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Community Thumbprints on a Symbol of Hope

"18-year-old <u>Kristen Redmon</u>. This young lady has been admitted to West Point, and that is reason for the entire city to rejoice." <u>Fred Williams's June 14, 2012 Express-News Column</u>

Amachi is a Nigerian word meaning "Who knows but what gifts God has brought us through this child?"



With 1st Sergeant Halford, SHHS JROTC Instructor

Goal: Assemble members of the San Antonio community—during daylight hours--to rejoice and reflect on the gifts this child brings and will acquire over the next five years as she develops into a leader of America's sons and daughters serving in the US Army.

Location: Inspirational Grounds Coffee Shop, 629 S. W.W. White Road, San Antonio, TX 78220

Date and Time: During Daylight Hours (2:30 to 4 PM), Wednesday, July 11

Dear Fellow Sam Houston High Alumni—Especially "Cherokees" in the Class of 1971 and Other Residents:

Greetings!

I recently returned to live in San Antonio after being "out there" for the past forty years since our class graduated in 1971. I went to Notre Dame. Another buddy, Edward Maney, went to West Point. Fortyone years later, I attended Sam Houston's Class of 2012 Commencement at the Alamodome on June 8, 2012. Our alma mater, this year, is sending the valedictorian, Bria Webb, to New York University and Cadet Candidate Kirsten Redmon to the US Military Academy Preparatory School at West Point. It is a blessing to witness such successes forty years later.

The federal government is investing \$24.6 million in the <u>East Side Promise Neighborhood</u> over the next five years. From a separate pot of money, the nation is investing half-a-million dollars in Kirsten Redmon's education and leadership development over the same period of time. There was a big kickoff for the Promise Neighborhood Initiative a couple of months ago. Before Kirsten leaves for R-Day (Reception Day) at West Point's Prep School, it seems appropriate to spend a little time during daylight hours rejoicing and reflecting on the nation's investment in this Emerging Leader.

Kirsten is willing to receive guidance from elders and other sentiments that we wish to share with her. We hope that several of you and others will join us during daylight hours (2:30 – 4:00 PM, Wednesday, July 11) at Inspirational Grounds Coffee Shop (S. W.W. White Road, San Antonio, TX 78220).

In His Service, Jason