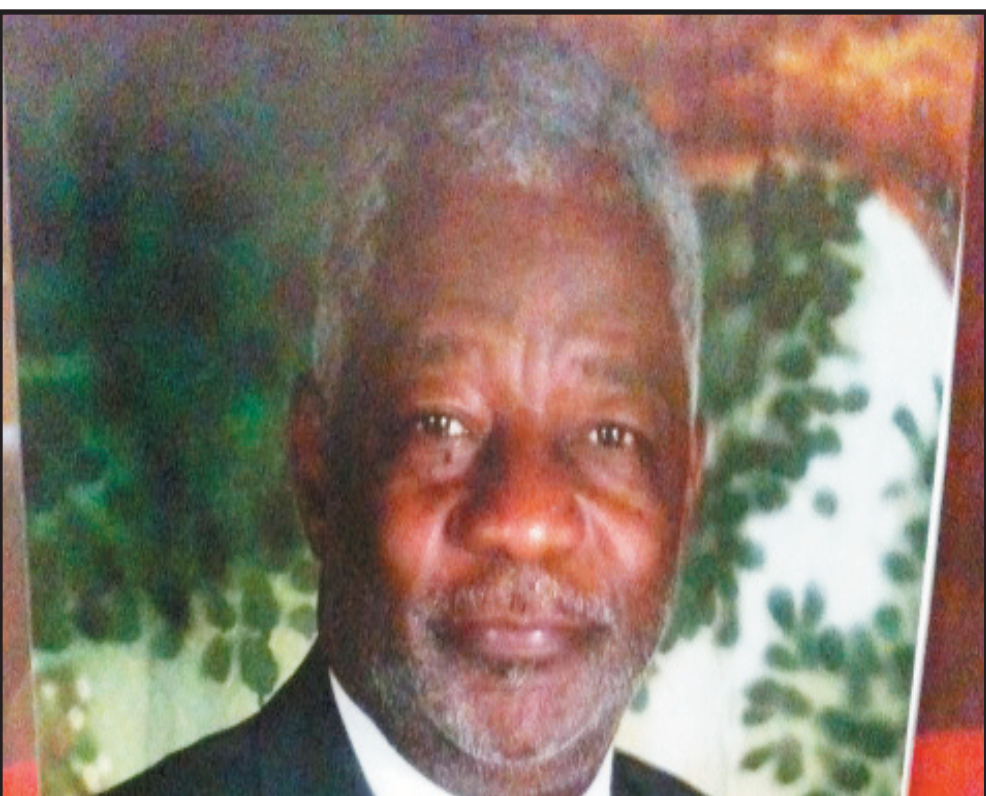




REV. JENNINGS STARTS NAACP CHAPTER



Thank you everyone! We made it! We now have the 100 signatures needed to restore our Fort Smith Chapter of the NAACP! The state president Dale Charles will meet with all of us Saturday, June 22, 2013, 1 p.m. at Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church, 4503 Young Street.

Please let us not stop at 100. You may still attend the meeting if you sign a membership before June 22. Any questions, I can be reached at 479-785-1773.

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU..

Rev. Jerry L. Jennings

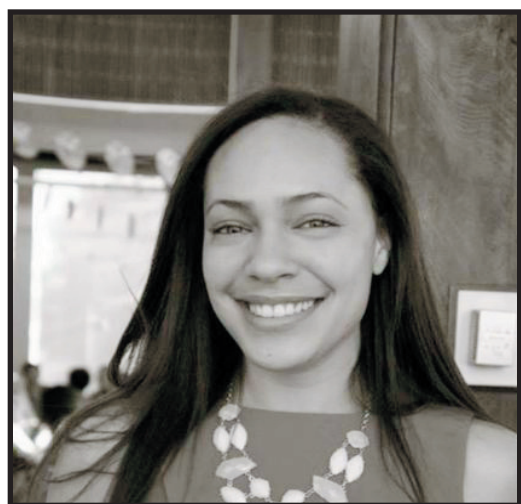
BAITMASTERS FISHING CLUB



The baitmasters fishing club, consisting of men from Illinois, Tennessee, California, Ohio and Arkansas went on their annual fishing trip. This year the trip was to Port Clinton, Ohio where all the Walleye fish pictured above were caught. Bill Perry put together the logistics for this trip and did an outstanding job.

HARVARD STUDENT EXCELLS

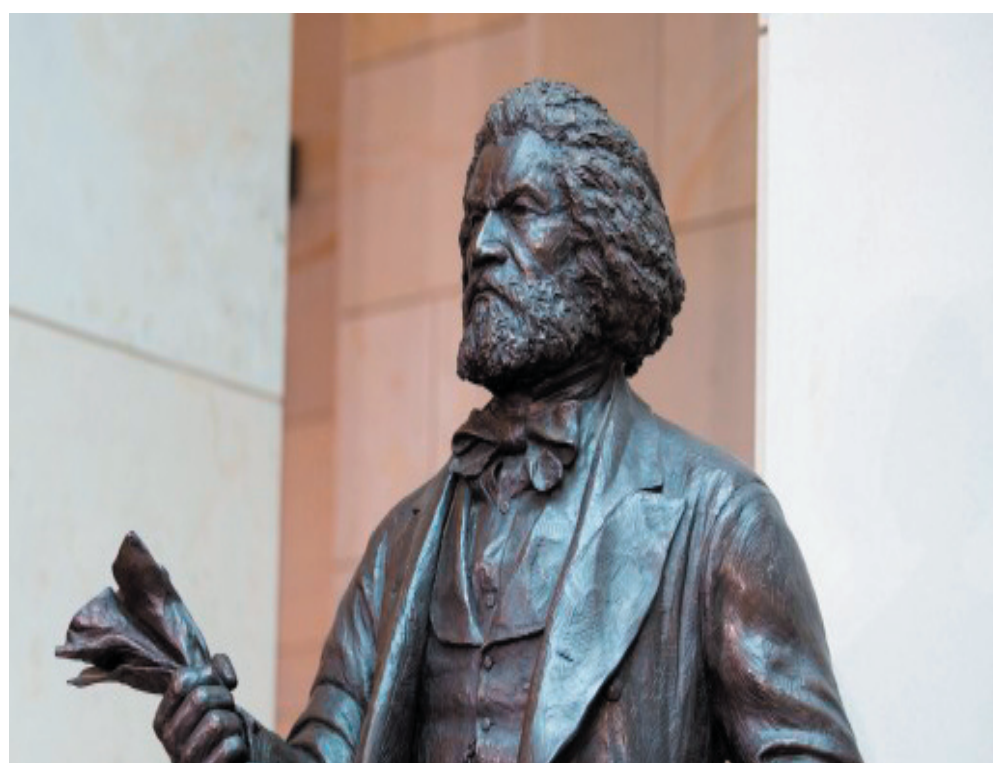
Ethel "El-lie" Hylton has always been a high achiever. Perhaps it runs in the family. As the niece of news anchor Soledad O'Brien, Hylton's personal achievement in graduating from Harvard College with the highest GPA in her class might not come as a surprise. Hylton, who gradu-



ated this year with a degree in sociology, was honored with the Sophia Freund Prize, which is given to the Harvard student with the highest grade

point average graduating summa cum laude. She was also inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa Society last fall. Hylton credits the support of her parents (who also graduated from Harvard magna cum laude in 1982) with much of her ability to attain success.

FREDERICK DOUGLAS STATURE UNVEILED



Before an audience that included Douglass's descendants, national and local leaders, and representatives of the many places he called home, the first statue chosen to represent the District was unveiled at a ceremony filled with pageantry in the Capitol Visitor Center's Emancipation Hall.

Of all the notable figures who have come to live in Washington, Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.) said, "none before or since Douglass . . . has so joined his national prominence and philosophy with the aspirations of the people of the District of Columbia. . . . He refused to separate his life in the District with the equality theme of his courageous life."

The statue's arrival marked the culmination of a fight by Norton and others that has stretched over a decade. Fittingly for a city that has endured repeated frustration at the hands of Congress, Wednesday's victory was only a partial one.

While the 50 states have two statues apiece in the Capitol, the District was granted only one, as congressional Republicans objected to placing it on equal footing with the states. So a second completed statue, of architect Pierre L'Enfant, remains at One Judiciary Square and the District gets the same allotment as U.S. territories, despite the fact that — as local activists emphasize — Washingtonians pay federal income taxes and territorial residents do not.

Some speakers Wednesday noted the irony that Douglass, a champion of D.C. voting rights and self-government, was being enshrined in a building where the city's voice remains muffled.

"We know that a single statue is not enough. . . . It is incumbent on all of us to right this wrong of history and afford the District of Columbia the voice it deserves," said House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (Calif.). Her fellow Democrats onstage applauded her remarks, while House Speaker John A. Boehner (R-Ohio) and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) sat in silence.

The two Republicans also declined to clap when Senate Majority Leader Harry M. Reid (D-Nev.) declared that the District "deserves statehood" and said that he had signed on to co-sponsor statehood legislation. Vice President Biden did not mention statehood but said he and President Obama support "home rule, budget autonomy and a vote for the District of Columbia."

Although Republicans avoided talk of the District's plight, Boehner praised Douglass as "an example for humanity that is unmatched," while McConnell called him a great "leader of the Republican Party." (Biden also joked that Douglass was "one of my favorite Republicans.")

And Nettie Washington Douglass, his great-great-granddaughter, said he "gave his spirit as a birthright to all of us."

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MRS. POSEY

Mrs. Ruby Posey celebrated her 102 Birthday on June 14, 2013 at Western Sizzling in Fort Smith, Arkansas given by her Nieces Tina Roberts and Pearlina Ross. She has lived a Virtuous life and God has rewarded her gracefully with age. Aunt Ruby is loved by many and



loves many more in return. Thank God

for keeping her this long. Thank you Lincoln Echo for printing an article on our Aunt for the past two years.

One of the many Nieces,

Jacqueline Davis

Pflugerville, Texas

YORUBA TRIBE OF AFRICA

The Yoruba People, of whom there are more than twenty-five million, occupy the southwestern corner of Nigeria along the Dahomey border and extends into Dahomey itself. To the east and north the Yoruba culture reaches its approximate limits in the region of the Niger River. However ancestral cultures directly related to the Yoruba once flourished well north of the Niger.

Portuguese explorers "discovered" the Yoruba cities and kingdoms in the fifteenth century, but cities such as Ife and Benin, among others, had been standing at their present sites for at least five hundred years before the European arrival.

Archeological evidence indicates that a technologically and artistically advanced, proto-Yoruba (Nok), were living somewhat north of the Niger in the first millennium B.C., and they were then already working with iron.

Ifa theology states that the creation of humankind arose in the sacred city of Ile Ife where Oduduwa created dry land from water. Much later on an unknown number of Africans migrated from Mecca to Ile Ife. At this point the Eastern Africans and Western Africans synergized.

Ife was the first of all Yoruba cities. Oyo and Benin came later and grew and expanded as a consequence of their strategic locations at a time when trading became prosperous. Ife, unlike Benin and Oyo, never developed onto a true kingdom. But though it remained a city-state it had paramount importance to Yoruba's as the original sacred city and the dispenser of basic religious thought.

Until relatively recent times the Yoruba's did not consider themselves a single people, but rather as citizens of Oyo, Benin, Yagba and other cities, regions or kingdoms. These cities regarded Lagos and Owo, for example, as foreign neighbors, and the Yoruba kingdoms warred not only against the

Dahomeans but also against each other. The name Yoruba was applied to all these linguistically and culturally related peoples by their northern neighbors, the Hausas.



The old Yoruba cities typically were urban centers with surrounding farmlands that extended outward as much as a dozen miles or more. Both Benin and Oyo are said to have been founded by Ife rulers or descendants of Ife rulers. Benin derived its knowledge of brass casting directly from Ife, and the religious system of divining called Ifa spread from Ife not only throughout the Yoruba country but to other West African cultures as well. A common Yoruba belief system dominated the region from the Niger, where it flows in an easterly direction, all the way to the Gulf of Guinea in the south.

It is no accident that the Yoruba cultural influence spread across the Atlantic to the Americas. European slave hunters violently captured and marched untold millions of Africans to their demise on over crowded slave ships bound for the Americas. Slave wars launched by the kingdom of Dahomey against some of the Yoruba kingdoms, and slave wars between the Yoruba's themselves made war casualty Africans available for transportation to the Americas. Yoruba slaves were sent to British, French, Spanish and Portuguese colonies in the New World, and in a number of these places Yoruba traditions survived strongly. In Brazil, Cuba,

Haiti, and Trinidad, Yoruba religious rites, beliefs, music and myths is evident even at this late day. In Haiti the Yoruba's were generally called Anagos. Afro-Haitian religious activities give Yoruba rites and beliefs an honored place, and the pantheon includes numerous deities of Yoruba origin. In Brazil, Yoruba religious activities are called Anago or Shango, and in Cuba they are designated Lucumi.

Slavery in the United States was quite different from other colonized regions. In the U.S. chattel type slavery was the means where the language

and culture was whipped and beat out of the African captives. In the U.S. throughout the Diaspora, the African generally received the death penalty for practicing his or her birthright. Today the religion has undergone a phenomenal surge in popularity and interest. Santeria, the adaptation of Yoruba and Ifa with Catholicism, came to the states first with Puerto Ricans in the forties and fifties and then with the flood of Cuban refugees in the sixties. In all of these places mentioned above, the pantheon of major Yoruba deities has survived virtually intact, along with a complex of rites, beliefs, music, dances and myths of Yoruba origin.

In recent years, availability of attainable air travel has enabled African Americans to go back to the essence from which this great culture derived (Africa) and gather the information needed to teach and assist others. Places like Oyotunji village in Beaufort South Carolina, DOYA (Descendants of the Yoruba in America) foundation in Cleveland OH, Ile Ori Ifa Temple in Atlanta GA, and African Paradise in Griffin GA where Yoruba culture and religion is still practiced, are just a few of many locations that offer a place to reclaim the religion of self awareness, inner strength, inner peace and unlimited power for our evolution.

Program Offers Year-Round Paid Internships To Minority Students

The Minority Access Internship Program provides students with the opportunity to merge academic theory with practical application in the work place through full time and part time internships. The program allows talented college students to experience the full scope and diversity of career opportunities available in the management, professional and technical domains of participating entities.

The well-designed program offers students far more than the opportunity to gain meaningful work experience in professional environments. As a Minority Access intern, they will receive: Recognition, Training, Counseling, and Academic Credit.

Applications are accepted from full time undergraduate and graduate students. Priority is given to students with a minimum 3.0 or better grade point average. Students must be U.S. citizens.

All internships are paid positions. In addition, Minority Access, Inc. provides bi-weekly stipends, round trip travel expenses, employment benefits, daily commuting subsidies, and assistance in locating housing.

For more details, visit:

www.findinternships.com/2013/05/minority-access-internship-program.html

To search hundreds of other internship opportunities, visit:

www.FindInternships.com

National Program Offers Information Technology Internships (and Jobs) To Low Income Young Adults

Year Up is a one-year, intensive training program that provides low-income young adults, ages 18-24, with a combination of hands-on skill development, college credits, and corporate internships. Their program emphasizes academic and professional rigor, setting expectations high for quality of work and professional behavior. A strong structure guides students through the steps necessary for achieving success in the classroom and the workplace.

For the first six months of the program, students develop technical and professional skills in the classroom. Students then apply those skills during the second six months on an internship at one of Year Up's 250+ corporate and government partners. Students earn up to 23 college credits and a weekly stipend, and are supported by staff advisors, professional mentors, dedicated social services staff, and a powerful network of community-based partners.

Since its founding in 2000, Year Up has served over 6,000 young adults.

For more details on how to apply, visit:

www.findinternships.com/2013/06/year-up-it-internship.html

To search hundreds of other internship programs, visit:

www.FindInternships.com

**“Some white people Hate black people,
and some white people Love black people,
Some black people Hate white people,
and some black people Love white people.
So you see, it's not an issue of black and white,
it's an issue of Lovers and Haters.”**

— eden ahbez

**“Racism does not have a good track record.
It's been tried out for a long time and
you'd think by now
we'd want to put an end to it
instead of putting it under new management.”**

— Thomas Sowell

AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

By Allene Stafford
Fourth of July Activities

Mayor's Fourth of July Celebration
 This year the Mayor's Fourth of July Celebration will be held on Monday, July 4th beginning at 7:00 p.m. The event will be held at Harry E. Kelly Park and Riverpark in downtown Fort Smith. Arvest Bank will be the presenting sponsor for the largest fireworks display in western Arkansas! A map for transit and parking for this event will be announced. The event begins at 7:00 with Blue Fiddle Band, 7:45 The River Valley Community Band, 9:00 Mr. Cabbage Head and the Screaming Radishes will hit the stage. We will also have a few concessions in the park. Ice chests are permitted however this is an alcohol free event. Mr. Cabbage Head and the Screaming Cabbages will be performing for about 30 minutes after the fireworks show.

38th Annual Devil's Den Games

Celebrate this special American holiday by making unforgettable memories. Devil's Den State Park will be hosting family fun events like a horseshoe toss, egg toss, kids' obstacle course, softball tournament, patriotic parade and ice cream making-also spoon and sack races. This event is free. Time 9 a.m.- 8 p.m. Devil's Den State Park, 11333 West Arkansas 74. West Fork, AR 479 761 3325.

A family fun-filled day celebrating independence with plenty of food, fun, music and the 3rd Annual Cardboard Race on Gar Creek, Ozark, AR 479 667 2949.

Celebrate America Celebrate America is an Independence Day Celebration featuring games and activities, live music, face painting, prizes, and a huge city sponsored fireworks display.. Main Street and City Hall parking lots will be filled with six huge water slides for kids, who can also enter to win a bicycle. Enjoy music beginning at 6 p.m. featuring local bands. Hamburgers, hot dogs, funnel cakes and cotton candy will all be available for purchase.

Take your lawn chairs and be prepared to stay until after dark when the sky will light up with a spectacular fireworks display. Free. Donald W. Reynolds Center, 105 Reynolds, Poteau, OK 918 647 9178.

Literacy Council of Western Arkansas

Beginning July 1st until August 19th the Literacy Council will meet on Tuesday and Wednesday 10:00-11:30 a.m. and 6:00-7:30 p.m. English and Citizenship Classes are free. 300 S. 11th St. is the location. Office Hours 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday(classes 10-11:30 a.m. 6-7:30 p.m.) Phone 479 783 2665 Fax 479 783 5332 e-mail mpearson@icowa.com

Wonderful World of Art

Two sessions will be held each day:

Session 1 10 a.m. -noon and session 11 from 1-3 p.m. Students will complete an art project in each class. Fee is \$10 per session or \$100 a week for both



sessions. Offered by the center for Art & Education, 104 North 13th Street, Van Buren, AR 479 474 7767. Call or go online to register. Art-ed.org July 8-12 Stop Action Movies for children 8-14 years old. This week campers will need to attend morning and afternoon sessions. Campers should meet at the Van Buren High School EAST Lab. Join Angie Williams for a week of stop-action animation. Mix equal parts digital camera, computer and imagination to create video short that is totally awesome. On Friday, there will be a premier showing of the movies for family and friends. Fee \$100.

July 15-19

Neon Fluorescent Extravaganza The vibrant colors of neon and fluorescent paint are sure to capture your attention. Crazy color scheme and patterns will be used to create works of art. Ages 6-14

July 22-26 3-D

A delightful week of optical illusions, sculpture and textures. Campers will create 3- dimensional art using some unusual objects along with traditional art materials. Ages 6-14.

July 29-Aug 2

Cartooning 101-The secret to a successful cartoonist is to

think funny. Learn how to develop your doodling skills and how to create new characters as you learn the tricks of the trade. Ages 6-14.

Registration Open For Tavis Smiley Foundation Leadership Institute

The 2013 Conference Theme Is Teens: Too Important To Fail

The Tavis Smiley Foundation is now accepting applications for the 2013 Leadership Institute, Teens: Too Important to Fail, scheduled for July 26-29 on the campus of the University of California Los Angeles, (UCLA). The four day program for teens ages, 13-18, includes leadership training workshops, a community service project and sessions on youth advocacy, education and civic engagement. The cost is \$400 (early bird registration) before June 30th and includes housing, meals and workshops. Late registration is \$450. The deadline is July 20th. To register visit: www.rsvpbook.com/

New Items Available At This 'n' That

Check out the new Country Corner section at This 'n' That Thrift Shoppe stocked with "down home" décor to liven up your living space. Add a touch of southern comfort to your home! Donations of clothing, accessories and home items are always welcome! All proceeds help provide free valet parking for patients and guests at the main entrance of Sparks Regional Medical Center.

UAFS ROLE AND SCOPE CHANGE

One of the most significant accom-

plishments to occur for the University of Arkansas - Fort Smith since Dr. Paul Beran became chancellor is now moving forward.

Beran applauds the leadership of Dr. Donald Bobbitt, president of the UA System, and the Board of Trustees for the University of Arkansas System for approving at the board's last meeting the opportunity for UAFS to make application for a role and scope change. Successful completion of the approval process will allow UAFS to offer master's degree programs, with the first a Master of Science in Healthcare Administration.

The Fort Smith Regional Economic Outlook Forum

on July 10 at the University of Arkansas - Fort Smith will include a presentation from Kevin L. Kliesen, business economist and research officer for the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

ECONOMIC FORUM SET FOR JULY 10

The luncheon forum, hosted by UAFS and Arvest Bank, will begin at 11:30 a.m. in the Reynolds Room of the Smith-Pendergraft Campus Center, according to Dr. Kermit W. Kuehn of Fort Smith, director of the Center for Business Research and Economic Development at UAFS. Kuehn will give an update on the regional economy as part of the forum.

FORT SMITH REGIONAL ART MUSEUM SCHEDULE

High Fiber: Arkansas Women to Watch 2013

Curated by Caroline Brown THROUGH JULY 7 Gallery Two From Landscapes to Cityscapes:

A Selection of Vistas from RAM's Permanent Collection THROUGH JULY 7 Gallery Two

Bridging the Past, Present and Future: Recent Works by Sandra Ramos Curated by Diane Camber

THROUGH JULY 7 Gallery One

EVENTS OPENING RECEPTION

THURSDAY, JULY 18, 5-7PM

The 65th River Valley Invitational "Naturally Diverse Arkansas"

The annual invitational is a national competitive exhibition that has been hosted by the Fort Smith Regional Art Museum since its inception in 1948. The purpose of this exhibition is to encourage and recognize professional artists and the juried competition is open to artists from all states. This exhibition will run through September 1.

To spread the word of happenings In Around The Neighborhood

Call: 479 783 6830

Fax: 479 783 6840

Email: linconews1@sbcglobe.com

UAFS FALL SEMESTER

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS - FORT SMITH

Summer goes by faster than you think.

APPLY.UAFS.EDU

POE'S THOUGHTS

IS IT COINCIDENCE ?

The republican party has stated their desire to become a more inclusive party but the rhetoric and policy tell a different story.

Is it happenstance that the republican party wants smaller government? It seems they only want smaller government when it suits their purpose. For instance, they want to cut government expenditures so they cut employees from their government jobs.

By percentage, blacks hold more jobs in the public sector than whites or Hispanics. Nearly 20 percent of blacks worked in local, state, and federal government in 2011, compared to 14.2 percent of whites and 10.4 percent of Hispanics, according to the Labor Department.

On average, immigrants tend to see poverty rates decrease much more rapidly than natives do, according to a Bureau of Labor Statistics report. In 2011, 19 percent of people not born in the U.S. lived here in poverty, down from 20 percent; in comparison, the poverty rate for the native-born remained at 14.4 percent. The more time immigrants spend in the U.S., their rate of poverty as a group improves, a Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas report shows. Just coincidence?

For those claiming all job growth is in the private sector, the United States is still down 2.336 million private sector jobs from December 2007. (source the BLS employment report).

Republicans seem to believe the key to the hearts and votes of minorities can be found once the party ramps up its outreach, particularly to Latinos and Latinas. While they are right to be alarmed about their very poor performance among minority groups, they are missing the point if they think it is about outreach. The Grand Old Party's fundamental problem is not outreach. It is policy. As long as the GOP is dedicated to being more conservative today than it was yesterday, then its minority outreach is doomed to failure.

What makes the party so strong among White voters -- its militant conservatism -- is exactly what

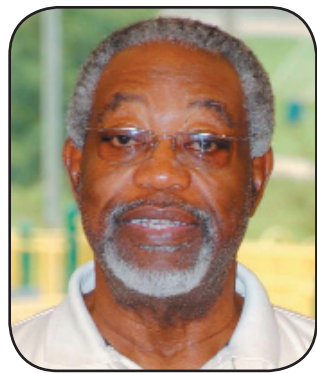
hurts it among minority voters. Emphasizing this conservatism has worked well for the GOP. It began moving toward militant conservatism in the 1960s, priming White voters with talk of states' rights and reverse racism.

But it's not 1960. This is 2013 talking down to people, no matter what their gender or status, will not win votes except from a small sector of the population.

Dan Burns, a columnist from Michelle Bachmann's home state, says, "What the current party shares in its collective psychosis with the party of the '60s is its yearning for martyrdom. If it's true that what hold on power the GOP still has lies in congressional districts more and more resembling outliers—a power that will die off as figuratively as the constituents of those districts die off literally—it's also true that many in the party are gripped by the death wish that thrills all martyrs and leaves them moist for self-annihilation. These Republicans have a different notion from other modern political parties of what a party is supposed to be. They don't see a party as a coalition of disparate interests having just enough in common that together everyone gets what they need, if not what they want. Republicans believe that, definitionally, a party signifies principles so unyielding that any compromise of anything at all renders the party meaningless. Nothing better indicates the theocratic personality of the party than that the very notion of coalition is corrupt, even debased, like a congregation that allows infidels in its ranks.

The bottom line is Minorities or just as conservative as any other group of people but you can't belittle them, then expect their vote. During the sixties racism overt and otherwise was rampant. There was a vocal minority spewing hatred, the majority was silent. Then a band of youth from all races and backgrounds stood up and said ENOUGH! Their parents followed. History is repeating itself. Will the replicans heed the message?

My brothers and D, peace.



MY VIEW

Republicans and the Religious Right

By DeNay Burris

Stuck on abortion. Can't or won't move forward. The people have spoken and the Republicans continue to attempt to force their ideology into the wombs of the American people. War everywhere around us, people living in poverty, incapable of surviving in this economy and the Republicans are stuck on abortion. No answers for the economy. Now answers for health-care. Could it be that the Republicans are flailing around, no answers for anything just hoping that something suggested sticks with the American public? Republicans seem to not only be having a hard time adjusting with the changing demographics here in the US. They also have difficulties with the concept of separation of church and state.

These are two issues that just won't go away for the

THIS IS A SHOUT OUT TO ALL THOSE GUYS AT THE BARBERSHOP

By DeNay Burris

If ever you have a rebuttal to anything that any of us has written. Send us your rebuttal. We will make sure you view is heard. You see debate is good. In order to grow each and every individual has to be willing to listen to and try and understand another's

Republicans. It is like trying to communicate to an individual that is obsessive



compulsive. They just can't get off their thought. Refuse to move forward until they are satisfied with what has transpired. There agenda has to be met before any other business can begin. Doesn't matter what occurs during the meantime, just as long as their agenda is addressed. Republicans holding not just America, but the world hostage because society has evolved and they refuse to. I say that they are holding the whole world hostage due to the fact that the whole worlds' economies are interconnected and the United States along

viewpoint. Without debate, without intellectual confrontation, we would still be slaves, now wouldn't we?

If anyone has anything about the community that you would like to see in the paper, send it to us, if we have room, we will put it in.

We welcome comments from our readers pro and con. If you agree or disagree with our editorials give us your

with China is in the center of it all.

You see, in the eyes of these Republican theologians whom have been voted into political offices, they do not believe that every man is created equal. Therefore, every man should not have the freedom of choice. These men are messengers of God and have been sent to earth to dictate God's will.

Just this week I learned something that I did not know. Did you know that male fetuses at the age of 15 weeks masturbate in their mother's womb, so said Tea Party Congressman Michael Burgess of Texas, who used to be an OB/GYN. Now who can argue with such intellectual genius? No mention of the capabilities of female fetuses. With genius such as this working in your behalf, who among us would need to think for ourselves?

opinion.

And finally I would like to say, don't complain about the articles and pictures that we place in the newspaper. Most of the pictures and information that we put in the paper has been sent to us from the community. If you know of things that are news worthy, send the information to us. Complaining accomplishes nothing.

General Information

the Lincoln Echo, USPS 240, is published each month at 101 N. 10th in Fort Smith, Arkansas. Napoleon Black is the Publisher. It is entered as periodic matter at the United States Post Office in Ft. Smith.

SUBSCRIPTIONS PER YEAR: \$25 per year nationwide. Single copy 50¢

POSTMASTER: Send all address changes to The Lincoln Echo, Our address is P.O. Box 771, Fort Smith, Arkansas, 72902. EMAIL: linconews1@sbcglobal.net PHONE: (479) 783-6830 FAX: (479) 783-6840

Correction Policy

the Lincoln Echo will print corrections of any errors published in the newspaper. The correction will be made as soon as possible after it has been brought to the attention of the Echo Staff. (479) 783-6830.

THE LINCOLN ECHO

Napoleon Blac

Allene Stafford

Publisher

Office Manager

Denay Burris

Cecil Greene

Advertising Manager

Executive V. P.

Kenneth & DeVaughn Black Inspiration

"The Voice That Brings the Community Together"

Established June, 1992

DUTY & DUTY ATTORNEYS AT LAW

CELEBRATING 100TH ANNIVERSARY 2011

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY - THAT'S ALL WE DO

DAVIS DUTY - FORMER SOCIAL SECURITY JUDGE

JOHN DUTY - DISABILITY ADVOCATE

479-785-3889

Toll Free 877-785-3889

72901

909 SOUTH 20th Street

Fort Smith, Arkansas

AN EDUCATOR'S POINT OF VIEW

Safety Involves Preparation for Things We Hope Never Happen

Benny L. Gooden
Superintendent
of Schools
Fort Smith Public
Schools

At the top of most parents' list of concerns about their children is their physical safety—especially when children are away from home. A good deal of the time children are not with their parents, they are in school. This means that the safety of our schools is a great concern for every community.

Statistically, school campuses have an excellent safety record and parents can be assured that their children are in a safe environment when they are at school. This fact is based on the comparison of crime statistics, violent acts against persons and safety from natural disasters for school campuses with other locations. Of course, this statistic provides small consolation when a tragedy occurs at a school. Each incident involving a tornado or other natural disaster or a violent act committed by an individual upon a school campus understandably receives prompt and intense attention.

In Fort Smith as in most communities, a great deal of attention is given to preparation in order to prevent incidents or to respond quickly and appropriately when an incident occurs. School staff members regularly

prepare for possible crisis events through planning, simulation drills and coordination with local law enforcement and other first responders. This preparation involves steps to limit conditions which may prove to be hazardous. This preparation includes regular video surveil-



lance of campuses and various levels of access control at school facilities. The balance between making schools accessible to parents and others who have valid reasons to be present while preventing the entry of those who present danger is a judgment which is always open to discussion and review.

Planning to respond quickly and appropriately when a crisis occurs is a high priority for each school campus. Drills to simulate dangers requiring a lockdown of campus access, sheltering students and staff securely or a quick response to hazards are all commonplace in today's schools. These preparations are a major departure from the periodic fire drills of long

ago—although fire drills are still part of the preparation menu for all schools.

The tornado danger in this part of the nation makes protecting students and staff from the devastation these storms bring a high priority. On-campus tornado shelters designed to withstand the fury of an EF5 storm are located at each elementary and junior high school in Fort Smith. These shelters are an integral part of the safety preparation on school campuses. They offer superior protection in comparison to other structures. FSPS tornado shelters are also available to the public in each neighborhood when school is not in session or when space is available. The shelters have proven to be popular during periodic severe weather events. Rules for shelter operations are available on the Fort Smith Public Schools website at www.fortsmith-schools.org and are posted at the entrance to each shelter. These rules are designed to help ensure the safety of all shelter occupants.

Safety is a high priority for students and staff at every school campus. Fortunately, most of the potential events included in planning will never occur. However, the first step toward prevention and safe response is the plan-

Affirmative action will survive in Washington politics

By Perry Bacon, JR.

Earlier this year, while a New York Times story incited a huge controversy over the lack of women in President Obama's inner circle, a quieter diversity debate was being waged. In his first several selections for his second-term Cabinet, Obama had not picked a single African-American.

Rep. Marcia Fudge (D-Ohio.), the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, blasted the White House in interviews, while other members of the CBC privately fumed about what they viewed as another slap in the face: the Congressional Hispanic Caucus had had a group meeting with the president after the election, but not the CBC.

A few weeks later, Rep. Mel Watt of North Carolina, one of the CBC's own members, was nominated by President Obama to run the Federal Housing Finance Agency and Charlotte mayor Anthony Foxx was tapped to head the Department of Transportation.

Supreme Court ruling won't change D.C. culture

The debate about

women and minorities in the Cabinet illustrated a important dynamic in the



debate over affirmative action, which will be reignited when the Supreme Court releases its latest ruling on the issue. Both parties, whatever their public statements on affirmative action, actively look to find and promote women and people of color, desperate, just like colleges and universities, to make themselves look like America.

And however the Supreme Court rules on university admissions systems that explicitly consider race, this affirmative action in politics is almost certain to continue.

Republicans, many of whom are officially against racial preferences as a matter of law, are particularly eager to illustrate diversity, after losing 80 percent of the

non-white vote in 2012. Party strategists privately admit it's very unlikely that the GOP will run two white men on the presidential ticket in 2016, which effectively guarantees one of the 12 non-white males who are Republican senators or governors will be the party's nominee for president or vice-president.

While never said explicitly by GOP officials, the strong embrace by the Republican Party of Florida Sen. Marco Rubio has much to do with the GOP's need to have a key voice who represents the growing American Hispanic community.

GOP wants to rope in racial minorities

A report written by the Republican National Committee earlier this year specifically calls for the party to "create a program that is focused on recruiting and supporting African-American Republican candidates for office" and "hire field staff within Hispanic communities."

Democrats have long supported affirmative action and diversity programs and are less shy about openly talking about them. served more credit on the issue.

Greene Scholars seeks to place black youth in STEM

By Kunbi Tinuoye

Over the next few days, 95 academically gifted African-American children with an aptitude in math and science will attend a highly-competitive summer camp in California's Silicon Valley.

The Greene Scholars Program, established in 2001, works with 3rd to 12th graders to cultivate academic abilities in science, technology, engineering and math.

"What's unique about the program is that we've a long-term initiative to help stimulate the intellectual capacity of our kids to pursue STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) field careers," says program director Gloria Whitaker-Daniels.

"I feel in love with the model," says Whitaker-Daniels, who initially was a parent-volunteer whose brood all completed the program.

"We stay with kids when they enter the program till they enter college. I have not found another program that does this over this duration."

Since its inception, every GSP scholar has gone on to college. "The majority takes up STEM related bachelor's degrees but of those that don't we are confident they can face the world with a good grasp of math and science," she says.

For Whitaker-Daniels, her commitment is a personal passion and testimony to the success of the project.

Her two eldest are both pursuing a Master of Science at reputable colleges in STEM disciplines. And her youngest, 19-year-old Kolin, is doing a Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering at San Jose State University.

The Greene Scholars Program is just one of several projects trying to increase the numbers of

Revelation Church

18209 Sebo Lane

Spiro, OK 74959

We have a serious need for a bus in our church.

Our goal is to obtain two (2) buses for our church, greatly needed to provide transportation for church services, as well as youth functions, on the local, district and state leaves.

Your contribution is much appreciated and tax deductible.

May the Lord lead you to your decision.

The Lord Bless and keep you,
Pastor-Supt. J. D. Frazier, Spiro, OK Ph: 479-420-7938

To help us obtain two busses, I/We want to donate:

| | |
|-------|---------------|
| ----- | \$100.00 |
| ----- | \$500.00 |
| ----- | \$1,000.00 |
| ----- | Other \$----- |

Name: -----

Address -----

Phone -----

AROUND AND ABOUT LITTLE ROCK

By Wanda Hamilton
F.I.R.E.S. (Finding Incentives Reaching and Empowering Students) opened the summer season on June 1, 2013. The Firefighters All White Affair was held at the Clinton Presidential Center. Fire Chief Gregory Summers and Joseph Gray, F.I.R.E.S.'s Executive Director greeted the crowd. They thanked attendees, officers, board members and sponsors for their support. The evening was filled with music by Violinist Michael Ward, Dell Smith and Integrity, Violinist Lexington Porter and the William Staggers Band. Guests dressed in all white enjoyed libations, appetizers and danced the night away. The proceeds from the event will go to fund EMT (emergency medical technician scholarships).

HEARNE FINE ART, BOOKS & CUSTOM FRAMING celebrated its silver anniversary.

The celebration included Artists' talks, a Meet and Greet session featuring Essence Best selling Author Victoria Christopher Murry, "Never Say Never", and Arkansas author Akasha Hull, "Neicy". Long time exhibitors Aj and Marjorie Smith showcased their silverpoint drawings, "Reflections In Silver" at the Friday 14, 2013 reception. Marjorie said "I have worked with silverpoint for over 25 years and it still fascinates me. This drawing technique uses silver wire as the drawing tool. Silverpoint requires discipline because it does not lend itself to erasing. The process is slow, but the results are sublime." A.J. said "Silverpoint drawings are fitting for this 25th anniversary celebration. I have been with the gallery since the late 1980's. My drawings in this exhibition are from my recent series Faces of the Delta. I commend Hearne Fine Art's

continuing commitment to the art of African Americans." The exhibit will continue through August 3, 2013.

JUNETEENTH:
 The annual cel-



bration kicked off June 14th at Mosaic Templars Culture Center with a theatrical performance of "Voices From The Front Porch," written by S. Juain Young. The storyline's focus is for people to remember the importance of our ancestors fight for freedom. It will remind them of the stories they heard their great-grandmothers and other family members recount on the front porch. The all day festival on the 15th

included Kids Zones, a Rock Climbing Wall, Taekwondo Performances, Magic Show, Zumba and Salsa Dancing. Musical performances were presented throughout the day and food booths were available. The musical lineup included: Gloryland Choir, Akil Ato, International Percussion Collection with Emerge, Butterfly & Irie Soul, Billy Jones Blues, Stephen B. Steward and Gospel Recording Star Isaac



Carree.

SPOTLIGHT ON:
 Michele Wright who was promoted CEO of the Greater Ozarks-Arkansas Region. She will oversee the Red Cross's blood services to 52 hospitals in Arkansas, SW

Missouri, and the greater Memphis area. She studied at Tuskegee, the University of Tennessee Space Institute and the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville where she received her doctorate. Her career path includes work with Savient Pharmaceuticals Inc. and Genentech Company in Little Rock.

IN MEMORIAM:
 Donald and Donna Creer, known for their musical talents in Little Rock and beyond died June 12 after a blaze in their home. Donna was an inductee into the Broadcasters Hall of Fame and at her death was an on-air announcer at 94.9 Hallielujah FM. She was completing her 26th year as the Executive Director of the Magnet Review Committee in Pulaski County. Donald was a talented vocalist. His performances were anticipated in the annual Handel's Messiah Presentation

as well as at other events in Little Rock and beyond. A celebration of their lives was held at Little Rock's St. Mark Baptist Church. A musical tribute was included in the "Family Hour" service.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

For a limited time, the exhibition "Tribute to George Washington" will be at the Clinton Presidential Center. It will open Friday, June 28, 2013 and close July 12, 2013. The opening includes a tour, reception and book signing by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Joseph J. Ellis. The exhibition will feature George Washington's personal copy of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights; correspondence and a portrait of Washington painted by artist Gilbert Stuart in 1797. The program is fee; however reservations are required.

Reserve your seat by calling 501-748-

WHAT IS THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

The Affordable Care Act, or ACA, is a long complex piece of legislation that attempts to reform the healthcare system. Summarizing the Affordable Care Act means giving a basic overview of what each section is about. We have a condensed version of the law available to download and many other pages that explain aspects of the law and how they affect you.

This Summary of the ACA will help you get a quick idea of what exactly is in The Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) and what it does for Americans like you.

The Affordable Care Act reduces costs of premiums to millions of families and small businesses and provides billions dollars in tax relief – the largest middle class tax cut for health care in history.

The Affordable Care Act also reduces what most people will pay for healthcare by capping out of pocket expenses and requiring all preventative care be full covered and without cost to the individual.

Nothing in the Bill forces any American to have healthcare or to drop their current healthcare plan.

There will be a competitive insurance market and all Americans will be able to choose their insurance out of these plans. Since everyone will have access to the same care through the Affordable Care Act it helps to ensure that all Americans receive quality healthcare. Those wishing to purchase private health insurance will be able to do so and receive the same care available today.

Since all Americans will pay into the Affordable Care Act, the insurance exchange will pool buying power allowing individuals to afford private insurance plans. These plans will have to compete for your business, thus helping to regulate cost and quality.

Small business owners will be able to pur-

chase their own coverage, and will receive tax credits for up to 50% of the cost of their employees health insurance making it easier to give their employees benefits.

Insurance companies cannot deny coverage based off of pre-existing medical conditions and can make an appeal if an insurance company refuse doctor ordered treatments.

The Affordable Care Act extends Medicaid, preserves CHIP (Successful children's insurance plan) and simplifies enrollment.

Improves community-based care for disabled Americans and provides States the opportunity to expand home care services for people with long term care needs.

The Act treats all States equally and gives them flexibility to adopt strategies to improve care in coordination with Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries.

The Affordable Care Act TITLE II states that it saves the taxpayer money by reducing prescription drug costs and payments to subsidize care for uninsured Americans.

The Act also gives more Americans access to health insurance greatly increasing the number of Americans who have healthcare. Title III. Improving the Quality and Efficiency of Health Care

The Affordable Care Act preserves, protects and reforms Medicare.

The ACT closes the coverage gap "donut hole" for drug costs for seniors. Seniors will save thousands of dollars in drug costs due to closing the "donut hole".

Healthcare institutions and professionals will be incentivized to improve care.

The Affordable Care Act provides additional health services to rural America.

The Act ends the overpayment of tens of billions of dollars to insurance companies in order to help protect Medicare.

Taxpayer dollars are saved by keeping

people healthier before joining Medicare, reducing Medicare's need to pay hospitals to care for uninsured patents.

A team of healthcare experts and not members of congress, will work together to come up with the best ideas to keep Medicare running by figuring out the improve the quality of coverage and reduce costs for Medicare.

Title IV promotes prevention, wellness and public health via unprecedented funding.

The Act uses national prevention and health promotion strategies to work to improve the health of Americans and reduce preventable illness and disability in an effort to keep Americans healthy and health care costs down.

Nutritional information will be more prevalent.

Co-payments will be waved for preventative measures for seniors.

The bill adds many preventative services for women.

The bill as a whole will save taxpayers by ensuring that people have access to the preventative measures saving millions of lives and astronomical hospital bills that go unpaid and drive up the cost of healthcare.

Affordable Healthcare Act funds scholarships and loan repayment programs to assist young people with going to school for health care related professions.

The act promotes much needed jobs in the healthcare industry to prepare for our future thus creating jobs for American workers.

The Act gives states power to recruit healthcare workers.

Helps fund and expand community health centers.

ACA Continued on page 7

DEMOCRATIC SENATORS OUTREACH

On May 13, 2013, the Democratic Steering Committee held an outreach question and answer session for African American journalist. Those journalist stationed in Washington D. C. attended the session in person while the rest of the journalist attended via telephone conference. The Lincoln Echo was represented by Publisher Napoleon Black.

The sole Democratic African-American senator cast doubt on the need for a "black agenda" from the president and on its chances of passage in Congress during a Democratic forum with largely African-American reporters Wednesday.

Massachusetts Sen. William "Mo" Cowan said the issues that black Americans are concerned about are the same as those causing white Americans concern, although to different degrees.

"I think he has to stick with the agenda and what he thinks is going to move the country forward," Cowan said referring to President Barack Obama. Cowan is temporarily filing the seat vacated by John Kerry who is now secretary of state. Republican Sen. Tim Scott of South Carolina also is African-American.

Since his election in 2008 as the first black president, Obama has been hounded by questions about how well his administration has addressed the needs of the black community. He has had some vocal detractors but also supporters, like Cowan.

Cowan and other senators participating in the forum organized by the Democratic Steering Outreach Committee, agreed that if Obama had sent a package of legislation

as a "black agenda," its chance for passage would be slim.

"It would not be dead on arrival in the Senate. It would be dead on arrival in the House," said Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich.

On the other hand, Obama has had



some pieces of legislation that could positively impact black Americans, such as the Affordable Care Act intended to provide access to affordable health care, Cowan said.

"I think once we come to grips with our budgetary situation and dealing with those realities, getting out of this sequester nonsense, it will go a long way to improve not just the lives of black Americans, but all Americans," Cowan said.

Sen. Mark Begich, D-Alaska, said entrepreneurship, education and unemployment in the black community, whether called part of the black or American agenda, do deserve more attention.

Separately on Thursday, the Urban Institute issued a report revisiting issues raised in a landmark 1965 report that became known as the Moynihan report, named for then-Assistant Labor Secretary Daniel Patrick

Moynihan. The report focused on the roots of poverty in black America and blamed the growth of single-mother families, causing controversy.

The study notes the black community still is struggling with the same problems of joblessness and poverty.

Unlike Moynihan, the Urban Institute study said the issues faced by black Americans cannot be solved only by raising more children in two-parent families. Instead, broader strategies are needed to address criminal justice policies, residential segregation and concentrated poverty, the state of public schools in black communities and lingering discrimination.

Sen. Chris Coons, D-Del., said Congress needs to be prepared "to act legislatively to deal with the likely consequences of a federal government that will be more reined in" should the Supreme Court strike down protections against discrimination in the Voting Rights Act and prohibit colleges from considering race in admissions.

"There is, in my view a black agenda because there is a very real experience of ongoing discrimination going on in this country," Coons said.

The democratic Steering Committee consists of Chairman Mark Begich of Alaska, Jeanne Shaheen of New Hampshire, Harry Reid of Nevada, Richard Durban of Illinois, Robert Menedez of New Jersey, Chris Coons of Delaware, Patrick Leahy of Vermont, Tom Harkin of Iowa, Max Baucus of Montana, Carl Levin of Michigan, Barbara Boxer of California, Mark Pryor of Arkansas, John D. Rockefeller of West Virginia and Kirsten Gillibrand of New York.

ACA Continued from page 6

The Affordable Care Act focuses on keeping Americans informed about healthcare.

Doctor patient relationships are strengthened via cutting edge medical research and access to more data to allow doctors and patients to make the decisions that work best for them.

Greater transparency in nursing homes by placing regulations and incentive programs to help improve quality control.

The Act reins in waste, fraud and abuse by imposing disclosure requirements to identify high-risk providers who have defrauded the American taxpayer.

States now have the authority to prevent providers who have been penalized in one state from setting up in another.

Gives states flexibility to propose and test tort reforms that affect patent safety, encourage resolution of disputes and improve liability insurance.

Title VII. Improving Access to Innovative Medical Therapies

Title VIII. Community Living Assistance Services and Supports Act (CLASS Act)

Title IX. Revenue Provisions

Title X. Reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act

WHITE RIVER REGIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY Accepting Applications for Affordable Housing

Cedar Ridge Apartments, Ravenden, AR
For elderly—62 and older
Manager: Karen Anderson (870) 869-3300

Cypress Knoll Apartments, Cave City, AR
For elderly—62 and older
Manager: Margene Coles (870) 283-6565

Hackett Manor Apartments, Clinton, AR
For elderly and mobility impaired
Manager: Ron Cook (501) 745-6555

Melbourne Meadows Apts, Melbourne, AR
For elderly and mobility impaired
Manager: James Elbert (870) 368-5200

Pecan Valley & Tanglewood Apartments, Bono, AR
For elderly — 62 and older
Manager: Randy Leonard (870) 910-3535

Pleasant Valley Apartments, Heber Springs, AR
For elderly and mobility impaired
Manager: Dave Eckhart (501) 362-5925

Ridgecrest Apartments, Mountain View, AR
For elderly and mobility impaired
Manager: Diane Hale (870) 269-4213

Strawberry Fields Apartments, Strawberry, AR
For elderly—62 and older
Manager: Renee Richey (870) 528-1500

Sun Valley Apartments, Batesville, AR
For elderly—62 and older
Manager: Margene Coles (870) 793-7676

Sycamore Terrace Apartments, Bald Knob, AR
For elderly—62 and older and mobility impaired
Manager: Betty Case (501) 724-3500

Crestview Apartments, Calico Rock, AR
Public Housing
Manager: Jean Ahlquist (870) 297-8001

Mountain View Apartments, Mountain View, AR
Public Housing
Manager: Diane Hale (870) 269-2540

Swifton Apartments, Swifton, AR
Public Housing
Manager: Liz Hickman (870) 485-2456

Bradford Apartments, Bradford, AR
For families, individuals, elderly or disabled
Manager: Betty Case (501) 344-2245

Cottonwood Apartments, Walnut Ridge, AR
For families, individuals, elderly or disabled
Manager: Karen Anderson (870) 886-9600

Fox Fire Apartments, Ash Flat, AR
For elderly, handicapped or disabled
Manager: Pat Bratcher (870) 994-3131

Kensett Apartments, Kensett, AR
For families, individuals, elderly or disabled
Manager: Estelene Seaborn (501) 742-3700

Parkview Apartments, Cave City, AR
For elderly, handicapped or disabled
Manager: Margene Coles (870) 283-6541

Pioneer Apartments, Mountain View, AR
For elderly and/or disabled
Manager: Diane Hale (870) 269-4213

Richwood Apartments, Ash Flat, AR
For families, individuals, elderly or disabled
Manager: Pat Bratcher (870) 994-7171

Spring River Apartments, Hardy, AR
For families, individuals, elderly or disabled
Manager: Pat Bratcher (870) 856-2662

West Pine Apartments, Bald Knob, AR
For families, individuals, elderly or disabled
Manager: Betty Case (501) 724-0076

Inman Acres Apartment, Russell, AR
Public Housing
Manager: Betty Case (501) 724-6396

Cushman Apartments, Cushman, AR
Public Housing
Manager: Karin Grills (870) 368-5200

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

THE LINCOLN ECHO NEWSPAPER, INC.

P. O. BOX 771, FORT SMITH, AR 72902

(479) 783-6830 / (479) 783-6840 (FAX)

linconews1@sbcglobal.net

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

\$20.00 yearly

NEW RENEWAL DONATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ST. _____ ZIP _____

*PHONE _____ *BIRTHDAY _____

*e-mail _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: THE LINCOLN ECHO NEWSPAPER
* OPTIONAL



Rent on all of the above apartments is based on income. Handicap units are available and priority will be given to those who require special design features. For more information, please visit: www.wrrha.com



JULY BIRTHDAYS

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Mildred Bryant Aisha Lewis | Monica Lee Dajon London Violet Carter Mae Thella Tillman | 16 Ashley Cowan James Wallace | 20 Mae E. Moore | 26 Sherry Toliver |
| 2 Kyra Driver Gussie Hawkins | 8 Lydia Parish | 17 Theodore Hall McKenna Parish Patrick Johnson Roslyn Ann Andrews Glenda Snow Prudence Webb | 21 Sandra Tidwell | 27 Shwna Hawkins Emma L. Hayes |
| 3 Stanley Templeton Hattie T. Lee | 11 Anthony Nelson Ann Croston Ruth Almeda Smith Derrick Williams Melvin Stroble Kelvin Stroble | 18 Michael Moore Leonard M. Brogdon | 22 Nadine Campbell Johnny Andrews | 29 Timothy Black |
| 4 Wynona N. Suarez Sharon Oliver Brown | 13 Delbert Williams | 19 Doris Williams Robay Gertrude Lucas Shelton Lucas | 23 Cheryl Davis Christine Moore | 30 Lavonda Williams Cathy Wilson Miranda Gary T. Baridi Nkokheli |
| 5 Ahmad Templeton Anstasia Black | 15 Olumoroti Abiola | | 24 Nathaniel Barrett Curtis B. Adams | 31 Johnny Franklin Annika Alston Minnie Hill Brogdon |
| 6 Latresha Carter | | | 25 Brandon Deas | |

Ghost of the Slave Master... in the Hood

Just before the end of the college semester I was invited by a colleague to come to his class and share my personal insight on a movie he was going to show his students. I asked him what was the movie, and he replied "Django". Without hesitation I accepted his invitation because I have always been a fan of Jamie Foxx because he is not afraid to take chances in a chosen occupation where he can, and will be scrutinized on a daily basis. I will make it clear now that I went to my friends' class with the single intention of being entertained by one of Hollywood's greatest actors. I sat their enthralled along with his students as I watched Quentin Tarantino tell a brutal, inhumane and degrading truth, of how a race of people was never considered when Webster penned the definition of the word "human". This director told a story that Hollywood would never dare tell.

The movie ended and I look at the faces of these young zealous thinkers and what did I see? Confusion, puzzlement and disbelief. This movie went against every fiber of their being, and everything they had been taught about slavery. My buddy asked the class, "So what did you guys think of the movie"? There was lifeless stillness. Then my frightening enlightenment started. An African American young lady said, "They fed slaves to dogs? I don't believe that". Someone else said, "If they treated the slaves bad, how could they have the energy to work in the fields? They needed the crops for economic reasons and they had to have strong slaves to work the fields". Ladies and gentlemen do I really need to tell you that by this time I was squirming in my chair. Then it happened. A young man said with an authoritative voice, "I think most of this movie was foolishness, there is no way a white director can tell a story about slavery". I was sure of it, I was having a heart attack. Then he put frosting on the cake by saying, "white people don't know nothing about me". My buddy looked at me with a monumental smile on his face then of course I realized my invitation to the class was an invitation to a hanging, my own.

Professor Jack, would you like to add anything to the conversation, my buddy asked? I turned to the last gentlemen that spoke and told him the story of Willie Lynch. Mr. Lynch, a British slave owner in the West Indies was asked to come to this country because he was an authority on how to control slaves. He stood on the banks of the colony of Virginia in 1712 to teach the methods of how to control slaves. Ladies and gentlemen, you can read it for yourselves, but I want to bring out the binding chemistry of his speech. He taught the slave owners how to control the thinking process of the slaves. If you can control a person's thinking you can control them forever. As an educator and a person who has matriculated and learned under some of the greatest thinkers in this hemisphere, I am constrained by my conscious and my moral upbringing to tell my students the truth. The Willie Lynch effect is still flowing deep and warm in our veins today. Willie Lynch insisted that the slave owners convince their slaves that their lives are not that bad. They had food to eat. A place to rest their head and if they worked hard enough to please the slave master they can maybe be a House Nigger. (Samuel L. Jackson's character). I went on and asked a few rhetorical questions. How much time in school did you spend on African American history? How many books did you find in the library titled "African American History?" Did you know that if you were caught teaching slaves how to read you would be executed? (Yes, white people also if caught) How come when Hollywood makes a movie and the time period happens to be during slavery, the black characters are portrayed as witty caretakers? Never educated or serious thinkers? How come we are not told about the real horror the Tuskegee Airmen went through to just serve this country?

Then I walked over to the young man that made that last statement boldly to the class, and asked him, "How was Willie Lynch an authority on a race of people that was not his color? How did Quentin Tarantino make such a beautiful slavery movie and he's not African American"? The class and my buddy was silent. I smiled and said, "I'm not going to give you the answers just yet. Let's talk about Jamie Foxx. Jamie made it clear early in his career that he had a strong grandmother that loved and disciplined him when it was necessary

She taught him how a gentlemen, respect the eye and most im-are. There is a generayoung people that if they love themselves It is my opinion that black adults is still the some other race have then they are go-getters. If African Americans do, then we are arrogant. Jamie Foxx clearly understands his history and his value. I believe that's the reason he took this role. I have much love for this brother.



to stand up straight, be others, look a person in portantly love who you tion of African American have been taught that then they are arrogant. this thinking of young Willie Lynch effect. If pride in themselves then they are arrogant. If African Americans do, then we are arrogant. Jamie Foxx clearly understands his history and his value. I believe that's the reason he took this role. I have much love for this brother.

The class was quiet, the overhead projector fan was running with a speechless buzz, and I was standing in front of this young thinker looking him in the eyes. Now, I will answer my question. "You said that the white man don't know anything about you....How do you think they were able to conquer us? Why do you think Willie Lynch was so successful? He knew more about you, then you knew about yourself". His attention was arrested on my every word so I left him with a painful truth. I said, "Willie Lynch in his speech spoke of the stench of a rotting slave hanging from a tree. This is for you my young brother, if you don't expand your thinking. That stench that greets you in the morning will not be the smell of that rotting corpse that's hanging from that tree. That smell will be coming from that comfortable cushy bed of obscurantism you just got out of...."

This article was written by Christer Jack a College Professor, nationally syndicated columnist, and Public speaker in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

In the moment of crisis,

the wise build bridges

and the foolish build dams.

Nigerian proverb

Golden Living, based in Fort Smith, Arkansas, is a family of healthcare companies committed to enriching the lives of its residents and patients. We are passionate about helping others and pride ourselves on having the most skilled and trained work force, which has helped make us leaders in the senior healthcare industry.

We are looking for people who share our passion and enthusiasm. Everything we do makes a difference in the lives of others, and we look forward to sharing their accomplishments with you.

We are seeking qualified candidates for a variety of positions nationwide, including healthcare, finance, human resources and marketing. Please visit our website at www.goldenliving.com/careers and select "Job Search" to view positions available.

Golden Living • Tel: (877) 823-8375 • Fax: (479) 201-1101

Golden Living is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Drug-Free Workplace.

SENATOR BOOZMAN'S COLUMN

Storm Preparation and Protection

During our darkest days, Arkansans and all Americans are a shining glimmer of resilience. We come together to help others in need. In the days following the deadly tornados near Oklahoma City, many Arkansas groups mobilized efforts to help, and that continues today. Unfortunately, our state also recently experienced the force of Mother Nature. More than a dozen tornados touched down in Arkansas alone in late May leaving a path of destruction. Now those same groups are reaching out to help their neighbors.

Tornados are some of the most violent weather conditions we face. We're familiar with the sound of the sirens in Arkansas but the recent storms have given us all a reason to reevaluate our own emergency preparedness plan.

One of the most overwhelming stories coming out of the Moore, Oklahoma tornado on May 20th was the destruction at Plaza Towers Elementary School. The school was not equipped with a certified storm shelter and was torn apart by the tornado. Seven children died as a result.

Fort Smith, Van Buren, Alma and Greenwood School Districts have Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) certified safe rooms for students, teachers and staff to use in a

tornado, during the school day and available to the community beyond school hours. There are



more than 20 safe rooms in Fort Smith and Van Buren.

It is important for us to do what we can to be prepared in anticipation of tornados, severe flooding, or other serious weather conditions. That is why I'm a supporter of using FEMA grants that help us prepare. The Fort Smith Public School District was able to build its safe rooms with the help of this money. School districts and communities throughout the state have received more than \$50 million in grant money from the agency to help build safe rooms.

Not only is Fort Smith being proactive in the protection of the community, but also in the training of first responders. The Sebastian County Emergency Management Facility is equipped to provide emergency response in severe weather. This facility was funded through a homeland security grant that presented itself in the aftermath of September 11, 2001. As we have seen throughout the many devastating storms in Arkansas, emergency respond-

ers have a tough job, and we need to provide them with the tools and the resources they need in order to be prepared in a disaster.

Despite our preparedness, sometimes we can't expect the toll Mother Nature will take. Some of the storms in Arkansas brought record flooding, and cut lives short. I know the thoughts and prayers of Arkansans are with those impacted by the storms, and our hearts are heavy for those who lost loved ones.

Scott County Sheriff Cody Carpenter and Arkansas Game and Fish Officer Joel Campora were responding to call for help from the rising waters in the Y City area near the Fourche La Fave River when they were killed in the flood waters. Both men chose a career in public service because they wanted to help people so much that they were willing to give their lives for it. They are truly heroes. Senator Pryor and I honored their service and sacrifice on behalf of a grateful state, on the Senate floor.

Although, Arkansas has a history of severe weather, it does not make the burden lighter after a storm. However, it is not the storms that define Arkansans. It's our response that's always a testament to their character. It's moving to watch communities come together to rebuild, and to watch helping hands reach across

GOVERNOR BEEBE'S COLUMN

Arkansas has an impressive new tool to use in our quest to improve education and boost economic development. This week, the University of Arkansas at Little Rock unveiled a new data-imaging system that is the first of its kind in the world. The state-of-the-art George W. Donaghey Emerging Analytics Center now has a wide range of applications and capabilities, including 3-D visualization. With a flood of new data being generated every second, the EAC has data-based solutions for every endeavor.

Using high-definition screens and monitors, the Center can simulate real objects by taking large amounts of data and building it into a visual format. This technology not only allows users to direct these virtual objects with a handheld device, it also simulates the weight and feel of the object being viewed. It's like a flight simulator for everything you can imagine; from medicine to manufacturing, there are endless applications.

In medical education, for example, this technology will allow a resident in neurosurgery to practice drilling a hole in a virtual head before performing brain surgery on a real patient. Graduates in many

disciplines will be better prepared and more adept, and students will be drawn



to this experiential learning procedure. Businesses will be able to use the technology as well, and some already have. Dassault Falcon Jet, which recently announced the addition of a new hangar in Little Rock, used the Center to help design that hangar. The local availability of this unique advanced technology can save Arkansas businesses time and money. And because it is the first of its kind in the world, the EAC also provides a competitive edge to businesses that locate here.

For that reason, we expect that the Center will attract new businesses to Arkansas. The Arkansas Economic Development Commission plans to capitalize on the Center to add jobs in knowledge-based fields.

The George W. Donaghey Foundation gave UALR a grant of

\$5 million to fund a project that would be a "game-changer." UALR already had more than a decade of expertise in this type of information analysis, and knew they could change the game by taking it to the next level. In 2001, the University began operating a 3-D Virtual Reality Center, and had established the first Information Quality program in the United States. With this new EAC technology, UALR and Arkansas have made an even greater name for themselves in the field.

For years, I have linked the importance of education and economic development to Arkansas's future. The new Emerging Analytics Center at UALR also links those fields in a powerful new way. Arkansas is the only place in the world with this technology, and its impact should be significant. This facility will allow leaders in the private and public sectors to organize, analyze and interpret all kinds of data. The results the EAC generates will in turn help to generate more jobs and prepare more skilled professionals in Arkansas. I believe that the innovations it helps bring to life can improve lives today, and help future generations to come.

POLITICALLY SPEAKING

By Napoleon Black

The vast majority of people in these United States only take a passing interest in politics and politicians. This fact is on display everyday on the local, state and national level.

We live in a democracy which gives the citizens of the democracy responsibility to elect people to represent their interests.

If the people we see on television locally, statewide and nationally are representative of the communities in which we live we're in dire trouble.

The key word in the way our democracy works is participatory. For democracy to work as it should the citizens must partici-

pate. When only sixty percent or less of the eligible voters participate in elections we wind up with hypocritical, narcissistic people, agitating not legislating.

We can find enough agitators in the barber and beauty shops and on the street corners. We need people with moral conviction, a backbone and the ability to work with others. If all we wanted was someone to do what the polls say, we could send a computer to represent us and save a hell of a lot of money.

We want our political representative to know and do what we want. You can't know what we want if you never talk with us on our turf. Visit where we work, live and recreate then you can truly

Represent our interests not just the interests of the big donor.

Because a great many eligible voters abdicate their responsibilities we get third rate legislators. But just being a voter won't do. You need to be an informed voter. One who knows the issues and how the politician stands on the issues. Knowing how a politician stands is not an easy thing but it can be done.

The informed voter can change the make up of the legislative body and in doing so change the policy making agenda of said body.

If the workers in any company in America produced at the level of the United States congress there would be mass firings. But because we are a complacent electorate they don't fear being fired by us.

Their allegiance is to the big money donors. We can not match their money but together we can overcome that advantage by simply voting our common interest.

We can form civic clubs and collectively agree on issues and vote in block. Sending a message to the elected officials how they can do their taxpayer funded jobs

by working together.

We need to send a strong message concerning job security for legislators also. Getting elected is just the start legislating equals longevity. Plus if you can't decide when to retire we should retire you. No more dying in office at 90.

Our last election proved that big money, repressive ideas, I'm better than you politics don't sell in America. Catering to one section of the population doesn't sell in American politics.

The visual effects of the Democratic convention next to the Republican convention brought to the forefront the contrast between the parties. The Democratic convention conveyed inclusion. The Republican convention displayed tokenism and exclusion.

To be informed on issues we must get neutral news sources such as c-span and NPR radio. Contrast these sources with Fox, CNN and MSNBC then draw conclusions.

Just think where we would be if the original Americans barred immigrants, no America. Wake up people, together we can do great things.

BLACK AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURERS

By Reginald Larrie

"A customer can have a car any color he or she wants so long as it is black!" Henry Ford

Frederick Douglas Patterson would have certainly agreed with those words. For Patterson, one of the nation's few black automobile manufacturers, realized that black was the only color he could count on.

Frederick's story began years before he built his first car with his father Charles "Rich" Patterson. One of the wealthiest men in his hometown, Patterson senior was the owner of the C.R. Patterson and Sons Carriage Company of Greenfield, Ohio.

He was born into slavery to Charles and Nancy Patterson on a Virginia plantation in April 1833. He later became a blacksmith by trade. According to reports, just before the Civil War in 1861, he fled from slavery by crossing the Virginia Allegheny Mountains, hiking through West Virginia and crossing the chilling Ohio River waters. He eventually made it to the friendly town of Greenfield, apparently an important station along the Underground Railroad.

Because of his master craftsman skills, Patterson immediately got a job at the Dines and Simpson Carriage and Coach Makers Company. Within a few years he had been promoted to foreman and later formed a partnership with J.P. Lowe, creating a carriage building company that was noted for its expert craftsmanship and high quality.

He married the former Josephine Qutz and the couple had four children: Katherine, Dollie, Frederick Douglas and Samuel. By the time the youngest Samuel came along, Patterson was already successful. He had bought out his white partner and had started

building the most popular carriages of the day.

Patterson gave his boys the best education possible. Frederick was the first African American to graduate from a local high school, and the following year he entered



Ohio State University (OSU), where he was the first black to play on the school's football team.

After three years, Frederick left OSU to teach in Kentucky, but only remained there for two years, before returning home to his first love – the family carriage business.

Soon after his arrival, however, his father died, leaving the young teacher and various relatives to operate the company.

In search of more business, Frederick decided to accompany his sales manager C.W. Napper, on his route one day. As they traveled, he began to notice more and more of those "funny-looking horseless" carriages on the road. He immediately reported his findings to the company's board.

"In 1902, there was one car to 65,000 people and by 1909 there was one vehicle for every 800 people and with those kinds of

figures ... I believe it's time for us to build a Patterson horseless carriage," he said.

Frederick's plan was bold. He wanted to build a vehicle that could compete against any car on the market by being more comfortable and easy to drive.

Within two weeks, the factory began the transition to build the Patterson-Greenfield Motorcar. On September 23, 1915, young Patterson saw his dream roll off the line – an awkward looking two-door coupe.

Word about the new vehicle swept across the state like a brush fire. Some of those who saw the vehicle claimed it came with a 40 horsepower Continental 4-cylinder engine; reported top speed of nearly 50 mph and had better bodywork than the "Tin Lizzie" being made up in Detroit by some fellow named "Ford." (Of course, by this time, Henry Ford was well on the way to becoming one of the largest automobile producers in the world.)

The Patterson-Greenfield was priced at \$850.00. It came in two models; a roadster and a big four-door touring car.

However, the venture was short-lived because of a lack of capital and slow sales. Frederick turned his attention to producing school bus bodies for which there was a great demand.

In 1939, the company finally closed its big wooden doors. Most believe that Charles "Rich" Patterson would have been saddened, but very proud to know that his name on a product still meant the highest standard of quality possible.

Later, when grandson Postell Patterson was asked what happened to his grandfather's company, he simply said, "Well, I guess Detroit got to be just too much for us."

HISTORY OF THE CME CHURCH

The name "Methodist" was first given to four students at the university of Oxford, among them John and Charles Wesley, who in November 1729 began to meet together regularly in a "Holy Club" for study, prayer and communion. About 10 years later, after the Wesleys had become famous preachers and their movement was spreading, the name was revived, and those who followed them were called Methodists.

In 1735, John and Charles sailed to America as missionaries to Georgia. On their return trip they were impressed with a group of Moravians whose religious faith provided an inner assurance amidst the terrible storms on the sea. After arriving back in London in February 1738, John Wesley went to one of the societies on Aldergate Street and heard a layman read Martin Luther's preface to the Epistle to the Romans describing faith. It was at this point that something dramatic happened to John. About this experience, he wrote, "About a quarter before nine, while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone, for salvation, an assurance was given me that He had

taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the 'law of sin and death.'" John Wesley's experience, as referred to by others, was the determinative factor in the rise



of Methodism and the evangelistic revival. Thus Methodism was born.

CME beginnings

The Colored Methodist Episcopal Church — or the CME Church, as it is commonly called — came into existence as a result of the movement from slavery to freedom. The Methodist Episcopal Church South was an

outgrowth of Wesley's Methodism. Some blacks, converted to Christianity by slave masters, accepted the Methodist doctrine as it was. However, the passage of time and the emancipation of blacks from slavery created the desire by blacks to have and control their own church. The desire led formerly enslaved people who had been members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South to start their own independent religious organization.

Forty-one men gathered in Jackson, Tenn., on Dec. 16, 1870. With the advice and assistance of the white brethren of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, the black religious leaders organized the colored branch of Methodism.

In 1954, the church changed the name from Colored Methodist Episcopal to Christian Methodist Episcopal to be inclusive.

In December 2008, the CME Church celebrated its 138th anniversary. The CME Church has 3,000 churches and claims more than 800,000 members across the United States, as well as missions and sister churches in five African nations: Haiti, Jamaica, Ghana, Liberia and Nigeria.



802 North 32nd
Fort Smith, AR 72903

Phone (479) 424-1919
FAX (479) 424-192C

**Wealth, if you use it,
comes to an end; learning,
if you use it, increases.**

~ Swahili proverb

Undercover Brother: Why Are Some Blacks Afraid to Be Black?

This entire article can be read at www.capitalcitycourier.org. Please read it.

By Kim Gordon

When author Sam Greenlee wrote his powerful yet controversial novel, "The Spook Who Sat By the Door" in 1969, he was drawing on years of experience as one of the first Black officers in the United States Intelligence Agency, a position that would take him all around the world. The novel tells the story of a Black man, Dan Freeman, who takes advantage of the new "affirmative action" policy of the CIA to apply for a position as an agent. Passing their strict training program to become the agency's "token" Black operative, Freeman takes all of their information and specialized training to create an army of Black nationalist freedom fighters in a well-orchestrated and executed plan to free Blacks from racism in this country. Greenlee's novel was rejected by more than forty publishers before a British publisher finally agreed to print it. In 1973, Greenlee produced the book as a film and it was an overnight success, but just as quickly it was pulled from distribution due to its "politically controversial message."

(Yet the violently anti-Black 1915 propaganda piece, "Birth of a Nation," that showed hooded Klansmen as "heroes of the South" murdering Blacks... portrayed by Whites in blackface... was played in theaters all across the country, even becoming the very first movie ever to be shown in the White House, and was the highest grossing film of its time.) It wasn't until 2004 that Greenlee's film was re-released (edited, of course!). However through the years, "The Spook Who Sat By the Door" has had one consistent audience... the F.B.I., who uses the movie as a training film for their own agents! What was the main objection to the film? The fear seems to be that the movie would lead to a cohesion of Blacks joining together in a militant protest against the established system of white supremacy and racism. Now, I hate to keep drawing comparisons here, but nobody seemed to give a rat's ass about the virtual explosion in the number of lynchings of Black men, women, and children that followed and continued for years after "Birth of a Nation" was first shown, not to mention the swelling of the membership ranks of the Ku Klux Klan and other hate groups immediately after its release. Or the ridiculous, asinine charges that formed the flimsy excuses to burn, mutilate, and destroy Black men... charges such as "reckless eyeballing" (looking in the direction of a White woman)...that mirrored the main theme of "Birth of a Nation," which was that all Black men want to rape White women. Or the prosperous Black towns that were destroyed by angry, violent White mobs (Greenwood, OK in 1921; Rosewood, FL in 1923; etc.) because a Black man supposedly "Birth of a Nation"-ed a White woman. Why wasn't that racist film pulled from theaters when the viewing of it obviously led to such hate-filled crimes?

In looking at it from the KKK point of view, the sheet-wearers were showing loyalty to their race. They were Whites who were acting in defense of their families and White womanhood. And in order to protect their race, they felt it was necessary to take up violent arms... that's what "Nation" defenders have insisted is the plot of the movie. Therefore, why does it seem so unreasonable when a Black filmmaker portrays the exact same thing? Black men pick up arms to protect and defend their families and Black women. Why is that such a bad thing punishable by censorship, ostracism, and banishment? Sam Greenlee was "blacklisted" and prevented from teaching in any college or university in the country, severely cutting into his future means of making a living. Was that his punishment for being "too Black?" But before we can answer the question of how Black is too Black or not Black enough, we have to first figure out

what it means to be Black. And so, we have to agree on a few basic concepts...or agree to disagree if you don't like what I have to



say. First of all, Blacks are those who can trace their ancestry back to the continent of Africa, the Motherland. But as science and genetics have shown, every human being derives his or her mito-

chondrial DNA from the mitochondrial DNA of a single African female in ancient history...a Black Eve, so to speak. Which leads assimilationists to scream out that we are all African, then, and we are all one race...the human race, and "race" is an artificial construct, and can't we all just get along? However, this "Let's all hold hands and sing Kumbaya" approach doesn't work in the real world. In the real world, real people face real discrimination, are denied jobs, money, food, loans, shelter, healthcare, even life itself, and a myriad of other real things because of an obvious genetic ancestry. Therefore, we have to admit that there are differences based on where our ancestors came from, and move on from there to solve our problems. So, we know that Europeans trace their ancestry back to France, Germany, or any of the other countries in Europe; and when they "go home," they head back to Europe. The Chinese trace their ancestry back to Beijing, Shanghai, or anyplace in China, and when they "go home," they go to China. Indians call India "home," Brazilians call Brazil "home," and Blacks call...or should call...Africa "home."

Another concept, one that I've mentioned in previous articles, is that all color is Black. In other words, dark and brown-skinned Indians, Native Americans, Native South Americans, Native Australians, and all people of color throughout the world can trace their ancestry back to the African explorers and travelers who settled all across the globe. But regardless of what language they speak or whether their land has been colonized, the blood which flows through their veins is still that of the original people, and Africa is still their home. Now, that defines Black as a noun, but what about the definition of Black as an idea? Through the centuries, we've had people who were Black on the outside, but whose minds were anything but Black! Such as George Wilson, a church leader in the African Methodist Episcopal Church of Charleston, SC, who in 1822 sold out his fellow church leader, Denmark Vesey. Vesey, a Black man who had purchased his own freedom, planned to free his people in what would have been the largest slave rebellion in the country that would have liberated countless Blacks from slavery. Wilson ran to his master and told him about the plot; an action that resulted in the death of all of the conspirators, but won Wilson his freedom for his "loyalty." In a twist of "Judas Iscariot" irony, Wilson later went insane (guilt?) and committed suicide. Unfortunately, there have been plenty more where he came from! There are those Blacks who, like Wilson, would rather sit around and wait for a handout to be given to them (in this case, freedom) instead of standing up and taking what is rightfully theirs. There are Blacks who look in the mirror and hate what they see; people who go to incredible, unbelievable, and painful lengths to bleach, fry, cut, maim, and torture away any trace of their African ancestry. There are Blacks who join in conversations or organizations with the express goal of turning over information, such as Black F.B.I. "undercover" agent, William O'Neal, who delivered a floor plan of Black Panther leader Fred Hampton's apartment to the Bureau

with an "X" marking Hampton's bed, so that the Chicago Police Department and the F.B.I. could go in on December 4, 1969 and shoot Hampton in the head while he slept next to his girlfriend, who was eight months pregnant with Hampton's son. O'Neal was serving as Hampton's bodyguard at the time, and was in charge of security on that night.

He had also slipped a barbiturate into Hampton's drink to ensure that he wouldn't wake up when the F.B.I. broke in. And years later, O'Neal would also commit suicide, running out into traffic on the Eisenhower Expressway. I think it's fair to say that anyone with African ancestry who can call Africa "home" is Black; but to be truly BLACK, it's necessary to have a Black mindset. No self-haters reaching for the Clorox. No "I don't even see color!" "We Are the World"-singing, doubting Uncle Thomas's, either. In order to be Black, you have to first know that you're Black. Although, even the ones who try to hide from it eventually learn that they're Black by the way the non-Black world treats them. In the colonial world of Saint Domingue, the most harsh form of slavery had existed for centuries. And, as was typical of all areas of the world that suffered under imperialist domination, two "classes" of people of color had been created, mostly through the brutal rape of African women. The darker-skinned Africans were treated as cattle and beasts of burden, while the lighter-skinned "gens de couleur libre" ("free people of color") were given low-level positions of authority and were treated as if they were "nearly white." This class of mulattos acted as a buffer between the African slaves and the white masters. And when the revolution started that would be the first successful slave revolt and would free half of the island of Saint Domingue (renamed "Haiti"), the mulattos turned their noses up at the "rabble" and aligned themselves with the wealthy, white slaveowners. They discovered their mistake soon enough, though. In one instance, the sadistic French general Rochambeau invited the free women of color to an elaborate party, and at the end of the evening of feasting and laughing, he presented each one of them with a brightly-wrapped box. Inside the box was the head of each woman's husband. They quickly learned that "nearly white" truly meant "not quite good enough," and despite their "mixed" genetics they were, in fact, Black. Shortly after that, the people of color joined in the slave rebellion that freed Haiti. Now, when the Haitian army took the fight over to the other side of the island, the enslaved people of what is now the Dominican Republic didn't see themselves as Black, and they fought to keep their white Spanish slavemasters alive, claiming the Spanish brand of slavery "wasn't as bad." And even today, there is a definite division between the Haitians, consisting of mostly Blacks who retain their proud fighting spirit as the first Blacks who freed themselves and their people from tyranny, and the Dominicans, consisting of mostly mulattos who don't feel they have anything at all in common with their Black neighbors.

Some of these mulattos, like Dominican-born Sammy Sosa, today spend thousands of dollars on skin-bleaching products to erase every trace of melanin in their skin. Sadly, as said, you have to first know that you're Black. So then, it's possible to say that being Black also consists of knowing that you are Black and acting in a manner that demonstrates a loyalty to our positive African values and traditions. Too many times, some who appear Black on the surface betray their race in one form or fashion, from politicians who talk a good game but sell us down the river, to ambitious celebrities such as athletes or entertainers who make their dollars from their Black fans, only to turn their backs on their fan base and chase those greenbacks from foreign pockets (and pocketbooks!)

**Ears that do not listen to advice,
accompany the head when it is chopped off.**

~African Proverb

**The wise create proverbs for fools to learn,
not to repeat.**

~ African proverb



Television mogul

Oprah Winfrey has donated \$12 million to the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, DC. Her gift is the museum's largest donation to date, and to honor her generous donation, a 350-seat theater at the museum will be named after her as the "Oprah Winfrey Theater".

The museum, which will display more than 22,000 objects of significance to Black history, began construction in early 2012 on a five-acre site right next to the Washington Monument. Half of the \$500 million project is being funded by the federal government, and has so far received another \$140 million in private funds. It is expected to open in the year 2015.

Winfrey commented, "I am so proud of African American history and its contributions to our nation as a whole. I am deeply appreciative of those who paved the path for me and all who follow in their footsteps. By investing in this museum, I want to help ensure that we both honor and preserve our culture and history, so that the stories of who we are will live on for generations to come."

New HR Technology Helps College Graduates Improve Chances in the Job Market

Employers are doing it. Daters are doing it. Even the government is doing it. So what is the "it" we're referring to here? Background checks. With nearly 75 percent of all employers now choosing to conduct background checks on all employees, the popularity of and the technology involved in conducting such searches continues to grow. And with many college graduates preparing to transition from campus to cubicle, it's important they understand these requirements and prepare for a litany of checks during their job hunt.

In response, been created; a thorough HR check prior to a prospective errors plaguing system coupled growing crime of theft, candidates opportunities un-the background



eKnowID has proactive tool to prehensive and self-background the scrutiny of employer. With the public record with the rapidly-criminal identity often lose job knowingly during check due to

misconstrued information retrieved during the hiring process. Kenneth Coats, the founder of eknowID, explained what happened to a young law school grad in San Diego: "She showed up for her first day of work, was handcuffed and taken to jail. The background check done by her new employer, the San Diego County District Attorney's office, revealed a warrant for her arrest possession of marijuana, by the person who stole her wallet and assumed her identity."

"Therefore it is imperative for job seekers to know what they don't know when it comes to their background check, even if they've never had a brush with the law."

With eKnowID new proactive technology, candidates can confidently and conveniently perform all necessary checks prior to speaking with an employer. This will allow applicants to take back control over their personal information and give them the ability to challenge any inaccuracies that may exist.

"Traditionally, people understand the need to check their credit before making important purchases such as a car or home," says Coats. "A background check is just as crucial before landing a job."

eKnowID provides fully customizable reports that ranges from past employment, education and criminal checks to driving records and even drug tests. To help job seekers get started, eknowID offers a free automated resume check of the 5 common mistakes found on resumes according to HR professionals.

Users simply upload their resume or confidentially connect using LinkedIn. Users can elect to bundle other checks that start affordably as low as \$12.95. A toll free support number is provided for customers to speak with experienced investigators.

"With over two decades of experience working for major background checking companies and my own, and nearly half million searches later, we decided to put this information into one easy to use and convenient portal for consumers to arm themselves with access to this information to get ahead," says Coats.

Article by Kenneth Coats

eKnowID is a division of KENTECH Consulting Inc. a Chicago based award winning background check technology company

Arkansas Best Corporation

active roles

in community activities & organizations

| | |
|---|--|
| American Heart Association | Hurricane Katrina Relief |
| American Lung Association | Next Step Day Room |
| Area IV Special Olympics | Partners in Education with Northside & Southside |
| Arkansas Best Performing Arts Center | Tsunami Relief |
| Arkansas Children's Hospital | United Way Day of Caring/Pacesetter |
| Community Services Clearinghouse Backpack Program | |
| Delta Sigma Theta Debutante Ball | |
| Extreme Makeover: Home Edition | |
| Gregory Kistler Treatment Center | |

Equal Opportunity Employer

- personal banking
- business banking
- investment services
- insurance
- home mortgages
- asset management & trust

Just right for your family. Just right for you.

What if you could create a bank that's just right for you and your family? It'd be strong and stable, right? A real rock. But big enough with all the financial services you need for where you are in life. You'd have a personal relationship with a banker who can make decisions locally. Plus, a complete menu of financial services. With BancorpSouth, you have a bank that's just right for you. Visit with a BancorpSouth banker today, and let's build a relationship together.

Right Where You Are

bancorpsouth.com

Bank deposits are FDIC insured. BancorpSouth Investment Services, Inc., and BancorpSouth Insurance Services, Inc., are wholly owned subsidiaries of BancorpSouth Bank. Insurance products are offered by BancorpSouth Insurance Services, Inc. Investment products are offered by BancorpSouth Investment Services, Inc. Member SIPC. Insurance and investment products are • Not a deposit • Not FDIC insured • Not insured by any federal government agency • Not guaranteed by the bank • May go down in value

Just right for you