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The Villager



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January 13, 2012



RAPPIN'
Tommy Wyatt

We have a lot to do!

January and February will be very busy months. We start off with the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday celebration. That celebration has been extended to at least a week. Traditionally, we celebrated MLK day with a march and there will be a march this year. However, many people know that Dr. King was known for more than the civil rights marches that he led.

Dr. King was quite a scholar, author and religious leader. Many people believe that his reach was in many areas of our lives (a complete schedule of activities are in this issue).

The march will be as usual on January 16. However, there will be other activities before and after the march.

After a few days rest, we will go into February where we will celebrate Black History Month. Originally, we celebrated Black History Week. But many in the community felt that was not enough time to celebrate the contributions that African Americans have made to this country.

There are many who believe that we should celebrate Black History every day. And while that is true, we know that many will not celebrate unless there is a time set aside for it. And it is very important for our youth to know the contributions that African Americans have made to this country.

Every ethnic group has made contributions to this country and each one of them celebrate in their own way. And for our youth to have an appreciation for their group, the need the information about the history of their family and those of their neighbors.

This is a time to instill a sense of pride in our youth by letting them know that their ancestors paid a price for the freedoms that we all share. They must recognize that they have a role to plan in future development of our community. Celebrate MLK Day!

2012 Theme: "OUT OF THE MOUNTAIN OF DESPAIR, A STONE OF HOPE"

Austin Area Heritage Council Presents Series of Events to Honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Sponsored by
City of Austin, H-E-B,
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& Mitchie's Gallery

AUSTIN, Texas (January 5, 2012) – The Austin Area Heritage Council encourages all Austinites to realize Dr. Martin Luther King's dream of unity and equality by participating in the 19th Annual MLK Celebrations. This year's activities include: The MLK Oratory Competition, Day of Service, the Youth Scholarship Awards, the Classical Music Concert and the March and Festival.

The festivities begin on Wednesday, January 11, 2012 with the 7th Annual MLK Children's Oratory Competition in partnership with Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP and Child Incorporated which will be held at 6:00 p.m. at the King-Seabrook Chapel on the campus of Huston-Tillotson University which is located at 900 Chicon Street. Finalists from Blackshear and L. L. Campbell will compete in a five-minute speech based on the theme, "As a student of Dr. King's life, what message of hope do you think he would have for the world today?" These inspiring young speakers will compete by delivering personally written speeches commemorating Dr. King's legacy of peace and unity. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will each receive a U.S. Savings Bond.

The MLK Day of Service will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 14, 2012, in partnership with United Way's - Hands on Central Texas, at Huston-



March starts at the MLK Statue on the UT Austin campus. File photo

Tillotson University's Davage-Darden Union Building. The MLK Day of Service provides an opportunity for individuals, groups and organizations to join together and volunteer their time and energy to provide

service to the East Austin community. Please join us and bring friends, family and co-workers. You can change the course of Austin's future, and it starts with service. Sign up now at www.handsontexas.org.

Also on Saturday, January 14, 2012 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., the 2012 MLK Youth Scholarship Awards will be presented at the MLK Youth Scholarship Awards Program at Austin Community College, 3401

Webberville Road, Building 8000 in the Multipurpose Room. This program will recognize the nominees and winners of the MLK Youth Scholarships, which was created to recognize youth in the Austin community for their outstanding commitment and achievement, as well as, inspire the next generation of healthcare workers. The award recipients will receive a \$1,000.00 scholarship courtesy of the Applied Materials Foundation and the Seton Family of Hospitals.

On Sunday, January 15, 2012 at 3:00 p.m., also a part of the 2012 MLK Celebration, the Austin Area Heritage Council in partnership with ProArts Collective presents the Classical Music Concert by Ghanaian-American pianist William Chapman Nyaho. This event will take place at Metropolitan AME Church located at 1101 East 10th Street in Austin. Mr. Nyaho brings a unique cultural background and extraordinarily eclectic sense of music to the concert hall, propelling an evening of his music to, as one critic put it, "reach great heights." For tickets and information, please call AusTIXS at (512) 474-TIXS (8497) or online at www.NowPlayingAustin.com.

The 2012 MLK Celebration ends with the 19th Annual MLK Community March and Rally, to commemorate the national MLK Day Holiday and celebrate King's legacy while uplifting diversity and multiculturalism in our city. The program will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, January 16, 2012 at the University of

See Theme page 5

Dukes Host Annual MLK Boulevard Clean up

AUSTIN — State Representative Dawonna Dukes (D-Austin) is pleased to announce the 13th ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BOULEVARD CLEAN UP (MLK). This year's MLK BOULEVARD CLEAN UP will again be a service project included in the "MLK Day of Service" presented by United Way & Hands On Central Texas. The purpose of this project is to

take pride in our community by beautifying Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard from Airport Boulevard to Springdale Road. The Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Clean-Up is an event initiated by the Office of State Representative Dawonna Dukes to promote Dr. King's message of service. This endeavor to care for our "beloved community" has mushroomed into a citywide MLK Day of Service. Thousands of volunteers from the Austin area including families,



State Rep. Dawonna Dukes

churches, high school students, sororities, fraternities, service organizations and individuals looking for community service projects have rolled up their sleeves to participate in this Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Clean-Up.

Since 2000, Rep. Dukes has held a cleanup each year along East Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard in honor of Dr. King's birthday to promote a day

of service in the community. In January 2006, an Austin American Statesman editorial column suggested that her example be carried out citywide. The Clean Up, held in collaboration with the Hands on Central Texas program's MLK Day of Service, accomplishes this recommendation.

The MLK Clean Up is scheduled on Saturday, January 14, 2012 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Volunteers are invited to assemble at J.J. Seabrook Park, located on the corner of Pershing Drive and Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard at 9:30 a.m., to receive safety instructions, safety vests and trash bags for pick up.

The following businesses and organizations helped to make this project possible: Pro Arts Collective, Keep Austin Beautiful, Austin Parks & Recreation, Fiesta Mart, Capital Metro, Coca Cola, H-E-B, Reddy Ice, Time Warner Cable and City of Austin Solid Waste Services.

BridgeBuilders - A UMC Racial Reconciliation Ministry to host MLK Worship Service



Dr. Thomas W. Spann

BridgeBuilders – A Racial Reconciliation Ministry of the United Methodist Church will host its Martin Luther King, Jr. worship service at Wesley United Methodist Church - 1164 San Bernard on Sunday, January 15, 2012 at the 10 a.m. worship service. The guest speaker will be the Rev. Dr. Thomas W. Spann, Associate Director of the Intern Program for Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University – Dallas, Texas. This year's theme

is "Called to Exceed Expectations" with supportive scripture taken from Ephesians 3:20-21

In addition to the worship service on Sunday – BridgeBuilders will host its 9th Annual MLK Luncheon and Dialogue Sessions after the march on Monday, January 16, 2012 at Wesley UMC in the Lower Auditorium by 11:45 a.m. Please join us for both events. Participating sister churches include: Wesley UMC, University UMC, St. Luke's UMC, Berkley UMC, and St. Peter's UMC. Please join us for both events. All are invited.

For more information – contact the church office at 512/478-7007. Rev. Sylvester E. Chase, Jr. is the pastor of Wesley United Methodist Church located at 1164 San Bernard.



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CHURCH & TOWN BULLETIN

Final rites held for Felix Garrett, III



Felix Eugene Garrett, III

Felix Eugene Garrett, III was born in Austin, Texas to Maud Ella Sattiewhite and Felix Eugene Garrett, Jr. on July 26, 1936. Felix was an only child and flourished in the attention as such. Felix began his formal education in the Austin Independent School District, where he excelled in academics and athletics. He graduated from L. C. Anderson High School in 1954 and attended the University of Utah, Salt Lake because his beloved University of Texas (UT) was not open to him at the time.

In 1955, he enlisted in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and was stationed at Bergstrom Air Force Base, in Austin. Felix graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor's of Arts in History at Huston-Tillotson University and earned a Master's of Education in Counseling and Guidance from Prairie View A&M University.

In 1959, Airman Felix Garrett married Virgie Collins and to this union two daughters were born. Felix was a loving husband and devoted father who made every decision with his family in mind. Upon completion of his tour of duty during the Vietnam War, he returned to Bergstrom Air Force Base and was later assigned to Lajes Field Air Force Base, in

Azores, Portugal. Felix returned to Bergstrom and retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1975 after honorably and faithfully serving for more than 20 years.

Felix taught at Job Corps before becoming an assistant principal at Elgin High School in 1977. In 1980, he became Principal of Temple Middle School. He ultimately retired as a School Administrator from Temple Independent School District in 1993.

Felix was a passionate UT fan who treasured his season football tickets and traveled often to support the Longhorns in winning the Cotton Bowl, and more recently, in the Rose Bowl.

As an avid hunter, Felix traveled to Wyoming yearly to hunt Pronghorn Antelope, receiving the Best Shot award on numerous occasions. Just last Wednesday, Felix was

proud to get a white tail doe with one shot on his final hunting trip. He also enjoyed fishing and often could be found in the early morning at one of the many Austin lakes.

As a member of Mensa, Felix completed a crossword puzzle daily and enjoyed mental challenges reveling in the interplay of ideas. He was a strategic domino player and for over 30 years, both Felix and Virgie belonged to The Player's Club, a couples' bridge club.

A third generation member of Wesley United Methodist Church throughout his life, Felix enjoyed teaching Disciple Bible Study and was considered a layman bible scholar.

Felix was passionate about community service and civic duty, serving continuously on the Travis County Grand Jury from 1970 to 2011. He was initiated into the Gamma Eta Lambda chapter of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. on November 8, 1973. He was also a charter member of the Northeast Austin Rotary Club.

Felix Eugene Garrett departed this life peacefully on Saturday, December 31, 2011 surrounded by his devoted family. He was preceded in death by his parents, Maud Ella and Felix Eugene Garrett, Jr., and his wife of 50 years, Virgie.

Felix is survived by his two daughters, Machree Garrett Gibson (Michael T.), and Felicia Garrett Herring (Hamlet); two grandchildren, Michael G. Gibson and Mallory Gibson Shiraz (Joe); cousin Vance Bob Shaw (Lois); sisters and brothers-in-law: Donnie and Frank Breedlove, Carrie and Zan Holmes, Jr., Jean and Melvin Terrell, Lavern and Alge Collins, Jr., and sisters-in-law: Sylvia Alyce Collins (Wright Collins, deceased); Joyce Collins (Jim Collins, deceased). He is also survived by numerous loving nieces, nephews, and other Collins family, dear friends and all the many who found him to be a steady father figure.

Memorial services was held at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 7, 2012 at Wesley United Methodist Church, 1164 San Bernard St., Austin, Texas.

Mary "Blondie" Stewart Brooks Remembered



Mary Pearl Stewart was born the seventh child to Leslie and Essie Stewart on August 26, 1931 in Austin, Texas. She confessed her belief in God at an early age and was a life-long member of the Metropolitan A.M.E. Church in Austin, Texas. Aunt Blondie, as she so affectionately called by all who knew her, was an active member of the music department as a young woman and continued to sing a strong alto until her health began to fail her within the last two months of her life. She was also an active member of the Carrie B. Warren Women's Missionary Society serving as the secretary on many occasions.

Mary received her education in Austin public schools where she attended Blackshear Elementary School, Kealing Jr High School and Old Anderson High School. She was also an active member of the Huston-Tillotson University Alumni Association - Austin Chapter. Mary worked tirelessly helping to manage ticket sells for the Alumni Association's annual Blues and Jazz event. She was a former member of the Silhouettes and the Belle Donnas ladies social clubs.

Mary was an outstanding secretary and administrative assistant. She received her clerical and business training from Morton Business College. She was employed by Boys Scouts of America and The Presbyterian Synod of Austin, Texas. Mary retired from the Austin Independent School District where she served as administrative assistant to the Director of Staff Development and Student Teaching. Mary was best known at A.I.S.D. for her warm smile and her world-famous Christmas Punch.

Aunt Blondie loved the Lord first and her family second. Praising the Lord and celebrating his goodness was her favorite past time. She enjoyed celebrating life; and coined the term "plukin" to describe the kind of celebration one has when one lets go and has the best time possible.

Aunt Blondie was preceded in death by both her parents, Leslie

and Essie Stewart; brothers Cornell Stewart, Leslie Stewart and James Stewart; sisters Elmer Bunton and Rosa Hygh Reid; and her second husband Leandrus Brooks.

She is survived by her brother Roosevelt "Bubba" Stewart (Darlene) of Austin; sisters Joylie V. White and Ada M. Harden both of Austin; aunt Rosie M. Taylor of Phoenix, Arizona; sisters-in-law Annie Faye Stewart, Addie Mae Stewart and Barbara Stewart all of Austin; a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and close friends; and her life-long friend Mr. Jimmie Jones.

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WORSHIP: 8:00 a.m. (MLK) & 10:30 a.m. (MLK)
Nursery Available

TUESDAY - TNT BIBLE STUDY (PFLUGERVILLE): 6:45 P.M.
WEDNESDAY - PRAYER & PRAISE: 7:00 P.M.
BIBLE STUDY: 7:30 P.M.

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Rev. H. Ed Calahan Pastor

Imani Community Church

Davis Elementray Auditorium 5214 West Duval Road

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Worship Service 10:00 A.M.
Power Hour Bible Life Group 6:00 P.M.

Imani Complex & Office,
11800 Mustang at Duval Austin, Texas 78727

Visit: imanichurch.com
Office: 512-343-9300

St. Peter's United Methodist Church

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WEDNESDAY Bible Study 6:30 P.M.
SATURDAY New Member Assimilation 10:00 A.M.

Rev. Lois Hayes, Pastor

Rosewood Avenue Missionary Baptist Church

1820 Rosewood Avenue, Austin, Texas 78702
(512) 476-8201 Fax (512) 476-5693

Weekly Services
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Night Bible Fellowship 6:30 p.m.

The Spencer & Ora Lee Nobles "Hope Center" (512) 476-6722

Rev. Coby Shorter, III Pastor Website: www.rosewoodbaptistchurch.org

Ebenezer Baptist Church

1010 East 10th Street 512-478-1875 Fax: 512-478-1892

Bus Ministry Call 512-478-1875

Sunday Services

Worship Service 8:00 A.M.
Sunday School 9:00 A.M.
Discipleship Training 10:00 A.M.
Worship Service 11:00 A.M.

Wednesday

Midweek Prayer Service 7:00 P.M.
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WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday Worship - 7:45 a.m. & 11 a.m.
Church School - 9:45 a.m.
Bible Studies - Mon, 6:30 p.m. & Wed., 12 noon
Wednesday Night Worship - 7 p.m.

"Ministries For Mankind" Luke 4:18
A.W.. Anthony Mays, Senior Pastor

If you have church news or to have your church included on this page, send information to vil3202@aol.com or call 512-476-0082.

St Annie A.M.E. Church

1711 Newton Street Austin, Texas 78704
Voice mail (512) 444-4509
E-mail: saamechurch@peoplepc.com

Advancing the Ministry - Expanding the Church

Church School 9:30 A.M. Sun
Morning Worship 10:45 A.M. Sun
Bible Study 7:30 P.M. Sun.

Rev. Derwin D. Gipson, Pastor

Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church

1701 Chestnut Avenue Austin, TX 78702
Church Phone (512) 476-0838

Morning Worship Service @ 11 a.m.
Sundays @ 9:00a.m.- Sunday school
Sunday @ 10:00am Bible Study
Monday @ 6:30 pm Bible Study
Mid-Week Service each Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m., where there is Prayer, Praising, and Preaching going on. Come and worship with us!!!

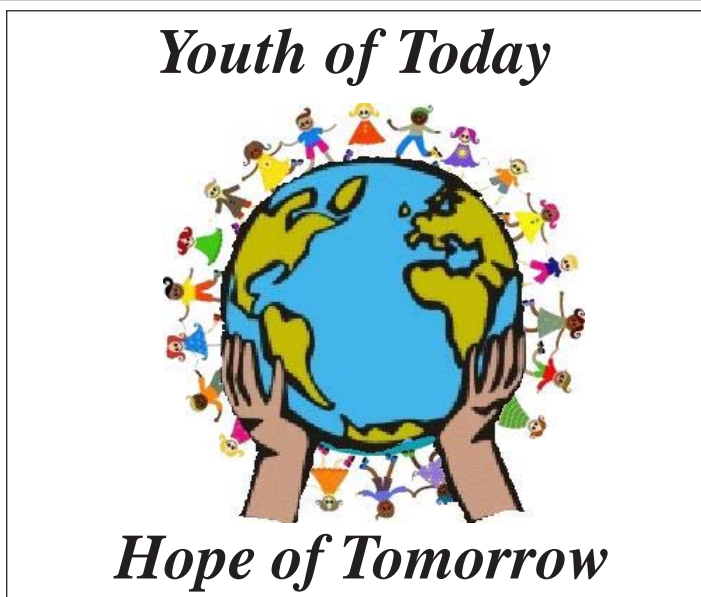
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Second Semester Has Begun



Marcus Austin
Cedar Ridge High School

started so that means football season is over for the Raiders who had a great season this year. The JV Purple (A-team) finished with an 8-1 season record and the JV Black (B-team) finished with a 9-1 season record. The Raiders had a remarkable season this year and next year their goal will be going to state! Go Raiders!

The start of Baseball, Softball, Track, Golf and Soccer will begin this semester, along with the second half of the Basketball season.

Over the Christmas break I attended a NFL Football Game that took place on December 24, 2011. The game was between the Dallas Cowboys and the Philadelphia Eagles at the Dallas Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Tx. I had a great time being able to see Michael Vick play in real life and seeing all the fans that attended the game. There were over 90,000 in attendance for the game and every time someone scored or made a great play you would here the crowd go crazy. The game was not close at all it was the Eagles all the way 21-7. Despite the score of the game I had an amazing time!

The second semester has begun at Cedar Ridge High School and with that comes new schedules, new teachers, new friends, and even new classes. If you have any AP (Advance Placement) classes this semester will help you focus on becoming better prepared for college type of work as well as the college curriculum. Students will also continue taking their ACT and SAT or some many take the test for the very first time this semester. Many Colleges and Universities will view your ACT/SAT scores when considering acceptance into their school. Spring semester has

Basketball and Test



Olivia Smith
Lockhart H.S.

This week, all LHS students returned to school from the Christmas Break. We all chatted

about the break and what presents we received. Everyone was wearing new clothes or rocking new shoes. Some students looked thrilled to be back, and others looked bummed to be back.

It was hard getting back to learning and focusing. My brain felt tired. I felt lazy. Despite those factors, I knew I should get it together. Throughout the week, I got back to my normal self. I really buckled down and did my work. I hope everyone had a good break and returned safely.

2012 is finally Here



Will Purcell
New Manor Tech HS

2012 is finally here. It's a new year which means new changes and New Year's resolutions.

My New Year's resolution is to get my driver's license this year because I want to be able to freely drive my car around. 2012 also gives me a fresh start on my life choices as far as school goes.

Supposedly 2012 is the year that mankind is wiped off the face of the Earth. But personally I don't believe this theory is true.

Since it is a new year that

means I will be a Senior in high school this year. Unfortunately, I am not 18 so I cannot vote for the new election this year. 2012 is also the year for more high school student's to graduate. I am going to try graduating early so I can be a 2012 graduate.

I am taking an Early College Start History class for Austin Community College later on in January so that I can get some early credits. Early College Start classes are for High School students who want to graduate with honors or graduate early.

I even received my first debit card last year. If I successfully get all my credits by this year, I can graduate early in December which would make me a 2012 graduate.

2011 went by so fast that I am not that surprised 2012 has already come. For me, this year is gonna be my hardest year yet so I have to get ready for what is to come soon this year. With that being said, Happy New Year!

Enjoy the new year!



Tayla Terry
LBJ High School

This week I report to you about a new year. The year of 2012. New Year's Day is observed on January 1, the first day of the year on the modern Gregorian calendar as well as the Julian calendar used in ancient Rome. With most countries using the Gregorian calendar as their main calendar, New Year's

Day is the closest thing to being the world's only truly global public holiday.

The Romans dedicated this day to Janus, the God of gates, doors, and beginnings. After Julius Caesar reformed the calendar in 46 BC. The month January originally came from Janus, which means "new beginning".

A New Year consist of twelve months January through December. As we start a new year we should start new good habits, new knowledge, new morals, new values. A new year allows us to begin a new prosperous life. Enjoy the New Year 2012.

Remember kids and adults stay in school and stay off drugs. Peace Out in the new year.

Basketball and Test



Tori Smith,
Lockhart Junior High School

Simon Wolverines, Goodnight Rattlers, and Miller Diamondbacks. We won all three games and won 1st place Championship. It was so much fun. Today we went against Miller Diamondbacks again, will have winnings next week.

The A team got 2nd or 3rd place in Championship. Now it is almost time only more or less than six weeks left until we take the Writing tests in February. Math test in April. Well that is all for now see you all next week and hope you have a good Martin Luther King Jr. weekend!!

Wow I cannot believe it is 2012. On Saturday we went to Miller Middle School and had a tournament. We played against

Say hello to a new year



Jaylon Knighten
Dailey Middle School

Say goodbye to 2011 and hello to a new year 2012. I am so excited to see my new year starting off with a GREAT start. On the first week of school in my

PAP Math class, students had the opportunity to sign up to be part of a Program sponsor by the Austin Toros. This program allowed the students a chance to attend the Austin Toros game on January 31 once the assignment was completed. Each student that signs up had to help figure the Stats, Box score etc. using their math skills.

The Timberwolves Boys basketball team is back in full swing practicing getting ready for our next game on Thursday Jan 12 against Del Valle Middle School.

Happy New Year!

Getting Back On Track



Andrae Hatcher
Pflugerville Middle School

The Pflugerville Middle School students and staff are adjusting to coming back from winter break. It has been a little

rough for some but we can handle it. Many have gotten use to sleeping in and staying up late.

Students came back for the second semester, to new semester classes and new teachers. Learning new classes and new teachers can be a little difficult. I have a couple of class changes but I am ready to get back to school and work hard.

Getting back on track and adjusting to a new schedule is the goal for PMS students, to set new achievements, and have a successful end to the school year.

Community Connections Conference

By Adrian Jackson
Pflugerville High School

On Saturday, January 21, 2012 PMSD will host its annual Community Connections Conference at Pflugerville High School from 8 a.m. to noon for parents of students and members of the community who are interested in learning about a vast array of subjects. The conference will offer classes that focus on self-improvement, technology skills, parenting

skills, college and career readiness, academics and special needs.

The goal of this conference is to empower the youth through a learning community. Bringing parents, teachers, administrators and community members together for a day sharing ideas, information and opportunities to meet the needs of students. There will be transportation to the event, free breakfast, student activities, and free childcare.

BOYS BASKETBALL SEASON!!!



Dezhia Gorrer
Clint Small Middle School

Swish, swish, and another swish! The boys are so ready for their basketball season. They have new players from B team and different schools. The boys didn't do so well last year, they only won one game.

I think they have a chance of becoming zone champs this year! With all the practice they

are doing, they should be ready in no time. In my opinion, they weren't so good last year because it was their first year and they were new to playing with each other.

Their first game is against Goriziki Middle School. That game will be a really good game. I hope they do way better than last year.

The girls are challenging the boys at the end of their season to play our first five and their first five. We are trying to prove that boys aren't better than girls in everything, like they think. If we beat the boys we get to have a party and more. I can't wait to play them. All I have to say to the boys is LETS GO COUGARS!!!!!!

Updates for the Panthers



Marshay Hatcher
Pflugerville High School

Pflugerville High School started the new year with new activities and opportunities for our students. There are positive changes that will benefit the Pflugerville High School students in a positive way.

Seniors, Juniors, Sopho-

mores, and Freshman students met with their assistant principals and counselors Friday, January 6, 2012 to reconnect for the second semester. Meeting with counselors gave students the chance to get information about credits and grades in order to see where they are on the road to graduation. Students were able to come up with plans of action, set new goals, and some inspiration to continue their success.

The meeting was very encouraging for students to have some insight to know what they need to achieve to graduate, and set goals for getting prepared for college. It also gave students an opportunity to set personal goals for the new year.

The New Semester



Jaquarry Wilson
Del Valle High School

Finally, the moment we have all wanted to approach slower than it did, is here! I know that we are all excited for the New Year and all, but, I can guarantee that the majority of students are dreading the fact of returning to school for the new semester!

We all have our own New Year's Resolution. But this year, I had over ten different goals I want to reach! I

plan on doing a lot of new things to get prepared for my future. Not just my future as a student, but as an artist. My resolution is something that every other student can relate to! It is making good grades. I won't hesitate to clarify that my grades have been extremely well. For as long as I can remember I have been making nothing but A's and B's. This semester, I want to do better!

Not only do I want to make great grades but I want to be more involved with clubs and other extracurricular activities as well. I am already involved with multiple activities at school but I want to do more. It might seem like a lot right now, but it will definitely be worth it when I begin to apply for different colleges in the near future. Happy New Year!

Regional Choir Auditions



Darius Hatcher
Pflugerville Middle School

There is an entry fee of \$10 for the audition, and all eligible students need to have a passing grade in all of their classes and a signed permission slip from their parents.

Pflugerville Choir students will practice all music in class to prepare for the audition. The auditions will start at 9:00 am until 5:00 pm. I am looking forward to my audition, and hearing what the judges will say about our performance.

Have fun and good luck to the Pflugerville Middle School Choir.

On Saturday, January 21, 2012 the Pflugerville Choir students are heading to Wallace Middle School in south Austin for Regional Choir Auditions.

YOUTH BRIGADE CITY ~ STATE ~ NATIONAL

A Break for the Holidays



Bria Good
LBJ High School

After a rough first semester of my junior year, I finally reached winter break. Winter break was a lot shorter this year for AISD since we got out on December 20, 5 days before Christmas. We only had one full

week off from school. I still enjoyed it. Christmas was very special because I received what I wanted and I got to spend it with the ones that I love. I also celebrated my birthday along with my mother's birthday on New Year's Eve. Right after we celebrated our birthday, it was time to bring in the new year. Now that we're in 2012, it's time to change up our bad habits from 2011. I'm ready to be more school oriented and more focused on what I need to be focused on.

Now that the new semester is starting, it's time to start taking it more seriously. Senior year is approaching faster than I know it and I have to be prepared for every step of the way. GO JAGS!

My Winter Break



Deria Good
Dailey Middle School

On December 16, 2011, Dailey Middle School was released for winter break and to get a great start on winter break, we had a students versus teachers basketball game. The basketball game was all right in my opinion. The whole week before Christmas was really slow which was strange because this year was going fast. So I was basically bored that week. This year my family had

to change up Christmas Eve to the Friday because my cousins were going somewhere on Christmas Eve, which means we had to wait another day until Christmas.

Once Christmas came it got back to normal. I was so excited when I walked downstairs, I entered the dining room and I saw a mini trampoline and an air hockey table. I could not stop smiling! Then I got some clothes, boots and the movie This Christmas and Fat Albert. I got a lot more presents.

Luckily the fun wasn't over because my sister Bria's birthday was coming up on the 31st, New Years Eve!

On my sisters birthday we shopped at Barton Creek Mall for about 10 minutes and watched Alvin and the Chipmunks Chipwrecked, it was a good movie. Then we all went to the house and had a ton of fun and counted until 2012 came. I had a great winter

2012 Theme: "OUT OF THE MOUNTAIN OF DESPAIR, A STONE OF HOPE" from page 1

Texas, on 21st and Speedway at the MLK Statue. The march will continue on to the south steps of the State Capitol for Gospel music performed by the Greater Mt. Zion Church Choir and marchers will continue on to the historic Huston-Tillotson University, where exciting activities are planned. All businesses, non-profit organizations and individuals are invited to march and celebrate Dr. King's legacy. This year, we are asking marchers to help by donating can goods or non-perishable food items which will be donated to the Capital Area Food Bank. Help to give to those in need by helping the Capital Area Food Bank fill their shelves with non-perishable food items. "True compassion is more than flinging a coin to a beggar; it is not haphazard and superficial. It comes to see that an edifice which produces beggars needs restructuring." — Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Parking for the March is available at UT's Disch Faulk Field (1300 E. MLK Blvd.), State Visitors Garage (Corner of 12th & San

DETAILED LIST OF EVENTS

Wednesday, January 14, 2012

MLK Children's Oratory Competition In partnership with Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP and Child Incorporated 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners to receive a U.S. Savings Bond Huston-Tillotson University King-Seabrook Chapel 900 Chicon Street 6:00 p.m. Open to the public.

Saturday, January 14, 2012

MLK Day of Service In Partnership with United Way's - Hands on Central Texas Huston-Tillotson University Davenport Union Building 900 Chicon Street 9:00 a.m. Open to the public.

Saturday, January 14, 2012

MLK Youth Scholarship Awards Sponsored by the Applied Materials Foundation and the Seton Family of Hospital Scholarships awarded to high school students in the Austin community for significant accomplishments Austin Community College 3401 Webberville Road Building 8000, Multipurpose Room 3:00 p.m. Open to the public.

Sunday, January 15, 2012

Classical Music Concert by Ghanaian-American pianist William Chapman Nyaho In partnership with ProArts Collective Metropolitan AME Church 1101 East 10th Street 3:00 p.m. For tickets and information, please call AusTIXS at (512) 474-TIXS (8497) or online at www.NowPlayingAustin.com

Monday, January 16, 2012

Citywide March & Rally Beginning at the University of Texas, 21st and Speedway (near MLK Statue), continuing to the south steps of the State Capitol and, ending at the historic Huston-Tillotson University. Participants meet at 9:00 a.m. at UT (near the MLK Statue). Marchers can bring can goods or non-perishable food items to the march to be donated to the Capital Area Food Bank to assist those in need.

Cultural Festival immediately following the march at Huston-Tillotson University on 8th and Chalmers, featuring Les and The Funk Mob, MirrorImage Dem Twinz, the Nelson Saga Band and the Ugly Elephant Band. 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Open to the public.

Jacinto St. - downtown Austin), Kealing Middle School (1607 Pennsylvania

Avenue), Holy Cross Catholic Church (1610 E. 11th), Blackshear Elementary

(1712 E. 11th), Greater Mount Zion Baptist Church (1801 Pennsylvania Avenue), Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church (1206 E. 9th) and Mt. Olive Baptist Church (1800 E. 11th).

The MLK Community and Cultural Festival at Huston-Tillotson University, 8th and Concho, will begin immediately after the March and continue until 4:00 p.m. An outdoor concert will feature Les and the Funk Mob, MirrorImage Dem Twinz, the Nelson Saga Band and the Ugly Elephant Band.

Please note that there will not be a Keynote Event this year.

About the Heritage Council: In 1995, the Austin Area Heritage Council was officially formed as a 501(c)3 organization to oversee planning of Austin's Annual MLK Community Celebration. It encourages interfaith and diverse participation in all of its events.

For more information about this year's events, visit the Web site www.mlkcel-bration.com.

Kappas and Omegas Form Super PAC to Back Obama



President Barack Obama

By Herb Boyd
Special to the NNPA
from the New York
Amsterdam News

Kappas and Omegas on the same page?

Yes, and the two Black fraternities-Kappa Alpha Psi and Omega Psi Phi-have come together to forge 1911 United, a super PAC with the goal of raising more than \$1 million to help President Barack Obama get re-elected.

The PAC, taking its name from the fact that both fraternities were founded a century ago, will focus most of its resources on the campaign in Colorado, Florida, Indiana, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Virginia, according to a recent news story on Politico.com.

Obama needs bolstering, said Sinclair Skinner, the committee's treasurer. "And we want to use all the means possible to support him, including a super PAC. Black political participation is still evolving, and what we hope to do is get as many voters active in the process as early as possible," he added.

Essential to this initiative, Skinner related, is to "organize and deploy" Black voters, especially first-time voters. Obviously, social networking and

phone banking will be key targets given the habits of young potential Black voters.

"We're really going to focus on working with people directly," said Skinner, a mechanical engineer.

The presidential election of 2012 will be the first time super PACs or independent expenditure-only committees will go into effect. They came into existence by virtue of a Supreme Court decision in 2010 that ruled in favor of Citizens United v. the Federal Election Commission and SpeechNow.org v. the Federal Election Commission.

Super PACs can spend unlimited sums of money supporting or opposing political candidates as long as they are not involved in the campaigns. To date, huge sums of money from the super PACs have been earmarked to promote and attack GOP candidates, including those run by former members of Obama's staff.

1911 United will certainly assist Obama's bid for office, and it joins with Priorities USA Action, run by two of Obama's former White House aides, one of the largest of those backing the president. It was reported that nearly all of its funds, more than \$300,000, have been used to attack Mitt Romney.

Still Fighting for Voters' Rights



Thurgood Marshall (c) leads NAACP March for Civil Rights

By Cyril Josh Barker
Special to the NNPA from
New York Amsterdam News

As the nation enters another presidential election year, it seems that the push to get people of color registered is being met with a fight to keep the Black, other minority and youth vote from being strong.

New voting laws are being enacted across several states that require government IDs, eliminate early voting and ban registration drives in order to block qualified voters from getting to the polls. These laws restrict access to the franchise in ways that have not been so aggressively pushed in decades-in some cases, in nearly a century.

History is clearly trying to repeat itself, at least in the hopes of those who want our nation to relive some of its darkest moments-the time after the Civil War when laws like grandfather clauses, literacy tests and poll taxes aimed to keep Blacks away from the polls. Black voting rights activists have not seen such a clear and brazen assault on their work since the 1960s, when the Civil Rights Movement led to the passage of the 24th Amendment in 1964, outlawing poll taxes.

But with the rise of Republicans in legislatures and governorships across the nation in 2010, these emboldened politicians have been looking for ways to suppress the Black vote. Republican politicians have been looking for ways to turn back the clock since the 2008 presidential election that brought to office the nation's first Black president, Barack

Obama-an election that saw the highest turnout of young Black voters, including Black women, yet.

Last month, Holder spoke about the voting laws and how he plans to enforce the "law of the land," which was passed nearly 50 years ago by President Lyndon B. Johnson.

"In 1965, when President Johnson signed the landmark Voting Rights Act into law, he proclaimed, 'The right to vote is the basic right without which all others are meaningless.' Today, as attorney general, I have the privilege and the solemn duty of enforcing this law. We will examine the facts and we will apply the law," Holder said.

Republicans have good reason to fear the Black vote. In 2008, states including Ohio, South Carolina, Missouri, Nevada, Maryland and Mississippi saw a 70 percent Black voter turnout.

That election also saw other voters who had previously stayed away from the polls, including Hispanics and the young, become engaged in the process as never before. If the Republican lawmakers and governors succeed in their efforts to suppress the vote, 5 million legitimate voters could be kept from the polls, according to voting rights advocates.

So far, five state legislatures have enacted laws that would require voters to show government ID when they go to cast their ballot: Kansas, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Wisconsin. These states have an estimated 3.2 million people who don't have state-issued photo IDs.

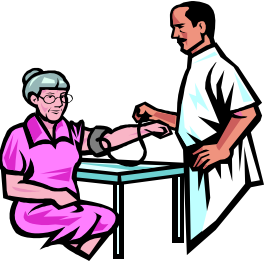
Annual Catholic Diocese of Austin Martin Luther King Day Eucharistic Celebration - Sunday, January 15, 2012 - 10am



The Office of Black Catholics of the Diocese of Austin is sponsoring the Annual Diocesan-wide Martin Luther King Day Eucharistic Celebration. The main celebrant and homilist will be Most Rev. Joe S. Vásquez, Bishop of Austin. The theme of the MLK celebration is "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." The mass will be held on Sunday, January 15, 2012 at 10:00am at Holy Cross Parish, 1610 East 11th Street, Austin.

A reception will be held immediately following Mass. All are invited to attend. Contact Johnnie Dorsey at johnniedd@att.net or call (512)-388-1320 for any questions.

"Blood of the Martyrs" Blood Drive



Monday, January 16, 2012 - 10am to 2pm

The Office of Black Catholics of the Diocese of Austin is sponsoring the tenth Annual "Blood of the Martyrs" Blood Drive in honor of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The campaign's name was chosen to honor men and women who died in the 1960s Civil Rights movement and also to remember those who have given their blood and sacrificed their lives as martyrs for humanity.

The blood donation campaign will be held on Martin Luther King Day, Monday, January 16, 2012 from 10am to 2pm. A Blood and Tissue Center van will be parked on Chalmers Street between 8th & 11th Streets on the Campus of Huston-Tillotson University in East Austin to accommodate those who want to give blood.

Donors must be at least 17 years of age, have a picture ID and provide a Social Security Number at the time they donate.

Advance Sign-ups are being taken, so if you wish to donate blood or if you have any questions, please contact Johnnie Dorsey at johnniedd@att.net or call (512)-388-1320.

CITY ~ STATE ~ NATIONAL ~ WORLD

Keeping the Austin Central Labor Council Endorsement Transparent

By Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon



Micheal Cargill

On January 7, 2012 the Austin Central Labor Council held their Primary Election screening and endorsement. Each candidate in a competitive, contested race had a scheduled time to speak; and then had an answer/question session with the Austin Central Labor Council delegates. Although the candidates spoke to the group, the event was close to the media/press. Consequently, the press/me-

dia was not privileged to hear the various candidates speech. Also, the press was not explained the methodology processed used to endorse certain candidates. Not only were the press not invited inside the "room," but also certain candidates were told that their presence were not necessary. According to the Austin Labor Council, their presence was not needed

because their race was not placed on their agenda. In the Constable Precinct II race, the challenger Micheal Cargill was told it was not necessary for him to attend; due to the fact they would not make any endorsement. However, the Austin Central Labor did make an endorsement in the Precinct II Constable Race without hearing or meeting with all the candidates.

Hopefully, in the next primaries election races, the Austin Central Labor Council will choose to be transparent with all the candidates and also with the press. Since the "room" was closed to the media/press, the media/ press were not able to listen to various candidates platforms and ideas. As a result, the media cannot just serve as a rubber-stamp by mentioning the various candidates that the Austin Central Labor Council choose to endorse behind close doors.

A Word With The Candidates

By Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon



Ron Davis

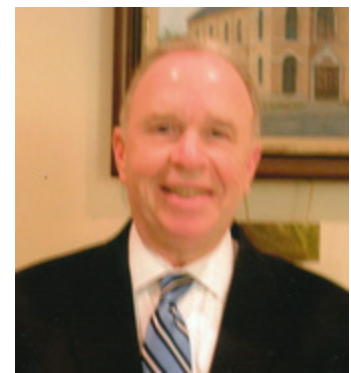
The press was not allowed inside the Austin Central Labor endorsement meeting; however, the press was able to interview certain candidates. In the Commissioner Precinct I race, the incumbent Ron Davis stated "as the commissioner he has worked to provide the top echelon of benefit to county employees. In addition, he believe that "all endorsements are impor-



David Wahlberg

tant." Moreover, the Richard Franklin III who is running for Commissioner Precinct I, stated that "he has been supporting and advocating for the Labor movement for a long time."

In the heated Travis County District Attorney race, the incumbent Rosemary Lehmborg mentioned that "she has been a longtime labor member and that she



Charlie Baird

is open to the labor groups. In addition, the incumbent Rosemary Lehmborg mentioned that the "labor group represent the every day people, whose input is important." The challenger Charlie Baird mentioned that the labor group represent the backbone of Travis County and therefore is seeking their support."

In the 164th District



Richard Franklin III

Court race, Efrain de La Fuente mentioned that the "event was very personal and dear to heart because he grew up an union household. In addition, he mentioned that labor group "do have a positive impact on people's lives." Moreover, David Wahlberg who is also running for the 164th District Court race mentioned that "being a defense lawyer, he can better represent the interest of the labor groups."



Efrain de La Fuente

Austin Independent School District

By Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

On January 9, between the hours of 6:30 and 9:30, the Austin School board met to discuss and vote on some important matters. The first item of business to seek the approval of the agenda and then proceed to the "Pledge of Allegiance. Then, they discussed about the process, time line and criteria of naming the Kinder Pre-K Center. After that they held a work session/discussion regarding the demographic analysis and enrollment projections for the Austin Independent school District.

In addition, the Austin school board pro-

ceeded to discuss on the update on the development of district capital improvement and bond advisory committee. Moreover, they held a discussion of the 2008 Bond Contingency Fund Utilization. Moreover, they discussed the fiscal forecast for the financial years of 2012 to 2015 preliminary budget, tax rate, possible scenarios for consideration of a Tax Ratification Election (TRE), Compensation, & Withdrawal of Declaration of Financial Exigency. And then, they adjourned for the next month.

Moreover, the Austin School Board Members

are elected to a four-year term of office. On a rotating basis, Board seats are filled during biannual elections held on the second Saturday in May. Vacancies are filled by appointment until the next election. The AISD Board of Trustees meets on the second, third and fourth Monday evenings of the month (except July) in the Board Auditorium of the Carruth Administration Center, 1111 West Sixth St. Board Meetings are as follows: Work Session: second Monday of the month; Dialogue Meeting: third Monday of the month; Regular Meeting: fourth Monday of the month.

Govt. Allows Gas Prices to Triple, Setting Off Nationwide Sit-Ins, Marches, Rallies

Special to the NNPA from the Global Information Network



Sit-down in Lagos. Lawyer activist Femi Falana in light colored suit seated in center (Courtesy of Global Information Network)

Jan 2 (GIN) – Nigeria is roiling with protest following the decision by the government of President Goodluck Jonathan to increase hardship by removing an oil subsidy that has jacked up prices up to three times their normal rate in some areas of the country.

The action raises doubts about the political survival of Pres. Jonathan who stands accused of "a condemnable and dictatorial policy" by labor leaders, and "utter disregard for the constitution" by members of the opposition.

"The public holiday has become nightmarish because there are long queues of fear. There is a lot of annoyance in the mind of people. People can't move around happily, you know. People are annoyed. People are

angry," said Iny Ememobong, a spokesperson for the National Association of Nigerian Students.


With the subsidy, prices were an average of 65 Naira, or 40 cents per liter, now they have increased to as much as 250 Naira in some places.

"Labor is going on protest, students are going on protest, market women – everybody's going because everybody is affected by what's happening. It's not just about students. It's not just about labor. It's about everybody. All of Nigeria except the very rich are going on protest. And like John F. Kennedy said, if a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich," Ememobong adds.

Despite being Africa's largest oil producer, Nigeria imports most of its refined petrol while exporting its crude resources – a fact that speaks to capacity in Nigeria, says Ememobong.

"It's unfortunate that we have many refineries in Nigeria that are not even working at optimal capacity. Why can't they work? Why do we need to export the crude oil and re-import them and pay so much on them?"


The Nigerian government says the \$7.5 billion used on fuel subsidies is needed for infrastructure projects and social programs throughout the country. But citizens say corruption has swallowed the nation's assets with government officials paying themselves outsized salaries and other wasteful measures.



Dad. Husband.
Student.
I'm doing it all.

iam acc

Ronny W.,
Texas State transfer student



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CLASSIFIEDS ~ PUBLIC INFORMATION

Celebrating MLK Day by Offering an Affordable Home



ACDC's newest home at 1113 Myrtle Street

Anderson Community Development Corporation continues its mission of providing affordable housing in East Austin. Anderson Community Development Corporation is a non-profit organization with a core mission of

developing affordable housing in East Austin. Incorporated in 1984, the organization is governed by a Board of Directors with an administrator overseeing day-to-day operations. The organization has added over 30 affordable housing units to the area.

The newest offering is a three bedroom, two bath home located at 1113 Myrtle Street in Austin. Large windows and nine foot ceilings throughout the home give a feeling of spaciousness. An open kitchen design connects to a laundry room that also has a door to a back porch. The home features a master bedroom suite that includes a covered porch. The home has an Austin Energy Green Building rating of three stars. The sales price is \$169,000.00

Walking distance to the Carver Library and Museum, and close to Keeling Elementary School, this home provides a wonder opportunity for family to enjoy the benefits of near-downtown living. By partnering with Austin Revitalization Authority and financed by the Austin Housing Finance Corporation, the Anderson Community Development Corporation built this home to provide an affordable housing opportunity to a buyer earning 80% or less of area median income. For example household of four whose total income is less than \$59,900.00 can qualify to purchase the home.

An open house event will be held on Monday, January 16th from noon to 4:00PM.

For more information contact Scott Lyles at (512) 469-1705 or email slyles@austinrev.org

Smoking Restriction for all City Parks

AUSTIN, Texas- To create healthier, safer and cleaner places to play, Austin City Council voted on December 15, 2011 to implement smoke-free public parks, trails and green spaces. The amendment to the Smoking in Public Places Ordinance prohibiting smoking in City parks went into effect on December 26, 2011. Violations could result in a Class C Misdemeanor and a fine not to exceed \$2,000. This smoking restriction applies to all parks athletic fields, recreation center sites, senior centers, nature preserves, swimming pools and all other Austin Parks and Recreation Department property. Municipal Golf Courses are also included in the restriction, however, there is an exemption for people playing a round of golf. Smoking is prohibited at all golf practices facilities including driving ranges and practice putting greens. The Austin Parks and Recreation Department is dedicated to supporting clean, safe environments that inspire healthy, active lives.

For more information, contact Elizabeth Richard, Health and Human Services Program Coordinator, 512-974-3925 office, 512-560-9298 mobile.

George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center presents His Movement: Screenings on MLK
FREE

The Authorized Biography: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. - Historical Perspective
Citizen King: American Experience
Been to the Mountaintop: Martin Luther King Jr.
January 14th-20th 2012
Screenings Start @ 10:00am- 5:00pm
Saturday, January 14th 10:00am-4:00pm
for information call (512) 974-4926



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

BIDS/PROPOSALS

Round Rock ISD us cyrrbtky accepting sealed bids for proposals. Solicitation documents may be obtained from the RRISD web obtained from the RRISD web site at www.roundrockisd.org under "EROC purchasing program: or by calling 512-464-6950

NOTICE TO SUBCONTRACTORS: Restek, Inc. intends to bid Project No. FDU 8900- 8207-4025; Solicitation: IFB6100 CLMC341 2nd Street Parking Garage Waterproofing Project for the City of Austin. We are soliciting quotation or subcontract proposal from Active City of Austin MBE/WBE/AABE Certified Contractors for all bid items of material and/or work in your field. Specifications and Plans may be obtained at the Department of Public Works, Engineering File Room, One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Road, Suite 760, Austin, Texas 78704, or by visiting The City of Austin On-line Plan room located at 4201 Ed Bluestein Blvd., Austin, TX 78721. Please call Austin Pylant at 512-291-0602 with questions. We request all bids be in by January 18th, 2012 at 10:00 am.

Austin Travis County Integral Care (ATCIC) is currently soliciting proposals through a Request for Proposals (RFP) process for Employee Insurance Agent of Record. RFPs may be mailed or sent electronically beginning Monday, January 9, 2012 by contacting Arianna Franz, Coordinator of Legal and Medical Services, at (512) 440-4062 or arianna.franz@atcic.org. The deadline to submit a proposal under this RFP is 4 p.m. on January 30, 2012. Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs), including Minority-Owned Businesses and Women-Owned Businesses, are encouraged to apply.

Laughlin-Thyssen is soliciting Minority, Small Locally Owned & Women-Owned Business Enterprise participation for the following City of Austin Project: Boardwalk Trail at Lady Bird Lake (IFB# 6100CLMC347); Bid Date & Time 2/09/2012, 10:00 CT. Please call (713) 429-6500 for more information.

Employment

AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
New Jobs for the Week of 1/6/2012
Technician, Help Desk Service Center Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. \$2,742-\$3,427/Monthly Job# 1201006
Specialist, Special Populations South Austin Campus Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. \$3,023-\$3,779/Monthly Job#1201008
Apply at HR 5930 Middle Fiskville Rd. 6th Floor, Austin, TX 78752 Job Line (512) 223-5621 <http://www.austince.edu> EEOC/AA/M/F/D/V


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2941 E. 12th Street Central Air and Heat 4 Rooms available \$400.00 per room Call 512-921-0763

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City of Austin Purchasing Office

The City of Austin Purchasing Office invites you to view current bid solicitations at <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/purchase/vs/p2.htm>. Vendors are encouraged to register on-line in the City's Vendor Self Service System. Once your company is registered, you will receive notifications about new bid opportunities. For additional information regarding current bid opportunities or Vendor Registration, please call the Purchasing Office at 512-974-2500. For information on the City of Austin's Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Procurement Program and the certification process, please contact the Small & Minority Business Resources Department at 512-974-7600 or visit their website at <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/smb.r>.




Your Voice Counts!

Did You Know that Studies Show that Most Secondhand Smoke Exposure Happens at Work and at Home?



Join us at the Travis County Commissioners Court for a Public Hearing
We Want YOUR Input as Travis County Commissioners Court Considers County Buildings and Worksites Going Tobacco-Free
Tuesday, January 24, 2012 9:00 AM
Ned Granger Building
Travis County Commissioners Court Room
314 W. 11th Street, Austin, TX 78701
www.LiveTobaccoFreeTravisCounty.org
Your Opinion is Important!






RIDE WITH US DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY | 1.16.12

◆ **ROUTE 2 ROSEWOOD TO RUN EVERY 15 MINUTES FROM 8 A.M. THROUGH 4 P.M.**

CATCH A RIDE ON ROUTE 2 ROSEWOOD to the MLK Day ceremony at the Capitol and the festival that follows at Huston-Tillotson University on Jan. 16. There is free parking along Rosewood, and Capital Metro will use extra buses on Route 2 to provide service every 15 minutes. Regular fares apply.

Capital Metro is proud to participate in the celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy. Ride with us. Visit capmetro.org for a route and parade map and additional information.



© LINE 474.1200 | capmetro.org 6

SPORTS

Texans make history playoffs with Baltimore



By: Terry Davis

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@terryd515

The Houston Texans did what most people did not think they could do, they defeated the Cincinnati Bengals in the first round of the playoffs. The Texans defeated the Bengals 31-10. The win was the first playoff victory in the franchise's history.

The victory was a complete team effort running, passing and on defense. Arian Foster scored the first touchdown for the Texans on an eight yard run to tie the game at 7-7. TJ Yates would be very efficient and would throw for 159 yards and a touchdown to Andre

Johnson. Foster rushed for 153 yards and two touchdowns. Foster became the seventh undrafted running back to rush for over 100 yards.

Johnson would play for 40 plays in the game; this would be the most action that he has seen in over a month. The defense for the Texans was stellar, after falling behind 7-0 the defense would intercept three passes from Rookie Quarterback Andy Dalton. Rookie lineman JJ Watt would intercept a Dalton pass just before halftime and run in for 29 yard touchdown and give the Texans a 17-10 lead.

The Texans will get the opportunity to play the Baltimore Ravens for a second time this year in Baltimore on Sunday. The Ravens defeated the Texans in week 6 by a score of 29-14. In that game the Ravens would hold the Texans to only 93 total

rushing yards.

Ravens quarterback Joe Flacco would throw for over 300 yards and would keep the defense off balance all day. Ray Rice would run for over 100 yards. The Texans were not able to get into a good offensive flow which in turn affected the defense in critical situations.

If the Houston would like to advance to the AFC Championship game they must do a better job of running the football and protecting their defense by being just as efficient as they were in the Cincinnati game. TJ Yates did not look like a rookie last week and his poise should continue against the great Raven defense.

The Ravens have had great success in the regular season but have not had the same success in the playoff in recent years. The Ravens arch Rivals Steelers have eliminated them from the playoffs the past few years, and should not take the young Texans for granted.



Foster runs loose in the Bengals secondary. Courtesy of the Houston Texans

VILLAGER SPOTLIGHT Arian Foster more than a running back



Arian Foster

Arian Foster was not a prolific running back in college. He was not even highly sought after leaving college at the University of Tennessee. Prior to becoming a professional player Foster only had two 1,000 yards seasons, one in high school and one in college.

Not being a highly recruited or drafted player in the National Football League could explain why football is not the end all to Foster. Foster is a very intelligent and ground person. Foster has the ability to hold an intellectual conversation with a Rhodes Scholar, but still able to relate and connect with the common man.

Foster is a regular on twitter and will answer many of the tweets that are sent to him. Foster will respond to positive tweets with a re-tweet and would ask a question of a negative tweet directed at him. Foster tries to engage in conversation with his

followers and haters.

Foster is not afraid to speak his mind. A lot of fantasy football owners will regularly communicate with professional athletes and request them to get them more points. Earlier in the season Foster's response got national attention. The reason was Foster felt that most fantasy owners care more about the stats that the player produces instead of the health of the player.

In the preseason Foster got hurt and people was asking when he was going to be back so you can get me some points. Foster took exception to this and responded in anger. Foster is a fan of fantasy football but feel a players' health is more important than points that the player can get for you.

On many occasions, Foster was documented in assist-

ing random people while he was getting gas or just shopping. On another occasion, Foster gave a man the sweat shirt off of his back and signed it for him and the man's daughter tweeted that to Arian's followers, showing her appreciation of the gift. These are just a few examples of kindness that Foster displays on a regular basis.

Foster was an undrafted free agent signee in 2009, by the Texans, was cut from the original roster in that year, but was signed to the practice squad. Foster played in six games in that year. In 2010, Foster had a season to remember. He ran for 1,616 yards and was selected to the Pro Bowl.

Foster ran for 1,224 yards this year despite missing three games due to injury. Foster was selected to the Pro Bowl again this year. Foster does not have any problem missing the Pro Bowl this year, if he would be playing the next week in the Super Bowl.

Foster is not only a leader on the field, but he is a leader in the locker room. When he was out with the injury he was giving support to his fellow running backs and to the defense in an effort to keep them motivated.

Arian Foster and rest of the Texans have been making people believers in what he and they can do as a team. Foster is very appreciative of what the city of Houston and the rest of the Texans fans that has supported them over the years. Foster shows that appreciation every time that he hit the field by always giving 100 percent.



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