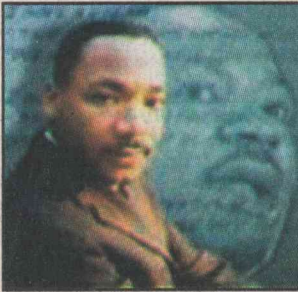




Southwest Digest



Community Meetings

* Lubbock Area Client Council meets on the 2nd Saturday, 1:00 pm at the Patterson Branch Library, 1836 Parkway Drive.

* Hub City Kiwanis meets 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 p. m., Lyons Chapel Baptist Church, East 24th Street & MLK Blvd.

* Dunbar Alumni Association meets 2nd Saturdays, 4:00 pm.

* The Lubbock Branch of The NAACP meets the 3rd Saturday of each month at Life Run, Inc, 8240 Boston Ave.. at 11:a.m.

* Forgotten West Riders meets on the 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:00 pm, Patterson Branch Library.

* East Lubbock Chapter AARP meets every 1st Thursday at 1:00 pm, Great Saint Luke Missionary Baptist Church.

* Lubbock Chapter of Black Alumni meets every 3rd Tuesday, 5:30 pm, TTU Market Alumni Center.

* Dunbar Manhattan Heights Neighborhood Association meets every 1st Thursday at 7:00 pm and every 4th Thursday at 7:00 pm at the Dunbar Manhattan Heights Neighborhood Outreach Center, 1301 E. 24th Street.

* West Texas Native American Association meets at 7:00 pm, at the New Jerusalem Baptist Church, 3524 East Broadway Avenue on Tuesday evenings..

* The Unified Juneteenth Commission of Lubbock meets every Tuesday evening at Bryon Martin Technology Center, 3401 Avenue Q, beginning at 5:30 p. m.

* West Texas Chapter of 100 Black Men of West Texas meets 3rd Monday evenings at 7:00 pm at The Bridge 1401 Redbud Avenue

* The Parkway & Cherry-Point Neighborhood Association meets the 3rd Tuesday evenings, 7:30 pm at 517 Zenith Avenue, Star Care Center
* Chatman Hill Neighborhood Association meets 2nd Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm at 2301 Avenue A.

* ROOTS meets every 2nd Saturday at 2:00 p. m. at 2301 Avenue A.

* If you have an announcement about your organization, please advise by calling (806) 762-3612 or e-mail swdigest@sbcglobal.net.

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
902 East 28th Street
Lubbock, Texas 79404
(806) 762-3612
first to publicly release a workforce demographics report earlier this year. They were commended for doing so, and so far, experts say they are the most aggressive at addressing the issue.

What's In This Week's

Local Business Supporters Page 2
In Cinque Page 3
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Obsequies Page 5
LHA Public Hearings Page 6
Rise Academy Enrollment Page 7
Delta Sigma Fitness Wellness Page 8

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Thursday, March 21, 2019
Vol. 41 Years, No. 13, Page 1

\$1.00

The Federation Of Choirs Will Celebrate Sixty-Five Years On March 24th!

If you ask the original members of the Federation of Choirs, they will tell you that if you stay with God, things will happen. You see, because of their prayers and hard work, the Federation of Choirs will celebrate their Sixty-Fifth Anniversary on Sunday afternoon, March 24, 2019, at the Greater St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church, 306 East 26th Street, where the proud pastor is Rev. Dr. J. H. Ford.

The first President of the Federation of Choirs was the late Brother Oscar Iles.

This year's president is Sister Janet Williams who is inviting all citizens of Lubbock, Texas to come and take part with their presence.

"There will be eleven Black Churches from throughout the community who have members singing in the Mass Choir," she said. "They will be singing songs of praise and worship as this joyous occasion is celebrated only once a year and this entire Lubbock community is invited to attend," she says.

With a sincere smile, she adds, "Hope to see you there!"

The theme of the Federation of Choirs is, "65 Years, The Legacy Lives On!"

The Federation of Choirs has eleven active Black Churches which sing monthly on the fourth Sunday of each month at different churches at 2:30 p. m.

The history of the Federation of Choirs was written by the late Secretary Emeritus, Sister Maunira Terrell. The Federation of Choirs was in the mind of the late Sister Sedella Solomon. The first organizational meeting was held at the New Hope Baptist Church.

The Black Churches represented at this meeting were: Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, New Hope Baptist Church, New Hope Baptist

Church, Carter Chapel Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, Rising Star Baptist Church, Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, and Mt. Vernon Methodist Church. It is believed at this meeting, they named the organization, Federation of Choirs.

The purpose of the Federation of Choirs is to sing and fellowship with each of the Black Churches in Lubbock, Texas. But in order for the organization to get started, some of the members had to get it approved by the Pastor of their Church.

They took their idea to the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, which was a group of Black Pastors, from the majority of Black Churches in the Lub-

bock Community, to have it approved. The Alliance did indeed approve the organization, and this is how the Federation of Choirs begun.

The first session of the Federation of Choirs was hosted by the New Hope Baptist Church with their pastor being the late Rev. Billy Moton.

The churches at the first session were: Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, Community Baptist Church, Lyons Chapel Baptist Church, St. John Baptist Church, St. Luke Baptist Church, St. James Baptist Church, Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, and Christ Temple Church of God in Christ.

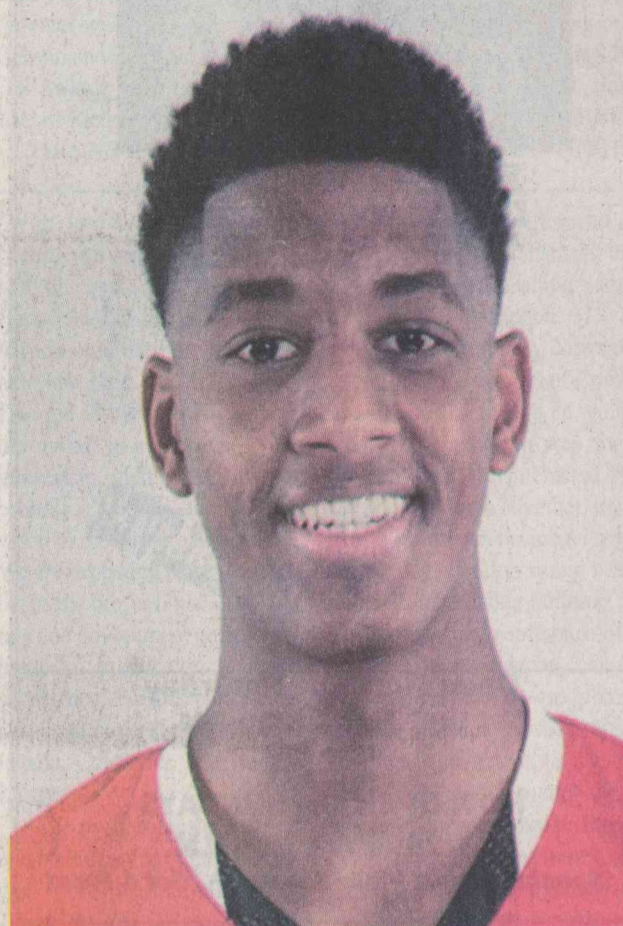
New Sign For The Dunbar-Manhattan Heights Neighborhood



If you have had an opportunity to drive in the 1300 block of East 24th Street, make sure you have an opportunity to see the neighborhood sign which will advise where you are located. It is located at 1302 East 24th Street.

In other words, the new sign is located at 1302 East 24th Street which is across the street from the Mae Simmons Swimming Pool which is south of the pool.

The Southwest Digest appreciates what a concerned Lubbock citizen did in taking care of the cost for handling the payment of this neighborhood sign, plus several more. Thank You very much!!



Jarrett Culver

Jarrett Culver Named Big 12 Player of the Year

On Sunday evening, March 10, 2019, the Big 12 Coaches named Jarrett Culver, a sophomore at Texas Tech University, was named Big 12 Player of the Year. This was the first time for a Texas Tech Red Raider to win this award.

Culver, a graduate from Coronado High School, was third in the Big 12 in scoring at 18.3 points per game, fifth in assists (3.6 apg) and 10th in rebounding (6.2 rpg). He was a unanimous choice to the first team.

Playing the position of guard, Culver received the following awards: Big 12 Player of the Year (2019)

- John R. Wooden Award National Ballot (2019)

- Big 12 Player of the Week (12/17/2018; 2/25/2019; 3/11/19)

- Jerry West Award Finalist

- Academic All-Big 12

- Sporting News All-America 2nd-Team (2019)

- Sporting News Midseason All-America 2nd-Team (2019)

- Hall of Fame Classic MVP (2018)

- John Wooden Award Midseason Watch List (2019)

- Oscar Robertson Trophy Midseason Watch List (2019)

- Lute Olson Award Mid-Season Watch List (2019)

- Jerry West Award Watch List (2019)

- College Sports Madness Big 12 Player of the Week (11/26/18)

- All-Big 12 Preseason Honorable Mention (2018-19)

- Big 12 Newcomer of the Week (11/27/2017), and

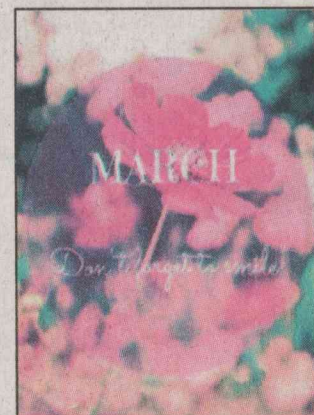
- 2018 All-Big 12 Academic Rookie Team.

FRESHMAN SEASON (2017-18): A brief look at his freshman year at Texas Tech.

Culver came away with 11.2 points, 4.8 rebounds, 1.8 assists and 1.1 steals per game ... Appeared in all 37 games and broke into starting five in 19 of the last 19 games (Jan. 20-March 25) ... His 415 total points were second in program history for a freshman ... The 11.2 PPG were third on the team and sixth among Big 12 freshmen ... Secured double figures in 20 games which was third on the team ... Texas Tech was 13-7 when Culver scored 10 or more points ... Amassed three of his four 20-plus point performances versus Big 12 opponents ... Teamed with Zhaire Smith to average 22.5 PPG, third among Big 12 freshmen duos in 2017-18.

He is the son of Rev. Hiawatha Culver and Mrs. Regina Culver, pastor and wife of the Rising Star Baptist Church.

The Keepers Of My Brothers And Sisters Life Skill Training Centers Honored T. J. Patterson, Sr. At Their First Banquet At The Ko Ko Palace On Monday Evening, March 9, 2019, What A Time For All!



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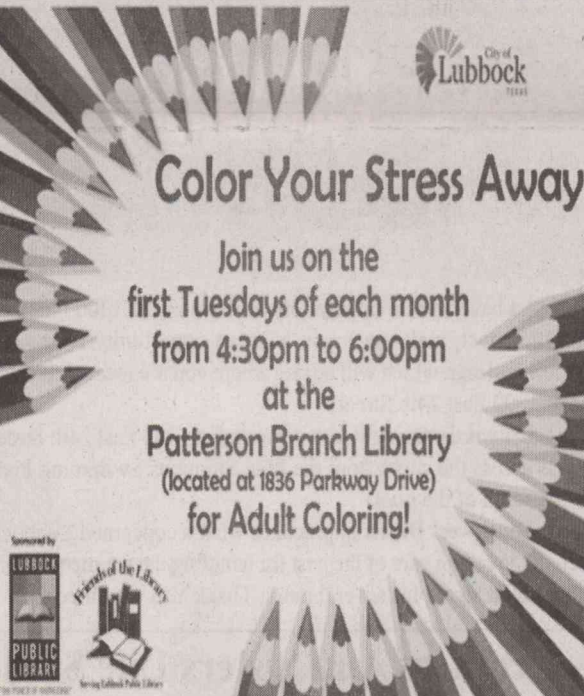
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Admission Free, Booth \$10
One person's junk is another person's treasure and get rid of reusable unwanted items. The deadline for booth rentals is 3/21 by noon.
- TED TALKS**
Monday, March 25, 1:30 pm, Free, Ages 18+
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In Cinque

By Renetta Howard

FAITH AND LIFE

Every soul living has faith in something in this life. The U. S. CONSTITUTION guarantees us the freedom of religion or freedom to put our faith in anything we want to call religion. It appears to me that the freedom permits us to worship, think and trust whatever it is that we believe in, in such a manner that it does not jeopardize anyone else's religion, belief, thoughts or faith.

This belief is bordering on conflict at this time as a Muslim has been elected to the House of Representatives in the U.S. Congress. Her religion requires a certain kind of dress which is being looked upon as anti-American by some well-known Americans whom have studied American law. It appears that the anti-Muslim trend had its start when former President Barack Obama was in office and steadily attacked as being a Muslim as well as not having been born in the United States as well, some of this rhetoric having its origin in our current President, Number 45 and Senator Cruz from Texas.

For a 'land of the free and the home of the brave,' it appears that throughout history there has been some group of people whom had borne the brunt end of castigation, from the Quakers, Jews, Catholics, Jehovah's Witnesses to the Muslims of all varieties, and Black Jews. Of course, Blacks have been castigated for just 'being' not just religion. Some of these groups have been to court to clarify exactly what they are free to do with regards to their religion, especially when and if some of their activities clash with American law on the county, state or federal levels.

One of the most important things with regards to the Muslim representative is the fact that

our current President has stated and shown his vendetta against Muslims by working on a steady basis to have any and all deported if any reason exists to do so. This is a bias against Muslims in this country on all accords. The Black Muslims, followers of Elijah Mohammed have long been viewed as un-American in many instances, but they keep pushing forward. Cassius Clay/ Muhammed Ali was a Muslim and refused to go to military service. The Black Jews have been victims of their worship places being destroyed by fire and other acts of violence. Seldom is the perpetrator found and brought to justice. Like so many rights of American citizens, it seems that there are people in this country who just do not want people different from them, enjoying the freedoms set forth in the law of the land. Spring elections are coming up. Let us get 'in cinque' and vote for those candidates who show some semblance of wanting equality for us all.

Hi Lubbock NAACP Members:

The Lubbock Branch is in need of Chairpersons or Committee Members for different standing committees. Here's one that might interest you. Take a look at it on the website and if you decide you might like to be on it, let me know.

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Beyond the Rhetoric

By Harry C. Alford & Kay DeBow

Meet National Black Chamber of Commerce in Atlanta

The NBCC is dedicated to economically empowering and sustaining African American communities through entrepreneurship and capitalistic activity within the United States and the Black Diaspora. NBCC provides resources to support the development of startups and established minority & women owned businesses.

The NBCC was incorporated in Washington, DC in March 1993. The NBCC is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, nonsectarian organization dedicated to the economic empowerment of African American communities. 120 affiliated chapters are locally based throughout the nation as well as international affiliated chapters based in Bahamas, Brazil, Colombia, Ghana, Kenya, France, Botswana, Cameroon and Jamaica and businesses as well as individuals who may have chosen to be direct members with the national office.

The NBCC is a 501(c)3 corporation that is on the leading edge of educating and training Black communities on the need to participate vigorously in this great capitalistic society known as America.

The National Black Chamber of Commerce's (NBCC) 27th Annual Conference is being held in Atlanta, Georgia July 24-27, 2019. Our theme is Economic Empowerment Through Entrepreneurial Pursuits.

Our Atlanta affiliate, Georgia Greater Black Chamber of Commerce, will connect us with a portion of the Black businesses throughout Georgia. Among states, Georgia had the largest total number with 256,848 black-owned businesses and accounted for 9.9 percent of the

THIS N' THAT

by T. J. Patterson, Sr.

VERY GOOD BEGINNING FOR THE KEEPERS OF MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS LIFE SKILL TRAINING CENTER during their FIRST ANNUAL BANQUET which was held on Saturday evening March 9, 2019 at the Ko Ko Palace..... with Rev Tyrone Moore as Master of Ceremonies..... Guest speaker was Bishop Leonard Chatman who delivered a dynamic sermon on "Moving Men From Religion to Relationship."

The KEEPERS 2019 HONOREE was THOMAS JAMES "T. J" PATTERSON, SR. who was presented by his daughter CITY COUNCIL-WOMAN SHELIA PATTER-

SON-HARRIS..... Patterson was very happy over the award which was a surprise. He told the KEEPERS OF MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS LIFE SKILL TRAINING CENTER on how much this meant to him. One thing he made known to the members was: "REMEMBER QUALITY IS THE ANSWER AND NOT THE QUANTITY!!"

A special Memorial to those members deceased was given by Albert Oliver. Entertainment was provided by "Tried By Fire." The speaker was introduced by Rev. Moore. Testimonies were given by Rodney Benson and Clay Morgan. Special Awards were presented by LaCarl Richardson.

THIS N THAT would

like to present THE KEEPERS PREAMBLE: I Will Not Lie, 2- I Will Not Steal or Cheat, 3 - I Will forgive myself and others, 4 - I Will be honest with God and others, 5 - I Will do unto others as I will have them do unto me, 6 - I will give back to my community, 7 - I will improve myself daily through God's guidance, 8 - I will humbly submit to authority, 9 - I will acknowledge God in all my ways, 10 - I will build my character through biblical principles, and 11 - I will be My Brothers and Sisters Keeper!

THIS N THAT is most appreciative with what this organization is all about. THIS N THAT encourages this group to KEEP DOING WHAT THEY ARE DOING!!

nation's black-owned businesses, according to Black Demographics. Black businesses comprise 26% of Georgia businesses which is the second largest percentage in the nation. In 2018 Georgia ranked number one in the U.S. for small business climate and number two for most startups by women.

Black Demographics also states Black owned businesses in the United States increased 34.5% between 2007 and 2012 totaling 2.6 million Black firms. About 4 in 10 black-owned businesses (1.1 Million) in 2012 operated in the health care, social assistance; and other services such as repair, maintenance, personal and laundry services sectors.

Black businesses account for over \$138 billion in revenue each year according to the US Bureau of Census.

Governor Brian P. Kemp and First Lady Marty Kemp attest,

"With low taxes, a business-friendly government, beautiful natural resources, Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, and the Port of Savannah, we feed the world with Georgia Grown products, lead the nation in aerospace, cyber innovation, and FinTech, and we proudly embrace our "Hollywood of the South" designation. We are expecting entrepreneurs, business professionals, corporate and government representatives to attend this amazing conference. Our Diaspora panels attract attendees from France, Ghana, Colombia, Nigeria and Kenya.

The panel topics are varied and include some of the most urgent topics of today including Telemedicine, Cyber Security and Privacy, Capital Access, Energy, Telecom, Tech, Inclusion & Diversity, Diaspora Trade, Ports & Trade are also of paramount interest to today's entre-

preneur. We also will spend a day exploring the business of film, music and fashion with Master Class instruction.

If your community does not have a Black Chamber of Commerce, then someone in your community needs to step forward. If you are interested in starting your own chamber, join us and learn from business leaders the do's and don'ts and best practices of chamber building.

Our four-day conference offers an opening reception, 2 days of entrepreneurial resources through paneled discussions, and high-level networking with successful entrepreneurs and business leaders complemented by intimate breakout sessions. On the last day of the conference we venture into the community for breakfast and recap.

Participants will engage in informative dialogues with national and international leaders.

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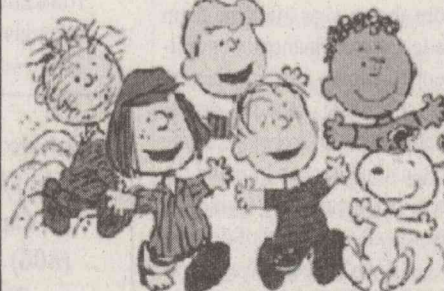
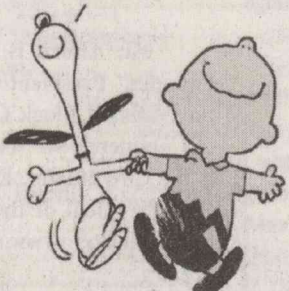
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Galatians 6:7, 8 -- Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man sow, that shall he also reap. For he that sow to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that sow to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

THIS COUNTRY WAS BUILT ON FAITH; AND THE WORD'S OF ALMIGHTY GOD.

THEN THE PEOPLE PRAYED AND TRUSTED; IN GOD WITH ALL THEIR HEARTS!!!

Mark 12:30 -- Jesus said, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength: this is the first commandment.

LISTEN: AS YOU KNOW THIS IS NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH; THIS WRITING WILL FILL YOU WITH TRUTH;--IF YOU WANT IT TOO!!!

***** CAIN'S ARE YET KILLING;-- ABEL'S TODAY!!! * * ***

Matthew 11:15 -- Jesus said, He that has an ear, let him hear.

YOU HAD BETTER STAY AWAY FROM IT; WHEN YOU HEAR THEIR NAMES;----- LITE BEER, WINE, CIGARETTES, SCOTCH; AND THE WORSE IS COCAINE!!!

***** ALL IS OF THE DEVIL!!!*****

Proverb 20:1 -- WINE is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever (THAT'S YOU) is deceived thereby is not wise.

***** PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE;-- COCAINE!!!*****

THE DEVIL NEEDS A BODY; SOMEWHERE TO STAY. IT TAKES MORE THAN;-- JUST SAY NO TO DRUGS; --IN THE 21ST CENTURY OF TODAY!!!

***** JESUS IS THE ANSWER!!!*****

Philippians 4:13 -- I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me.

THE DEVIL'S DRUGS; ARE NOT ONLY IN THE EAST SIDE OF TOWN; HE'S IN THE NORTH, SOUTH AND WEST;-- HIS HELL HOLE IS ALL AROUND!!!

John 10:10 -- Jesus said, The thief (THE DEVIL) come not, but to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

IT'S LOVE OF MONEY; WHY MAN CAN'T; GET THESE DRUGS OUT OF THE LAND. THE LAWS IN THE WHITE HOUSE; THEY'RE NOT OUT TO HELP THE WEAK MAN!!!

1 Timothy 6:10 -- For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

WE SEE OUR LEADERS; HOOKED ON SATAN'S DRUGS; AND COCAINE. BLIND THINKING THEY CAN LEAD THE BLIND;-- THEY'RE BOTH INSANE!!!

Luke 6:39 -- Jesus said, Can the blind lead the blind? Shall they not both fall into the ditch.

COCAINE CAN TAKE A PILOT; AND MAKE HIM OVERSHOOT THE RUN WAY; IT CAN TAKE A MASON BRICKLAYER; AND MAKE HIM FORGET: THE BRICK PATTERN; HE WAS TO LAY!!!

COCAINE CAN TAKE A PREACHER'S MIND; AND MAKE HIM FORGET; WHAT HE WAS TO PREACH.-- AND TAKE A TEACHER'S MIND; MAKE HER FORGET; WHAT SHE WAS TO TEACH!!!

COCAINE CAN TAKE MILLIONAIRE'S MONEY; AND DROP IT DOWN TO A DIME. IT CAN TAKE THE MAYOR OF A BIG CITY; AND SEND HIM TO PRISON; DOING HARD TIME!!!

NOW THE DEVIL IS JUST DOING HIS JOB; DRIVING AMERICA INSANE.-- THERE'S NO PUNISHMENT; SHAME, SHAME, SHAME!!!

James 4:7 -- Submit yourselves therefore to God, Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

NAACP 110th Convention Mobilizing in Detroit

Thousands Expected to Join in Setting NAACP 2020 Agenda Fighting Racism and Defending the Vote, Among Key Issues to be Discussed

BALTIMORE -- The nation's foremost civil rights organization will kick off its 110th national convention on July 20-24, 2019 in Detroit, Michigan.

"In a country shaped by race relations, pollution and polarizing political struggles, Detroit stands out as the epitome of the urgent need and struggle for change," said Derrick Johnson, NAACP President and CEO. "Coming to this city represents a moment where we begin to actualize these necessary changes, and to ensure the NAACP's position as the key protector of the Black vote and protector of the Black community."

"This is a time for strategic reflection of the progress made and a pragmatic analysis of the challenges we face in this growing climate of racism and hate that threatens our communities in ways we haven't seen in generations," said Leon W. Russell, Chairman of the NAACP National Board of Directors.

This year's event will highlight the 400th year recognition of the first enslaved Africans brought to the shores of Virginia in 1619. It's a seminal moment for the 110-year-old organization that seeks to honor the gains won in the past four centuries by the ancestors of enslaved Africans, while determining a powerful 2020 agenda where those gains will be threatened like never before.

Thousands are expected to convene in Detroit, the home of one of NAACP's strongest branches with more than 10,000 members. Among the key topics will be panel discussions bringing together some of the brightest minds in the African-American community to help hone strategies for moving forward in the face of grow-

ing racism and an all-out assault on civil rights.

NAACP also proudly announces that next year in 2020, Boston, MA will host the NAACP's 111th national convention. Boston is home to one of the association's earliest conferences in 1911 and the Boston Branch remains one of the strongest branches in the nation.

About the NAACP 110th Annual Convention

The NAACP will bring together elected officials, key entertainers, authors, athletes and young leaders for a number of workshops, discussions and televised events designed to sustain dialogue which promotes solutions to problems like police brutality, racist rhetoric leading to innumerable #LivingWhile-Black incidents, voter suppression, partisan gerrymandering and sexual violence and mental health in the Black community.

Other highlights will include the 41st anniversary of NAACP ACT-SO (Academic, Cultural, Technical and Scientific Olympics) final competition and awards, Freedom Fund Banquet, health pavilion, a retail expo and author and a diversity career fair.

More information about the 2019 NAACP National Convention, including a detailed schedule of events can be found here. Media interested in covering the event should email communications@naacpnet.org.

ABOUT THE NAACP:

Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the nation's oldest and largest nonpartisan civil rights organization. Its members throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities. You can read more about the NAACP's work and our six "Game Changer" issue

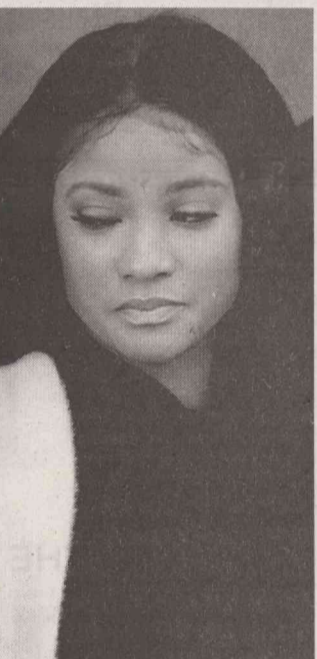
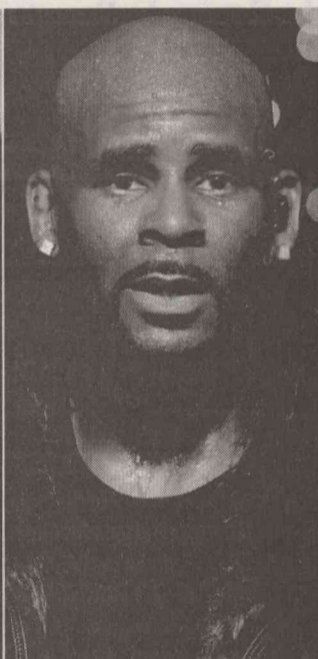
areas by visiting NAACP.org.

NAACP'S RESPONDS TO GEORGIA STATE SENATE'S DECISION TO PROTECT CONFEDERATE STATUES

BALTIMORE -- President and CEO of the NAACP Derrick Johnson issued the following statement regarding the Georgia State Senate's passage of a bill this week that will further protect Confederate monuments, increase penalties for vandalism and prevent local governments from removing them:

"The NAACP stands with its Georgia State Conference and branches in condemning the Georgia Senate's decision to further protect Confederate monuments. This action shows that they are willing to endorse racism and oppress of a third of its citizenry. White supremacy is personified in these monuments. And while Klansmen, neo-Nazis, and white nationalists defend them as an innocent representation of a mythologized "American Heritage," we know that these symbols glorify treason and a hateful history of black subjugation, reinforced through domestic terrorism. In order for our country to move forward -- to become a nation united and free from inequity and bigotry -- we must remove, not protect, Confederate symbols from the parks, schools, streets, counties, and military bases that define America's landscape and culture. These monuments are not history and its continued presence in this country is signal to people of color that America has not repudiated racism." **Derrick Johnson, NAACP President and CEO.**

Police Rush to R. Kelly's Apartment Amid Fears His Girlfriends Had Carried Out 'Suicide Pact'



Chicago Police rushed to R. Kelly's Trump Tower condo Tuesday evening, March 12, 2019, in fear that his girlfriends were attempting to carry out a "suicide pact." It later proved to be a false alarm.

In a police radio call shared online, a dispatcher, who received an anonymous call, can be heard telling officers that Kelly's girlfriend Azriel Clary and "four other women, who are victims of R. Kelly are planning to carry out a suicide pact at one of the condos at Trump Tower."

The anonymous caller, however, did not specify when the alleged suicide would take place or give a specific unit number.

Emergency responders arrived on the 400 block of North Wabash just before 5:30 p.m., the Chicago Police Department confirmed to PEOPLE in a statement.

"Police received a call from an out of state anonymous caller stating that people at the location were going to carry out a suicide pact. Police on scene conducting a wellness check and it is not a bonafide incident," the statement said.

When asked to comment, Kelly's lawyer Steve Greenberg told PEOPLE, "It is offensive that anyone gives this any credibility."

Prior to the release of Lifetime's documentary series Surviving R. Kelly in January, one of Kelly's early alleged victims Lizzette Martinez spoke to PEOPLE and claimed Kelly had a suicide pact with the women living "in his house."

"I was the beginning of the predatory behavior. I was... I met him after he married Aaliyah. I had it bad but what I hear today is that he's taking this to a whole other level and I'm so worried about the young women in the house," Martinez said.

"I mean my anxiety is constantly through the roof because I hear the parents, I hear there's a plan in place. That he's put it in place that if something goes down they're all going to take pills and kill... I just can't."

"I just don't understand it and I'm so worried about them. It just breaks my heart. I'm so angry with him," Martinez added.

Recently, Clary, 21, and Kelly's other girlfriend Jocelyn Savage came to the disgraced singer's defense during an interview with Gayle King for CBS This Morning.

In an emotional clip from the conversation, both women deny the singer tore them away from their now-estranged families after already denying claims that Kelly has been holding them hostage in his home for years.

The parents of both Savage, 23, and Clary claim the women are living with Kelly against their will and are a part of what the parents describe as his "sex cult."

"I'm crying because you guys don't know the truth," Clary said to King, 64. "You guys are believing some f---ing facade that our parents are saying. This is all f---ing lies for money, and if you can't see that, you're ignorant and you're stu-

pid."

Clary's parents Alice and Angelo were interviewed in the explosive docu-series Surviving R. Kelly, claiming they haven't had contact with their daughter for nearly three years. Savage's parents, Timothy and Jonjelyn, were also interviewed in the series, where they revealed they believe Kelly is holding their daughter against her will.

First Gospel Ministries Prefers To Seniors

On Wednesday afternoon, March 13, 2019, at the Mae Simmons Senior Citizens Center, from 1:00 p. m. to 2:00 p. m., the First Gospel Ministries presented a dynamic afternoon of Gospel Selections and prayers.

The presenters of the program were Michael and Judi Matthews, a husband and wife team. Among these selections were "Amazing Grace" and "Precious LORD."

It was a very spiritual presentation, and was well received by the Senior Citizens who were present. The house was full of "Amens" because those in attendance were blessed to have this opportunity to be in attendance.

Brother Matthews advised those in attendance they would be back. It was just an opportunity to hear God's Word at this center.

If you are interested in attending the next presentation, contact Shameca Wilson at (806) 767-2708.

Antonio Brown rents billboard space in Pittsburgh, thanks Steelers fans



Oakland Raiders wide receiver Antonio Brown smiles during an NFL football news conference (AP Photo)

Antonio Brown kicked and fought his way off the Pittsburgh Steelers. Then he thanked the area fans once his wish became official.

Moments after the trade of Brown to the Oakland Raiders became official on Wednesday, according to Pittsburgh CBS, there were electronic billboards all over the Pittsburgh area with one message.

"Thank You Pittsburgh," they read, and they were sent from Brown. Or as he signed it on the billboards: "AB 84."

The Steelers trading Brown to Oakland for third- and fifth-round picks became official and approved by the NFL at the official start of the league year. Both teams announced the trade, and the billboards went up.

Was the message in earnest?

The last few months of Brown's relationship fizzling to the point of axing the franchise's best offensive weapon -- a little more than a year after the team made a major financial commitment to him -- still feels raw and confusing. But no matter what Brown did to help escalate the tension between him and the team, it appears he's trying his best to exit with a tad of dignity.

Brown's beef always was with the club, not the fans. Prior to the last week of the regular

season, he had been one of the more beloved players in recent Steelers memory. But things changed when Brown and the team had a clear disagreement over his missing a practice, along with a phony excuse of an injury that didn't paint either side as all that responsible.

Both sides certainly can accept some fault. Maybe Brown's methods for getting himself traded weren't the most noble, but they sure were effective. Despite taking a major salary-cap hit and receiving little tantamount to his talent in return, the Steelers bit the bullet -- and Brown got a raise out of it.

Whatever it takes, we suppose.

So Steelers fans might not love the message now as they're driving by, still in shock over how this roster has been turned over so significantly the past few days, but they might one day remember all that Brown did for them too.

You know ... before things got quite ugly for a short time.

Beyond the Rhetoric

Continued from Page 3

Last year's speakers included Senator Tim Scott, NNPA's Dr. Benjamin Chavis & Chairman Dorothy Leavell and Pastor Jamal Bryant to name a few. This year's conference hotel is the Atlanta Airport Marriott Gateway (<http://bit.ly/2UnsdSk>) from July 24th - 27th, 2019. (Rooms are \$159 for a king and \$169 for a double. Reservations may also be made by calling 800-228-9290.) We are holding a small group of rooms at this discounted price.

We are certain this year's NBCC conference will be of interest to you. Please contact kdeb@nationalbcc.org if you would like to support our conference; sponsorships start at \$500 and up. We look forward to networking with you, register for this event at <http://bit.ly/2PS7aoP>.

Mr. Alford is the Co-Founder, President/CEO of the National Black Chamber of Commerce @ Ms. DeBow is the Co-Founder, Executive Vice President of the Chamber. Website: www.nationalbcc.org Emails: halford@nationalbcc.org kdeb@nationalbcc.org

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Obsequies

Johnnie Mae "Granny" Garner

Funeral services were held for Johnnie Mae "Granny" Garner on Saturday morning, March 9, 2019, at the Word of Truth.

Interment followed in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Johnnie, age 88 of Lubbock, Texas, passed away on Wednesday February 27, 2019.

Johnnie was born in Caldwell, Texas to Ella Jones and Johnny Walker on May 26, 1930.

She attended schools in Bryan, Texas and also Prairie View A & M University in Prairie View, Texas.

She volunteered her time being a foster grandparent.

She leaves to cherish her memory; her children: Michele



Martinez (Steve), James Vaults, Terie Jo Vaults (TJ), Cynthia Girdy, John Girdy (Addie), and Cedric Girdy (Lena); 10 grandchildren, eight great grandchildren, one god-son; a host of other relatives and friends.

Velma Jean "Jennie" Lethridge

Funeral services were held for Velma Jean "Jennie" Lethridge on Saturday morning, March 2, 2019, at the Parkway Church of Christ.

Interment followed in the Peaceful Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Velma Jean, age 72 of Lubbock, Texas, passed away on Saturday, February 19, 2019.

Velma Jean Lethridge (aka, Jennie) was born in Carlsbad, New Mexico on March 2, 1946 to Andrew Jack and Sarah E. Davis.

Velma married Zebbie D. Lethridge, Sr. in Lubbock, Texas in November of 1963 and they were married for 54 years. Velma attended Dunbar High School and later received her G.E.D.

She worked for Frito-Lay, The Lubbock Independent School District as a Bus Driver, Insurance Sales Representative and Mary Kay Consultant.

Velma was an avid booster club volunteer at Estacado High School during the years her kids attended. Velma attended Cosmetology School to become a certified Nail Technician and a Tax Preparation School to be-



come a certified Tax Preparer.

Velma served on various city and community boards as a representative for the development of East Lubbock. Velma entered a contest to name the new East Lubbock Subdivision (King's Dominion) and her entry won!!!

Velma leaves to cherish her memory; siblings, Veotha Smith, James A. Davis (Olye), Georgia and Ruby Lee Hobdy; five children: Doris Henderson (Ed), Robert Lethridge, Sr., Angela Lethridge Hall, Vivian Lethridge, and Zebbie D. Lethridge Jr. (Dianna); seven grandchildren; seven great grandchildren: a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

Louise Manahan Bryant

Funeral Services were held for Louise Manahan Bryant on Friday afternoon, March 1, 2019, at the St. John Baptist Church with Pastor Solomon Fields officiating.

Interment followed in the City of Lubbock under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Louise, age 86 of Lubbock, Texas, passed away on Wednesday, February 20, 2019.

Louise was born on July 3, 1932 to the parentage of Frank Manahan and Corine Masters.

Louise attended Lubbock Public Schools. She was the First Black Woman to work at Pioneer Gas Company and played on the First Lubbock Black Women's Softball Team for Mary & Mac Private School. The team was called the Mary & Mac Flames. She played third base, and could really throw that softball to first base. She was an



outstanding third base player.

Louise leaves to cherish her memory: her husband, Herman Bryant; 5 sisters: Gloria Parker (Tommy), Delois Mann, Dian Hicks, Clara Haliburton, and Ella Manahan; 3 brothers, Kendrick Hayes (Alicia), Bobby Manahan, and Herman Manahan; a host of other relatives and friends.

David Vester Johnson, Jr.

Funeral services were held for David Vester Johnson, Jr. on Saturday afternoon, March 2, 2019, at the Griffin Mortuary Chapel.

Private Disposition under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

David, age 78 of Lubbock, Texas, passed away on Saturday, February 23, 2019.

David was born on August 4, 1940 to David, Sr. and Vivian Johnson in Midway, Texas.

He was a retired truck driver for Whites where he received Appreciation and Recognition for Continuous and Loyal Service Award along with the Safe Driver Badge.

He leaves to cherish his memory; 2 sisters, Margaret Allen and Louise Coleman; 6 brothers: James Johnson, Wesley Johnson,



Eright Johnson, E-Joe Johnson, Jimmie Johnson, and Ben Johnson; 2 aunts, Dorothy McDowell and Ester Cleaveland; 2 uncles, Wesley Ross and Kenneth Ross; a host of other relatives and friends.

Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas,
or the world, or life, or death,
or things present, or things to come;
all are yours.
And ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's.
I Corinthians 3:22-23

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Worship-10:15 a.m
Evening Worship - 5:00 p. m. We Must Obey God's Will
Wednesday: To Enter Heaven!
Bible Class/ Devotional Matthew 7:21
7:00p. m. How Do We Obey Him?
Hear The Gospel - Romans 10:17
Believe - Hebrews 11:6
Repent of Our Sins - Acts 2:38
Confess that Jesus is the Son Of God - Act-8:37
Be Baptized- Mark 16:15-16
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Dollie Bean

Funeral services were held for Dollie Bean on Friday morning, March 8, 2019, at the Parkway Church of Christ.

Interment followed in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Dollie, age 64 of Lubbock, Texas, passed away on Saturday, February 23, 2019.

Dollie was born to A. D. and Frankie Lee Bean on October 4, 1954.

She worked in Food and Health Services for 35 years.

She leaves to cherish her memory; daughter, Stacey Greer; 5 sisters: Clementine Washington, Erma Bean, Willie Brown, Ida Bean, and Marlene Bean; 4 brothers, A. D. Bean, Jr., Jesse Bean, Hank Bean, and Bennie Bean; 3 grandchildren,



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O Holiday, Who Art Thou Today? Dr. James L. Snyder

When I was young, I enjoyed holidays but now that I am a husband, a father, a grandfather, every holiday is billed to my account, to such an extent I cannot get out of it. I hold my wallet very tight, but evidently not tight enough. Somebody invented holidays just to sell greeting cards and make a ton of money. So, I am not a great advocate of holidays.

Outside of Christmas, I do not have any holidays I get excited about, except one. I am from Pennsylvania and if you are not from that state, you will not understand this holiday. I know people celebrate Groundhog Day, but that is not my holiday. The holiday I celebrate the most is Fastnacht Day, which is a Pennsylvania Dutch holiday celebrated on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday.

The word Fastnacht means doughnuts. Therefore, in reality, it is the national Donut Day. What holiday could be better than spending the whole day eating donuts?

One time the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage challenged me about eating donuts all day, especially pristine apple fritters. I had to explain to her that because I am from Pennsylvania I have a solemn obligation to celebrate that holiday.

I do have a small confession to make though. It was June and I was celebrating Fastnacht Day with apple fritters all day long. My wife caught me and said, "What are you doing?"

Very soberly I said, "Well, it's Fastnacht Day and I am celebrating it by eating these apple fritters." She gave me one of those stares that bores into my very soul. I do not get those stares often, but when I do, they

are most alarming.

"What do you mean," my wife asked, "today is Fastnacht Day?" So, I launched into my description of this holiday and that as a Pennsylvania born person, I have a solemn responsibility to honor this holiday every year. It is my heritage.

"Yes," she said most sternly, "but why are you eating apple fritters TODAY?"

There was silence for a little bit and I did not know how to answer her.

"If I'm not mistaken," she queried, "you celebrated Fastnacht Day back in March. Why are you celebrating it in June?"

I wanted to tell her that although Fastnacht Day comes in March I like to celebrate it three or four times during the year. Now, what's wrong with that? Why is it that you have to celebrate a holiday just for one day? Why can it be throughout the year?

I think I know how she would have responded. "Okay, why don't you celebrate my birthday every month?" Believe me, I'm not going to be walking on those troubled waters anytime soon.

Throughout the years, I have learned that everybody has their own way of celebrating a holiday. Personally, I think people are too legalistic when it comes to holidays. My idea is, instead of celebrating holidays, why don't we celebrate every day of the year. Every day has something special in it that warrants celebration. Celebration is remembering the right things.

David understood this when he wrote, "Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O Lord"

(Psalm 25:7).

There are things in my life I do not want to celebrate or remember. It is the grace of God that enables him to remember the goodness in my life and not my sins.

Dr. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, and lives with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage in Ocala, FL. Call him at 352-687-4240 or e-mail jamesnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.

Welvin Edward Ross

Brownfield, Texas -- Funeral services were held for Welvin Edward Ross on Friday afternoon, March 15, 2019, at the Mount Gilead Baptist Church in Lubbock.

Interment followed in the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Welvin, age 64 of Brownfield, Texas, passed away on Sunday, March 10, 2019.

He was born on July 18, 1954 to Alvin and Dorothy Ross in Colorado City, Texas.

He attended St. James Baptist Church.

Welvin leaves to cherish his memory; his wife Elnora; 2 daughters, Crescent and Shanti;



Emzie, age 58 of Lubbock, Texas, passed away on Thursday, February 14, 2019.

He was born to Odeal and Bessie Mitchell on February 29, 1960.

He leaves to cherish his memory: his wife, Blanche Mitchell; daughter, Shameka Mitchell; 2 sisters, Mary Bible and Joyce Mitchell; 6 brothers: Odell Mitchell (Shirley), LeRoy Mitchell, Raymond Mitchell, Henry Mitchell, Joe Mitchell (Michelle), and Nathaniel Mitchell (Carletta); 2 grandchildren; a host of other relatives and friends.

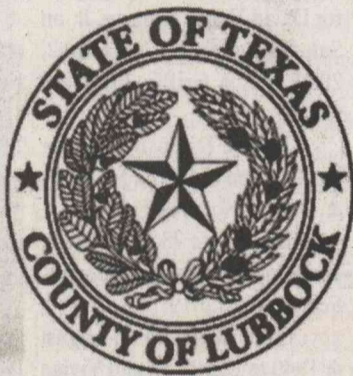
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HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF LUBBOCK ANNOUNCES A PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: June 4, 2019
TIME: 5:00 P.M.
PLACE: 1708 Crickets Ave. Lubbock, TX 79401

The purpose of the hearing is to obtain input from the city residents in reference to the Five-Year Agency Plan Submission and the Capital Fund Program Five-Year Action Plan being submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for fiscal year beginning October 1, 2019. Total funds being allocated for the five-year period are estimated to be up to \$5,948,450 for Operating Funds and \$4,825,000 for Capital Funds. The Five-Year Plan includes proposed changes to the Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy (ACOP) and the Section 8 Administrative Plan. Those changes are outlined in the Plan and will be a part of the Public Hearing. All residents and other interested parties are encouraged to attend this hearing. The Plan will be available for review beginning April 15, 2019 during regular business hours prior to the public hearing at the addresses below. Persons can also submit written comments prior to the public hearing to:

Lubbock Housing Authority Central Office	36 South Office
1708 Crickets Avenue	1318 52nd C
Lubbock, TX 79401	Lubbock, TX 79412
Cherry Point Office	Mary Myers Office
1329 E. 19th	5421 Utica
Lubbock, TX 79403	Lubbock, TX 79413
Behner Place Office	96 West Office
4215 36th	2410 Frankford
Lubbock, TX 79413	Lubbock, TX 79407

Lubbock Housing Authority Website:
lubbockha.org

For further information please call Mike Chapman, Executive Director at (806)762-1191



TEXAS DEMOCRATIC WOMEN TO MEET MARCH 29TH

This month the Lubbock chapter of Texas Democratic Women will be hosting their monthly program meeting, Friday, March 29th at Furr's Cafeteria over on 60th and Slide Rd. If you would like to eat, please arrive by 11:30am to go through the food line. All Democrats and Democratically aligned women are encouraged to attend. Please contact President Brenda Cruz for more information, 956-286-7622.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER GILBERT A. FLORES TO HOLD VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE

Saturday, March 30th County Commissioner, Pct. 3 Gilbert A. Flores will honor César Chávez' legacy by hosting a voter registration drive at Amigos Supermarket on N. University Ave. Volunteer Deputy Voter Registrars will be on hand to help people sign up to vote from 10am through 4:00pm. Come by and make sure you are registered!

~Pitter Patter Raindrops~



Pitter-patter, raindrops,
Falling from the sky;
Here is my umbrella
To keep me safe and dry!

When the rain is over,
And the sun begins to glow,
Little flowers start to bud,
And grow and grow and grow!



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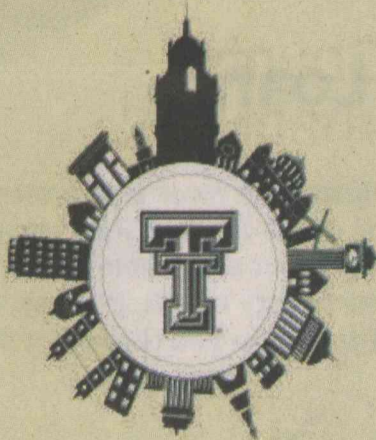
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2. Attend to expand your business opportunities, network with vendors, learn about small and disadvantaged business programs, and to have fun!
3. Great opportunity to build a relationship with potential clients and partners.
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5. Bring business cards for a chance to win giveaways.



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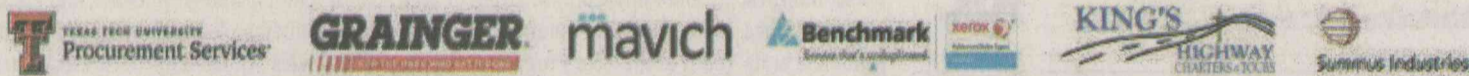

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Women-Owned (WO) Business Minority-Owned (MO) Business
Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business (SDVOB)
Historically Underutilized Business (HUB)

For More Information Contact - Paula Ann Pitifer - paula.ann.pitifer@ttu.edu



LUBBOCK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE

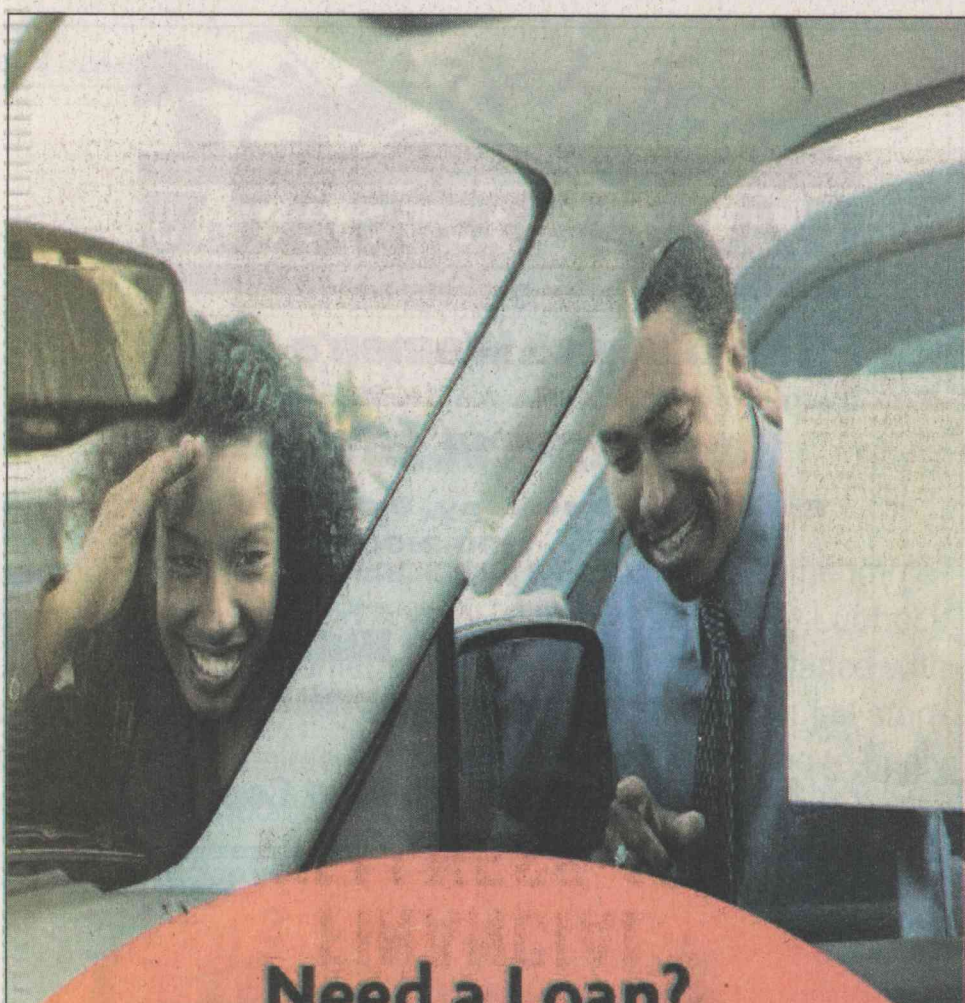
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Shallowater, TX 79363
806-832-4525



www.fsbshallowater.com



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Ordinary Women Doing Extraordinary Things.

PO Box 1263
Lubbock, Texas 79408
twib.lubbock@gmail.com



TWIB MISSION STATEMENT

TWIB Lubbock is a membership-driven 501(c)(3) non-profit that is focused on empowering women to achieve their personal and business goals through education, development, mentoring, networking, service and leadership. We give you opportunities to connect with people and other local organizations so that you can reach your goals.

LUBBOCK ALUMNAE CHAPTER OF
DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.
PRESENTS

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PRESS RELEASE

Lubbock Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Scholarship Gala

Ref#:

Release Date: February 19, 2019

Contact: Dee McPherson (806)535-3726

(Lubbock, TX) On Saturday, April 6, 2019 beginning at 6:00pm in the Texas Tech University Red Raider Ballroom, the Lubbock Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta (DST) Sorority, Inc. will present its annual scholarship gala and celebrate 66 years of proud existence in Lubbock, Texas.

This gala will highlight and honor two outstanding members of the Lubbock community. The honorees are Mrs. Billie Jean Caviel and Mrs. Cicely Alexander, both of whom will receive the Community Leader of the Year award. Mrs. Caviel has served and continues to serve her community in many ways. She served on the LISD Board of Trustees for six years as well as other boards, in the city. During her membership at New Hope Baptist Church, Mrs. Caviel served as a Girl Scout Leader. Her passion for children has caused her to be present in their space. She served as a faithful volunteer at Wheatley Elementary School and continues to be present weekly at Joan Y Ervin Elementary School. Since 1975, Billie has been an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, Eta Delta Omega Chapter. As a member of her sorority, Mrs. Caviel participates in many service projects and community events in "service above self" such as voter registration, mentoring young girls, and participating in the East Lubbock Community Alliance. The Caviels owned and operated their pharmacy for forty-nine years in Lubbock, TX. In April 2011, the Caviels donated the building to the nonprofit Roots Historical Arts Council with the understanding that it would be renovated into an African-American museum. The Caviel Museum of African-American History became a reality when the museum opened its doors in 2015.

After twenty-one successful years in education, Cicely Alexander was on a smooth road, winding down a wonderful career path. In just nine years, she would be eligible for retirement. This was her trajectory until she decided to jump from her comfort zone into the greatest challenge of her professional career. This was two years ago; she accepted the position of leading Alderson Elementary, which had been an Improvement-Required campus for four years. A principal colleague whispered in her ear "Now that's career suicide, taking on THAT school!" before knowing that she accepted the position. All she could hear in her ear was her mother's advice, "Cicely, if you don't want to take on the challenge, then who will? The next leader of Alderson has to WANT to be there! You have to lead Alderson, believing that you are the principal of YOUR future doctor, who might be taking care of YOU or even the NEXT president!" Throughout her 23-year career span, Cicely has been a classroom teacher, math specialist, behavior counselor, assistant principal and now principal. She has been a guest lecturer at Texas Tech University and served on the Education Advisory Board at Lubbock Christian University. She was a TEPSA Region 17 Assistant Principal of the Year Nominee in 2011 and is currently a 2019 TEPSA Region 17 National Distinguished Principal of the Year Nominee.

As one of 1,000 chapters of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc, the local alumnae chapter promotes educational development, economic development, and physical and mental health, all of which are in the Sorority Five Point Programmatic Thrust. As a part of the education program, Lubbock Alumnae raises funds through this annual gala to assist with providing academic scholarships to deserving young people. Over its history, Lubbock Alumnae has issued nearly 128 scholarships to a diverse, multi-racial, and multi-cultural group of high school seniors, college students, and graduate students. Since 2010, Lubbock Alumnae has recognized outstanding elementary, middle and high schoolers at its Youth of the Year Program. The chapter provides scholarships to further support their education. The proceeds from this scholarship gala will significantly help the Lubbock Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta continue and sustain valiant efforts.

The doors to this always exciting, enlightening, and fun event will open at 5:30 pm and dinner will be served at 6:30 pm. This year's theme is **Harlem Renaissance: A Crimson & Cream Affair**. Come dressed to impress. Following the awards presentation, the evening will explode with featured entertainment from DJ Spoon. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

For sponsorship and ticket information, please contact Mrs. Dee McPherson at (806) 535-3726 or by email at dstlubbock@gmail.com.

HONOREE
BILLIE JEAN
CAVIEL

HONOREE
CICELY
ALEXANDER

LUBBOCK ALUMNAE CHAPTER
DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.
HARLEM RENAISSANCE
A CRIMSON & CREAM AFFAIR

RED RAIDER BALLROOM
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2019

6:00PM - 9:00PM
DOORS OPEN
5:30PM

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