

Judge Malhotra for Travis County Court at Law

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VILLAGER NEWS -
After the Judge of the fourth Travis County Court at Law stepped down, Judge Dimple Malhotra was appointed. Since Malhotra was designated, she decided to run for the seat. When she entered this race, numerous candidates had already jumped in. Travis County Court at Law is a family court. Moreover, County Court at Law is a part of the Travis County Civil Court system, which covers the entire county.

Judge Dimple Malhotra is a mom, wife, community leader, immigrant, and barrier breaker. She is the first Asian-American female



Pictured left to right: Gary Cobb and Judge Dimple Malhotra.
Photo/Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

Judge to serve Travis County. Judge Dimple is proud of her immigrant roots, in which, as a young kid, her family immigrated to the United States. As a community leader, she was an advocate for the battered woman in California. She has over twenty years of experience in the field of domestic violence.

Finally, Malhotra strongly believes her background and judicial experience would make her a better candidate for the Travis County Court at Law seat. Recently, she has been endorsed by the North East Travis County Democrat (NETCO). Also, she's been an active member of various Democratic party clubs, including the Black Austin Democrats and the Pflugerville area Democrats.

Women March

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On January 18, 2020, the annual Women's March and rally was held at the Texas State Capitol. According to organizers, "we will gather together to energize, engage, and unite our community. We will rally for those that have been historically ignored, suppressed, and sidelined. We will rally to stand up for the equal rights of ALL women! We will rally to be the change we want to see November 3, 2020, for the state of Texas and our country."

"About 2,000 women, men, and children showed up to the event, in which, it was a time for the woman to

take the lead. We are Here to energize, engage, unite. It is our time to lead, to speak, to teach, to celebrate our differences, and to vote," expressed the organization.

According to the Women March, "2017 brought women from all over Texas out into the streets to protest and we're fighting the same fight today. The odds are even higher as we move into what could prove to be the most consequential election of our time. So much is at stake as women mobilize to protest voter suppression, access healthcare, address climate injustice, combat violence against women, support LGBTQIA+ protections, end the crisis at the border, and so many more unfair acts."

Dallas Examiner Publisher Mollie Belt to Receive NNPA Lifetime Achievement Award



“It’s imperative that we publish the news and remember at all times that we are the voice of the black community,” said Mollie Belt, Publisher of the Dallas Examiner and recipient of the 2020 NNPA Lifetime Achievement Award. (Courtesy Photo)

By Stacy M. Brown,
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NNPA NEWSWIRE — “It is with great pleasure that the NNPA Executive Committee has selected Mollie Belt for the honor of the Publishers Lifetime Achievement Award for her contributions to the NNPA for so many years,” stated NNPA National Chair and Houston Forward Times Publisher Karen Carter Richards.

A tragedy initially brought Mollie Belt into the world of newspaper publishing.

Now, 34 years after the tragic murder of her parents — Dallas Examiner Publisher and Civil Rights leader Fred Finch, Jr., and Mildred Finch — Belt’s foray into the news business is nothing short of a triumph.

A former longtime government employee, Belt is set to receive the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) 2020 Publisher Lifetime Achievement Award during the trade

organization’s Annual Mid-Winter Training Conference in Fort Lauderdale, Florida on Friday, January 24th.

The NNPA’s Executive Committee unanimously selected Belt for the honor.

With the theme, “Publishing Industry: Innovation & Sustainability of the Black Press of America,” the three-day conference which begins on Jan. 23 includes training workshops, panel discussions, and presentations.

“It is with great pleasure that the NNPA Executive Committee has selected Mollie Belt for the honor of the Publishers Lifetime Achievement Award for her contributions to the NNPA for so many years,” stated NNPA National Chair and Houston Forward Times Publisher Karen Carter Richards.

“Mollie has demonstrated great leadership and guidance to uplift the publishers and the entire organization,”

Richards stated.

NNPA President and CEO, Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., stated that the NNPA “resolutely congratulates Mollie Finch Belt for being selected to receive the 2020 NNPA Lifetime Achievement Award.”

“Mollie’s local, statewide, regional, and national leadership as the distinguished publisher of the Dallas Examiner exemplifies the best of the Black Press of America,” Chavis stated.

For Belt, the conference isn’t just about accepting such distinguished honor from her peers, but it’s a reminder of how important the Black Press remains to its readers, sponsors, and advertisers.

“It’s imperative that we publish the news and remember at all times that we are the voice of the black community,” Belt stated.

“We have to remember that we are here to print the news. I always think of what

Tonya Nixon for Precinct One

by Tsoke
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Last week, the Pflugerville area Democratic party club and the Northeast Democrats held an endorsement session. During the endorsement session, numerous candidates came out to meet with the club. Moreover, there was a "broad range" of candidates who came out to speak to the club. For some candidates, it was an opportunity to distinguish themselves from another candidate.

After listening to various candidates, both PAD and NETCO came



Tonya Nixon. Photo/Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

out with a list of endorsed candidates, one being Tonya Nixon for the Travis County Constable Precinct One race. Nixon released a message stating, "Thank you Pflugerville Area Democrats! Together we're going to get some great things done for our Precinct One community."

Furthermore, other endorsed candidates include, Kennon Wooten for the 53rd District Court, Amy Meredith for the 460th District Court, Sheryl Cole for the Texas House of Representatives, and Jeff Travillion for the Travis County Commissioner court Precinct One.

someone told me years ago, which was to not worry about getting more advertising, to just print the news, and if your editorial content is good, the advertising dollars will come,” she added.

In Dallas, Belt observed that when The Dallas Examiner was founded it was the only Black-owned newspaper in which the community could receive hard news.

“Black newspapers are the only real voice of the community that I know of in Dallas. We don’t have a black-owned television station or a black-owned radio station.” Belt stated.

Born in 1943 in Dallas, Belt’s mother was a mathematics instructor while her father was an attorney and civil rights leader who, in

1986, founded the Dallas Examiner.

Tragically, after publishing just four issues of the newspaper, Belt’s parents were murdered in their home.

Belt attended Spelman college for one year then transferred to the University of Denver where she graduated with a major in sociology and psychology , she was forced to take over the paper.

She did so without any experience.

Belt spent her career working as an employment counselor for the Texas Employment Commission, and she also held several positions for the city of Dallas and the federal government.

“I was the only child, I inherited the newspaper,” Belt stated.

“I did not know the

newspaper industry, and it was something that I had to learn on the job. My father wasn’t a newspaperman either and when I look back, there are a lot of things that we do differently today,” she noted.

“We have a niche market, and we have to continuously stress that,” Belt added.

“Even though we know that we now live in a digital world — and we have to have a digital presence — we also have to remember the print edition and that our community still enjoys reading the print edition and our community loves pictures.”

After taking over the paper, Belt decided to pour much of her resources into making the Examiner a success, in part, to carry out her parents’ legacy.