



# LESURES PLEA-BARGAINING!

## Z&Z Store Raided For Crack Pipes Paraphernalia Confiscated By Drug Agents

By THOMAS E. SEWARD  
Special to the Chronicle



Muluneh Zeleke

A north-east Oklahoma City convenience store was raided on Monday by undercover agents for drug paraphernalia.

Agents said they found pipes used for smoking crack cocaine and methamphetamine that were being sold at the Z&Z Convenience Store, 2445 Martin Luther King Ave.

Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics & Dangerous Drugs undercover agents said they purchased the illegal drug pipes at the store three times before the raid, beginning in November and as recently as last week.

The pipes were confiscated during the morning raid.

They were made illegal effective Nov. 1, 2010, by a bill

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Bernice Tharps, an award-winning soul food cook, shows off one of her sweet potato pies. Mrs. Tharps, who has won a number of first-place prizes at the event, said she will compete again in the Martin Luther King Jr. Day Soul Food Cook-Off of Muskogee. (Photo/Michael Simons/Tulsa World)

## Activities Cover State

# Oklahoma King Day Events Set

By JOHN W. SIMMS  
Special to the Chronicle

Events to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day will include parades, marches, orations, oratorical contests and prayer sessions, and will be held throughout the state.

Following is the schedule of events planned in various cities:

### Oklahoma City

• **The MLK Day Parade** will begin at 2 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 16, starting at the corner of Broadway Avenue and NW 7th Street.

It will proceed on Broadway to N. Sheridan Avenue.

Grandstands will be located at NW Fifth Street and Broadway.

• **A Prayer Breakfast** will begin at 7 a.m. on Monday at the Reed Conference Center, 5750 Will Rogers Rd., Midwest City.

Speakers will be Angela Z. Monson, chairman of the Oklahoma City Board of Education; Lieut. Paco Balderrama of the Oklahoma City Police Department; and Rodney Farrow, a student at the University of Oklahoma.



Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

A community service award will be presented and awards will be presented to winners of a

poster contest.

The winning posters will be on display at the Midwest City Library, 8143 E. Reno Ave.

Tickets to the breakfast are \$10 each.

• **A Silent March** will begin at 9 a.m. Monday with a program at the Freedom Center, 2609 Martin Luther King Ave., and will proceed to NE 23rd Street to the Oklahoma History Center, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Dr.

• **Bell-Ringing Ceremonies** will begin at 11 a.m. on Monday at the Oklahoma History Center at a replica of the Liberty Bell.

• **I Have a Dream Oration** will be presented during a program scheduled for noon on Monday at the St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral, 127 NW 7th St.

### Tulsa

• **A Leadership Forum** for high school students will be held from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 13, at Oklahoma State University at Tulsa, 700 N. Greenwood Ave.

Ahmad Daniels, a teacher, will lead the discussion on diver

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## Judge Said Likely To Resign and May Get Some Prison Time

### She, Husband, Another Try Making Deal

By W. ORLANDO PIERCE  
Special to the Chronicle

The preliminary hearing for a besieged county judge, her husband and another woman came to an almost sudden halt last week when the three defendants went into an extended plea-bargaining session.

A source said the likelihood is that the judge will be forced to leave the bench, and she and her husband could end up with prison sentences.

If the judge pleads guilty to a felony, she will almost certainly be disbarred or will resign from the bar.

Oklahoma County District Judge Tammy Bass LeSure and Karlos LeSure, her husband, along with Ravonda L. Edwards had been engaged since early last week in a four-day preliminary hearing.

Oklahoma County District Attorney David L. Prater had indicated that he would call as many as 20 witnesses, but, on Thursday afternoon, the prosecutor and defense attorneys asked for an hour recess to discuss a plea-deal, and the lawyers and defendants met in the offices of the district attorney.

Later, a request for an additional 30 minutes recess came from the lawyers, and the hearing was effectively ended... or at least delayed.

Actually, the hearing was recessed until the following morning, but, apparently, the plea-bargaining session continued.



Oklahoma County District Judge Tammy Bass LeSure at the courthouse some time ago.

None of the lawyers would discuss the negotiations.

The judge, her husband and Mrs. Edwards are charged with adoption fraud, with prosecutors saying that the LeSures fraudulently claimed to first become foster parents to infant twins and then adopted the youngsters.

But the couple actually gave the boy and girl to Mrs. Edwards, prosecutors allege.

A preliminary hearing is held so that a judge can determine whether prosecutors have enough evidence to bring a case to trial.

Judge LeSure, 44, faces nearly

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## Documentary Is on School In Ethiopia OSU's Role in Its Established Aired

By ROBERT E. BARNES  
Special to the Chronicle



Mel Tewahade

**STILL WATER**—"The Point Four," a documentary on the history of Haramaya University in Ethiopia, will be presented next month at Oklahoma State University.

The documentary will be shown at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 2, at the Wes Watkins Center Auditorium, and at 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 3.

Haramaya University is an agricultural technical school established in 1956 in collaboration with the United States government and with assistance from OSU.

Formerly known as Alemaya College, the institution was officially inaugurated by Emperor Haile Selassie on Jan. 16, 1958.

"The documentary is about successfully implemented American foreign policy in Ethiopia," said Mel Tewahade, director of the documentary.

"The college was established with the help of Oklahoma State University, which provided the expertise, and Ethiopia provided the funds."

The film borrows its name from President Harry S. Truman's 1949 inaugural address, in which he an

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## Harper Is To Receive An Award Commendation Given in Black History Month

By JOHN W. SIMMS  
Special to the Chronicle

**TULSA**—Hill Harper, the actor and author, will be presented the Sankofa Freedom Award next month by the African-American Resource Center of the Tulsa County Library System.

The award will be presented at an event that will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 11, at Rudisill Regional Library, 1520 N. Hartford St.

The actor's big Hollywood break came in 1993 with a recurring role on "Married... With Children," and he gained national acclaim for his role in the movie, "Get on the Bus."

He followed that performance

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Hill Harper will be presented the Sankofa Freedom Award in Tulsa during Black History Month.

