

ESTHER'S TRUMPET

Written published and paid for by Barbara Evans
278 Harriet Tubman Road, Burkville, AL 36752
editor@estherstrumpet.com
4/29/10



If the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle?

1 Corinthians 14:8

COMMISSION CONSIDERS BROADBAND PROJECT

Lowndes Students Win State Competition

Our Central HS kids have won a major competition but they need our help!

Paula Westmoreland appeared at a County Commission meeting to share the good news that our kids won using the history of the Lowndes Freedom Organization after entering a contest to promote history in our schools. They need \$2200 to make the trip to the next level which will be held at the University of Maryland. Contact Ms. Westmoreland at 563-7319.

Commissioner Charlie King suggested that the Lowndes Civil Rights History become a permanent part of the curriculum in our schools and

We Agree!

Hayneville: Larry Morrow, Chief Operating Officer for A Plus Community Solutions, appeared before the Lowndes County Commission Monday to ask Lowndes County to form a partnership whereby a new broadband system would be installed throughout Lowndes County.

The area covered would include six to seven counties in Alabama, and reach as far as Escambia. Morrow said that the construction of the

infrastructure would create up to 1200 jobs for 18 months, and that he sees 200 to 400 permanent jobs, mostly in the area of technology, and all within the 7 county area. Morrow said, "There is no financial obligation by the county that cannot be generated by revenue."

Morrow, who was introduced by Gene Crum, said that his company anticipates millions from the federal stimulus money, but that his company has already in-

vested a quarter million dollars in preparation fees. The way it was explained, new equipment would be installed throughout the county, and existing telephone providers could pay to have their lines included in the new equipment. The county attorney did question whether the existing franchise agreement with Hayneville Telephone Company would be a problem, but ultimately gave his approval of the contract.

Candidates fail to show for forum in Selma

SCARED OR ARROGANT?

Selma: State Representative candidates **David Colston** and **James Thomas** told the Dallas Democratic Party they would participate in the live radio-feed candidates forum on April

27. Colston did not show nor send regrets. Thomas showed up 2 hours late, but was given 3 minutes. Attendees walked out, so Thomas did not get much coverage.

Candidates **Barbara Evans, Eli Mack** and **Darryl Perryman** did attend. The forum was aired live on 105.3 FM, which covers most of District 69. Hundreds of people attended.

Commission names Economic Development Authority Members

Hayneville: Three new members have been named to an economic development authority. They are Steve Foster, Dorothy Hulett and Commissioner Robert Harris.

The role of the new group was not explained, but Ms. Orbuty Ozier of the Lowndes County Industrial De-

velopment Board told ET that the county needed people with banking experience.

Nobody was able to adequately explain the necessity for the Economic Development Authority, but it appears that this could be another catalyst to secure grant funding and stimulus funding for the

County. Upon questioning, Commissioner Charlie King said that all three people had accepted their appointments.

A politician thinks of the next election. A leader thinks of the next generation.

COMMISSIONERS QUESTION BILL FROM CRUM

At the April 26 Lowndes County Commission meeting, Commissioner Dickson Farrior questioned an invoice from work performed by Economic Developer Gene Crum in 2007. Farrior was told that the money to pay Crum had nothing to do with his current contract for \$60,000, but that

it was work performed to secure a grant for medical equipment to secure another doctor in Hayneville. The payment to Crum will come out of the grant, which Ms. Orbuty Ozier said had been approved. The grant is for \$112,000. County Administrator Jackie Thomas asked if the payment

would guarantee Crum completing the grant reporting forms, which are a lengthy and complicated process, and Mr. Crum said that he would in fact be responsible for the reporting and indicated no further amounts would be billed by him for this particular project, resulting in approval.

Listen to 105.3 FM; THE HEART MIND AND SOUL OF THE BLACKBELT! Fridays 8am-9am listen to Barbara Evans on Faya's Fire!



It's history!

Barbara Evans is a co-founder of the Georgia organization "Ebony & Ivory" which was formed in the late 70's to fight apartheid in South Africa. She briefly met Nelson Mandela in 1990, but always wanted to meet Winnie Mandela. That happened this year and here's the photo.

Debra Harris, Barbara Evans and Winnie Mandela

On being NICE

When I first announced I was running for District 69, a woman I know and love cautioned me to "be nice".

Turns out her idea of nice and my idea of nice is very different. What she wanted from me, I cannot give.

It's not NICE to pretend you are one thing when you are really another.

It's not NICE, Mr. Thomas, to hold public office and half-do your job and cheat the people.

It's not NICE to put your signs in people's yards when they didn't ask, knowing they are so NICE they won't pull them up.

It's not NICE to offer yourself for a job, Mr. Colston, when you have not prepared yourself for it, knowing that it is our people that will be hurt when you can't perform.

It's not **NICE**, Cynthia Rudolph, to brag about how many absentee ballots you have lined up, knowing that many of them aren't legal. People died for the right to vote, and manipulating the system is not NICE.

Now I may not skin and grin and agree all the time my friends, but I will be a honest, prepared, intelligent, transparent public servant. You can't buy me, you can't scare me and you can't stop me.

NOW THAT'S NICE!