

Captain Freeman was the first African American pilot hired by Southwest



Former Austinite, Captain Lou Freeman, and America's first African American Chief Pilot retires from Southwest Airlines after more than 36 years of flying passengers in 737 jets.

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that position, making it the largest crew base at that time."

In honor of his place in history, Freeman flew Rosa Parks' remains from Montgomery, Alabama to Washington, D.C., and Detroit for her final resting place. Understanding the significance of that moment, he shared the opportunity with two other African American pilots.

"As we were leaving Montgomery," said Freeman, "we requested and received permission from the tower to circle Montgomery, the city that loved her. Then we rocked the

plane's wings as a salute and her final wave goodbye."

Freeman was the first African American pilot hired by Southwest. "I didn't realize that at the time," said Freeman. "But it didn't take me long to figure it out when I didn't see any other pilots of color." He has helped bring more African American pilots not only to Southwest Airlines but to commercial and cargo airlines, as well.

"Through it all, my success was built on the strong foundation I received at the very beginning," said Freeman. "I

learned to read, understand math, play and get along well with others at Sims Elementary School."

A few years ago, Freeman returned to Sims, along with Tuskegee Airman Captain Chris Newman, to talk to students. "I wanted to show the students that they too can achieve their dreams if they put their minds and hearts to the task. I wanted them to know I was just like them. I once set where they were sitting."

At the end of that presentation, he invited students to talk to him,

take pictures and to try on his hat so they could see themselves as pilots. Freeman did much the same thing again as he walked through Midway Airport on his final day at work.

A young African American boy walked up to congratulate him and shake his hand. Amid all the chaos of media journalists and cameras, co-workers and friends, Freeman stopped to talk to the little boy about his dreams. Freeman left the airport thinking, perhaps this young man will be the one to lead the next generation of pilots.

Help register Travis County's eligible voters by becoming a Volunteer Deputy Registrar

AUSTIN, TX – It's time to become a Volunteer Deputy Registrar, qualifying you to register voters in Travis County for the Nov. 7, 2017 General Election. The deadline to register to vote is Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2017.

Volunteer Deputy Registrars help citizens register to vote, promote voter registration at community events and within social networks, distribute voter registration applications and confirm that applications are completed correctly, issue an official receipt as proof of registration, and deliver applications to the Voter Registrar within five days of completion.

To volunteer, you must be age 18 or older and attend a one-hour training session. Trainings are usually held the first Tuesday of each month, but because of Independence Day training has been moved to the second Tuesday of the month.

Training opportunities:

Tuesday, July 4, 2017 – canceled

Tuesday, July 11, 2017 – 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. or 6:30 p.m.

Travis County Tax Office, 5501 Airport Blvd., Austin, TX 78751

Registration for this event is not required.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Church of Christ at East Side has partnered with the Central Texas Food Bank to provide food for the community.

The Church of Christ at East Side is located at 5701 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Austin, Texas 78721.

The church will distribute food to families every 3rd Tuesday of the month from 9:30am – 10:30am. The first distribution is Tuesday, June 20, 2017.

Villager Youth Brigade will be taking sponsorships starting summer of 2015. Your support has been much appreciated over the years. Please continue to invest in Austin's youth. We look forward to another successful year with some promising students. FMI Call 512-476-0082

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Olive Branch Fellowship of Austin / All Faith Chapel
 4110 Guadalupe St Bldg #639 Austin, TX 78751
 Sunday Morning Worship @ 11: am
 This life, therefore, is not righteousness, but healing; not being, but becoming; not rest, but exercise. We are not yet what we shall be, but we are growing toward it. The process is not yet finished, but it is going on. This is not the end, but it is the road. All does not yet gleam in glory, but all is being purified.
 --- Martin Luther
 Romans 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ
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Wednesday
 Midweek Prayer Service 7:00 P.M.
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