

Political Rumors, Gossip and Such?? That usually turns out to be True!! Reports by Robert A. Williams

Lots of political strategy, lies and downright dirty tricks are usually the norm in Cleveland County politics. Commissioner Eddie Holbrook's campaign signs and mailers should be the proof of that. But new political tricks, wrinkles and story telling have reached new highs, even for Cleveland County. And, especially for Early Voting.

Sheriff's Race:

Probably the weirdest shenanigan of them all was Sheriff Alan Norman's reported "Birthday Party" held at the Hobby Lobby Early Voting site this past Tuesday. I have heard about a lot of things happening at Polling locations, but a Birthday Party is a new one on me. I don 't know if it is illegal, unethical or not, but it sure sounds strange. All I can say to that is Happy Birthday Alan!

Of course anonymous reports of Deputies being "expected" to work the polls for the incumbent Sheriff have come to me. Deputies putting up signs and such are usually reported around Election time. Then, there are the eye witness reports of Sheriff Norman spending lots of time working the crowd at the Early Voting sites are rolling in every day. Same with Eddie Holbrook. Also, Sheriff Norman was reported to be rude to his opponent's wife as the woman was trying

to assist a 90+ year old lady get curbside assistance to vote.

Getting out the Vote:

The "Black Community" usually led by "Black" Preachers as well as the NAACP have long advocated for Sunday Early Voting. The thought being that is the Preachers could turn his congregation out of Church and have them go vote immediately. "Souls to the Polls" it is called.

The rumor this year is that there will be buses ready at the participating Black Churches to haul the whole congregation directly to the polling places and run the voting age people in the congregation straight into the voting line.

Only thing though is how "Plantation Politics," led by Commissioner Eddie Holbrook, will play

out in this effort. On one side you have the Uncle Toms led by Rev. Lamont Littlejohn, Ron

Harrill, Larry Corry, the NAACP led by Mary Degree and perhaps others who are allegedly

closely linked to Commissioner Eddie Holbrook. On the other side are those who have formed a

group called "Partnership for a Stronger Cleveland County" led by Rev. Billy Houze, Rev. Ray

Lockhart, Rev. Charles Webber and others who want to break away from the Uncle Tom

Plantation Politics control mentality and work for the best interest of ALL the black community.

Miscellaneous:

Allegedly Holbrook and Shelby Mayor Stan Anthony were called to a meeting with the

Partnership just a few days ago in an effort to try to find out why certain things were done that

had negative impacts (lack of water service and a lack of serious consideration of a business

proposal) to certain black community members. Holbrook and

Anthony show up (Although Holbrook and the other appointed incumbent Commissioners refused to participate in the Partners for a Stronger Cleveland County commissioner's debate a few weeks ago.) Reportedly there were no satisfactory responses by Holbrook and Anthony.

Political Smackdown has told certain citizens that my article based on a Smackdown Episode regarding certain candidates having to work for their pay and Eddie Holbrook spending his time on his \$125,000 CCC job at the Early Voting place was "misleading." Go see for yourself who was misleading. Political Smackdown on Livestream:

<https://livestream.com/accounts/13073835/events/7634156/videos/182083965>

Notice Smackdown said that the Republican Sample Ballot did not have a recommendation for Sheriff, and provided a misleading answer why not. Notice that Sheriff Alan Norman is a registered Democrat and his Opponent (by Petition) is registered Unaffiliated.

Stay tuned folks, There will be more to come.