

Sweet Union Baptist Church Unveils Historical Marker



Mo Raissi, Jacksonville City Manager, Robert Haberly, Billy Williams, Lincoln Brown, Chief of Police, George Horn, Pastor Horace Williams, Councilman Hubert Robinson, Ardis Hinton, Odell Hinton, Billy Redd and Tony Guinn.

Sweet Union Baptist Church members, city officials and Cherokee County Historical Commission unveiled the historical marker for the church celebrating 120 years of the existence of the church. Following morning service a parade began on the church parking lot, went north on Main, Weston Lincoln, south on Ragsdale street and back to the church. Lunch was served.

The dedication program followed with Mizella Scott, Maeavis Anderson, Artie Mallard, and Deacon Clynell Anderson, unveiling the Marker. Terry

Guinn, Cherokee County Historical Commission conducting the marker dedication.

Emancipated slaves organized Sweet Union Baptist Church on March 10, 1887. In 1900 the church moved to its present location, 302 North Main. The church served as a place of worship, education for the people to learn to read and write.

For many years it was the only social institution controlled entirely by Black residents of the city.

Sweet Union Baptist Church membership has not fluctuated, but remained strong through the years.

Edna Bradford Retires from RSH



Edna Bradford, LVN, pictured with Ed Bruce, recently retired from Rusk State Hospital. A retirement celebration was given for her by co-workers.

A kingdom at war with itself will collapse. A home divided against itself is doomed.

Jesus - Mark 3:24 - 25

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State Representative Hopson Highlights Tax Break Opportunity Jacksonville, TX

— As tax season quickly approaches, State Representative Chuck Hopson wants to remind East Texans that the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) could put extra dollars into the pockets of families across the region.

"If your total family income was less than \$39,000 in 2007, the federal government may owe you a refund," Hopson said. "In 2006, over 2 million Texans claimed almost \$4.7 billion in refunds. That is an average of \$2,151 per household. EITC refunds are based on family income and the number of children in the family.

To receive the credit, the IRS requires families to meet specific requirements and to have valid social security numbers for all members of the family.

"This is a program for hard working taxpayers," Hopson continued. "The EITC gives families extra spending dollars and helps keep our local economy strong."

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