Austin Revitalization Authority Held Annual Board Appreciation Dinner at Old Historical Business Site

By Adrienne Rison-Isom | VILLAGER Contributor

(AUSTIN, TX) – The Austin Revitalization Authority (ARA) hosted their Annual Apprecia-
tion Dinner on Wednes-
day, February 26, 2020. Huston-Tillotson University President Colette Pierce Burnette, Ed. D, the Colony Park/Lakeside Neighborhood Associa-
tion, and Mr. James McDonald, Chairman of Kids Helping Kids of Texas, all honored the ARA with thank you gifts and tributes for ex-
ceptional community service throughout the year. For more info about ARA and their end of year event, you may view their site at http://www.austinvillager.org.

ARA was started by notable, former City Councilman, Dr. Charles Urdy, and continued to-
day by Mr. Gregory L. Smith. The event was also attended by new City Councilwoman Natasha Harper-Madi-
on, and many more fa-
miliar leaders.

ARA’s mission is to engage, commercial, and cultural development. Notably, the dinner was held at the old Frosty Acres / Frostex building, which many older Austinites remember as a cold food stor-
age supplier located on Springdale Rd., and Air-
port Blvd. Currently, as the face of Austin changes, that business-site (Which was Frostex) changed also. Frostex was for-
merly owned by the Boone family, and Arthur Upshaw Boone

Arthur Upshaw Boone
Gregory L. Smith

was a descendant of Daniel Boone. Boone was born on August 13, 1921 in Owensboro, Kentucky. His business has since been converted into a center for restaur-
ants, rock wall climbing and more.

The Hall where the dinner was held is the old Train Depot Building. Mr. Boone had bought a train car (Back in the day) and outfitted it “James West” style with interior fixings and more. He and his family used the train car for cer-
tations.

He hired the rail-
road to pull that car up to the site for vacation destination once a year. Boone was very kind to all of his employ-
ees, no matter what race, creed, or color. They celebrated the company’s success each year, and he retired them securely.

That certainly is something to examine, especially today.

The new develop-
ment, brings back old memories, and a perfect model project which can be called preservation of a site.

The remaining effort which needs to be added, should include an “Untold Story Historical Marker”, something to know and appreciate where they visit.

Read more about what use to happen at the Frosty Acres site. Visit the link below to see more.


THE VILLAGER’S “NAOMI RICHARD” SELECTED AS A 2020 PROFILES OF PROMINENCE HONOREE

By Glynnis Woolridge

(AUSTIN, TX) – Naomi Richard, award-
winning entertainment journalist and owner and CEO of White Glove Photos (certified woman and minority business), has been selected as a 2020 Connie Verwood Conner African-Ameri-
can Women’s “Profiles of Prominence” Hon-
oree by the Austin Metroplois Chapter of National Women of Achievement, incorpo-
rated.

This distinguished award will be presented at the organization’s Six-
ten Biennial cer-
emony, held at 6:00PM on Saturday, March 28, 2020 at Saint James Mis-
sionary Baptist Church, located at 3417 East Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard in Austin. Richard is one of 10 award recipients being hon-

NAOMI J. RICHARD (Garty Photo by Gary Miller)

ored during the pro-
gram. The event is free and open to the public.

“I am deeply grateful to be selected as a 2020 Profiles of Promi-

ence Honoree,” ex-

pressed Richard. “It is humbling to be in the company of such incred-
ible and trailblazing women – not only those who are sharing this year’s honor with me, but each one who came before us.”

The Profiles of Prominence award rec-
ogizes women in the Austin-Travis County area who have made outstanding professional achievements in law, community service, edu-
cation and other fields of endeavor. Richard was selected as an honoree in the area of Communi-
cations, which cel-

The Voice of Austin, KRGN 98.5FM
Austin Villager Newspa-

Gospel Announcers
Texas Association of
Black Journalists and the
Music Association, the
Recording Academy, The Stellar
Gospel Announcers

Ms. Richard is a member of The Record-
ing Academy. The Stellar Awards Gospel Music Academy, the Gospel Music Association, the National Association of Black Journalists and the Texas Association of

Ms. Richard is also a Certified Project Man-
agement Professional, Certified Systems Engi-
neer, a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, The Links Incorporated –
Austin Chapter, past member of Jack & Jill of America, Inc, a lifetime member of the Urban League and the NAACP.

Connect with Ms. Richard on social media @NaomiRichard.