

**Shirley Ann's**  
**Black Art & Collectibles**  
**Showroom**

Since 1994



**Animal Alphabet** 48 pieces • 36" x 24"

**New Children's Floor Puzzles**  
**Great teaching tools!**

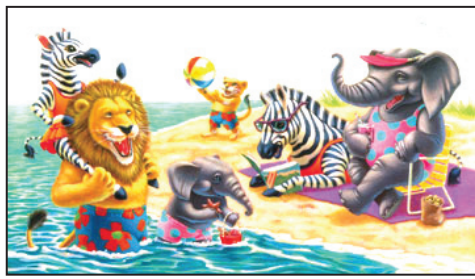
Available Now!

Jungle Music



63 pieces • 11.5" x 15"

Out of Africa



100 pieces • 10" x 16"

Puzzles!

Available Now!

Come in or call for more info 713-692-1195

**100 % Black Owned**

**We Appreciate Our Customers**

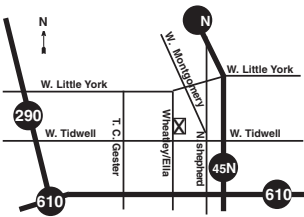
We accept: American Express, MasterCard, Discover, Visa, Debit, Cash, Checks and Lay-A-Ways

**STORE HOURS**

THURSDAY 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

FRIDAY 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

SATURDAY 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.



**PUBLISHER'S NEWS ANALYSIS**  
**Calling School War Vets**  
Roy Douglas Malonson

When it comes to fighting school bond proposals that negatively impact Black neighborhoods: Been there. Done that. I'm a veteran of wars against Aldine ISD and Houston ISD. In addition, I have a few mental battle scars that I don't even like to discuss. I say this, because I understand why some combat vets won't discuss their war experiences. One can't talk about the thrill of their victories without recalling the agony of their defeats. War is hell, and the bad and/or ugly usually overshadows the good moments. Even so, although I enjoy an emeritus status in African American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston (nee Acres Home Citizens Chamber of Commerce), I'm still ready, willing and able to go to war for my community.

After all, I invested my life in my northwest Houston community, so I'm still obligated to declare war on any forces that come up against my neighbors. And neighbors translate to a collective term that includes wherever a Black child is left behind when it comes to educating our future generations. Accordingly, if you're a vet of school wars who think you don't have a dog in the fight (for better schools now that your children's children have graduated), I want to remind you that concerned citizens' attitude should be that they're *All My Children*. I sneaked in that TV drama in to get your attention. Now I'm calling out all of the veterans of school wars that have become political apathetic or just plain tired of fighting. I certainly know where you're coming from when you see our hard-won victories being used to defeat our purpose.

But as discouraging as it is to fight for political naive people (wont to ignore the watchers on the wall and open the gates to welcome political Trojan horses in to destroy the Black community), I knew exactly where Rep. Sylvester Turner was coming from when he told the audience at the Chamber's 18th Annual Awards Banquet that he was tired of fighting the same battles that he thought he had won 40 years ago. Yet, he realizes that must keep on fighting. Truth is, African Americans' biggest problem is forgetting our racist nation's history. We tend to forget why Native Americans lamented that "White eyes speak with forked tongues." That's why we fail to grasp the concept of an "Indian-giver." Unfortunately, veterans of the civil rights struggle defer leadership to a better educated, but not too politically-savvy younger generation.

They know how to talk the talk, but are clueless about the walk. So, as hard as it might be, we old vets, who realize that people in power have historically given in to protest (only to wait until the protestors put up their guns, and then go back to business as usual), must identify the political Trojan horses for them. Don't forget, evil in high places have veteran warriors too. And they're experts at dividing and confusing descendants of slaves that still suffer the residual effects of Willie Lynch's indoctrination that makes them trust White people. Especially, if they believe that was then, but not now. I understand where they're coming from. Truth is, HISD's superintendent Abe Saaverda revealed the same mindset when he visited the Malonson compound recently to discuss

EDITORIAL

"Our country must abandon all of the habits of racism, because we cannot carry the message of freedom and the baggage of bigotry at the same time."  
President George Walker Bush

WE MUST UNDERSTAND: Peers' False Convictions

Insofar as the world's biggest problem today is a failure to communicate, **African American News&Issues** has instituted numerous journalistic gimmicks to ensure that our readers will fully understand our editorial content. Our ingenuity was born of frustration, however, after realizing that we were being presumptuous. We took for granted that our mission statement (to be different from existing newspapers, to provide citizens of good consciences with a different perspective of news and issues germane to Black America) was self-explanatory.

Yet, after almost 12 years some Black leaders still fail to grasp the concept of reporting all news without fear or favor from a Black perspective. **We Must Understand**, in today's "majority rules" society, one must make a conscious effort not to be swept along in a tide of political correctness that's propagated by the mass media. Peer pressure notwithstanding, a recent study concluded that America's educational institutions subliminally brainwash malleable-minded students to not question politically-correct data no matter how confusing it may be.

On the other hand, citizens with curious minds wont to question invalid data are often vilified by the status quo majority. Self-aggrandizement aside, one of the primary reasons for **AANEI's** existence is to take the spin out of special interests politically-correct news and data. Otherwise, political astute citizens will be confused by mixed messages propagated by a special agenda controlled mass media in the land of the free.

It's unfortunate that politically naive African Americans are wont to depend on a bias mainstream media for their major source of Black America's information. Even so, **AANEI** is fortunate to have living historians on our editorial staff. Thus, we're obligated to validate nebulous data for our audited estimated 2 million readers and millions more visiting our Web site at **www.aframnews.com**.

While we're justly proud of our **F(or) Y(our) I(nformation)** feature, we also value our etymology research, insofar as all truths starts with the correct definition of words. Take for instance the criminal justice concept of "a jury of peers" that ideally is the foundation of the due process that America's court system is built on. Yet, when one truly understands the correct interpretation of peer, most jury trials become a farce.

**We Must Understand**, the dictionary defines peer as a person is of equal standing with another in a group, which translates etymologically to equal things. Need we explain why it's virtually impossible for the fate of a Black person like Dr. Priscilla Slade to be decided by a jury of her peers? (FYI: The "jury of peers" notion has an ancient lineage that still reverberates as a supposedly important part of every American's heritage.

The right to a trial by a jury of one's peers is one of the cornerstones of the American judicial system. It is a birthright cherished by American citizens. Historically, we boasted about juries of our peers while excluding half the population--women--from any jury ser-

vice other than the rare, single-purpose jury of matrons. We also followed practices that kept racial and other minorities off juries or that left them drastically under-represented. The fundamental principle of this institution [trial by jury] is that a man should be tried by his peers or equals, a commoner by commoners and a nobleman by nobles. This proposition, however, is, and for the most part always has been, a fairy tale. Edited excerpt from **The Magistrate's Assistant, circa 1807.**) Perish the thought that we're majoring in the minor, but that's exactly what the media-brainwashed Slade's detractors to do. One can't blame programmed peers for having false convictions after months of reading that it was a crime for the president of a prestigious college to pay \$9,000 for a comfy bed. It, in fact, was absolutely mind-boggling to watch the media, and clueless gossips build a case against Slade based on an extravagant lifestyle, when one only had to call "**Mattress Mack**" to validate that the cost of her bed wasn't too far out of line.

In addition, when one has paid over \$200 for a small oak tree (replete with tap-root for planting), they would quickly enlighten you about the high cost of landscaping. In essence, it would've been fairer for Slade if a jury of her peers were from River Oaks, rather than Black people who've never paid \$2,000 for a studio couch. Then again, if the news editors were familiar with high-scale living, they should've concluded that Slade's biggest crime was adopting the lifestyle of the gentry that she interacted with.★



**BUD'S EYEVUEW**

**ON: Sex Ain't Sin**

Bud Johnson: The Old African Warrior

Woebeit I was sexually acting at age five. Yet, I could always take it (whenever it's offered), or leave it alone (to avoid the slightest problem), thus I've often had cause to pause and ponder, *What's Love Got To Do With It*, when brothers lose their heads over a little piece of tail. Hey, don't queue up *The Twilight Zone* theme until I explain how that quip translates to sex education.

Birds and Bees notwithstanding, my paternal Paw Paw (Rev. William Paul Fonteno) bordered on *The Outer Limits* levity when he edified my brother and me about why men stood up, while women usually squatted to pee in an outhouse. Square business, the old folks had keen insight into the difference between matters of the heart and what made it hard for men lusting for the opposite sex. Hence, Grandpa Fonteno told us the old preacher's joke about the "monkey on the railroad track" when we reached the appropriate age.

It seems that a monkey was crossing a railroad track when his tail got snagged. When the monkey turned around to try to get his tail, the oncoming train cut his head off. If you're slow, the moral of the story is the dumb monkey lost his head over a little piece of tail. We had a

good laugh, but we got the message. Nevertheless, I bet Sen. Larry Craig, R-Idaho wouldn't find the joke a bit funny. Then again, he just might relate to monkey business.

Bipartisan politics aside, homophobic Dems were ecstatic to learn that another conservative gay basher got caught with his pants down. Even so, when sex-related transgressions befall the rich and powerful, I realize their sexual orientation has little to do with the content of their character. For sure, deviant "pedifreaks" give respectable homosexuals a bad name, the same as "dirty old men," give us old "fading fox" players and/or "sex kitten" aficionados (who once were connoisseurs of female pulchritude) a bad image. What I'm saying is, strong sex drives have "nada" to do with a 62-year-old pervert looking for illicit love in a public toilet. What up with this salacious sex epidemic that's screwing up 2007 America?

Quite frankly I've concluded that sex, much like cancer, has become somewhat of a generic term. For real, I've done an exhaustive study on sex, insofar as I concluded (after watching my elders lose their head over a little piece of tail), that I needed to know as much about it as possible. It's a weapon of mass

destruction for Black men. Even so, I learned as a wee lad that sex was a gender orientation, rather than a physical activity. In fact, etymologically speaking; Sex comes via Old French *sexe* from Latin *sexus*. This has traditionally been explained as a relative of Latin *secare* 'cut' (source of English section, sector, etc), as if it denoted etymologically that 'section' of the population which is male or female, but that view is no longer generally held.

The use of sex for 'sexual intercourse' (first recorded in the works of D. H. Lawrence) and the derivative *sexy* are both 20th-century developments. My research revealed that sexual addiction is real. According to Dr. John Marsden, director of the National Addiction Centre, "*Dopamine*" - the drug released by the brain when it is aroused - has similar effects on the body and mind as cocaine or speed. Attraction and lust really is like a drug. It leaves you wanting more." However, I must say that fortification is the sin, rather than sex. Ergo, when sexual predators yield to their carnal temptations, they indeed, sin.

On the other hand, there's a theory that sex evolved as a form of cannibalism. One primitive organism ate another one, but rather than completely digesting it, some of the 'eaten' organism's DNA was incorporated into the 'eater' organism. But, in spite of losing my teeth to old age, I'm not qualified to go there. **I wonder if anybody knows where I'm coming from?**★

the \$805 million bond.

Meanwhile, I'll share a hard won school war victory that turned into bitter disappointments, so that you'll know where I'm coming from (FYI: Today, the Houston school board will consider a first-of-its-kind proposal by a group of influential community leaders that would give Lott unprecedented autonomy in managing instruction and personnel at four Acres Home schools -- Wesley, Highland

Heights and Osborne elementaries and M.C. Williams Middle School. Spearheading the request was Roy Douglas Malonson, chairman of the Acres Home Citizens Chamber of Commerce; Gallery Furniture owner Jim McIngvale; community activist Beulah Shepard, state Rep. Sylvester Turner, D-Houston; state Sen. John Whitmire, D-Houston; and the Rev. Floyd N. Williams, pastor of the Antioch Missionary Baptist Church.

"Anytime you have a community that comes together with such quality leadership and wants to take creative and imaginative steps to improve schools, that is something we had better look at very seriously," said school board President Ron Franklin. -excerpt from **Houston Chronicle, Jan. 5, 1995.** If you follow history, you know what ultimately happened to Lott and the schools.

See **VETS** page 5