

# YOUTH BRIGADE

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN  
DIVISION OF DIVERSITY AND  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

HUSTON-TILLOTSON  
UNIVERSITY  
1875 AUSTIN, TEXAS

AUSTIN  
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## Youth of Today



## Hope of Tomorrow

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### Going to St. James



Rickey Hayes  
Manor New Tech HS

This past weekend I attended St. James church with my group, Top Teens of America. This was my first time participating in a service at this church. This church

was very active and didn't have a boring moment. They welcomed us with open arms into their church.

Every year we go to a different church. This year one of the teens suggested that we go to St. James. I really enjoyed going to this church there was dancing and a lot of inspirational singing. I learned a lot by going to this church in this one weekend alone.

I enjoyed going to St James so much, that I would not have a problem returning to that church.

### Basketball out, Track and Field In



Tori Smith,  
Lockhart Junior High School

Last Thursday, was a surprise against Wallace Rangers. For seventh grade b-team, the Wallace Rangers team forfeit against our team, because they did not

have enough on their b-team or a-team. But our a-team still played against Wallace the score was phenomenal, Lockhart beat Wallace Rangers by about 20 points. Wow!

On Friday we went to the last high school game for Junior High night. On Monday we are having our last game at Simon Middle School, home of the Wolverines. I hope we win. Now that basketball is coming to an end, there will be Track and Field coming.

Well that is all for now, see you all next week.

### Math Matters



Jaylon Knighten  
Dailey Middle School

A couple of weeks ago I wrote about a project that my Pre AP Math class was doing that was being spon-

sored by the Austin Toros.

On Tuesday Jan 31<sup>st</sup> we attended an Austin Toros game because we completed the Math Matters assignment. Our assignment was to help figure the amount raised from ticket prices, food prices and the stats from the score books by created formulas. The Austin Toros rewarded us for doing all this work by letting us attend one of their games that was being held doing the day against the Rio Grande Vipers.

### Rain! Rain! Rain!



Olivia Smith  
Lockhart H.S.

This week was certainly different and unexpected, due to the heavy rain we received. On Tuesday, January 24, at about 11:00 pm it really started storming!

There was rain, thunder, lightning, and hail. I figured the storm would not last that long, but it lasted for around seven hours. I still thought the storm was not that intense enough for the school district to delay or cancel school. Next, I looked outside my window and I saw the storm was gradually getting worse. I called the bad weather hotline, and it said that LISD classes were cancelled. I was shocked! I was so happy and relieved that I could sleep in and rest. Storm Day, was a great day to have off!

### Early College Start



Jaquarry Wilson  
Del Valle High School

At Del Valle High School, students are given the opportunity to take college courses for college credit through Austin Community College, or ACC. Unlike an Early College High School (ECHS), such as Austin ISD's LBJ High School and Regan High School, only rising juniors and seniors are given the privilege of participating. In an ECHS freshmen as well as sophomores are able to take the courses offered. A rising junior is a student who is currently classified as a sophomore in high school

and will be classified as a junior in the next school year. That same concept applies for rising seniors as well. In the program that Del Valle High School is offering to the students, the classes will require a large number of students to take classes in the summer, on weekends, and at nights after school. This can be appealing to some but others might see this as something that requires too much time and stresses them out. What I do like about this program is that you have a choice as to what method you choose to take your classes. They offer the classes at the Del Valle High School campus, online, and at ACC campuses. The actual ACC campus allows students to experience how college is going to be once we actually go. In my opinion, any program that allows students to get a head start at college and better our futures is a great one!

### Pennies for Patients



Andrae Hatcher  
Pflugerville Middle School

Leukemia is cancer of the blood. The term leukemia refers to cancers of the white blood cells.

When a child has leukemia, large numbers of abnormal white blood cells are produced in the bone marrow. These abnormal white cells crowd the bone marrow and flood the bloodstream, but they cannot perform their proper role of protecting the

body against disease because they are defective.

The Pflugerville Panthers are helping fight leukemia, by raising money for more research and treatment. Each student has been given a collection box of their own. Students will take the collection boxes home and collect money from family, friends, and neighbors to help the fight against leukemia.

After all money is collected the students bring the collection boxes back to their second period classes and the class with the most money donated will win.

The prize for 3rd place is a waffle and bacon party, 2nd place prize is an ice cream party, and the prize for 1st place is a catered lunch from Olive Garden.

### WHERE IS SCHOOL GOING?



Dezhia Gorrer  
Clint Small Middle School

I remember when we first started school I couldn't wait for it to be over. I see how the school year is almost over that makes me happy.

One thing I don't like about middle school is how fast the sports go by. This year we will only have four track meets, I don't like that because track is my favorite sport.

We are already getting our choice sheets and dates to go to Austin high for information about the school and teachers. People used to tell me the older you get the

faster time goes by, I wouldn't believe them now that I am seeing this with my own eyes, it's crazy. I am still ready for high school though because you have more opportunities than middle school and the sports have a longer date span.

High school gives you a better look at college and more, middle school just prepares you for high school. Sometimes middle schools give us opportunities at things but not a lot like high school and college.

I hope high school actually gives me more of a challenge like its suppose to. I am kind of nervous to go to college though because I have seen so many people drop out like it is that hard, but I want to be that person that doesn't drop out and becomes successful and get a good education.



Marshay Hatcher  
Pflugerville High School

Planning for college can be stressful, so any help with making plans and reaching your goals can be very helpful. Figuring out where to start can be the most nerve-racking.

PISD students have a great opportunity to get that, much needed help with, Financial Aid Saturdays.

Financial Aid Saturdays provide free help filling out federal and state forms for college financial aid. Students that file by March 31 will increase their chances of getting financial aid. Register for one of the events to get one-on-one help filing for federal/state financial aid and filing scholarship applications.

Help filing income tax returns to get financial aid at some locations and an-

swers to questions answered by college representatives and financial aid experts.

Filing for federal and state aid could help you and your family pay for college. Submission of federal/state financial aid forms is the only way for students to become eligible for most scholarships, grants, work study, and other types financial aid.

February 4th - March 31st 2012 these experts will be visiting Austin and surrounding area high schools to help students to fill out the necessary applications for college financial aid.

To register for this event and find out when they will be in your area visit <http://www.austinchamber-college-readynow.org/>. For more information on applying for financial aid, applying to college, or Financial Aid Saturday events, please call the Texas Financial Aid

Information Center at 1-888-311-8881 or contact Gilbert Zavala, Austin Chamber of Commerce Vice President, Education and Talent Development, 512-322-5644.

### TMEA Performance



Darius Hatcher  
Pflugerville Middle School

On Sunday, February 5, 2012 the Pflugerville Middle School Choir will be attending the TMEA Performance at Bates Recital Hall on the UT campus.

The Pflugerville Wo-

men's Chorale has been invited to sing at the Texas Music Educators Convention in San Antonio next month. This is a very prestigious honor and they have worked extremely hard on making this dream a reality.

The Pflugerville Middle Choir will meet at Pflugerville Middle School at 2:30 and we will arrive back at school around 5:30. I think it is going to be a really cool thing to go and watch our own PHS Women's Chorale Choir. It's pretty cool to know that the people we are going to see once we went to our school. I think it's going to be awesome.

### CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN FEBRUARY!



### CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY EVERY DAY!