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NATIONAL NEWS

Mumia Abu-Jamal Could Soon Face Execution

A massive protest in support of death row inmate Mumia Abu-Jamal was held Oct. 31 after the Pennsylvania Supreme Court — in a 71-page report — upheld his conviction for the 1981 killing of Daniel Faulkner, a White Philadelphia police officer. This action puts Jamal one step closer to his execution because Governor Tom Ridge has long vowed to sign a new death warrant as soon as the state Supreme Court released its ruling. The Partisan Defense Committee, the protest sponsor, has been working to free Jamal since his 1982 sentencing.

Nationwide Insurance Slapped With $100M Discrimination Suit

Nationwide Insurance was recently slapped with a $100 million racial discrimination judgment by the Richmond Circuit Court ill a lawsuit brought by the Housing Opportunities Made Equal (HOME), a fair housing group that monitors companies to see if they are in violation of the Fair Housing Act. A spokesperson for the Ohio-based company said that Nationwide will appeal the decision to the Virginia Supreme Court. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Andrew Cuomo praised the jury verdict. "African Americans have long paid a terrible price for housing discrimination that denies them the right to raise their families in any home and in any neighborhood they can afford," Cuomo said. "This $100 million verdict tells companies loud and clear that it is now their turn to pay a terrible price if they continue to discriminate." Cuomo's department funded the testing in Richmond by sending Blacks and Whites into Nationwide offices posing as homeowners seeking insurance. The results showed that Whites were offered superior homeowner's coverage as opposed to Blacks who owned homes in White neighborhoods or comparable Black neighborhoods. Blacks were either denied coverage or offered less desirable, more costly insurance. The jury also awarded HOME $500,000 in compensatory damages for the diversion of its resources and the frustration of its mission. A HUD spokesperson told the AFRO that the department is probing other insurance companies to find out if they have similar practices. — Washington AFRO-American Newspaper

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Mass Funeral Held For Zimbabweans Killed In Botswana

BULAWAYO, Zimbabwe (PANA) — Hundreds of Bulawayo residents, including senior government officials, attended a state-assisted mass burial on Nov. 1 for 11 border jumpers who died in Botswana on Oct. 14. The 11 were among 18 Zimbabweans who suffocated in an unventilated container truck that was illegally taking them to South Africa. Their bodies were dumped outside a village near Gaborone by the driver and his accomplices. They managed to cross the border and have not been arrested. Officer Wellington Makelene said police are working to track down the syndicate responsible for illegally transporting desperate Zimbabweans to South Africa via Botswana for 1,200 Zimdollars (equivalent to $35).

Over 25,000 Rwandan Families To Be Fed

KIGALI (IPS) — The U.N. World Food Program (WFP) has begun transporting food to over 25,000 starving families in the south of Rwanda. The WFP Regional office in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi said that over the next three weeks it will distribute some 1,200 tons of food to the southern Gikongoro district. The operation will last until the end of the year. The food will be distributed to people "living in poor terrain which cannot grow enough food to sustain their families," a WFP official in the Rwandan capital of Kigali told IPS this week. — Jean Baptiste Kayigamba

Job Summit Promises Opportunities For Black South Africans

MIDRAND, South Africa (IPS) — More than 600 delegates from government, business, labor, civic and religious organizations descended upon Midrand, South Africa for the long-awaited "Presidential Jobs Summit," which produced some financial proposals to create jobs for Black South Africans. According to "Statistics South Africa," unemployment rose from 17 percent in 1995 to 21 percent in 1996 and 23 percent in 1997. The government pledged about $5 million into a sector partnership fund, while unionized labor's 2.5 million workers offered to work a free day in March to fund employment creation. A coalition of businesses is working on an initiative that could raise up to $175 million through contributions from company profits into job creation. The money will be raised through voluntary contributions of a percentage off the market capitalization of Johannesburg Stock Exchange-listed companies and from after-tax earnings of non-listed companies. Some 100 companies have already committed themselves to the fund. On top of that, the trade ministry and labor market chambers have agreed on a social plan aimed at avoiding job losses and employment decline wherever possible. More financial pledges are expected. — Gumisai Mutume

Mounds Of Garbage Invade Abidjan Streets

ABIDJAN, Cote d'Ivoire (PANA) — Domestic and industrial garbage has invaded the streets of Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire's commercial city and economic life-line. According to Abidjan City Council sources, a minimum of 10,000 tons of waste is generated daily, and ASH International — the private company responsible for garbage disposal since 1992 — only collects a quarter of that. ASH says it has been unable to meet the public's expectation because the council has failed to pay money owed for services already rendered. While the two agencies argue the piles of garbage continue to grow. Garbage is being left for days in front of office buildings where it breeds insects and has become a threat to human health. — Melvis Dzisah

MORE ALLEDGED DRUG DEALERS ARRESTED!!!

For the past several weeks, the Southwest Digest, keeping with its pledge, has printed the photos of alledged drug dealers who were arrested in a September 4, 1998 Narcotics Round-Up. To date, 40 alledged drug dealers have been seen on the front page of this newspaper.

This edition has twenty more alledged drug dealers, bringing our total to 60, with more to come. Here they are:

Patrick Adams, P.C.S. w/intent, Cocaine .60 grams; Joaquin M. Aguayo, Delivery C. S., Cocaine 6.07 grams; Josephine Brown, P. C. S. w/intent, Cocaine, 1.2 grams; Laymon C. Brown, Sr., P.C. S. w/intent, Cocaine 1.2 grams; Juan P. Carrizles, 3 counts, P.C. S. w/intent, Cocane 15.8 grams and 234 grams and Possession of Marijuana, 438.52 grams; Elva Carrizales, 2 counts, Possession of Marijuana, 438.52 grams and P. C.S. w/intent, Cocaine 234.28 grams; Ray Carrizales, 2 counts, P.C.S. w/intent, Cocaine 566.15 grams and Possession of Marijuana, 438.52 grams; Terrence L. Essix, Organized Crime, Cocaine; Abram Garcia, P.C.S. w/intent, Meth. 1.24 grams; and Roslinda M. Garcia, Delivery of C.S., Cocaine 3.36 grams;

Also, Terry L. Hodges, Organized Crime, Cocaine; Daphne D. Johnson, P.C.S. w/intent, Cocaine 66 grams; Ishethia Johnson, P.C.S. w/intent, Cocaine 1.28 grams; Tracy R. Johnson, P.C.S. w/intent, Cocaine 1.33 grams; Tyrone L. Lewis, Organized Crime, Cocaine; Fabina Madrid, P.C.S. w/intent, Cocaine 1.32 grams; Keth D. Milliner, p.C.S. w/intent, Cocaine 6 grams; Airickson T. Nelson, 2 counts, P.C.S. w/intent, Cocaine 16 grams and Cocaine 6.5 grams; Juan Rangel, Jr., Delivery C.S., Cocaine 12.14 grams and Lamar A. Wright, P. C.S. w/intent, Cocaine 1.9 grams.

The Southwest Digest will continue to advise you of who are destroying the minds of our young people. This, we will continue to pledge!



CBC Secures $130 Million To Fight HIV/AIDS

By LaWanza Spears

The Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) has announced that $130 million has been secured for HIV/AIDS treatment, prevention and education in the African-American community in the $500 billion budget recently passed by the U.S. Congress.

Congresswoman Maxine Waters (D-Calif.), chair of the CBC, told the National Newspaper Publishers Association that the money is desperately needed because AIDS cases within the Black community are at an epidemic proportion and the community is ill-equipped to deal with devestating disease. "AIDS organizations are underfunded, and the rate of death is off the scale," she said.

She attributes the success of this financial acquisition to the determination of the CBC. "The CBC was very focused on its priorities," said Rep. Waters. "The CBC released its agenda and set its priorities at the beginning of the 105th Congress. After much hard work, and a tremendous struggle by Republicans to attempt to deny our requests, the CBC has won tremendous victories."

In addition to AIDS funding, the CBC also negotiated $42 million to help hundreds of Black farmers in their discrimination cases against the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). An earlier court ruling, waived; the statue of limitations on lawsuits filed several years ago against the agency.

Other CBC priority issues also received funding. They included increased resources to fight drugs, programs for youth and children, aid to Historically Black Colleges and Universities and monies to hire more teachers.

"[CBC members] are extremely proud that we will have the resources to address these issues," she said.

"People are always asking, 'What does the CBC do?' I hope this success will communicate what the CBC is all about."

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 pastor. If you are looking for a Church home, then come and visit with New Hope Baptist Church. You'll be glad you did so.

***

Services began last Sunday morning with Sunday School at 9:30 a. m. with Brother Henry High, assistant superintendent, presiding. Each teacher and class were in their various classrooms for thirty minutes of instruction. All classes reassembled at 10:15 a. m. marching and singing "Draw Me Nearer." Sister Ann Taylor was the musician.

Prayer was offered by Sister Doris Dailey. High points of the morning lesson were given by Adult Classes. All did a wonderful job.

Secretary's Report: Youth Department — Intermediate Class received the Offering Banner while the Senior Class received the Attendance Banner. Adult department: Adult Class No. 1 received the Attendance Banner. Adult Class No. 2 received the Offering Banner.

There was one visitor in Adult Class No. 4. Visitors are always welcome. Do come again!

***

The morning devotional period at 10:45 a. m. was conducted by Brother and Sister Clarence Ervin.

***

The Youth Choir led the morning processional singing from their hearts. They sung beautiful, as they marched in singing "When I'm on My Mission, Lord." Altar prayer was given by Rev. Jeff Brown. A selection was sung, and scripture was read by Jane Martin. Another prayer was given by Sister Mattie Beaty. Following the singing of another selection, responsive reading was done with the congregation standing and led by Cynthia Crockett.

A selection was sung, and pastoral observations were given by Pastor Moton. He brought greetings from the West Texas Board meeting held in Abilene, Texas last week. After the singing of another selection, the senmonic hymn was sung. Pastor Moton's sermon was entitled "I'm determined To Make It." His scripture was found in Philliplans 3:11-14. It was another wonderful message. Think about the word. Be determined not to give up. You can make it!

An invitation to discipleship was extended and to came by Christian experience.

***

Let us not forget to pray for our sick and shut in citizens. Among them this week is Sister Bernice Kelly who came home from the hospital last Saturday.

***

Among our bereaved families are: Sister Bertha Ponder's family. Let us keep members in prayer. As well as Sister Verlena Chandler's family. She passed away last week and services were held Tuesday afternoon.

***

One of Ruby Jay's nieces husband passed last week in Cleburne, Texas. Let us not forget her family members.

Winners Announced in LCU High School Art Scholarship Competition

LUBBOCK, TX—November 10, 1998—The winners of LCU's annual High School Art Scholarship Competition will be honored in a awards ceremony on Thursday, November 12, at 6:00 p.m. in the Pioneer Gallery. The Pioneer Gallery is located in the LCU library. The exhibition of students' work will be hung in the gallery from November 9- December 9.

Winners this year are all from Coronado High School in Lubbock. Winning first place and a scholarship of $1500 to LCU was Crystal Maeker. Second place winner was Tommy Miller with a $1000 scholarship, and Leah Hightower came in third for a $500 scholarship. Honorable mentions were awarded to Kris Kersteter, Erica Scott, Dustin Wallace, and Randall Fuller.

Juror for the competition was Jean Schofield Badger. Jean, a Texas Tech graduate, received her Bachelor of Science degree in Broadfield Art Education in 1975. Her medium of choice is pastel, and she has exhibited throughout the Southwest. Her pieces have won numerous local, state, and national awards.

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- **Engage in physical activity** – You must use more calories (energy) than you consume. You accomplish this by eating less and exercising more.



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Hometown News



Air Force Airman Dawnena L. Austin has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and customs and received special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credit toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Austin is the daughter of Teresa R. and Melvin Lee of 1821 E. First Place, Lubbock, Texas, and granddaughter of Alma Raven of 1518 E. Amherst, Lubbock.

She is a 1998 graduate of Estacado High School, Lubbock.



ADDITIONAL LUBBOCK AREA PTK INITIATES — Lubbock area residents were among students recently inducted into the Kappa Mu chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at South Plains College in Levelland. PTK is an international honor society for students in two-year colleges. From left are Amanda Robertson from Shallowater, and Lubbock residents Emily Ballenger, Robert Sanford, Randale York, Melinda Hill, Nathan Brummett and Chad Hill. (SPC Photo)



LUBBOCK PTK INITIATES — Lubbock residents were among students recently inducted into the Kappa Mu chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at South Plains College in Levelland. PTK is an international honor society for students in two-year colleges. From left on the front row are Lubbockites Julia Taylor, Mindy Bollin, Curtis Lynn, Jennifer Trengove, Robyn Green and Nathan Barnes; and (standing from left) are Heather Ramirez, Amanda Burrell, Catharine Young, ShawnDell Gudmestad, Matthew Bauer, Joseph Wigner, Jake Haning, James Anderton, Mandy Edwards and Brandt Underwood from Shallowater. (SPC Photo)

Should Texas Consumers Pay Millions More For Insurance?

Dallas...Nov. 11, 1998 - A recent lawsuit against Allstate Insurance Company in Texas could lead to higher legal costs...and ultimately much higher insurance rates for Texas consumers.

Insurance companies often use their own attorneys (staff counsel) to defend customers who are sued. Legal costs can be up to double when this kind of legal representation is conducted by outside attorneys, raising costs for everyone. Allstate's own staff counsel specialize in defending customers who face lawsuits arising out of auto and home accidents. Staff counsel has been legally used in Texas for more than 30 years and is common practice in the insurance industry and many other businesses.

A lawsuit - the Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee v. G. Patrick Collins and Allstate Insurance Company, filed Oct. 26, 1998 - alleges that Allstate is involved in the unauthorized practice of law for using staff counsel to represent customers who are sued under their insurance policy.

"This lawsuit could cause significant insurance rate increases in Texas and have a negative impact on all other businesses that utilize staff counsel," says Allstate Assistant Vice President Pat Gallery.

"As in other areas of the country where this issue has arisen, we are concerned that those bringing lawsuits of this type may be doing so for their own financial interests. If staff counsel is eliminated, insurance companies will be forced to use expensive outside attorneys more often or settle cases to avoid high legal fees. We don't think that's in the best interest of Texas consumers," Gallery says.

Allstate utilizes both staff counsel and outside attorneys, depending on the individual circumstances of each lawsuit.

Allstate is the second largest auto insurer and third largest property insurer in Texas, with more than two million policies in force.

DECEMBER SCHEDULE OF EVENTS for the SCIENCE SPECTRUM

The **Omnimax Theatre** will be showing three films in the month of December:

ALASKA: Spirit of the Wild takes visitors to the "land of the midnight sun." Experience life as it thrives in some of the harshest conditions Mother Nature could imagine.

The IMAX Nutcracker is destined to become a holiday tradition. Brought back by popular demand, this film adaptation brings the classic "Nutcracker" story to life on the Omnimax dome screen.

Fires of Kuwait allows viewers to relive history. Follow a team of international firefighters and witness a tremendous story of perseverance and triumph in the wake of an environmental tragedy, as 607 oil wells burn out of control.

The **Lubbock Model Railroad Association** will have model railroads on display from December 4-26. Come see some of the finest model railroads West Texas has to offer, and learn why model railroading continues to be a favorite pastime.

Please call 745-2525 for information on showtimes, prices, and hours of operation.



Left to right: Paul Stafford, Dean W. Frank. Newton, Derald Powell 2nd year law student, Honorable Judge Sam Medina, Rick Navarette, and Ron Reynolds.

Minority Student Organizations Co-Sponsor Law School Forum

The Black Law Student Association, Mexican American Law School Association, Minority Law Student Association, Women in Law, and the Minority Pre Law Society came together last week for the first time to sponsor the annual Minority Law Student Forum at Texas Tech. W.Frank Newton, Dean of the Law School, welcomed the packed law school courtroom of students, law faculty and community members.

The Honorable Judge Sam Medina of Lubbock and Paul Stafford of Dallas, both Texas Tech Law School alumni, as well as Emilio Abeyta, a Lubbock attorney, were among the guest speakers. Judge Medina began by telling the students, "We need you." He told of a case brought before him where the defendant unable to communicate in English had pleaded guilty to a more serious charge as a result of his interpreter's mistranslation of the charges. Prior to sentencing, Judge Medina explained the charges in Spanish to the defendant who immediately changed his plea. Paul Stafford spoke about the reasons for selecting a career in law and encouraged the students to be the ones to make a difference. He attributes his successful career as an attorney to a higher being (God) who is the ultimate law. Emilio Abeyta addressed the audience by stating, "Minorities, including women, don't need a handout. They just need access.

The forum included a question and answer session which addressed questions related to admissions, racial issues, faculty and student interaction, as well as others. Ron Reynolds, President of the Minority Law Student Association responded to the question about minorities in law school with, 'I am one of four Black students in my graduating class. My experiences have all been positive. You can choose to carry a chip on your shoulder or you can make the most of the opportunity." Rick Navarette, President of the Mexican American Law Student Association, agreed with Mr. Reynolds, and added, "We have a close knit community here. All the students help one another. The faculty and students find ways to work through any problems." Sandy Avila, a third year law student from Weslaco, Texas, indicated that she found the conservative views of the Lubbock region prevalent in the law school and that it ultimately helped more towards preparing minority students for experiences beyond law school.

Bridgett Moreno, a third year law student from Lubbock, will begin working with a law firm in Amarillo upon graduation next May. Ms. Moreno serves on the Minority Recruitment and Retention Committee at the Law School and is planning to help mentor undergraduate members of the Minority Pre Law Society. Law Professor, Susan Fortney, is the faculty advisor for the organization. Professor Fortney announced upcoming events that include a review for the LSAT (law school admission's test). Texas Tech students interested in becoming members may contact Rachel McGowan, President of the Minority Pre Law Society, at 799 7062 or the Office of Cultural Diversity at 742 8671.

Layin' Down The Law in The Hands of the Kids

AUSTIN, Texas—History and government trapped in the pages of textbooks—not quite, according to one law professor.

"In matters of government, students sometimes think of it in a dry way because they read about old dead guys," said Thomas Baker, professor of law at 'Texas Tech University "We hope to bring the Constitution alive and show its importance and relevance Students are intrigued with how fun Constitutional learning can be."

Prof. Baker along with the Texas Young Lawyers Association established the "Supreme Team" curriculum to educate high school seniors about the Constitution and Supreme Court judicial process using an active, hands-on approach.

Volunteer attorneys guide the students as they play the role of potential judges and senators in the Supreme Court Justice selection process, examine real cases involving constitutional issues, participate in a moot court, reach a decision on the cases examined and learn how the Supreme Court actually decided on those cases.

"Students think the Supreme Court verdicts are reported as sport scores and they often reduce very important cases to slogans," Baker said.

This five-day curriculum designed by and facilitated by attorneys ensures legal correctness and meets the essential skills elements mandated by the Texas Education Agency.

"This teaches kids that history and government are not about dead old guys With this program you get the 'sizzle and the steak'," Baker said "We hold their attention while learning and it makes them better citizens because of it."

TYLA Immediate Past-President Bill Mateja of Lubbock was inspired to start the Supreme Team after reading an editorial by Baker challenging lawyers and non-lawyers to learn more about the Constitution than just the preamble.

"It was full watching the students rethink what the Constitution was all about," Mateja said "Most thought this was only something judges and lawyers could understand. They realized that the Constitution is really a simple document with real-world consequences."

The Supreme Team program gives lawyers an opportunity to participate in the community while educating the students about the law Many students do not come in contact with lawyers on a daily basis and this is one way for lawyers and students to work on a personal level.

"The students need new, fresh blood in the classroom, especially by their senior year," said Supreme Team Co-Chair Andy Taylor of Houston. "It is gratifying to see the kids get enlarged up about a subject that might otherwise be dull. They like to grill their fellow students There is a lot of drama involved."

For the upcoming fall semester, the TYLA Supreme Team committee will focus on training teachers and attorneys in the more rural Texas areas so they will be able to implement the curriculum in high schools Last year, the Supreme Team held "court" in Dallas, Austin, San Antonio, Houston, Lubbock, Fort Worth and Sherman, among others.

"These are self-contained materials that lawyers already have. The recipe is taking the basics and adding water," Baker said.

Obituary

SISTER BERTHA MAE PHILLIPS PONDER



Funeral services were held for Sister Bertha Mae Phillips Ponder last Thursday afternoon, November 12, 1998, at the Mt. Gilead Baptist Church with Rev. J. J. Johnson, pastor, officiating. Rev. Billy R. Moton pastor of New Hope Baptist Church, assisted.

Casketbearers were her nephews: Marvel Rogers, Bobby Bunton, Artie Edmond, Linner Younger, Michael Phillips, Bobby Edmond, and Anthony Cameron. Honorary pallbearers were Deacons of Mt. Gilead Baptist Church and New Hope Baptist Church. Flower bearers were women of the Ministry of Mt. Gilead Baptist Church.

Interment was held in Peaceful Gardens Memorial Park, Woodrow, Texas, under the direction of Jamison Funeral Home.

She was born to Cornelious and Zora Phillips in Sharps, Texas November 6, 1919. At an early age, she united with Graves Chapel Baptist Church.

She united in holy matrimony to Robert C. Ponder December 5, 1942. They moved to Lubbock, Texas the same year, and united with Mt. Gilead Baptist Church where she remained a faithful member for 56 years.

Mrs. Ponder was a member of the Jannie Roberts Circle, a deaconess, and a member of Mt. Gilead Baptist Church's Kitchen Committee.

Survivors include: her husband, Robert C. Ponder of Lubbock, Texas; two sisters,
Ada Bunton of Lubbock, Texas and Jean Roger of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; four brothers: Robert Phillips of Dallas, Texas, Hoyle Phillips and Otis Jerry Phillips of Lubbock, Texas, and Leonard McDade of Grosbeck, Texas; two stepsons, R. L. Ponder of Lovington, New Mexico and Robert C. Ponder of Dallas, Texas; one daughter-in-law, Mary H. Ponder of Dallas, Texas; a sister-in-law, Lou Willie Phillips of Dallas, Texas; two adopted sisters, Marie Long and Bobbie Duvall, both of Lubbock, Texas; nine grandchildren, nine great grandchildren, eith nieces, six nephews, a host of great nieces, nephews, other relatives and a devoted niece, Wanda Jones.



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Lubbock Student Wins Roundup Species Survival/Target Sweepstakes

St. Louis, MO. November 9 - Students at the Preston Smith Elementary School will be taking a "walk on the wild side" when they receive a special visit from exotic animals all the way from the San Diego Zoo. Student Tanner Griggs is one of four Grand Prize winners in the Roundup for Species Survival & Target Stores Sweepstakes. The grand prize is a special visit from the San Diego Zoo's Goodwill Ambassador, Joan Embery, accompanied by a number of endangered and exotic animals from the zoo. Embery and the zoo animals will be visiting Tanner's school, Preston Smith Elementary School on November 13 at 10:00 am. Roundup herbicide and Target Stores sponsor the nationwide sweepstakes.

Embery will talk to the students about each of the animals from the Zoo as well as the status of endangered species and the environment. She will impress upon them the important and crucial role they can play in helping to preserve endangered species and protect the environment.

The Roundup for Species Survival & Target Stores Sweepstakes is part of the annual Roundup for Species Survival Campaign that honors and raises funds for a different endangered species each year. One dollar from each springtime purchase of Roundup herbicide is donated to local participating zoos in support of endangered species. This year the highly endangered rhinoceros is the focus of the campaign.

Since 1970, more than 90 percent of the world's rhinoceros population has disappeared. Rhinos have completely vanished from hundreds of areas they once inhabited. The mighty rhino's distinctive physical characteristics, namely the horn on its nose, have contributed to the demise of the species. Believed to possess medical and magical powers, the horns are very valuable in many countries. Although proven to have no medicinal value, rhinos are still killed just for their horns. Despite the bleak picture, there is hope for the mighty rhino. There are now protected areas for rhinos where they can live without threat of being killed for their horns. In addition, zoos are becoming increasingly successful at preserving and protecting all endangered species, including the rhino. For many species, zoos provide a last hope and may mean the difference between survival and extinction.

The mission of zoological associations has evolved significantly. Today's zoos are working diligently to save endangered species as well as provide natural habitat living environments that are similar to conditions in the wild. Careful maintenance of natural habitat environments in zoos is important to the health and well-being of endangered species and Roundup herbicide plays a crucial role in helping zoo horticulturists maintain healthy, weed-free habitats. Certain weeds emit pollens and toxins or have physical characteristics and works by preventing production of certain enzymes only plants use to grow, it is the weed control product used by the majority of zoo horticulturists throughout the United States

The co-sponsor of the Species Survival Sweepstakes, Minneapolis-based Target Stores, is a quality discount division of Dayton Hudson Corporation, one of the nation's leading retailers. Together with its parent company, Dayton Hudson Corporation, Target Stores will give more than $1 million a week to communities in which they do business in 1998. With a focus on strengthening and enriching family life, Target alone will give more than $40 million back to communities nationwide this year through grants, special programs and team member donations. Since it was founded in 1962, Target has contributed 5 percent of its pretax profits to the communities in which it does business.

The Search is on for Texas' Outstanding Older Worker

To celebrate the ongoing contributions and accomplishments of older workers, Green Thumb is soliciting nominations from Texas employers in search of 1998's Outstanding Older Worker. Nominees must be at least sixty-five-years old, a Texas resident, and work 20 or more hours a week.

To nominate, a supervisor or co-worker must provide a brief narrative covering the older worker's overall contribution to their employer, a description of new/additional skills the nominee has learned since beginning employment, any disabilities the nominee has overcome to perform his/her job, and a description of other community involvement. Official nomination forms may be obtained by calling Green Thumb at 1.800.880.5292. Nominees may be from any occupation. Last year's state honorees included a research physician, a welder, a labor rights attorney, a heavy equipment operator, a civil engineer, a home health aide, and the owner of a children's clothing store. The deadline for nominations is December 21, 1998.

Nominations will be evaluated by a state-wide employer committee and the winner announced the latter part of January, 1999. The winner will attend the national Prime Time Award in Washington, D.C., in March 1999, during Presidentially-proclaimed Employ the Older Worker Week. Their visit will include an evening tour of the city's landmarks, meetings with Congressional representatives, a tour of the White House, and a gala awards dinner at the historic National Building Museum.

Green Thumb is the country's oldest and largest nonprofit provider of employment and training for older Americans. Its mission is to strengthen families, communities, and our nation by providing older and disadvantaged individuals with opportunities to learn, work, and serve others. Last year Green Thumb brought training and employment options to more than 26,000 older Americans. In Texas, Green Thumb operates in 132 counties serving almost 1,000 mature workers.



TOM JOYNER AND HIS LISTENERS GET BACK WITH BIG MAC ON THE ROAD TO McDONALD'S HERITAGE BOWL

The Fly Jock Tom Joyner partnered with McDonald's to giveaway prizes in the spirit of the "retro" themed "Get Back With Big Mac" campaign, celebrating the sandwich's 30th anniversary. Audience members at a live radio show remote had the opportunity to dress up to compete for prizes, and Tracey Flemmings of Knoxville, Tenn. walked away the big winner. She will receive an exciting trip-for-two to McDonald's Heritage Bowl this December, an exciting sporting event that has been hailed as the Superbowl of Black collegiate football. Pictured from left are: Eric Moore, McDonald's franchisee; Tom Joyner; winner Tracey Flemmings; and Craig Cason, executive director of the Historically Black Collegiate Coalition (HBCC).



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Attorney Willie Gary presents the NBI Endowment 2000 with $100,000 in honor of John Crump.

Willie Gary Gives $100,000 to Endowment 2000 Honoring John Crump

Sighs of elation spread throughout the Peabody Hotel Ballroom in Memphis at the National Bar Association's 73rd Annual Convention when Attorney Willie Gary honored John L. Crump for 20 years of service as Executive Director of the National Bar Association and presented him with a $100,000 check for the National Bar Institute's Endowment 2000.

During the reception sponsored by Gary and his law firm, Gary told the more than 1,500 attendees that Crump was someone who had been giving for many years and deserved to be recognized. Gary, who is known as a tenacious litigator whose commanding presence and impassioned oratory have moved juries to tears, presented Crump and his wife a seven-day cruise to anywhere in the Carribean.

"It was a complete surprise when Mr. Gary announced the $100,000 donation," National Bar Institute Chair H.T. Smith said. "He has already given so much to Endowment 2000."

The National Bar Institute, a philanthropic arm of the NBA, initiated Endowment 2000 to provide scholarships and fellowships to law students and educate the public on critical issues. Smith said Willie Gary stunned the NBI by making the tremendous donation.

"You could feel the energy in the room when he announced the donation. It sucked the breath out of everybody," Smith said. "It was the largest gift ever to the organization and the best thing is it really got everyone else energized for the fund raising campaign."

The NBI is trying to get 1,000 members to donate $1,000. Smith, who commenced Endowment 2000 in 1995, projected a goal of raising $1 million by the year 2000 to be used as an endowment with the interest benefiting many worthy programs.

Gary presented $ 1,000 to get the program started in 1995 and challenged other members of the NBA to also give $1,000. He also volunteered his staff to assist in raising the money.

Gary introduced his law partners and staff, his wife Gloria, who he started "chasing" in the second grade, four sons and three grandchildren at the reception. He spoke about his success, hard work, faith and the need to give back.

"Mr. Gary has gone above and beyond his share of giving. What impressed me so much was that it was completely unsolicited," Smith said. "It tells us how much he loves the NBA. He puts his money where his commitment is."

"I have no right not to give back," Gary said.

Gary cited one of his favorite biblical quotes as his reason for giving so much: "Unto whom much is given much is required."



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Editorials • Comments • Opinions

THIS N THAT

EAST LUBBOCK CITIZENS ARE PAYING CLOSE ATTENTION! THIS N THAT .... wants the Lubbock Independent School Board of Trustees .... especially one of their members .... ROY GRIMES ....This is necessary ....because in a recent school board meeting ....as a matter of fact ....last week ....this school board member .... made it known that .... "IT WOULD BE BETTER TO CONSOLIDATE MAGNET SCHOOL PROGRAMS ..." In his comments .... he was referring to ....THE POSITIVE MAGNET PROGRAM ..... at our own ..... ESTACADO HIGH SCHOOL ....THIS N THAT .... realizes an elected official has the right to make comments on how he or she may feel toward any issue ....but to make statements which ..... appear to .... BELITTLE OUR YOUTH .... makes all of us take note. .... TRUSTEE GRIMES .... also made it know that .... "THE ENROLLMENT WILL GO UP BECAUSE OF THE TYPE OF STUDENTS THAT ARE GOING TO LUBBOCK HIGH SCHOOL " Now ....THIS N THAT .... has no problem with students at ....LUBBOCK HIGH SCHOOL .... but when a".... SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER .... appears to compare our ....YOUNG PEOPLE .... then .... THIS N THAT .... has a problem.... Now THIS N THAT hopes this will not be discussed ... as indicated by Trustee Grimes in the December, 1998 school board meeting .... because the program at .... ESTACADO HIGH SCHOOL ... is working .... and we need to ..... EMBRACE WHAT IS THERE .... and not CONTINUE TO KEEP OUR YOUNG PEOPLE FROM CONTINUING MAKING THE POSITIVE CONIRIBUTIONS THEY ARE MAKING .... YES .... SISTER KATHYL ANDERSON .... school board member .... YOU .... are absolutley right .... WHEN YOU DISAGREED WITH ONE OF YOUR PEERS .... Hold on .... and keep in mind that .... HELP IS ON THE WAY .... Citizens of East Lubbock .... will not sit back and .... GO TO SLEEP AT THE SWITCH .... as was the case in the .... CLOSURE OF DUNBAR HIGH SCHOOL .... THIS N THAT .... would like to advise .... MR. GRIMES you can't truly eight education.....With all the emphasis on building jails .... THIS N THAT .... holds to the fact it is more political correct to .... ASSIST THE SCHOOLS .... we have at present time .... than to .... GUT ALL THE GOOD PROGRAMS .... they have .... No doubt about it .... ESTACADO HIGH SCHOOL .... has an outstanding .... MAGENT PROGRAM .... And if .... MORE OF US .... would encourage those young people .... from other parts of our city to attend .... THEN WE WOULD SEE THE GROWTH .... some people would like to see .... But if you look at the growth to date .... one would observe that Estacado High Schcol has done quite well .... under the circumstances.... THIS N THAT .... is happy with the growth at Estacado .... and would like to see more .... All Estacado High School needs .... are the same resources .... as other school to be able to tell their true story .... and this is done .... MORE STUDENTS WILL COME .... RETHINK YOUR POSITION .... TRUSTEE GRIMES!

VERY GOOD MARCH!! THIS N THAT ....would like to say .... THANKS .... to the more than .... ONE HUNDRED PEOPLE ....who marched in the ..... 70TH MARCH AGAINST D•UGS AND GANGS .... beginning at .... East 26th Street .... and .... Teak Avenue .... last Friday evening .... doubt about it ....THERE WERE SIGNS .... of alledged drug activity .... and there were some .... UNHAPPY PEOPLE .... because of the march .... in the .... DUNBAR NEIGHBORHOOD ....One lady .... from her porch .... was very .... UNHAPPY .... and let .... THIS N THAT .... know how she felt .... She said more jobs are needed for our young people and if this was done .... THEY WOULD NOT BE INVLOVED IN DRUGS AND GANGS .... But on the .... other hand .... OUR YOUNG PEOPLE DON'T NEED TO USE DRUGS AND GANGS .... as an answer to solve the problem .... IT WAS A VERY GOOD MARCH!! HERE COMES NO. 71!!

HOW ABOUT THOSE CHEERLEADERS & DRUM CORP! THIS N THAT .... would like to thank ... the Estacado High School Cheerleaders and Drum Corp .... for marching in the .... 70TH MARCH AGAISNT DRUGS AND GANGS .... last week.... You did a wonderful job .... and as .... MAYOR WENDY SITTON .... as one of the may marchers .... "WE NEED THEM TO CONTINUE TO MARCH WITH US!" Well said .... MAYOR SITTON!!

SHIRLEY CANADY THE BARBER SAYS! "WORK .... as of you were to .... LIVE FOREVER .... LIVE .... as if you were to .... DIE TOMORROW ...."

IN CINQUE

By Renetta W. Howard



Though this article may appear a few days after the November 3 election, it is a forethought, not an afterthought. I have thought long and hard as to why so many individuals, twelve or more, in a small county in any given state, would run for the same political non-partisan office, vacated because the previous officer has been found guilty of misusing county funds and is currently 'doing time in the big house.'

Do all of these candidates view this particular office, handling sums of taxpayers' monies, more than they ever dreamed of, as a quick way to become financially stable? They have observed many officers go into these jobs with little or no money of their own and come out, well off financially, or end up in prison. Do these candidates really want to take honesty, integrity and a general concern for the well-being of their constituents to this office, or do they really want to take their agenda for self aggrandizement into this office.

With these many candidates in contention for one office, a run-off election is almost certain. Unless one candidate has really made an impression upon the voters, a voter split will surely cost the election commission more money for run-offs.

On the other hand, many non-partisan elections split off down racial lines. Whichever racial group has the most candidates to split the vote, virtually assures the other racial group of victory. "Divide and conquer" falls into place.

In small communities, whether almost everyone knows everyone, or not, community groups which have the well-being of the community at heart, should strive to make the voters aware of the qualifications and potential goals of the candidates. Political education and information is a must. Viable organizations should see to this happening. An uninformed electorate is usually apathetic. Apathy can lead to bad choices by those who feel obligated to make a choice. It is therefore time that we get 'in cinque' and become less apathetic, more informed, educated and active in choosing candidates to represent us, who will 'represent' us, in matters of government on every level.

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Letter To Community

Did you know that this fall 25 new students enrolled to take advantage of the university credit courses offered by Wayland Baptist University's Lubbock Center, at Mae Simmons Community Center? Did you now that due to the overwhelming success, winter courses that can be used toward the Bachelor's degree will be offered at Mae Simmons Community Center November 16,1998 through February 20, 1999?

Sincere thanks go to the American Legion Post 808 for helping to make this program a success by donating liberally the amount of $400.00 to our scholarship program. Special thanks go to the staff of Mae Simmons, Larry Issac, Derrick White, Joyce Lacy, and Charlotte McCarty, for making us feel at home, accommodating all of our needs, and going beyond their call of duty in many instances.

Heartfelt thanks go to the East Lubbock community as a whole for supporting our efforts. Perhaps you whispered a word of prayer, said some encouraging words, allowed us to make announcements in you church, or simply told someone about our program and for that we will always be grateful. We know that with God all things are possible so please continue to pray for us.

Congratulatory thanks go to the students who believed in themselves enough to pursue life long dreams.

Yes, you can work toward a Bachelor's degree at Mae Simmons Community Center, from the first college to integrate, allowing minorities to attend. Graduates of the Bachelor's degree program may also wish to pursue a Master's degree at Wayland. Majors include Religion, Education, Business Administration and other fields. Classes that will be offered include:

- ACAC 0310 Introduction to Expository Writing
- CRIJ/SOCI 3303 Urban Sociology
- ENGL 1301 Composition and Rhetoric
- MGMT 3339 Theory and Practice of Supervision
- RLGN 1302 New Testament History

Day and evening classes will be offered once a week for 15 weeks. Financial aid is available. As in the past, special efforts are being made to raise enough scholarship funds to help pay the college tuition of each student that enrolls and attends classes at Mae Simmons Community Center. Work experience and credits for technical-vocational training can be used in undergraduate degree programs. If you've ever thought about going to college or continuing your education, now would be a good time to start. If you are currently enrolled as a student at any college or university, you too may be eligible to take classes and receive college credit at the college or university that you attend. Our unique combination of challenging courses in the East Lubbock community and flexible scheduling provided in a nurturing, Christian environment may be your ticket to success! For more information contact Dr. Kent Brooks at the Wayland Baptist University's Lubbock Center office, 2002 West Loop 289 Suite 200, Lubbock, TX 79407-1704, phone 765-9285. All students may pre-register in the office or by phone beginning November 1. Regular registration will be November 9 and 10, 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Late registration will be November 12 and 13 from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. A late registration charge of $10 per day will be charged after November 16. For more information, you can also contact LaFrances Richardson, 761-2491 or Larry Issac, 767-2700.

Education is a key to success and once you earn a college degree it's yours for life!! A college degree may be closer than you think!

Sincerely,
LaFrances Richardson
President of WBU Advisory Committee



BUT WHAT ABOUT US??

Eddie P. Richardson

The aid days are almost over, and we can no longer sit around and say: "What about us?" We will have to find ways to help ourselves. Ronald Reagan as president set the tone, and Newt as House Speaker led the fight to cut out aid. So, now it is up to us to help ourselves.

Not so bad for adults, but determental to the aged, physical challenged -- especially our children. Thanks to the late President Lyndon Baines Johnson for his caring and foresight when he put Head Start into action in his Great Society Program. Mostly because of his up bringing, he always wanted young children to have a head start in life. He came from a child in poverty, and became a dishwasher as a young person, to becoming a teacher, and all the way to the White house as President of the United States of America. That is how and why Head Star was and has been so different and successful over the years -- because of the human factor. The same held true for a friend of mine, Rev. Leon Sullivan when he took an old abandoned jail in Philadelphia, Pa. and created the most successful manpower training program in history. It was called the Opportunity Industrialization Center (OIC).

Like Head Start, the OIC program is and was a success. Now that big money is finally in these programs as corporate America wants them, and with Newt and gang, they can bid for these programs as well as non-profit community organizations. It's a cold day when profit corporations can take these programs and put the stock holders over disadvantaged and disinfrancized human beings. it's a cold day, but it's a fact Lockhead Aircraft is the major manpower carner. There's lot of difference between an aircraft organization and a human being program. Fear, yes! The corporate world is after Head Start.

As community, that is, the total community, let's collectively work together to hold on to our programs and keep them away from the stock holders of profit America.

DEAR EDITOR:

To the Editors of Southwest Digest:

Thank you for your occasional columns by Marian Wright Edelman of The Children's Defense Fund. Her concerns about child care and children's health insurance are the same issues as our Lubbock Area Children's Legislative Agenda for 1999.

Children in poverty is the Agenda's gravest concern. In the Texas Kids Count Project, "African American Children in Texas," the study indicates that Black children in Texas are at a greater risk that other children of becoming dropouts, teen parents and crime victims or offenders. Poverty is a big factor in all these setbacks, and nearly four out of 10 Black children in Texas I ived in poverty in 1990.

The study concludes there are far too many Black children at risk and suffering the challenges and consequences of living in poverty. There are no simple solutions to the problems plaguing Texas' Black children. But suggestions include carrying out the promises of education (including dropout prevention programs), preventive health care, teaching prevention programs to curb early teen sexual activity, and funding schools based on need.

Early intervention is essential. The Lubbock Housing Authority's excellent "Parents As Teachers" shows promising results throughout the country. Teaching parents how to be more responsible and adults working closely with children to teach them how to succeed are programs that work.

Texas Kids Count research is conducted by The Center for Public Policy. For more information about Texas Kids Count Call: Pam Hormuth, Texas Kids County Project Coordinator, 512•320-0222; email: hormuth@cppp.org or visit their web site at www.cppp.org.

Sincerely,
Betty Anderson

Betty Anderson
CPPP Board of Directors

THIS WAY FOR BLACK EMPOWERMENT

By Dr. Lenora Fulani

The Other Jesse Wins Big



At firs, the political establishment was dumbstruck. Yes they had plenty to say about the Democrats' five seat pick-up in the House. Plenty to say about the impact of the election results on the impeachment process. But Jesse Ventura, the Reform Party candidate for governor of Minnesota, getting elected? Ventura, a former professional wrestler and radio talke how host, an independent, beating the Republican and Democratic candidates? Impossible. Unheard of. Inexplicable.

But folks, it really did happen. And its importance goes way beyond the upset that Ventura and the Minnesota Reform Party pulled off.

Consider these facts. Fully half of Ventura's vote came form Minnesotans under the age of 30. While the national turnout averaged at 38%, the turnout in Minnesota was over 60%. Many first time and drop out voters came to the polls specifically to vote for Ventura. Ventura was a maverick an anti-establishment, anti-two party, anti-special interests candidate. In countless polls and man-on-the street interviews, Ventura supporters said they appreciated his honesty.

Minnesota is the most independent-friendly state in the country. Public funding for party-building, access to televised debates and same day voter registration make Minnesota's independent parties and candidates much more competitive. Minnesota has the closest thing to a level playing field of any state in the county. When independents get to play on a level field, they have a serious shot at winning . No wonder the Democrats and Republicans in the other 4g states keep a tight lock on the electoral process, tilting the playing field in their own favor. They want to shut out the competition. That is why the issue of political reform is so key.

Bear in mind, Minnesota was not the only state where the Reform Party made its mark. In New York, the Independence Party (the Reform affiliate in the Empire State) polled close to 350,000 votes for its gubernatorial candidate Tom Golisano, or 8%. In New York, permanent ballot position is tied to a party's vote in the governor's race. On Election Day, the Independence Party moved up from fourth (Row D) to third position (Row C), Meanwhile, the Democratic Party, which held first position, dropped to second. This, as thousands of New Yorkers (many from the Black Community) are joining the Independence Party every month, making it the states fastest growing political party.

What does all this add up to? A visible realignment in American politics. The younger generation of voters simply does not have the same party allegiance or identification. Seventy percent of young people consider themselves independents. They didn't live though the Depression, the New Deal, or the Civil Rights movement. They were babies during the Reagan Revolution. They subscribe to neither Republican or Democratic philosophy. And they are becoming the new political force to be reckoned with.

Lenora B. Fulani twice ran for President of the U.S. as an independent, making history in 1988 when she became the first woman and African American to get on the ballot in all fifty states. Dr. Fulani is currently a leading activist in the Reform Party and chairs the Committee for a Unified Independent Party. She can be reached at 800-288-3201 or at http://www.fulani.org

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VETERANS VISIT ELLA ILES



Pictured are six veterans who visited Ella Iles Elementary School last Wednesday morning, November 11, 1998. They were invited to participate in the Veterans program sponsored by the school. Harry Stokley spoke briefly to the young people in the auditorium.

The veterans are, from left to right: Harry Stokley, T. J. Patterson, Mathew R. Roberts, Roy Toler, Otho Childers, and Thomas Sanders.

Refreshments were served in the library.

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As Nation Recognizes 'National Epilepsy Awareness Month,'
First New Treatment For Epilepsy In 100 Years Offers Dramatic Treatment Alternative
In Four Months Since FDA Approval

WEBSTER, Texas—November 6, 1997—For over 100 years, victims of the devastating neurological disorder of epilepsy had no available treatment options beyond a regimen of drug therapy, or in exceedingly rare cases, neurosurgery. But in July 1997, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved a dramatic new treatment for the disorder that afflicts approximately 2.5 million Americans and 750,000 children alone. Only months following clearance, the treatment—called Vagus Nerve Stimulation – is now broadly available and is offering hope to people with refractory partial onset seizures (a type of epilepsy) and their families, as the nation recognizes National Epilepsy Awareness Month in November. The treatment consists of a small generator about the size of a stopwatch that is implanted in the patient's chest, connected to lead wires that send electrical impulses to the brain through the vagus nerve in the neck

"Vagus Nerve Stimulation is dramatically changing how we treat refractory patients. I have 24 patients who have received the implant and are seeing a significant reduction in seizure occurrence and severity. It is providing relief for patients that had no hopes of controlling their seizures before," said Dr. Douglas Labar, M.D., Ph.D. of the Comprehensive Epilepsy Center of New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center.

"My life has completely changed. My constant seizures took a tremendous toll on my life—and my family's life. Since the implant I've been completely seizure free. I am able to drive again and can now look for work," said John Richards, of Azusa, California.

"With the development of new drugs, the availability of Vagus Nerve Stimulation, and more efficient techniques in epilepsy surgeries, we now have more hope for people with epilepsy than at any time in history," said Christopher M. DiGiorgio, Associate Professor of Neurology, University of Southern California School of Medicine.

About Epilepsy
Epilepsy is the world's second most prevalent neurological disorder, affecting an estimated 50 million people worldwide. This disorder is characterized by intermittent disturbances in the normal electrical functions of the brain, known as seizures.

According to the Epilepsy Foundation of America (EFA), approximately 2.5 million Americans, or slightly less than one percent of the population, suffer from some form of epilepsy. Thirty percent of all epilepsy patients are under the age of eighteen. Approximately 425,000 epilepsy patients in the U.S. are deemed 'refractory,' that is, they continue to have unsatisfactory seizure control or intolerable medication-induced side effects after being treated with appropriate antiepileptic therapies. Refractory epilepsy exacts a heavy toll on the quality of life of patients and their families, with considerable psychological, sociological, physical and financial impact.

"Vagus Nerve Stimulation is an important new option for people with refractory epilepsy and their families," said Paulette V. Maehara, CEO of the Epilepsy Foundation of America. "The prevention and reduction of seizures is critical to the self-confidence, productivity, and overall well being of people with epilepsy. The Foundation is extremely pleased that this new treatment is now widely available and that more patients will have access to it."

About Vagus Nerve Stimulation and the NCP System
Vagus Nerve Stimulation is delivered by the NeuroCybernetic Prosthesis (NCP) System. The NCP System is a fully implantable device, intended for patients over the age of twelve with medically refractory partial onset seizures, that is, those patients who are unable to control seizure occurrence with antiepileptic drug treatment or epilepsy surgery. Implantation of the device is accomplished during a one to two hour surgical procedure, under either general or localized anesthesia, which can, in some cases, be performed on an outpatient basis. Like a pacemaker, the pulse generator is implanted under the skin in the chest. The lead wire is then tunneled under the skin to the lower neck, where it is placed around the vagus nerve. Using an external programmer, the neurologist can set or reset the stimulation parameters of the device. The NCP System delivers preprogrammed intermittent electrical pulses to the vagus for example, 30 seconds on, five minutes off—24 hours a day. Additionally, when a patient senses a seizure coming on, he or she is able to activate the system to deliver an additional dose of stimulation by passing or waving a magnet over the area of the chest where the device resides. Some patients report that they are able to prevent, abort or decrease the intensity of a seizure using the magnet.

The first human implant of the NCP System occurred in 1988. Since then more than 1,000 patients in 24 countries have accumulated over 2,000 patient years of experience using the NCP System. Results of preclinical studies, clinical trials and mechanism of action research confirm that the NCP System offers many refractory patients significant improvement in seizure control, with few if any of the debilitating central nervous system side effects commonly associated with antiepileptic drugs and a favorable risk/benefit ratio which is maintained over time when the NCP is used as part of a patient's long term treatment regimen. The NCP system is developed and marketed by Cyberonics, Inc. of Webster, TX.

About Cyberonics Inc.
Cyberonics Inc. (NASDAQ:CYBX) was founded in 1987 to design, develop and market medical devices for the treatment of epilepsy and other debilitating neurological disorders using a novel therapy, Vagus Nerve Stimulation (VNSTM). The Company's initial target market is epilepsy, the world's second most prevalent neurological disorder, which is characterized by recurrent seizures. In addition to the United States, the NCP System is currently approved for sale in all the member countries of the European Union, Canada and other markets.

CHURCH DIRECTORY



WE THANK GOD FOR JESUS

" THE SYNAGOUE OF SATAN!!! "

REVELATION 2:4,7a,JESUS SAID I HAVE SOMEWHAT(THIS)AGAINST THEE, BECAUSE THOU HAST LEFT THY FIRST LOVE. HE THAT HATH AN EAR, LET HIM HEAR WHAT THE SPIRITH SAITH UNTO THE CHURCHES.

THE CHURCHES HAVE LEARNED THE WAYS OF THE UN-GODLY WORLD; THEY LEARN TO BEAT AND CHEAT AND HI-SIDE; MEN,WOMAN, BOYS AND GIRLS!!!

MARK 11:17, JESUS SAID, IT IS WRITTEN, MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED OF ALL NATIONS THE HOUSE OF PRAYER? BUT YE HAVE MADE IT A DEN OF THIEVES.

THE PREACHERS NOW LOVE MONEY; AND TRY TO GET IT ANY; AND EVERYWAY; THEY'VE STOP PREACHING ON SIN AND SALVATION; ONLY THU GRACE!!!

ISAIAH 55:7,8, LET THE WICKED FORSAKE HIS WAYS, AND THE UNRIGHTEOUS MAN HIS THOUGHTS; AND LET HIM RETURN UNTO THE LORD, AND HE WILL HAVE MERCY UPON HIM; AND TO OUR GOD, FOR HE WILL ABUNDAN-TLY PARDON. FOR MY THOUGHTS ARE NOT YOUR THOUGHTS, NEITHER ARE YOUR WAYS MY WAYS, SAITH THE LORD.

THEY NOW PREACH GOOD, GOOD, GOOD; TO TICKLE ONES EARS; THEY DON'T PREACH SOUND DOCTRINE; OF REPENTANCE, IS NEEDED TO HEAR!!!

2 TIMOTHY 4:3, FOR THE TIME WILL COME WHEN THEY WILL NOT EN-DURE SOUND DOCTRINE; BUT AFTER THEIR OWN LUSTS SHALL THEY HEAP TO THEMSELVES TEACHERS, HAVING ITCHING EARS.

GOD'S BUSINESS IS;THE SAVING OF MANKIND:THAT IS HIS SOUL; BUT THE PREACHERS BUSINESS IS; THEY MUST HAVE THE GOLD!!!

LUKE 12:24, JESUS SAID, CONSIDER THE RAVENS: FOR THEY NEITHER SOW NOR REAP; WHICH NEITHER HAVE STOREHOUSE NOR BARN; AND GOD REEDETH THEM: HOW MUCH MORE ARE YE BETTER THAN THE FOWLS?

THE PREACHERS NOW PLAY A GAME; CALL: ALL THE MEN STAND; THEN THEY SAY: IF YOU'RE A MAN, THEN BRING FORTH $20, IN HAND!!!

ISAIAH 56:11, YEA, THEY ARE GREEDY DOGS WHICH CAN NEVER HAVE ENOUGH, AND THEY ARE SHEPHERDS THAT CANNOT UNDERSTAND: THEY ALL LOOK TO THEIR OWN WAY, EVERY ONE FOR HIS GAIN($$$), FROM HIS QUARTER (ANNIVERSARY). SAID THE LORD.

********** WILL A PREACHER ROB GOD???**********

WITH ALL THE SUFFERING: THAT IS THROUGH OUT THE LAND; THE WISE PREACHERS SHOULD BE PREACHING: THE TIME IS AT HAND!!!

LUKE 12:42, JESUS SAID, WHO THEN IS THAT FAITHFUL AND WISE STEWARD (PREACHER), WHOM HIS LORD SHALL MAKE RULER OVER HIS HOUSEHOLD, TO GIVE THEM THEIR PORTION OF MEAT IN DUE SEASON?

BUT THE PREACHERS NOW WANTS LARGE CROWDS; AND WON'T REBUKE SIN; HE WANTS THE MONEY, AND THE FRIENDSHIP OF THE WORLD; THATS SIN!!!

1 JOHN 2:15, LOVE NOT THE WORLD, NEITHER THE THINGS THAT ARE IN THE WORLD. IF ANY MAN LOVE THE WORLD, THE LOVE OF THE FATHER(GOD) IS NOT IN HIM.

THE LORD IS COMING CHURCH; HAVE YOU'LL SEEN THE SIGNS? AND TIME OUT FOR PLAYING CHURCH PREACHERS; ITS CALLED BLIND LEADING THE BLIND!

1 PETER 4:17, FOR THE TIME IS COME THAT JUDGMENT MUST BEGIN AT THE HOUSE OF GOD: AND IF IT FIRST BEGIN AT US, WHAT SHALL THE END BE OF THEM THAT OBEY NOT THE GOSPEL OF GOD?

GOD IS NOT THROUGH WITH US YET. SO LETS PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER ALWAYS. WRITTEN BY EVANGELIST BILLY B.J.MORRISON,III YOUR BROTHER IN CHRIST JESUS!!!

Religous Coalition Launches Groundbreaking Sexuality Eduction Curriculum For African American Youth

The Black Church Initiative of the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice has launched a groundbreaking Christian sexuality education curriculum for African American youth. "Keeping It Real," a project of faith-based dialogue among teens, clergy, ministry leaders, and parents, is one of the first organized efforts in African American church communities to address sex and sexuality in both a Biblical and secular context.

"Keeping It Real" continues the work of the National Black Religious Summit II on Sexuality, held at Howard University School of Divinity in July. More than 400 clergy, laity, educators, parents, and youth attended the Summit, which successfully reached out to diverse African American churches and faith communities to "break the silence" around sexuality.

"We are developing healthy, comfortable areas for talking about sex and sexuality with young women and men before they are confronted with life-altering, life-threatening situations," said Leslie M. Watson, head of the Multicultural Programs Department of the Religious Coalition. "Our experience at the July Summit confirmed that true dialogue can increase the influence of faith communities in life choices and create healthy opportunities for intergenerational sharing on difficult topics."

Ms. Watson stressed the urgent need for realistic faith-based sexuality education. "Our young people are engaged in a battle against sexual and domestic violence, HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases, and teen pregnancy. To continue talking to them in 'holier-than-thou' directives and telling them 'don't do it' or 'just say no' does nothing but silence the whispering voices and increase the barriers to healthy behavior," she said. "Our program is based on healthy dialogue in a Godly arena. We're helping teens establish a firm foundation for responsible decision-making, trusting relationships, and self-respect. We are giving them something to shout about."

"Keeping It Real" is a seven-week curriculum of dialogue and activities in seven areas: sex and sexuality as a spiritual gift; the role of family; sexual identity; pressure by peers, society, and media; the role of religion and faith; life choices; and the tension between freedom and responsibility. Rev. D. Mitchell Ford, a member of the National Black Religious Summit Advisory Committee and pastor of the Renaissance Baptist Church of Washington, wrote the curriculum.

The Religious Coalition is piloting the project this fall with the assistance of the Church Association for Community Service of Washington, DC, and four of its member churches—Covenant Baptist Church, the African-American Catholic Congregation-Imani Temple, First Baptist Church, and Peace in the Valley Baptist Church. In the spring of 1999, the project will be introduced in five states—New York, Georgia, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Southern California— with high rates of teen pregnancy.

The Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, founded by clergy in 1973, is the national interfaith organization of religious denominations and faith-based groups that support reproductive choice. The Rev. Carlton W. Veazey, an African American Baptist minister, is president and CEO of the Religious Coalition. The overall goal of the Religious Coalition's Black Church Initiative is to assist Black religious leaders and communities in addressing teen childbearing, sexuality education, and other reproductive health issues within the context of African American culture and religion. For more information about the Initiative, contact Leslie Watson at 202-628-7700.

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from the Desk of Parson D.A. Smith

"Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him."—Hebrews 9:27-28, NIV

Solomon, who is often seen as an example of wisdom, can also be seen as the epitome of foolishness. Who in Israel's history had so many advantages, and yet managed them all so poorly? After knowing God's special favor, he blew it all by disregarding God's will and marring many foreign women. This led to unbelievable compromises with pagan religions. By the end of his life, Solomon had violated all of the moral and theological principles that should have made him great.

The administrative structure of Solomon's government lacked adequate checks and balances to guard against abuses and of centralized power. The officials, both in Jerusalem and the provinces, were so strong that it was exceeding difficult for the voice of the people to be heard.

Solomon's government was so regimented that it not only destroyed individual freedom but fuel discrimination. Israel's minority group, the Canaanites, was reduced to a form of slavery, condemned to the labor gangs, but the Israelites were virtually untouched, except in emergency. This provided fertile soil for discontent and revolt.

Because Solomon was untrue to his God, he fell under God's wrath and judgment. In a very real sense, it is not God who determines what judgment will be; it is man. God has given the universal moral and spiritual criteria for judgment, and so when He judges us, He applies these criteria to our conduct. Judgment only makes explicit what is implicit in the choices we make.

The judgment of God can be an awesome and terrifying reality. However, the grace of God delivers those whose faith in Him moves them to repentance. No human can stand in God's presence as a sinless person; all have sinned. However, we can stand in His presenceas "forgiven" sinners.

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Planks Will Preach First Sermon



Charles Edward Planks, Sr., will deliver his trial sermon at Smith Temple Community Church (6508 Avenue P, Lubbock, Texas) Sunday, afternoon, November 22, 1998, at 3:30 p.m.

Mr. Planks will deliver his message at Smith Temple's annual Harvest Festival. The Reverend E. E. Brown of San Antonio, Texas, a son of Pastor D. A. Smith in the Methodist minister, will deliver the morning message and assist with baptism and the afternoon services. The Christian community is invited to give support to Brother Charles Planks, Sr.

Today's Black Music: In a State of Rise or Decline?

Washington, D.C. - Between jazz, blues, gospel and soul, where does hip hop music fit in? Drew Dixon, Senior Director for A&R at Arista Records, states: "Black music continues to be a soulful, very rich and important part of who we are and what we have contributed to this country. Hip hop is...a part of our legacy."

Many critics charge that modern music is merely a recycled blend of yesterday's melodies. But Dixon responds: "Ultimately, hip hop has a socially redeeming value...It's an opportunity for those of us who care about our community to listen. From the mouths of babes, they are telling you what's going on in their lives...and if we listen, instead of judging, we can help make a difference."

Debra Langford, Vice President and General Manager of Essence Entertainment, believes that radio plays an integral role in the popularity of one type of music over another. "When you're talking about radio driven by advertisers, you're looking at that specific group that has tremendous spending power and influence. That's why there's been such a resurgence of hip hop. It's that music that is played before the Tide commercial and after the McDonald's commercial," Langford says.

Grammy award-winning Gospel singer BeBe Winans maintains no matter what form it takes, the music needs to be heard. "It's important that the people inside the four walls [of the church] hear the music. But it's even more important that the people outside the four walls hear (it)."

Host James Brown leads the conversation with Langford, Winans and Dixon. Commentators Deborah Mathis and Armstrong Williams join them for an engaging debate on the sound of Black music today. America's Black Forum, an Emmy award-winning, half-hour show, may be seen on various stations nationwide. Please check your local listings for air time and date.

Workshop Explores Complementary Therapies of Health Care

LUBBOCK (Texas) - The role of prayer, acupuncture, therapeutic massage, music therapy and other complementary therapies in the healing process will be explored by experts from the clergy and medicine during "The Dance of Health: Uniting Body, Mind & Spirit" Nov. 20 and 21. The unique, two-day workshop is cosponsored by Covenant Health System and the Golden Cross Committee of the Northwest Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church.

During this convocation, 14 workshops will be presented in the Knipling Education/Conference Center, located on top of Covenant Children's Hospital's West Parking Garage, 21st Street and Louisville Avenue. The programs begin at 2 p.m., Friday, Nov. 20 and end at 3:15 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 21.

The keynote speaker for "The Dance of Health" will be the Rev. Annette Ramsey Sowell, who has been in the pastorate at United Methodist churches in the Fort Worth area since 1980, most recently as pastor of St. Paul United Methodist Church in Hurst. A certified mediator in Tarrant County, she was named Outstanding Pastor among small-membership churches by the Central Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Sowell will present "The Mystery of Healing" during lunch from noon to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 21. She also will discuss "A Mini-Adventure in Healing and Wholeness" at 9:15 a.m. and again at 1:30 p.m. the same day.

Other seminar topics and speakers will be:

* "Grand Tour of Relaxation" - George Woodward, Ed.D. and Brian D. Carr, Ph.d.;
* "Power of Eating and Exercise for Optimal Health" - Michelle Omera, Cancer Center of the Southwest;
* "Incorporating Prayer into Medical Practice" - Terry Gage, M.D.;
* "Lymphodema Therapy" - Dan Johnson, O.T.R.;
* "Creighton Model System: Caring for One's Fertility" - Charles Howard, CNFPP, and Margaret Howard, CNFPE;
* "Therapeutic Massage" - The Rev. David Hartman;
* "Guided Imagery" - Chaplain Les Lewis;
* "Using Supplements, Nutriceuticals, Vitamins & Minerals" - Michelle Omera;
* "Music Therapy" - Pam Poole; and
* "Medical Acupuncture" - Hiep Le, M.D.

Registration is $20 per person, which includes breakfast and lunch on Saturday as well as handouts. To receive a registration brochure or for more information, call 806-793-4027. Space is limited, and the registration deadline is Friday, Nov. 13.

Amnesty International Issues Report on Juveniles

Betraying The Young is issued in advance of the 100th anniversary of the U. S. juvenile justice system. This revolutionary move, signaled by the establishment of the country's first juvenile court in Chicago in 1899, set a world standard for the protections, rights and rehabilitation of juveniles, separate and apart from the general criminal justice system. One hundred years later, the Amnesty international report notes, a deterioration of those rights dangerously threaten America's future.

A few examples:

Nicholas Contreras, 16, was confined to the Arizona Boys Ranch, where he was repeatedly placed in solitary confinement for minor offenses. He was reportedly forced to do push-ups, despite complaints of feeling ill and tired. The teenager collapsed and died at the facility on March 2, 1998.

Thirty-eight states now house juveniles in adult prisons with no special programs or educational services for the young prisoners.

A large number of children prosecuted in adult criminal courts did not commit violent crime. In 1995, for example, less than half the cases transferred from juvenile court were violent offenders.

Black youths constitute 15 percent of the population between ages 10 to 17, but they represent 30 percent of the youth arrested, 40 percent of the youth held in custody and 50 percent of the cases transferred from juvenile to adult courts.

To secure an executive summary of the report or to arrange an interview with William Schulz, please call Gwen McKinney or Douglas North at (202) 833-9771.

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Bruegel's "Peasant Wedding" Celebrates The True Purpose of Marriage

By Ruth Oron

As women think about and plan their upcoming weddings, what do they most need to know? It is, what I am so grateful I learned from Aesthetic Realism, the education founded by America's great poet and critic, Eli Siegel, that the purpose of marriage, like the purpose of life itself, is to like the world. In "Love and Reality," a chapter of his definitive book Self and World, Eli Siegel wrote: "The purpose of love is to feel closely one with things as a whole." A woman, I have learned, is hoping "to feel closely one with" and respect the whole world including other people, books, ideas, justice, through knowing and caring for one particular representative of that world, a man. But, Aesthetic Realism so importantly explains too that a woman has another hope, to use the man she is close to to have contempt for the world, to make its meaning less so she can feel important. The way to honestly like the world and oppose contempt, Aesthetic Realism teaches is to see that the world has a structure that is beautiful—the aesthetic oneness of opposites. "All beauty is a making one of opposites", stated Eli Siegel in a landmark principle, "and the making one of opposites is what we are going after in ourselves". And he showed greatly and kindly that we can learn about our deepest hopes and most pressing concerns from the art of the world.

In this article I am happy to show how the painting "Peasant Wedding" by the important 16th century Flemish painter, Peter Bruegel celebrates in its technique the true purpose of marriage and is a thoroughly practical guide for every bride-to-be. Crucial in every marriage, as in every painting I learned, are the opposites of sameness and difference—we marry someone who stands for the difference of the world, and for the good of our marriage and our lives, we have to see that difference as something to know and be fair to.

In "Is Beauty the Making One of Opposites?" Eli Siegel asks about Sameness and Difference: "Does every work of art show the kinship to be found in objects and all realities?—and at the same time the subtle and tremendous difference, the drama of otherness, that one can find among the things of the world?"

When a woman imagines a possible husband, there is often a tendency to dream of a man who, while being obviously different from herself, will nevertheless share her interests, agree with her opinions, and tell her how wise and right she is about everything. As a person who was born in Israel, one of the things that attracted me to my husband was his difference—he was from another country—Morocco, spoke French, Spanish, Arabic and was learning Hebrew, and had much experience in the world, outside the rather sheltered ki butz I grew up in. But I didn't respect the meaning or his difference sufficiently and deeply I didn't welcome it. Soon after we were married, I tried to erase all signs of difference between us. I remember telling my friends what really wasn't true—"How wonderful it is—we agree about everything." But I was missing the real pleasure, the real romance of seeing the thrilling relation of sameness and difference between myself and another person, and this was a cause of pain in our marriage.

One of the things I love about Bruegel's "Peasant Wedding" is the way he shows what Eli Siegel describes as the "kinship to be found in objects and all realities" and simultaneously "the drama of otherness." We see over forty people together in the same room, most of them seated around one long table. Bruegel shows their kinship through colors, shapes and directions, and he shows them enjoying dishes of food and jugs of beer as part of the same lively celebration. Yet, Bruegel valued each individual in all his uniqueness.

Let us look at some of the people at this feast. In the foreground we see two men carrying between them a rectangular wooden door being used as a large tray to serve the food. Right away we see sameness and difference working together for one purpose. One man is wearing a red jacket and a green hat. The other man is wearing a red hat and a greenish jacket—sameness and difference. They are the same height, and going in the same direction for the same reason. Yet we feel each one of them was respected as an individual by Bruegel. And as we look at them there is a pleasing sense of differences helping each other, for the good of all. We see them even before we see the bride. She is the girl seated in front of the dark green rectangular cloth of honor. At first, when I looked at her, I thought she was in herself and complacent. She reminded me of myself. When I got married, I thought now that I had a husband I didn't need anyone else. But as I looked more closely I saw that she is both set apart and in the midst. She is seated in what I have learned is the traditional posture of modesty for bridal portraits. She looks warmly contained within herself, and at the same time she seems pleased with the bustling activity around her. And Bruegel shows she is related to everything and everyone.

Her garments and flesh contain all the colors in this painting. The red of her cheeks and her crowning headband, adorned with tiny peacock feathers, is like the red of the jackets and caps around her. The deep brown of her gown is in the men's soft shoes, coats and hats, and in the eaves of the barn. The green she is wearing can be found in the apron of the child on the floor—who also wears a peacock feather, a big one. And this green is in the leaves seen through the open door on the upper left. The rectangular opening of this doorway with its green trees, is something like the rectangle of green before which the bride sits. This open door is the furthest thing from us in the painting, but it is essential to the composition. I feel it is a beautiful criticism of what I have learned is one of the worst mistakes a man and woman can make with each other—to use their closeness, their "kinship" to shot the world out.

In Aesthetic Realism Consultations I heard this: "When a woman feels she isn't fair to the outside world, no amount of love is going to satisfy her. She's going to keep feeling always that someone doesn't love her—even if he's knocking at her door, sending flowers, calling on the telephone 24 hours a day." If a woman doesn't feel she is fair to things and people, she can't believe the love shown to her by a particular man. See how, in this painting, Bruegel has not one man knocking at the door, but the whole village streaming in from the outside through this doorway in an energetic diagonal line going across the painting. It is the hustle and bustle of reality a bride must welcome in order for her to care for one person. Even though the opening in the doorway is confined to such a small space, the view of the outside world seen through the open door—the greenery and sky—adds space, depth and perspective. If you cover up this little view, the whole painting gets claustrophobic. When a couple creates a separate world for themselves, they get claustrophobic too. Every couple needs to ask: Do I use the man or woman close to me to care for the world or be against it?

Bruegel's bride is seated in the midst of the gathering. But where is the groom? That is the mystery of this painting; it has been asked by critics these 400 years. Walter Gibson writes:

"Unlike the bride, the groom cannot be readily distinguished, and writers have exercised considerable ingenuity in explaining his supposed absence." Several men have been proposed as candidates—the man on the left pouring out beer, or one of the other men serving the food, in keeping with the custom of the time where the husband was supposed to wait upon the wife's family during the banquet. But why didn't Bruegel make his particular identity unmistakable?

Addressing this question in a seminar presented at the Aesthetic Realism Foundation, Aesthetic Realism consultant and artist, Dorothy Koppelman said: "The world," Eli Siegel [explains], "is the third partner" necessary in any marriage. Bruegel's 'Peasant Wedding' is an exemplification of the Aesthetic Realism idea." And she said, "The Bruegel 'Peasant Wedding' is the wedding of a person to the world." I believe this is true. And seeing it thrilled me.

In one of my first Aesthetic Realism consultations I learned the reason my marriage had ended. My consultants said to me: "You thought you could love a person but you didn't love the world. You didn't feel the way you saw a person depended on the way you saw the world." I am so grateful to have learned this. It made me feel hopeful about love and marriage in a way I never felt before.

It is thought Bruegel himself is the man in black with the red beard seated at the far right on an upturned washtub, engaged in conversation with a monk.

This intimate, serious conversation between two people is balanced in the composition by the crowd of people streaming in at the door. I think Bruegel's massage is: in order to have the true intimacy and depth of feeling people hope for in marriage, the world in all its variety must be welcomed.

I love this painting and I see it as a visual affirmation of what Eli Siegel explains in his lecture "The Furious Aesthetics of Marriage": "You cannot love a person, whether that person is called Ned or Edwina, is called Winnie or Jimmy, is called Edgar or Frieda—you cannot love a person unless you want to love the world, as a large and unlimited fact...Our purpose, our most constant purpose, the purpose of purposes, and the purpose of purposes of purposes is: To like the world on an exact basis, which is also beautiful."

NOTE: This article is based on a talk I was honored to give as part of an on-going series of art talks at the Aesthetic Realism Foundation in New York City titled: "The Aesthetic Realism of Eli Siegel Shows How Art Answers the Questions of Your Life!"



Ruth Oron





National Black Chamber of Commerce, Southern University Chapter pictured left to right: Peter Bialey, Alana Mallett, Nicole Wilkerson, Nalinya Davis, and Dr. A. Yigletu

BATON ROUGE, LA-On November 19, 1998, Southern University will install the officers and members of its Black Chamber of Commerce, an affiliate of the National Black Chamber of Commerce, Inc. This will be the first chapter making up the NBCC Collegiate Chapter Network. The national office will open chapters on the majority of the historically Black colleges and universities (HBCU's) throughout the nation. After that accomplishment it will expand to other major campuses.

The mission of the collegiate chapters is to prepare its members for the American capitalistic system. "Members will be versed in the demands of entrepreneurship, they will be prepared to start and manage their own business whenever they choose, " says Harry Alford, President and CEO of the NBCC. "We will be developing the nation's Black business leaders of the immediate future," he concludes.

Collegiate chapters will network nationally with each other through their own web page and will be given one board seat on the NBCC Board of Directors. They will also participate with the traditional chapters at the annual conventions. The next annual convention will be held in New Orleans during June 17-20, 1999. The Baton Rouge, LA campus of Southern University will play a key role in organizing that collaboration.

According to NBCC Chairman Arthur Fletcher, "Any positive change in America will start on the college campuses. That's why I directed the national office to put together a program. I'm very pleased with what we have organized and expect great accomplishments.

Corporations such as MCI have been excited about assisting in this process. Any students wishing to organize a chapter on their campus or any corporation wanting to help sponsor such a project can contact the NBCC at: 202-416-1622, fax 202-416-1722..

JUNETEENTH INFORMATION

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

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

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

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

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

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