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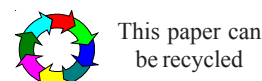


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June 10, 2011

Deliberate and Unafraid, Black Literary Voices Austin's Fifth Annual African American Book Festival



Sister Souljah

The Fifth Annual Austin African American Book Festival: Deliberate and Unafraid, Black Literary Voices will be held Friday & Saturday, June 24 & 25 at 10:00 a.m. each day on the grounds of the Carver Branch Library and the Carver Museum and Cultural Center, 1161 and 1165 Angelina Street, respectively. This year the festival features The New York Times bestselling author Sister Souljah and education expert Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu.

Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu, the author of 32 books, has been featured in Ebony and Essence magazines and been a guest on both Black Entertainment Television (BET) and the Oprah Winfrey Show. He will address parents, educators, and community activists at 10 a.m. Friday, June 24, in the museum's Boyd Vance Theater. A special workshop for youth starts at 11:45 a.m. in the theater as well.

Bestselling author Sister

Souljah will headline the Saturday events. She is the author of four national best-sellers including "The Coldest Winter Ever." She appeared on the Oprah Winfrey Show, Larry King Live and the cover of Newsweek Magazine. Souljah will speak and sign books Saturday, June 25, at 1:30 p.m. in the Boyd Vance Theater.

The year's festival also showcases the work of Roslyn Story, Dr. Tiffany Gill, Dr. Moe Anderson, Evelyn Palfrey, and Shirley Sprinkles.

The African American Book Festival promotes empowerment through literature. In the past the festival hosted such notable authors as Leonard Pitts, Sam Greenlee and Annette Gordon-Reed. The festival is made possible through a collaboration of community, writers and festival organizers who seek to highlight the literary works by and about African Americans.

The Austin African American Book Festival is free and open to the public. For more information about the African American Book Festival please contact Peggy Terry or visit www.aabookfest.com. For more information about events at the Carver Branch of the Austin Public Library please call 512-974-1010 or visit www.cityofaustin.org/library.

Six County Bond hearings set

The Travis County Commissioners Court will be conducting a series of public meetings throughout the county in order to receive input from Travis County residents regarding a proposed 2011 Travis County Bond Program. The proposal is the result of recommendations made by the 2011 Citizens Bond Advisory Committee (CBAC), a 15-member committee of citizens the Commissioners Court appointed in February 2011. The CBAC was charged with studying and making recommendations to the Court about the need for a bond package. They were also challenged to prepare a capital improvement package and to present their proposals to the County Commissioner for their review, comment and approval.

The Commissioners Court is inviting residents of Travis County to attend a series of public meetings to provide input into the proposed 2011 Travis County Bond Program. Information about the likely fiscal impact of such a bond package will be presented at these meetings.

The proposed projects include County road capacity projects, traffic safety, pedestrian/bicycle facility improvements, bridge replacements, road reconstruction, flood control projects, County park improvements, and acquisition of parkland and conservation easements.

All public meetings are open to the public and will be held at the following locations and times. For those centrally located, the first public meet-

ing will be held in Downtown Austin at 6:30 p.m., Monday, June 20, 2011, at the Commissioners Court Chambers located at Travis County Administration Building (Ned Granger Building) at 314 W. 11th Street, Austin.

The second public meeting will be held in Precinct 1, Travis County, and is scheduled for 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 22, 2011, at Travis County East Service Center located at 6011 Blue Bluff Road, Austin.

Precinct 4 Travis County will host the third meeting, scheduled for 6:30 p.m., Thursday, June 23, 2011, at Del Valle Opportunity Center, 5301 Ross Road, #B, Del Valle.

A fourth meeting, in Precinct 2, is scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Monday, June 27, 2011, at the Wells Branch Recreation Center, 2106 Klattenhoff Drive, Austin.

The fifth public meeting will be held in Precinct 3, and is scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, June 29, 2011 at Largo Vista Council Chambers, 5803 Thunder-bird, Lago Vista.

The sixth and final hearing will be held in Precinct 3, scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Thursday, June 30, 2011 at Lakeway Council Chambers, 1120 Lohman's Crossing, Lakeway.

Details about the proposed projects will be available at each meeting. The proposed bond election is planned for Tuesday, November 8, 2011. More information about the bond program is available at http://www.co.travis.tx.us/citizens_bond_committee/default.asp.

FEDS EYE BLACK UNEMPLOYMENT



(L to r) U.S. Labor Secretary Hilda Solis, President Barack Obama, and treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner

WASHINGTON - The United States Department of Labor has released a new report **The Black Labor Force in the Recovery**. U.S. Labor Secretary Hilda Solis spoke with Black Radio Network on whether the government is doing enough for minorities: Key findings of the report: African-Americans or blacks made up 12 percent of the United States labor force in 2010. Overall, 18 million blacks were employed or looking for work, representing 62.2 percent of all black people.

In 2010, about half of blacks aged 16 and older had a job and 17.5 percent of those employed worked part-time. Blacks are the only racial or ethnic group where women represent a larger share of the employed than do men - more than half (54.3 percent) of employed blacks in 2010 were women, compared to 46.3 percent among employed whites. Employed black women still earn less than employed black men.

More than a quarter of employed black workers aged 25 or older have earned a college degree, a share that exceeds that for Hispanics, but continues to trail whites. While the share that are college graduates has risen 20

percent in the past decade, the gap in the share of employed blacks and whites who are college graduates has not narrowed and a 10 percentage point gap remains.

Black workers are more likely to be employed in the public sector than are either their white or Hispanic counterparts. In 2010, nearly 1 in 5 employed blacks worked for the government compared to 14.6 percent of whites and 11.0 percent of Hispanics. Conversely, blacks are less likely than Hispanics and nearly as likely as whites to work in the private sector, not including the self-employed. Few blacks are self-employed - only 3.8 percent reported being self-employed in 2010 making them about half as likely to be self-employed as whites (7.4 percent).

Half of black workers employed full time earned \$611 or more per week in 2010, 80 percent of that earned by whites. The gap in earnings has been similar throughout the recession and recovery period.

The average unemployment rate for blacks in 2010 was 16.0 percent, compared to 8.7 percent for whites, and 12.5 percent for Hispanics. Historically, blacks have persistently higher unemploy-

ment rates than the other major racial and ethnic groups and the recent recession and recovery period has largely reflected this pattern.

Nearly half (48.4 percent) of all unemployed blacks were unemployed 27 weeks or longer in 2010, compared to 41.9 percent of unemployed whites and 39.3 percent of unemployed Hispanics. Moreover, blacks remained unemployed longer than whites or Hispanics in 2010, with a median duration of unemployment approaching 26 weeks.

The unemployment rate for blacks has remained high. In May 2011, the unemployment rate for blacks was 16.2 percent; down only 0.3 percentage points from the peak of 16.5 percent in March and April 2010.

The past few months have seen private sector job growth in areas such as transportation and warehousing as well as continuing employment gains in health care; both industries have a large share of black workers. However, blacks are more vulnerable to continuing local government job losses because they make up a disproportionate share of public sector workers.

Blackshear/O.L. Price Ex-Students Reunion Honors a Favorite Son

This year's Blackshear/O.L. Price (BOLP) Ex-Students Association reunion is Friday, June 10, through Sunday, June 12, 2011. Once again the reunion committee has an exciting list of activities for the entire weekend.

BOLP historically laid the foundation that produced many successful, talented individuals and community leaders. This year's reunion honoree is bridging a beginning at O. L. Price during segregation and after integration an ending at Taylor High School.

BOLP is pleased to announce this year's banquet honoree is Dr. Samuel L. Ross M.D., M.S., and Chief Executive Officer of Bon Secours Baltimore Health System.

Dr. Ross' family moved to Taylor when he was ten years old and about to enter the fifth grade. He was extremely smart, quiet, humble, and very shy. He had a heartwarming smile and a calming, somewhat healing, disposition you always felt good around him. Dr. Ross graduated from Taylor High School in 1972.



Dr. Samuel L. Ross

His career choice was no surprise. His successes are also no surprise.

Dr. Ross' educational accomplishments include but are not limited to:

- University of North Texas, Denton, TX (formerly known as North Texas State University) with a BA in Biology

- University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio, TX with a Doctor of Medicine

- St. Paul Medical Center, Dallas, TX, Completed 3

Year Residency Program and Completed 4th Year Chief-Residency "Fellowship"

- University of Texas at Dallas, TX with a Master of Science in Medical Management

Dr. Ross' professional accomplishments are extensive. As Chief Executive Officer of Bon Secours Baltimore Health System in Baltimore, Maryland he is responsible for the direction and management of Bon Secours Baltimore's integrated urban health system which includes a 141-bed acute care hospital, a community based primary care site, two substance abuse treatment centers, behavioral medicine, HIV/AIDS and Renal Dialysis services, preventive health/education programs, and an extensive community housing redevelopment program. Along with his responsibilities as CEO of Bon Secours Baltimore, Dr. Ross also has an expanded role within Bon Secours Health System where he is the "Market Leader" for Bon Secours Kentucky. He also coordinates CEO forums for the system.



RAPPIN'
Tommy Wyatt

Goodby Highland Mall!

Highland Mall has been both a source of pride and source of controversy for the Austin community for a number of years. When the mall opened, it took away a lot of the stores that were located in Hancock Center, in central Austin.

When Hancock Center opened, many of the larger stores were located in the downtown business district between the State Capitol and the Colorado River. The major chain stores supported the new center and moved away from downtown. A few years later, Highland Mall came to town and many of the stores moved again. After that, malls became common place in the Austin area and are continuing to pop up all over the area.

One of the attractions for the African American community in Highland Mall was the opening of Priestley's Ottoman, a Black-owned men's clothing store. The store, owned by Clarence Priestley, became almost a tourist attraction. It was a sense of pride for the community. The store was very successful for a number of years.

African American youth found the center to be the place to hang out on weekends, but were never really accepted by the management. There were charges of harassment and over action by security personnel. That relationship between the community and the mall continued until most of the stores have moved out to other malls.

We can expect the property to take on a new look in the coming months and years as it will have a new owner. Austin Community College has been buying off pieces of the mall as the businesses moved out. ACC is under contract for the final piece of Highland Mall land at this time. The former J. C. Penny building and surrounding parking lot is the last piece of the buy. The acquisition will include approximately 17.3 acres of land and more than 225,000 square feet of space in the two-story building and a small retail site located directly along Airport Blvd. the deal is expected to close in August at a cost of \$15.9 million. The college will issue revenue bonds to cover the cost of the purchase.

ACC's headquarters office has been located adjacent to Highland Mall for years. According to Dr. Stephen B. Kinslow, ACC President/CEO, "Highland Mall plays a key role in the college's Master Plan... ACC is currently growing by 4,000 a year, with a record 45,056 credit students enrolled in Spring 2011. The Master Plan calls for ACC to accommodate enrollment growth through expansions of existing campuses and new construction.

Kinslow has announced that he is leaving the college and the board has already selected his successor.

EDITORIALS/COMMENTARY

Editorial, Commentary or Letter to the Editor Fax to 512.476.0179 Email to vil3202@aol.com Mail to 1223-A Rosewood Avenue, 78702



By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA Columnist

I consider myself something of a wordsmith, so I am always amazed in the work of others, especially when they are government bureaucrats. The most recent unemployment figures, which show the unemployment rate rising, and the pace of job creation slowing, are interesting and incisive. The Employment Situation says that the unemployment rate is "essentially unchanged" as it has moved from 9 to 9.1 percent. In April more than 200,000 jobs were created; in May it

was a scant 54,000. Still, the situation was "essentially unchanged". Give me a break. That means someone is fudging and smudging the fact that our economy is sputtering.

This could well be expected given the fact that most cities and states are now grappling with ways to balance their budgets, and that includes layoffs of government workers. Furthermore, we can expect a sputtering economy given the drama that is taking place in Washington around increasing the debt limit. The Tea Party folks, if they had their way, would fully dismantle government, throwing hundreds of thousands of workers into the streets. Rising unemployment? That's just the tip of the iceberg.

Yet in a society where most people work for a living, public policy must embrace work as a necessity. We have to ensure that any able bodied person who

Work is a Necessity

wants to be gainfully engaged in the capitalistic system has an opportunity to do so. That means that work has to work that people have to work, that people have to have the opportunity to work, that government must promote the creation of work, and that when necessary government subsidize the development of working opportunities.

Instead, we have seen a recession and a so-called recovery that has not embraced the centrality of work in our society. Too many people are living at the periphery of the economic mainstream. Those people were told, when the May unemployment rates were released, that their misery is none of the government's concern. Yet they are homeowners and taxpayers, parents and producers, people who didn't plan for their factory to close or for the demand for their prod-

ucts to simply dry up. Economic recovery is a bitter pill for some to swallow when their lives have not recovered from the drama also known as a massive shift in the ways that Americans deal with work and economic integrity.

It seems that we have all sipped on the Kool-Aid that deifies the rich. They must have it going on, and why don't we? Why can't we spur a populist economic movement that says something else, instead? Why can't we embrace Dr. Martin Luther King's message when he said "I have the audacity to believe that people everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education and culture for their minds, peace and freedom for their spirits." In other words, how come we can't decide that everyone can eat and be educated? How come we can't make eating and edu-

cating a cultural imperative?

To put some meat on the official numbers we should note that nearly 14 million people are officially unemployed, with 6.5 million (45 percent) of them being unemployed for more than half a year. These are just the official numbers. The unofficial numbers make these look miniscule. This is not a double the flavor, double the fun situation. It's called double the pain.

What do we do with all this pain? How do we begin to respond to our fellow citizens? The future of our nation hinges on our ability to engage more people in the business and the work of this economy. We engage people by involving them, educating them, empowering them. Yet, we are cutting education funds because we can't raise the debt ceiling, because we are broke.

Your Take: Threat to Blacks in the Public Sector

making the public sector the largest employer of black workers, according to a recent University of California, Berkeley study (pdf). The wages that African Americans earn in the public sector are higher than those we earn in other industries. Furthermore, there is less wage inequality between African-American workers and nonblack workers in the public sector than in other industries.

The author of the study, Steven Pitts of Berkeley's Center for Labor Research and Education, emphasizes that his analysis is based on the national workforce. In cities where African Americans are a larger proportion of the population, "the importance of the public sector to black employment prospects" is even greater.

Another recent finding makes Pitts' conclusions even more significant. According to the Economic Policy Institute in Washington, D.C., although the economy is showing some signs of recovery, African Americans in 2010

had unemployment rates of at least 15 percent in severely depressed states — levels not seen since the Great Depression.

These revelations mean that the plans by radical governors to rob public employees of their rights, shrink pay and benefits, and cut jobs will have a disproportionate impact on black families and communities. In other words, white America's bad cold has turned into pneumonia for black America — and it will get worse if ultraconservative politicians cripple public-sector unions, making them incapable of protecting their members.

Both of my parents were active union members because they knew that the labor-rights and civil rights movements were the way for African Americans to achieve upward mobility and equality. In fact, labor unions and civil rights organizations have worked hand in hand in just about every fight for equality and economic justice that our nation has known.

When Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated, he was in Memphis, Tenn., on behalf of 1,300 sanitation workers, members of AFSCME Local 1733. They were on strike for more than a bigger paycheck; as their "I am a man" signs made clear, they wanted respect for the work they did. King stood with them because he recognized that freedom requires that workers have a voice, the ability to provide for their families and the power to shape their destinies.

Not only do public-sector jobs mean economic security for black families; they are also jobs that are vitally important to communities across this nation. Whether they are teachers, bus drivers, sanitation workers, snow-pow operators, emergency medical technicians, nurses or librarians, public employees perform jobs that towns and cities of every size and description depend on. Their work strengthens neighborhoods and supports basic American values like looking out for one another, prepar-

ing our children for the future and ensuring that there is a safety net for the most vulnerable members of our country.

But if you believe the radical governors and legislators in Wisconsin, Ohio, Florida and other states, many of these jobs are unnecessary, and the workers who provide them are "coddled" because they have the right to a voice on the job. Since January 2009, state and local governments have laid off 429,000 workers, and these layoffs have already had dire effects on families across the country.

And yet instead of joining with us to find solutions and protect the rights of workers, these governors are inflicting more pain. Their only interest is in attacking our jobs, crippling our unions and dismantling public services. At a time when we should be pulling together, their tactics and rhetoric are ripping us apart.

Because so many black families have built careers in state and local government,

At the end of the day, here is what we need to know. When work doesn't work, life doesn't work for too many Americans. When work doesn't work, too many people are kicked to the curb, told they are usefulness and left to their own devices. In an entrepreneurial culture that can be a good thing. If we encourage entrepreneurship, people can invent, and promote their ideas. But when there are no open arms for those who have been sidelined, they are likely to engage in activities that can be interpreted as less than wholesome.

Too many people speak of the centrality of work without understanding how to make work happen. The most recent unemployment rates remind us that too many of our friends and neighbors have been placed outside the economic mainstream. What must we do to make it better, especially when this is a burden that falls heavy on the African American community?

what these corporate-backed politicians are also doing is undercutting the economic security of black families. Ask if this is their intention, and of course they will deny that it is. But even the best of intentions (and their intentions are far from the "best") can have unintended consequences. And there is no denying that the path they've chosen will have dire consequences for many black families.

That's one of the many reasons African Americans, whether public employees or not, whether union members or not, are standing with the workers who are fighting back. If 21 percent of black workers are public-sector employees, that means that one out of every five black workers is employed by a state or local government. Our financial well-being and the economic security of the neighborhoods we live in are at stake. It is up to all of us to fight for our future.

Lee Saunders is secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.



Lee Saunders

Radical conservative politicians want to slash city, county and state jobs — and undercut the economic security of African-American families, says this union official.

When I was growing up in Cleveland, some of the most respected people in my neighborhood were the folks who worked for the city, county or state. My father was a city bus driver who took great pride in getting people safely to and from their jobs every day. My mother was a community college teacher who loved preparing her students for success.

It turns out that my family was far from unique: Twenty-one percent of all black workers are public employees,

New Migration Needed for African-Americans

rectly across the street from the Old Executive Office Building.

"Whether you're Black, White, Brown or whatever, the No. 1 concern of American families is: 'Where am I going to find a job?' More importantly, where is this kid that I just spent x amount of money getting out of college going to find a job?" The job market has undergone a global revolution.

"I don't know why my friends are upset when I say to them, 'If all your kids do is what we've been doing, we haven't advanced the ball,'" said Kirk, who served as mayor of Dallas and Texas Secretary of State. "Our kids are going to live in London, in Shanghai, or in Abuja (Nigeria). It's just as likely they'll be stationed in Johannesburg as Detroit or New York." That migration to London, Shanghai, Abuja and Johannesburg has been propelled by new opportunities opened up by advances in technology and the international removal of quotas, tariffs and outrageous export fees.

of a college friend whom I had not seen in many years. Perhaps it was because I actually got to know the work of Gil Scott-Heron while I was in college in the early 1970s. His albums became part of my life and his songs and messages were part of the support system on which I and many other Black radicals came to depend.

There are tremendous ironies connected with the life and work of GSH. If you listen to one of his most famous pieces, *The Bottle*, and another, *Angel Dust*,

And there's also Sutton's Law. When bank robber Willie Sutton was asked why he robbed banks, he reputedly replied, "Because that's where the money is." Sutton's law dictates that one does not ignore the obvious. "One way to create wealth and a better life — assuming you make something — is to think about selling it to the 95 percent of the people who don't call the United States home," Kirk advised. "If you look at the Fortune 100 companies, the absolute common denominator among them right now is that they, for the most part, are singularly looking at how they are going to access these hundreds of millions of young people who are growing up in Africa, Asia, India, and Latin America and are hungry for something called, 'Made in America.'"

Kirk believes America can profit from that sentiment. "If you want to attack the job growth problem — and the president firmly believes in this — whatever we can do to empower and enable small businesses to grow

faster is a great way to grow our economy," he explained. "And, so a big part of our trade work has been targeting, first, those small businesses that already export and learning more about them, what their challenges are and trying to remove them." And secondly, that universe of people that have never exported, either because they are afraid or they're saying, 'How am I going to find customers?' That's why we're putting out more information about the Export Import Bank. The bottom line: they finance your sale."

Kirk said African-Americans have not exploited their special connections to Africa and the Caribbean.

"Corporate America realizes, 'If I am going to go to Brazil, I better find somebody who speaks Spanish and understands the culture,'" he said. "If I am going to Africa, I am much better served by having somebody who understands the values, reflects the culture and knows the ropes in Kenya, Ghana and West Africa. I want

our young people to realize, 'You're more marketable now in a global, competitive society than you might have ever been.' But you got to think globally."

Black businesses must also look beyond the shores of the United States, the trade official said. He said the Commerce Department and his office provides assistance to small businesses trying to engage in international trade.

"The generation that grew up on the Web — where they live, breathe, educate and shop — is a little less intimidated," Kirk said. "I tell people, once you put up a Web site, you're global. On the Web, nobody knows whether you're a woman, Catholic, Black, tall or straight. All they want to know is, 'I see you got a product. I think it might be able to help me. How do I get at it?' If you're not intimidated by doing business over the Web, I don't think it's that much of a leap to begin thinking about global trade."

Despite anti-American sentiment in some countries,

Saying Good-bye to Gil Scott-Heron

you cannot but shake your head in knowing that the brother struggled for years with his own substance abuse. The contradiction is startling in its drama. Here was someone who went out of his way to warn us all of the dangers of substance abuse, yet he fell prey to it himself. I hope that a future biographer of GSH will explore the demons that haunted him and had him live such a contradiction.

Yet, we must recognize and honor the many contribu-

tions of GSH. He and the *Last Poets* (actually there were two groups that both called themselves *The Last Poets*) are seen as the parents of Hip Hop, but that does not provide enough context. GSH arose at a critical moment in the Black Freedom Movement and the New Left. As Manning Marable notes in his biography of Malcolm X, *Malcolm X: A Life of Reinvention*, Malcolm spoke with the sound of contemporary jazz. GSH took the rhetoric and analysis of the

radical wing of the Black Freedom Movement and the New Left, and both poetized and jazz-ized it. Whether through his famous *The Revolution will not be televised* or later work like *We beg your pardon America*, GSH grabbed hold of challenges of the moment and created a popular analysis that hit all of the right notes.

GSH was, in my opinion, at his best both when he was working with Brian Jackson, but also when his voice and sound

Kirk said the U.S. is still a strong brand. "They'll complain that maybe our products cost a little more," Kirk said. "They will complain, 'You preach to us too much. You come over here and tell us about corruption, democracy, rule of law and, frankly, if we do a deal with China, we don't have to go through all of that.'" "But at the end of the day, there is an implied value proposition that if I buy this from George and Ron, it'll probably work the way they say it will. It's not counterfeit. If something goes wrong, America has a legal system that can help me hold them accountable." That's a huge advantage for us." Kirk strikes a cautionary note about international business. "It's a huge opportunity," he said. But don't rush into it."

George E. Curry, former editor-in-chief of *Emerge* magazine and the NNPA News Service, is a keynote speaker, moderator, and media coach. He can be reached through his Web site, www.georgecurry.com You can also follow him at www.twitter.com/currygeorge.

were integrally part of a militant social justice movement. When he sang *Johannesburg*, his words became the anthem of the anti-apartheid movement in the USA. It was a song that came out at just the right moment, inspiring us all with its fierceness and spirit of resistance. You could not listen to that song without feeling defiance in your soul and without being prepared to march on Washington.

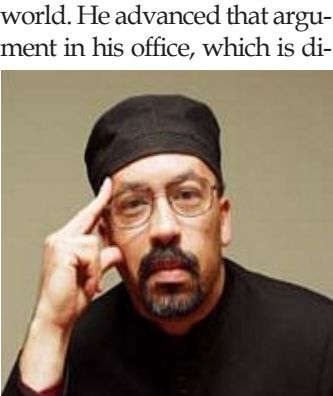
I appreciate all that he did and all that he offered. Thank you, brother Gil.



By George E. Curry
NNPA Columnist

When two million Blacks moved from the rigidly-segregated South to the North, West and Midwest from 1910 to 1930, it was called the Great Migration. When another five million African-Americans fled the South between 1940 and 1970, many seeking good jobs and a better life in New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Cleveland and Detroit, it was called the Second Great Migration.

U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk thinks it is now time for a Third Great Migration, this one to far-flung cities around the world. He advanced that argument in his office, which is di-



Bill Fletcher, Jr.
NNPA Columnist

When I received word of the passing of noted poet and singer Gil Scott-Heron, I felt as if I had just heard about the death

The 104th Annual Session Primitive Baptist General Convention of Texas

will be held, June 13 - 17, 2011. The convention will be hosted by & held at Providence Primitive District Association, 120 North Gaines Road, Cedar Creek, TX 78612, Elder George Winn, Moderator, Elder Vennie Davis, Vice Moderator. The chorus will sing @ the open & welcome program, on Monday night, June 13, 2011 @ 7:00 PM. Everyone welcome to join and be a participant in the chorus. Attire - Black w/white cor-sage!

For more information contact Deacon Roderick Emanuel @ 512-303-7651, or Sister Delois Baker @ 512-303-6611.

Travis County Launches Redistricting Process

In response to newly released regional population statistics, Travis County has taken the first steps toward a plan for redistricting, a process that will ultimately change the size and geographic boundaries of commissioners court, justice of the peace/constable, and election precincts. Redistricting occurs at all levels of government every 10 years to reflect population changes reported by the US Census.

According to the 2010 Census, Travis County grew by 26.10% in the last decade, and there have been significant geographic and demographic shifts in population as well. Redistricting attempts to address these significant changes so that voting districts more accurately represent the public. Travis County is expected to redraw its district lines over the next few months.

The process of redistricting will require a thorough planning process that takes into account not only statistical data, but input from the voting public. A series of public hearings is planned for the week of June 27 to give the community an oppor-

tunity to provide input. A hearing will also take place at the July 12 at Travis County Commissioners Court and will focus on J.P. and constable precincts as well as input from countywide stakeholders. Citizens may also give input via the county's website www.co.travis.tx.us through July 15. Additionally, civic organizations are encouraged to request speakers to talk about the redistricting process.

Travis County has commissioned San Antonio attorneys Rolando Rios and George Korbel to lead the redistricting process for the County. Mr. Rios and Mr. Korbel each have over 30 years of experience in government work and have overseen redistricting efforts for hundreds of government entities, including the Texas Senate and House of Representatives and the Houston Independent School District. They are currently overseeing plans for Hays and Cameron counties in addition to Travis County. Travis County Commissioners will adopt the new plan on or about August 23, 2011.

For more information on Travis County redistricting, visit the county website at www.co.travis.tx.us or telephone Error! Reference source not found. at (512) 854-9754.

Shiloh's Pre-Anniversary Service

Shiloh Primitive Baptist Church, 385 FM 20, Bastrop, TX cordially invites each and everyone to their Pastor, Elder Larry Washington, 1st Pre - Anniversary Service on Saturday, June 11, 2011 @ 7:30 PM.

The guest speaker and church will be Elder John Joiner & Pilgrim Rest Primitive Baptist Church, Giddings, TX.

The anniversary hour will be Sunday, June 26th @ 3:30pm and the guest speaker and church will be Elder Vennie Davis & Bastrop Chapel Primitive Baptist Church, Bastrop, TX. For more information you

may contact Sister Lillie Thompson @ 512-718-4256.

Nappy Edges

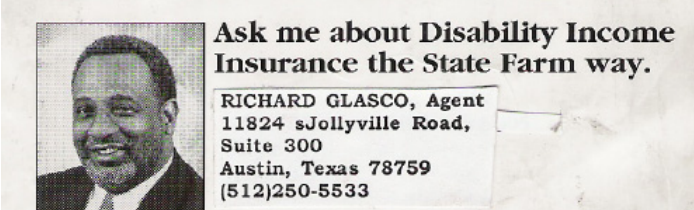
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Office: 512-343-9300

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Worship Service 11:00 A.M.

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Church Phone (512) 476-0838

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The Original L. C. Anderson Alumni Association - Austin Chapter (OLCAAAAC) annually schedules two fund-raisers, a Fall Raffle and a December Holiday Gala Dance. Funds raised from these endeavors provide scholarships for chosen graduating seniors. The 2011 recipients and families were guest of the chapter at a recent meeting. The former students are: De Asia Comier (McCallum) to attend Sam Houston State; Brianna Walker (Crockett) to attend U. T. Austin and Candice Watson (L.B.J.) to attend U. T. Arlington.



Photo by AISD's Carmen Luevanos

40 Akins 2011 graduates on Road to 12 collages

Forty members of the Akins High School Senior Class of 2012 are rolling toward college success this summer. Over the course of seven days in June, the teens are scheduled to visit 12 colleges and universities, including: Angelo State, Abilene; Texas Tech, Lubbock; Austin College, Sherman; University of North Texas, Denton; Southern Methodist University, Dallas; Texas Christian University, Fort Worth; Stephen F. Austin University, Nacogdoches; Rice University, Houston; and, Texas A&M at Galveston.

Students Jesus Lozano, Nicki Payne, and Sarah Bailey (left to right), say they are college bound, and hope to learn more about each campus' admission requirements. They also expect the trip to be a fun

learning experience. Sponsor, and chemistry teacher, Regina McGough says the students' experiences will help Akins principal Daniel Girard create a college-going culture at the school. The students will return as ambassadors for the school's College and Career Center. Girard says that the tab for 12-college tour, which is funded through state funds allotted to Akins for college outreach, will run \$35,000. "The students' futures are well worth the investment," Girard said.

To occupy one of the 40 student seats on the Regent Coach Line bus, driven by Rosie Hernandez, students had to apply for admission to the "12 for 2012—On the Road to College Success" tour. Requirements for students in-

cluded: solicitation of a faculty sponsor; submission of an essay; a commitment to keep an electronic journal throughout the trip; and upon return, submission of applications to at least three of the colleges on the tour list.

Parents Myrna Lozano and Viola Bailey were excited about their children's, Jesus and Sarah, respectively, participation in the tour. They said the campus visits would help to solidify their children's resolve to pursue a college degree. Both were also thankful that trip was sponsored by Akins. Without campus' support, Ms. Lozano said she would have somehow gathered the money for her son to participate in the tour. She wants him to set a positive example for his three younger brothers. However, Ms. Bailey said that raising the funds for the tour was not an option for her family. Sarah would have had to rely on virtual tours of each campus.

The "12 for 2012" brave chaperone team includes (left to right second row) Sarah Simmons, Regina McGough, Juanita Soto, Cecilia Gutierrez, Linda O'Neal, (front, center) Cassandra Canta.

Additional pictures of the "12-for-2012" send off are posted on the AISD multimedia online gallery at <http://tinyurl.com/3jbaqpg> or on the District's facebook page at Austin ISD.

TEXAS PREMIER FOOTBALL CAMP & COLE P TOURNEY INFO

Thursday, July 7 – Saturday, July 9



Selvin Young

Summer marks the return of many former Longhorns to the Austin area for the annual Texas Premier Football Camp and the annual Tee it up for Cole P. Golf Tournament. Horns Giving Back is also proud to announce that Evangel High School will be hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony to open the doors on the long awaited Cole Pittman Field House.

Fifth Annual Texas Premier Football Camp (July 7 & 8) – The fifth annual camp benefiting the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Austin Area will take place on Thursday, July 7 and Friday, July 8 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Hosted by B.J. Johnson, Sloan Thomas and Michael Huff, the non-contact camp will be held at St. Michael's Catholic Academy and will accommodate approximately 300 campers of ages 7-18. Past guests attending the camp include the following: Major Applewhite, University of Texas Co-Offensive Coordinator and Running Backs coach; Quan Cosby, Cincinnati Bengals; Derrick Johnson, Kansas City Chiefs; Roy Miller, Tampa Bay Buccaneers; Cory Redding, Baltimore Ravens; Bo Scaife, Tennessee Titans; Jonathan Scott, Pittsburgh Steelers; Kyle Shanahan, Washington Redskins Offensive Coordinator; Kasey Studdard, Houston Texans; Kalen Thornton, former Dallas Cowboy; Roy Williams, Dallas Cowboys; Selvin Young, former Denver Bronco; and more. (Celebrity attendees are subject to change.)

Third Annual Tee it up for Cole P. Golf Tournament (July 9) – Golfers will gather on Saturday, July 9 at Falconhead Golf Club for the 1 p.m. shotgun start. Funds raised through the tournament



Major Applewhite

will go to the newly established foundation, Horns Giving Back. Former Longhorns attending in 2009 and 2010 included: Rod Babers, Ahmad Brooks, Kwame Cavil, B.J. Johnson, Josh Graham-Chapman, Aaron Humphrey, Tony Jeffery, Juan Kemp, Stevie Lee, Maurice McCloney, Chance Mock, Sloan Thomas, Cosmo Palmieri, Chase Pittman, Cory Redding, Kasey Studdard, Matt Trissel, Winfred Tubbs, Marcus Wilkins, Roy Williams and Selvin Young. (Guests are subject to change.)

Cole Pittman Field House Ribbon Cutting (September 16) – The Evangel Eagles will host the 5A power Barbe Bucs, out of Lake Charles, LA on September 16 at 7 p.m. There will be ribbon cutting ceremony prior to game with Marc and Judy Pittman along with past players in attendance. There will also be a catered open house at the field house on Saturday, September 17.

About Boys & Girls Clubs of the Austin Area (BGCAA)

The BGCAA serves almost 10,000 kids every year and 1,500 every day via 14 Clubs in Travis County. More than a safe-haven for kids "at-risk," Boys & Girls Club is a place that nurtures the limitless potential of our youth. BGCAA's mission is – "to inspire and enable all young people, especially those who need us the most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens." Through their core focus areas of academic success, character & leadership and healthy lifestyles, BGCAA is playing a vital role in developing our community's most precious, natural resource – our children. About the Texas Premier



Derrick Johnson

Football Camp Hosts

In 49 career games (45 starts) at The University of Texas, Johnson made 152 receptions for 2,389 yards with 16 touchdowns while adding 14 rushes for 82 yards (5.9 avg.). Currently, Johnson and his father own a strategic marketing firm in Dallas. Johnson also owns a development company, JLR Development Group, that specializes in concrete, construction, information technology and utilities. Thomas played in 46 games (20 starts) for The University of Texas and caught 88 passes for 1,362 yards and 12 touchdowns. He currently works for The University of Texas – San Antonio as the Director of Development. As a Longhorn, Huff was selected to the 2005 College Football All-American Team and won the Jim Thorpe Award given to college football's top defensive back. Huff currently plays safety for the Oakland Raiders and has continued to remain involved with the youth of the Austin community.

About Horns Giving Back

In 2009, former University of Texas athletes and the community gathered for a golf tournament fundraiser to remember Cole Pittman, a member of the Longhorn football family who was killed in 2001 in a tragic early morning car accident as he was returning to school. The purpose of the tournament and future fundraisers is to bring together generations of former UT athletes and the community to raise funds for other former UT athletes and their families in need.

Full camp and golf tournament details can be found at www.texaspremiercamp.com.

Bids Sought for Carruth Administration Center & Baker Center — AISD Proposes to Sell Two Prime Properties

Anticipating continued budget challenges into the 2013-2014 school year, and possibly beyond, the Austin Independent School District is requesting sealed bids for the sale of two prime administrative properties.

The two properties in-

clude the District's main administration headquarters on West Sixth Street, and another key administrative facility located in Hyde Park. AISD's first step begins immediately, by initiating a "sealed bid process" for the properties.

Through this process, potential buyers will have an opportunity to tour the buildings and attend two pre-bid conferences. The deadline for submitting sealed bids is August 15, 2011. The combined requested minimum bid for both properties totals \$39.5 million.

AISD declared Financial Exigency – or fiscal emergency – in late February, and has been scouring its budget for ways to bridge the gap. The idea to sell administrative facilities arose this spring during deliberations by the District's Facilities Master Plan Task Force.

"The District has diligently sought input from the community on budget and facility issues, and this option to sell administrative facilities has emerged," Superintendent Meria Carstarphen said. "Now it's time to see if there are potential buyers."

The final decision on a possible sale of either District location will be made by the AISD Board of Trustees.

Southwest Strategies Group, an Austin-based brokerage firm, has been retained to assist the District in disseminating the Bid Package and property information for the two properties. All qualifying bids will be evaluated by AISD executive staff. AISD's Board of Trustees will ultimately make any final decisions regarding acceptance or rejection of bids. The process will fully comply with state law regarding the sale of land by a governmental entity, which is designed to "stimulate competition, prevent favoritism, and secure the best price for the property."

SWSG Principal Danny Roth notes the properties are considered two of the most valuable real estate assets in the District's possession. He also says bids for the two properties will be accepted individually, and deliberated upon separately.

AISD's headquarters, named the Carruth Administration Center, is located at 1111 West Sixth Street. It contains more than 128,000 square feet spread across five buildings on 2.75 acres. The site has access along both Fifth and Sixth Streets, and underground parking garage and residential units. It does not lie within the protected Capitol View Corridor, meaning it isn't limited by height restrictions protecting views of the State Capitol. The minimum requested bid is \$32 million.

The other administration property on the market is called Baker Center, located at 3908 Avenue B – just one block east of Guadalupe Street. It contains nearly 66,000 square feet on 4.4 acres. Originally built as a school in two phases, in 1911 and 1952, the building features unique architecture, and has been utilized as administrative offices for many years. The minimum requested bid is \$7.5 million.

Complete bid packets for prospective bidders are available online at www.swsg.com and <http://archive.austinisd.org/misc/bid/requests.phtml>

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8:00 PM
Salvage Vanguard Theatre

Sunday JUNE 12TH
Roger Reeves'
"Here Nigger"
Directed by La Tasha Stephens
2:00 PM
Salvage Vanguard Theatre

www.bamaustin.org/2011

Austin Learning Academy receives prestigious grant from The First Lady's Family Literacy Initiative for Texas

The First Lady's Family Literacy Initiative for Texas, a program of The Barbara Bush Texas Fund for Family Literacy, has awarded a \$50,000 grant to the Austin Learning Academy in Austin, TX, to help to provide additional funds in order to enhance current literacy services. Austin Learning Academy is one of nine recipients selected in the 2011 grant competition totaling nearly \$500,000. Four additional organizations were selected to receive \$5,000 planning grants.

The grant to Austin Learning Academy will support and reach more families. It will ensure that our teachers are highly qualified and will be using research-based literacy materials. Families will be impacted only in the classroom but, through Home Visits, Family Literacy Nights and book distributions.

"We are thrilled to receive this important grant," said Toni Williams, Executive Director of Austin Learning Academy. "Thanks to The First Lady's Family Literacy Initiative for Texas, low-literacy parents and children in our commu-

nity will have the opportunity to acquire the literacy skills they need to participate - and succeed - in society."

Now in its 16th year, the First Lady's Family Literacy Initiative for Texas awards grants of up to \$50,000 to public and private non-profit organizations that strengthen literacy skills within the family unit. Launched at the Governor's Mansion in Austin in 1996 by Honorary Chair Mrs. Laura Bush, the Initiative supports the development and expansion of programs in which parents and their children build literacy skills by reading and learning together. To date, the Initiative has awarded 156 grants totaling in excess of \$4.3 million to organizations serving more than 83 Texas cities. Technical assistance for new grantees is provided by the Texas Center for the Advancement of Literacy and Learning at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas.

More information about The Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy and the Texas Fund can be found at www.barbarabushfoundation.com. Learn about Texas Center for the Advancement

of Literacy and Learning at Texas A&M University at www.tcall.tamu.edu.

The 2011 grantees of The First Lady's Family Literacy Initiative for Texas are (in alphabetical order by city):

- Austin, Texas
 - Austin Learning Academy
 - Communities in Schools - Central Texas
 - Diboll, Texas
 - Diboll ISD
 - Elgin, Texas
 - Advocacy Outreach
 - Houston, Texas
 - Houston ISD - Patterson Elementary
 - Pearland, Texas
 - Adult Reading Center
 - San Antonio, Texas
 - Northside Independent School District
 - Rosenberg, Texas
 - Lamar Consolidated ISD
 - Tyler, Texas
 - Literacy Council of Tyler
- In addition, the following organizations have been selected to receive \$5,000 planning grants: Alliance for Multicultural Community Services, Houston
- Friends of the Elgin Library
 - Region 5 Education Service Center, Jasper
 - Victoria Adult Literacy Council.

Schedule for All-Star Marching Band College Tour Announced

The Austin All-Star Marching Band Caravan and University and College Tour will depart from Austin on Monday, June 20, and return to Austin on Thursday, June 28. More than 200 Central Texas Band and Fine Arts students will tour the campuses of the University of Texas at El Paso, New Mexico, State University, the University of California at Los Angeles, The University of Southern California, California State University, Stanford University, the University of Nevada at Las Vegas, and Arizona State University.

"The purpose of the tour is to expose students to educational opportunities, as well as provide them a

way to showcase their talents for consideration of scholarships at the institutions of higher learning they will be visiting," said tour organizer Larry Jackson. The nine-day tour will also provide performance opportunities for students, including a performance at the Grand Canyon. Students will also have the chance to attend concerts, visit beaches, cultural institutions, and tourist attractions all along the six-state route.

Students along the route will have opportunities to interact with college students, educators and professional musicians, as well as former Texans. For example, alumni of the old

Anderson High School will host a student event in Los Angeles.

Adult chaperones will be band parents and other volunteers and the Constable Travis County Precinct 1 office will provide security and other support for the trip.

The cost of the tour is \$250 per student, which includes all transportation, food and lodging costs. Tour organizers have arranged for students to stay in schools in the cities they are visiting, to keep the cost of the trip affordable. Students have also been holding car washes to offset the cost of the trip.

For more information, call 512-422-9964.

O.L.C. Anderson High School Class OF 1960 Annual Scholarship Awards Event



L.C. ANDERSON CLASS OF 1960 SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE AND RECIPIENT (LEFT-RIGHT) Doris Sampson; Lloyd Moore; Edward Roby; (GRADUATE) Christian Gromedy Rose Doyle; Johnny Holmes; Beatrice Anderson and Edward Warren



L.C. ANDERSON CLASS OF 1960 SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE AND RECIPIENT (LEFT-RIGHT) Doris Sampson; Lloyd Moore; Edward Roby; George Thomas; (GRADUATE) Elena Warren Rose Doyle; Johnny Holmes; Beatrice Anderson and Edward Warren.

The O.L.C. Anderson High School Class of 1960 held its Annual Scholarship Awards Events at East Metropolitan County Park in Manor, Texas on May 22, 2011. The Class has been presenting scholarships to high achieving students for the past three years. Previous winners were also invited to this affair. This event was a family picnic that included the Class of 1960 families with children, grand children and great grand children. There were at least 70 persons in attendance.

This year's recipients are Elena Warren and Christian Cromedy. Elena Warren is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lee Warren. Elena is graduating from Del Valle High School located in Del Valle, Texas. She is a National Merit Scholar, Academic Placement Scholar and has received the Academic Excellence Award and Board of Trustee Award. She is an excellent athlete, having made the UIL State Finals in golf the past four years. Elena will be attending Mississippi State University on golf scholarship in the fall.

Christian Cromedy is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Cromedy and is the grandson of Mrs. Rosa Doyle. Christian is a multi-talented student athlete. He is graduating from S.F. Austin High School in Sugarland, Texas. He has been successful in complet-

ing advance level courses. He is graduating in the upper level of his class. He is also among the top 100 high school football prospects in the nation. He is

presently trying to decide where to continue his education. His choices are between McNeese State and Abilene Christian Universities.

Anti-Gay 'Hate Speech' Slammed with Hefty Fine

Special to the NNPA from the Global Information Network

The South African ambassador to Uganda, a former columnist for South Africa's Sunday Sun paper, was found guilty of hate speech in an anti-gay article.

South Africa's Equality Court fined Jon Qwelane \$14,450 and ordered him to apologize for promoting hatred in the column published in 2008 titled "Call me names but gay is NOT OKAY". It caused an uproar at the time. Qwelane, appointed

last year to Uganda where homosexual acts are illegal, did not mount a defense.

Vincent Moaga, spokesman for the South African Human Rights Commission, applauded the decision and said money from the fine would be donated to gay rights organizations.

Meanwhile, a lesbian who was brutally tortured in Uganda, is fighting her deportation from the UK. Betty Tibikawa, 22, was "branded" with a hot iron as punishment for her sexual identity.

"I can't sleep and I'm

having terrible nightmares about what will happen to me if I'm sent back to Uganda. My family has disowned me because I'm a lesbian and I'm convinced I'd be killed, if I'm sent home."

Human Rights Watch spokeswoman Gauri van Gulik said: "Our research has shown that many cases of women like Betty are not taken seriously by the UK Border Agency. "Unfortunately women who suffer this kind of violence have serious difficulty claiming asylum."

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Saturday JUN 11TH State Theater

The Last Poets
Late Night Poetry
9:00 PM

www.bamaustin.org/2011

BAM FESTIVAL

Austin city council

By Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

On June 7 and 9, 2011 the Austin city council will convene to hear, discuss, and vote on items that would affect Austin and Travis County. The Austin city council's vote would affect the addition or deletion of certain rules and regulation in Austin. Moreover, the Austin city council's vote would also have an effect on the surrounding areas. Their vote would affect the surrounding areas because many people either work or go to Austin for various reasons. The Austin city council would vote on issues that ranges from purchasing to economic development.

Also the city of Austin has gone to Stage 1 water usage due to the

drought conditions. Stage 1 restriction call for all residential and commercial customers adhere to the two-day a week watering schedules. It also calls for the following: All outdoor watering must be done before 10 a.m. and after 7 p.m.; Residential customers with addresses ending in an even number can water on Thursday and Sunday; Residential customers whose addresses end in an odd number can water on Wednesday and Saturday; Commercial and multifamily customers can water on Tuesday and Friday. Moreover, the failure to follow the stage 1 requirement may cause the city to fine the homeowner. If the drought persist, the Aus-

tin city council could call for the city to move to stage 2 of water usage.

Furthermore, the city of Pflugerville would also hold its planning commission meeting on June 7, and a city council on June 8, 2011. The planning commission would meet to discuss of various annexation plan. Annual Annexation Plan recommendation of :Annexation Study Areas 1-5. Then June 8, 2011 the Pflugerville city council would meet to discuss with the Travis County Emergency Services District No. 2(Pflugerville Fire Department) regarding the services and facilities of the Travis County Emergency Services District No. 2 and partnerships with the City of Pflugerville.

The Importance of Doing Your Civic Duty

By Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

From June 6-14, the voters of Austin will have the opportunity to vote early for either Kathie Tovo or Randi Shade in Place 3. Also, June 16 is the actual voting day. During the May 14 city election, Kathie Tovo had 47% of votes; while Randi Shade the incumbent had 33%. However, Kathie Tovo's campaign failed to receive 50% of the vote, which, would help them avoid a run-off election. Also, only 7% of Austinites actually voted in the general election. Now that early voting had started, it is very important for Austin residents, including African Americans to go to the polls and vote. In other words, Austinites must do their civic duty by going to the polls.

It is very important to

vote due to the fact, that whoever wins the election will decide Austin's fate for the next four years. Consequently, the voters can continue with the current Randi Shade's policies that include voting in favor of "big development" or choosing a new course by voting for Kathie Tovo. Moreover, Kathie Tovo's new course includes listening to the voters prior to voting on certain issues. Austinites can choose to a candidate like Randi Shade who is in favor of bringing Formula One racing to Austin or choose Kathie Tovo who opposes the Formula One arriving in Austin. Austinites can either vote for a candidate that believes in making the city affordable for everyone, no matter their geo-

graphic location. In other words, there a starch difference between Kathie Tovo and Randi Shade, even though they are both Democrats.

Finally, Kathie Tovo's 13% lead over the incumbent Randi Shade shows that a large segment of the population has embraced change. Moreover, the other candidates that ran for place 3, which include Max Nfogizer and Kris Bailey have endorsed Kathie Tovo's Run-off Campaign. Not only has the former candidates endorsed Kathie Tovo, but also the Black Austin Democrats have embraced her campaign. The Black Austin Democrats took the risk of being further politically alienated when they endorsed the challenger in this race.

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PUBLISHER T. L. WYATT



Question & Answer Candidate

Forum

By Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon



Incumbent Randi Shade and challenger Kathie Tovo attended a Question and Answer Forum.

Photo By: Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

On June 1, 2011, challenger Kathie Tovo and incumbent Randi Shade attended a Question and Answer Forum. The forum was sponsored by the Liberal Democrats. During the forum both Kathie Tovo and Randi Shade were asked to introduce themselves so that people may know something about them. After their self-introductions, the floor was open to questions in which, both candidates had three minutes to answer. Moreover, it was a time for candidates to "square off" and to know their position on certain issues. Consequently, the voters were able to learn more about their positions which make Kathie Tovo and Randi Shade so different.

The questions asked were based on the candidates' policy regarding issues about Austin. For instance, one participant asked about "The coming of Formula 1 to Austin?" According to Randi Shade, Formula 1 would bring jobs and further, "place Austin on the map." On the other hand, Kathie Tovo mentioned that if she was on the council during that vote, then she would vote against it. According to Kathie Tovo, the F1 race would be costly for the city of Austin. Also, another question was about their "style" of governing. Randi Shade mentioned that he'd like to listen to all sides prior to taking a vote. On the other

hand, Kathie mentioned that her style included listening to the voters and respecting their voices.

In summary, the Q & A was an opportunity for the voters to know more about these two candidates. Both Kathie Tovo and Randi Shade didn't try to avoid the questions. Consequently, the voters were greatly informed about Kathie Tovo and Randi Shade. Each voter was able to clearly understand the position of both Kathie Tovo and Randi Shade regarding the future growth of the city. It is important that Austin has a planned out growth, which, would help to keep it affordable for the residents.

black austin democrats



Encourage all Registered Voters to VOTE in the Austin City Council run-off Elections!

Early voting starts on Monday, June 6, 2011
Election day is Saturday, June 18, 2011

Early Voting, Mobile Polling and Election Day polling places can be found online at:
http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/election/intro_eng.htm

or Call: 512.974.2210

This ad is paid for by the Black Austin Democrats, Black Austin Democrats, PO Box 212, Austin, TX 78767



EVERY ONE IS IMPORTANT.

You can help keep your child healthy with regular checkups and vaccines. Every one is important. And they're free with Children's Medicaid.

Your child will also get other health benefits like free prescription drugs, dental care, eye exams, and glasses. Even rides to and from the doctor or dentist's office. Call today or visit our website to apply.

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We've got your kids covered.

www.CHIPmedicaid.org

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CHILDREN WITH MEDICAID CAN GET FREE RIDES TO THE DOCTOR OR DENTIST'S OFFICE. CALL 1-877-MED-TRIP TO LEARN MORE.

Women in Jazz
Annual Concert Series
presents

starring guitarist **Norman Brown**
saxophonist **Richard Elliot**

also performing
vocalist **Pamela Hart**
saxophonist **Charmine Greene**

Summer Jam

TICKETS
Charge by phone
512-474.1221
austinteatre.org

Saturday, July 23, 2011
Paramount Theatre
713 Congress Avenue, Austin, TX
Show 8pm (Doors open at 7pm)

More information at womeninjazz.org
or call 512.258.6947

This project is funded and supported in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division.

Black Youth Not Politically Inclined

By Wendell Hutson
Special to the NNPA from The Chicago Crusader

A majority of Black youth are not politically involved especially those from low-income households, according to a year-long study conducted by a group of high school students. A group of juniors from Kenwood Academy High School and undergraduate and graduate students from the University of Chicago (U of C), both on the South Side, collaborated on a research project to find out where Black youth stood politically during the era of President Barack Obama, the nation's first Black president.

The U of C has had a longstanding relationship with Kenwood dating back to 2001 when it started the "Program of Academic Exploration for High School Students," said Bill Harms, a spokesman for the U of C. And, this project titled "Black Youth & Politics in the Age of Obama" is a resumption of it. The study focused on youth between the ages 16 to 19 and looked at other factors, such as household income and religion. More than 100 students filled out surveys and were then inter-

viewed about their responses, said Auriel Jamison, a Kenwood student.

"Those low-income youth who are involved in politics do so in a traditional way opposed to youth from upper-income households who participate in non-traditional ways," Jamison said recently at a public presentation of the study's results. "We found that youth from low-income homes felt alienated from the government and Black youth overall felt like second-class citizens." An example of traditional activity is youth, who were eligible to vote, actually do vote. Non-traditional activity include students who protest in person or through a blog or Web site. Middle-class youth were more non-traditional when it came to politics, according to the study. Religion also is a factor. According to the study, low income students who participated in church activities were more inclined to be involved in politics compared to those who skipped church. Sonya Malunda, associate vice president for the Office of Civic Engagement at the U of C, said the project was structured as part of a course taught weekly

at Kenwood.

"This is an ongoing relationship we have with Kenwood high school and one that we will build upon in years to come," Malunda told the Crusader. "The university is excited to work with students and encourage this type of local partnership with schools and other institutions." In 2009, roughly 30 Kenwood students agreed to participate in the study and to attend meetings at the U of C to discuss and analyze the pros and cons of youth involvement in politics.

And the goal, said Cathy Cohen, U of C. political science professor, who also worked with the students on the project, was to teach Kenwood students how to design and implement a research project.

"The expectation was that by teaching young people how to do research they could use those skills to voice their concerns, since youth are not typically provided the opportunity to have their voices included in important policy and political discussions, even those that impact them directly," added Cohen.

Midnight Basketball holds 2-day Tournament For end of season



Left-Right: Trey Hollins (Champion Team Captain), James Silas Austin Midnight Basketball League, Memorial Day Tournament 2011



Left-Right: Derrick Burton (Most Valuable Player), James Silas Austin Midnight Basketball, Memorial Day Tournament 2011



Left-Right: Bobby William (Runner Up), James Silas Austin Midnight Basketball, Memorial Day Tournament 2011

Participants in Austin Midnight Basketball program culminated the 2010-2011 season with a two day tournament of exciting sharp shooting and hustle over the Memorial Day weekend. The Trey-All Stars displayed an array of passing skills that turned into quick points under the basket and hawked the Lakers defensively by

jumping in the lanes, leaping to knock away passes and simply outthrusting them to the ball.

The tournament, sponsored by Commissioner James Silas' Austin Midnight Basketball Program of fifteen years, gives young men who are 18-25 years of age the chance to compete each week in exciting competition at

Givens Recreation Center in East Austin. In keeping with a fundamental purpose of this program, these young men are introduced to leaders of the community who bring seminars and workshops to share insights and information about life survival and skills and strategies on developing their individual leadership abilities.

EMPLOYMENT/BIDS/PROPOSALS/PUBLIC INFORMATION/FOR SALE /FOR RENT/MISC

City of Austin Purchasing Office Advertisements 06/06/2011

On October 2, 1995, a revision to the City's MBE/WBE DBEs Ordinance became effective. The Ordinance establishes new goals for MBE/WBE or DBE Participation Bid/Proposal. Bidders are required to document efforts to solicit MBE/WBE or DBEs in the Compliance Plan. The Goals for each project and the instructions and forms for the Compliance Plan are included in the MBE/WBE or DBE Program Packet included in the solicitation. For construction contracts, the MBE/WBE or DBE Program Packet is a separately bound volume of the Project Manual. ALL BIDS AND COMPLIANCE PLANS NOT RECEIVED PRIOR TO THE DATE AND TIME SET FORTH WILL BE RETURNED TO THE BIDDER UNOPENED. SPECIAL NOTICE: Solicitations issued on behalf of the Electric Utility Dept. (Austin Energy) are no longer advertised in the Austin American Statesman. Notices will be posted on the City of Austin Purchasing website at: <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/purchase/vs/p3.htm>

B. SERVICES AND SYSTEMS CONTRACTING / C. COMMODITIES. Solicitations will be issued, and sealed bids or proposals may be received at the Purchasing Office, Municipal Building, 124 W. 8th St., 3rd floor, Room 308/310, telephone number (512) 974-2500, Austin, TX until the dates and times specified on following item(s):

- B. SOLICITATION SERVICES AND SYSTEMS
 1. CEA0034 MAINTENANCE, REPAIR, AND SUPPLIES FOR HP PLOTTERS. Offers due prior to 10:00A on 6/28/11.
 2. SDC0165 FOOD SERVICE INDUSTRY RECYCLING PILOT PROJECT (IFB BEST-VALUE). A Vendor Conf will be held at Municipal Bldg, 124 W 8th St., Ste., Rm 310 at 2:00P on 6/14/11. Offers due prior to 2:00P on 6/24/11.
 3. CB30003 RFQS MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF PHARR TENNIS CENTER- PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT. Offers due prior to 9:30A on 6/28/11.

C. SOLICITATION COMMODITIES

- 1. EAG0202 ROPE RESCUE EQUIPMENT. Offers due prior to 10:30A on 6/28/11.
- 2. CB30102 CONTAINERIZED TREE SUPPLY AGREEMENT-PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT. Offers due prior to 10:00A on 6/21/11.

THE CITY OF AUSTIN HEREBY NOTIFIES ALL OFFERORS THAT IN REGARD TO ANY CONTRACT ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO THIS ADVERTISEMENT; MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES WILL BE AFFORDED EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES TO SUBMIT OFFERS IN RESPONSE TO THIS INVITATION AND WILL NOT BE DISCRIMINATED AGAINST ON THE GROUNDS OF RACE, COLOR, SEX, NATIONAL ORIGIN OR DISABILITY IN CONSIDERATION FOR AN AWARD.

TAKE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE 2011 PHA ANNUAL PLAN FOR THE DEMOLITION/DISPOSITION OF RIO LADO (TX20/AMP20)

Public Comment Period and Public Hearing for Proposed Changes to the HACA's 2011 PHA Annual Plan

The Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) will have a public comment period for its proposed changes to its 2011 PHA Annual Plan regarding the proposed application for the demolition/disposition of the Rio Lado Apartments located at 2989 E. 51st Street Austin, TX 78723. There will be a forty-five day public comment period commencing at 8:00 a.m. on May 27, 2011 through 5:00 p.m. on July 11, 2011. All comments should be made in writing and delivered to 1124 S. IH-35 Austin, TX 78704 and made to the attention of James Hargrove, President/CEO.

A Public Hearing to present comments regarding these revisions will be conducted on **June 16, 2011 at 12:00 p.m.** during the HACA Board of Commissioners meeting. The location of the hearing will be **the HACA Central Office** located at **1124 S. IH-35, Austin TX 78704.** The Housing Authority of the City of Austin Board of Commissioners will vote on the adoption of the proposed revisions to the plan on Thursday, July 21, 2011, at the HACA Chalmers Courts located at 1801 E. 4th Street, Austin, Texas 78702 at 12:00 p.m. A forum will be available during Citizens Communication to voice your concerns.

Copies of the proposed revisions to the 2011 PHA Annual Plan are available for review and inspection at the HACA Central Office located at 1124 S. IH-35 Austin, TX 78704 or an electronic versions are available online at www.hacanet.org.

HACA is committed to compliance with the American Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Please call 477-4488 ext 2112 for assistance.

Employment

Austin Community College New Jobs for the Week of 6/03/2011

Technician, Senior, Heating Ventilation & Air-Conditioning Service Center
Monday - Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
\$2,879-\$3,599/Monthly
Job# 1105017
Apply at HR
5930 Middle Fiskville Rd., 6th Floor, Austin, TX 78752
Job Line (512) 223-5621 <http://www.austincc.edu>
EEO/AA/M/F/D/V

Subcontracting opportunity with City of Austin

EnviroMedia Social Marketing is soliciting city of Austin certified Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise participation for the following City of Austin project.

Name of Project: Marketing Service to Support Energy Efficiency Upgrades

Project/Solicitation Number: SMH0120

The project includes scopes of service for printing, website programming and building exhibit cases and showcases.

Please contact Cassandra Thomas at 512-476-4368 or 512-476-4392 (fax). Bids can also be emailed to cthomas@enviro-media.com. All bids must be received by noon on June 14, 2011.

Austin Community College District

is requesting bids from qualified business entities for District Wide Air Compressor Maintenance Services.

Invitation for Bids No. 936-11026RW

All bids must be submitted to the Purchasing Department by no later than June 30, 2011 at 2:00 p.m., Central Time.

The Invitation for Bids document is available on the ACC Purchasing website at <http://www.austincc.edu/purchase/advertisements/bids.php> All responses must be sealed and returned to the ACC Purchasing Office, ACC Service Center, 9101 Tuscan Way, Austin, Texas 78754, by the date and time indicated above. **Electronically transmitted responses will NOT be accepted unless otherwise stated in the documents.** Late submittals will be retained unopened.

The ACC Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and/or all responses and waive all formalities in the solicitation process.

AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT (ACC) is soliciting bids from qualified vendors to provide two identical Water Based Automotive Painting Systems

Invitation for Bids No. 635-11025VJ

Completed bids must be submitted to the Purchasing Department by no later than Thursday, June 23, 2011, at 2:00 P.M., Central Time. Bid packages are available on the ACC Purchasing website at <http://www.austincc.edu/purchase/>.

In addition, the bid document is available in the ACC Purchasing Office [(512) 223-1044] between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Bids, when submitted, must be properly identified, sealed, and returned to the ACC Purchasing Office, ACC Service Center, 9101 Tuscan Way, Austin, Texas 78754, by the deadline for submission. Electronically transmitted responses will not be accepted. Late bids will be retained unopened.

ACC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, to waive informalities, or technicalities, to clarify ambiguities, and to award items or groups of items as may be in the best interest of ACC.

Fund Will Award Scholarships in Perpetuity — 125th Anniversary Scholarships Awarded to 12 Austin ISD Seniors

When the Austin School District undertook its 125th Anniversary Celebration in 2006, the major goal was to establish an endowment fund that would award college scholarships to AISD graduates in perpetuity.

The first awards were made in 2007, and with awarding of scholarships in 2011, the fund continues to fulfill its annual goal.

Twelve seniors have been awarded college scholarships this year by the citizen-led 125th Anniversary Steering Committee. Scholarship funding was provided by corporate and community sponsors.

Awarding scholarships was a primary goal of the year-long anniversary celebration, said 125th Anniversary Tri-Chair Tommy Cowan.

"We're proud that AISD has been preparing students to face the challenges of the future through acquiring a strong education. We're especially proud that these scholarship awards will continue through many generations of students," Mr. Cowan said. "All donors and sup-

porters of the 125th Anniversary Celebration have surely impacted the futures of these young people."

Other 125th Anniversary tri-chairs were former Austin Mayor Gus Garcia and community volunteer Ada Anderson. Together, the tri-chairs led a citizen's committee that raised half a million dollars to create an endowed scholarship fund that will sustain itself in years to come. The fund is administered through the Austin Community Foundation.

Awardees of the scholarships are the following members of Austin ISD's Class of 2011, listed with the scholarship sponsors.

- Akins High School
Courtney Jackson
Sponsor: Tommy Cowan
- Anderson High School
Jamie Feldt
Sponsor: Austin Energy
- Austin High School
Alice Shen
Sponsor: Denius Foundation
- Bowie High School
Maggie Widodo
Sponsor: Citibank
- Crockett High School

Navit Jaimes
Sponsor: Austin Energy

Garza Independence High School

Mark Kilpatrick
Sponsor: 125th Committee

Breakthrough Program Graduates:

Austin High School

Aaron Cortez
Sponsor: Webber Family Foundation

Crockett High School

Brianna Walker
Sponsor: Applied Materials

Eastside Memorial High School

Angelica Robles
Sponsor: Silverton Foundation

Lanier High School

Mayra Flores
Sponsor: St. David's Community

Health Foundation

McCallum High School

Jacquelyn Smith
Sponsor: Austin Coca-Cola

Bottling Company

Travis High School

Rand Fowler
Sponsor: 125th Committee/Jerry Jarmon

Commissioner Ron Davis condemns Congressional proposal

Northeast Travis commissioner's precinct split among four proposed districts

Describing a Congressional redistricting proposal as "political fracking," Travis County Precinct One Commissioner Ron Davis today strongly condemned a legislative proposal that carves up his quadrant of the county among four of the proposed Congressional districts.

"Chairmen Solomons and Seliger have out-hammered The Hammer," said Davis referring to 2003 redistricting mastermind and convicted felon Tom DeLay, "They are crushing the black and Latino populations in the most diverse area of our county using high-pressure political fracking to achieve their desired ends."

"I have testified personally and in writing before Senator Seliger's committee concerning the existence of an effective voting coalition of blacks, Hispanics and progressive whites, and their response has been to divide Travis County's most diverse precinct even more so than the others. If that is not a violation of the Voting Rights Act, then people of color in Travis County no longer have voting rights

when it comes to electing representatives of their choice to Congress. This purposeful evisceration of the coalition breaks fundamental Constitutional voting guarantees."

"Further, as a son of East Austin, I strongly condemn the Chairmen's plan for taking the historically black neighborhoods of central East Austin and adding them as an appendage to a Hill Country district stretching through Burnet County all the way to the south suburbs of Fort Worth. This is retrogression, pure and simple."

"I will remember the bitterness of a time when state and local government did everything they could to disenfranchise people of color in Texas. The Texas legislature is at it again. They are subverting our ability to engage in one of the most basic of political activities: joining

with our neighbors to get behind candidates of our choice. In doing so, they are rendering our hard-won right to cast a ballot meaningless."

Of the four commissioners' precincts in Travis County, Davis's Precinct One is the most diverse. According to the 2010 Census, 17.9% of the population is black and 46.5% is Hispanic.

Precinct One is also the only commissioner's precinct divided among four of the five Congressional districts proposed for Travis County; each of the other precincts is divided among three of the proposed districts. Last week, the Commissioners' Court voted to participate in a lawsuit over Congressional redistricting. Davis has represented Travis County Precinct One since 1998.

We have been
Servicing the Austin and
surrounding Communities
Since 1973!

Juneteenth is Near, The Festivities and Events are Better Than Ever



Angela Wyatt
Staff Reporter

Juneteenth is the oldest known African American celebration commemorating the end of slavery. It is an annual observance on June 19 to remember when Union soldiers enforced the Emancipation Proclamation and freed all remaining slaves in Texas on June 19, 1865. This day is an opportunity for people to celebrate freedom and equal rights in the United States.

Juneteenth is the time of year when folks get together, a range of public, community and private events are held to celebrate Juneteenth, often on a weekend close to June 19. Festivities vary from: Baseball, football, basketball, volleyball games, to pot luck outdoor cookout, BBQ's or picnics, Neighborhood and block parties, community flag raising ceremonies, dance contest, displays at city hall, libraries, school events, presentation of community service awards, parades, give-aways and much more.

In the United States, slavery began shortly after the first English colonist arrived and lasted until the Emancipation Proclama-

tion came into effect on January 1, 1863 issued by President Abraham Lincoln. On that date Texas was largely controlled by forces fighting for the Confederate States, which opposed the abolition of slavery. On June 19, 1865, Union soldiers arrived to take control of Texas and enforce the emancipation of slaves in the state. In Galveston, Texas the newly freed slaves held large public celebrations and so laid the base for future Juneteenth activities. The word "Juneteenth" resulted from the words "June Nineteenth" being slurred together in speech.

After 1865, Juneteenth was mainly celebrated in Texas. Parks have been established on land bought by former slaves to hold Juneteenth celebrations in the Texas cities of Austin, Houston and Mexia. However, it is now a states holiday or observance in more than half of the US states and there is a campaign for Juneteenth to become a national holiday or observance day throughout the nation. Juneteenth celebrations are also held in other countries around the world, including Ghana, Honduras, Japan, Taiwan and Trinidad and Tobago.

As you know Austin has its very own special Juneteenth committee, Greater East Austin Youth Association (GEAYA) consisting of volunteers from Businesses and Nonprofits. In a great effort and strong dedication, as

community leaders and activist they work hard to promote, enhance and continue the growth of the Freedom Day (Juneteenth) Celebration. The G.E.A.Y.A.'s mission is to create diversity and cultural awareness about African American history through events, educational programs and individual projects and keep our youth excited about their background and history of ancestors.

To insure that celebrations will continue, many African American communities purchase "emancipation ground" and moved the celebrations to private property. Emancipation Park in East Austin, was such a location. In 1930 the first Juneteenth Celebration was held at Rosewood Park and 81 years later we are still going strong, coming together and honoring our history and making every moment of it count. The Juneteenth festivities are as followed: June 4 Noon-6pm Miss and Little Juneteenth Pageant held at the Doris Miller Auditorium 2300 Rosewood Ave., June 11 7am-9am Juneteenth Green and Clean Neighborhood Project 13th street/ Chicon, June 18 9:30pm-10pm 2K Freedom Run/Walk on Comal street and MLK Blvd.; Juneteenth historical Parade 10am starting at

Comal street and MLK Blvd.; Celebration 12:00 Noon- 9pm help at the Rosewood Park-1182 Pleasant Valley Rd.; Historical Community Program 1pm-3pm held at the Doris Miller

Auditorium-2300 Rosewood Ave., June 25 12:00 Noon-6pm Praise Dance Competition held at Doris Miller Auditorium-2300 Rosewood Ave. I look forward to this years' Juneteenth Celebration

see you all in the park! If you have any questions or would like to register for any of the Juneteenth events please visit www.juneteenthcentraltexas.com



Photos By: Angela Wyatt

(L-R) Austin All-Star drum major, Jessica Wade; Sanaya White, 2010 Little Miss Black Central Texas, and Kelli Walker, 2010 Junior Miss Black Central Texas, wave during the Juneteenth Historical Parade held in Austin, Texas, Saturday June 19, 2010.

Photos By: Angela Wyatt
(Top-Bottom) Terrel Hardman, and his mini horse pauses for admirers during the Juneteenth Historical Parade held in Austin, Texas, Saturday, June 19, 2010. Family and Friends gather all through out Rosewood Park enjoying festivities, food, music, games and all around great entertainment. Members of the Greater Houston All-Star Band marched and perform during the Juneteenth Historical Parade held in Austin, Texas, on Saturday, June 19, 2010.

Awaken the Student Within

The Free Minds Project at The University of Texas at Austin is currently accepting applications for a college-level course in the humanities for adults living on low incomes who want to begin their college education. Tuition, books, and child care are provided without charge. Applications for the 2011-2012 academic year are due on Tuesday, July 5, 2011.

For more information, call: 232-6093 or visit us online at: www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/freeminds/apply.php

Friday
JUNE
17TH

HOTMESS

COMEDY NIGHT

Hazelle Goodman AND *Ali Siddiq*

State Theater

www.bamaustin.org/2011