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RAPPIN' Tommy Wyatt Austin Police Department To stress "Preservation of Life"

The beginning of summer always brings about anxiety in the minority communities. That is because everyone is waiting for the next bad news to be reported that on of our young people have been killed by the Austin Police Department. For more years than we can remember, we have had several of our youth killed under questionable circumstances.

Pressure has been put on the APD to accept a "preservations of life standard," that tells officers that their main responsibility is to preserve human life even when they may be forced to use deadly force as a last resort. The new language will go into effect July 1, 2012.

Simply stated, the new mission statement says: "The protection of life is the primary core value and guiding principle of the Austin Police Department. As such, all employees will strive to preserve human Life while recognizing that duty may require the use of deadly force, as a last resort, after other reasonable alternatives have failed or been determined impractical."

Assistant Police Chief Sean Mannix says that "...all elements of the preservation of life standard have always existed at APD."

The issue has been pushed by the Austin Chapter of the NAACP and The Austin Center for Peace and Justice. It will be interesting to see how the new policy will be effect how the APD officers will approach suspects in the future. Much of the complaints have been over the shooting of unarmed suspects.

While the "elements" may have been in place already, they apparently were not known or emphasized to the officers. Because, it appears that their first choice was to use deadly force, even though it was not necessary.

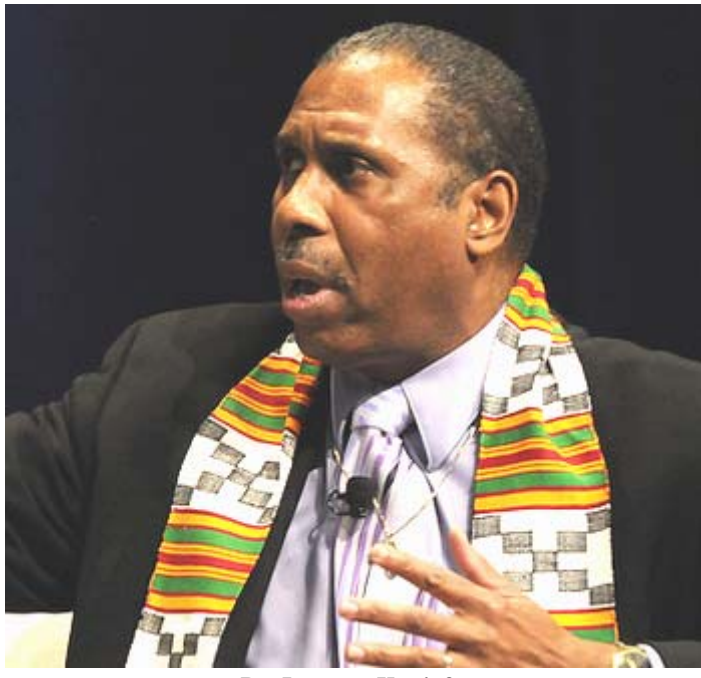
Let's hope that officers will be re-trained as to incidents would permit the use of deadly force. Obviously the have had a different kind of training.

Black Students Score Above The National Average in 3,000+ Schools!

(Chicago, IL, March 1, 2012) – African American students are driving positive academic change in some public schools nationwide, says Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu, national education consultant and author of the newly released *There Is Nothing Wrong With Black Students*. In fact, Black students in more than 3,000 schools are performing well above the national average.

There are eight million African American students nationwide: 7.5 million attend public schools, 400,000 attend private schools, and 100,000 are homeschooled. Of the 7.5 million public school students, 90 percent (6.75 million) attend regular schools, and ten percent attend accelerated magnet schools. Kunjufu spotlights the great strides being made in some regular public schools because he says, "This marginalized population has been the most neglected. I want all children to succeed, but I focus on the 6.75 million African American children in regular public schools because they lack both choice and a voice."

Kunjufu, who logs several days a week working with schools in some of the most underserved communities nationwide, says educators at the



Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu

forefront of change are modeling innovative approaches, including:

- Culturally relevant curriculum design and Africentric charter schools
- Single gender classrooms and schools
- Improved teacher quality
- Pedagogy adapted to the learning styles of students
- Strong academic leadership from principals
- Block scheduling and attention to time on task.

Illustrating the goal of

academic parity, Kunjufu says there is virtually no racial gap between Black and White homeschooled students. In grades K–12, both groups scored, on average, in the 87th percentile in reading. In math, Whites scored in the 82nd percentile while Blacks scored in the 77th percentile.

Two of the great turnaround stories in African American male education have occurred in single gender schools. Kunjufu says Eagles Academy (New York) and Urban Prep (Chicago) are outstanding schools

that bring out the full potential of this population. Eagles students consistently outperform their peers in state-wide exams. Urban Prep has the distinction of all of their graduates being accepted into four-year colleges.

African American charter schools, notable for their use of Africentric curricula, have produced a 1.5 percent or greater annual increase in academic achievement. An 80 percent or higher graduation rate is the norm at these schools.

"When they have the same access to a quality education as their peers in private schools, home schools, and wealthy public schools, Black students are well able to overcome any challenge," says Kunjufu.

There Is Nothing Wrong offers educational models of excellence, resources, best practices, and hope for educators who are dedicated to improving academic outcomes for Black students.

For additional information, contact 1-800-552-1991, Fax# (708) 672-0466. P.O. Box 1799, Chicago Heights, IL 60412. Website: <http://www.africanamericanimages.com>, Email: customersvc@africanamericanimages.com

CCAACC Hosts US Senate Committee Official For Entrepreneurship Discussion



Donald Cravins, Jr. comes to Austin

Forum discussed entrepreneurship policies and programs from Washington, DC

On Thursday May 31, 2012, the Capital City African American Chamber of Commerce hosted Donald Cravins, Jr., Chief Counsel and Chief of Staff for the US Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship. Cravins addressed Austin's minority entrepreneurs as part of a state-wide tour to garner insight from Texas small businesses to help shape current legislative amendments and proposals. As the Democratic Staff Director and Chief Counsel of the Committee, Cravins oversees all activities of the Committee including supervising its 15-plus employees and developing policy and legislation affecting small businesses throughout America.

"Cravins' is a champion for small businesses in

Washington, DC and his presentation reflected his passion and knowledge of the subject. The audience received valuable insight on how national policy changes can create opportunities for small businesses in Austin and beyond. CCAACC looks forward to continuing to remain aware of and engaged in the changing business policy landscape," stated Natalie Madeira Cofield, President & CEO, CCAACC.

The US Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, a 19-member committee chaired by Senator Mary Landrieu (D-LA) and Olympia Snow (R-MA), is currently proposing the creation of a second-round Small Business Jobs Act Bill to further promote entrepreneurship and small business opportunities for US firms. The first bill of this nature was passed by

Congress in 2010 and made remarkable strides in the areas of access to capital, contracting and sub-contracting legislation for small and minority businesses and the expansion of entrepreneurship focused programs managed by US Small Business Administration.

This discussion begins the launch of the CCAACC's Advocacy and Government Affairs Committee which is designed to aggressively promote pro-minority and general pro-business legislation and advocates on behalf of issues of concern to the African American community within the Greater Austin region. As a continuation of this discussion, in September 2012, the CCAACC will host the 1st Annual CCAACC | CBCF Washington, DC Policy Trip during the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Annual Conference.

Trayvon Martin's Killer Back in Jail

George Zimmerman and Wife Lied about Finances
By George E. Curry
Editor-in-Chief

NNPA News Service
WASHINGTON (NNPA)—After having his bond revoked by a judge who wonders whether he was deliberately misled by George Zimmerman and his wife, the admitted killer of unarmed 17-year-old Trayvon Martin remains confined to his cell in the Polk County Correctional Facility in Sanford, Fla. this week facing serious credibility issues that could impact the outcome of his future trial.

Acting on a motion by state prosecutors, Seminole County Circuit Judge Kenneth Lester revoked Zimmerman's \$150,000 bond on Friday and ordered him returned to police custody within 48 hours. Zimmerman has been charged with second-degree murder in connection with the death of Martin, who was returning from a nearby Seven-11 store with a can of Arizona tea and a bag of Skittles on Feb. 26 when he was shot fatally by Zimmerman, a neighborhood watch captain.

By prearrangement, Zimmerman, who had been living in an undisclosed location since posting bond on April 23, met personnel from the Seminole County Sheriff's office in a parking lot off a nearby interstate highway where he was handcuffed and transferred to an unmarked white police van.

At 1:43 p.m. on Sunday, approximately 45 minutes before

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George Zimmerman

the court-imposed deadline, Zimmerman was led out of the van and escorted inside the correctional facility where he was booked and placed in a private cell. Wearing a checkered button-down shirt and jeans, Zimmerman did not answer questions shouted to him by waiting reporters.

Mark O'Mara, the attorney for Zimmerman, filed a motion for a new bond hearing on Monday, which Judge Lester is expected to grant.

The motion to revoke Zimmerman's bond, filed by Assistant State Attorney Bernardo de la Rionda, stated: "On 4/20/2012, this Court conducted a Bond Hearing in which the Defendant was present and several of Defendant's family members testified via telephone under oath. At the Bond Hearing Defendant misrepresented, misled and deceived the Court as to his possession of a United States passport, and Defendant and his family's financial circumstances."

At that same nationally-televised hearing, the motion declared, "Defendant's family members misinformed the Court

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EDITORIALS/COMMENTARY

NAACP Strays Far Away from its Mission



Raynard Jackson
NNPA Columnist

Those who have followed my writings over the years know that I am not very fond of the modern-day NAACP. They have strayed very far from their original mission and have become a patsy for the Democratic Party. They are more concerned with having a photo taken at the White House than being the picture of equality and fairness for those with no voice.

The group was founded in 1909 as a civil rights organization. Its charter stated their mission as: "To promote equality of rights and to eradicate caste or race prejudice among the citizens of the United States; to advance the interest of colored [Black] citizens; to secure for them im-

partial suffrage; and to increase their opportunities for securing justice in the courts, education for the children, employment according to their ability and complete equality before law."

A charter or mission statement guides an organization to ensure that it stays true to its mission; it helps an organization to stay focused on its *raison d'être* – its reason for being. So, I ask the NAACP: What is the basis for its focus on gay entitlements or citizenship for those in the country illegally?

Notice that I used the term "gay entitlements," not gay rights. A right has to be derived from some source document – the U.S. Constitution, a law, the Bible, etc. But, an entitlement is not derivative – it's based on a "belief" that one deserves a benefit and that belief is totally subjective.

Based on their charter, the NAACP has no business being involved in all these issues that are outside of their core mission

of obtaining equality for Black citizens. Has the Human Rights Campaign (a gay entitlements group) or the pro-amnesty forces come out with a statement about Trayvon Martin, or all the child killings in Chicago, or discrimination against Blacks? We all know the answer is an emphatic no!

So, you have the NAACP fighting for entitlements that are outside the scope of their charter yet the groups they are fighting for gives no reciprocity when it comes to issues of particular interest to the Black community.

It should not surprise the public that the NAACP has publicly declared their support for "gay marriage." Notice that I did not say "marriage equality." When gays use the word marriage equality, they are saying that they want gay marriage to be "equal" to heterosexual marriage. By definition that cannot happen since marriage is between a man and a woman. Their goal is not equality, because

that is an impossibility; they want acceptance. They want to redefine marriage, thereby forcing society to accept their lifestyle choices.

When the NAACP issued their statement of support for gay entitlements they said, "The NAACP Constitution affirmatively states our objective to ensure the 'political, educational, social and economic equality' of all people.

Therefore, the NAACP has opposed and will continue to oppose any national, state, local policy or legislative initiative that seeks to codify discrimination or hatred into the law or to remove the Constitutional rights of LGBT citizens.

We support marriage equality consistent with equal protection under the law provided under the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution. Further, we strongly affirm the religious freedoms of all people as pro-

tedged by the First Amendment."

Using the 14th amendment as the basis for asserting the right for gays to marry is a bit of a stretch. In *Hernandez v. Texas* (1954) the U.S. Supreme Court held that the 14th Amendment protects those beyond the racial classes of White or "Negro" and extends to other racial, ethnic and other historically disadvantaged groups, i.e. women.

So, please tell me which of the above groups would gay marriage come under? The 14th Amendment does not apply to them. They are asking the courts to create a special class of rights for them based on sexual preference, which is their ultimate goal.

Gays do not deserve special protection based on their sexual preferences, but they do deserve equal protection based on their humanity.

In a 2005 speech, former

NAACP Chairman Julian Bond said, "...Sexual disposition parallels race. I [a gay person] was born this way. I have no choice. I wouldn't change it if I could. Sexuality is unchangeable. I guess Bond never heard of anyone having their sex changed surgically?"

So, let me make sure I understand this. If I choose to exercise my right to oppose gay marriage, I am hateful and believe in discrimination? So, while the Black community is dysfunctional with Black-on-Black crime, runaway teenage pregnancy, high unemployment, the NAACP is taking up the cause that has absolutely no legal basis and is outside the mandate of their own charter. Are you kidding me?

Weak people (and groups), take strong positions on weak issues. The modern day Civil Rights Movement has done more harm to Blacks than any man in a white hood.



By Bankole Thompson
Special to the NNPA from the Michigan Chronicle

The Rev. Marvin Winans' remark, "I refuse to be afraid of us," in the wake of the robbery attack on him by four young Black men at a neighborhood gas station on Linwood and Davison, carries a moral truth.

is a statement deeply rooted in the belief that we cannot throw our children away or become prisoners in our own communities, afraid to go out because young Black males have become tigers in the hood, on the prowl for their next victims.

I refuse to accept the notion that there is nothing else we can do, and that the solution is to dump Detroit and move out as quickly as you can. While such reasoning is politically expedient

and the common sense thing to do in a state of fear, it is not the answer to the growing socioeconomic ills facing our community. It is not the answer to halt the violence in our town.

To conclude that the best way to deal with the escalating violence in Detroit is to move out of the city is a defeatist attitude grounded in a weak notion that, in fact, we can no longer be problem solvers. Therefore, we should run away from the problem.

What happened to our resilient spirit?

The carjacking of Rev. Winans, a prominent Detroit minister and nationally celebrated gospel singer who was driving with a suspended license, provides a context for our men and women of the clergy to be engaged in tackling the despicable acts of crime in this city.

Just as many were concerned about Winans and his well-being in the aftermath of the carjacking, we should all be equally concerned about the es-

calating crime rate in our city, and the senseless taking of lives.

We should be concerned about the young woman who was raped in view of her child in broad daylight on Detroit's west side. Children and adults are dying in horrific numbers, and the perpetrators of the crimes are usually young Black men.

The young men who attacked Rev. Winans did not know who their victim was, despite his being a prominent figure, seen often on television and in the print media. It says something much deeper: how out of touch they are with the real world outside of their own underworld of violence and mayhem.

If those young men had been properly steered on a right, productive path they would not have become carjackers.

If properly brought up in a nurturing environment and having the self-confidence to know they can be whoever they choose to be, they would not be lured into a world of crime and drugs.

Street Culture vs. Church Power

Yes, they must bear personal responsibility, but as a community we also bear responsibility. Churches in particular cannot sit on the sidelines, claiming that parents have all of the responsibility.

What happened to the communal spirit that made each of us responsible for the other? Our brother's keeper.

What happened to the church that was once the center of our life and thus took a prominent role in the well-being of our children – the future leaders?

Truth be told, Rev. Winans' attack brought the violent crime in Detroit to the doorstep of the church, and has prompted many in the clergy to call for some kind of action, and knowing that they could be the next victim.

The church has long been the center of transformation and at this crucial time cannot ignore its role in the community. The engagement has to reflect a broader embrace of children who are often treated as outcasts. They

need not be.

The interest has to go beyond church members focusing on their own well-being. After all, the church's Biblical mandate is to go in search of the lost, not the saved.

We have lost young Black males walking down the streets like lions looking for someone to devour. They need to be saved and mentored into understanding that they have great potential, they need not rob, sell drugs or kill. If their homes did not remind or inculcate in them that sense of personal responsibility, the church can help them develop a clear path to the future. Because the Black church historically has been the guiding light for our communities.

If there was ever a time for the church to demonstrate its power, it is now when Black children are dying and adults are being killed by their own children.

To be commended are the group of clergy members, including Bishop Edgar Vann, as well

as members of the law enforcement community and other leaders who last week launched an initiative called Detroit Night Walk to fight crime.

We can create change and help those young Black males trapped at the crossroads of drug dealing and carjacking. I believe that we can transform young Black males who believe they have no alternatives and no future.

In the words of the hip-hop icon and street poet Tupac Shakur, we can make these young Black males "the rose that grew from concrete," because by virtue of being a Black male they already live under the heavy weight of stereotypes just as we saw in the Trayvon Martin case.

Our young Black males — and anyone who is raising a Black boy is aware of this reality — are already facing an image battle, and many of them are holding our community hostage.

The church can liberate the hostage taker and the hostages.

Careers of Black Pilots at United Delayed for Takeoff

they seek an equal opportunity to be to be promoted to the management ranks.

The basis for the lawsuit is not new. In 1976, a consent decree was reached with United Airlines to end discrimination against African American employees. The consent decree stalled in 1995.

In 2010, African American pilots and operations supervisors who were members of the *United Coalition for Diversity* filed Equal Employment Opportunity Commission complaints again charging racial discrimination. Following the EEOC complaints, United Airlines hastily hired three African Americans for management positions. But that is not the point.

United Airlines misrepresents its own history of promoting Black pilots. In a 2012 United

press release, Capt. James Simons, Jr., who has named chief pilot for the northeast region, was hailed as the company's first African American chief pilot. Wrong! Actually, Capt. Alfonzo "Rick" McCullough was the first Black chief pilot at United.

This year, Americans lauded the movie *Red Tails* that highlighted the competence, courage, and commitment of Black pilots known as the Tuskegee Airmen. They faced blatant racial discrimination in the 1940s. Ironically, some 70 years later, Black pilots are still fighting for equal opportunity. United airlines cannot credibly salute the Tuskegee Airmen in magazine ads while simultaneously fending off charges of racial discrimination.

Like the Tuskegee Airman, today's Black pilots are extremely competent. While

piloting airplanes may have been their passion in the U.S. Air Force and through other training routes to the captain's chair, those who filed suit are extremely qualified to serve in management.

For example, 22 of the plaintiffs have Bachelor's degrees, three have earned Masters of Business Administration (MBA's), one has a Masters of Science, and one has a Masters of Arts. Yet, by being passed over for management positions at United and Continental Air Lines, none of them seem to "qualified" for jobs their less-credentialed White colleagues now occupy. And America wants to claim we are a "post-racial" nation!

Not surprisingly, African Americans and people of color are woefully underrepresented in managerial ranks in propor-

tion to their representation in the United workforce. Worst still, there seems to be an air (pun intended) of retaliation for "whistleblower" pilots. Of the 13 pilots who filed EEOC complaints in 2010, none of them have been promoted to management despite filing scores and scores of applications.

The three Blacks who were hired in 2010 either did not complain or were brought in from outside.

What United pilots are seeking can be summed up in the words of Capt. Leon Miller: "The struggle for inclusion at United Airlines is a long-standing issue that many have tried to address over a long period of time...we must break the glass ceiling and stop retaliatory actions, and make a corporate culture change that is truly inclusive." Amen.

In 2001, following evidence of racial discrimination at the automaker Toyota USA, I had the experience of organizing informational pickets in 24 American cities with the Rainbow PUSH Coalition. As a result, Toyota admitted being a bad actor in the transportation industry and committed to a 10-year, \$8 billion diversity plan. Although airlines are different from automakers, the principle of developing a measurable plan for inclusion is in the best tradition of American ideals. United may learn a lot from the Toyota model.

The United States of America was founded on the principle of *I pluribus unum* (out of many, we are one). The same should hold true for Black pilots in the so-called friendly skies of United Airlines.



By Gary L. Flowers
NNPA Columnist

Last week, 24 long-term employees of United Continental Holdings, United Airlines, and Continental Airlines filed a lawsuit in San Francisco, alleging racial discrimination, retaliation and harassment in violation of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and state fair employment laws.

I vividly remember United Airlines television commercials of the 1970s urging us to "Fly the friendly skies of United." In 2012, the skies appear to be anything but friendly for Black pilots as

Just When I Thought I Had Him – He Left!

I was married to a wonderful man for 46 years. He is now deceased. I got involved with another man and after dating for about a year he had a heart attack. He underwent by-pass surgery.

I took him in and took care of him. When he was able to take care of himself, he became distant towards me and moved out. He

moved back to his apartment which was okay with me. He dropped all ties with me. I would call to check on him but he never returned the calls. He just said that he didn't want to be a bother to anyone. He told me, "You live your life and I will live mine."

Gwendolyn, I need your opinion. Should I try to stay in touch as a friend or

just let go?

Shirley

Dear Shirley:

You mentioned that you had a wonderful husband for 46 years.

Girl, slap yourself on the side of your face because you need a 'wake-up' call. I hate to be the one to tell you but your husband may have been on the last train travel-

ing your way. Good men don't come in abundance – but bad men do.

Let me tell you this: When some people become ill, they become humbled and thankful for whatever is being done for them. They are most gracious. On the other hand, there are some people when they become ill, they become mean, evil and cruel.

As to your question about this man who will not return your calls, don't try to force the issue as much as to be a friend. If he becomes ill again, let him go to someone else. This thing of being a part of your life when he needs you and then leaving when he doesn't makes no sense at all. So, my opinion is to forget him — and do it quick.



By "ASK"
Gwendolyn Baines
NNPA Columnist

Dear Gwendolyn:

CHURCH & TOWN BULLETIN

Church Hats Come Off on June 9th

Austin will have a Gospel filled day June 9, 2012 as My Praise Project hosts two events — A First Ladies Forum” When The Hats Come Off,” featuring First Lady and Author of “The Life and Legacy of a Dying Conqueror” and Eastside Gospelfest: A Time to Celebrate in Song!



Pat Snipes

“When The Hats Come Off” will be held at 10:00 a.m. at Mitchie’s Gallery, 7801 North Lamar Blvd, Bldg B, Suite 148. As members of various denominations, we’ve seen our First Lady: poised and confident, standing beside her faithful man of God or seated on the front pew, legs neatly crossed with her Bible in her lap.

We’ve admired her beauty and grace and have especially marveled at her devotion to her position as a First Lady. “When the Church Hats

Come Off” will allow each of the participating six Austin First Ladies, representing several church denominations, to discuss their own private life experiences, away from the pulpit and front row. This event is free.

Participating First Ladies: Buford “Pat” Snipes, First Lady, United Holiness Church (Moderator), Kathy Clark, First Lady, Greater Mount Zion Baptist Church, Fannie Pearl Mays, First Lady, Mount Sinai Missionary

Baptist Church, Henrietta Sullivan Mkwanzazi, Co-Pastor/First Lady, Metropolitan A.M.E. Church, Wendy Ratteray Jones, First Lady, Alpha Seventh Day Adventist Church, Sharon K. Walker, First Lady, 19th Street Missionary Baptist Church, Elena Payne-Wiens, First Lady, St. James’ Episcopal Church.

The second event, Eastside Gospelfest: A Time to Celebrate in Song will be held on June 9, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. at Metropolitan AME Church. The event will feature Alesia Snipes Sanders, Sondra Johnson, George Powell, Shedrach Rowry and A Remnant of Levites, and Anthony Snipes. Individuals may purchase tickets at Mitchie’s Gallery or Roland’s Soul Food/Bayseas #7.

For more information, call (817) 905-7641 or visit www.alesiasnipessanders.com

City to Launch Wiki “Beta” Interactive Website For Historic Properties

The City of Austin and the University of Texas at Austin Schools of Architecture and Information launched the Austin Historical Survey Wiki “Beta” website on June 4.

The Wiki is an interactive website that catalogs historic buildings and sites from more than 30 years of surveys by the City of Austin, county, state agencies and volunteer historians. Users who are curious about the historical significance of a structure, or have knowledge about a historic building or site, and want to share it with others can utilize the Historical Survey Wiki to do so.

The public is invited to attend a community launch and demonstration of the Wiki Monday, June 4, at noon, in City Council Chambers, 301 W. Second St.

Wiki users will have the ability to search through the database to view images and information on historic sites including City Landmarks. The site will offer an interactive component that upon creation of a new user account, will allow new information to be added, or photos and documents to be uploaded about properties throughout the City. Once the added information is reviewed by City staff, it will be viewable by all users and will serve as a historical reference for public officials, professionals, citizens and visitors. To use the site, visit <http://beta.austinhistoricalsurvey.org>. The creation

of the Wiki was made possible through a Preserve America grant from the National Park Service, a Certified Local Government Grant from the Texas Historical Commission and the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, and matched with in-kind services by the City of Austin, the University of Texas, School of Architecture, and the Heritage Society of Austin.

To create the Wiki, U.T. faculty and students conducted extensive outreach to individuals in East Austin and the North University Area Neighborhood to survey and record historic resources in those areas. The information derived from those surveys is included within the site. City staff from the Historic Preservation Office will continue working with

U.T. and the Heritage Society of Austin to upload additional information, including photos, links to zoning ordinances, and historic narratives for each City Landmark.

Council Member Laura Morrison, who led the effort for City funding and grant submittals, said “This is a collaborative partnership between the City and UT to approach historic surveys in an innovative manner. We will expand our ability to tell Austin’s story by capitalizing on the community’s expertise, while also reducing costs.”

For additional information about the Wiki, contact Alyson McGee, Deputy Historic Preservation Officer, Planning and Development Review Department, at 974-7801, or by e-mail at Alyson.McGee@austintexas.gov

‘Dark Girls’: Black but Comely

By Gail Choice
Special to the NNPA
from Our Weekly

“Dark Girls” director-producer D. Chansin Berry, and producer D. Chansin Berry, and producer D. Chansin Berry.

Do you want to know what it’s like to be a dark-skin girl in America? The documentary “Dark Girls” produced by veteran actor and filmmaker Bill Duke and documentary director and producer D. Chansin Berry opens a window to a world that everybody has an opinion on, an opinion that sometimes manifests itself in insults and shame.

“Dark Girls” is a documentary exploring the deep-seated biases and attitudes about skin color, particularly concerning dark-skinned women, outside of and within Black American culture. “Dark Girls” is one of those documentaries everyone should see, especially Black women, regardless of their complexion. And understand this; light-skin sisters have their share of grief too. Many of them have stories that will bring you to tears, hurtful things they have had to overcome.

Let’s face it, being a Black woman in America can be very challenging. But God didn’t create wimps when he made us sisters. We help each other celebrate our particular beauty. And the Black men who love us . . . love us. To learn more and to find out about screenings visit their official web site at <http://officialdarkgirlsmovie.com>.



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Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Mid-Week Service
Thursday: Praise, Prayer and Bible Study 7:00 PM
Call 454-1547 for Transportation
Website www.agapebaptisttx.org

Rev. H. Ed Calahan Pastor

Imani Community Church
Davis Elementary Auditorium 5214 West Duval Road

Sunday School 9:00 A.M.
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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Praise and Worship 10:15 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 12:00 p.m.
and Praise /Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
(to include Children’s Choir Rehearsal and Bible Study with age appropriate Activities)

Rev. Jack C. Gause Pastor

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1006 Yeager Lane, Suite 102-A Austin, Texas

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Worship Service 11:00 A.M.
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.
Child Development Center
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Rev. Rodney L Swisher, B.A., M. Div., Interim Pastor

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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

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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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The Capital City Lions Club were host to their 2012 scholarship recipients and their families. The two graduating seniors were: Jaron S. Mackey - L.A.S.A. (LBJ), to attend Prairie View University and Devyne Bird - Reagan High, to attend Houston Baptist.

Black Men & Prostate Cancer

By Dianne Anderson
Special to the NNPA
from the Precinct Reporter

Since only Black men are dying from prostate cancer earlier and at twice the rate over every other racial group, medical professionals might as well now throw out what many health officials believe is the best test for detecting prostate cancer in Black men.

The debate rages on in the medical community under the recent recommendation that doctors stop offering the PSA blood test. It comes as a big surprise to local family practitioner Sanaa Ligons.

The Prostate Specific Antigen test is always one of the first tests she orders for her over-50 male patients.

Dr. Ligons at the Whitney Young Family Health Clinic in San Bernardino, said that she understands that the test that may not be so critical for other racial groups. Even so, she said that Black males should not only continue PSA testing, but start earlier than the current recommendations.

"In some populations, maybe the Hispanic and Caucasian population, where it's not so frequent or so bad, it's okay not to [PSA] screen, but for African American males, I think we should be screening earlier," Dr. Ligons

said.

At the Whitney Young Clinic, African American men over age 50 can routinely expect to get the essentially painless PSA test, an important protein marker that determines if a man has prostate cancer. If they're over the recommended age, she automatically orders the lab.

The other alternative—the dreaded Digital Rectal Exam—is often a deal breaker for Black males.

Dr. Ligons said the clinic doesn't use DREs anymore, just the PSA because it is more reliable to detect the cancer.

When men get their annual PSA, it's easier to spot the trend over time. If the protein marker rises, it's one indicator that he may have the beginning stages of the cancer. With that earlier indicator comes a better chance of survival.

But she said patients must also watch for other symptoms. Urination shows the first signs of trouble if the patient sees a slower or weak urine stream, which could indicate prostate enlargement or cancer. Those symptoms could be benign, meaning not cancerous, but no one should take the chance by avoiding the test.

Black men are most likely to get and die from prostate cancer, but she said that they are still not getting better about walking into

her office, and asking for their PSA tests.

"Nope; not at all. They don't come in and request it," she said.

Recommendations on prostate screening come by way of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, and is being criticized for calling to curb PSA testing, particularly since Black men comprise those most at risk of dying from the cancer. However, they reportedly only made up about 4% of the Task Force's case study.

Essentially, medical advocates argue that throwing out the PSA test would be a killer for more Black men.

Men's Health Network (MHN) and the Veterans Health Council also stand strongly opposed to the decision to curb testing, claiming that Vietnam-era veterans were also more at risk from over-exposure to Agent Orange.

The group blasted the Task Force for not consulting with the National Cancer Institute, or its studies showing that PSA screening was attributed to a 45-70% decline in death rate, as presented at the annual African American Prostate Cancer Disparity Summit last year.

For information on screening, call Whitney Young Family Health Clinic at (909) 386-7600

New CDC Campaign Targets HIV Crisis Among Black Women

By Chris Levister
Special to the NNPA
from Black News Voices

To combat the high toll of HIV and AIDS among Black women in the United States, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has launched *Take Charge. Take the Test.*, a new campaign to increase HIV testing and awareness among African-American women.

The campaign which features advertising, a website and community outreach was launched in conjunction with National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day in 10 cities where Black women are especially hard-hit by the disease.

According to CDC, Black women account for approximately 60 percent of all new HIV infections among women. African-American women have a new infection rate 15 times that of White women. "At current rates, nearly one in 30 African-American women will be diagnosed with HIV in their life-times," said Dr. Kevin Fenton, director of CDC's National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD and TB Prevention. "To help reduce this toll we are working to remind Black women that they have the power to

learn their HIV status, protect themselves from this disease, and take charge of their health."

The ads feature images of African-American women and messages such as "You Know Him. But You Can't Know Everything" and "You Feel as if You've Known Him Forever, but that Doesn't Mean You Know Everything." Dr. Jonathan Mermin, director of CDC's Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention (DHAP), said a goal is to extend the campaign to more US cities.

Research shows that Black women are no more likely than women of other races to engage in risky behaviors. But a range of social and environmental factors put them at greater risk for HIV infection. These include higher prevalence of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections in some Black communities, which increase the likelihood of infection with each sexual encounter.

Limited access to health care can prevent women from getting HIV tested. Research also shows that financial dependence on male partners may limit some women's ability to negotiate safe sex. HIV stigma, far too prevalent in all communities, may also discourage Black women from seeking HIV

testing. "All of us have a role to play in stopping the spread of HIV among Black women — by talking to our sisters, daughters, husbands, and boyfriends about how to protect ourselves against HIV and the importance of getting tested; by speaking out against stigma; and by tackling the social inequities that place so many of us at risk for HIV," said Donna Hubbard McCree, PhD, associate director for health equity at DHAP.

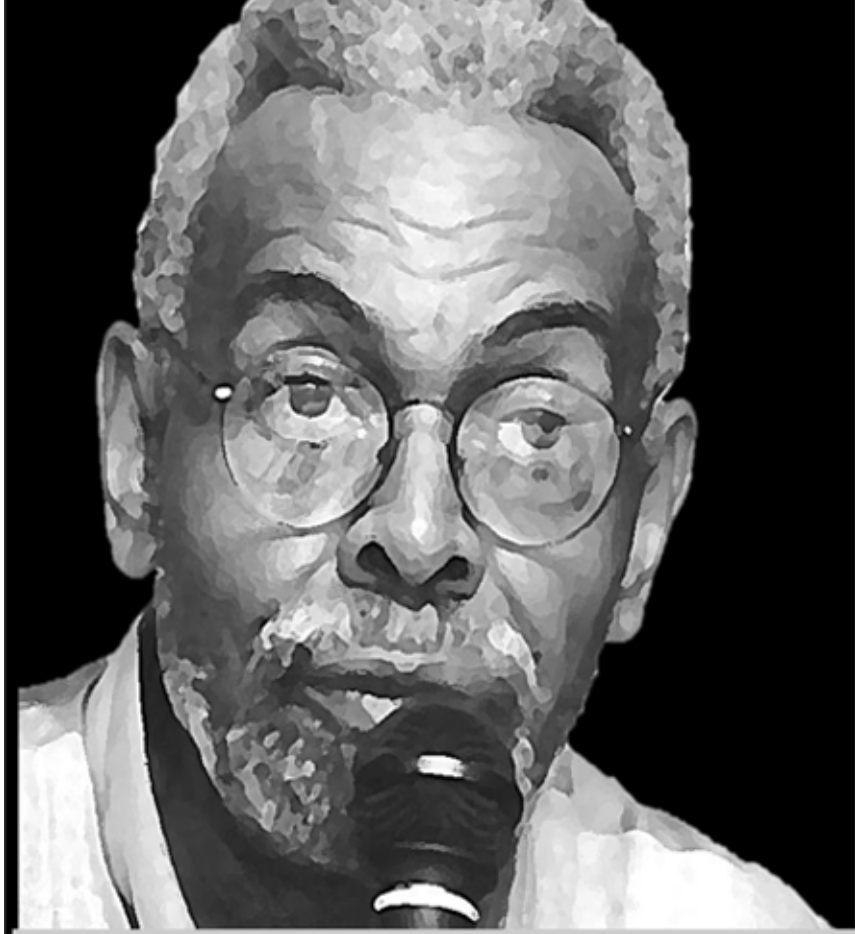
Study: HIV rates for Black women higher than previously thought HIV infection rates among Black women in some parts of the United States are similar to the incidence seen in sub-Saharan Africa, according to a report presented at the Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections in Seattle.

The study found a rate of HIV infection of 0.24% in a group of almost 2,100 women, most of whom were Black. That rate is five times higher than previous estimates issued by the federal government.

The high infection rate was found in six geographic areas that are known to be hard hit by the HIV epidemic and where poverty is more common.

2012 BAM Festival Presents

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Accompanying Live Jazz Trio : DR. JAMES POLK,
MICHAEL STEVENS & BRANNEN TEMPLE

Opening for Mr. Baraka:
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ENTERTAINMENT

BAM Festival Kicks Off This Week



Chef Shontae Moeller

BAM showcases cultural and artistic expressions of today's African Diaspora artists. BAM tells the varying stories of Blacks in the 21st century through art, performance, dance, song, comedy, and cooking.

The festival sponsors artists who resist stereotypes of what Black performance "is" or "should be" in American culture. BAM presents art that allows us to question, examine, and celebrate the particularities and multiplicities of Black culture. BAM acknowledges and celebrates the contributions of Black culture in Austin and beyond.

BAM is a festival that is here for the long haul—to support local and national Black artists and bring communities together to share, learn, and enjoy each other. Other events include Elizabeth Kahura **Under The Story Tree** on June 9 @ 2:00PM at The Connie Yearwood House, 1115 East 12th Street Admission: \$6 for children and adults.

Outdoor Merriment for the entire family with folktales, poems, music,

introduction to Kiswahili language, face painting, crafts, treats and more! Purchase tickets here or call 512-474-5664

Amiri Baraka Poetry Night will be June 14 @ 8:00PM at the Rollins Studio Theater @ The Long Center, 701 W. Riverside Dr. Admission is \$30. *Iconic poet, author, revolutionary, political activist, lecturer and former NJ Poet Laureate, Baraka (formerly LeRoi Jones) will present a singular jazz poetry experience entitled "Poet On" accompanied by an ensemble led by Austin's beloved Michael Stevens.*

Mr. Baraka is celebrated as Founder of Austin BAM Festival's inspiration - the original Harlem Black Arts Movement of the 1960s.

Chef Shontae Moeller Culinary One Act on June 15 @ 7:00PM at Rollins Studio Theater @ The Long Center, 701 W. Riverside Dr. Admission is \$20.

Creator of Salon du Peasant, a nomadic supper club emphasizing African & African American, Cre-

ole and Caribbean cuisine, culinary champion Chef Moeller is known for utilizing seasonal and locally sourced ingredients while applying innovative and classical preparation techniques. Moeller will share her influences, techniques and recipes, which the audience will sample. Intimate setting, live music.

Paul Mooney Comedy Night on June 16 @ 8:00 PM at the Stateside at the Paramount, 719 Congress Avenue Admission is \$30 *Experience the brilliant irreverence of acclaimed comedian, actor and social commentator Paul Mooney.*

Arguably the most ubiquitous comedy writer in television history. Credits include The Chappelle Show, In Living Color, Saturday Night Live, Sanford & Son and more. Ali Siddiq, whose engaging, thoughtful comedic style made him a Comic View & Def Comedy Jam favorite, opens for Mooney.

To purchase a BAM All-Access Pass call 512-474-5664

X Factor May Find the Next Big Recording Artist in Austin



X Factor Judges (l to r) Antonio "L.A." Reid, Demi Lovato, Britney Spears and Producer Simon Cowell

By Shirley A. Hammond Special to the Villager

It was a symphony of yells and cheers. There were more than a few boos and moans. But some of the contestants at Austin's final X Factor audition knew the stakes were high, and they weren't having none of that. With a \$5 million dollar recording contract at stake, some of the contestants were fiercely competitive, others were reluctant to leave when they received four "no"s from the celebrity judges, and still others saw some wavering from one or more of the four and poured on the promises.

X Factor events are not like spelling bees where everyone gets equal apprecia-

tion. If you bomb it at an X Factor audition the audience lets you know it in no uncertain terms. And so does the panel of judges, where each renders their own individual comment and vote.

The judges knew what they were looking for. They received a special coterie of cheering audience members who bore the heat outside and awaited the judges' arrivals in stretch SUV's with retractable running boards for ease of exit. African American L.A. Reid, who could be called a modern day Quincy Jones, was the first celebrity judge to arrive. This songwriter and music producer is credited with launching the careers of Usher, Jay-Z, Rihanna, and other hugely successful performers.

The judges received

thunderous applause upon their arrival in the parking lot, and that didn't change when they entered the Frank Erwin Center. These select audience members later sat in premiere seats directly across from the stage to watch the afternoon show on the Friday before Memorial Day.

A Simon Cowell production, the X Factor won't air on Fox TV until the fall. Cowell was heard telling one trifold sister youth group to have fun and be exciting while singing. He told others to practice more, because he recognized their potential. He reminded others that the X Factor he was looking for was absent from their performance. "You are entertainers", he clarified, for those who thought their soaring vocals were enough.

Partnership Brings Beauty and Art to The Bus

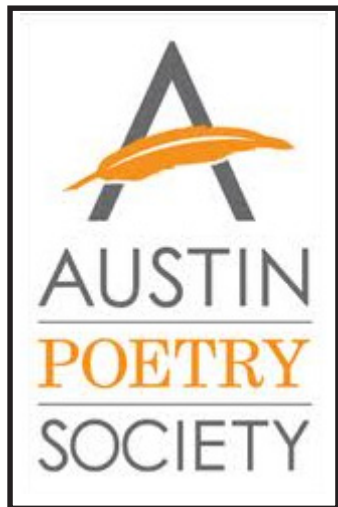
Poetry with Wheels contest kicks off new pilot program

Austin, Texas, June 6, 2012 – Capital Metro has partnered with the Austin Poetry Society to bring poetry onboard its buses. One hundred fifty Capital Metro buses feature the poetry of five local poets in English and Spanish, and *your* poetry could be featured next.

The Austin Poetry Society (APS) has launched Poetry with Wheels, a poetry contest, and the winning poems will be featured on Capital Metro's bus fleet this fall. Submit your original poetry of 50 words or less to buses@austinpoetrysociety.org by July 31, 2012.

"Our buses are the perfect backdrop for art and poetry. The partnership with Austin Poetry Society kicks off a larger effort by Capital Metro to bring beautiful imagery and words to the interior of our fleet," said Capital Metro President/CEO Linda S. Watson.

Per the partnership



agreement, APS produced the interior bus signs, and Capital Metro waived the costs for the advertising space and the installation of the signs.

Austin Poetry Society President Elzy Cogswell says, "APS aims to encourage more people to write poetry, to read poetry and to love poetry as we do. When we proposed this to Capital Metro, they saw how it fit with their Art in Motion project to make a daily bus ride into something new and wonderful every day. It just makes sense to bring the two together."

Capital Metro has a thriving transit advertising

program that is expected to generate more than \$600,000 in revenue this fiscal year; but, there is always some available advertising space inside the bus. In an effort to enhance the riding experience for customers, Capital Metro has launched a pilot program to bring beauty and inspiration to its fleet over the summer.

Interested arts organizations pay for the production of the signage, and Capital Metro donates the advertising space and installation. The partnership with Austin Poetry Society is the first agreement of the pilot program, and Capital Metro hopes other organizations will be interested, too.

Notes Watson, "It's a great idea. We can support the cultural arts in our community while also giving a little something back to our riders. It's all about ensuring our customers have a wonderful experience when they board one of our vehicles."



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An Analysis of the Elections

By Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon



Danny Thomas

Greg Hamilton

Adan Ballesteros

Michael Cargill

On May 29, 2012 Travis County voters went to the polls, in-order, to choose the candidates who represent their views and beliefs. Moreover, the voter turnout was very low among Democrats and Republicans. According to election officials, between 10% and 12% of the Travis County electoral came out to vote. Moreover, these numbers are very low due to various reasons, such as: redistricting; the delay of the voting day; and apathy.

On Election Day, Lloyd Doggett won despite the fact the

new drawn district would make it impossible for him to run a successful campaign. The Republican led legislature "split" Travis County into five different parts, so that Lloyd Doggett would lose. However, Travis County worked together in-order to give Lloyd Doggett a big win against his challengers. In addition, the incumbent Sheriff Greg Hamilton defeated the Challenger John Sisson. Furthermore, the incumbent Danny Thomas won his race by a very large margin. The 167th District Court race between David Walhberg and

Efrain De La Fuente was a much watched one.

In this race, the voters had to vote for David Walhberg over Efrain De La Fuente. Although both candidates were very well qualified, the voters chose David Walhberg over Efrain De La Fuente. In other words, people chose to vote for David Walhberg who happens to be a long-time defense attorney over Efrain De La Fuente who is a long time prosecutor. Finally, the Precinct 2 Constable race between Adan Ballesteros and Michael Cargill is headed to a run-off.

Heated Precinct 2 Constable Race Headed To Run-Off

By Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

On May 29, 2012 the people living within Precinct 2 went to the polls in order to select a Constable. After the polls were closed, the votes were counted. As the votes were counted, there was a realization that this race would be headed into a run-off. For instance, the early vote tallies between the incumbent Constable Ballesteros and challengers Michael Cargill and Paul Labudda were very close. At the end of the night, none of the three candidates had reached the 50% threshold. As the result came in, it became apparent that the Precinct 2 Con-

stable race would go into a run-off between Adan Ballesteros and Michael Cargill.

The Precinct 2 Constable race was headed to a run-off due to Cargill's intensive "ground work" and with the Campaign's ability to point out some "issues" of the current Constable background. First of all, the Cargill's ground work included "going door to door" of the Precinct 2 voters. For instance, the Cargill campaign passed out fliers throughout the area. Secondly, the Cargill Campaign was the only campaign that pointed out some of Ballesteros questionable past

law enforcement such as, losing his job at the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Furthermore, the run-off election between Michael Cargill and Adan Ballesteros will be held on July 31, 2012. In other words, the Precinct 2 Constable race is the only race occurring on the local level. Moreover, Precinct 2 covers the North and North-West sections of Travis County which includes Pflugerville, North Austin and North-West Austin. In addition, the Travis County Constable process and execute civil process various within different courts.

The Austin City Council

By Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

Store request for a waiver from the distance requirement of City Code Section 4-9-4 which requires a minimum of 300 feet between a business that sells alcoholic beverages and a public school.

On June 7th and 14th, the Austin City Council plans to discuss and vote on various issues. The first item of business would be approving the minutes of the last meeting. The Austin City Council deals with issues ranging from police and fire issues; health and human issues; economic development issues to zoning ordinances. Other items that the Austin City Council will address are as follows: Authorize negotiation and execution of an Interlocal Agreement with TRAVIS COUNTY to provide funding and certain services for the Summer Youth Employment Program for a one-year term beginning June 1, 2012, in an amount not to exceed \$345,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$345,000. Also, Approve a resolution appointing Greg Canally, Deputy Chief Financial Officer and Rudy Garza, Assistant City Manager to the Board of Directors of Austin Convention Enterprise, Inc.

In addition, the Austin City Council will "approve the issuance of a Letter of Intent for a performance-based incentive to BAE SYSTEMS for the generation of solar energy at their facility located at 6500

Tracor Lane #27 in Austin, Texas for a total amount not to exceed \$390,000 over a 10-year period. Approve the issuance of Letters of Intent for rebates to LENNAR HOMES for the installation of solar energy systems designed to serve 10 new construction residential homes in the Bradshaw Crossing and Colorado Crossing developments for a total amount of \$83,481.30. They will also need to Authorize execution of a construction contract with G. HYATT CONSTRUCTION, INC., for renovation of the Conley-Guerrero Senior Activity Center in the amount of \$835,000, plus an \$83,500 contingency, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$918,500. Approve a resolution authorizing the filing of eminent domain proceedings for the Miscellaneous Water Rehabilitation 2009-10 Phase II Project for 5,550 square feet total for permanent waterline easements and 16,546 square feet total for temporary workspace easements."

Furthermore, the Austin City Council has set numerous items to public hearing. Some of the public hearings include, conduct a public hear-

ing to consider an ordinance granting a site specific amendment to City Code section 25-8-514; (Save Our Springs Initiative) and a variance to City Code section 25-8-482 (Critical Water Quality Zone) to allow construction of temporary access and staging areas, and to repair a culvert and dam in the Critical Water Quality Zone of Barton Creek.

This action concerns land located within the Barton Spring Zone; Conduct a public hearing and consider an ordinance establishing a revised electric rate charges and changes for the Austin Energy customer. Conduct a public hearing and consider a resolution. Conduct a public hearing and consider an ordinance amending Title 25 of the City Code to address the short term rental of residential units.

Conduct a public hearing and consider a resolution regarding a request by Speedy Shop Food Store #407 located at 1320 E Oltorf St., for a waiver from the distance requirement of City Code Section 4-9-4 which requires a minimum of 300 feet between a business that sells alcoholic beverages and a public school.



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Arne Duncan Announces Tool To Shed Light on Education Disparities

By Macy L. Freeman and Lauren McEwen
Special to the NNPA from the Afro-American Newspaper



Arne Duncan

New findings show that several factors have widened the achievement gap for students of color in the United States.

“Our work is all geared toward ensuring that the achievement gap closes, but without more information about where it exists, where opportunity is provided, how resources are being distributed, getting to our common goal is all the more difficult,” said Russlynn Ali, assistant secretary for Civil Rights during a March 6 press conference in Founders Library on Howard University’s campus.

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and Ali announced new findings from a data collection tool to help analyze the achievement gap in the U.S. education system.

That tool, the Transformed Civil Rights Data Collection, consists of self-reported information covering college and career readiness, discipline, school finances and student retention.

The CRDC, compiled during the 2009-10 school year, is not only the largest study of its kind—with a sample representing 85 percent of American students—it is also the most detailed. Statistics were broken

down by race and ethnicity, gender, disability and native language. It also focused on resource equity, access to and success in higher-level courses, retention rates, discipline and more.

Part of the Depary practices in the U.S. Education system. Findings show that African-American students, especially boys, are more likely to be suspended or expelled from school than their counterparts. Although

Black students made up 18 percent of the students used in the sample, they made up 35 percent of students who have been suspended once, and 39 percent of the students expelled from school.

“I have fought for such analysis for years given my personal and professional observation of the over-discipline of African-American boys,” said Rep. Danny Davis (D-Ill.).

Davis said the CRDC findings reveal that an opportunity gap still exists in American society.

“The opportunity gap and school-to-prison pipeline are very real for students of color, students with disabilities, and students who are learning English—especially for the first time,” Duncan said.

Department of Education’s research revealed disparities in discipline. Findings also show that while 55 percent of predomi-

nately white schools offer Calculus, 29 percent of high-minority schools offer the subject. Students who speak English as a second language constitute 6 percent of the high school students in the sample and make up 12 percent of the students who are retained.

Discrepancies not only appear in the quality of education provided to students, but also in teachers’ salaries. Teachers in high-minority schools tend to be younger, less experienced and paid less.

In Philadelphia, teachers may be paid up to \$14,000 less than one of their older counterparts. In New York, the discrepancy is \$8,000.

Duncan stressed that the data is not being used to accuse administrators and school boards of discrimination and that the data collected needs to be studied further. Instead, he cites a lack of transparency, saying that

officials and educators “would be shocked” to learn about the data.

“I don’t think these are bad people,” Duncan said. “They just didn’t know how to handle a child that was struggling.”

Ali added, “This is a call to action for all of us to study what’s happening—not enough to signal a violation of the Civil Rights Act.”

While any complaints of civil rights violations will be investigated, the CDRC is to be used to improve struggling schools. Ali pointed out that the data examines schools that are “defying the odds” so that other schools can use their tactics to challenge the status quo.

The CDRC data can be found online at ocrdata.ed.gov, and Duncan encourages people to check the site for updates.

“No other issue holds greater promise for opportunities,” he said.

Trayvon Martin’s Killer Back in Jail from page 1

(the State would use a much stronger and accurate word to describe what occurred – Defendant’s wife lied to the Court) about Defendant and his family’s finances.”

The prosecutors provided financial records and transcripts of taped telephone conversations between Zimmerman and his wife, Shelly. At Zimmerman’s bond hearing, there was this exchange between Prosecutor de la Rionda and Shelly Zimmerman:

Q: You mentioned also, in terms of the ability of your husband to make a bond amount, that you had no money, is that correct?

A: To my knowledge, that’s correct.

Q: Were you aware of the website that Mr. Zimmerman or somebody on his behalf created?

A: I’m aware of that website.

Q: How much money is in that website right now? How much money as a result of that website was –

A: Currently, I do not know.

Q: Do you have an estimate as to how much money has already been obtained or collected?

A: I do not.

However, transcripts of telephone calls between Zimmerman and his wife – calls that they knew were being recorded – showed that they discussed money in the account on April 12, 15 and 16, well before the April 20 bond hearing at which they were trying to show that Zimmerman was indigent and could not afford a high bond.

“During some of the calls to his wife, Shelly Zimmerman, Defendant discussed the amount of money sent to PayPal through the website, which was deposited into Defendant’s Credit Union account, and at

defendant’s direction transferred into his wife’s Credit Union account,” the motion to revoke Zimmerman’s bond recounted.

It also noted, “The Credit Union statements show on 4/19/2012, the day before the Bond Hearing, Defendant and his wife had access to over \$135,000.00. Defendant has intentionally deceived the Court with the assistance of his wife, Shelly Zimmerman. During the jail phone calls both of them spoke in code to hide what they were doing. And, Defendant fully controlled and participated in the transfer of money from the PayPal accounts to Defendant and his wife’s Credit Union accounts. This occurred prior to the time Defendant was arguing to the Court that he was indigent and his wife had no money.”

Part of those funds from the Web site, it was later learned, was used to post Zimmerman’s bond.

The motion to revoke Zimmerman’s bond also disclosed that contrary to representation of Zimmerman’s lawyer, he had a second passport that he could have used to flee the United States.

“At the beginning of the Bond Hearing on 4/20/2012, Defense Counsel informed the Court that Defendant was surrendering his United States passport and tendered it to the Court, noting that the passport ‘expired in May 2012.’ Defense counsel stated ‘this is my client’s current passport and only passport that he has,’” the prosecution motion stated.

However, Zimmerman had a second passport that he did not disclose, which was valid until 2014. Zimmerman’s lawyer claims that his client thought he had lost his original passport and had

applied for a replacement. Zimmerman supposedly found the original passport after he had received the second one.

A transcript of a telephone call between Zimmerman and his wife on April 17 could prove problematic for the defense. Approximately seven minutes into the conversation was this exchange:

George Zimmerman: Do you know what? I think my passport is in that bag.

Shelly Zimmerman: I have one for you in safety deposit box...

George Zimmerman: Ok, you hold onto that.

The issue of Zimmerman’s credibility is crucial not only as to whether he will be allowed out again on bond, but to future trial proceedings as well. His credibility is key because Zimmerman claims he was acting in self-defense when he killed Trayvon Martin on February 26. Because there were no eyewitnesses and Martin is not alive to present his side of the story, a verdict could rest largely on Zimmerman’s believability.

If prosecutors can use information that shows Zimmerman deceived the court, it would help buttress their case against him. However, Zimmerman’s attorneys are likely to have that information excluded on relevancy grounds.

In the meantime, Judge Kenneth Lester will have to rule on the state’s motion to revoke Zimmerman’s bond. The motion states, “In setting Defendant’s Bond at \$150,000 the Court relied on false representations and statements by Defendant and Shelly Zimmerman. The Court should revoke Defendant’s Bond or at a minimum increase it substantially.”

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“**SOLICITATION:** Quest Civil Constructors Texas, LLC is soliciting proposals from M/WBE’s for the City of Austin Barton Springs Pool Bypass Tunnel and Downstream Repair and Rehabilitation, Solicitation #6007.010 IFB 6100 CLMC359, bidding publicly June 14, 2012 at 10am. For information concerning subcontracting and/or purchasing opportunities contact Felicia Hendricks at 623.581.9700.”

“**SOLICITATION:** Quest Civil Constructors Texas, LLC is soliciting proposals from M/WBE’s for the City of Austin Rosewood Site Improvements REBID, IFB 6100 CLMC364A, bidding publicly June 14, 2012 at 10am. For information concerning subcontracting and/or purchasing opportunities contact Felicia Hendricks at 623.581.9700.”

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Employment

AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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Monday-Friday,
8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.,
some evenings and
weekends may be required.
\$2,256-\$2,82 /Monthly
Job# 1205025

Administrator, Web
Highland Business Center
Monday-Friday,
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
\$3,674-\$4,593/Monthly
Job# 1205023

Coordinator, Workforce
Continuing Education
Highland Business Center
Monday-Friday,
8:00 a.m - 5:00 p.m.
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Apply at HR
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<http://www.austincc.edu>
EEO/AA/M/F/D/V

Wooldridge Square Closes For Irrigation and Landscape Restoration

The oldest dedicated park in the City of Austin is closing for irrigation and landscape restoration. Work on Wooldridge Square, adjacent to the Travis County Courthouse, should be complete by late fall, and the park will remain closed until March 2013 to allow new planting to establish.

“After more than a century of service as a beloved park, Wooldridge could use some help,” said Austin City Council Member Chris Riley. “With the improvements planned in the coming months, Wooldridge can continue to serve proudly as a community gathering space for generations to come.”

Wooldridge Square was a part of the original plans for the City of Austin as laid out by Edwin Waller in 1839. It became a dedicated park in 1909 when then-Mayor Wooldridge cleared and drained the site for civic green space. The gazebo in the center of the park was added in 1910 and has a rich history of political speeches and gatherings for State, County and City officials.

In recent years, the park has suffered from drought and abandonment. The poor conditions and safety concerns led the City of Austin Parks Department to work with a community group organized as The Friends of Wooldridge Square to determine how to address the immediate needs of the park. Plans include installing an irrigation system that will maintain a newly planted green lawn, planting new trees, and improving electrical connections and lighting. Work is also underway to restore the gazebo at the center of the park.



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/snbr>.

Sports

Oswalt Impresses in His Debut With The Express



By: Terry Davis

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Roy Oswalt throws in his first game with the Express.

Roy Oswalt, 34, is coming off an injury that has kept his sidelined the entire 2012 season, played in his first organized action of the season. The Texas Rangers signed Oswalt on May 29 to a minor league contract. Oswalt has spent his entire career in the National League, combining to go 159-93 with a 3.21 ERA over 339 games/326 starts for Houston (2001-10) and Philadelphia (2010-2011).

Since he arrived in the major leagues in 2001, the only pitchers with more wins than Oswalt are C.C. Sabathia (182), Roy Halladay (179), and Mark Buehrle (162), with Halladay being the only right-hand ahead of him on that list. The only pitchers with a lower ERA in that span are Johan Santana (2.94) and Halladay (3.01)

Oswalt was a three time All-Star (2005, 06-07), he has finished in the National League's top six in Cy Young voting on six different occasions, including a career-best third place in 2004 behind Houston Astro teammate Roger Clemens and Arizona's Randy Johnson.

He is 5-2 with a 3.73 ERA (30 ER/72.1 IP) in 13 games/11 starts in his career

in the postseason, including one start with the Astros in the 2005 World Series. Oswalt earned the 2005 National League Championship Game 6 in St. Louis that sent the Astros to their first World Series.

Oswalt first appearance for the Round Rock Express against the Albuquerque Isotopes started very slow, but had a good finish. Oswalt first batter reached base on a single, he walk his second batter and the third batter also received a hit. Oswalt had the bases loaded and no one out.

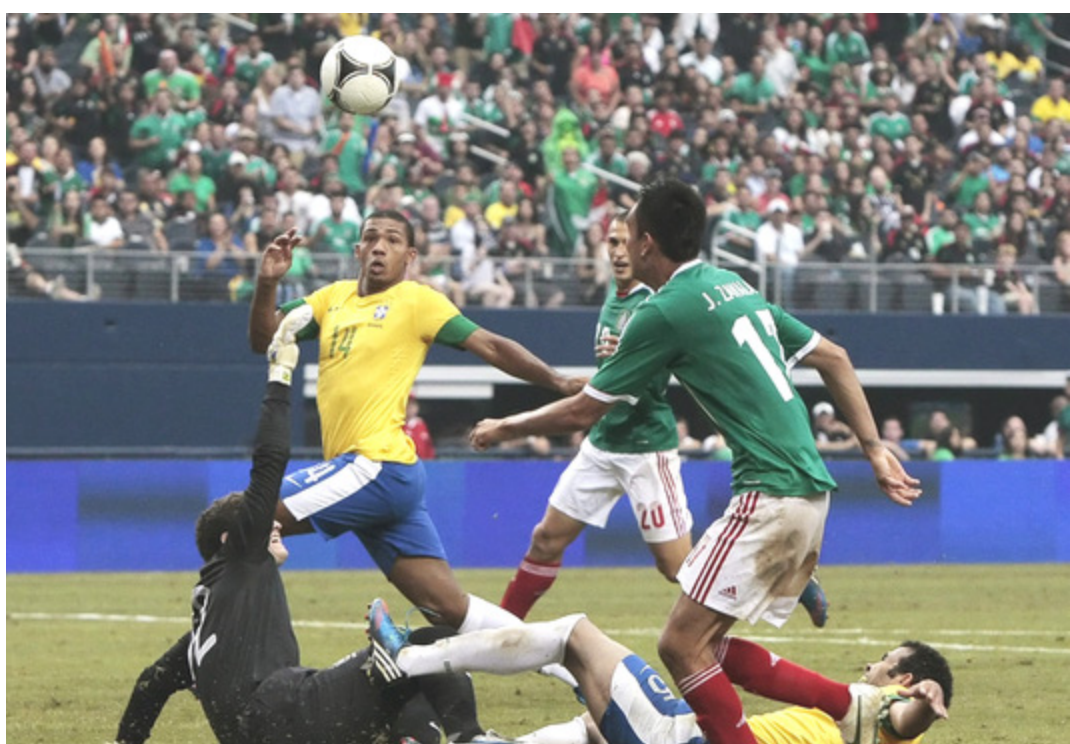
Oswalt faced the cleanup hitter Jeff Baisley and like a seasoned veteran struck him out. The next batter Luis Cruz stepped up to the plate and hit into a double play to end the inning with a double play. The sec-

ond inning Oswalt showed a little more control. He sat down his first two batters and would have had a three up and three down inning, but Brian Cavazos-Galvez reached on an error.

Jos Becker faced Oswalt and hit a ground ball to the shortstop to retire the side. In all Oswalt had 34 pitches and did not allow a run in two innings of work. After he pitched the two innings Oswalt went into the indoor bullpen to pitch for an additional 30 minutes to complete his work for the day.

The Express went on to win the game 3-2 over the Isotopes for their third win in a row. The Express returns to the Dell Diamond on Thursday June 14, for a eight game home stand. During this home stand all games starts at 7:00 CDT.

Mexico Dominates Brazil



Brandon Weir Getty Images Caption Juan (14) attacks the Mexican goal.

By: Terry Davis

The final leg of the Mexican National Soccer team tour against the Brazilian National team was a great success. The Mexicans playing in front of pro Mexican crowd did not disappoint the fans. The crowd of 84,516 was the largest soccer crowd ever

shot on goal past Rafael to score the first goal of the game. Ten minutes later Brazil committed a questionable foul inside the penalty box.

Javier Hernandez scored on the penalty kick to give Mexico a commanding 2-0 lead. Despite being the aggressor in the

had 7 shots on goals to only one by the Mexicans. Brazil had 5 corner kicks in the first half Mexico only had 2.

Alexandre Pato had an opportunity to get Brazil on the board at the 75 minute mark, but miss an open net. Mexico earned the 2-0 win over Brazil and improves their record to 10 wins 21 losses and 6 ties. Brazil's coach Mano Menezes said, "Mexico took advantage of our errors. Our players need to think faster and roll the ball with more agility"

When asked will this be the roster to play in World Cup qualifying, Mexico coach Jose Manuel "Chepo" de la Torre said, "I can rush and this is a preparation time for us. I observe games and what is going on with the players, but I keep waiting for the right time to find the roster.



Fans cheer for their team before the Mexico and Brazil game.

in the state of Texas.

The Brazilians apply pressure in the Mexican defense for the early part of the first half. Most of the first half possessions were played in the Mexican zone. The Mexican defense with stood the offensive pressure of the Brazilian attacks.

Mexico took advantage of Brazil's mistakes. At the 22 minute mark of the first half Giovani Dos Santos was able to angle a

first half, Brazil was in a deep hole. The Brazilians



Mexico (green uniforms) and Brazil participant in opening ceremonies.

Diddy's Son Defends Acceptance of UCLA Football Scholarship

Justin Combs Cites High Grades, Athletic Skill
Sean Combs (l) Justin Combs (R) (Courtesy Photo)

Justin Combs, son of hip-hop mogul Sean "Diddy" Combs, took to Twitter this week to defend his full scholarship to UCLA, which the school confirmed this week. Many in cyberspace are questioning whether the multimillionaire's son should have accepted the \$54,000 football scholarship, given the school's economic troubles.

But the 18-year-old said he earned the scholarship. "Regardless what the circumstances are, I put that work in!!!! PERIOD," he tweeted on May 30. "Regardless of what you do in life every1 is gonna have their own opinion," he tweeted. "Stay focused, keep that tunnel vision & never 4get why u started."

Combs, a 5-foot-9,



Sean "Diddy" Combs and son Justin.

170-pound defensive back, reportedly graduated from New York's New Rochelle Iona Prep with a 3.75 GPA, according to the Los Angeles Times.

UCLA defended its decision, saying Combs' award was not siphoned from need-based scholarships to other students.

Athletic scholarships are "entirely funded by Athletic

Department ticket sales, corporate partnerships, media contracts and private donations" and "do not rely on state funds," university spokesman Ricardo Vazquez told the Times.

"There is a big separation between financial aid based on need and how that's funded and how athletic scholarships are funded and awarded to students," he added.

Historically Black Alcorn State Hires White Football Coach

Special to the NNPA from the Indianapolis Recorder

Alcorn State has hired Jay Hopson as its football coach, making the former Memphis defensive coordinator the first "non-Black" head coach in the history of the Southwestern Athletic Conference, according to the school.

The school announced the hiring Monday, holding a news conference on the lawn of the

school president M Christopher Brown II's home. Hopson, 43, replaces Melvin Spears, who was fired in February after going 2-8 in his only season.

"I don't see Black or white, we're all purple and gold," Hopson told reporters after being introduced.

Hopson said he had withdrawn his name from consideration for the Alcorn State job but Brown convinced him to reconsider.

"Today's historical appointment will require us to walk hand in hand to disrupt naysayers wedded to a racist past," Brown told reporters.

Hopson resigned from Memphis' staff in September 2011. He also has coached at Marshall, Delta State, Southern Mississippi and Michigan. He played defensive back at Mississippi from 1988 to '91.

Information from The Associated Press was used in this report.

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