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PRESORTED STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE PAID FRESNO, CA PERMIT NO.35

# ADVOCATE

Fresno's African American Community Newspaper

## Commander In Chief



# OBAMA

## Becomes First Black President In U.S. History



TOP: US president-elect Barack Obama at Grant Park in Chicago. Americans emphatically elected Democrat Obama as their first black president in a transformational election which will reshape US politics and the US role on the world stage. (Photo: Jewel Samad, Getty Images). LEFT: Barack Obama hugs his daughter Malia following his victory speech (Photo: Emmanuel Dunand, Getty Images). RIGHT: Barack Obama and his wife Michelle stand on stage with running mate Joe Biden and his wife Jill (Photo: Stan Honda, Getty Images). BELOW: Barack Obama and his family arrive on stage for his election night victory rally (Photo: Timothy A. Clary, Getty Images)



# HISTORY IS MADE

## Barack Obama defeats McCain in landslide victory

BY DAVID ESPO

WASHINGTON (AP) –

Barack Obama swept to victory as the nation's first black president Tuesday night in an electoral college landslide that overcame racial barriers as old as America itself.

The son of a black father from Kenya and a white mother from Kansas, the Democratic senator from Illinois sealed his historic triumph by defeating Republican Sen. John McCain in a string of wins in hard-fought battleground states - Ohio, Florida, Virginia and Iowa.

A huge crowd in Grant Park in Obama's home town of Chicago erupted in jubilation at the news of his victory. Some wept.

Continued on Page 5 ▶



## BARACK OBAMA: His Election Night Speech

CHICAGO –

If there is anyone out there who still doubts that America is a place where all things are possible; who still wonders if the dream of our founders is alive in our time; who still questions the power of our democracy, tonight is your answer.

It's the answer told by lines that stretched around schools and churches in numbers this nation has never seen; by people who waited three hours and four hours, many for the very first time in their lives, because they believed that this time must be different; that their voice could be that difference.

It's the answer spoken by young and old, rich

and poor, Democrat and Republican, black, white, Latino, Asian, Native American, gay, straight, disabled and not disabled – Americans who sent a message to the world that we have never been a collection of Red States and Blue States: we are, and always will be, the United States of America.

It's the answer that led those who have been told for so long by so many to be cynical, and fearful, and doubtful of what we can achieve to put their hands on the arc of history and bend it once more toward the hope of a better day.

It's been a long time coming, but tonight, because of what we did on this day, in this election, See Speech on Page 5 ▶



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Photos by Ken McCoy

## General Election Results



### PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT

**Barack Obama** President  
**Joe Biden** Vice President

### MEASURES & PROPOSITIONS

<b>1A</b>	Safe, Reliable High Speed Passenger Train Act	<b>YES</b>
<b>2</b>	Standards for Confining Farm Animals	<b>YES</b>
<b>3</b>	Children's Hospital Bond Act	<b>YES</b>
<b>4</b>	Waiting Period & Parental Notification/Minor Pregnancy	<b>NO</b>
<b>5</b>	Nonviolent Drug Offenses Parole & Rehabilitation	<b>NO</b>
<b>6</b>	Police & Law Enforcement Funding/Criminal Penalties & Laws	<b>NO</b>
<b>7</b>	Renewable Energy Generation	<b>NO</b>
<b>8</b>	Eliminate Right of Same Sex Couples to Marry	<b>YES</b>
<b>9</b>	Criminal Justice System Victims' Rights	<b>YES</b>
<b>10</b>	Alternative Fuels, Vehicles, & Renewable Energy	<b>NO</b>
<b>11</b>	Redistricting	<b>?</b>
<b>12</b>	Veterans' Bond Act of 2008	<b>YES</b>
<b>L</b>	Neighborhood Library & Improvement Measure	<b>YES</b>

# Books: Precious Jewels Corner

*Books that will capture your child's heart, mind & spirit*

Submitted by Regina Holly, an educator with Fresno Unified School District.

For Children Ages 4-7

### Barak Obama: Son of Promise, Child of Hope

By NIKKI GRIMES

Inspire your children with this beautifully illustrated portrayal of Barak Obama's life and career.

### You Can Do It!

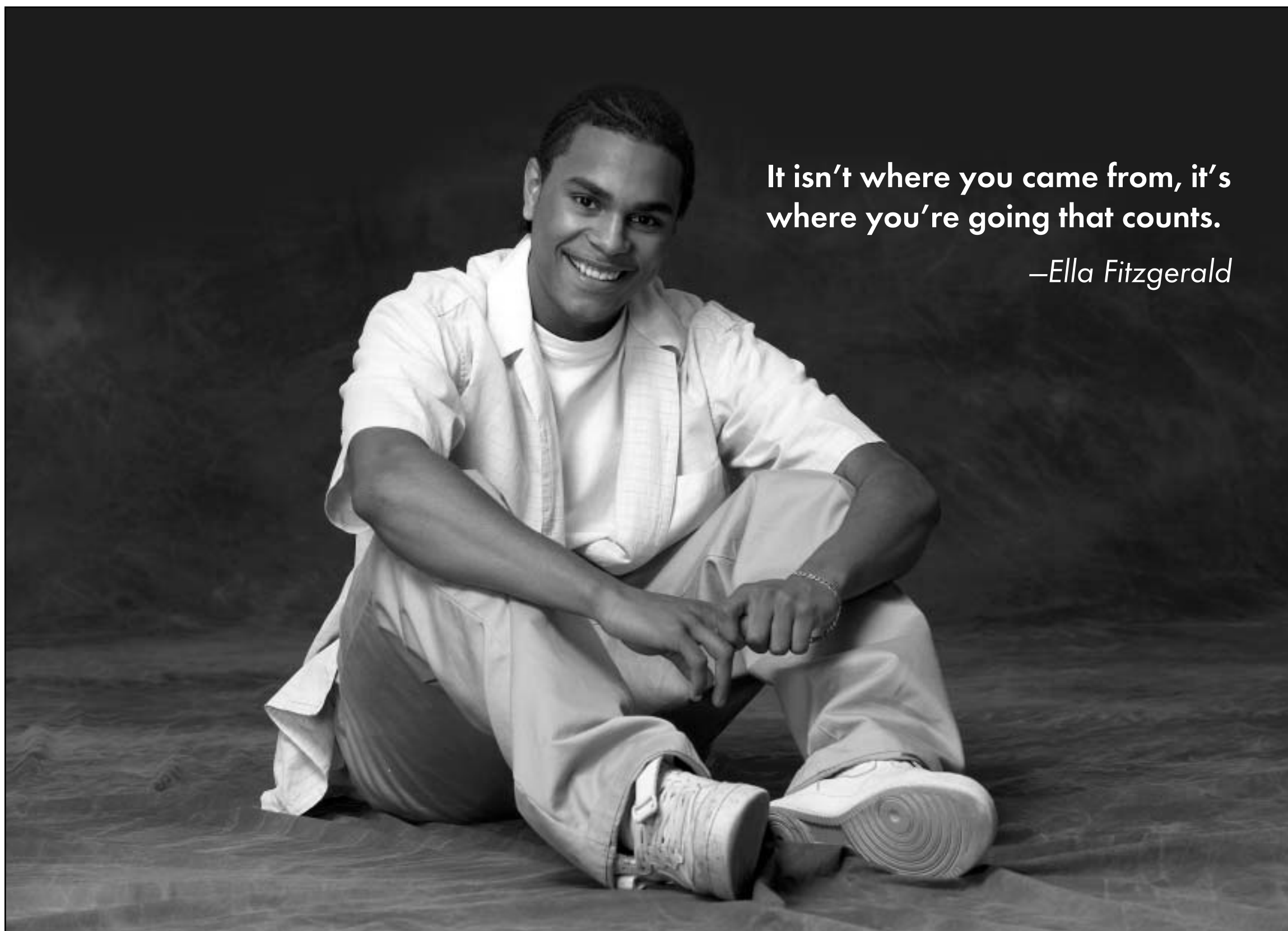
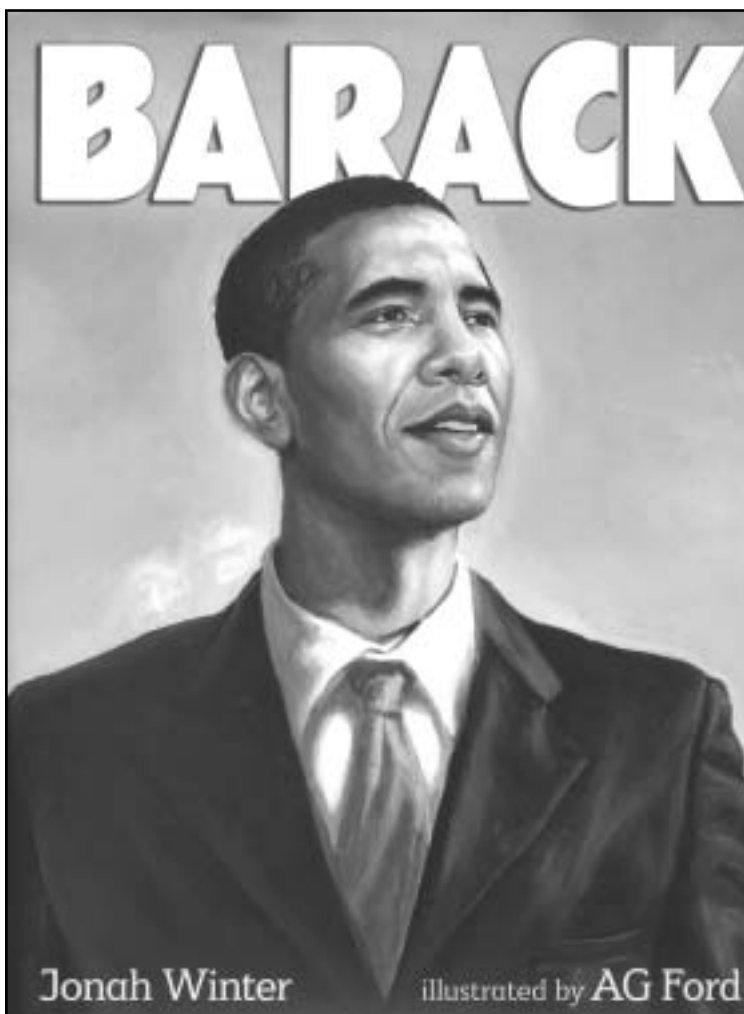
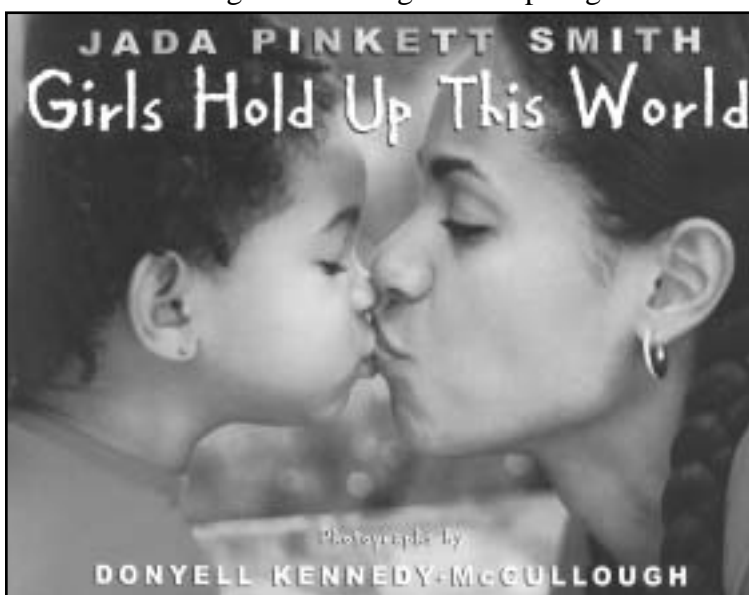
By TONY DUNGY

Pro football coach Tony Dungy shares a heartwarming inspiring story of a young boy finding his way.

### Girls Hold Up the World

By JADA PINKETT-SMITH

Jada unleashes some serious girl power. Our girls will find encouragement through her inspiring words.



It isn't where you came from, it's where you're going that counts.

—Ella Fitzgerald

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STATE CENTER  
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# LOCAL NEWS

## Dr. Jean Kennedy's Thirst To Help The Homeless

BY KATHY BONILLA

Fresno City College Women's Studies instructor Dr. Jean Kennedy has found that water is a very important way to reach the homeless. She has organized a project called the Fresno Homeless Water Project. The project collects bottled water, both plastic and glass, to distribute to the homeless near 'H' Street and Ventura in downtown Fresno.

The idea for the project came to her when she was asked to visit the homeless one day. She asked the people she was visiting what they needed, and to her surprise they said water. "They didn't ask for food; they didn't ask for clothing," she said. "They just asked for water so that they could take their

medication. We asked why don't they go to the Poverello House, but they don't want to leave their stuff," she explains.

Kennedy says the project is going well. Right now they distribute water every Tuesday and Thursday. She is hoping that she can find enough volunteers so that water can be distributed every day.

She finds that water has become a real conversation starter too. "People come up and are willing to talk. Water has been a tool of engagement. If people can get a bottle of water it can get them up and moving instead of just sitting. That water for us is a point of contact," she said.

Dr. Jean Kennedy can be reached at 559-270-1023.

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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## What's Going On in Our Community

### Saints Community COGIC 1st Annual Crab Feed

Saints Community COGIC first annual Crab Feed, Saturday, Nov. 15. from 4-8 p.m. Menu includes fresh warm Crab, Pasta Alfredo, garden green salad, rolls & butter, lemonade, and silent auction for your favorite desserts. \$35 per person, all you can eat. Location: Saint Community C.O.G.I.C. 3740 E. Ashlan Fresno. For tickets call 555-227-9819.

### Big Stove Give-a-way

On November 15, 2008 the Mental Health Systems, Inc is donating to the 93722 or 93728 community FREE stoves. All stoves are given "as is" and must be hauled away the same day. Over 25 available, first come first served. One stove per address and to qualify bring a utility bill with zip code of 93722 or 93728, to The Hacienda 2550 West Clinton. For more info call jenny Bates at 559-977-5515. All Stoves are gas and have four burners and an oven 40H x 40W x 25L.

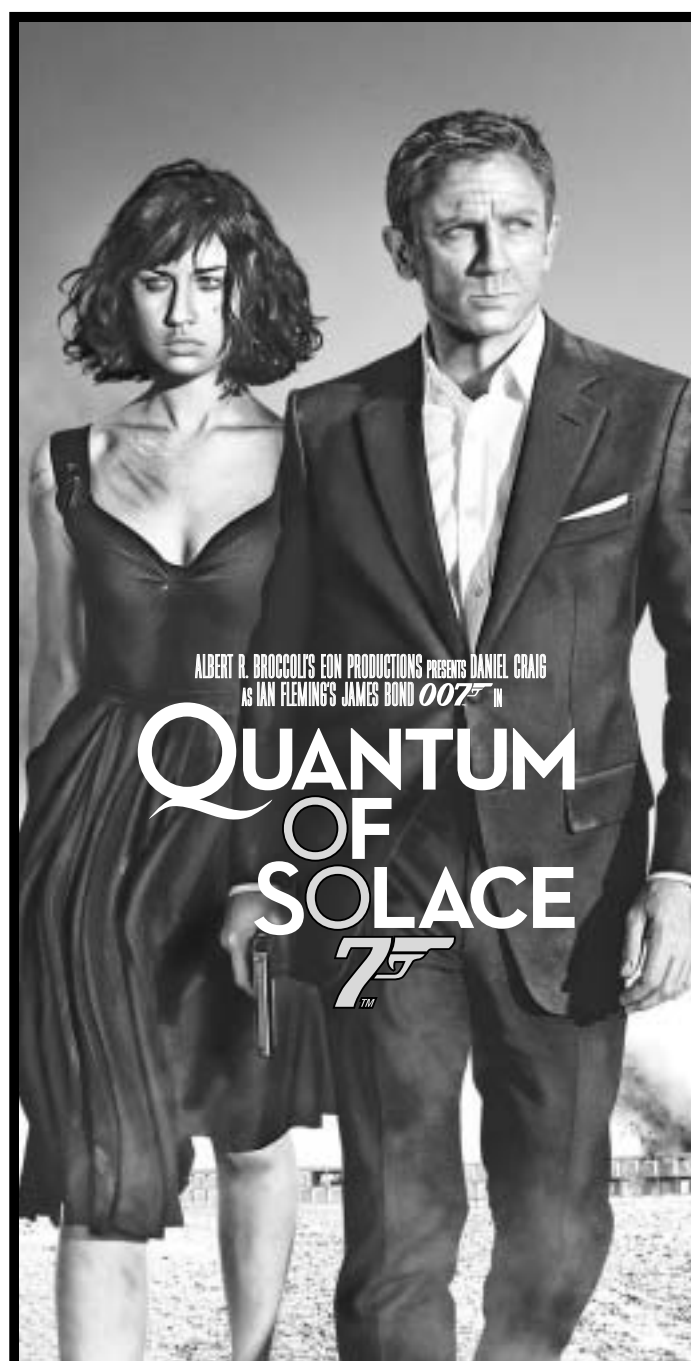
### Drinking Water for Homeless

Drinking water donations needed for the Fresno homeless population. Call 559-251-0540 or 559-270-1023 for water pick-up arrangements. Project contact persons: Dr. Jean Kennedy and Ms Rene Zeno. Need volunteers.

### Red & White Formal

George Greene Ch#27, Royal Arch Masons PHA-CA presents "Red and White Formal" Sat., Nov. 8, 2008 at 6 p.m. 5351 N. Diana, Fresno, CA. For more info contact the office of Dr. Freddie Hayes, M.D. Ask for Katina or Stacey at 559-459-0127. Donation \$40.

# BOND IS BACK!



COLUMBIA PICTURES

The California **ADVOCATE**  
Fresno's African American Community Newspaper

invite you and a guest to a special advance screening of **QUANTUM OF SOLACE**

on Thursday, November 13 at 7pm in Fresno.

For your chance to win two ADMIT ONE passes to see a special advance screening of **QUANTUM OF SOLACE**, head down to the offices of the **CALIFORNIA ADVOCATE** (1555 E St. in Fresno) starting Monday, November 3, during normal business hours.

Passes are in limited supply and will be distributed on a first come, first served basis. Limit two passes per person/household. Each pass admits ONE person.

This film is rated PG-13. Please note: Passes received through this promotion do not guarantee you a seat at the theatre. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis, except for members of the reviewing press. Theatre is overbooked to ensure a full house. No admittance once screening has begun. All federal, state and local regulations apply. A recipient of tickets assumes any and all risks related to use of ticket, and accepts any restrictions required by ticket provider. Columbia Pictures, Terry Hines & Associates, California Advocate and their affiliates accept no responsibility or liability in connection with any loss or accident incurred in connection with use of a prize. Tickets cannot be exchanged, transferred or redeemed for cash, in whole or in part. We are not responsible if, for any reason, winner is unable to use his/her ticket in whole or in part. Not responsible for lost, delayed or misdirected entries. All federal and local taxes are the responsibility of the winner. Void where prohibited by law. NO PHONE CALLS!



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# Barack Obama's Election Night Speech...

► **Continued from Page 1**  
at this defining moment, change has come to America.

I just received a very gracious call from Senator McCain. He fought long and hard in this campaign, and he's fought even longer and harder for the country he loves. He has endured sacrifices for America that most of us cannot begin to imagine, and we are better off for the service rendered by this brave and selfless leader. I congratulate him and Governor Palin for all they have achieved, and I look forward to working with them to renew this nation's promise in the months ahead.

I want to thank my partner in this journey, a man who campaigned from his heart and spoke for the men and women he grew up with on the streets of Scranton and rode with on that train home to Delaware, the Vice President-elect of the United States, Joe Biden.

I would not be standing here tonight without the unyielding support of my best friend for the last sixteen years, the rock of our family and the love of my life, our nation's next First Lady, Michelle Obama. Sasha and Malia, I love you both so much, and you have earned the new puppy that's coming with us to the White House. And while she's no longer with us, I know my grandmother is watching, along with the family that made me who I am. I miss them tonight, and know that my debt to them is beyond measure.

To my campaign manager David Plouffe, my chief strategist David Axelrod, and the best campaign team ever assembled in the history of politics - you made this happen, and I am forever grateful for what you've sacrificed to get it done.

But above all, I will never forget who this victory truly belongs to - it belongs to you.

I was never the likeliest candidate for this office. We didn't start with much money or many endorsements. Our campaign was not hatched in the halls of Washington - it began in the backyards of Des Moines and the living rooms of Concord and the front porches of Charleston.

It was built by working men and women who dug into what little savings they had to give five dollars and ten dollars and twenty dollars to this cause. It grew strength from the young people who rejected the myth of their generation's apathy; who left their homes and their families for jobs that offered little pay and less sleep; from the not-so-young people who braved the bitter cold and scorching

heat to knock on the doors of perfect strangers; from the millions of Americans who volunteered, and organized, and proved that more than two centuries later, a government of the people, by the people and for the people has not perished from this Earth. This is your victory.

I know you didn't do this just to win an election and I know you didn't do it for me. You did it because you understand the enormity of the task that lies ahead. For even as we celebrate tonight, we know the challenges that tomorrow will bring are the greatest of our lifetime - two wars, a planet in peril, the worst financial crisis in a century. Even as we stand here tonight, we know there are brave Americans waking up in the deserts of Iraq and the mountains of Afghanistan to risk their lives for us. There are mothers and fathers who will lie awake after their children fall asleep and wonder how they'll make the mortgage, or pay their doctor's bills, or save enough for college. There is new energy to harness and new jobs to be created; new schools to build and threats to meet and alliances to repair.

The road ahead will be long. Our climb will be steep. We may not get there in one year or even one term, but America - I have never been more hopeful than I am tonight that we will get there. I promise you - we as a people will get there.

There will be setbacks and false starts. There are many who won't agree with every decision or policy I make as President, and we know that government can't solve every problem. But I will always be honest with you about the challenges we face. I will listen to you, especially when we disagree. And above all, I will ask you join in the work of remaking this nation the only way it's been done in America for two-hundred and twenty-one years - block by block, brick by brick, calloused hand by calloused hand.

What began twenty-one months ago in the depths of winter must not end on this autumn night. This victory alone is not the change we seek - it is only the chance for us to make that change. And that cannot happen if we go back to the way things were. It cannot happen without you.

So let us summon a new spirit of patriotism; of service and responsibility where each of us resolves to pitch in and work harder and look after not only ourselves, but each other. Let us remember that if this financial crisis taught us any-

thing, it's that we cannot have a thriving Wall Street while Main Street suffers - in this country, we rise or fall as one nation; as one people.

Let us resist the temptation to fall back on the same partisanship and pettiness and immaturity that has poisoned our politics for so long. Let us remember that it was a man from this state who first carried the banner of the Republican Party to the White House - a party founded on the values of self-reliance, individual liberty, and national unity. Those are values we all share, and while the Democratic Party has won a great victory tonight, we do so with a measure of humility and determination to heal the divides that have held back our progress. As Lincoln said to a nation far more divided than ours, "We are not enemies, but friends... though passion may have strained it must not break our bonds of affection." And to those Americans whose support I have yet to earn - I may not have won your vote, but I hear your voices, I need your help, and I will be your President too.

And to all those watching tonight from beyond our shores, from parliaments and palaces to those who are huddled around radios in the forgotten corners of our world - our stories are singular, but our destiny is shared, and a new dawn of American leadership is at hand. To those who would tear this world down - we will defeat you. To those who seek peace and security - we support you. And to all those who have wondered if America's beacon still burns as bright - tonight we proved once more that the true strength of our nation comes not from our the might of our arms or the scale of our wealth, but from the enduring power of our ideals: democracy, liberty, opportunity, and unyielding hope.

For that is the true genius of America - that America can change. Our union can be perfected. And what we have already achieved gives us hope for what we can and must achieve tomorrow.

This election had many firsts and many stories that will be told for generations. But one that's on my mind tonight is about a woman who cast her ballot in Atlanta. She's a lot like the millions of others who stood in line to make their voice heard in this election except for one thing - Ann Nixon Cooper is 106 years old.

She was born just a generation past slavery; a time when there were no cars on the road or planes in the sky; when someone like her

couldn't vote for two reasons - because she was a woman and because of the color of her skin.

And tonight, I think about all that she's seen throughout her century in America - the heartache and the hope; the struggle and the progress; the times we were told that we can't, and the people who pressed on with that American creed: Yes we can.

At a time when women's voices were silenced and their hopes dismissed, she lived to see them stand up and speak out and reach for the ballot. Yes we can.

When there was despair in the dust bowl and depression across the land, she saw a nation conquer fear itself with a New Deal, new jobs and a new sense of common purpose. Yes we can.

When the bombs fell on our harbor and tyranny threatened the world, she was there to witness a generation rise to greatness and a democracy was saved. Yes we can.

She was there for the buses in Montgomery, the hoses in Birmingham, a bridge in Selma, and a preacher from Atlanta who told a people that "We Shall Overcome." Yes we can.

A man touched down on the moon, a wall came down in Berlin, a world was connected by our own science and imagination. And this year, in this election, she touched her finger to a screen, and cast her vote, because after 106 years in America, through the best of times and the darkest of hours, she knows how America can change. Yes we can.

America, we have come so far. We have seen so much. But there is so much more to do. So tonight, let us ask ourselves - if our children should live to see the next century; if my daughters should be so lucky to live as long as Ann Nixon Cooper, what change will they see? What progress will we have made?

This is our chance to answer that call. This is our moment. This is our time - to put our people back to work and open doors of opportunity for our kids; to restore prosperity and promote the cause of peace; to reclaim the American Dream and reaffirm that fundamental truth - that out of many, we are one; that while we breathe, we hope, and where we are met with cynicism, and doubt, and those who tell us that we can't, we will respond with that timeless creed that sums up the spirit of a people:

Yes We Can. Thank you, God bless you, and may God Bless the United States of America.

# Strains Between McCain and Palin Aides Go Public

BY KATE SNOW

Now that the defeated team of Sen. John McCain and Gov. Sarah Palin have gone their separate ways, the knives are out and Palin is the one who is getting filleted.

Revelations from anonymous critics from within the McCain-Palin campaign suggest a number of complaints about the Alaskan governor:

Fox News reports that Palin didn't know Africa was a continent and did not know the member nations of the North American Free Trade Agreement - the United States, Mexico and Canada - when she was picked for vice president.

The New York Times reports that McCain aides were outraged when Palin staffers scheduled her to speak with French President Nicholas Sarkozy, a conversation that turned out to be a radio station prank.

Newsweek reports that Palin spent far more than the previously reported \$150,000 on clothes for herself and her family.

Several publications say she irked the McCain campaign by asking to make her own concession speech on election night.

The tension is likely to continue or get worse. Lawyers for the Republican National Committee are heading to Alaska to try to account for all the money that was spent on clothing, jewelry and luggage, according to The New York Times.

One top McCain aide came to Palin's defense today. Randy Scheunemann, McCain's top foreign policy adviser who helped prepare Palin for her vice presidential debate, praised Palin's campaign effort and intelligence.

"I've been working over 20 years in Washington and I've been around literally dozens and dozens of politicians. She is among the smartest, toughest most capable politicians I've ever dealt with," Scheunemann said. "She has a photographic memory."

Reports of agitation between the two camps bubbled up in the final weeks of the campaign as Barack Obama began pulling away and the GOP duo was unable to regain the momentum.

But those reports are no longer in the rumor stage as McCain loyalists are now blasting away at the Alaska governor, who was a favorite of the Republican right during the campaign, but was cited in numerous polls as a reason why many Americans wouldn't vote for the Arizona Republican.

Perhaps the most dangerous allegation for Palin are reports in The New York Times and Newsweek that when she was urged by McCain adviser Nicole Wallace to buy three suits for the Republican convention and three suits for the campaign trail, she went on the now-infamous shopping spree at swank stores like Saks Fifth Avenue and Neiman Marcus.

A Republican donor who agreed to foot a majority of the expenses was stunned when he received the bill, Newsweek reported. Both the Times and Newsweek report that the budget for the clothing was expected to be between \$20,000 and \$25,000. Instead, the amount reported by the Republican National Committee was \$150,000.

That wasn't the whole tab, however, according to Newsweek. The magazine

claims that Palin leaned on some low-level staffers to put thousands of dollars of additional purchases on their credit cards. The national committee and McCain became aware of the extra expenditures, including clothes for husband Todd Palin, when the staffers sought reimbursement, Newsweek reported.

**McCain Aide Calls Palin Family 'Wasilla Hillbillies'**

There is one comment in particular from a McCain aide that guaranteed to heighten friction between the two camps. The angry aide described the Palin family shopping spree to Newsweek as "Wasilla hillbillies looting Neiman Marcus from coast to coast."

It's unclear how much McCain knew about the clothing debacle. Reports suggest that he was kept out of the loop for fear that he would not approve.

Both Newsweek and The New York Times say McCain and Palin had little contact with each other.

"I think it was a difficult relationship," one top McCain official confided to The New York Times. But a high level McCain adviser told ABC News that the two had a good working relationship.

"He likes her," this senior McCain adviser said last week. "He's had no problem with her. He's very appreciative of what she's done."

The adviser said McCain and Palin talked at least once a day. He also said McCain frequently joked about how large Palin's crowds were compared to his.

However, press accounts today suggest that Palin rubbed many of the McCain aides the wrong way. On election night when it was clear that McCain would be giving a concession speech instead of an acceptance speech, Palin approached McCain with a speech in hand hoping to make her own concession speech, according to published reports.

Vice presidential candidates traditionally leave the spotlight to the top of the ticket on election night and McCain aides made it clear to Palin that she would be a spectator that night, not a speaker, The New York Times reported.

And when McCain and Palin split up in Arizona Wednesday, the personal differences were stark.

McCain drove himself home in a Toyota sport utility vehicle. Palin's departure was a grander event. She left with an entourage of 18 family members and friends and a Secret Service detail, heading to the airport in a motorcade stretching more than a dozen vehicles, flanked by a dozen more cops on motorcycles.

**Interview Prep Lacking, McCain Staffers Say**

McCain aides had numerous complaints about Palin. She was unwilling or unable to find the time and energy to prep for her disastrous interview with Couric. And when she did study, she astonished her handlers by her unsophisticated views.

She didn't know Africa was a continent, according to Newsweek. Fox News revealed that during her cramming, she couldn't name the three countries that belong to the North American Free Trade Agreement: the United States, Canada and Mexico.

# Obama Defeats McCain in Landslide...

► **Continued from Page 1**

McCain called his former rival to concede defeat - and the end of his own 10-year quest for the White House. "The American people have spoken, and spoken clearly," McCain told disappointed supporters in Arizona.

Obama and his running mate, Sen. Joseph Biden of Delaware, will take their oaths of office as president and vice president on Jan. 20, 2009.

As the 44th president, Obama will move into the Oval Office as leader of a country that is almost certainly in recession, and fighting two long wars, one in Iraq, the other in Afghanistan.

The popular vote was close, but not the count in the Electoral College, where it mattered most.

There, Obama's audacious decision to contest McCain in states that hadn't

gone Democratic in years paid rich dividends.

Obama has said his first order of presidential business will be to tackle the economy. He has also pledged to withdraw most U.S. combat troops from Iraq within 16 months.

Fellow Democrats rode his coattails to larger majorities in both houses of Congress. They defeated incumbent Republicans and won open seats by turn.

The 47-year-old Illinois senator was little known just four years ago. A widely praised speech at the Democratic National Convention, delivered when he was merely a candidate for the Senate, changed that.

Overnight he became a sought-after surrogate campaigner, and he had scarcely settled into his Senate seat when he began preparing for his run for the White House. A survey of voters leaving

polling places on Tuesday showed the economy was by far the top Election Day issue. Six in 10 voters said so, and none of the other top issues - energy, Iraq, terrorism and health care - was picked by more than one in 10.

"May God bless whoever wins tonight," President Bush told dinner guests at the White House, where his tenure runs out on Jan. 20.

The Democratic leaders of Congress celebrated in Washington.

"It is not a mandate for a party or ideology but a mandate for change," said Senate Majority leader Harry Reid of Nevada.

Said Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California: "Tonight the American people have called for a new direction. They have called for change in America."

Shortly after 11 p.m. in the East, The Associated Press count showed Obama

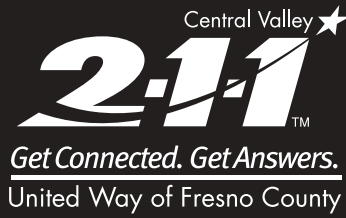
with 338 electoral votes, well over the 270 needed for victory. McCain had 127 after winning states that comprised the normal Republican base.

The nationwide popular vote was remarkably close. Totals from 58 percent of the nation's precincts showed Obama with 51 percent and McCain with 47.9.

Interviews with voters suggested that almost six in 10 women were backing Obama nationwide, while men leaned his way by a narrow margin. Just over half of whites supported McCain, giving him a slim advantage in a group that Bush carried overwhelmingly in 2004.

The results of the AP survey were based on a preliminary partial sample of nearly 10,000 voters in Election Day polls and in telephone interviews over the past week for early voters.

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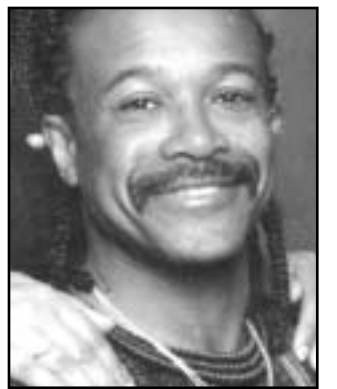
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(559) 485-1273  
keithkelley@fwced.org  
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*"There are those that look at things the way they are, and ask why?  
I dream of things that never were, and ask why not?"*

- Robert Kennedy

For more information on sponsorship and/or tickets, contact: FWCED (559) 485-1273 or info@fwced.org

## THE CALIFORNIA ADVOCATE NEWSPAPER

THE AFRICAN AMERICAN NEWSPAPER OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

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# ADVOCATE'S 'MAN ON THE STREET'

## Election Day, 2008: How Do You Feel?



Cheryl Brezell: first time voting, ready for change.



Stacy Slocum: First time voting. Feels good.



Jessica Madrigal, Roxanne Garcia, Mary Lopez: Voice for poor; help for people in need; either way, this is historical.



Lois Ward (crying): No idea that I would be here to see this. God said the last will be first and the first will be last.



Joe Dixon: Excited!

California Advocate's  
**MAN on the STREET**  
Election Day 2008  
"How Do You Feel?"  
Photos by Advocate Photojournalist Ken McCoy



Dietra Dorsey: Historic for children, positive for the community.



Reshawn Wiltz: Historic, timely.



Arbito Rodriguez (veteran): Time for a change - important time for the country.



Rafael Ibrahim: Feels good. Opens doors. Add my voice to the process.



Anette Rogers Torres: Monumental day - a long time waiting, but I am also a bit nervous.



Candace Mayo: Son 8, wants to run for office at his school. Excited about today.



Ingram Tate: Excited. Grandmother 87 and 18 year old son voting.



Terrence O'Donnell: Ready for change, very hopeful, now inclusive.



Robert Williams & wife: Thank You Jesus!



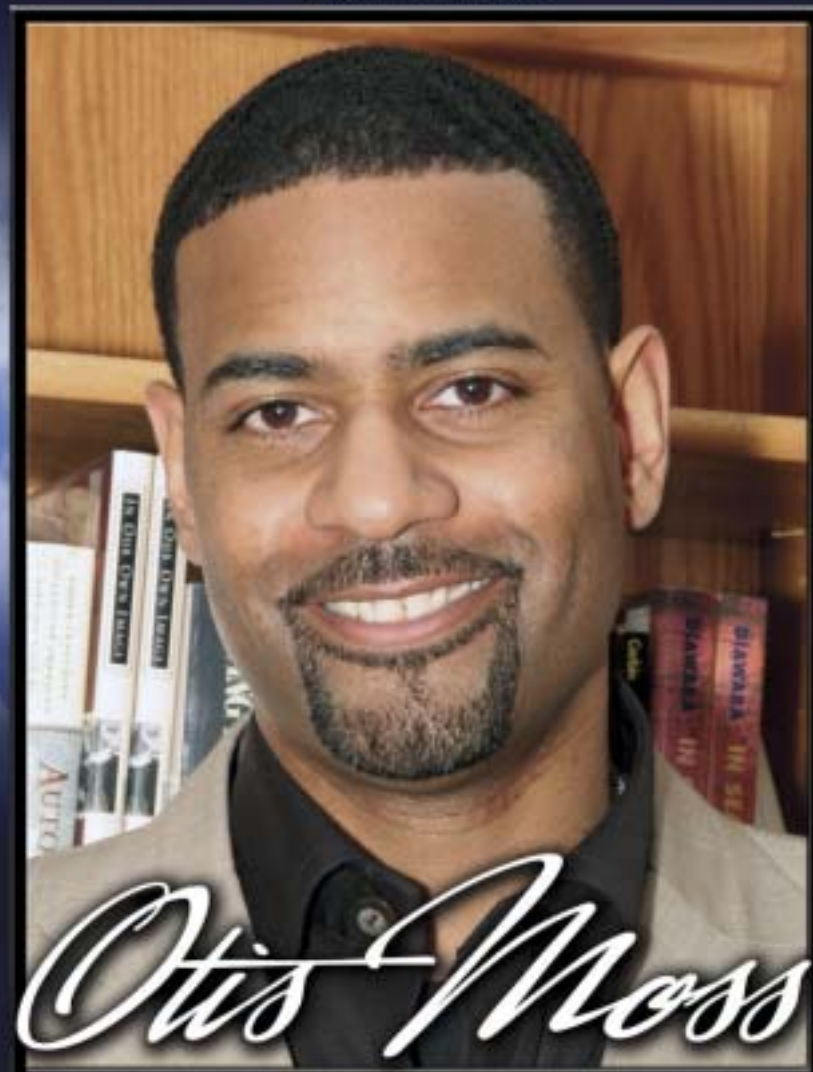
Michael Wilson Sr.: voice is open. We can affect policy.

## Victory Celebration...

Continued from Page 2



Saints Rest  
Missionary Baptist Church  
welcomes...



Date: Nov. 12th - Time: 7pm

Saints Rest Missionary Baptist Church  
1550 E Rev Chester Riggins Avenue  
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for more info call: 559-237-5551

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