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# The Villager



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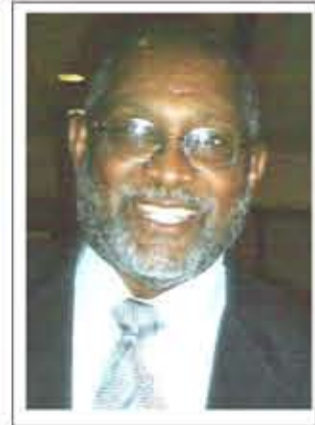
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February 5, 2010

## Black History Month 2010 Theme: "The History of Black Economic Empowerment"

### Austinites in Black History

### Dear Mrs. Parks - A concert event



**RAPPIN'**  
Tommy Wyatt

### Democrats know how to throw a party

If you were at the Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex (MYEC) last Thursday night (Jan. 28) you would have thought that you were at the Democratic Party County Convention. This is one of the largest collection of democrats that you see together, unless it is at the convention.

The occasion as a County-wide Democratic Candidates' Forum. All of the candidates who are on the March 2, 2010 ballot were invited to attend and make a presentation to the group. Each Statewide candidate was given the opportunity to give a three minute presentation and then answer questions.

The event was hosted by the democratic clubs of Travis County. And during the evening, each club gave their members the opportunity to vote for the candidate of their choice in each of the races. They could even vote for people who would not be on the ballot in their precincts on election day. It was a very spirited activity and candidates came from around the state to participate.

If the activity is any indication of the kind of interest that there is in the upcoming election, we could see some very large turnouts in March.

This is a time for everyone to get involved. For the last few years, many voters, especially Democrats, did not feel that their candidates had a chance against the big money of the Republican Party machine. As a result, many stayed away from the polls and let the other party take and keep control.

There are heated races for Governor in both the Democratic and Republican parties. There will be no guaranteed wins during this election. There is a very contested three person race in the Republican Party and a good two man horse race in the Democratic Party (there are five candidates on the ballot).

Whatever the outcome of the primary elections, there is sure to be fire works in the fall. It will be a time when all hands need to be on deck. So, now is the time to get involved with the candidate of your choice.

We need to thank Travis County Democratic Party Chair Andy Brown for presiding over last Thursday's event.



**MCDANIEL, MYRA ATWELL**

Myra Atwell McDaniel is a former Texas Secretary of State, and is currently a partner in the law firm of Bickerstaff, Heath, Smiley, Pollan, Keever, and McDaniel, L.L.P. in Austin, Texas. She served as managing partner from 1996 to 2000.

Mrs. McDaniel served as Secretary of State from 1984-1987, under Governor Mark White. She was the first African American female to hold that office. In addition to her service as Secretary of State, McDaniel served as General Counsel to the Governor, Assistant Special Counsel to the Railroad Commission of Texas, Assistant Attorney General and Chief of the Taxation Division with in the Attorney General's Office. In the private sector, McDaniel was General Counsel to the Wm. B. Wilson Companies.

Myra McDaniel is a 1954 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania with a major in English, and received her J.D. from the University of Texas School of Law in 1975.

McDaniel also holds memberships in many professional organizations. She is Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees of

St. Edward's University and is a member of the Community Board for Wells Fargo Bank. She also serves on the Board of St. Luke's Episcopal Health Charities and the Austin Public School Foundation. McDaniel is a Lay Eucharistic Minister and the editor of the monthly newsletter for her church.

Among her awards and honors are being named Woman of the Twentieth Century by the Texas National Organization of Women, and a Woman of Distinction by the Lone Star Girl Scout Council. McDaniel was selected for the Connie Yerwood Conner African America Women's Hall of Fame-Austin Chapter, National Women of Achievement, and Profiles of Power by the Austin Business Journal. Most recently she was awarded the Silent Samaritan Award.

McDaniel is married to Dr. Reuben R. McDaniel, Jr., who holds the Charles and Elizabeth Prothro Regents Chair in Health Care Management at the University of Texas at Austin. The couple has two children and five grandchildren.

### Black elected officials luncheon to focus on 2010 Census

The Capital City African American Chamber of Commerce along with Texas Gas, Capital Metro, TV One, and the Austin Convention and Visitors Bureau is proud to announce the 5th Annual Black Elected Officials Luncheon. The luncheon will be held February 10, 2010 from 11:00am until 1:00pm at the Omni Hotel downtown Austin located at 700 San Jacinto at 8th street. This year's luncheon titled "Impact... Census 2010" will highlight the importance of the Census. This will also inform African Americans of the purpose of the Census, and the importance of individual participation. We are also asking that The Villager aids in the process of informing. Thank you for your time and patience.

For more information feel free to contact Anthony Stewart at (512) 459-8911.

Trumpeter and composer Hannibal Lokumbe presents the Texas premier of his oratorio, "Dear Mrs. Parks", Saturday, February 13 at 8 p.m. The event will be at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 1800 North Congress Avenue at Martin Luther King.

The oratorio celebrates the life of the civil rights heroine Rosa Parks and of all those who cast the light of freedom.

Rosa Parks was an American civil-rights activist, born in Tuskegee, Ala., as Rosa Louise McCauley. A seamstress and long-time member of the Montgomery, Ala., chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), her Dec. 1, 1955, arrest for refusing to give up her seat on a municipal bus to a white man sparked the Montgomery bus boycott.

This successful protest, which lasted just over a year, marked the emergence of Martin Luther King, Jr., to national prominence as a civil-rights leader and provided the model for future nonviolent movement actions. Fired from her job and unable to find work, Parks moved in 1957 to Detroit, where she remained active in the civil-rights movement and worked (1965-88) as an aide to Congressman John Conyers. She was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, Congress's highest honor, in 1999.

Hannibal Lokumbe re-



**Parks, Rosa Louise, 1913-2005**

sides in Bastrop, Texas with his wife and kids. His career in music spans over four decades. This journey has seen him go from the cotton fields of Elgin, Texas, where he heard the hymns of his grandparents, to the stages of Carnegie Hall and much of the world.

This show will feature Dr. James Polk, Michael Stevens and Brannan Temple. It will also feature the Ebenezer

Baptist Church Choir, Greater Calvary Church Choir, and the Lost Pines Community Choir of Bastrop.

Proceeds from the performance will support a series of community workshops on the civil rights movement in Texas and benefit Greater Calvary Schools and Meal on Wheels and More.

For further information visit [TheStoryofTexas.com](http://TheStoryofTexas.com).

### Trooper unarms Capitol intruder without further incident

AUSTIN — The state trooper who initially confronted Fausto Cardenas on the south steps of the State Capitol swore in a written affidavit that the accused gunman was reloading at the time.

Trooper Husain Roussel wrote that he was in the Rotunda when he heard what sounded like gunshots. When he emerged from the south doors of the Capitol, he wrote, he "did not notice anyone else except a white male subject that I later identified as Fausto Cardenas reloading a magazine."

Roussel went on to explain the two had a conversation during which he noticed Cardenas had a pistol in his waistband and that empty shell casings littered the area in which the two were standing.

Cardenas was arrested and faces felony charges of deadly conduct. He is being held in the Travis County Jail on \$250,000 bond.



**Trooper Husain Roussel**

Roussel is a Huston-Tillotson graduate and close to 2 yrs from his PhD in Management.

**February is Black History Month,  
but we should celebrate  
Black History everyday!**