even more prison time for trafficking in more than 5 grams of crack.

Neither the court's decision nor the commission's guidelines affect the minimum sentences, which only Congress can alter.

Calling the court decision a "minor fix," U.S. District Judge Reggie B. Walton of Washington, said, "The ultimate fix has to be done by Congress." Last month, Walton endorsed retroactive easing of the guidelines on behalf of the Federal Law Committee of the federal judiciary.

In previous years, the sentencing commission reduced penalties for crimes involving marijuana, LSD and OxyContin, which are primarily committed by whites, and made those decisions retroactive.

December Teens of the Month Alderson Middle School



Anthony Arcos



Jamarra Moss

The Teens of the Month for December, 2007 at Alderson Middle School are: Anthony Arcos and Jamarra Moss.

Arcos is the son of Mario and Rebecca Arcos. He is an eighth grade student. He is a member of the Jazz Band and the Advanced Band.

Moss is the daughter of Dana Anderson. She is a member of CA and the Advanced Band.

Ms. Catherine Hegadley, assistant principal for instruction, says, "These are two of the outstanding young people at Alderson Middle School. We are proud of them as well as all of our young people."

St. Luke Baptist Church Presents Christmas Cantata

The Greater St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church's Youth Department will present a Christmas Cantata "Jesus, The Reason For The Season."

The public is invited to be special guest on Sunday evening, December 16, 2007, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Rev. J. D. Ford is pastor; Sister Jewel Love is youth director and Sister Maeva Dunn is musician.

According to Sister Love, formal attire if desired. A reception will follow immediately in the Fellowship Hall.

"We are looking forward to seeing as many of our friends as possible," said Sister Dunn. "May God bless each of you."

Dr. Angela Young-Wallace Honored in Centerville, Texas

Centerville, Texas -- A reception was given to honor Dr. Angela Young-Wallace on Sunday afternoon, November 4, 2007, at the Centerville High School.

Dr. Wallace graduated from Spellman College and St. Louis University School of Medicine. She most recently completed her residence in Anesthesiology at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston. Dr. Wallace will be joining the Dallas Anesthesiology Associates and will be working out of the Medical Center of Arlington in Arlington, Texas.

Dr. Wallace is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Simon A. Young of Centerville. She also has relatives in Lubbock. She is the niece of Ethel Young, Katie Rollinson and the late Farris



Dr. Angela Young-Wallace

Rayford. She is married to Travis Wallace, and have a

Fifth Biennial TTU Exhibition Set Here

The Buddy Holly Center is pleased to announce its fifth biennial exhibition of Texas Works, an exhibit that focuses on the creative talents and accomplishments of contemporary Texas artists. Works by Richard Ashmore of Orange, Texas, Terry Morrow of Lubbock and Von Verhulzen, also of Lubbock, will be featured in the Center's Fine Arts Galleries. The exhibit opens to the public on Tuesday, December 18, 2007 and runs through February 10, 2008.

Richard Ashmore is currently an Instructor of Geology at Lamar University and a doctoral student in Biology at Texas Tech University.

daughter, Mallory. They will be living in Arlington.

We would like to wish her well as she embarks upon a new career.

If you have an announcement you want to appear in this paper, there are three ways to get information to us:

Southwest Digest
Community Meetings
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Lubbock, TX 79401

Phone: (806) 741-0000

email us at:
swdigest@stglobal.net

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Chatman Hills Corner

By Doris Reynolds

The New Hope Baptist Church, 2202 Birch Avenue, is the "Church Where The People Really Care." The pious pastor is Rev. B. R. Moton. If you are looking for a church home, then come by and visit with the congregation of New Hope.

Services were well attended last Sunday morning, December 9, 2007, despite the inclement weather.

Services got underway with the morning devotion. The morning scripture as read by Minister

Larry Moore. The morning prayer was offered by Minister M. McCutcheon. The Children's Choir was responsible for the morning singing. They sang several selections.

The morning sermon was delivered by Pastor Moton. His subject was "Are You A Team Player Or Are You A Long Ranger?" His scripture text was 1 Corinthians 12:12-16.

Let us continue to pray for our sick and shut-in citizens. Also, let us not forget those who lost a

loved one.

Among those families who lost loved ones include the families of Sister Jessie G. Collins Blocker and Brother James Howard Jamison. God is able, no matter what condition we are faced with.

Friday evening, December 14, 2007, is the day for the annual Women Missionary Society of New Hope Baptist Church's "Women In Red Banquet". It will be held at the KoKo Palace Banquet Hall, Avenue Q & 50th Street, beginning at 6:30 p. m. Tickets for this annual event are \$20.00 each.

This is an outstanding annual affair, and this writer would encourage you to be in attendance. Let's support this effort!

On Friday, December 14, 2007, a Mass Choir rehearsal will be held at New Light Baptist Church, beginning at 7:00 p. m. This is for the African American Brack Fellowship Christmas Banquet. It will be held at the KoKo Inn, Avenue Q & 50th Street.

More information will be forthcoming.

Let us continue to pray for our sick and shut-in members of the church and community.

Let us not forget March 20 thru

New Light Baptist Church News

Last Sunday morning, December 9, 2007, church services were very inspiring at the New Light Baptist Church, 3013 Idalou Road.

Sunday School started 10:15 a. m. with the morning lesson taught by Brother David Chiles. The subject to the lesson was "Getting ready For Thy Savior." The lesson text was Luke 1:5-7; 11-13; 57-60; 65-66; & 76-77.

The question to ask is "Are you ready?"

Morning worship services got underway at 11:00 a. m. with the Praise Team leading devotion. The Senior Choir sang two uplifting songs entitled "Lord, Help Me To Hold Out," led by Sister Linda Green, and "Stand By Me," which was led by Sister Diane Hicks.

The message of the hour was delivered by Rev. L. C. Lee. His subject was "Miracle of Spirit." His scripture text was Acts 2:1-8. It was a wonderful sermon.

On Friday, December 14, 2007, a Mass Choir rehearsal will be held at New Light Baptist Church, beginning at 7:00 p. m. This is for the African American Brack Fellowship Christmas Banquet. It will be held at the KoKo Inn, Avenue Q & 50th Street.

Let us not forget March 20 thru

What Oprah Can't and Shouldn't Do For Obama

By Earl Ofari Hutchinson

Oprah can't help Barack Obama nail Hillary Clinton in Iowa, New Hampshire, or even South Carolina. The throng of Oprah groupies that pitched camp in front of the Obama campaign headquarters in Columbia, South Carolina to get free tickets to her and Obama's appearance at the Colonial Center in that city were there to ogle, and if they are lucky, touch the garments of America's favorite TV earth mother at the auditorium.

But after the ogling and touching Oprah, it doesn't mean the 'I' vote for Obama. A Pew Research Center poll after a big Oprah fundraising bash in September found that by a crushing margin respondents said that Oprah's tout of Obama won't sway them the least bit. And it shouldn't, at least not because, Oprah says so. Despite all the talk about Oprah being a transcendental force that supercedes mere celebrity mortals she's still just that, a celebrity. The thousands that clawed for tickets to rub shoulders with her at her Obama pep rally in Columbia, South Carolina were there precisely because of her star power and the insatiable celebrity mania that grips far to many star struck Americans.

Yet, celebrities fail miserably every time to do much for their political picks. Willie Nelson, Madonna, Jon Bovi, Martin Sheen, and in reverse, George Clooney are big money celebrities and virtual household names. They all endorsed Democratic presidential candidates in 2004. Nelson endorsed Dennis Kucinich, Bon Jovi endorsed John Kerry, Sheen endorsed Howard Dean, Madonna backed Wesley Clark. One of their picks went down to flaming defeat. The other three never came close to getting the Democratic presidential nomination.

As for Clooney, he publicly declared that he hoped that his non-endorsement of Kerry probably helped him at the polls. It didn't. Though Clooney now backs Obama he's still very mindful of the potential liability of celebrity hood and has publicly said that he thinks campaigning for a candidate hurts a candidate. Clooney recognized a political truism that's etched in stone. That's that a celebrity pump of a presidential candidate does little to boost the candidate.

The one group that Obama hopes is the rare exception to the rule is black women. He banks heavily that Oprah can help him smash through the Hillary fest that many black women have with Clinton. In South Carolina, black voters make up nearly half of the Democratic voters, a greater proportion than any other state, and black women make up a significant proportion of that vote. Though most adore Oprah and are well aware of her long standing backing of Obama, that hasn't

shaken their support of Clinton the least bit. Nearly three times more black women say they'll back Hillary over him, and that's especially true among lower income, working class black women. She is a woman, mother, and most importantly is regarded by many black women as a strong advocate for health care and women's interests.

Selling Obama is not like selling one of Oprah's handpicked authors that the mere mention of in her show will send their book hurtling to the top of the charts. Voters make their decisions about politicians on a combination of factors, party affiliation, their stance on the issues, their political beliefs, and their experience at getting the job done. Few will rely on Oprah's word that Obama is the best to handle global warming, tax policy, the Iraq war, terrorism, job creation and inflation, failing public schools, criminal justice issues and judicial appointments.

A candidate, and only the candidate, has to sell his or herself that they have a sound grasp of the issues, and can forcefully and clearly articulate them, and most importantly, are the most experienced. That's the glaring Achilles Heel for Obama. In every poll, even the most rabid Clinton loathers, rank Hillary at the top of the pile in experience in dealing with foreign and domestic issues. Voters got burned badly with Bush. His gross inexperience in statecraft before grabbing the White House cost Americans dearly in eight years of his disastrous bumbles and fumbles on everything from the Iraq war to domestic policy. Many voters won't make that mistake again.

That's not to say that endorsements don't help a candidate. But they have to be the right endorsements. The right ones come from seasoned politicians and respected industry, labor, or public interest groups that have the trust and confidence of voters, and a solid track record in fighting for legislation and public policy change. That's also not to say that Oprah's endorsement will hurt Obama. The hype, promotion, and allure of Oprah have some value in bumping even higher Obama's media visibility.

The O and O show has caused the tongues to wag, eyebrows to rise and they will draw legions to their campaign stops. But it won't be the knock out wallop Obama counts on to floor Hillary. Celebrities simply don't and shouldn't pack that kind of political punch. And neither does Oprah.

Earl Ofari Hutchinson is an author and political analyst. His new book is "The Latino Challenge to Black America: Towards a Conversation between African-Americans and Hispanics" (Middle Passage Press)

Rapper Pimp C Dead at 33

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Pimp C, who spun searing tales of Texas street life into a key role in the rise of Southern hip-hop, was

found dead in an upscale hotel on Tuesday. He was 33.

The rapper formed Underground Kingz with partner-in-rhyme Bun B while the pair were in high school, and their often laconic delivery paired with wittily dangerous lyrics influenced a generation of current superstars like Lil' Wayne. T.I.

FASHION FUN

by Shirley Robinson

Lattice Trim Animal Set



SEXY SEXY SEXY set has leopard print lattice cutout work at neckline, sleeves and pant leg accented with scattered rhinestones. Easy pullover style, pull on pants have elastic waist and side pockets. This set will turn heads for sure. Fantastic colors red, black and dark brown. It's Christmas! don't blend in, stand out.

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had the group on as guests when he remade their 1994 song "Front, Back and Side to Side" for his "King" album.

To a mainstream audience, Pimp C was best known for UGK's cameo on the Jay-Z hit "Big Pimpin'," and for "Free Pimp C" T-shirts and shout-outs, ubiquitous in rap several years ago while he was jailed on gun charges. On Tuesday, his MySpace page had been changed to read, "C the Pimp is FREE at last."

Born Chad Butler, Pimp C was found dead in a room at the Mondrian hotel, a longtime music industry hangout not far from the House of Blues on Sunset Strip, where he had performed Saturday night alongside rap veteran Too Short. Capt. Ed Winter of the Los Angeles County coroner's office said Butler had apparently died in bed.

"At this time there's no signs of foul play," Winter said. "It appears to be possibly natural, but pending autopsy and toxicology we can't say the cause."

Butler had been in Los Angeles to work on his next solo album for Rap-A-Lot Records, according to James Prince, the Houston-based label's CEO. Manager Rick Martin identified Butler's body, and said in a statement, "He was my best friend and I will always love him."

Though they never enjoyed massive pop chart success, UGK's early CDs are considered landmarks for the then-burgeoning Texas hip-hop scene, which also featured the Geto Boys. Signed to a deal with Jive Records, they released "Too Hard to Swallow" in 1992, "Super Tight" two years later, and "Ridin' Dirty" in 1996, considered a rap classic.

Over laid-back beats, they laid out incisive details that remain

Continue on Page 5

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Obsequies

Jessie G. Collins Blocker

Jessie G. Collins Blocker, 83, of Lubbock passed away Dec. 5, 2007, at University Medical Center. She was born Dec. 18, 1921.

She leaves to cherish her memory: her husband, Rev. G. A. Blocker, Sr.; two stepsons, G. A. Blocker, Jr. and Byron C. Blocker; two sisters, Florence Gilbert (James) and Norma Patterson; three brothers, Roy

Gibson, Henry Gibson, Jr., and Ivory Gibson; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

Services were held Monday, December 10, 2007, at 2 p.m., at Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Burial was held in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

James Howard Jamison

James Howard Jamison of Lubbock died Friday, Dec. 7, 2007. Services are pending with

Jackie Warren Funeral Home, Midland, David ...

A Young Man Who Came By Lubbock, But Moved To Midland Succumbs

He wasn't known by many Lubbockites, but he came here looking for a job with the Lubbock Public Schools in 1959.

He wasn't hired. After stopping by a homeboy, T. J. Patterson, he was encouraged to go to Midland where he was hired by the Midland Independent School District.

He was Daniel Gene Allen who was born in Wichita Falls, Texas, to William and Johnnie Allen. He graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in 1952. He received a B.S. degree in Physical Education from Bishop College in Marshall. He served two years in the U.S. Army. He moved to Midland in 1958 and became a sixth grade teacher at Bunche Elementary School. He obtained a Masters Degree in Guidance and Counseling, and then served at Austin Junior High School, then Lee High School, and Midland High School. He retired in 1995.

He married Martha Miller on July 31, 1965. Of this union a son, Daniel Cu Allen, was born. He was a member of St. Paul CME Church until his health failed. He was a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., and was a member of the West Texas Amateur Golf Association.

Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon, December 8, 2007, at Macedonia Baptist Church. Burial was held in Resthaven Memorial Park of Midland.

Callaway Family Will Donate Toys

Callaway family to donate \$20,000 of new toys to Covenant Children's Hospital.

For the fifth consecutive year, the Callaway family from Roswell, NM, will donate boxes of brand new, unopened toys to Covenant Children's Hospital in memory of their daughter, Lindsey Callaway.

Lindsey Callaway began treatment at Covenant Children's Hospital for a brain tumor in December 1998. She lost her battle to cancer on Jan. 17, 2001. Family and friends remember Lindsey as kind, softspoken and a fantastic softball player. Each

year, her friends and family facilitate a toy drive and community dance in her honor, then donate the toys and funds to Covenant Children's Hospital.

Callaway family will donate toys for all ages of children, from infants to teenagers, including puzzles, games, bikes, electronics and more.

When: Monday, Dec. 17, 1 p.m.

Where: Covenant Children's Hospital, 3610 21st St., children's hospital main entrance.

Urban Motivator "Bags of Money" Releases Thug Motivation Memoir



Buffalo, NY (BlackNews.com) - Local entrepreneur Bags of Money will release his first book, Thug Motivation, on January 15, 2007 at bookstores worldwide. The inspirational memoir, which will retail at \$19.95, is being published in order to reach a new generation of the urban community.

Thug Motivation contains over 60 lessons based on Money's personal experiences and philosophy on life. Each chapter addresses true life lessons very directly and concisely, on topics including goals, relationships, power, and other self-improvement areas, while also providing motivating solutions to change.

Bags of Money grew up in Buffalo. After much of his early

life was influenced by the crime and violence of street life, he turned his life around by making significant changes; including investing in real estate and starting several successful black businesses. Bags of Money's life experience has inspired him to become a motivational role model to the urban community as a whole. Money consistently creates and develops positive ways to reach the urban community both in the streets and behind bars.

Coinciding with the book release, Bags of Money is releasing an audio version of Thug Motivation creatively mixed with the hottest hip hop beats around. He also has two television shows in the works and is currently writing a follow-up book to what is referred to as "the greatest urban motivator..." Thug Motivation. The book will exclusively be available on his website on January 1, 2008. A preview copy is available upon request.

For additional information on Thug Motivation or to schedule an interview with Bags of Money, please contact Reese Buckner at phone (716) 566-6530 or e-mail vicepresident@bigideasworld.net, or visit www.bagsofmoney.us

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UMC HEALTH SYSTEM
United Methodist Healthcare

Letter to the Editor

Search For WW II African American Servicemen

Dear Editor:

My name is Erik Westerman, and I have been researching a very unique group of WW II veterans from the 40th Signal Construction Battalion. My father was a junior officer in the 40th, a battalion consisting mostly of young African American servicemen who were assigned to radio and communication duties, as well as the dangerous task of disarming land mines during World War Two.

The 40th served in five major campaigns in Europe, mainly on front lines positions. Nearly all of them came home. One military report described their performance by stating: "The outstanding achievements of this and other African-Americans signal units set an example for all future soldiers to follow."

I've made a website that tells the story of the 40th during WW II. For the past 8 years, I have been looking for surviving veterans from this battalion who will be able to share their stories with us. The website is located at www.benefactum.org. One granddaughter of a veteran contacted me a few years ago. Sadly, he passed away only a few weeks

after we established initial correspondence. Once again the trail went cold.

I'm currently trying to get hold of the names of any living veterans. The National Archives in Maryland has no battalion servicemen list, and as a result, I've made very little progress in compiling the names of the names of the soldiers of the 40th. Correspondence with the current battalion's historian has not helped either. It appears that I am probably the only historian of this battalion's activities during WW II. I'm aware of my means to find out if someone from the battalion is still alive today. If I did have a larger list of names, I'm confident that I could find and meet a living veteran.

I am hoping that multiple forms of media coverage will help

raise awareness, and make it possible for these veterans to be honored for their service to their country. A simple story, a review, or mention on your website would benefit me greatly in terms of stirring interest from the public and getting feedback. Someone's grandparent may be able to share their story, or someone's grandchild may have letters that I can add to my archive to give us better description of the men who served in this battalion.

My website has already been featured in Family History Monthly Magazine in the U.K. I decided it would be a good idea to include press kits on the website, and an extensive range of files in various digital formats for download, including press-ready photos and pre-designed layouts. I've prepared this material to ease your workload, and facilitate wide distribution of my appeal with the earnest hope for it to be a success.

Yours Sincerely,
Erik Westerman

Rapper

Continued from Page 2



PIMP C

Southern rap maitstays descriptions of sex and conspicuous consumption, wood-grain steering wheels and triple-beam scales used to weigh drugs.

Butler led off *Three 6 Mafia's* 2000 ode to drinking cough syrup to get high, "Sippin' on Syrup," with the lines: "I'm trill working the wheel. A pimp, not a simp. Keep the dope fiends higher than the Goodyear blimp. We eat so many shrimp I got iodine poisoning."

Butler was jailed for three years in 2002; he had plead no contest to aggravated assault for brandishing a gun during an argument with a woman at a mall, then fell behind on required community service. UGK's rise was derailed, but the "Free Pimp C" slogan caught on and an unauthorized album of Pimp C's freestyle rhymes was released while he was in prison.

When Pimp C and Bun B finally put out an album this year, they felt such a need to re-establish themselves they titled their album "Underground Kingz," as if to underscore a new start.

Critics praised the CD, which included the hit "International Player's Anthem (I Choose You)," featuring OutKast. Pimp C's verse riffs on high-class women and cars: "I'm pullin' Bentleys off the lot. Smashed up the gray one, bought me a red. Every time we hit the parking lot we turn heads," he raps.

Barry Weiss, CEO of Jive, said in a statement: "We mourn the unexpected loss of Chad. He was truly a thoughtful and kindhearted person. He will be remembered for his talent and profound influence as a pioneer in bringing southern rap to the forefront."

Butler, who grew up in Port Arthur, Texas, came from a musical lineage. His father was a professional trumpet player, and the rapper studied classical music in high school. He even received a Division I rating on a tenor solo at a University Interscholastic League choir competition.

"That's how I came up listening to everything," he told *The Associated Press* in a 2005 interview. "Music don't have no color or no face. It's a universal language. I think being exposed to all that kind of stuff influences the way I make records."

Al Sharpton: City of Chicago Needs to Address Police Brutality or He'll Work Against Olympics

CHICAGO (AP) — The Rev. Al Sharpton threatened to lobby the International Olympic Committee to reject Chicago's bid for the 2016 Summer Games if city officials fail to do something about what he calls pervasive police brutality and misconduct.

"Chicago does not symbolize a place that can hold an international event when it can't deal with its local problems," Sharpton told *The Associated Press* on Sunday. "They can't say to the world, 'Come to Chicago. We are an example; we are a beacon of light' when you've got systematic abuse (by police)."

Sharpton said if Mayor Richard Daley and city officials don't respond in a matter of weeks, he will travel to other

countries with West Side church leaders and victims of alleged police abuse to persuade members of the IOC to not choose Chicago.

The civil rights leader said the Chicago Police Department needs to be held more accountable and he will propose forming a police community review group and employ a special prosecutor who reports directly to the justice system.

Sharpton said he would lay out a complete proposal at a press conference Monday.

Messages left Sunday for Daley's office and the IOC weren't immediately returned.

Chicago 2016 spokesman Patrick Sandusky declined to address Sharpton's comments.

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For additional information contact the Texas Tech University System Project Manager Bill Droll. Contact via phone (806) 742-2116, Fax 806-742-2241 or e-mail: bill.droll@ttu.edu.

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TCEQ is accepting applications for Environmental Investigator II, Posting Number 08091, Monthly Salary \$3003. Please visit the TCEQ web site listed below for a complete description of the job, minimum qualifications and preferred requirements. All applications must be submitted to and received in the Human Resources Division of TCEQ by 5:00 p.m. on December 21, 2007. Resumes will not be accepted in lieu of a completed application. Faxed applications will be accepted, however, the original application must be mailed to the Human Resources Division. The employment history of the application must be completed. Mailed applications must be sent to Human Resources Division, MC 116, P. O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. State of Texas application forms and additional information are available on the TCEQ web site: www.tceq.state.tx.us/admin/employ/jobs.html or at the TCEQ Human Resources Division located at 12100 Park 35 Circle, Bldg. A, (512) 239-0102. Fax (512) 239-0111. EEO/AA/ADA/Employer.

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Schedule of Events

Day	Time	Event
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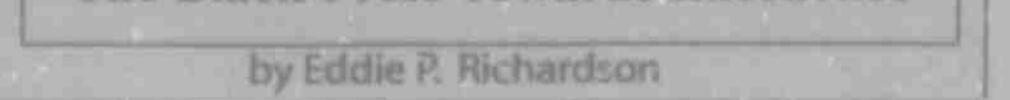
THIS N THAT

by T.J. Patterson

Think About It!

The Black Press Towards Excellence

by Eddie P. Richardson



The Black Press was born out of protest against slavery, discrimination, segregation, lynching, disenfranchisement, rape, character assassination, and an unending variety of cruelties perpetuated against us by our oppressors and such heinous acts have always been applauded and orchestrated by the White media. Thank God after all these years, we have overcome that problem locally with our daily -- *The Avalanche-Journal*.

Ever since the Rev. Samuel Cornish and John Russwain published on MARCH 16, 1827 -- "The Freedom's Journal" which was the first Black newspaper in America, Black print media has historically survived political oppression, social and economic repression against our printed word in any form. Actually, more Black publishers have been killed, lynched, and mobbed than any other task Blacks have followed. Yet, the Black Press still survives and is on the threshold of excellence. Let's take a look at the variety of new Black publications, magazines, journals and newspapers which adorn the news stands across the nation. They are alive and vibrant with information and entertainment, specifically tailored for Black folks especially. The Black magazines are emerging stronger despite a few still born run of the mill variety of magazines are born every year.

Today's Black publications have more variety than that of their short lived predecessors, because we, Blacks, as a nation, have become better educated, self-reliant people, proud of our African heritage and our unique contributions to the American civilization.

In spite of the high morality rate of the publications these days, it is clear that the Black Press is getting better organized since it is entering a new phase. The highly competitive and sophisticated world of the 21st Century publications.

Although the general Black publications with sound philosophical moorings are harbingers of Black resurgence renaissance. Some of them breed specialists are spurious and destructive. These publications and the publishers are vying for a fast buck and are attempting to cash in on the fads and cults.

In our opinion, such specialized publications are fragmenting the unity of Blacks by dividing our audiences and confining them to fantasy cubicles. These types of publications

serve the function of peep movies in the red light districts. On the other hand, these faddist/cultist publications are clearly undermining the Black family, creating a wedge between man and woman, children and parents' body and soul. We highly recommend you shun this mushroom crop of superficial publications. But otherwise, the Black Press and Black publication industry, in particular, are heading towards excellence in quality and contents in this electronic age.

This is why we, at the *Southwest Digest*, appreciate your support over these past thirty years. Just by you being there has allowed us to continue in doing what we so vividly believe. Each of you have served as a catalyst about what we are about each week. Your presence has allowed us to overlook all the problems which exist each week. We know, without any doubt, it is a must we reach our goal each week.

We are forever grateful to each of you for what you have done to help us.

Closing Thought: What is the only stand alone letter in the alphabet? It is the 19th letter. It is I. What is the only two letter or words in the alphabet? It is me. Think about both!

Don Imus Returns to Radio with Black Cast Members; Whether That Helps His Image Remains to Be Seen

NEW YORK (AP) — Don Imus' critics assailed him for a racially charged on-air remark that got him fired. On his return to the airwaves, he brought with him some young Black cast members.

It remained to be seen whether his newly diversified lineup and his pledge to foster a dialogue on race relations would quiet his critics and soften any future blows dealt in a show that Imus himself said is built in part on making fun of others.

"I can only wait and see if his deeds will follow up his words," said the Rev. Al Sharpton, one of the strongest voices calling for Imus' firing after the shock jock called the Rutgers University women's basketball team "nappy-headed hos."

The fact that he now has a Black sidkick and that he's on delay clearly may speak of some of the measures that his new employers have put in to make sure that there's not a repeat offense, Sharpton said. Phil

Boycce, WABC program director and a Citadel Broadcasting Corp. vice president, said he could not say whether race played a role in hiring Black comedians Karith Foster and Tony Powell because Imus himself chose the new additions. Citadel owns WABC and four of the 21 other stations broadcasting the show, which premiered Monday, eight months after Imus, 67, was fired from CBS Radio and the MSNBC cable network.

Also returning was Bernard McGuirk, the producer who instigated the Rutgers comment and was fired as well.

herself Imus' "new sidkick," Foster said after the broadcast that she hoped those who were most angered by his comments could feel represented by her on the air.

"They want change, and what better way to incite change than from the inside?" she said.

Foster said her work on the show would be based on her experiences growing up in Plano, Texas, which she describes on her Web site as an "affluent suburb north of Dallas with the ethnic diversity of a Klan rally."

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.

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You 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 columnists or editorialists 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 stamped envelope is submitted. All notices must be paid in advance. Story deadline is 5 p.m. on Friday. Advertising deadline is 12:00 pm on Monday, the week of publication.

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come from it ... A very motivating speech was given by ... **ISAAC GARNETT** ... who serves as the executive director of this program ... Hopefully ... when the information asked for comes in ... there will be a positive change in regard to the financial aspect of this program ... There is no doubt about it ... **THIS N THAT** ... will advise ... In the meantime ... let's continue to support the ... **NORTH & EAST LUBBOCK DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION** ... and continue for the support of the ... **KING DOMINION! PENNY HASTINGS THE BARBER S AID: "RUNNING WITH PATIENCE IS PERSISTENCE** ... the long run.

GET INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY! THIS N THAT ... is hoping that as many of us who will ... will become more involved with what is going on in the community ... You sede ... if you do not get involved ... then things will not be placed in the proper posture ... It is so important for those who will to do what is right for all of the community ... This is so important ... and all of us need to know that ... So if you haven't done your job ... then stand up and do what is proper in seeing that our community is where it should be ... **MY BROTHERS & SISTERS** ... let's continue to stand up for what is right for all of us ... **LUBBOCK** ... really need us today and at this time ... Next

year ... is ... **ELECTION YEAR** ... and we really need to take note on what is going on in the community ... Not only the election of a ... **MAYOR & CITY COUNCILMAN** ... will be voted on ... there will be another important election ... which will be the election of the ... **PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA** ... and it is important to take note of this election as well ... So ... let's get ready ... because next year is a very important for all of us ... Regardless ... of who you want to ... **VOTE FOR** ... just make sure you'll go to the ... **POLLS** ... and cast your important vote ... **LUBBOCK NEEDS ALL OF YOU VOTING!** ... It will not be long ... and we all can do what we need to do and go to the ... **POLLS!**

LIBRARIES ARE VERY IMPORTANT IN OUR COMMUNITY! THIS N THAT ... wants to encourage all of us to ... **SUPPORT OUR LOCAL LIBRARIES** ... This month ... **MAHON LIBRARY** ... will have a movie on ... Saturday ... December 22, 2007 ... beginning at 2:30 p. m. ... It will be a classic named Rankin/Bass Holiday special about ... the Christmas which almost didn't happen ... **THE PATTERFSON LIBRARY** ... is inviting the teens to attend the library for ... **PIZZA, MOVIE, AND KARAOKE** ... on Monday ... December 31, 2007 ... beginning at 2:00 p. m. For more info call 767-3300.

In Cinque

by Renetta Howard

Howard

In our apathy, that is, with regards to voting and participating in partisan campaigning and elections, we sometimes do not take a good look at what we see. There are many violations which take place with regards to politics that we do not pay any attention to. We always try to look on the bright side. This is good. Seeing the bright side of anything is good, especially when it is good for the general public. Too often that bright side has a dark cloud hovering in the background. That dark cloud can and often is called the "Hatch Act."

The Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. 1501-1508) restricts the political activity of individuals principally employed by state, county or municipal executive agencies in connection with programs financed in whole or in part by loans or grants made by the United States or a federal agency. An employee covered by the Act may not be a candidate for public office in a partisan election, i.e.,

an election in which any candidate represent, for example, the Republican or Democratic party. Principal employment is that employment to which an individual devotes the most time, and from which he derives the most income. [No] means exist for an employee who is covered by the Hatch Act to be granted an exception to run in a partisan election.

The federal government is currently doing a nationwide investigation of violations of the Hatch Act. If we open our eyes around us, we may see some violations in our own little corner of the elective and voting elements. Ignorance is not bliss and neither is apathy. We need to get 'in cinque' with our political and governmental surroundings, make evaluations and take action accordingly, and prepare for a Merry Christmas.

Letter Policy

The editors and publishers of Southwest Digest welcome your letters and encourage you to write to us. Share with us your concerns, praise, gripes and celebrations. It's what we want - to keep our Black community in Lubbock informed and in touch with one another. Your letter doesn't have to address something that's been in our paper, just what's been on your mind. Had an interesting discussion lately? Share it with us!

When you write to us, please provide your name and city so that we may know where you are from and so that our readers may see how far our publication reaches.

You can bring your letter to our office or send it through the mail to: Southwest Digest, Letter to the Editor, 1302 Avenue G, Lubbock, TX 79401

You can also email us at: swdigest@ahcglobal.net or fax your letter to (806) 741-0300.

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." - Martin Luther King, Jr.

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From: Lubbock Area Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance (LAIMA)
Re: Purpose and Affiliation to the Community

The purpose of the Lubbock Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance (LAIMA) is:

Ø To create a better spirit of brotherly love and unity in and among churches and organizations in the community.

Ø To strengthen our shared cause by uniting our efforts to meet more effectively "The Christly Mandate" for evangelism.

Ø To promote positive leadership in the community and speak with clarity on issues which impact our community whether civic or religious.

Ø To be a vehicle for Christian service activities that will improve civic, community, and world conditions.

Affiliation to the Community

Ø LAIMA is not affiliated with any local, state, or national organization.

Ø LAIMA does not endeavor to address issues of either a civic or a religious nature that other entities such as the NAACP, EEOC, or AFL-CIO etc. are designed to undertake.

Ø LAIMA is not a political action committee; however, individual members are encouraged to be both visible and vocal at his/her discretion.

Officers

Superintendent W.D. Haynes, Jr., President
Pastor J. Jerome Johnson, Sr., Vice-President
Elder W.H. "Bill" Watson, Secretary
Rev. B.R. Moton, Treasurer
Elder Darrell Collins, Chaplain
Rev. Corey Powell, Parliamentarian
Bishop W.H. Watson, Executive Board

For more information contact President Haynes at
(806) 744-1400