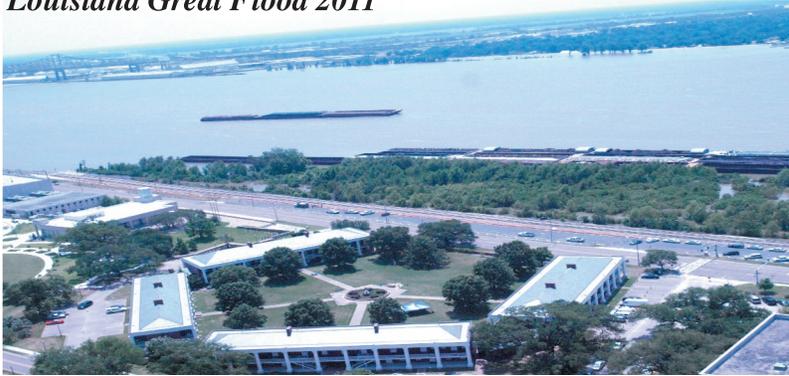


Faith & SOUL

Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say Rejoice.

Louisiana Great Flood 2011



NEWS MAGAZINE

Vol.6 No. 56 MAY 2011

**Rev. Ivan Ledet &
wife Sheila Ledet**



Inside this issue:

Pupil's past produces present pastorship
Rev. Ivan Ledet & Sheila Ledet

Freeman speaks out on Juneteenth, lack of state support

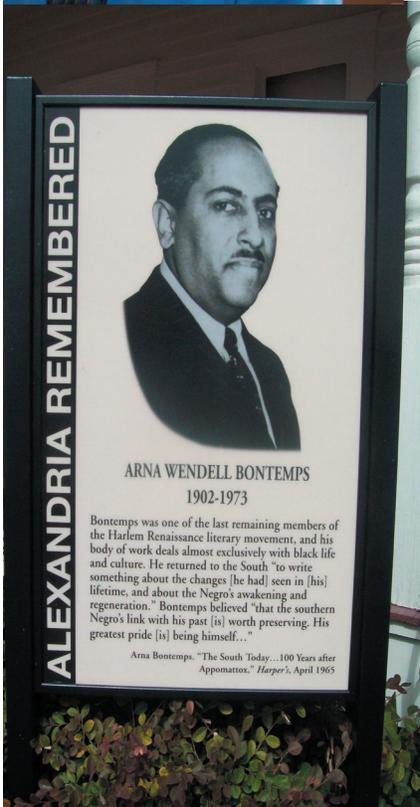
FAITH & SOUL TRAVEL OF THE MONTH...Arna Bontemps African American Museum and Cultural Arts Center in Alexandria, La.

White House Releases The Small Business Agenda: Growing America's Small Businesses to Win the Future Highlighting Critical Support for Small Businesses Across the Country

Louisiana Great Flood 2011

**CASA
CEG FDIC TRAINING**

Abram Freeman



CEG FDIC TRAINING



JEREMIAH 29 VS. 11

**FOR I KNOW THE THOUGHTS THAT I
THINK TOWARD YOU, SAITH THE LORD,
THOUGHTS OF PEACE, AND NOT OF
EVIL, TO GIVE YOU AN EXPECTED END.**

I want to thank my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; who continues to give me visions and strength to publish Faith & Soul News Magazine. I want to thank my family, all the wonderful advertisers (who faithfully support), our subscribers, readers and this wonderful community.

***In this issue: Pupil's past produces present pastorship
Rev. Ivan Ledet & Sheila Ledet; Freeman speaks out
on Juneteenth, lack of state support; FAITH & SOUL
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Agenda: Growing America's Small Businesses to Win
the Future Highlighting Critical Support for Small
Businesses Across the Country; Louisiana Great Flood
2011. Scriptures for the month and more!
BLESSINGS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!In our next issue:
Father's Day, Spiritually Preparing Our Children for
College, Black Music Month, Juneteenth and more.***

****Articles and views expressed in this publica-
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Publishers' Pointers: A Message For Mother's Day and Beyond

Sending all my Love to my wonderful mother: Mrs. Theresa Calais. I could not have done this work without her love and support. Mom, "I Love You"! You are the greatest mom in the world. What makes my mom so special, she allows us to branch out , think on our own, fly away and always there when we need her when we stumble and fall; without saying I told you so.

I want to encourage those who lost their moms, think of the wonderful memories, visit the nursing homes and adopt you a mom, there are mothers' there that their families don't visit often they would appreciate you and can help you with your loss.

I want to encourage the community to support the young mothers. Please join F&S and pray for them. I don't believe any mom births a child and say I want them to go to jail, sell drugs or commit any crimes. I believe in my heart these mothers truly want better for their children. I believe you teach what you know; it's not that you don't care. You can't teach calculus if you don't know it. Being a Mother is challenging but it is the most rewarding career one can choose. Yes, I am not making excuses for the moms who have given up but to encourage the community to reach out to moms, especially young moms. Speak Jesus Love. For the women who want children and can't think of adoption or help a young mother with her children; the blessings would be many.

Faith & Soul News Magazine Salutes ALL Mothers!!!!!! We Love You ALL!!!!!!

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And express my gratitude,

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do.

Made a way, from the start
I maintained from the womb
What you programmed in my heart.

Much more than maternal guidance
Unconditional love
Warm moments of compassion held
in silence.

The music constantly fills my ears
A Love that resonated stronger
throughout the years.

Nicholas Charles

White House Releases The Small Business Agenda: Growing America's Small Businesses to Win the Future Highlighting Critical Support for Small Businesses Across the Country

Report release marks kickoff of 2011 [National Small Business Week](#)

WASHINGTON – Today, the President's [National Economic Council](#) released The Small Business Agenda: Growing America's Small Businesses to Win the Future, a report highlighting the importance of expanding and supporting the growth of entrepreneurs and small businesses across the nation. The report, which kicks off National Small Business Week, outlines the critical investments this Administration has made to support small businesses, create jobs and strengthen our economy.

“Small businesses are the backbone of our economy and the cornerstones of our communities. They create two of every three new jobs in America, spur economic growth, and spark new industries across the country,” said President Obama. “We will continue to create new incentives to help [small business owners](#) hire new workers, promote growth and do what America does best – invest in the creativity and imagination of our people.” *For more information go to [faithandsoul.net](#)*



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F M B A N K I N G . C O M



Mr. Abram Freeman

Picture by: Tel-Mel Media & Publishing

Freeman speaks out on Juneteenth, lack of state support

By: Melissa Tyler

“We need to go back to the beginning and re-evaluate the sacrifice our forefathers of every race made for our freedom, and after we evaluate that, we need to pull up our bootstraps and celebrate our independence,” said Abram Freeman, chairman of SWLA Juneteenth and Acts of Love, Inc., a cultural and education organization.

“If not for today, then yesterday,” he proclaimed.

Juneteenth’s origination is from June 19, 1865, when Union soldiers led by Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger landed at Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended and the enslaved were free. This occurred two and a half years after President Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation had become official Jan. 1, 1863.

“I always celebrated Juneteenth, and I moved here in 2008 looking for one,” recalled Freeman. “There was one already in Opelousas and none in big ol’ Lafayette.”

Freeman said he and Jackie McNulty went to the Greater Southwest Louisiana Black Chamber of Commerce (GSLBCC) with the idea of a Juneteenth celebration, and it provided them with a major source of income and access to the community. However, not many people showed up for the festival and the parade.

“Juneteenth is a state holiday,” said Freeman. “They voted on that and passed it in 2005, and the state does not even promote it. We couldn’t even get legislators or the Black Caucus to support us. The Daily Advertiser even put a special in the paper about the celebration.”

This year’s festivity began with a play at Cite Des Arts in Downtown Lafayette from April 28-May 1. A banquet honoring essay and poster contest winners is scheduled for May 28, and a pageant will take place on June 18 at the Martin Luther King Recreation Center. Jazz in the Park, featuring music by local artists and a disc jockey at Heymann Park will occur on June 18. The celebration will conclude with gospel music performances by area choirs and singing groups on June 19. Kids’ arts, food, crafts, exhibits, vendors and culture awareness information will also be available at the center. All events are free to the public with the exception of the banquet-\$10 fee for an advance ticket and \$15 at the door. **Cont. on page 14**

Romancing Momma of the house on the Budget. By:Melinda



There is a saying when Momma is happy the whole house is happy. These are tips to romance momma of the house on a budget. Momma only want to be appreciated; though gifts are great.

Create a romantic environment, one that represents relaxation. The backyard scene could be great; it's outside of the home which does not remind one of work. Most back yards have trees(trees represent long life and extended life your children) greenery which represent life, flowers represents beauty (let her know how beautiful she is) and grass represents growth (spiritual, financial, educational, health). Get a white sheet throw on your picnic table: You package that up with a bottle of wine or great spirits, cake, live flowers from the yard and the fine china that sits in the cabinet, cook a meal, with favorite music or a favorite movie and watch the sun go down. End it with a relaxing bubble bath and a massage. Always say: "I Love You Momma!"

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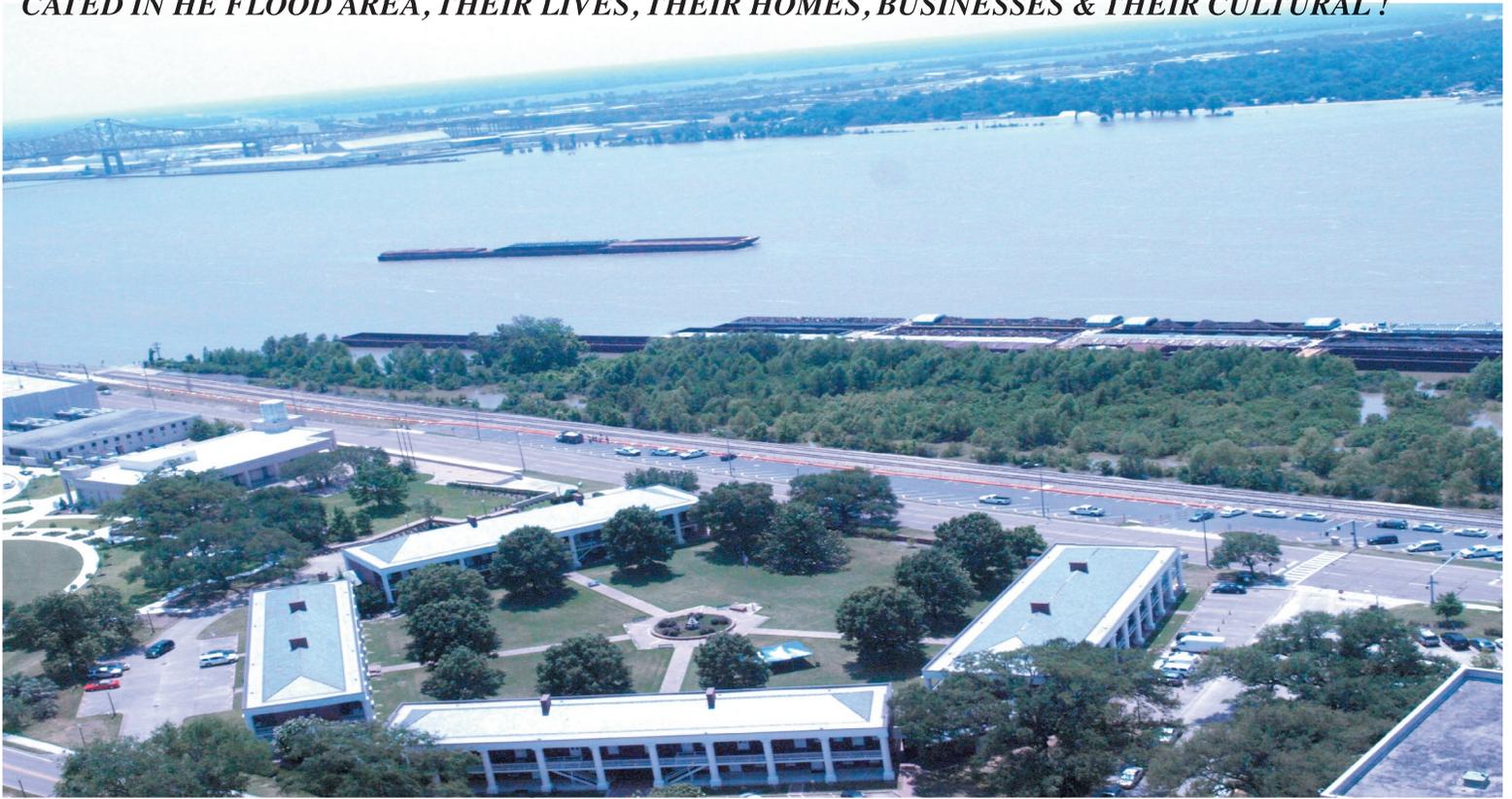


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Photos by James Terry III, Photojournalist

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12May2011-Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Great flood of 2011, The rising water in the Mississippi river is expected to crest in Baton Rouge, La. on May 23, 2011.

The quick rise in the river has the State of Louisiana to open the spillway flood gates to relieve the pressure on the banks of the river.

The city of Baton Rouge is using Booms (also used in the gulf of mexico for the BP oil spill) to form a wall against the water.

Rep. Karen St Germain-D, Plaquemine , shows other lawmakers her district, which will be flooded after the opening of the flood gates.



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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lynette@louisianacasa.org

CASA and partners to stand up for Louisiana's "Forgotten Children" at State Capitol

Day at the Capitol display will include life-size representations of the children who pass through Louisiana's foster care system each year.

BATON ROUGE -- In a year that saw over 5,700 valid cases of abuse and neglect in Louisiana, nearly 7,700 children spent time in the foster care system in 2010. To raise awareness for these otherwise "Forgotten Children" Louisiana CASA, in partnership with Children's Advocacy Centers of Louisiana, Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, LA Foster and Adoptive Parents Association and LA Department of Children and Family Services, is holding its annual "Forgotten Children" campaign event at the Louisiana State Capitol on May 26th. To bring additional awareness to the cause, Governor Bobby Jindal has proclaimed May CASA Month in Louisiana.

This year's event, taking place from 10 am to 3 pm, will feature National CASA CEO Michael Piraino, as well as a display of life-size pictures, representative of the many children in Louisiana who find themselves in foster care through no fault of their own. There will be a press conference on the steps of the Capitol at 1 pm.

The "Forgotten Children" campaign, started by National CASA Association in 2008, is sponsored nationally by the Dr. Phil Foundation, Jewelers for Children and Kappa Alpha Theta. Local and state CASA programs hold "Forgotten Children" events year round, but especially during May, National Foster Care Month. Louisiana CASA, and its affiliate local programs, advocate on behalf of abused and neglected children who enter the foster care system every day. Local programs train volunteers from their communities to advocate for these forgotten children as they navigate their way through a complex court system. Research has shown that children who receive a CASA volunteer are likely to spend less time in long-term foster care, and are less likely to re-enter the foster care system.

For more information on the event, or how you can get involved with CASA, visit www.louisianacasa.org or call (225) 930-0305.



Pupil's past produces present pastorship
By: Melissa Tyler & submitted photo

"I wouldn't be doing what I do today if it wasn't for that," contended the Rev. Ivan Ledet, 40, of Jubilee Nation Christian Ministry, about the worst situation he's ever been through.

Ledet, originally from Englewood, NJ, and a resident of Lafayette since 1993, was expelled from the University of Southwestern Louisiana in 1996, presently the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. He and two other members of his fraternity were dismissed for hazing. Ledet was also discharged as an officer with the University Police.

According to his wife, Sheila Ledet, "Life changed for him when his fraternity was pledging another group of young men. Instead of coming to Bible study with me in Jeanerette, he wanted to stay and go to this house party with his fraternity. The pledge line was there, and things happened that shouldn't have. He was at the wrong place at the wrong time."

Although Ledet did not pledge any of the group, he was deemed guilty by association, he said.

"When I was expelled from college, I was like I couldn't talk to anybody, couldn't trust anybody, said Ledet. "I just really wanted it to go away. It was hard to cope with."

"I remember that horrid time, when he would sleep and not want to do much else. His dream slowly became a vague memory because his career was in the hands of the discipline committee," recalled his wife.

Ledet recalled he went to church sometime after the incident, and there was and call for anyone wanting prayer.

"I went up, and that day I gave my life to the Lord. The whole time while I was in church, I just cried," he said. "I couldn't even listen to the minister, I just cried. There's been such a great change in my life since that day."

Today, Ledet preaches at his church located in Lafayette and his like-named church in Jeanerette—one church with two locations, like a popular restaurant.

"I had a great desire to just start preaching," he explained. "The purpose of my life is not only to lead people to the Lord," he said. "That's all part of the assignment. *Cont. on page 12*

FAITH & SOUL TRAVEL OF THE MONTH...Arna Bontemps African American Museum and Cultural Arts Center in Alexandria, La. Pictures by: Melissa Tyler



Arna Bontemps African American Museum and Cultural Arts Center in Alexandria, La.. Arna a noted Black poet, author, anthologist, librarian - was born in Alexandria, Louisiana on October 13, 1902. Arna Bontemps African American Museum 1327 3rd Street Alexandria, Louisiana 71301 Phone: (318) 473-4692 Fax: (318) 473-4675

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The purpose of my life is to pastor right now, pastor God's people... bring people to salvation, teach people to grow and allow them to grow in life and in their calling with God."

Asked how his position carries a load of responsibility, he responded, "It's a lot. Pastors' watch over people's souls, so we have to take that position. It's a lot of responsibility, but it (the Bible) also talks about 'cast all your cares upon the Lord.'

It's not like I have to be burdened down with stress or anything like that."

Ledet re-entered UL Lafayette in 2008.

He was working on a theology degree from Oral Roberts University in Enid, Okla. He had transferred from an engineering to a theology major, so a significant amount of his credits from UL Lafayette did not transfer to Oral Roberts University. He needed to take a communication course and a biology course.

"It just fell on my heart to go back, and I just asked them if I could get in. According to my transcript, that shouldn't have happened," said Ledet.

"I called them and I didn't get an answer that day, so I went there the next day," he recalled. "They told me I would have to see the dean of students in order to get back in."

Ironically, the person Ledet had to meet was the same man that expelled him 12 years before.

"When he heard about how my life had changed during our face to face talk, he did what he could to get me back into school," revealed Ledet.

He is currently working on completing his courses in theology, and he said he will pursue a doctorate. Ledet also serves as a speaker of ceremonies, lectures and prays at various schools, has series CD's of his sermons in circulation, has a church website and is supportive of events within Jeanerette.

The Ledets are raising two girls, Diamond, 8, and Arianna, 3, and a boy, Jay, 1.

He said he participates in field trips, Donuts for Dads and has gone to school to read a book to his older daughter's class.

"Our (the church) future plans are to really expand out in order that the gospel might be heard—to bring the gospel to the world, reach and teach people all over and be a blessing to people," he said.

"The further we get out, the more people will hear about Christ. Right now we're going to focus on where we're at and be faithful in what we have and what we're doing now to allow God to expand us out.

"I'm grateful for what I went through then because it was a catalyst or starting point of a life change in ministry," added Ledet.

People are always watching me, but you always strive to make the best choices. It's not like you're really pretending. You're just living according to what God has said and doing your best in that, allowing God to lead you in the spiritual guidance in that area." *Cont. on page 13*

His wife said he has a determination she admires, knowing he will face every challenge that comes along with resolve and fortitude.

"He refused to hang his head and quit. Instead, he chose to not be defined by his situation but to take his situation and allow God to change his destiny," she said.

"You always have to be careful of what you do," said Ledet with a smile, hands rested on his solid cluttered desk and the sound of his HP laptop humming. "It's challenging. It's learning to be disciplined in all areas of your life.

"We're (pastors are) just regular people with a calling on our lives." (*F&S*)

AEDC to host Acadiana Day at the State Capitol

The Acadiana Economic Development Council (AEDC) will host the annual Acadiana Day at the Louisiana State Capitol on Thursday, May 19. Joining AEDC for the event are the local economic development organizations, chambers of commerce, tourism bureaus, institutions of higher education and city and parish governments from the Acadiana Region.

The event kicks off at 9:30 a.m. in the State Capitol Rotunda when participants will be greeted by members of the Acadiana Delegation. A luncheon will follow at 11:30 a.m. at the Louisiana State Museum with keynote speaker Secretary Scott Angelle.

“AEDC encourages business and community leaders from across the region to participate in Acadiana Day,” says Beth Guidry, AEDC Chairman. “This is Acadiana’s opportunity to come together as a region and speak with a unified voice to state legislators.” To RSVP for the event call [337-289-9284](tel:337-289-9284) or email rsvp@teamacadiana.org. For more information contact Abby Wales at [337-593-1411](tel:337-593-1411).

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on June 19. Kids' arts, food, crafts, exhibits, vendors and culture awareness information will also be available at the center. All events are free to the public with the exception of the banquet-\$10 fee for an advance ticket and \$15 at the door.

"We actually worked with a panel from a couple of radio stations and with Southern Consumers Magazine to come up with 'Enjoying the Journey' theme," added Freeman.

"What we would hope to see is an acute awareness of the African American independence day," said Freeman, "and we would like the state to give us the same support as it gives other state festivals.

"We want the state to appoint a Juneteenth commission to promote Juneteenth like the other 36 states that celebrate it. When we can accumulate the amount of people we need, then they will notice." In conclusion Freeman states : "We appreciate all the support from Faith & Soul News Magazine & Tel-Mel Media & Publishing, LLC and its entire staff for great coverage(*F&S*)

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Faith & Soul News Magazine wishes all the Mothers a very Bless & Happy MOTHERS' Day.

Though we celebrated it on May 8, 2011; one must agree Mother's Day should be celebrated everyday. A Mother's job is never done. Some moms carry heavy burdens, but we want to encourage all mothers to continue in prayers. No matter what you are going through God will see you through it. Don't give up and please don't give up on your children. Keep the Faith!

Please join us in praying for our children.

Read and meditate on Isaiah 44 vs. 1-5

Yet now hear, O Ja'cob my servant; and Is'ra-el, whom I have chosen: Thus saith the Lord that made thee, and formed thee from the womb, which will help thee; Fear not, O Ja'cob, my servant; and thou, Jes'u-run, whom I have chosen. For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon thy dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed and my blessings upon thin offspring: And they shall spring up as a among the grass, as willows by the water courses. One shall say, I am the Lord's; and another shall call himself by the name of Ja'cob; and another shall subscribe with his hand unto the Lord, and surname himself by the name of Is'ra-el.

Also read and meditate on Isaiah 43 vs. 6

I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from afar, and my daughters from the ends of the earth;

Remember what Mary went through when she saw her son crucified so we can be free.



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