



A news paper for 21st century representing the Black community ideal and ideals since 1977

Southwest Digest

March 12, 2009

Vol. XXXI, No. 26

75¢
Worth More!

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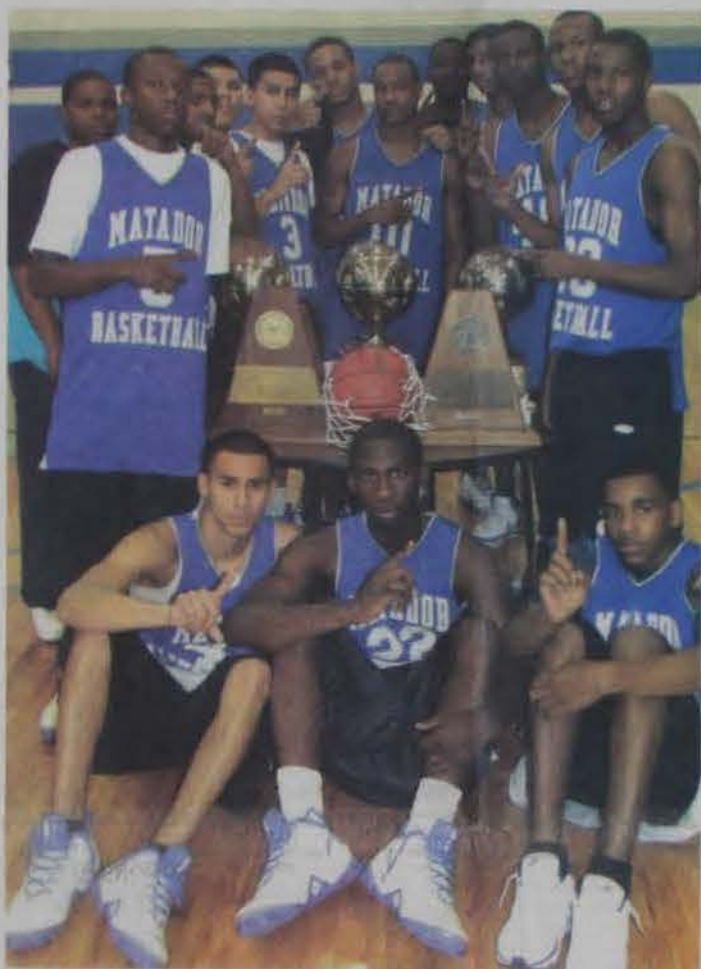


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Matadors Vying For State



The 2009 Matadors Basketball Team

The Estacado High School Matadors (33-2), Number 2 in State, will be playing for an opportunity to capture the State UIL 3A Boys Basketball this afternoon, Thursday, March 12, 2009, against Sour Lake Hardin-Jefferson (37-6) at 2 p. m. at Frank Erwin Center in Austin. The defeated Seminole High School last Saturday by a score of 70-36 to capture the 1-3A title.

Court Refuses to Expand Minority Voting Rights

WASHINGTON (AP) -- The Supreme Court ruled Monday that electoral districts must have a majority of African-Americans or other minorities to be protected by a provision of the Voting Rights Act.

The 5-4 decision, with the court's conservatives in the majority, could make it harder for southern Democrats to draw friendly boundaries after the 2010 Census.

The court declined to expand protections of the landmark civil rights law to take in electoral districts where the minority population is less than 50 percent of the total, but strong enough to effectively determine the outcome of elections.

In 2007, the North Carolina Supreme Court struck down a state legislative district in which blacks made up only about 39 percent of the voting age population. The court said the Voting Rights Act applies only to districts with a numerical majority of minority voters.

Justice Anthony Kennedy, announcing the court's judgment, said that requiring minorities to represent more than half the population "draws clear lines for courts and legislatures alike. The same cannot be said of a less exacting standard."

Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Samuel Alito signed onto Kennedy's opinion. Justices Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas agreed with the outcome of the case.

The four liberal justices dissented. A district like the one in



North Carolina should be protected by federal law "so long as a cohesive minority population is large enough to elect its chosen candidate when combined with a reliable number of crossover voters from an otherwise polarized majority." Justice David Souter wrote for himself and Justices Stephen Breyer, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and John Paul Stevens.

The decision complicates matters for southern Democrats who will red political boundaries after the next census.

Democrats have sought to create districts in which African-Americans, though not a majority, still were numerous enough to determine the outcome of elections with the help of small numbers of like-minded white voters. Those districts

could be challenged under Monday's decision.

In another election-related case, the court let stand an appeals court decision that invalidated state laws regulating the ways independent presidential candidates can get on state ballots.

Bethel AME Will Celebrate Annual Day

The Women Missionary Society of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church will sponsor its annual day Sunday afternoon, March 15, 2009, beginning at 3:00 p. m. Sister Shelia Harris will speak. Rev. Sonia J. Scott is pastor, and Sister Paige is president of Ma Jones Missionary Society.



Mr. & Mrs. T. J. Patterson

Each One Reach One Aims to Raise Scholarships for Local Youth

Each One Reach, a local organization, will honor Lubbock's first black city councilman, T.J. Patterson, and his wife, Bobbie Gene, at a banquet on Friday, March 20 at 7:00 p.m.

Each One Reach, a local organization, will honor Lubbock's first black city councilman, T.J. Patterson, and his wife, Bobbie Gene, at a banquet on Friday, March 20 at 7:00 p.m.

The banquet is being held at the Holiday Inn: Hotel & Towers located at 801 Avenue Q.

Money raised from the banquet will be used to set up a scholarship at Texas Tech University in honor of T.J. and Bobbie Gene. T.J. served on the council for 20 years making him the longest person to serve in that capacity in Lubbock's history. Bobbie Gene served as an educator in the Lubbock Public School System for 35 years before retiring.

Tickets to the banquet are \$60 each. The deadline to purchase tickets is Friday, March 13. For more information, contact Faye Brown at (806) 831-9986.

On Saturday, March 21, Each

One Reach One is sponsoring a live gospel recording under the direction of well-known Gospel Recording Artist, Luther Barnes. Barnes will direct a 100-voice West Texas Mass Choir, which will begin the live recording at 3:00 p.m. at the Church of the Blessed, 1809 34th St. The event is free to the public.

Barnes began performing professionally at the age of nine and has been in a number of groups. He's released more than 20 albums, has had several of his songs featured in films and has even appeared in off-Broadway plays. He has received numerous awards including the 1992 Vision Award and the Stellar and GMWA Excellence Award.

CDs of the live performance will be available for purchase around Lubbock for \$20 by mid-June. The money raised will also provide college scholarships to area students.

For more information about the West Texas Mass Choir live recording or the banquet honoring T.J. and Bobbie Gene Patterson, contact Faye Brown at (806) 831-9986 or (806) 744-6123.

Enough Already! Stop Hating on Michelle Obama's Biceps



First Lady Michelle Obama is shown in her official White House portrait in a dress by Michael Kors. (AP)

I had a feeling that some folks were going to go there.

Long after being rendered powerless to criticize the First Lady when it comes to having brains, I knew it wouldn't be long before Michelle Obama's critics would turn to another target.

I had a feeling that some folks were going to go there.

Long after being rendered powerless to criticize the First Lady when it comes to having brains, I knew it wouldn't be long before Michelle Obama's critics would turn to another target.

But all the arm exposure is apparently too much for some folks.

New York Times columnist David Brooks recently told his colleague, Maureen Dowd, that Mrs. Obama had made her point and should put away "Thumper and Lightning."

Other blowhards have also

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Community Meetings

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

African American Chamber of Commerce, Lubbock meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 12:00-1:00pm at the Chairman Hill Room, 712 E. 28th St. 806-525-8661

Lubbock Area Client Council meets on the 2nd Saturday, 1:00pm at the Patterson Branch Library

Hub City Kiwanis meets every Tuesday, 7:00pm, 1708 Avenue G

Dumbor, Akuma Association meets 2nd Saturdays, 4:00 pm

Booker T. Washington American Legion Post 808 meets every 2nd Tuesday at 7:30pm, American Legion Building in Yellowhouse Canyon

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

East Lubbock Chapter AARP meets every 2nd Thursday at 1:00 pm, Mae Simmons Community Center

Lubbock Chapter of Black Alumni meets every 2nd Tuesday, 5:30 pm, TTI Market Alumni Center

Dumbor/Mahartai Heights Neighborhood Association meets every 1st Thursday at 6:00 pm and every 4th Thursday at 7:00 pm at the Dumbor/Mahartai Heights Neighborhood Outreach Center at 1301 East 24th St.

West Texas Native American Association Post 1044 Supper meets on alternating months prior to meeting, meetings held on 2nd Saturday of each month at 7:00 pm, Educational presentations and demonstrations

Texas-Historical Cultural & Historical Commission - Lubbock Affiliate meets at Patterson Branch Library every 1st Thursday at 7:00 pm

West Texas Native American Association meets 2nd Saturday each month at Green's Library, 5520 19th Street, 7:30 pm

West Texas Chapter of 100 Black Men meets the 3rd Monday evening at 7:00 pm at the Parkway Neighborhood Center.

The Parkway & Cherry Point Neighborhood Association meets the 3rd Tuesday evening of each month at 7:00 pm at Hill Elementary

Chairman Hill Neighborhood Association meets the 2nd Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm, at Hill Elementary, California.

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 E. 28th St
Lubbock, TX 79404

Fax: (806) 762-4605

email us at:
swdigest@yahoo.com
swdigest@sbcglobal.net

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Chatman Hills Corner

By Doris Reynolds

The 55th Anniversary of the Federation of Chores will be held at the Estacado High School Auditorium, 1504 East Inasa Avenue, on Sunday afternoon, March 22, 2009, beginning at 2:30 p. m.

A Musicians Core Group rehearsal will be held Monday evening, March 16, 2009, at Community Baptist Church, beginning at 7:30 p. m. A Choir Workshop will be held Thursday, March 19th, Friday, March 20th, beginning at 7:00 p.

m. and Saturday, March 21st, beginning at 5:30 p. m. Sister Bennie Sims is president.

The Chatman Hill Neighborhood Association will hold its General Meeting on Thursday evening, March 12, 2009, beginning at 6:00 p. m. at Iles Elementary School, 2401 Date Avenue, in the school cafeteria. All neighborhood residents are encouraged to attend.

Let us continue to pray for our sick and shut-in citizens of the community. Remember God is able, no matter what our situation may be. He is always there, just call Him!

Also, let us not forget those who have lost loved ones. Among them included the family of Roseoe Lawin Howard, who was funeralized here on Tuesday afternoon, March 10, 2009, at Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church where Rev. D. A. Smith delivered the eulogy. Assisting was Rev. Sonia J. Scott, pastor, and rev. Eddie Williams, pastor of Baker Chapel in Big Spring.

Sister Christiene Barleson will be honored by the members of the Greater St. Mark Baptist Church for her contribution to the community. For many years, she has dedicated herself in preparing food boxes for the needy.

Luther Barnes will appear in a concert Saturday afternoon, March 21, 2009, at 3:00 p. m. at The Church of The Blessed.

also in me. In my father's house are many dwelling places if not I would have told you. I am going away to prepare a place for you. If I go away and prepare a place for you I will come back and receive you to myself so that where I am you may be also. You know the way where I am going. Lord thomas said we don't know the way. Jesus told him I am the way the truth and the life no one comes to the father except through me. John 14:1-6

New Light Baptist Church News

On Sunday morning, March 8, 2009, church services got off to a good start at the New Light Baptist Church, 3013 Idaloo Road, where Rev. Kenneth O. Jackson is the pastor.

Church School started at 9:45 a.m. with Brother David Chiles teaching the lesson entitled "The Importance of Servant Leaders." The scripture text was Ezekiel 34:23-31.

Morning worship started at 11:00 a.m. with the Praise Team leading the way.

Rev. L. C. Lee led the pulpit devotion. The Senior Choir outshined in the choir stand singing "We've Come This Far By Faith." The responsive reading was read by Rev. Lee and it came from Psalm 126:1-6. The altar prayer was led by Rev. Jackson with the choir singing "Yes, Lord."

Sis. Rochellette Hood read all the morning announcements, talked about the birthdays and told of all the upcoming events that will be taking place. There was the pastoral period that was

held and then the offering was taken up.

The Senior Choir sang "The Lord is Blessing Me" which was led by Sis. Sodal Cavanaugh, and "Jesus Keep Me Near The Cross" led by Brother, Carlton Hicks. "Amazing Grace" was sung before the sermon.

Rev. Jackson preached the sermon entitled "Rise Up A Walk." His scripture text was Acts 3:1-6. After the sermon the choir sang "Jesus Keep Me."

The invitation to discipleship was extended and several came for prayer. Sis. Angela acknowledged all the visitors that was in attendance for the day. The lord continue to add to the church as he see fit.

Prayer changes things. It also says a family that prays together stays together. So let's all get on one accord and come together in unity and pray for those that needs it, which is everyone.

Scripture For The Week: *Your heart must not be troubled. Believe in God believe*

Meet Pastors Johnny & Pat Perez Of The Church Of The Blessed



Meet the Pastors of the Church of the Blessed. The Church is located at 1809 34th Street. They invite those looking for a Church Home to come and visit with their congregation. The number of baptisms is 40. The Church of the Blessed is still visiting the Lubbock County Jail with it's Jail Ministry where there were 24 saved and continuing. Prayer at the Lubbock County Jail is held at 5:00 a. m. Monday through Friday. Saturday evenings English Services begins at 7:00 p. m.

YOUR INVITATION TO A NEW BLESSING!

Pastors Johnny & Pat Perez and the family at Church of the Blessed invite you to join them for service this week

Church of the Blessed

Church of the Blessed
1809 34th
Lubbock, TX 79411

Phone: (806) 747-9430

FASHION FUN

by Shirley Robinson

SEQUINED SKIRTS

Ladies these skirts are absolutely die for. They have everything you need to enhance your femininity. The skirts are designed exclusively to complement your wardrobe.

The brilliant vivid colors

make it quite difficult for others not to notice, and the selection of pattern arrangements are endless. You can work wonders with this skirt, and have lots of fun doing it.

DRESS IT UP...with a silk blouse, shell or turtle neck and a blazer.

DRESS IT DOWN...with maybe a matching fitted T-shirt or ballet. Let your imagination guide you into a wonderful, beautiful, fashionable bliss. Sequin skirts offers beauty, comfort and style... what more



can a lady ask for? SEQUINS DAY OR NIGHT, IT'S RIGHT.

They are everywhere. Look for them!

Fashion tip... always wear a smile.

Fashion...just for the fun of it.

EHS Alumni Sets Second All Class Reunion



3013, Lubbock, Texas 79452. No personal checks will be accepted.

The calendar of events are: Thursday, June 18th, and Friday, June 19th, registration will be held from 10:00 a. m. until 3:00 p. m. in the EHS cafeteria.

Friday, June 19th, Pep Rally in the gym from 6:00 p. m. until 8:00 p. m. This event is free to the public.

Also, Friday evening, June 19th, a dance will be held at the Lubbock Civic Center, from 9:00 p. m. until 1:00 a. m.

Saturday morning, June 20th, EHS Alumni will participate in the Juneteenth parade and are asking EHS Alumni to wear their T-shirts and march in the parade.

A banquet will be held Saturday evening, June 20th, at the Lubbock Civic Center.

beginning with a Cocktail hour from 6:00 p. m. until 6:30 p. m. which will be a cash bar. The banquet speaker will be Lubbock City Councilwoman Linda DeLeon. A dance will be held from 10:00 p. m. until 1:30 a. m.

Children will not be allowed to attend the banquet.

Sunday morning, June 21st, EHS Alumni has been invited to attend church services at the Church of The Nations in the Lubbock Civic Center. Rev. Roy Davis is pastor.

For more information, contact Ms. Davis at (806) 747-8389.

Vice president is David Carrizales, (806) 632-6390; treasurer, Kay Anderson-Grant, (806) 745-4852; secretary, Sandra Culpepper-Reed, (806) 765-0727.

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Pastor Sonia Scott

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8:30am
Church School
9:30am
Morning Worship
11:00am

Wednesday Services
Bible Study
12:00 noon &
6:00pm

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MAN OUR BROTHER"

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for Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
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Lubbock, Texas
Project No. 08-32, 08-33

The RFQ and further information can be obtained by accessing the Electronic State Business Daily <http://esbd.cpa.state.tx.us> NIGP Class Item No. 906-07, 906-10, 909-27 Agency Code 768

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

THE TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER AND ENCOURAGES ALL HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES TO PARTICIPATE

An annual convention of newspaper editors has been canceled for the first time since World War II, undone by the worst economic crisis since that harrowing era.

The American Society of Newspaper Editors' decision to skip this year's meeting was announced Friday, coinciding with the final edition of the Rocky Mountain News — the largest daily U.S. newspaper to shut down so far during a steep two-year slide in advertising revenue that's draining the life out of the industry.

"The industry is in crisis," said Charlotte Hall, president of the trade group and editor of the Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel. "This is a time when editors need to be in their own news rooms doing everything they can" to help their publications survive.

Until now, 1945 had been the only year that the American Society of Newspaper Editors didn't meet since the group's first convention in 1923. The newspaper industry weathered through 10 U.S. recessions since the last cancellation.

If it hadn't been canceled, this year's convention — scheduled from April 26-29 in Chicago — probably would have attracted a sparse crowd because so many newspapers are pinching pennies to raise their financial pain.

Newspaper staffs have been gutted, stock dividends have been suspended and, in the most extreme circumstances, bankruptcy petitions have been filed as more readers get their news for free from the Internet and advertisers curtail their spending on the print medium amid the recession.

Church News

FROM THE DESK OF PARSON D. A. SMITH "Baalin God or Fuehrer Limbaugh"

Remember the hindbrain we discovered last week in a Baalin paradise? Could we be making conversation about the de-facto leader of the Republican Party, Rush Limbaugh? Could we be referring to the conservative media buffoon that made a 6' plus, 290 lbs 16 size shoe wearing, well-educated African American male who made it all the way to the top of the Republican National Committee bow down and lick the agenda and what goes with the agenda of the Limbaugh conservatives?

Mr. Steele had a memory lapse for a moment, forgetting who he was representing and thought he was on equal playing field with his colleagues.

Mr. Steele forgot momentarily thinking he was the real deal in the GOP. Mr. Limbaugh reminded him "You are not head of the Republican Party. Tens of millions of conservatives and Republicans have nothing to do with the R.N.C. and right now they want nothing to do with it."

Mr. Steele made the mistake after a questioner on CNN referred to Mr. Limbaugh as the de-facto (being such in effect though not formally recognized—actually) leader of the Republican Party.

Mr. Steele felt so bad that he had insulted the Baalin god Limbaugh on national television that he called him and apologize saying "I was maybe a little bit

inarticulate. There was no attempt on my part to diminish his voice or his leadership" (Limbaugh's).

A writer commenting on Limbaugh noted pulling has found Limbaugh, a self-described prescription-drug addict so powerful that poor Michael Steele, the nominal head of the Republican Party who dared to criticize him, had to grovel and crawl back to the feet of Limbaugh.

He continued to say that some expected more mettle from Steele. After all, this rare African American Republican won his post after defeating a candidate who submitted the parody song from Limbaugh's show, "Barack the Magic Negro."

Limbaugh is said to have an obsession with race. He is to have said of Obama, "We are being told that, we have to bend over, grab the ankles, and bend over forward, backward, whichever, because his father was black, because this is the first black president." Translation: submit sexually to a black man because "someone" is telling us all to.

A few days ago in an e-mail that was acknowledged publicly, Dr. Ada Fisher, North Carolina's national committee woman, said Steele is "eroding confidence" in the GOP and that members of his transition team should

encourage him to step aside.

Fisher wrote: "I don't want to hear anymore (sic) language trying to be cool about the bling in the stimulus package or appealing to D. L. Hughley and blacks in a way that isn't going to wind us any votes and makes us frankly appear to many blacks as quite foolish."

A blogger On Politics sums up in a way a point many African American would express: "I don't know what's funnier, watching Michael Steele run the RNC, or Rush actually running the RNC! It's so obvious that Steele was picked because he's one of 3 African Americans in the GOP and he has to offset President Obama. Republicans are always screaming at the top of their lungs about reverse discrimination, and yet they go out and hire Steele just because he's black. It's hysterical (to) watch Republicans, hat in hand, raising their arm to Fuehrer Limbaugh! Funny watching a major political party bowing to an...elite hypocrite."

**Happy 100th
Birthday,
Lubbock, Texas
USA!**



We Thank God for Jesus "Peace of Mind In A Troubled World"

Written by Evangelist Billy "B." Morrison, II - Your brother in Christ Jesus always.

Ezekiel 13:9a-10a - The Lord said, mine hand shall be upon the prophets that see vanity, and that devise lies, because they have seduced my people, say saying - peace and there was no peace.

America is like a ship tossing and turning in an angry sea. The world is gone plum crazy, because they can't find no peace!!!

Isaiah 1:4a - Oh sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters. They have forsaken the Lord.

****** Have You Forsaken The Lord???**

But God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten son. Everyone can have God's peace, because God loves everyone.

Luke 4:18 - Jesus said the spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor. He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

Jesus being obedience to death. He went and died on the Cross. People who don't know Jesus are the ones miserable and lost!!

John 15:13-14 - Jesus said greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do whatsoever I

command you.

I, Billy "B.J.", was at one time lost, and lived in that world of sin. There was no joy, no peace. No love from within!!

Romans 7:24-25 - wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord, so then with the mind I, myself, serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.

I was believing in the lie called "Free at Last." But on inside my heart, I was miserable, full of hate and so sad.

John 8:36 - Jesus said, if son, therefore, shall make you free, you shall be free indeed.

****** Do You Have Joy, Peace and Happiness???**

Then one day I heard something very nice about this man Jesus Christ. My hateful heart was changed when I let him into my life.

Psalm 40:1-3 - I waited patiently for the Lord, and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. He has put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God. Many shall see it, and shall trust in the Lord.

With Jesus living inside, he made my life so brand spanking new. Let him take over your

life???

He'll do the same for you!!!

Matthew 11:28 - Jesus said, come unto me, all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

****** Have You Found Your Peace???**

When the mountains get too high, and the valley gets too low, I give it all to Jesus, because he's with me where ever I go.

John 8:31a-32 - Jesus said, if you continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed, and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

I never worry about the wars, not even the world's recessions. I don't worry about nothing. I know Jesus will get me through the depression!!!

Sparrows never go hungry, and this is true you see. In God I trust, because I know he'll take care of me!!!

Luke 11:11-13 - Jesus said, if the son shall ask for bread of any of you that is a father, will he give a stone? Or if he ask for a fish will he give him a serpent (snake)? If you being evil know how to give good gifts unto our children. How much more shall your heavenly father give the Holy Ghost to them that ask him?

St. Matthew's Baptist Church News

Church services were well attended last Sunday morning, March 8, 2009, at the St. Matthew Baptist Church, 2020 East 14th Street, where the proud pastor is Rev. Edward Canady.

Services got underway with Sunday School, beginning at 10:10 a. m. with Superintendent Sister Shirley Davis in charge.

The subject of the morning lesson was "The Importance of Servant Leaders." The scripture text was Ezekiel 34:23-31.

The morning lesson was taught by Sister Annie Oonasanya, our Assistant Superintendent, and reviewed by Pastor Canady.

The key verse was: "And ye my flock of my pasture, are men, and I am your God, saith the Lord God." Ezekiel 34:31.

The morning devotion got underway at 11:15 a. m. with Deacon Edward Williams and Brother Gerald Jackson presiding.

The St. Matthew Baptist Church Choir sang again out of their hearts and souls last Sunday morning.

Rev. Canady delivered a wonderful sermon. His subject was "God Is Love." His scripture text was John 3:16. It was another very inspiring sermon.

Our weekly meetings are as follows: Wednesday evening, Mission Ladies meet at 5:00 p. m. Bible Study begins at 6:00 p. m.

Friday evenings, beginning

at 5:00 p. m. is Choir Rehearsal. The Ushers will meet at 11:00 a. m. each Saturday morning.

The St. Matthew Baptist Church is still looking for a Musician. If you are interested in this opportunity, please call Pastor Canady at (806) 744-2445.

Let us remember our sick and shut-in members of our church and the Lubbock community.

Behold the Savior of

man kind nailed to the shameful tree!
How vast the love that Him inclined,
To bleed and die for thee!

Thought For The Week:
"The Cross of Christ reveals the love of God at its best and the sin of the world at its worst"

Let us pray:
"Our Father, creator of the earth, the great builder of t his universe, use us in Your kingdom to accomplish Your will,

For whatever You have called us to do, equip us, motivate us, and give us assurance that You are with us in the task of your calling. Help us to make a great contribution to Your kingdom. In Jesus' name. AMEN.

If you are looking for a Church Home, then come and visit with us at St. Matthew Baptist Church. You will be glad you chose to visit us at St. Matthew.

May God bless each of you!

Outreach Prayer Breakfast

Christians Suffering Requires Faith
Acts 12:1-18

King Herod Agrippa was an exile ruler who followed in the path of his grandfather Herod the Great. He felt that Christianity needed to be stopped as he saw the rapidly increasing number of people who were accepting Christ. Herod saw James as a threat and had him killed. This made him popular with the Jews, so he had Peter arrested and placed under heavy security.

While Peter was in jail, the believers prayed for his safety. Prayer is a powerful tool that activates our faith in God. James 5:16 says that the prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. God sent an angel to release Peter from prison. When he arrived at the house where the believers had gathered. They could not believe that he was free. Even though they had prayed for him. We may not always understand why suffering occurs, but we should be confident that we

can overcome anything through Christ.

Suffering for Christ requires great faith and the belief that God can deliver us from our troubles. Just as he did Peter. Although King Herod planned to have Peter publicly killed, God's plan prevailed. Just as he delivered Peter from what seem to be an impossible situation. He can deliver us if we exercise our Faith in Jesus

Christ!
Thought of the Week: "Can you understand why bad things happen to good people???"

The report of last Saturday morning, March 7, 2009, will appear in next week's issue.

A special thanks to all the ladies who were in attendance.

Also, thanks to all of you for reading, Saints.

Don't forget your drive by prayers for your neighborhood and the United States of America!

A New Heart
God, through the power of his forgiveness, transforms the hearts of those who follow him. His promise is that no longer will their hearts be hard and cold to his love. He will renew their hearts to receive his love and to love him in return. He will give them hearts that will actually want to follow him and obey his ways.

From our heart comes passion. When the heart is hardened and is turned from God, the pas-

sion that flows from it is directed away from God. When we acknowledge and receive the forgiveness of God, he transforms our heart—he makes it new. And the passion that flows from the renewed heart is directed toward God and his cause.

A new heart cares about the things God cares about.

Sister Dorothy Hood, president; Sister Christene Burleson, vice president; and Sister Elnora Jones, teacher.

Susan Combs Texas Corporates of Public Accounts

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Tony Brewer

Obsequies

Roscoe Lawin Howard



Funeral services for Roscoe Lawin Howard were held Tuesday afternoon, March 10, 2009, at the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, Rev. Sonia J. Scott is pastor.

Rev. D.A. Smith, pastor of Smith Temple Church, delivered the eulogy. He was Brother Howard's former pastor.

Also assisting was Rev. Eddie Williams, pastor of Baker Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church of Big Spring.

Interment was under the direction of Wilson's Funeral Home of Wofforth.

He was born March 12, 1934, and was the 13th child of Jesse James Howard and Dollie Angelene Jennings in Waxahachie, Texas. He grew up in Lubbock where he attended Ella R. Ilex Elementary School and graduated from Dunbar High School in 1954. He attended Jarvis Christian College in Hawkins, Texas for two years until he was drafted into the U.S. Army.

He married Mary Jo Banton, and from this union four children were born: Mark, Mary, Roscoe and Gregory.

He was a member of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church and was an ordained Steward. He also served as a Class Leader for many years and sung in the Men's Chorus. Brother Howard was a 3rd degree Mason of the Rio Grande Consistory #42 and the Pride of Lubbock Lodge. He was a member of The American Legion Post 808 of Lubbock. He also spent many of his working life employed by Hogland Office Equipment in Lubbock.

In 1996, he and wife, Renetta, made their home in

Port Gibson, Mississippi where he opened his own business, H & H Office Equipment until the building was destroyed by fire in 1999.

He was affiliated with St. Peter African Methodist Episcopal Church and served as a Trustee and a member of the Male Chorus as well as an honorary member of the Women's Missionary Society. He was also a member of the Claiborne County Branch NAACP.

He is survived by his wife, Renetta Womack Howard, whom he married in 1979, a daughter, Crystal Womack grandchildren, Ruffels, Maria, Lala Ada, Tawna Jammy, Jontae, Japal, Jasmine, Roscoe, III, Tany, Ember, and Julius, two great-grandchildren and a sister, Betty Jenkin of Los Angeles, California and a brother, John Howard of Mesquite, Texas.

He left a host of nieces and nephews California, Oklahoma, Dallas, Lubbock, Houston and Pearland, Texas as well as many cousins.

His parents and other siblings preceded him in death.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LUBBOCK, TEXAS USA!!

Worldwide Group Travel Presents the First Ever Destination Weddings Expo, Featuring the Beautiful Island of Jamaica

Westbury, NY (BlackNews.com) - Worldwide Group Travel is excited to announce its new venture - Destination Weddings & Honeymoon Exposition. They have partnered with the Jamaica Tourist Board for the very first time to produce a "Jamaica Only" Destination Weddings and Honeymoon Exposition. This event will be held at the Holiday Inn Westbury in Carle Place, New York on Sunday, March 29, 2009 from 12 noon until 4:00 p.m. Worldwide Group Travel, has found that in this challenging economic climate, it is still possible for a bride to have the wedding of her dreams! The lush, breathtaking beauty of Jamaica provides the perfect combination of a luxury wedding location, romantic honeymoon destination and affordability that today's bride is seeking!

The Jamaica Tourist Board has partnered with Worldwide Group Travel as the Exclusive Sponsor of the event, the first of its kind in the Tri-State Area. At this premier event, the Jamaica Tourist Board joins Gold Level Exhibitors Sandals-All-Inclusive Resorts, Half Moon Resort, Air Jamaica, Caribbean Bride Magazine and a host of other Exhibitors.

Brides, their fiancés and bridesmaids will want to spend an afternoon at the Expo and visit suppliers of wedding related vendors such as traveling photographers, hair stylists, make-up artists, creators of wedding favors and invitations, and a web designer who will help brides create personalized wedding websites in addition to

the many wedding related services, couples can also explore options for honeymoon resorts and activities. The Expo is expected to attract not only those planning Destination Weddings and/or Honeymoons but also those people within the New York Tri-State area who are interested in planning a family reunion, a group trip, or vacation.

During this event, attendees will be entertained by a live reggae band, free Jamaican food and a fantastic Bridal Fashion Extravaganza where the latest trends in bridal gowns, bridal party attire and resort wear will be showcased. One lucky bride will leave with an amazing Grand Prize of a Jamaica Destination Wedding or Honeymoon, including airfare.

Please visit the website www.destinationweddingsexpo.com

About Worldwide Group Travel LLC

Worldwide Group Travel was founded in 2004 by Lisa Jones-Smith. She took her 20 plus years experience in the travel industry and her love for planning Destination Weddings and Group Travel, formed her own successful travel company which is now known as "Worldwide Group Travel LLC." Since the opening of her agency, we have sent an excess of 3,000 people on group trips throughout the entire Caribbean. Of all of the many islands that exist throughout the Caribbean, our first choice has always been the beautiful Island Nation of Jamaica.

The Island Nation of Jamaica this event will "highlight" the lush natural beauty, the gorgeous beaches, superb first-rate golf courses, eco-friendly of course, and the superb, newly built First-Class Luxury Resorts all of which - the Island of Jamaica has to offer to all Brides, Grooms and their associated Wedding Guests. This event will reach out and educate and entice all future Travelers from both the Long Island and N.Y.C. Tri-State Area.



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Carrie Mae Adams

Slaton -Funeral services for Carrie Mae Adams were held Saturday, March 7, 2009, at Mt. Olive Baptist Church.

Burial followed at Englewood Cemetery in Slaton under the direction of Griffin Mortuary & Funeral Home of Lubbock.

Adams, 53, of Lubbock, passed away Sunday, March 1, 2009, at Covenant Lakeside.

She was born April 6, 1955, in Plainview. She moved to Lubbock in 2004.

She leaves to cherish her memory five daughters, Doris Jones, Monica Ivery, Marsha Jones, Aretha Jones, and Jackie Adams, all of Lubbock; five sisters, Minnie Devereaux and Irma Collins, both of Amarillo, Sandra Riddley and Rose Flueller, both of Hobbs, N.M., and Della Copper, of Lubbock; five brothers, Raymond Jones of Oceanide, Calif., Andrew Jones of Slaton, Robert Jones, Sr. of Kaufman, Edgar Jones of Dallas, and Vernon C. of Hugo, Okla.; fifteen grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, a host of other relatives and friends.

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Editorials • Comments • Opinions

THIS 'N' THAT

by T.J. Patterson

VOTER ID IS NOTHING BUT SUPPRESSION! THIS N THAT ... has noted that this week ... beginning on Tuesday ... that the ... **TEXAS SENATE** ... was in the debate on a ... **PROPOSED BILL** ... which would decide whether Texans should furnish a ... **GOVERNMENT-ISSUED IDENTIFICATION** ... like a U.S. passport or a driver's license ... before being allowed to vote in an election. ... Really ... this sounds like ... **VOTER SUPPRESSION** ... and it brings back the time in history when ... that is ... if you voted in Texas ... you had to pay a ... **POLL TAX** ... in the amount of ... \$1.75. ... Of course ... some Texas legislators are saying there are larger concerns in Texas. ... That may be true ... but if you have been involved in these kinds of tactics in the past ... then you would gladly say ... **NO TO THE VOTER IDENTIFICATION PROPOSED BILL!**

Now this may be the case since it all began earlier this week. ... Hopefully ... we can report the outcome in the very near future!

A SALUTE TO ROOT HISTORICAL ARTS COUNCIL! THIS N THAT ... has heard some very positive ... **REMARKS** ... About an incredible photography exhibit ... Featuring ... **NEVER BEFORE COLLECTED IMAGES OF EAST LUBBOCK CHILDREN** ... during 1950's and 1960's ... which were done by acclaimed African American Photographer ... **THE LATE EUGENE ROQUEMORE** ... this reception and exhibition ... took place at the new ... **SEEDLINGS K-12 YOUTH ART GALLERY** ... Located at 1729 19th Street ... This exciting event was sponsored by ... **ROOTS HISTORICAL ARTS COUNCIL** ... last Friday evening. ... Keep on doing what you're doing as it helps the entire community.

PENNY HASTINGS THE BARBER SAYS: "AN EDUCATION ... is a high momentum ... and ... **WE** ... must learn to ... **CLIMB IT!"**

CONGRATS TO THOSE LADY MATADORS! THIS N THAT ... wants the ... **LADY MATADORS** ... Of Estacado High School ... to know you are ... **WINNERS** ... as you represented us well this basketball season. ... as you let the State of Texas know the caliber of young ladies we have in Lubbock. ... **THIS N THAT** ... Really appreciates what each of you as a team member has done. ... Our ... **LADY MATADORS** ... our Champions!!!

MATADORS (BOYS) WILL FLY FOR AN OPPORTUNITY FOR STATE THIS AFTERNOON! THIS N THAT ... will be pulling for our ... **MATADORS (BOYS)** ... of Estacado High School ... who will play for an oppor

Continue on Page 6



"We Want Our Share; Not Beg"

by Eddie P. Richardson

The word now is stimulus it is floating around freely every one is using it if they know what it means or not it is the pass word Texas has been on a merry go round take it or not take it finally Texas has decided to take it and Lubbock has benefited from it all after all the up and down decisions. City councilman John Leonard has announced Lubbock will receive a share \$1.2 billion stimulus money received for road projects for Texas.

Leonard is chairman of Lubbock Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Policy Committee he also says that that MPO top two projects have been awarded economic stimulus money. The \$40 million Northwest Passage will be funded with \$12 million of stimulus money, \$25 million allocated from the City of Lubbock and \$3 million from the MPO. This project includes construction of an over pass at N. Slide Road and Loop 289, rebuilding 4th

Street overpass, widening the loop from 4 to 6 lanes from N Quaker and reverb the entrance and exit ramps from 4th Street to Quaker. The bid is expected to be awarded in September of this year.

The \$18 million project to widen West Loop 289 from 34th Street to North-Frankford will be funded with \$14.5 million of stimulus money and \$3.5 million from the MPO. The project will widen from 4 to 6 lanes from 34th Street to North-Frankford and reversing the entrance and exit ramps for that portion. The bid is expected to be awarded in 2010.

All of this is good but what about one of the most neglected parts of the the City of Lubbock the most disturbing things about the whole situation is the Slaton Highway Flyby to the Air Port This project was a high priority on the MPO's list years ago when former City Councilman and present Mayor, Tom Martin, this action makes this writer

wonder about the reason why the movement from high priority to off the list entirely. Over the years and all these new ventures funded and a top priority item completely swept under the rug when this was a very needed function of the transportation system which would have solved a transportation problem especially for people on their way to the airport coming from west, southwest, south, and even east at the Slaton Highway and Martin Luther King Blvd. the fly by would be a straight shot with being confused by the inner connects and under pass the question still remains why when this item had been placed on the high priority list and worked it's way down and eventually totally off the list when the stimulus come along other programs appear interesting!!!

In Cinque

by Renetta Howard



Howard

each other. It makes one wonder about some of these advertisements and how their existence coincides with the kind of government they will lead once elected into office. If the campaign trail gets any hotter, some burning will take place, especially in Alaska, that cold state. There are too many things there to be investigated that concern the Republican Vice Presidential candidate as well as the state's Senator. It appears that a lot of money has been wasted in time in the oil haven. Senator John McCain is either unaware of what has been going on, or he does not care, or on the other hand, Alaska and its Governor are just a part of the regular ongoing business as usual for a good Republican.

Needless to say, everyone is now aware that Barack Obama is now campaigning against Sarah Palin, the Republican Vice Presidential candidate from Alaska, because she is the one who has added zest to the Republican ticket, as John McCain had already lost the race long ago. McCain's age has been against him from day one, as well as his constant agreements with the soon to be 'lame duck' President George W. Bush. Thank God for the 22nd Amendment to the Constitution.



The Supreme Court cannot give him another appointment!

If my some chance, Sarah Palin does become President of the United States of America, we may just be in for a 'Bridge to Nowhere!' We need to get 'in cinque' and take a really close look at Alaska and what it produces besides oil and salmon. Does our country need the kind of leadership or lack of it, which Alaska has? Do we need a fashion plate or model in the White House, or someone who is able to make decisions based on what is good for the country rather than their own private family? We need to get our priorities in order before we VOTE on November 4, 2008, fifty days from today.

Special Notice!

As of the first day of 2009, due to the cost of doing business, the cost more than tripled since we began the Southwest Digest. The U. S. postage is the reason why we are raising the cost to \$60.00 per year.

If you are a present subscriber, it will continue at present rate until it expires. If you renew before the increase, you will add that much more time to your subscription.

We appreciate your business and hope you will continue to support the Southwest Digest. Regardless, we will continue with the help of God and you!

Chris Brown and Rihanna Reunited



No wonder Rihanna didn't press charges, it's because the battered wife syndrome is consuming her. Right now Rihanna is at one of Diddy's estates in Miami getting it in with Chris again. The pair have reunited almost three weeks after Brown, 19, allegedly battered the "Umbrella" singer on Feb. 8.

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Statue of Barbara Jordan to be Unveiled
AUSTIN, Texas — A statue of civil rights champion Barbara Jordan will be unveiled at The University of Texas at Austin on April 24, from noon-1 p.m.

The ceremony celebrates the life of Jordan, the first African American woman from the South to serve in the U.S. Congress, and commemorates the unveiling of the first statue of a prominent female public figure honored in the 125-year history of the university.

The bronze statue, crafted by California artist Bruce Wolfe, will be placed in the Battle Oaks area north of the university's student union.

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Letter Policy

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

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

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

You can also email us at: swdigest@abglobal.net or fax your letter to (806) 741-0000.

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

Michelle Obama Bicep's
Continued from Page 1

suggested that Mrs. Obama should mix it up by covering up. The way they sound, one would think that they were talking about her exposing too much cleavage — and thereby putting herself at risk of some kind of “wardrobe malfunction” — or too much thigh.

Maybe I'm a bit naïve, but I never knew there was such a thing as exposing too much arms. From listening to them, one would think that we lived in Afghanistan, not in the United States, a country where burkas, chadors and clothing that covers non-intimate parts of the female form are optio.

Yet I'm not surprised to hear that sort of criticism from pundits like Brooks. I am, however, slightly surprised to hear it from black women.

If anything, we ought to be celebrating Mrs. Obama's physicality — among her intellectuality and other things — and how she has been turning the traditional idea of beauty on its head since her and her husband ascended to the White House.

But a lot of us aren't.

I've been defending Mrs. Obama's preference for going sleeveless with a lot of sisters lately. Some are like my beloved mother — old-fashioned women who can't dispense with the notions of formality that wearing sleeved garments connote — to women who simply believe that showing arms imply some form of disrespect.

The sisters who believe that — and I say this with much love — need to get a grip.

Estacado Matadors in semifinal playoff action

The Estacado High School Matadors basketball team will face the Sour Lake Hardin-Jefferson Hawks in game one of session two of the State Semifinals Thursday, March 12 at 2 p.m. in Austin at the University of Texas Frank

Erwin Center, 1701 Red River, (512) 471-7744. Tickets are \$10 on-site at the Frank Erwin Center.

Dallas Madison and Stafford High Schools will play in game two of session two of the State Semifinals beginning at 2 p.m.

First of all, I like the fact that Mrs. Obama has dared to stake out her own style territory, that she has refused to simply follow in lockstep with those first ladies who have gone before her.

Secondly, when I look at the numbers of black women who are struggling with being overweight and obese, I'd say that we all ought to be looking to Mrs. Obama for inspiration, not as a target for criticism.

According to data from the National Center on Health Statistics, obesity rates among black women continue to be higher than those of white women, and those obesity levels continue to increase as we get older. Some 61 percent of black women aged 50 and older are obese, while 32 percent of white women in that age group are.

Mrs. Obama is 44. We ought to be trying to figure out how she managed to get her fab, flab-free arms — not fussing about her showing them off in public.

I also got to thinking about another reason why we ought to be celebrating Mrs. Obama's arms.

Barbie. The Barbie doll recently turned 50, and many were celebrating that symbol of idealized feminine, blond beauty.

While many white women later resented Barbie, with her long legs, big breasts, and perfectly proportioned figure as an unrealistic ideal that they were expected to live up to, it was all but impossible

THIS N THAT
Continued from Page 3

...tunity to capture the...
UIL 3-A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP... That is... if they win this afternoon... Thursday... Thos Mighty Matadors are... are...
NUMBER 2 IN 3-A BOYS BASKETBALL... It can be done... and... **THIS N THAT**... Believes they will bring the title back home with them to their trophy case at...
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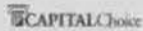
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Rev. Wright: Obama 'Like Any Other President'



Rev. Jeremiah Wright

SELMA, Ala. (AP) — President Barack Obama's long-time minister, the Rev. Jeremiah Wright, gave an assessment Thursday of his former congregant's short time in the White House. Obama is just like any other president.

Speaking in a brief interview with The Associated Press before giving a speech at a civil rights landmark, Wright smiled at the mention of the name of the nation's first black president.

"He's like any other president," Wright said. "He's a politician and he's got to do what politicians do."

Wright's remarks were similar to those he made after his fiery preaching became a campaign issue last year, forcing Obama to distance himself from his longtime pastor at Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago.

Obama resigned from Trinity United and, ultimately, cut ties with Wright because of the uproar caused by videotaped snippets of some of Wright's sermons, in which he shouted "God damn America" and accused the government of creating AIDS.

On Thursday, Wright was addressing more than 700 people at a mass meeting that kicked off the 44th anniversary celebration of the 1965 Selma-to-Montgomery voting rights march.

The event was held at

Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church, site of the first mass meeting that led to the watershed voting rights movement in Selma.

During his address, Wright cautioned against putting too much faith in Obama.

"Barack's name ain't Jesus. Barack ain't gonna improve your child's reading score. There are things we've got to do on our own," he said.

Obama may no longer associate with Wright, but the program for the event featured a picture of the two, smiling together, on the front.

The decision to invite Wright drew criticism from opponents including Obama's Alabama campaign chairman, U.S. Rep. Artur Davis.

"I am offended by the vehemence of Wright's commentaries on race in America. President Obama was similarly offended," Davis said in an open letter to event organizers at the National Voting Rights Museum and Institute. Davis represents the state's 7th Congressional District, which extends from Birmingham to rural west Alabama.

A leader of the weekend-long commemoration, museum consultant Sam Walker, said

Wright was invited to Selma not for his role in the election but for his decades of civil rights work.

Prosecutors Will Retry Mayor in House Attack



JACKSON, Miss. — Federal prosecutors said Thursday they will retry the mayor of Mississippi's largest city on civil rights charges for leading the destruction of a duplex apartment the mayor considered a crack house.

U.S. District Judge Daniel P. Jordan III declared a mistrial last month after a jury failed to reach a verdict in the trial of Jackson Mayor Frank Melton and his former police bodyguard. They're accused of leading a group of troubled young men to use sticks and sledgehammers to damage the house in a vigilante-style raid in August 2006.

"The government is going to pursue the indictment one more time," prosecutor Mark Blumberg said during a teleconference in Jordan's chambers.

The new trial for Melton, 59, and Michael Recio, 39, is scheduled May 11, less than a week after Jackson's Democratic mayoral primary. The first-term mayor entered the race Wednesday; more than a dozen candidates are running.

Melton defense attorney John Reeves objected to the timing of the retrial.

"It could be viewed by the government as a way to manipulate the election season," Reeves said.

Jordan set the date based on the recommendation of prosecutors, who said they gave no consideration to the election.

This will be the third trial for Melton and Recio. They were acquitted on state charges in April 2007 before federal prosecutors indicted them on three charges, including conspiracy to deprive the duplex's owner and tenant of their civil rights.

Prosecutors say Melton was drunk on power and scotch



Honoring Sister Christene Burlison

In honor of Sister Christene Burlison, the members of Greater St. Mark Baptist Church are sponsoring a program to show the community of Lubbock they appreciate what she has done as part of God's work. For many years, Sister Burlison has dedicated herself in preparing food boxes for the needy. Not by donations or profits, she has done so by the generosity of her heart, she free gives. She is truly a gift from God.

The public is invited to attend this special program Sunday afternoon, March 15, 2009, beginning at 3:00 p.m.

Greater St. Mark Baptist Church is located at 1210 Vanda Avenue, Dr. Leon Amstutz, Ph.D. is pastor.

Guest church invited are:

New Zion Baptist, Pastor Hopkins; New Light Baptist, Pastor Jackson; Mount Calvary Baptist, Pastor Slaughter; Progressive Baptist, Pastor Subblefield; Parkway Baptist, Pastor Avery; Lyons Chapel Baptist, Pastor Davis and Free Will Missionary Baptist Churches, Pastor Doss

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the state narcotics agency, made a name for himself with a tough-talking opinion segment called "The Bottom Line" on the station he ran. He was elected by a landslide in 2005 after running on a tough-on-crime platform.

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Rehearsal will be held Every 3rd Saturday of each Month - 12 Noon until 3 p. m.

Joyner Tours School with Education Secretary



U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and Tom Joyner, the nationally syndicated radio personality, toured a Howard University public charter school in Washington, D.C. Thursday, part of Joyner's ongoing efforts to support education in urban areas and fund black colleges across the country.

Last year, Joyner announced a new \$1.1 million grant with the National Education Association to increase the number of fully certified teachers in minority and hard-to-staff schools across the country.

The grant has helped fund historically black colleges and universities, as well as the Howard University Middle School of Mathematics and Science, the first public charter middle school in Washington, D.C. to be established by a university.

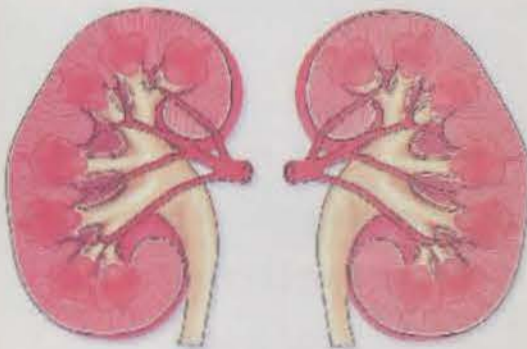
In a private meeting before touring the charter school, Duncan, the former school superintendent in Chicago, praised Joyner for "staying the course," saying many times people don't follow through on commitments to philanthropic projects.

Thank you for what you're doing," Duncan told Joyner.

The meeting was attended by Duncan, Joyner, Thomas Joyner, president of The Tom Joyner Foundation; Howard University President Sidney A. Ribeau; Dr. Alvin Thornton, interim provost and chief academic officer, and to Lisa T. Jones, dean of the School of Education.



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