



THIS BUD'S FOR YOU

MySpace—If you fail to grasp the concept of “periodical,” or “interchangeable,” please check my *Eyevue* that’s commemorating my 54 years as a professional journalist. Meanwhile, *This Bud’s For You* young ladies who called from Dallas and Brenham, Texas just to say that you loved my musings.

LostInSpace—Because birthdays that’s ignored by elitist publications are *Lost In Space*, sans our people column, is the primary reason this space got a reprieve from *African American News&Issues* 2007 “Lean & Mean” business policy’s axe. So, without further ado,

happy belated birthdays are due TSU Librarian **Leocadia Hooks** (August 25); former HBUF president and publisher of the International Guardian newspaper **Anthony Ogbo** (Sept. 6), and of course my African warrior princess, **Felicia Campbell Sterling**, who lit another candle on Sept. 7. Happy belated birthday greetings are also apropos for KCOH radio’s **Wash Allen** (Sept. 3), the multi-talented per-

sonality who has turned his “Confessions” call-in talk show into a cottage industry. May you all live long and prosper.

InDa-Hood—

Thanks to God’s amazing grace, the “Adopt a Black Child” icon **Odessa Sayles** not only survived a serious operation, but is feeling well enough to coordinate The Black Child Development Institute, Inc.’s 35th annual meeting and luncheon will be held on Saurday, September 15, 2007 at The

Victual Restaurant, 3814 Lyons Ave. @ Pannell. The fundraising event that will start at noon will feature District B’s

City Councilmember **Jarvis Johnson** as the keynote speaker. For further info call (713) 633-2752.... M. D. Anderson’s Free Prostate community outreach program will hold free screenings at Fiesta #56, 4330 Hwy 6, at 9 a.m. on Sept. 15, In addition, a special “Take Your Love One To The Doctor Day” screening and information forum will be hosted by the Fifth Ward Multi-Service Center, 4014 Market Street



Felicia Campbell Sterling

at 9 a.m. on Sept. 18, 2007. For additional information call (713) 563-2752....One of those unique, Afrocentric religious get well cards that are found at **Shirley Ann’s Black Arts & Collectibles Showroom**, 6130 Wheatley (see ad on page 2) is due **Georgette Hooks** who is recovering from an operation at Hampton at Post Oak health care center.

Georgette, the sister of the late **Theodore Oliver**, who founded Lockwood Funeral Home, is a long time resident of the Gale-na Park community and member of Gethsemane MBC in Pleasantville.... Inasmuch as **Latisha Brown** took care of business by returning my call, I’m obligated to note that New Light Christian Center Church, 1536 Greenmark will kick off their annual *Life Change Institute’s Family Fun Run* on Sept. 15, 2007. The event, which is the brain-child of Minister **Bridgett Hilliard** is open to runners, walkers and wheelchair participants in several age groups. For further info call Latisha at (281) 765-1930, or (281) 765-1908. Meanwhile, be well advised that the main reason that this space has become so limited is that most of the grassroots citizens allow their self-centered pas-



Georgette Hooks

tors to use their tithes and offerings to advertise in the mainstream media, rather than support Black newspapers that run their church announcements gratis. Thus, that puzzling inanity gives one cause to pause and ponder whether, or not, the Black church community thinks that’s right in the eyes of God, or man???

SportsWatch—In keeping with *African American News&Issues* policy to be unique, *Sports Watch*, will differ from *Sports Perspectives*, insofar as it has come to our attention that few Black newspapers basically focus on minor sports. Even so, fishing can hardly be considered a minor sport. According to preliminary state data from the new 2006 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, Texas was among the national leaders in fishing participation. With 4.17 million Texans participating, the Lone Star State generates among the highest spending levels in the country for fishing. Angler spending in Texas was about \$3.2 billion, second only to Florida at \$4.5 billion. These figures reflect spending on food, lodging, transportation, equipment and other items. In addition, there’s a wide cross-section of African Americans who love to fish.

Would you believe that Dr. **Otis H. King**, the former dean of TSU’s Thurgood Marshall School of Law and Houston, Texas’ first Black city attorney would be into fishing? Into fishing is putting it mild-

ly. Dr. King, who also was interim president of TSU and chairman of the Faculty Senate, owns a boat and loves deep sea fishing. On a recent trip, King and his older brother, attorney **Hamah “Bud” King, Sr.**; his nephew **Hamah, Jr.** and pal **Charles Stephens** had a good day (see photo) at Texahoma. If you’re an avid gaffer perhaps you’ll be interested in the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center’s Big Fish Bluegill Tournament that will be held on Saturday, October 6, 2007. The family-oriented fishing tournament on Lake Athens will offer trophies and prizes that will be awarded to top five teams. For further info call (903) 676-BASS.★



Dr. Otis King, Hamah “Bud” King, Sr., Hamah Jr. and Charles Stephens

To contact Bud Johnson, please call 281- 847-9929 (8-5- Wednesday & Thursday) or via e-mail at Africanwarrior@aol.com

Houston Food Bank seeks volunteers

HOUSTON- The Houston Food Bank relies on volunteers to help fulfill their mission of fighting hunger in Greater Houston. While the food bank currently receives more than 100,000 volunteer hours each year - which is the equivalent of 50 full-time staff members - there is still a need for additional help. Oneika McCarthy, director of volunteer services, said that volunteers are essential in helping the Houston Food Bank reach more than 80,000 hungry people each week. She also added that the food bank provides a meaningful volunteer experiences in a safe environment, where individuals or groups enhance their social and work skills, gain a sense of

accomplishment, fulfill school and civic requirements and meet new friends, all while helping their hungry neighbors.

Volunteer opportunities are available for individuals and groups large and small, with a minimum age requirement of eight years of age. A brief orientation is required for all new volunteers. Volunteer shifts are Monday - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 and 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.; Tuesday evenings, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.; and Friday and Saturday 8 a.m. to noon.

For more information and to schedule an appointment, contact Volunteer Services at (713) 547-8657 or visit www.houstonfoodbank.org.★

HOUSTON- “I am so glad that I came!” said Mrs. Oveta Hunter, a senior resident in the Acreage Homes community. Mrs. Hunter is just one of the many seniors who have attended the Senior Computer Classes held at the Beulah Shepard Building, 6112 Wheatley St., Houston, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. every Thursday throughout September to educate our mature community residents throughout the city of Houston. The Acres Home Center for Business and Economic Development (AHCBED) and the African American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston (AACCGH) are partnering with Comerica Bank to provide financial literacy and computer training classes to the community.

Even with a brace on her foot and a slight hobble, Mrs. Hunter was still determined to take advantage of the opportunity provided by the tri-partnership (AACCGH, AHCBED and Comerica) and become more computer literate. The seniors have already engaged in two classes, which introduced them to the “Internet” and the world of “E-mails.” The instructor for the classes, Leslie Burnett, made sure each class attendee received an email address.

“I am really happy to have been involved with the seniors’ classes offered through the Chamber,” said Burnett. “As a Chamber member, I look forward to becoming more involved and being of more assistance as our community becomes more educated and empowered.” According to Mrs. Marlise Armstrong, the seniors’ classes are



From the left back: Sharon Johnson, Vanessa Reed and Jim Gainous. Front, Ora Nell Richardson, Marlise Armstrong, and Pearly Franklin were in attendance for the senior computer classes.

not the only classes of interest. “Being computer literate is ageless. I have enjoyed all of the computer classes, and I attend them for self-enhancement.” Other classes offered and available for all ages are the following:

- **PowerPoint Presentations** September 11, 2007 5 p.m. -7:30 p.m.
- **Second-Chance Mortgage Owner** September 13, 2007 5 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
- **Protecting Yourself Online** September 18, 2007 5 p.m. -7:30 p.m.
- **How to Plan this Time...to Buy a Home** September 20, 2007 5 p.m. -7:30 p.m.
- **Creating and Monitoring your Child’s MySpace Page** September 25, 2007 5 p.m. -7:30 p.m.
- **Web Advertising** October 2 & 9, 2007 5 p.m. -7:30 p.m.
- **Dreamweaver & Web Design**

October 16 & 23, 2007 5 p.m. -7:30 p.m.

Class scholarships are being given to the first twelve participants who RSVP, and refreshments will be served. Class attendees have the chance to win a “Gasoline Gift Card.” **Register today!** All classes are held at the Beulah Shepard Building, 6112 Wheatley St., Houston, TX 77091. For more information, please call Sharon Johnson or DaVeeta Shelton at (713) 692-7003.★

as part of “inner-city,” “southern,” or “Black” culture. I grew up in an inner city and I’ve traveled all over the south and I have yet to see any Black person force a dog to fight, not to mention drown, hang and electrocute a dog as Michael Vick has done. Offering an excuse for such blatant cruelty only proliferates harmful and false stereotypes against the African American community. As a former teacher and principal, I can attest to the importance of teaching our children empathy and respect for their fellow creatures. Whether they are Black or White, the kids who kick a puppy are the teens who beat up their classmates and the young adults who rape, assault, and kill without a second thought. All of us must take a stand against this senseless violence.

Ernie McCray
San Diego, California

Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center offers assistance

DALLAS-The Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center, 2922 MLK Blvd., in Dallas, offers an Emergency Social Services Program (ESSP). The ESSP assists clients by providing temporary food assistance, rental assistance, utility payment assistance, and access to a community voice mail. They also offer counseling and referral services for substance abuse, referrals for medical prescriptions to elderly and/or disabled clients, as well as food pantry referrals.

All clients are seen by appointments only. Appointments are scheduled by telephone starting at 9:00 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Seniors (60 years

of age and older) may call on Tuesdays starting at 9:00 a.m. The appointment lines stays open until all next-day appointments has been scheduled.

Once an appointment has been made, bring in your current Texas I.D. or Texas drivers license for every adult in the household, social security cards for everyone in the household, and a proof of household income for the past 30 days. You must also bring any utility bill termination notice, lease agreement or proof of home ownership, eviction notice, mortgage delinquent notice, and receipts for expenses paid in the last 30 days. For more information, call (214) 670-8367.★

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You also know the bitter fight I had with Aldine ISD that used our brainwashed Black trustees to overturn a 25-year-old discrimination mandate that made it one of the best school district for minority students in the nation.

Rep. Turner and Harold V. Dutton, Jr. are school war veterans, just like me. Yet, there’s an effort to make our concern over the HISD

school bond personal, as if Black students in every community aren’t our children too.

Quite frankly, I intend to get real personal. I have yet to hear from most of our elected officials that courts Black voters, including Rep. Alma Allen, who once headed the state’s top education agency. And I have a problem with that. It pained me when Aldine trustees (we fought like hell to get on the

board) joined the enemy.

But when I see Black elected officials acting like the handicap moneys (see, hear, speak, and know no evil), I recall Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s wisdom: “*In the End, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.*”

Speak up at the polls on Tuesday, November 6, 2007 Black America.★



No excuses for Vick

As an animal lover and a 69 year old African American, I am highly offended that some people have excused or rationalized Michael Vick’s involvement in dog fighting

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