



Southwest Digest

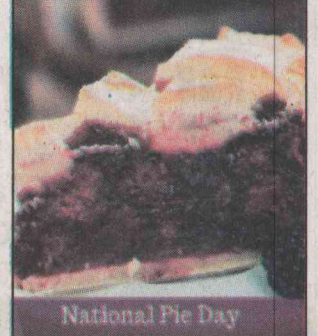
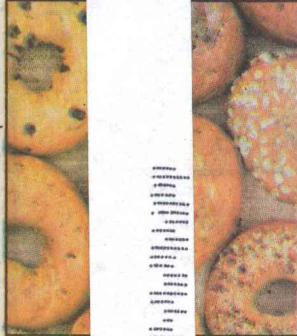
National Hot Tea Day
January 12th

National Bagel Day
January 15th

National Popcorn Day
January 19th

National Cheese Day
January 20th

National Pie Day
January 23rd



"A newspaper for 21st Century representa

Community's Ideas and Ideals since 1977"

Thursday, January 7, 2021
Vol. 41 Years, No. 37, Page 1

\$1.00



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 p. m. at the Dunbar Alumni Building
- * 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 2nd Saturday at 10:00 am at the Mae Simmons Community Center located at 2004 Oak Avenue.
- * West Texas Native American Association meets at 7:00 pm, at the New Jerusalem Baptist Church, 3524 East Broadway Avenue on Tuesday evenings..
- * 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.
- * Color Your Stress Away Adult Coloring meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Patterson Library 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm
- * If you have an announcement or Ad about your organization, please advise us by calling (806) 762-3612 or e-mail: swdigest@sbcglobal.net

Lubbock I.S.D. Lubbock Citizens Mourns Loss of Longtime Educator



Mrs. Hattie Mae Gipson

Hattie Mae Gipson, a former longtime educator and administrator in Lubbock ISD, passed away December 16, at the age of 84. Her adult lifetime was devoted to molding young lives into productive citizens. Gipson was born on March 23, 1936, in Lubbock. She attended Lubbock ISD schools and was a proud graduate of Dunbar High School. She received her undergraduate degree in education from Bishop Coll-

ege, then her Masters of Education from West Texas State University. She taught at Hunt Elementary School, and served as the principal at Wheatley Elementary School. She retired from Lubbock ISD after a 30-year career in 1993. She is survived by her husband of 68 years, Curtis Gipson, a legendary coach and educator at Dunbar; two children, two grandchildren, and many other

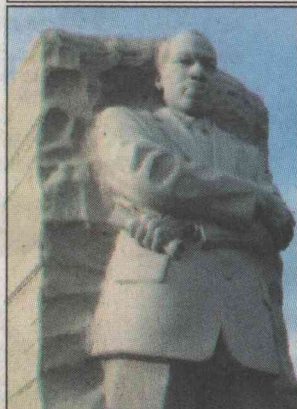
ong with many mourns loss of Hattie Gipson

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Source: Obituary Photo



January 18, 2021



A Pillar and Trailblazer, One of Lubbock's Own Loved & Cherished Jazz Musician J.T. Braxton dies at 101

James Thomas Braxton, a pillar in our community just turned 101 years old on Friday, September 18th. He's served Lubbock for more than five decades in education and civics. His passion for music's led to band and orchestra programs in east Lubbock. A great legacy he has left behind here in Lubbock, Tx. He will be truly missed, but his sounds will forever remain in our hearts.



James Thomas Braxton, Sr.

Well-known jazz musician and prominent Lubbock leader James Thomas Braxton died Tuesday night.

Braxton served Lubbock for more than five decades in education and civics. He was born Sept. 18, 1919. Braxton and his son Tomas were inducted into the West Texas Walk of Fame in 2017.

After serving in the Army during WWII, Braxton pursued a career in music education. He came to Lubbock in the 60's and was recruited by Edward Charles Struggs to teach.

Braxton was born on September 18, 1919, and taught at several LISD schools. He was inducted into the West Texas Walk of Fame in 2017, along with his son, Thomas Braxton.

Both his music and his positive influence on students' lives have served as inspiration for many," the LISD website said.

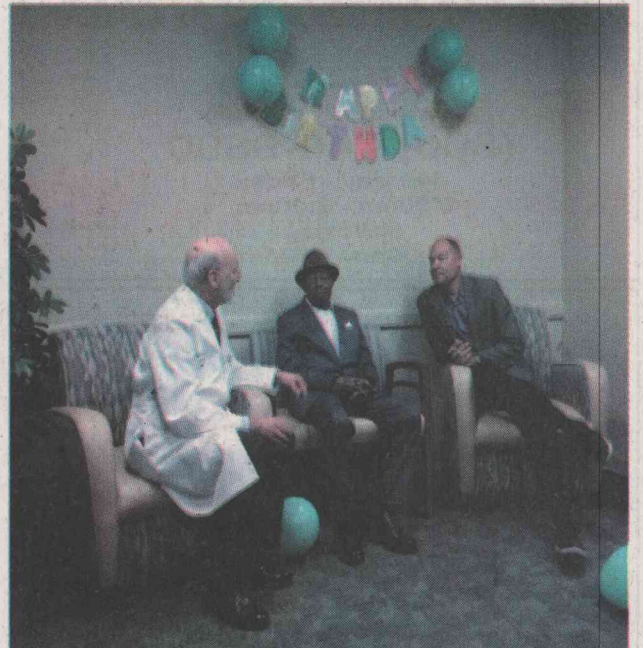
"He's educated a ton of people at the elementary school,

middle school and high school level," said Thomas Braxton, J.T.'s son. People just speak very highly of him because of the kind of person he has been in the community and he's showed me how to be a great father and a great husband."

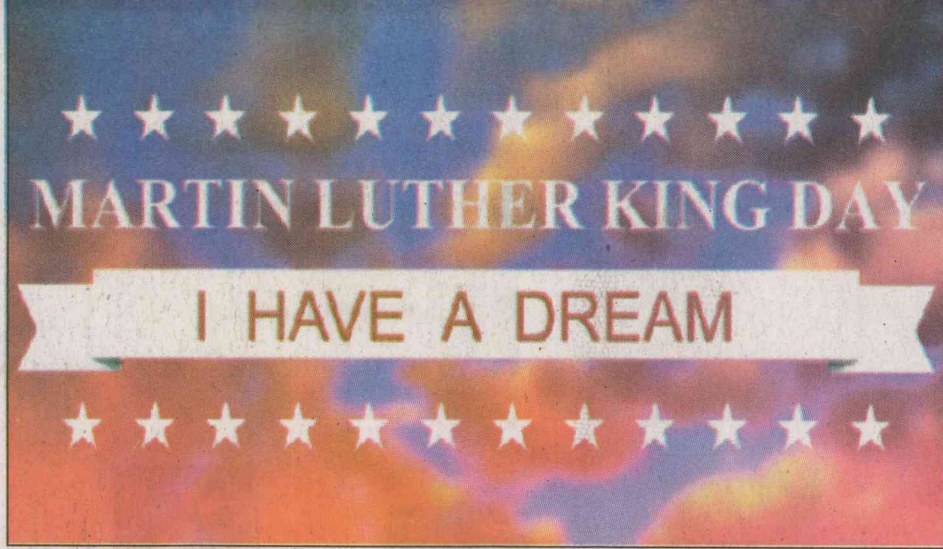
J.T. Braxton is also a well known jazz musician, just two years ago he and his son were inducted into the West Texas Walk of Fame. Mr. Braxton's love for music all started when he was a kid. After having served in the army during World War II, Mr. Braxton pursued a career in music education. He came to Lubbock in the 1960's recruited by Edward Charles Struggs to teach.

Braxton said there's no secret to his long life, his son, however disagrees.

"All my life he's never worried about anything," said Braxton. "His personality has always been kind of like this, even keeled."



J.T. Braxton pictured above with his son and a close associate. Family and friends celebrated Mr. Braxton's 100th birthday on September 18, 2019 at the First United Methodist parlor, highlighting his achievements and reminiscing on good times.



NFL Makes History with All-Black Officiating Crew for L.A. Rams vs. Tampa Bay Buccaneers Game



NFL officials (from left) umpire Barry Anderson, side judge Anthony Jeffries, down judge Julian Mapp, referee Jerome Boger, back judge Greg Steed, field judge Dale Shaw (104), line judge Carl Johnson (101) pose for a photo before Monday's game between the Rams and Buccaneers in Tampa, Fla. (Kevin Sabitus / Associated Press)

TAMPA, Fla. — An all-Black officiating crew worked in NFL game for the first time in league history when the Rams faced the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on Monday night, November 23, 2020. Referee Jerome Boger led the crew, which also included umpire Barry Anderson, down judge Julian Mapp, line judge Carl Johnson, side judge Dale

Shaw, field judge Anthony Jeffries and back judge Greg Steed.

When the NFL announced the crew was being assembled league executive vice president of football operations Troy Vincent hailed the move as "a testament to the countless and immeasurable contributions of Black officials to

the game, their exemplary performance, and to the power of inclusion that is the hallmark of this great game." Five members of the crew work together regularly. Johnson and Steed joined the group for Monday night's matchup. The members of the crew have a combined 89 seasons of NFL experience and have worked six Super Bowls.

Notification for Ads/Articles must be made within 1-2 weeks prior to the publication date. (To secure space availability)

Southwest Digest
902 East 28th Street
Lubbock, Texas 79404
(806)762-3612

Editorial prints the 1st Thursday of each month. Article/Ad deadline submission is Wednesday, the week before the publication date.


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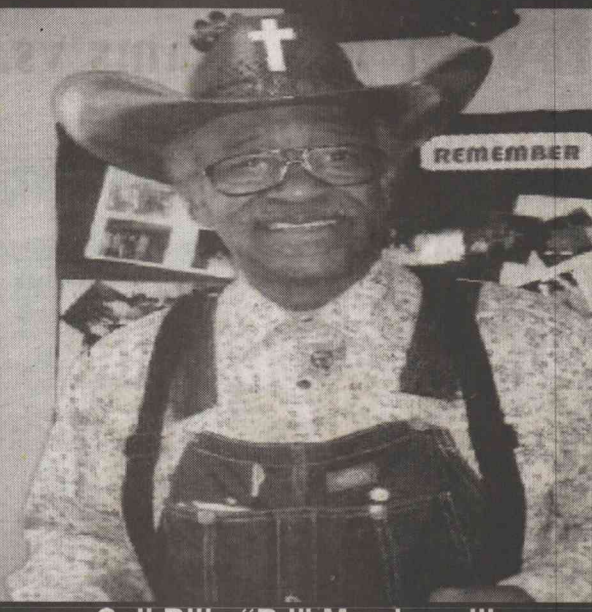
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Your health and safety is our top priority. During COVID-19 all meals will be served curbside in to-go containers at the front entrance.

Due to COVID-19, events are subject to change. Please call Mae Simmons Senior Center for any questions or concerns.

City of Lubbock
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In Cinque

By Renetta Howard

OUTLOOK 2021: A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I do not believe that there is soul in this world, and definitely not in the United States of America, who will not be happy to see the New Year 2021 roll around this week. The year 2020 got started with a bang of a pandemic which the majority of the country was not aware of and was not made aware of it until March when Lockdowns were initiated as the death toll rose.

Sadness covered us and it was not made any better by the people who followed the President who ignored science and the top doctors in the country by refusing to wear a mask or practicing social distancing without even noticing the personal hygiene of hand washing. Even after the President and a good number of his cabinet members, White House staff and Vice President tested positive for the COVID-19, did we see any improvement in his physical health leadership as he held campaign meetings of a vast number of people to keep the office of President.

The death toll in America has reached over 300,000 and climbing. Four companies have come up with a vaccine and two, Pfizer and Moderna have been granted emergency permission to administer their vaccine and two more companies, Noravax and AstraZeneca are still testing in the trial area. AstraZeneca's

vaccine has an advantage in that it is easier to produce and is cheaper. Noravax's vaccine is a combination COVID-19 and Flu vaccine. By the end of 2021, we may have a choice of the vaccine we prefer. Right now, I am hoping for the Moderna vaccine, unless AstraZeneca is also ready by the time I can get one.

Looking forward to a happy New Year, as President Donald Trump has stated that he will sign the stimulus package which Congress passed and sent to him, giving every qualified American a \$600.00 relief check. Two thousand dollars per person relief would have been welcomed, but we know that it was a publicity stunt and the Supreme Court has agreed to address the President's law suit after inauguration. God does work in mysterious ways! Our outlook for 2021 is NOT ideal, but it certainly is brighter than it has been. The President-Elect, Joseph Biden will have a long row to hoe, as the field is obstructed with all kinds of misdeeds and illegal activities which will take the entire four years of an administration to begin to clear a path for positive actions in our federal government. We must get 'in cinque' and PRAY that God continues to help us to sow seeds of love, kindness, justice, tranquility and equality in 2021.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Change does not roll in on the wheels of inevitability but comes through continuous struggle.

Beyond the Rhetoric

By Harry C. Alford & Kay DeBow *****

The National Black Chamber of Commerce Announces Partnership with Amazon Business to Support Diverse Suppliers and Sellers

The National Black Chamber of Commerce (NBCC) is partnering with Amazon Business to help Black-owned businesses achieve their business goals, by supporting and highlighting Suppliers or Sellers in the Amazon Business store.

The goal is to empower the 100,000 Black CEOs, 200 chapters across 40 states and 50 nations to capitalize on Amazon Business and increase their sales. Amazon Business helps millions of customers worldwide—from small businesses, schools, hospitals, and government agencies, to large enterprises with global operations—reshape their procurement with cost and time savings, greater productivity, and insightful purchasing analytics.

Procurement and business leaders enjoy convenient shipping options on hundreds of millions of supplies across categories like office, IT, janitorial, food service, and professional medical supplies.

Businesses of color are disproportionately affected by the pandemic. A recent report from The Center for Responsible Lending states, "The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) continues to be disadvantageous to smaller businesses, businesses owned by people of color, and businesses without employees. Businesses of color were more likely than White-owned businesses to be disadvantaged by the PPP program's structural limitations. Had PPP been designed to serve businesses of color equitably, businesses of color would be better positioned

THIS N' THAT c/o T. J. Patterson, Sr.

For 20 years, the citizens of Lubbock have paid no attention to the lack of development for Eastern Lubbock. We realize there are many opportunities in this city, but it's up to us to come together and to work tremendously to see that we can overcome the many problems that's kept us from growing on the eastern side of Lubbock, Tx.

When you believe in something you have to really work hard; you have to believe it can be accomplished no matter what goals you have in your life, you have to really believe you can do it and not let things in your way prevent you from overcoming what you like to overcome. So, twenty years have passed since all we've done is talked about what we don't have in Eastern Lubbock. But what we must do is come together collectively and make sure we can overcome any kind of problems which are in our way.

We must realize that not only does Eastern Lubbock need homes developed where people can live, but we also have to enhance the opportunity for the many businesses that could become a reality in the Eastern part of Lubbock. It looks easy, but it's not; it takes time, it takes effort, it takes all of us developing something that we can all be very, very proud of, and that

takes time and effort.

Let's quit saying what we can't do and start saying what we will do together collectively and that will take time. It's easy to talk about what we don't have, but it's another thing when we can come together and start saying what we can accomplish collectively together. This is our city and we want to see things happen in the Eastern part of Lubbock, Tx and we can do that by coming together and committing ourselves to what we really believe in.

It's amazing to hear people talk about what we don't have, but once you start looking at what you do have it's amazing of what's there. All we must do collectively is come together on the same page, not one person, but many of us together; knowing that we can overcome and make many things happen that will benefit the entire city of Lubbock, Texas USA.

Don't be afraid to act, no matter what's in our path; learn how to overcome these huddles and obstacles that may appear to be in our path. We can do that, once we agree and believe in what we're trying to do, then things will happen for us. It's amazing to look at the land in Eastern Lubbock and wonder why we haven't begun to develop many things of our own.

There is so many things we can accomplish once we sit down and come together, and believe that we can overcome these obstacles which are negating our opportunities.

We need to do this for our children's sake. That's why we must do this; we've got to look out for them; some of them are young at the present time, but one day they will grow and begin to see what we are doing and they'll even help. Oh yes, there is no such thing as "what you can't do" there's so many things that we can do, not individually but collectively. Let's start talking along those lines of what we can do together.

So as we sit around and look, talk and think about what we don't have, let's start thinking about what we can have, what we can accomplish collectively together. Oh yes we can do it. It's been done in other parts of the city of Lubbock, so what's wrong with Eastern part of Lubbock. Things can happen over here; if we only believe we can and don't believe in quitting; we're just standing tall and walking straight, talking together collectively, on the same page, things will happen.

Let's just give it a chance because nothing never happens overnight. It takes time for any-

Continued on Page 6

to participate in the recovery."

Many organizations recognize if the gaps that exist for Black-owned businesses are not filled, our business ecosystem and our communities will suffer. They have been contacting NBCC to see how they can help support our communities, which is why we are excited to partner with Amazon Business kicking off with a convening of Black-owned businesses on December 17th. Together with Amazon Business, NBCC will be hosting a virtual pop-up event to discuss the benefits of Amazon Business and share the challenges of underrepresented entrepreneurs

figuring out how to sell their product and grow during COVID. We're bringing together entrepreneurs and those thinking about retail's future to listen to and engage with influential voices from Amazon Business.

"We couldn't be more excited to partner with Amazon Business. We want an opportunity for Black businesses to expand their exposure and increase their experience in the business world."
- Kay DeBow, NBCC Co-Founder

Additionally, NBCC will provide access to a 4-week quick start webinar series, which will

cover: updating your business plan with online strategies that work, identifying your customer needs, servicing the needs of online customers, brand strategies, fulfillment strategies, customer service, and how to grow and thrive online. The webinars are free to attend and will take place each Tuesday/Thursday in January, beginning on January 5, 2021. We look forward to providing our members access to educational opportunities through our partnership and guiding them alongside Amazon to succeed with selling online.

Estacado Booster Club Membership Drive

Please join Estacado Booster Club:
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A NEW YEAR'S PRAYER

"A Prayer for Healing and Grace Ahead"

God. We confess our need for you today. We need your healing and your grace. We need hope restored. We need to be reminded that you work on behalf of those you love, constantly, powerfully, completely. Forgive us for trying to fix our situations all on our own. Forgive us for running all different directions and spinning our wheels to find help, when true help and healing must be found first in You. Forgive us for forgetting how much we need you, above everyone and everything else. We come to you and bring you the places we are hurting. You see where no one else is able to fully see or understand. You know the pain we've carried. The burdens. The cares. You know where we need to be set free. We ask for your healing and grace to cover every broken place. Every wound. Every heartache. Thank you that you are Able to do far more than we could ever imagine. Thank you for your Mighty Power that acts on behalf of your children. We reach out to you, and know that you are restoring and redeeming every place of difficulty, every battle, for your greater glory. Thank you that you will never waste our pain and suffering. We love you. We need you today. In Jesus Name, Amen!!

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

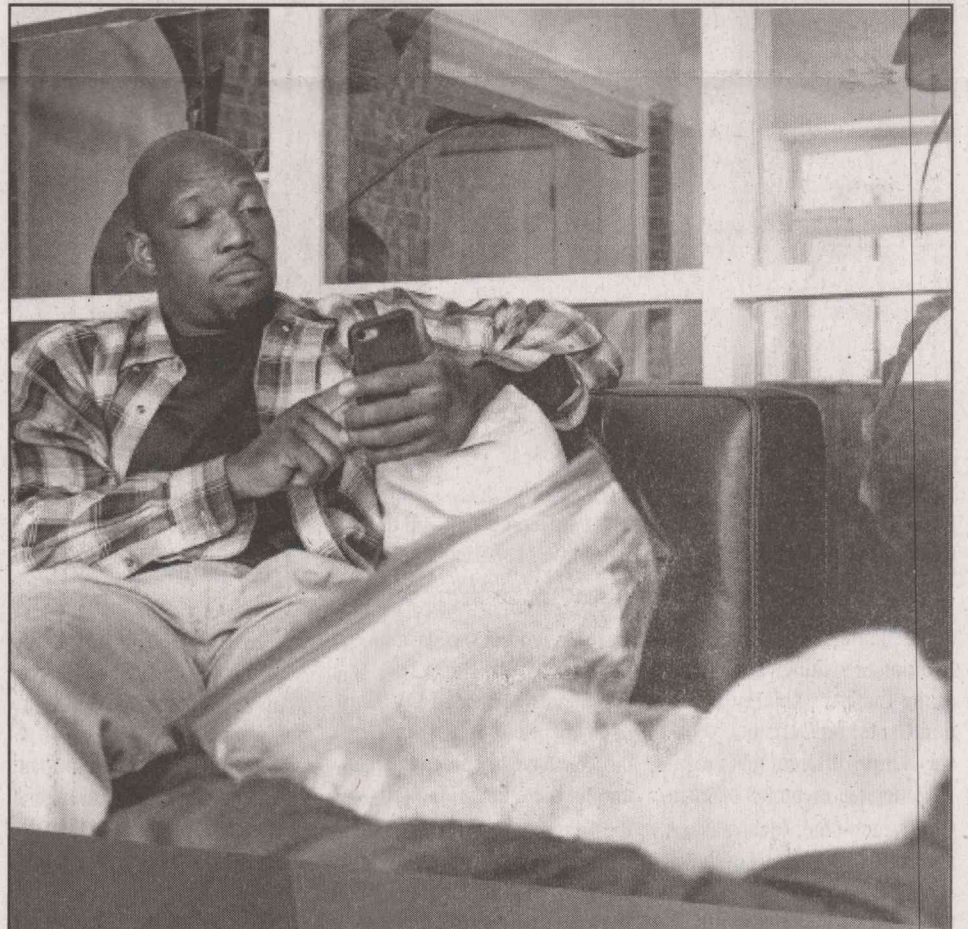
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We Thank God For Jesus

“THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING”

By Evangelist Billy “B.J.” Morrison, III

James 1:17, Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes from the Father of lights, and who there is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Now that X-MAS IS OVER; LIGHTS ARE OUT AND BACK IN THE BOX. JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD; HE NEVER GOES OUT; DID YOU GET HIM OR NOT???

John 9:5, Jesus said, As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.---(WHO HAD THE MOST LIGHTS ON THEIR HOUSE; THE PIMPS; OR THE PREACHERS? THE MISFITS OR THE MISSIONARIES? THE DOPE DEALERS OR THE DEACONS? ----- WHO PLAYED THE GAME???) *** THE THING IS DID YOU LET JESUS THE LIGHT; COME LIVE IN YOUR HOUSE???

NOW THAT X-MAS TREE MUST COME DOWN; AND BE TAKEN TO THE LAND-FILL. JESUS IS THE TREE OF LIFE; AND EVERLASTING LIFE; AND THAT IS WHAT HE GIVES!!!

John 15:1,2, Jesus said, I AM the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he takes away: and every branch that bears fruit, he purges it, that it

may bring forth more fruit. *** ARE YOU IN THE TRUE VINE???

THE GIFTS THAT COST BIG MONEY; YOU SPENT IT: TILL IT'S ALL GONE. JESUS IS THE GIFT OF LIFE; AND HE KEEP ON GIVING; EVEN WHEN THE CORONA VIRUS IS LONG GONE!!!

Mark 8:36, Jesus said, For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

That big X-MAS DINNER; IT WAS DIGESTED; AND PASSED ON THROUGH. JESUS IS THE BREAD AND WATER OF LIFE; AND EVERYDAY HE'LL BE WITHIN YOU!!! ITS LIKE THE WORLD HAVING X-MAS; WITH THE REINDEERS AND A FAT MAN IN A RED AND WHITE SUIT!!!

John 6:35, Jesus said, I am the bread of life. He that come to me shall never hunger; and he that believes in me shall never thirst. *** ARE YOU FULL OF JESUS???

Those new clothes you received for X-MAS; WILL BECOME OLD RAGS; AND CAST AWAY. JESUS WILL CLOTHE YOU IN YOUR RIGHT MIND; EACH AND

EVERYDAY!!! Isaiah 26:3,4, The Lord said, I will keep him in perfect peace, who's mind is stayed on me: because he trusted in me. Trust in the Lord forever: for the Lord JEHOVAH is everlasting strength.

O' LYING SANTA MUST LEAVE; AND RETURN TO LIE AGAIN NEXT YEAR. JESUS IS THE WAY TO GOD; AND THE ONLY WAY; SALVATION AWAITS YOU TODAY; SO DON'T WAIT!!!

2 Corinthians 6:2b, In the day of salvation have I succoured (HELPEd) you: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation. (YOUR DAY IS TODAY; BECAUSE NO ONE KNOWS; YOUR TOMORROW MAY NOT COME; ---PRAISE THE LORD TODAY!!!)

EVERYONE THINKS THEY DESERVES A GIFT OF GREAT VALE; AND THAT'S TRUE. GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD; HE GAVE HIS GREATEST GIFT; JESUS CHRIST TO ME AND YOU!!!

John 3:17, Jesus said, For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. *** CORONA KILLS --JESUS SAVES; ARE YOU???

Continued on Page 5

Charley Pride, Pioneering Black Country Singer, Dead at 86



Country Music Hall of Famer Charley Pride, pictured here in the 1970s, has died at age 86 of COVID-19 complications. Photo: David Redfern/Redferns, File

Charley Pride, the pioneering black country singer known for such hits as “Kiss an Angel Good Mornin’” and “Is Anybody Goin’ to San Antone,” has died from complications related to Covid-19, according to his publicist. He was 86.

Born in Sledge, Mississippi, in 1934, Pride picked cotton, played baseball in the Negro leagues, served in the U.S. Army, and worked in a smelting plant in Montana before moving to Nashville and becoming country music’s first black superstar. He scored 52 Top 10 country hits, including 29 Number Ones, and was the first African-American performer to appear on the Grand Ole Opry stage since Deford Bailey made his debut in the 1920s. Pride became an Opry member in 1993. In 2000, he was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame.

After leaving the Army, Pride landed in Helena, Montana, where he continued to play baseball and took a job in a smelting plant. He also began singing in public, where he caught the ear of a local DJ who arranged for Pride to sing for country stars Red Sovine and Red Foley. The pair convinced him to move to Nashville and, in 1964, he signed a management deal with

longtime manager Jack D. Johnson. The following year, he had his first Nashville recording session and, a month later, signed with the label RCA.

Pride’s debut single, “The Snakes Crawl at Night,” failed to chart, but his debut album, Country, reached the Top 20. His 1967 album The Pride of Country Music went on to hit Number One and, that same year, he became the first African-American solo singer to appear on the Opry. On April 29th, he made his national TV debut, appearing on Lawrence Welk’s Saturday-night ABC music series.

A lifelong disciple of Hank Williams, Pride’s debut on The Lawrence Welk Show presented his vibrant take on Williams’ 1949 hit “Lovesick Blues.” During a later appearance, Pride sang Lead Belly’s oft-covered folk tune “Cotton Fields,” a song that reminded him of his hard upbringing as a sharecropper’s son. “[It] reminds me of what I don’t ever go back to doing because it hurt my fingers and my back and my knees,” Pride said.

That Pride appeared on a variety show popular with a white audience was no small achievement for the times, especially when considering how RCA all but tried to initially obscure the

fact that their singer was black. When Pride’s singles were sent to DJs and press, they arrived without the usual artist publicity photo.

By 1969, Pride was on a hot streak, kicked into high gear by his cover of Hank Williams’ “Kaw-Liga.” He notched his first Number One single with “All I Have to Offer You (Is Me).”

In a 2019 documentary about his life and career, Pride recalled performing a concert in Big Springs, Texas on April 4, 1968 — the date of Martin Luther King’s assassination. “I got on-stage, nobody said nothin’,” Pride said. “They applauded, I got a standing ovation. I didn’t say nothin’ about nothin’ pertaining to what had happened. But it was hanging there, what had happened and me the only one there with these pigmentations. You don’t forget nothin’ like that.”

Just last month, Pride was honored by the Country Music Association with the Willie Nelson Lifetime Achievement Award. He performed on the telecast with country singer Jimmie Allen, recreating his 1971 chart-topper “Kiss an Angel Good Mornin’.” It would be Pride’s final performance.

By JOSEPH HUDAK

Patterson finds way to reach inmates for annual Christmas visit despite restrictions on Christmas Eve



Former Lubbock City Councilman T.J. Patterson visits with inmates at the Lubbock County Detention Center in 2010 as part of his annual tradition of sharing a positive message on Christmas Day.

A-J Media File Photo

T.J. Patterson continued his tradition of visiting with inmates at the Lubbock County Detention Center on Christmas, but it was a little different this year.

Patterson, members of Each-One-Reach-One, local pastors, and family and friends of Patterson have been spending Christmas Day with inmates for 33 years.

A typical visit would include the visitors walking through the facility, delivering candy, and encouraging the inmates to move forward on the right track when they’re done serving their sentences.

Determined to keep his commitment, Patterson’s group visited the detention center on Christmas Eve in time to give

treats to workers to pass out to inmates on Christmas Day, but stayed outside due to COVID-19 safety restrictions.

“We have to encourage them and let them know that today is the first day of the rest of their lives,” Patterson explained. “Tell them to do what’s best in their lives and take care of business like it should be taken care of, because there are no shortcuts in life.”

Each-One-Reach-One was notified about the changes to the visit about two months ago, so they began planning on how to adjust. Faye Dunn-Brown, founder of EORO, said they were saddened by the news.

“It’s very heartbreaking because we enjoy going in and

singing to them and interacting with them,” said Dunn-Brown. “This is the first time in 33 years that we won’t.”

She said it was still important for them to send their message to the inmates, so this year they depended on the media to help Patterson speak to them.

“He wants them to know he’s out there and keeping his commitment,” said Dunn-Brown.

LCSO Chief Cody Scott called Patterson a tremendous supporter of the detention center and said they all want to do this year’s visit as safely as possible.

“[Patterson] has always brought this group out to provide for the inmates, and we’re just glad he’s willing and able to do that,” Scott said.



T.J. Patterson shared his annual message of faith and forgiveness with those spending their Christmas morning in Lubbock County’s Detention Center December 25, 2017.

A-J Media File Photo

Alabama & Ohio State advance to the National Championship Game to be Played on January 11, 2021

	31	14	
	49	28	

Rose Bowl: Alabama crushes Notre Dame, advances to CFP finale
Sugar Bowl: Justin Fields outduels Trevor Lawrence as Ohio State upsets Clemson in playoff semifinal

Mac Jones and DeVonta Smith connected for three scores on Friday to lead Alabama to a lopsided victory over Notre Dame in the 2021 Rose Bowl and clinch a spot in the College Football Playoff National Championship game.

“These guys earned the opportunity to play in National Championship game and we will see what we can do with it,” Saban said.

Justin Fields fell to the turf, pain pulsating through his body after the helmet of a defender

smashed into his rib cage. Ohio State had finally taken a lead over Clemson, thanks in large part to the brilliance of Fields, its leader and one of the best quarterbacks in the nation. But in that moment, late in the second quarter of Friday night’s Sugar Bowl in New Orleans, with so much of the College Football Playoff semifinal still waiting to be played, the Buckeyes’ optimism teetered on the brink of fading.

“We had to figure out what he could and couldn’t do for a while,” Day said, referring to

how the injury limited Fields. “We kind of figured that part of it out. He couldn’t do everything, but what a gutsy performance, what a tough and special young man Justin Fields is.”

And so Fields continued to play, guiding the No. 3 Buckeyes to a 49-28 win and a spot in the national championship game, where they will face No. 1 Alabama on Jan. 11 in Miami Gardens, Fla.

Congratulations to both Alabama and Ohio State: (Editor) LET’S GO BUCKEYES!!!!

Obsequies

James T. "J.T." Braxton, Sr.

Funeral Services for James T. Braxton were held on Thursday, Dec 10, 2020 at 11am at Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church, under the direction of Ossie Curry Funeral Home.

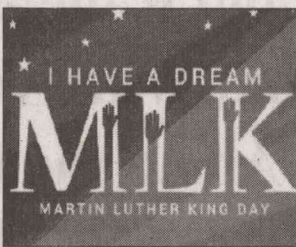
A Honor Guard and Military Honors service was held after the Funeral Services at the Resthaven Cemetery and Funeral Home Mausoleum.

James "J.T." Braxton, musician, director and teacher, died on Tuesday, Dec 1, 2020 at the young age of 101. Born in Tulsa, OK, he studied music education and earned his bachelor's degree at Wiley College and his master's degree from the University of Denver. As a band and orchestra director, he was instrumental in building music programs that were widely recognized throughout Texas. As a performer, he played in various venues including the Lubbock Symphony Orchestra, the Wayman Tisdale, Smooth Jazz Cruise, and the Midland African American Council's Midway Jazz Concerts. James has been honored with numerous awards and recognitions, most recently as a 2017 inductee into the Civic Lubbock West Texas Walk of Fame.

James married Bernice Roberts in 1945, to whom he was happily married for 69 years until Bernice's passing in Janu-



ary of 2014. He was a faithful member of Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church, where he served for over 50 years. James is survived by his two children, Ruby and Thomas Braxton, his daughter-in-law, Sharon Braxton, his grandsons, Ian and Julian Braxton, and many other loving family members and friends.



Hattie Mae Gipson

Celebration of Life Service was held Monday, December 21, 2020, at 11 a.m. at Peaceful Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Griffin Mortuary. Hattie Mae Gipson was born March 23, 1936, in Lubbock, Texas to Manning and Odell Williams.

She attended school in Lubbock and graduated from Dunbar High School. She then attended Bishop College where she received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Education. Then she attended West Texas State University where she received her Masters of Education Degree. She was a dedicated teacher/principal in Lubbock Independent School District for 30 years where she enjoyed molding young lives. She married Curtis Gipson, December 19, 1952, in Lubbock, Texas. To this union, two children were born and raised in Lubbock. She was a member of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church for more than 70 years. She served as a Sunday school teacher, deaconess, and librarian. She is survived by her husband, Curtis of 68 years. One daughter, Brenda Gipson; one son, Winston (Leslie) Gipson Mansfield, Texas; two grandchildren, Whitney (David) and Wesley; four brothers, Mannie (Gladys)



Williams Dallas, Texas, Ray (Shirley) Williams Dallas, Texas, Geary (Connie) Williams, Austin, Texas, and Dewayne (Chape) Williams Austin, Texas; one sister, Letitia Williams; many other family members and friends.

In lieu of flowers, you are welcome to make donations to the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church Building Fund or a charity of your choice in memory of Hattie Mae Gipson. A special thanks to South Plains Hospice and Griffin Mortuary.



Barbara Ann Berry

Celebration of Life Service was held Friday, December 11, 2020, at 1 p.m. at the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Griffin Mortuary. Visitation was held from 4 to 6 p.m. at Griffin Mortuary. Barbara was born to Willie and Mildred Lane on November 25, 1959, in Petersburg, TX. Barbara attended school in Petersburg and worked for Texas Instrument for over 20 years.

She leaves to cherish her memory; her mother, Mildred Lane; seven siblings, Nita McKenzie, Brenda (Billy Jack) Berry, Mary Price, Riley Lane, Beverly Lane, Cynthia Carr, and Christy Lane; a host of other relatives and friends.



Sammie "SL" Sanders, Sr.

Celebration of Life Service was held Thursday, December 24, 2020, at 1 p.m. at Peaceful Gardens Cemetery under the direction of Griffin Mortuary. Sammie was born to Oscar and Carrie Sanders on April 18, 1928, in Lubbock, TX. He graduated from Dunbar High School in 1947. He was a lifelong member of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church. He served in the U.S. Army and fought in the Korean War. He worked for T. G. & Y and McCory Warehouses where he retired in 1991 after 20 plus years. He leaves to cherish his memory, his son, Sam Sanders, Jr.; grandson, Sheldon D. Powell;



granddaughter, NiKendra Sylvester; a host of other relatives and friends.

Joe G. Sosa



Celebration of Life Service was held on Monday, December 21, 2020, at 11 a.m. at the City

of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Griffin Mortuary. Joe was born on June 26, 1946, to the late Diego Sosa and Otilia Guerra in Robstown, TX. He was a truck driver and an insurance agent. His passion was music. Joe leaves to cherish his memory; his wife, Mercedes Sosa; three daughters, Maria Sosa (Clemente), Michelle (Martin) Hernandez, and Corina Sosa; stepdaughter, Janie (Jimmy) Mireles; one son, Joe David Sosa; stepson, Carlos Chapa; 16 grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren; a host of other relatives and friends.



Brenda "Na-Na" Ward

Celebration of Life Service was held Saturday, December 12, 2020, at 1 p.m. at the City of Lubbock Cemetery under the direction of Griffin Mortuary.

Brenda was born on June 30, 1950, to Wyatt and Dovie Ward. She attended Dunbar High School. She leaves to cherish her memory; two daughters, Notcha Ward and Jerretta Brown; one son, Troy (Danielle) Ward; one sister, Nancy Ward; four brothers, Donnie Ward, Wyatt Ward, Toney Ward, and Ricky Ward; nine grandchildren, fourteen great-grandchildren; a host of other relatives and friends.



many grumpy people lately. I'm not sure where they come from and I'm not quite sure where they're going, but I do have my guesses.

I cannot identify with grumpy people because I'm not quite sure why they're grumpy. The thing I have noticed lately is, grumpy is not a matter of age. There are grumpy people of all ages. I'm not quite sure how this began.

If anybody has the right to be grumpy, it's someone like me who has to listen to those people who are grumpy.

How much happier this world would be if there were no grumpy people in it? I know there are grumpy moments, but that shouldn't be forever. Nothing is more frustrating than standing in line at the cash register behind some old grumpy customer exhibiting grumpy-itis. I wonder if it's contagious?

Thinking about this, my list is getting longer and longer. There are so many things that I would like to Shoo from my life that I probably need to go into the "Shoo Pie Baking Business."

Thinking along this line I remembered a verse in the Bible. "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you" (2 Corinthians 6:17).

The older I get the more things I see that I need to "shoo" from my life. At times, it's difficult, but the end result is what really matters. One last pie would be the "Shoo-Sin Pie."

Dr. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, Ocala, FL 34472. He lives with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 352-216-3025 or e-mail jamessnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.

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"It Was a Shoofly Pie Moment"

by
Dr. James L. Snyder

During holiday seasons, I enjoy indulging in special food. My favorite during this time of year is the Shoofly Pie. Nothing hits the spot quite like this.

Although the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage restricts this kind of culinary activity during the rest of the year, I tried to get a pass for it during the holidays. I don't care what holiday it is, a holiday is a holiday and deserves special food.

I don't remember when I had my first shoofly pie, I only focus on my next piece.

When I first brought it into the home, my wife asked me what in the world it was. I told her it was a Shoofly Pie..

Looking at me rather quizzically, she said, "What is a Shoofly Pie??"

Not even thinking about it, I smiled and replied, "It is a piece of heaven this side of heaven."

Then she wanted to know where in the world that name "Shoofly Pie" came from.

Not really knowing, I "baked up" a story I thought would please her.

The story went something like this. A lady in Pennsylvania was trying to make a special pie for her husband. It took her several days to figure out how she would make this special pie. Finally, she came up with something she had never seen before.

When presented to her husband, he was dumbfounded and said, "What is that pie?"

Before she could answer, a fly seemed to hover over the pie, and she swatted it and said, "shoofly." The husband looked at her and said, "That is marvelous. Whoever heard of a shoofly pie? You're a genius."

And thus, the Shoofly Pie adventure began. Whether that comes near the story or not, it sounded good to me at the time, and I presented it to my wife.

Where we live, it's tough to find any Shoofly Pie. Typically, I have to order it from someplace up north.

Once we were at a nearby restaurant, I talked to the waitress about the Shoofly Pie of which she had never heard. My wife had the recipe, so we shared it with her. She wanted to surprise us with a homemade Shoofly Pie.

When she gave it to us, it was nothing like a real Shoofly Pie. We joyfully took it, but it really wasn't the real thing.

As I was thinking about this shoofly pie mystery, I thought of how this concept would work in other aspects of life.

For example, I would like to develop a Shoo-Politician Pie. Perhaps this would be a great experience for us. Every time we see a politician, we present him

with a Shoo-Politician Pie. How much greater our life would be if politicians would not be the center focus of our life.

When a politician gives a speech, he or she will be charged one dollar per word. After all, one dollar isn't much and neither is there speech. Of course, this would need to be paid upfront. As soon as the politician reaches the end of his word count, everybody would say, "Shoo-Politician."

I think this would bring a lot of sanity back to our country today.

Then I thought of another pie to develop. I'll call this the Shoo-Telemarketer Pie. This is second only to politicians.

To date, I have received over 1 million calls that said, "This is the last call you'll get to renew your car warranty."

I have searched my dictionary to discover what the definition of "last call" is. I guess it has a different meaning to different people. Even my wife agrees with me on this. And you know, that's a monumental achievement.

I don't know why they call them telemarketers, but I sure would like to tell them a thing or two.

Another pie I would like to develop would be the Shoo-Grumpy Pie. I have found so

Thank God for Jesus

"The Gift That Keeps on Giving"
Continued from Page 4

THERE WAS A LOT OF MONEY ON X-MAS; AND IT WAS ALL IN VAIN. MANY PEOPLE ARE SO MUCH IN DEBT NOW; THEY'RE READY TO GO INSANE!!!

Jeremiah 9:24a, The Lord said, Let him that glory, glory in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness.

"THE ULTIMATE MEASURE OF A MAN IS NOT WHERE HE STANDS IN MOMENTS OF COMFORT & CONVENIENCE, BUT WHERE HE STANDS AT TIMES OF CHALLENGE AND CONTROVERSY."

Martin Luther King Jr.

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THIS N THAT
Continued from Page 4

thing to become a reality. And let's start encouraging each other, no matter how small it may appear, or how large it may appear. If we begin to encourage one another and believe sincerely, things will happen for us. It's not that difficult. We've seen so many things happen in this part of Texas and now it takes those of us who believe that Lubbock Texas can become a reality and grow in many aspects, then let's sit down and come together; and increase and do great things together collectively, WE CAN DO IT! There's no such

such thing as we can't do it, we can do it!

You see, we need to do this because of the future of this city. There's so many opportunities waiting for us if we just come together and believe in what we're doing and not quitting; believe that we can make things happen that will benefit all of us. That's what it's about. It's about all of us coming together collectively. Little threads of cotton make mighty big ropes. Let's believe that things will happen for us. Let's not stop! Let's not quit! There's so much we can do. Once we sit down and start talking to each other; you'll see we have so much more going for us

today that we had 20 years ago; when we were talking about what we didn't have. Take a good look at what we have collectively, things will when we're on the same page, things will happen. Some things are happening now that make a lot of sense.

We are in the posture of developing a Police Sub-Station. Don't be speeding down that street when the sub-station opens. You will see things will change; and the attitudes will change. We won't see crime happening like we did at one time. A lot of things will begin to happen; and then once we take care of all of those things,

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More Obesquies

Marjorie Colyne Sherman Thomas

Services were held for Marjorie Thomas at the Mausoleum in the City of Lubbock Cemetery on Tuesday, December 29, 2020 under the care of Sanders Funeral Home.

Marjorie Colyne Sherman Thomas was born, June 13, 1928 in Cuney, TX to the parentage of Governor and Ara Sherman who preceded her in death. The family moved to Bullard, TX and then later to Tyler, TX. Marjorie was one of ten children Demosthenes, Brightwell, Tommy, Ledioux, Noble, Berma, Ruby, Bobbie Joyce, and Wiley all of whom preceded her in death.

After moving to Tyler, Marjorie attended local schools and joined the Liberty Baptist Church where she was baptized at a young age. After leaving Tyler, she joined the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, in Lubbock, TX where she remained a faithful member until she transitioned from life on earth to eternal rest.

Marjorie, also known as Marge or Aunt Marge by those close to her, graduated from Em-

mett J. Scott High School in 1946. She graduated from Texas College in 1950 with a degree in Home Economics. While attending Texas College she joined the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and on June 13, 1948 married Hammick Thomas. To this union three children were born, Bobby, Jacqueline, and Vincent. Sadly, Jacqueline and Vincent also preceded her in death.

Marjorie moved to Lubbock, TX upon graduation from college where received certification and began her teaching career. Her first teaching job was in the segregated Frenship I.S.D. where she taught all subjects, first through twelfth grade. Marge received an M.S. degree in Guidance and Counseling from Texas Tech University. She retired from the Lubbock I.S.D. after 38 years in education.

Marge held membership to several organizations. She was a charter member, former Basileus and a Golden Soror of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Meals on Wheels, AARP, and the American Legion Auxiliary. Mourn-



ing her passing is her son Bobby Thomas, Lubbock, TX, son in law James Lenord, Houston, TX, granddaughter, Jocelyn Fall (Christopher), Houston, TX, great-grandson, Christopher Fall, Jr. Houston, TX, goddaughter, Sharon Bunton, McKinney, TX, several nieces, nephews, and a host of other relatives and friends.



Joe Biden and Kamala Harris's Inauguration: What You Need to Know About the Event



Due to the pandemic, this inauguration will almost certainly look very different from previous ceremonies. Biden and Harris at the conclusion of the 2020 DNC.

Olivier Douliery - Getty Images

The ceremony will look very different this year.

The 2021 event will be the 59th inauguration ceremony planned by the JCCIC since it was formed in 1901, it won't look like any that's come before. James Clyburn, House Majority Whip and chair of Biden's inaugural committee, has confirmed that due to the ongoing pandemic, much of the traditional fanfare will be moved online.

other good things will replace other things. Let's believe in what we can do and start doing it. Quit saying what we can do and believe in what we're about. Make sure we want to see it happen. Let's quit talking about what we don't have.

Let's start talking about when we're going to finish what we already have. Let the world know who we are. Let the world know how good we are and what we can do; and we can do all of this collectively.

You see our children need to see us with this frame of mind, talking to each other; talking about the good things that we have going on; not all the bad things, but we have so many good things going on.

You see, what's going to happen is once this begins, the homes will be rebuilt, therefore we'll have more businesses coming to Eastern Lubbock. A lot of things will begin to happen. Oh just believe tremendously. Stop saying what we can't do and think about the good things we can do; think about the

"We will be setting an example with this inauguration," Clyburn said on MSNBC's Morning Joe. "It is going to be, I may call it, hybrid. He will take the oath in the traditional way, but all of the inaugural festivities are going to be 80% virtual." He added that the 2020 DNC, which was largely staged virtually, would be a model for the inauguration.

Biden has also told reporters that there likely won't be parade down Pennsylvania Avenue, as

good things that have already happened in Eastern Lubbock.

Think about the good things and quit talking about all the bad things. You see as I said before, "little threads of cotton make a make mighty big ropes."

At the same time that we're working together closely, discussing what we need to do, let's thank God for all the goodness that has happened and occurred here in Lubbock, Texas USA, cause we have so much going for us. Let's take advantage of what we have and let's start sitting down and keeping a record of what we are doing; and let's start talking about the good things that we're doing together here collectively.

If we do that, it's amazing of what will happen. You see I've seen so many good things happen in Eastern Lubbock, but nobody talks about it. You see, we're God's children and there's so many things that we can do if we come together collectively.

As we look back over the years, thinking from whence we've come, think of the things

there has been during inaugurations past.

There may be a second round of celebrations.

Clyburn has told CNN that it was possible more celebrations would be planned for the summer, when the threat of the pandemic might be less salient—perhaps near July 4th. "Hopefully, things will be under control then," he said.


It will definitely be televised, though.

that we can do to help each other. Let's learn to turn to each other and not on each other. If we take that with us, it's amazing in what we're going to see happen. It's just good to think about Eastern Lubbock Texas USA. Let's make it work for all of us. Let's do it collectively. Let's keep a record of what we're doing.

And once we've begun with kind of attitude, there's no telling how much we will accomplish. Then we start passing the word along of who we are and where we want to go, our tax spaces are going to increase; a lot of things are going to happen, things we didn't believe would happen, but you must believe in what you're doing. Talk is cheap. It's going to take a lot of work.



No matter what you may think, to be given an opportunity, there's nothing we can't do. Just believe and keep believing; and ask God to be with us and in all these things, there's no telling how high Eastern Lubbock will develop. God-Bless you and Thank you and Happy 2021!!






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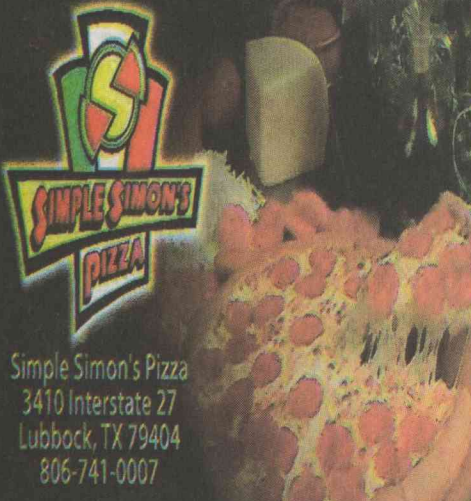
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This pandemic year has shown us what we can bear, may this coming year remove all this negative energy and enlighten our lives.

Happy New year

	01/02/21 VS (Final)	
77		82



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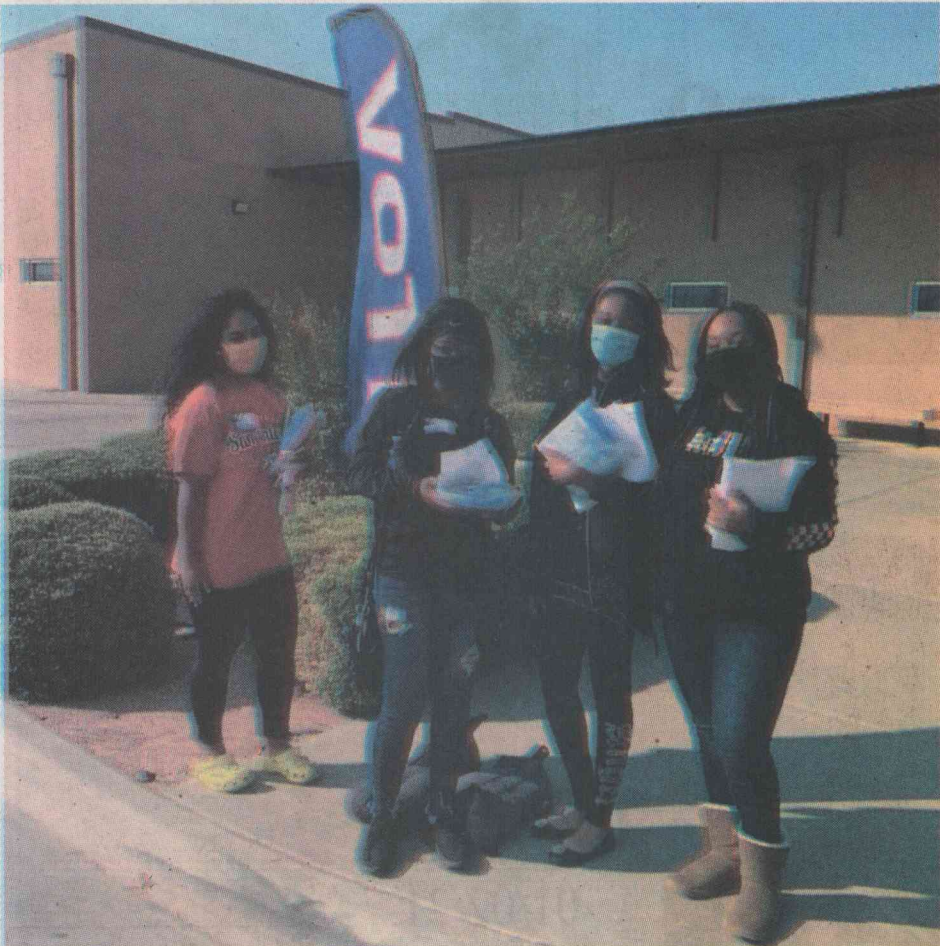
500 Broadway – 6th Floor www.lubbockeda.org 806-749-4500 (Office)
Lubbock, Texas 79401 806-749-4501 (Fax)

4:1

UNCOMFORTABLE



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., ETA Delta Omega Mentoring Students



Students involved in #CAP. These students represented Coronado HS, Estacado HS, Lubbock Cooper and Monterey HS. Talkington School for Young Women Leaders was represented. Ready to serve their community!

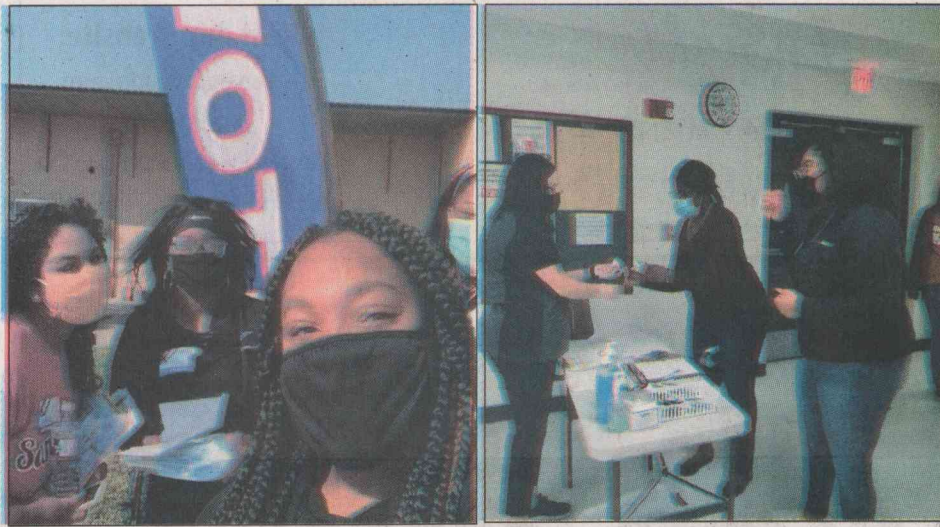
Meet these bright, inspiring, lovely young ladies who are members of the 2020 #CAP (College Admissions Process) Mentoring Program! They are sponsored by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Eta Delta Omega Chapter.

In this national election year, a first time opportunity came into effect for 16-17 year old high school students across America to serve as paid Student

Poll Workers on Election Day, November 3, 2020!

After a rigorous training session by the Lubbock County Elections Office, these young ladies served the Lubbock community in this important, historical capacity. They experienced the steps of employment, including online application, recommendations by high school principal and teacher, set requirements of school academic

and attendance eligibility, registration of ID and employment documents and specific training on poll tasks and Covid-19 guidelines. Each student also received a formal Certificate of Completion. Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Eta Delta Omega Chapter applauds the outstanding efforts of these students and their role in our November 3, 2020 political democratic process of election!



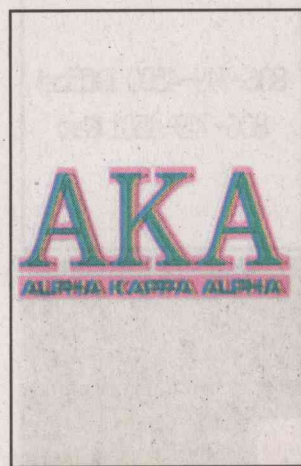
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Eta Delta Omega Newly Elected 2021 Chapter Officers

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated Eta Delta Omega chapter are delighted to announce the newly elected 2021 chapter officers.

Tina Stevens will lead as the

local chapter's President. Nettie Edwards, Vice President and Historian; Margaret Randle, Treasurer and Graduate Advisor to Texas Tech; Ebani Broadus, Secretary and Reporter; Amanda Knox, Corresponding Secretary;

Taryn Richardson, Financial Secretary; and Dr. Adrine Carter-Harrell, Standards Chairman. We congratulate these ladies as they continue to provide service to mankind.



Tina Stevens, President



Nettie Edwards, Vice President & Historian



Margaret Randle, Treasurer & Graduate Advisor



Ebani Broadus, Secretary & Reporter



Amanda Knox, Corresponding Secretary



Taryn Richardson, Financial Secretary



Dr. Adrine Carter-Harrell Standards Chairman

The Signs of Jesus' Deity in the Gospel of John by Pastor Solomon Fields

To purchase a copy of this book, please contact Pastor Fields at:

Text Phone: (806) 786-6749 or Email: placeforworship@yahoo.com

<https://cutt.ly/Anchored4Jesus>

Is Jesus the Christ and Son of God?

The Signs of Jesus' Deity in the Gospel of John is a comprehensive resource to the Holy Bible that will offer an in-depth exposition of the miracle signs within the Gospel of John, capturing and revealing the book is a resource tool for those who minister through preaching, teaching and leading Bible studies, addressing the miracle within John's gospel.

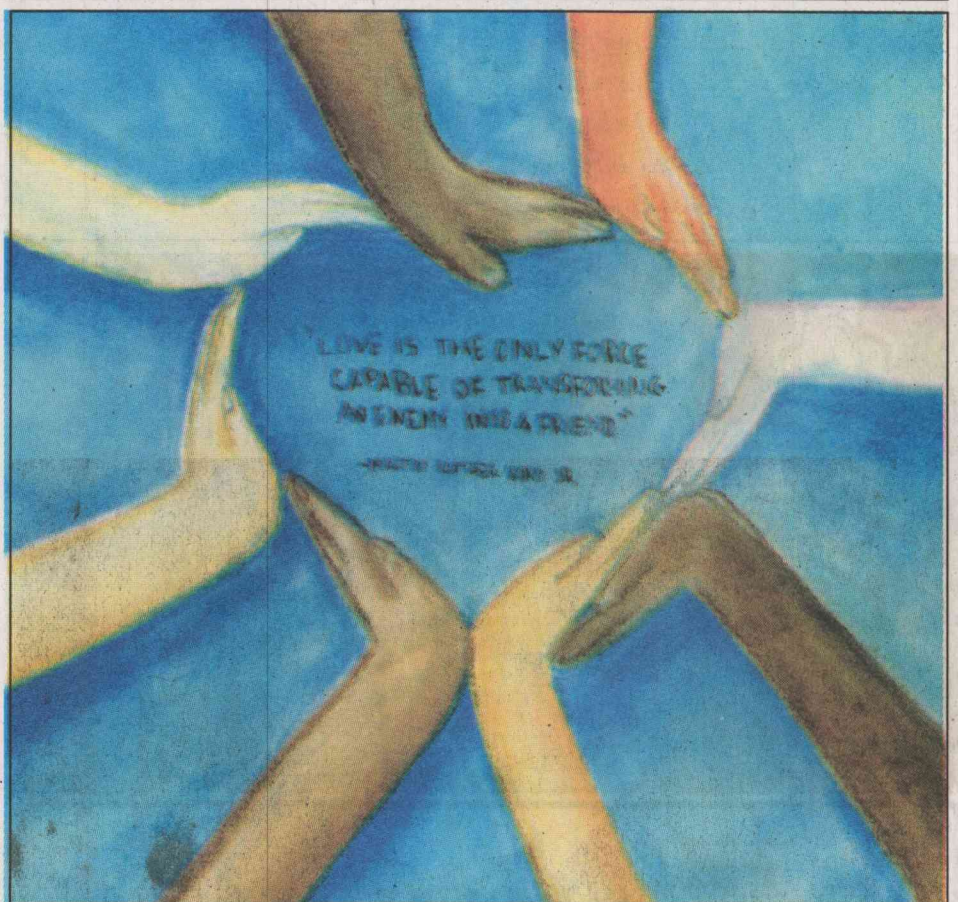
This book provides a background information on all of the miracles in John's gospel and compares those miracle to other similar miracles within the Holy Bible and their ancient history. There are numerous other preaching and teaching suggestions throughout this resource.

The Signs of Jesus' Deity in the Gospel of John is in production and available in paperback, paperback and eBook.

Scan the QR Code below to order your copy today!

placeforworship@yahoo.com

SCAN ME



A Prayer for Our Country After the 2020 Election



Our nation has chosen a new leader
 To guide us forward in this challenging time.
 Help us, God, to unite our great country
 In the wake of a contentious election.
 Teach us to listen to one another,
 To heal our divisions and to restore hope.
 The days that lie before us will not be easy,
 But they are ours to shape.
 Let them be days of repair,
 Days when we will stem the tide of this horrific pandemic,
 Days when we will join together
 To build a new future.

For some of us the results of this election are a cause for great celebration,
 For others the results are a deep disappointment.
 Our charge today must be to rise above conflict,
 To rise above our differences,
 And welcome in a new time of understanding,
 A new time of caring and empathy,
 Decency and support.
 Bless us God, with ears to hear,
 Hearts to love,
 And hands to reach across party lines,
 So that we can ensure liberty and dignity for all.
 Land of opportunity and dreams
 We vow to protect our blessed democracy
 And to safeguard the freedom that is our birthright.
 We pledge our allegiance
 To every soul in need
 And every child praying for a better tomorrow.
 Bless America, God,
 With peace, prosperity, and with justice for all, Amen!!!