



50th



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The Villager

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THE GIVING SEASON

RAPPIN'
Thomas Wyatt

Hello Villagerians! This weekend is our time to celebrate **Martin Luther King, Jr.** --- by giving.

The **Festival** will be held at **Huston-Tillotson University**, Saturday, where donations will be appreciated from all visitors to the school grounds. Please find relevant information to the right of this article.

The **Austin Area Heritage Council** is helping support the **Central Texas Food Bank** by asking those coming to the event to bring items to help stock the shelves.

Despite the most recent accolades of our rebounding economy and soaring stock market numbers, there are still many people in Austin without homes, food, clothing, and heat. And it's quite remarkable how those, who are suffering through hard times, don't even get a blip of news coverage; because all presidential candidates want to bang their chests and adorn you with how good they are/have been for **America**.

One candidate only cries about himself. No mention of restoring fair voting rights to **Texans** and **Georgians**. No mention of foreign policy. No mention of addressing domestic terrorism. No mention of gun laws and protecting our children from being massacred in their classrooms. No mention of tax cuts for the poor; or programs to help the misfortunate. No mention of education reform; or preventing the assault on **Black** culture curriculums. No mention of health care; or a real substitution for the **Affordable Care Act**. No mention of the direction of fossil fuels versus electric alternatives. No mention of federal versus state immigration policies. No mention of ending the war in the **Middle East**. No mention of housing referendums for unaffordable skyrocketing home prices. Tell me something, how does this help you?

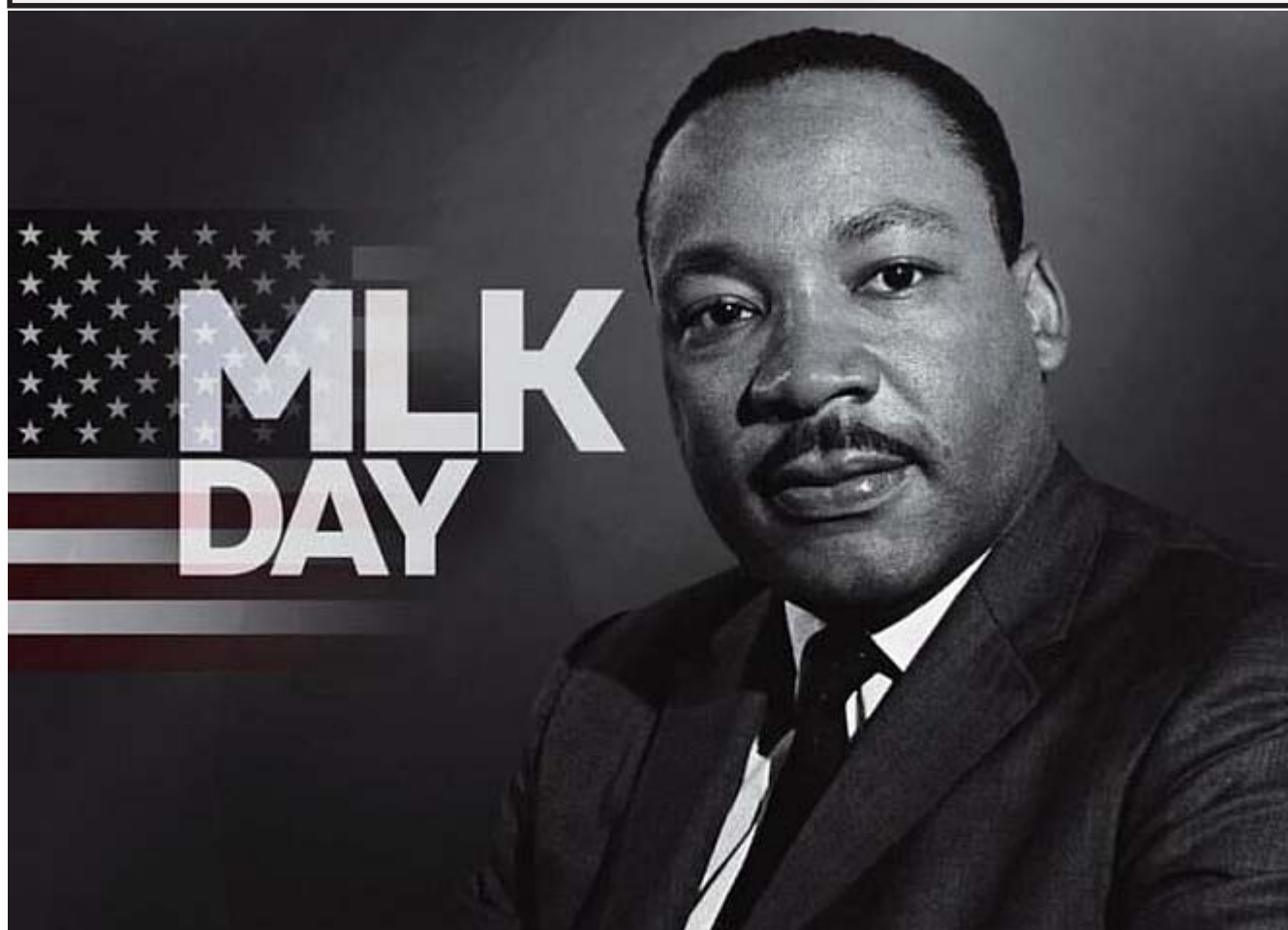
Another candidate can't even say the word **slavery** in fear of it hurting her chances to win the **GOP** nomination. And yet again, no mention of the policies in the aforementioned paragraph. Her only focus is on the whack-job mentioned in the previous block. How does this help you?

Then, there's the final candidate. This guy believes the only way to get the *slipping* Black vote is to ban **menthols**. So, just to be clear, this guy wants to ban menthols in **2024**? How long has he been **President**? How long was he **Vice President**? Hell, how long has this guy been on **Capitol Hill**? How does this help you?

I think you've seen enough. Please bring something to **The Festival**, Saturday, for our hungry citizens. And if you can't make it to that, make time to visit an **Austin Area food Bank** near you. Find information at <https://www.centraltexasfoodbank.org/>.

May Elohim Bless you **ALL**!

The Austin Area Heritage Council MLK Festival, Saturday!



2024 Theme:

"AFFIRMING OUR RIGHT TO JUSTICE & EQUALITY."

Austin Area Heritage Council Presents Festival to Honor

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Sponsored by

City of Austin, Huston-Tillotson University, The University of Texas at Austin Department of Black Studies Collective College of Liberal Arts, The University of Texas at Austin Division of Campus and Community Engagement, Wells Fargo, Applied Materials Foundation, Ascension Seton, H-E-B, Brown Distributing Company, ARCA Continental/Coco-Cola Southwest Beverages, Capital Metro/Project Connect

AUSTIN, TX – Although The Austin Area Heritage Council cancelled the MLK March due to anticipated wintery weather conditions two weeks ago, the Festival at **Huston-Tillotson University** at 8th and Chalmers will be held this Saturday, **January 27, 2024 from 11:00am – 3:00pm**.

For more information about this year's events, visit the Web site www.mlkcelebration.com.

SUPPORT THE CENTRAL TEXAS FOOD BANK (FESTIVAL ONLY)

This year, we are asking visitors to help by donating can goods or non-perishable food items, which will be donated to the **Central Texas Food Bank**. Give to those in need by helping the Central Texas Food Bank fill their shelves with non-perishable food items. "True compassion is more than flinging a coin to a beggar; it is not haphazard and superficial. It comes to see that an edifice which produces beggars needs restructuring." — Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Receptacles will be available at the festival at **Huston-Tillotson University**.

Please follow these guidelines when considering what to donate:

- Healthy, non-perishable foods
- Items with intact, un-opened, consumer or commercial packaging
- Items with non-breakable packaging (no glass, please)
- Food within the expiration date on the packaging
- Food from your community or backyard garden
- Canned meats like tuna, stew, and chili (pop-tops preferred)
- Canned Vegetables
- Pasta and pasta sauce
- Beans
- Healthy cereals
- Peanut butter

FREE PARKING LOCATIONS

We sincerely thank the locations below for offering free parking on the morning and afternoon of the march and festival.

- State's Visitors Garage (12th & San Jacinto St.)
- Kealing Middle School (1607 Pennsylvania Ave.)
- Holy Cross Catholic Church (1610 E. 11th)
- Blackshear Elementary (1712 E. 11th)
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church (1206 E. 9th)
- Mt. Olive Baptist Church (1800 E. 11th)

INSIDE



Millennium to host
ReShonda Tate
for new book signing,
this Saturday.
See **HATTIE**
Page 2



SAVE THE DATE!
Leta Harrison Expo
coming Feb. 15.
See **BLACK GIRLS**
Page 3



Driving while Black?
Yeah, it's a thing.
See **TARGET**
Page 5

<http://austintexas.gov/covid19>
GET THE FACTS | FREE PUBLIC COVID-19 TESTING | TRACKING DIGITAL DASHBOARD
SELF-ASSESSMENT | STAY HOME ORDERS | HEALTH PROVIDERS | CARE