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June 27, 2014



RAPPIN' Tommy Wyatt

How insensitive can they be?

As the community celebrated Juneteenth by attending the parade on Saturday (June 21), there were the usual floats, marchers, revelers and other activities during the parade. But one thing stood out very vividly. The two people who are running for the highest offices in the State had neither had an African American carrying their banner.

While it was admirable that Wendy Davis and Leticia VanDePutte, candidates for Governor and Lt. Governor respectively, both had banners in the parade, neither had a Black person carrying them. Can they be that clueless? Or is it that they really do not know how to relate to this community.

One of the big issues in the African American community is that of unemployment. It is the highest of any other community. Having at least one member of that community as a representative of your commitment to the community would go a long ways towards building support.

Could it be that neither of these candidates have Black employees among their staffs? Or is it that they expect Black voters to vote for them because they do not have another alternative?

While it may be true that 90%+ of African Americans will probably vote for the Democratic ticket, the question is "how many of them will vote?" The problem is that the traditional voters have stopped voting because neither party seems to be asking for their votes. While spending millions of dollars trying to get every other community to vote for them, there is currently no budget set aside to attract the African American voters to go to the polls.

Texas has been a "Red" (Republican) state for the last 20 years, because the Democratic leadership has gone away from their traditional voters. The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result. It appears that the Democrats are living up to this definition.



Pictured are Huston-Tillotson University Board of Trustees Chair Albert Hawkins, Ada Cecilia Collins Anderson (middle) and the late Sandra Joy Anderson.

Huston-Tillotson University Receives Its Largest Gift—\$3 Million

(AUSTIN, Texas) — Mrs. Ada Cecilia Collins Anderson today presented Huston-Tillotson University with a \$3 million gift—the largest gift in the history of the HT—toward the naming of the Sandra Joy Anderson Community Health and Wellness Center. Following her passion of advocating for and empowering young people and championing educational causes, Anderson, age 92, identified Huston-Tillotson University to continue her legacy. Her career accomplishments include overcoming numerous educational and career injustices while personifying a determined spirit that resulted in leadership roles and the creation of civic organizations to empower African Americans, women, and children.

"As a community

See **ANDERSON**, page 2

Ex-Secretary of State book signing at Book People and Speaking engagement at the Long Center



Clinton

Madam Secretary Hillary Clinton visited Austin, Texas on Friday June 20th for a book signing of her new book "Hard Choices". Secretary Clinton stops were at Book People for the book signing followed by an evening of speaking and Q&A at the Long Center. The former first lady, U.S. senator and secretary of state launched her book tour June 10th in New York City. After appearances in Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Seattle, Los Angeles and Washington. Clinton spent the first half-hour at the Long Center alone on the stage, talking about her book, which is mostly about her international experience as secretary of state.

In the second half of Friday's program, Hillary Clinton engaged in conversation Mark Updegrove, head of LBJ Presidential Library, who asked her about unfolding crisis in Iraq.

Ashwood Retirement & Assisted Living makes large equipment donation to AGE of Central Texas



Ashwood Retirement & Assisted Living made a large donation of durable medical equipment on Friday, June 20th, to AGE of Central Texas for the "Safe Summer" Campaign to provide free loans of medical equipment to area older adults in need. The drive runs through June 30th, and donations of gently-used durable medical equipment – including walkers, wheelchairs, shower benches, etc. – can be dropped off at the AGE

See **FALLS ARE LEADING CAUSE**, page 2

Thompson Takes New Post at U of H

Monica Thompson, NABA Austin Cen-Tex VP of Membership leaves Austin after 24 years to accept a position with the University of Houston. Monica is a native of Houston and product of HISD. She attended Jack Yates High School and graduated from Mirabeau B. Lamar's Business Magnet Program before graduating from Texas State University (formerly Southwest Texas State). Before completing her Master's degree in Human Resources Development at Texas A&M, Monica worked in a variety of roles for 10 years, including human resources, recruiting, retail, and banking. In her most recent role, she served as the Assistant Director of Operations and Student Services at McCombs School of Business for 13 years. Monica has leveraged 20+ years in higher education, recruiting and human resources



Thompson

and is dedicated to developing today's students into tomorrow's leaders. She is passionate about driving student success. During her tenure with NABA Austin Cen-Tex she helped advance NABA's motto – "Lifting As We Climb" by preparing NABA Austin Cen-Tex student chapters at The University of Texas at Austin, Texas State University, Huston-Tillotson University, and St. Edward's University for their success at regional student conferences, developing career and professional development strategies and securing

See **THOMPSON**, page 4

Congratulations Coach Strong & UT Football



UT Football Coach Charlie Strong

By Howard Davis

Be a part of history as the University of Texas Football Longhorns take to the field in 2014. Come be a part of this historical setting in DKR Memorial Football Stadium as we welcome Coach Charlie Strong and his staff to Austin, Texas. They said it could never happen. They said we would never see it in our lifetime. But guess again; it has.

On August 30, 2014 the Texas Longhorn football team will take on North Texas State University at 7:00 p.m. The Longhorn will be led by its new head football coach Charlie Strong, who comes to the University of Texas after a great stint at Louisville University. It

INSIDE



Black-owned businesses unfairly excluded from State contracting. See **REPORT** Page 4



10-ONE candidates utilize city resources for society projects. See **DISTRICT** Page 6



ABF premiers fresh, savory productions. See **FESTIVAL** Page 7

THE COMMUNIQUE

Anderson's Career Filled With Many Firsts

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leader, trailblazer, and champion of civic causes, Mrs. Anderson exemplifies the spirit of the Community Health and Wellness Center which is conceptualized to bring together the community and campus offerings to focus on holistic approaches to health," said HT President and Chief Executive Officer Larry L. Earvin, Ph.D. "We applaud her efforts to rally the community in support of the components of the HT mission."

Anderson graduated from Austin's segregated L.C. Anderson High School. She attended Austin's two predominantly black colleges, Samuel Huston and Tillotson, where she received a degree in home economics in 1941. She also received her master's degree in educational psychology in 1965 from The University of Texas at Austin. While a student at

Samuel Huston, Ada met M. Jack "Andy" Anderson Sr. and they married in 1943 and together became leaders in the civil rights movement and in Austin's African American community. They established the Anderson-Wormley real estate and insurance firm, providing affordable housing that empowered the Central Texas African American community.

Ada Anderson has many firsts in her career such as serving on the Governor's Commission on the Status of Women and as the first African American professional at the Texas Employment Commission during John Connally's term as governor. In 2004, Anderson was awarded the Leadership in Civil Rights Award by the LBJ Library and LBJ School of Public Affairs. The award was created to recognize men and women who helped enhance the



Ada Anderson

rights of all Americans. She also served as an Austin Community College Trustee and Advisory Council member of the UT College of Education Foundation. She served on the Board of Directors of the Girl Scouts, and the Citizen's Advisory Committee of the Travis County Juvenile Board. She was Chair of the Board of Directors for the Laguna Gloria Art Museum, is a founding member of the Austin Lyric Opera, and

Trustee for the Long Center for the Performing Arts. She founded LEAP (Leadership Enriching Arts Program) for African American children who were less fortunate and gave them exposure to the arts. She established the Austin chapter of Jack and Jill, America, Inc., a leadership and service organization; and is a charter member of the Alpha Nu chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

The Andersons had

two children, M. Jack Anderson Jr., who died at 40 in a swimming accident, and Sandra Joy Anderson Baccus, who died at 65 near Atlanta, GA, where she lived and worked. Designating the gift to HT's health and wellness initiative to honor her daughter, continues her legacy. Ada Anderson served as President of the Austin-Travis County Mental Health Association and served on the Saint David's Foundation Board.

Raising the immediate need for African American mental health physicians in Central Texas, HT officials implemented the 21st Century Solutions-Based Listening Tour with a team of medical professionals prepared to address local disparities. The CHWC is planned as a \$35 million complex to serve the medical needs of HT students and faculty, and underserved populations

throughout Central Texas. Ada Anderson's gift supports the University's efforts to raise disparities in mental health care services within the Central Texas African American population as a community issue.

Huston-Tillotson University has partnered with Austin Travis County Integral Care (ATCIC), Austin-Travis County Health and Human Services (HHS), a Federally Qualified Health Clinic (FQHC), and other key stakeholders to provide mental and behavioral health practitioners committed to servicing a diverse population that has been absent of minority caregivers and service providers. In addition, the City of Austin, recognizing the health disparities in Travis County for African American residents, endorsed the HT initiative with a resolution and support.

One of "America's Leading Black Doctors" according to Black Enterprise Magazine, William Lawson, M.D., Professor and Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry at Howard University College of Medicine, led a two-day lecture and dialogue to reinforce the importance of HT's initiative on community health and wellness.

"HT's newly erected Community Health and Wellness Center with its gymnasium, classroom, and health services components will strategically bring together the community and campus offerings to focus on holistic approaches to health—specifically in the areas of recreation, evaluation, education, and human performance. The three pronged approach of patient care, research, and community interventions will significantly improve the environment of care for the minority residents of East Austin," Earvin concluded.

Huston-Tillotson University, Austin's first institution of higher education, offers Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees in 20 areas of study. The historically black university is affiliated with The United Methodist Church and the United Church of Christ.

rectly and be officially sworn-in. Regular training sessions are held the first Tuesday of the month. The next session will be held July 1st, 2014. One-hour sessions that day will be held starting at 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. in the main Travis County Tax Office located at 5501 Airport Blvd., Austin, TX 78751. For more information, please visit us online: www.traviscountytax.org or call (512) 854-9473.

NCOA Says Falls Are Leading Cause of Injuries to Seniors 65 and Over



Ashwood Retirement & Assisted Living makes a large donation of durable medical equipment to AGE of Central Texas for the "Safe Summer" Campaign; (from left) Ashwood Director of Nursing Yenni Abebe, Ashwood Administrator Meg Tesfaye, AGE of Central Texas Executive Director Joyce Lauck, and Ashwood Director of Marketing Melisa Moore-Brower (photo by Rob Faubion).

continued from page 1

Building, located at 3710 Cedar Street at 38th Street, on Monday through Friday from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. On June 27th, donors can stop by for "Donate &

Donuts" from 8:00 am to 10:00 am and enjoy free coffee and donuts when they make their donation.

The AGE Health Equipment Lending Program provides free long-

term loans of durable medical equipment and adult incontinence products to provide safety and independence during daily tasks that can be challenging for seniors with

chronic health conditions. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), one in three seniors suffers a fall each year, and unintentional injuries within the nation's aging population result in at least 6 million medically

treated injuries and more than 30,000 deaths every year.

According to The National Council on Aging (NCOA), falls are the leading cause of both fatal and nonfatal injuries for those aged 65 and older. More than 21,700 older adults die from falls each year, and every 15 seconds, an older adult is seen in an Emergency Department for a fall-related injury. The direct medical cost of falls is currently estimated to top \$36 billion annually and is expected to grow to nearly \$62 billion by 2020.

In 2013, AGE's Health Equipment Lending Program provided more than 2,700 pieces of equipment to 1,219 older adults and adults with disabilities. AGE relies on donations of gently used equipment and monetary donations to purchase new equipment in order to meet this need. For more information, visit www.AGEofCentralTX.org or call (512) 451-4611.

BECOME A VOLUNTEER DEPUTY REGISTRAR! JULY 2014 TRAINING DETAILS ANNOUNCED!

AUSTIN, TX - Help citizens register to vote! Promote voter registration at community events and within your own social networks. Distribute voter registration applications and confirm that all of the applications you provide are completed correctly. Issue an official receipt as proof of registration and deliver applications to the Voter Registrar within five days of completion. Come to a one-hour training session on Tuesday, July 1st, 2014 and register new voters

in Travis County! "Helping citizens register to vote is a rewarding activity that makes a real impact on our community," said Travis County Tax Assessor-Collector and Voter Registrar, Bruce Elfant. How can you become a Volunteer Deputy Registrar (VDR)? To volunteer, you must be age 18 or older and must attend a one-hour training session. During training, you will review the qualifications to become a VDR, learn how to register voters cor-

with melody O Blues
He played that saxophone like
Coming from a black man's soul

AUSTIN'S AFRICAN AMERICAN BOOK FESTIVAL
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This program was made possible in part with a grant from Humanities Texas, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT AABOOKFEST.COM

CHURCH & TOWN BULLETIN

Save the Date for the 2014 Procurement Connection Seminar and EXPO!

Supplier diversity can be beneficial to both the seller and buyer. We invite you to attend the 2014 Procurement Connection Seminar and EXPO to learn about the state government procurement process and maximize your partnership potential.

Learn to Advertise, Build, and Capitalize!

The event will be held on August 12, 2014. Registration is from 7:45 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. The Event will be from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Renaissance Austin Hotel located at 9721 Arboretum Blvd Austin, Texas 78759.

For hotel reservations call 512-343-2626.

You can register online or contact Keisha Gash at 512-463-5894 or Cassandra Johnson at 512-463-4232.

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FEDERAL COURT RULES IN FAVOR OF ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE AND AUSTIN PREGNANCY RESOURCE CENTERS IN FIRST AMENDMENT SHOWDOWN

Declares City of Austin's 'Forced Speech Ordinance' Unconstitutional

AUSTIN, TX – Today, Liberty Institute gained a huge victory in its fight to protect the free speech and religious liberty rights of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Austin, and Austin area Pregnancy Resource Centers (PRCs). In the case Roman Catholic Diocese of Austin et al v. City of Austin, U.S. District Judge Lee Yeakel ruled that the Austin city ordinance targeting the religious life-affirming groups unconstitutional. Finding that the ordinance was void for vagueness, the Court ruled that the City of Austin may not enforce its unconstitutional ordinances against the Diocese and other crisis pregnancy centers. To view the judge's final judgment, follow this link: libertyinstitute.org/file/Austin.FinalJudgment.062314.pdf

In 2012, Liberty Institute challenged the constitutionality of the Austin ordinance that unfairly required PRCs to post a sign at their

front entrances with a false and misleading message about the services that they do not provide. However, pro-abortion facilities providing or facilitating abortions were not required to post signs or disclaimers that reference their services or procedures.

"We are very pleased with today's decision," said Jeff Mateer, general counsel for Liberty Institute. "Our clients' First Amendment Rights to free speech and religious exercise and expression have been upheld according to well-established constitutional law and the great work of these pregnancy resource centers to help women make informed decisions will no longer be hindered."

Liberty Institute represents the Roman Catholic Diocese of Austin and Catholic Charities of Central Texas, who oversee the Gabriel Project Life Center, as well as the Austin Pregnancy Resource Center and the South Austin Pregnancy Resource Center.

Liberty Institute is a national nonprofit legal group dedicated to defending and restoring religious liberty across America – in our schools, for our military and throughout the public arena. Liberty's vision is to re-establish religious liberty in accordance with the principles of our Founding Fathers. For information, visit www.LibertyInstitute.org.

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This life, therefore, is not righteousness, but growth in righteousness; not health, but healing; not being, but becoming; not rest, but exercise. We are not yet what we shall be, but we are growing toward it. The process is not yet finished, but it is going on. This is not the end, but it is the road. All does not yet gleam in glory, but all is being purified.
--- Martin Luther
Romans 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ
Kenneth Hill, Pastor



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TEXAS LOTTERY COMMISSION APPOINTS ALFONSO ROYAL DIRECTOR OF CHARITABLE BINGO

(AUSTIN) – The Texas Lottery Commission's board has appointed Alfonso Royal as Director of the Charitable Bingo Operations Division, where he will oversee the agency's regulation of bingo effective July 7, 2014. In the interim, Debbie Parpounas will continue to serve as Acting Director.

"I am confident that Mr. Royal is the right choice to lead the Charitable Bingo Division," said Texas Lottery Commission Chairman J. Winston Krause. "Mr. Royal brings extensive state government experience along with the strategic planning skills and business process experience that is necessary to lead the agency's Charitable Bingo Division."

Royal is a former Budget and Policy Advisor in the Office of the Governor and has more than 24 years of experience in performing financial duties for non-profits, private businesses and municipal and state government. Prior to this appointment, Royal served as Finance Manager for the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas where he was responsible for the agency's \$300 million annual budget. He previously held positions with the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, the Texas Youth Commission, the Legislative Budget Board and the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Royal received a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from Prairie View A&M University and is a graduate of the Governor's Executive Development Program at the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin and the 2010 Texas Fiscal Officers Academy. The Commission also voted to offer the position of Deputy Director of the Charitable Bingo Operations Division to Parpounas.

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THE COURIER



Tompson to join Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Services

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internship and full time job opportunities.

Additionally, during her two year tenure with NABA Austin Cen-Tex, she has also fostered relationships with several professionals in accounting, business, finance and information by organizing networking events in Austin, Texas. The most successful networking events were the annual Holiday Galas. From these events, nearly \$1600 was raised in donations impacting over 50 local families in program connecting incarcerated parents with their children through delivery of Christmas gifts. Monica carried out the vision of Sheri Marshall, President of NABA Austin Cen-Tex for the joint holiday party with Austin's premier black professional organizations. Organizations sup-



Tompson

ported include:

Austin Alumni Chapter of National Society of Black Engineers (AA NSBE), Black Professional Alliance (BPA), Central Texas Affinity Group (CTAG), Greater Austin Black Chamber of Commerce (GABCC) - National Black MBA Association - Austin Chapter (NBMBA), National Forum of Black Public Administrators (NFBPA)

Monica D. Tompson will join the Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Services as the new Executive Director of University Career Services effective July 7, 2014. University Career Services (UCS) is the full-service career center offering all University of Houston (UH) 40,000 students and alumni resources and assistance in the formulation and implementation of their career plans.

NABA Austin Cen-Tex Chapter is proud of Monica D. Tompson and look forward to her success in Houston. We will miss her and wish her the best!



The H-E-B Austin Symphony 38th Annual July 4th Concert and Fireworks

Circuit of The Americas Austin, TX

Spend this Independence Day with thousands of your closest friends and your Austin Symphony Orchestra at the beautiful Circuit of The Americas (COTA)! While Auditorium Shores is under renovation, COTA has generously offered to host the Austin Symphony Orchestra's July 4th concert and fireworks

9201 Circuit of the Americas Blvd., Austin, TX, 78617 Circuit Of The Americas is a multi-purpose facility that will host the most prestigious racing events in the world, including the Formula 1 United States Grand Prix™. It is the first purpose-built Grand Prix facility in the U.S.

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Circuit of The Americas is ideally situated on a 1000-acre... Show more site in southeast Austin, approximately two miles from Austin Bergstrom International Airport, with scenic views of downtown.



8TH ANNUAL AUSTIN AFRICAN AMERICAN BOOK FESTIVAL

Under the theme "We Have Tomorrow: Black Literature as Inspiration for Change," the 2014 Austin African American Book Festival highlights talents and achievements that have so enriched American history and culture.

To be held Saturday, June 28, 10 am – 4 pm at the Carver Museum and Library (1165 Angelina, Austin, Texas), the festival lineup includes two distinguished writers whose works depict legendary figures in American sport, politics and literature.

MacArthur Fellow Dr. Arnold Rampersad will deliver the 2014 keynote. His biography subjects include trailblazers like Arthur Ashe and Jackie Robinson, as well as literary icons W. E. B. DuBois, Langston Hughes and Ralph Ellison. Rampersad is a professor at Stanford and a winner of the National Humanities Medal.

The festival is free and open to the public. For more information visit www.aabookfest.com.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN STUDENT TO RECEIVE \$10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FROM AKA'S EDUCATIONAL ADVANCEMENT FOUNDATION



Benjamin

Chicago, Illinois - Christian Benjamin, a promising University of Texas at Austin student who has risen above early health challenges and is now on track to earn a degree in Mechanical Engineering, will receive a \$10,000 President's Scholarship from Alpha Kappa Alpha's Educational Advancement Foundation, Inc The presentation will be made by the Foundation's president, Attorney Carolyn House Stewart, during EAF's luncheon on Tuesday, July 15 in Charlotte, NC. The luncheon and presentation are one of the highlights of the Sorority's 66th biennial convention that takes place July 12-18. Over 11,000 members are expected to attend the conference.

Benjamin, currently a sophomore, is majoring, and planning to earn a degree, in Mechanical Engineering and pursue a career in the field after graduation. He boasts a 3.5 Grade Point Average.

Christian has achieved academic success in spite of early health challenges. He was born with a hole in his heart and with one kidney, which required surgery when he was an infant. Undeterred, he has been diligent and resilient in focusing on realizing his dream of educational and professional success.

Christian's dedication and commitment to reach his goals have earned him numerous accolades, scholarships and recognitions. He was a recipient of the Advocates USA Arthur McClure Scholarship as a freshman. He is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the Camp Texas organization, which is part of the Texas Exes Alumni Foundation. As testimony to the value the University places on him, he works as a Camp Texas Counselor.

DDCE @ UT



UT Austin Division of Diversity and Community Engagement Shares Stories of Integration with the Launch of the As We Saw It Project

The Division of Diversity and Community Engagement (DDCE) is committed to creating spaces and cultivating conversations that support an inclusive and diverse campus community. These efforts are vital and timely, as the country engages in important conversations on civil rights and renegotiates institutional and political practices of equality, fairness and access. The University of Texas at Austin (UT Austin) with the help of DDCE is proud to be a part of the dialogue, and in some ways, leading the conversation.

Starting this June, DDCE will elevate the conversation through the launch of *As We Saw It: The Story of Integration at The University of Texas at Austin*. With the help of long-time Austin resident and writer Louise Iscoe and the Precursors—the first African American students to attend UT Austin—every month we will post a new segment on the history of integration with stories about the African-American students, faculty and others who demonstrated courage and convictions that helped shape UT Austin into the institution it is today.

Although DDCE's primary focus is on the future of equality, access, and social justice, we cannot forget the past as it plays a vital role in informing our future. John Lewis said it best at this year's monumental LBJ Civil Rights Summit, "we can't re-remember things incorrectly, or past hurts and misguidances will continue to lead us." Such words are ever important given the Fisher v. University of Texas case and the social and academic ramifications that will result when a final decision is made. DDCE is committed to helping document these oral histories and sharing these significant stories to encourage reflection and evoke forward movement.

Visit *As We Saw It* for monthly stories, photo galleries and updates here: <http://ddce.utexas.edu/integration/>. For questions or feedback, email Managing Editor, Virginia A. Cumberbatch at vcumberbatch@austin.utexas.edu.

Black Business Owners See Obstacles to Growth in Texas, Report Says



From left to right - Senator Royce West, TAAACC Chairperson Jim Wyatt, report co-author Bruce Kellison, and University of Texas at Austin President Bill Powers stand in front of the Texas State Capitol building during a press conference highlighting details of a BBR report on the plights of Texas black-owned businesses. Photo credit: Angela Wyatt/Villager

AUSTIN, Texas — The number of black-owned businesses in Texas is growing, but the firms remain small in comparison to other Texas businesses, and their owners perceive significant barriers to growth and profitability, according to a new report from the Bureau of Business Research at The University of Texas at Austin.

Based on census data and a survey of black business owners, the report shows the number of black-owned businesses in Texas is growing faster than the state average for all businesses. The state saw a 74 percent jump in the number of black-owned businesses between 2002 and 2007, compared with a 25 percent rise in the number of Texas businesses overall during the same period.

But the vast majority (95 percent) of black-owned businesses in Texas have no paid employees other than the owner. In sales and number of employees, black-owned businesses lagged behind state averages. In 2007, the average black-owned business had 10 employees and \$60,000 in sales, while the average Texas business had 23 employees and \$1.2 million in sales.

In their survey responses, a majority of black business owners indicated they felt they had the education and skills needed to succeed. They saw room for improvement in the areas of political access and contracting opportunities.

A majority of those surveyed (76 percent) said they perceive black-owned businesses to have less access than other firms to government decision makers who influence procurement opportunities. A majority of survey respondents also believed that black-owned businesses were unfairly excluded from taking part in contracting opportunities with government (63 percent) and the private sector (70

percent).

"The survey showed a strong need among black business owners for more financial training and increased access to working capital," said report co-author Bruce Kellison of the Bureau of Business Research. "Many of our survey respondents have businesses in the service sector, a growing segment of the state and national economy. But their firms have difficulty scaling and remain smaller than the average Texas business. As a state, we must work together to address their needs for financial training, better access to capital, and increased contracting opportunities, all of which appear to be constraining this growing and vital part of our economy."

"We are grateful to the Texas Association of African American Chambers of Commerce for collaborating with us on this important survey," said university President Bill Powers. "A better understanding of the obstacles faced by black business owners will help the association, and all of us across the state, formulate strategies to create a healthier economy for all Texans."

The Bureau of Business Research, part of the IC² Institute at The University of Texas at Austin, surveyed 914 black-owned businesses across the state. Additional survey findings dealt with: Access to capital: More than 50 percent of the respondents had never applied for a business loan and almost 20 percent had applied but never received one, while 28 percent had received business loans. Perceptions of profitability: In general, respondents believed their businesses were less profitable than their peers in the same industry, a perception that was especially strong among nonemployer firms. Training needs: Accounting and finance were seen as the top training needs.

COLLECTED PRÉCIS

Rhythm & Ribs Festival

2:00pm.

Mayor Allen McGraw gave an opening welcome an hour later, and then the Les & The Funk Mob, who are fast becoming a staple at such events, continued with their musical stylings. The Funk Mob provided many old school selections that brought soulful sounds to the atmosphere. They got the audience amped up with their engaging performances.

Other musical performances were weaved into the occasion.

While people celebrated, enjoyed the music and socialized, they also stepped up to screening opportunities and information dispersal at the health fair, tested their courage on carnival rides,

played various games like Jazzopoly and more.

Food vendors provided non-barbeque styled fare, and clowns added their own color and flavor to the fete.

The Round Rock Police Department and the U.S. Armed Forces also had a presence at the event, with a focus toward kid-friendly activities.

Juneteenth commemorates the day in 1865 when Texans received a belated notice that all slaves were free and the Civil War was over. Amongst other things, the event incorporates self-development ideals and an atmosphere of multi-cultural respect. Admission and parking for this event were free.

Free Minds Writing Program Accepting Applications

By Shirley A. Hammond

The Free Minds Program is accepting applications for their Fall semester. The deadline is fast approaching. Students in the course get an opportunity to improve their writing, communication and critical thinking skills. The two-semester college class is taught by UT and ACC faculty, and students who complete the program earn six college credits from the community college. It is a program of Foundation Communities, and has offered those with low to moderate income the chance to explore and expand their educational horizons.

Vive Griffith, who is in her 7th year with the program, explained that after they receive the application candidates have to participate in a one-on-one interview.

"Who we are looking for are adults who are smart and motivated and are looking for a bridge back into the classroom." The Director said that, in addition to the classes, students get a chance to do readings, go see a Shakespeare play, visit a museum and do other community-related events.

The classes meet two times per week and feature humanities coursework, in what Griffith described as seminar style. "It's a small classroom," she added, while mentioning that they offer lots of individualized tutoring and assistance.

Qualifying students must be at least 18 and can not already hold a college degree. Some can receive free tuition, books, meals and childcare; if they meet financial qualifications.

The first session is a mid-August orientation. They are recruiting for their 9th year of classes.

Griffith mentioned that different causes may contribute to people's decision to give Free Minds a try. "Maybe they've tried school and stopped going for any number of reasons." She said many people are seeking a comfortable and supportive environment with other adults. In the past, the life stories and experience of the participant has varied. Griffith said this past term they had someone in their 60's to successfully complete the program.

"We've had people

as young as 21," she stated, and said most students have been in their 30's and 40's.

"Just this year a student from our 2011 class completed her Bachelors degree at St. Edwards." As Griffith explained it, she was pregnant with her third child when she took the Free Minds class. She worked full-time, went to St. Edwards and raised her three kids after completing the Free Minds Program. After completing her degree (Magna Cum Laude), she was promoted at Communities in School, where she started out as a receptionist. Now she is a para-coordinator working with families, in her dream job.

Griffith stated, "She was proof of the power of a degree." She said this student told them that Free Minds was what got her back into the classroom and gave her the confidence to go for her degree.

The application deadline is July 7. An online application is available at FreeMindsAustin.org or those interested can call for a mailed application or for more information at (512) 610-7961.

38th Annual Austin Symphony HEB July 4th Concert & Fireworks

July 4, 2014 8:30 PM @
Circuit of The Americas

Free parking in COTA Lot F. Opens @ 3 p.m.
Up-close parking available on Lots H & A for \$10.
Gates open and COTA activities begin @ 4 p.m.
Lawn seating is open to the public on a first
come, first serve basis



MAKE A WINNING IMPRESSION!

We invite you to attend:
**Texas Lottery Commission Annual
Historically Underutilized Business Forum**

Location:

Texas Lottery Commission | 611 East 6th Street | Austin, Texas

Tuesday, July 15, 2014 | 1:00 pm – 4:30pm

The forum will provide a brief overview of the TLC's HUB program, procurement processes, and Mentor Protégé initiatives. The highlight of this event will be roundtable networking sessions with Lottery Commission staff and a number of our key contractor representatives. **Roundtable assignments will be made on a first-come, first-serve basis on the day of the forum.**

The TLC HUB Forum is FREE of charge!

Register on-line on or before 7/11/14 at: www.txlottery.org/hub

For more information contact:

Joyce Bertolacini, HUB Coordinator: (512) 344-5293 or joyce.bertolacini@lottery.state.tx.us



CITY ~ STATE ~ NATIONAL ~ WORLD

Juneteenth Celebration & Voter Registration

by Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

Juneteenth marks the day in which the Federal soldiers landed in Texas to inform African Americans slaves that they were free from slavery. Therefore, Juneteenth is the day of festivity and celebration of freedom from years of slavery. In Austin Texas, the Juneteenth event is celebrated at Rosewood Park in East Austin.

Not only should Juneteenth be a day of celebration, but it should be a day in which Africans Americans and others get involved in their communities. Therefore, the group "Diaspora Vote" held a voter registration day during and after the Juneteenth celebration. Moreover, the point of the voter registration was to register new voters and



Chantal Eldridge and Joyce Bell Richardson at Austin's Annual 2014 Juneteenth Park Celebration. Photo by Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

also to inform the attendees about the upcoming

Austin City Council elections.

According to the "Diaspora Vote group", their voter registration drive was a success. Ac-

ording to Chantal a member of the group and who also plans to run for Judge in 2016 mentioned, "There is still some voter confusion and misinformation. For instance, one person asked me how much it cost to register." As a result, there is still a lot of work to be done.

Furthermore, the group attributes their success to the strong sponsors who helped them purchase a table at the Juneteenth celebration. Royal Balloons and Cakes who can be reached at (972)666-8120, was a sponsor. Other sponsors included Ed Scruggs (a candidate for Austin City Council District 8); Andrew Bucknall (Austin City Council District 1); Dona Avery Tablizi; Chris Osborn (a candidate for House District 52); and Diane Henson who is running for the 3rd Court of Appeals.

Ann Kitchen for District 5

by Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon



Ann Kitchen

During the past week, Ann Kitchen announced her intention to run in the Austin City Council, District 5. This District 5 runs from "South of the Colorado river to the boundary line of Hays County". Therefore, Austin District 5 has a mix of urban and rural settings. Furthermore, it drags along Lamar Drive.

Ann Kitchen has been on the scene of the Austin community for about 20 years. During these 20 years, Ann Kitchen served on the Texas Legislature as a State House of Representative. Therefore, she has direct experience on government matters.

Ann Kitchen will be facing two other candidates running for Austin City Council, District 5. If elected, Ann stated, "I plan to stand up for the public, and to bring people together to solve difficult community problems."

Ann has focused her attention on solving Austin's traffic issues, and vowed to ensure South Austin has a greater voice in mobility planning. "I'm prepared to be that voice," Kitchen said

Katrina Daniels for District 4

by Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon



Katrina Daniels

intention to run for the Austin City Council, District 4. District 4 is located around the Rundberg area of Austin, Texas. It has one of the highest concentrations of immigrants. Moreover, District 4 is one of the most contested seats.

In addition, Katrina Daniels is a registered emergency nurse, who has work experience in both the Texas Legislature and the State agencies. Furthermore Katrina Daniels has lived in Austin for the past 18 years. Over the years, she has served as the Neighborhood President of her area and now is the Vice-chair of the Austin Health District.

Katrina Daniels has a good resume but, will have to face other challenges in District 4. So far, Laura Pressley, Sharon Mays, Monica Guzman, Roberto Perez, Marco Mancillas and Katrina Daniels plan to run for Austin City Council District 4.

On June 21, Katrina Daniels announced her

REMINDER:

There are still many opportunities to learn more and have your questions answered about Project Connect and the Proposed 1st Phase of Urban Rail. If you cannot make it to one of the events below, we have added an Online Open House option: <http://projectconnect.com/get-connected-email-updates>.

Traffic congestion in Austin costs everyone time and money, diminishes our quality of life, and continues to increase as Central Texas grows.

Capital Metro, the City of Austin, CAMPO, the Lone Star Rail District, and other partners are working together to improve long-term mobility and accessibility, support local and regional growth objectives, and meet community needs.

To learn more about Project Connect and the Urban Rail recommendation, please join us at any of the following neighborhood open houses, and visit projectconnect.com to stay informed.

- Saturday June 28, 11AM - 3PM - Microsoft Store at the Domain, 3309 Esperanza Crossing
- Sunday June 29, 10AM - 2PM - Mueller Farmers Market, 2007 Mueller Central Dr
- Tuesday July 1, 5PM - 8PM - Gus Garcia Recreation Center, 1201 E Rundberg Ln
- Saturday July 12, 1PM - 5PM - Circle C HOA Building, 7817 La Crosse Ave
- Saturday July 19, 9AM - 1PM - Sunset Valley Farmers Market, 3200 Jones Road
- Saturday July 26, 9AM - 1PM - Barton Creek Mall Farmers Market, 2901 S Capital of Texas Hwy

LEGAL NOTICE

These Texas Lottery Commission Scratch-Off games will be closing soon:

Game #	Game Name / Odds	\$	Official Close of Game	End Validations Date
1520	\$1,000,000 Jackpot Overall Odds are 1 in 2.88	\$20	7/18/14	1/14/15
1624	Scoop the Cash Overall Odds are 1 in 4.52	\$1	8/27/14	2/23/15
1614	On the Money Overall Odds are 1 in 4.38	\$2	8/27/14	2/23/15
1579	Hearts on Fire Overall Odds are 1 in 3.70	\$5	8/27/14	2/23/15

For detailed odds and game information, visit txlottery.org or call 1-800-37LOTTO. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. The Texas Lottery supports Texas education. © 2014 Texas Lottery Commission. All rights reserved.



CLASSIFIEDS ~ PUBLIC INFORMATION

SUMMER LEARNING LOSS: LOW-INCOME STUDENTS LOSE 2 MONTHS OF ACHIEVEMENT, WHILE MIDDLE-INCOME PEERS MAKE SLIGHT GAINS

A national advocacy day to increase awareness of summer learning to help students close achievement gaps



EMPLOYMENT PROPOSALS PUBLIC INFORMATION FOR SALE FOR RENT BIDS MISCELLANEOUS

ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE FOR REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

Travis County Integral Care (ATCIC) is currently seeking applications through an open enrollment for a Request for Application (RFA) for YES waiver services. Applications must be received by Integral Care no later than 5 p.m. on July 3, 2014. Please download the link to access the RFA, and follow the submission instructions. - <http://www.integralcare.org/content/requests-applications-and-proposals>

If you have any questions regarding the RFA, please send an email to Providers@atcic.org.

Austin Community College District is requesting bids from qualified firms for services to provide a Sustainable Agricultural Lab on the ACC Elgin Campus.

Invitation for Bids No. 912-14023RW
All bids must be submitted to the Purchasing Department by no later than 2:00 p.m., Central Time, on July 17, 2014.

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on June 27, 2014; at 9:00am at the ACC Elgin Campus, Main Building, Room 1226.

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

ACC offices will be closed for the Fourth of July holiday.

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



We want YOU! Advertise With The VILLAGER

NOW HIRING

Patient Access/Registrar positions at St. David's South Austin Medical Center Check In and interviews patients for demographics and collection of copay/deductible. Must be available weekend, weekdays, daytime, evening, and overnight hours. \$12.00-\$15.00/hour. Send resume to Beverly.McFarland@Parallon.com Parallon is an Equal Opportunity Employer (EOE), Minority/Female/Veteran/Disabled.



New Jobs for the Week of 6/22/2014
Assistant, Student Services
Riverside Campus
Monday 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.,
Tuesday-Friday
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.,
Saturday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
\$2,256-\$2,820/Monthly
Job# 1406015
Cashier
Multiple Locations
Monday-Friday,
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
\$1,949-\$2,436/Monthly
Job# 1406018
Faculty, Diagnostic Medical
Imaging-Radiology
Eastview Campus
Hours as assigned: Must maintain an established schedule. Some positions may also include evenings and weekends.
Salary is assigned according to the Full-Time Faculty Salary Scale
Job# 1406011
Specialist, Advising/Student Services
Eastview Campus
Monday-Friday,
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.,
some evening and weekend hours
\$2,879-\$3,599/Monthly
Job# 1406013
Apply at HR
Middle Fiskville Rd.
6th Floor, Austin, TX 78752
Job Line (512) 223-5621
<http://www.austincc.edu>
EEOC/AA/M/F/D/V

Austin – Learning is not just for school time anymore. That is if students want to retain their skills and knowledge during the summer break and not fall behind at the start of the next school year. According to the National Summer Learning Association (NSLA) “most students lose about two months of grade level equivalency in mathematical computation skills over the summer months. Low-income students also lose more than two months in reading achievement, despite the fact that their middle-class peers make slight gains.” Common findings across numerous studies is clear: students need to engage in summer learning and activities not to lose ground.

So, what are these activities? As it turns out, these are activities that many families already en-

gage in such as summer family trips, time at libraries and museums, a summer reading list for their children, and enrolling their kids in various enriching summer camps. These activities do more than fill the time during summer months. They are proven strategies to help students retain their skills and knowledge base, and continue to learn during crucial years of schooling. However, these activities require investment of time and/or money and may not be easily available to families. Laura Koenig, School Readiness Director for E3 Alliance puts it in perspective, “For all children it is critical to keep learning going all year long. Without exposure to enriching and engaging activities, children head back to school in the fall catching –up instead of moving forward. It espe-

cially impacts our low income population because families have less disposable income for camps, museums or vacations. Children don't have access to the types of activities that would boost learning and support optimum development. Our hope is that our region can support learning year round for all students.”

The 2014 Summer Learning Day on Friday, June 20th is a national effort to raise the awareness around this challenge in our communities and to showcase some of the initiatives that are currently serving all of our students. Melanie Moore, the Executive Director at KDK-Harman Foundation is putting the focus on STEM education for students, “Summer Learning Loss has been shown to be a significant factor in the achievement gap between

economically disadvantaged youth and their affluent peers. In an effort to ‘stem’ the summer learning loss in our Central Texas schools, the KDK-Harman Foundation is focused on growing the number and quality of summer STEM programs accessible to low socio-economic K-12 populations. It is much easier to get students to read for pleasure during the summer, thus keeping up their reading skills, than it is to get them to do math and science on their own. This is why engaging them with informal STEM learning opportunities is so very important during the summer.”

Austin is one of the cities participating the Summer Learning Day celebration. For more information on the activities in Austin visit: http://www.summerlearning.org/?page=summer_learning_day.

The 2014 American Black Film Festival By Dwight Brown, NNPA Film Critic

In 18 years, the American Black Film Festival has migrated from Acapulco, Mexico, to Los Angeles to Miami and now New York City. The locations have varied; the mission to bring African heritage films to audiences has not.

The 2014 festival started with the Big Apple's premier of Think Like a Man Too, and ended with the first screening of the new Spike Lee horror movie Da Sweet Blood of Jesus. In between, the festival hosted a bevy of panels, acting boot camps, master classes and workshops at the Metropolitan Pavilion on West 18th Street. The screenings took place at the School of Visual Arts (SVA) Theater

on West 23rd Street.

Blackbird (**)—This well-intentioned coming-of-age gay Black movie is set in rural Mississippi and burdened by an over-dramatic treatment. The sappy all-over-the-place script (Rikki Beadle Blair, Patrick-Ian Polk), with stilted dialogue and preposterous dramatic moments, is an impediment. Its unsettling mixture of religion and gay pride, certainly a new brew, never rings true. Oscar-winner Mo'Nique plays an angst-ridden mother and Isaiah Washington is an understanding pro-gay dad; neither is believable. The savvy young cast (Julian Walker, Kevin Allesee, Gary LeRoi Gray, Torrey



Zaraah Abrahams stars in 'Da Sweet Blood of Jesus' which premiered at ABFF 2014.

Laamar, Nikki Jane) will go on to bigger and better projects; they are the film's saving grace.

Da Sweet Blood of Jesus (***)—Spike Lee, the old guard of Black indie filmmaking, gets his mojo back with this classy, urbane vampire art film that is a beauty to behold (cinematography, art direction, set design, costumes) and a joy to listen to (gospel, jazz, soul, pop). Dr. Hess Greene (Stephen Tyrone Williams) is a blood-addicted rich man who alternates his time between a swank New York apartment and a tony house in Martha's Vineyard. He's smitten with the tough-talking British wife (Zaraah Abrahams) of a victim, and the two are obsessed with hemoglobin. Kudos to the very heady, tense and sensual script: edgy dialogue, unique characters, rampant sexuality, romance and an unfathomable storyline. If the film gets cut by 5-15 minutes it would be Lee's most gripping and evocative – ever.

Hard Time Bus (**)—The cast in this soap-operaish British melodrama must be moonlighting from a Shakespearean theater company. They have perfect diction, la-

ser-focus and great acting chops, which are wasted in a meandering relationship film. Mark (Neil Reidman) is having troubles with his lady-friend Denise (Naomi Ryan), whom he would like to marry. He gets caught up in his friends' lovers quarrels, misunderstandings and other far-fetched machinations – veering off his own course. The script (Owen Mowatt) is very talky with long, drawn-out scenes that are far more suited for a theater piece than a movie. Dean Charles, in his directing debut, displays a promising talent.

Una Vida (**)—In New Orleans, a neuroscientist (Joaquim de Almeida), haunted by images of his mother, a victim of Alzheimer's, transfers his love for her to an old street singer (Aunjanue Ellis, Men of Honor) who suffers from the same disease. Viewing the neighborhoods in the Big Easy is far more engaging than the storyline of this heavy-handed, snail-paced message movie. The beautiful cinematography keeps you engaged when the script lets you down. Bill Cobbs, Ruth Negga (World War Z) and Andre Royo (The Wire) also star, but Ellis steals all the scenes.



City of Austin Featured Job Opportunities

The City of Austin is currently seeking qualified applicants for the following positions:

- * Distribution Electrician II or III
- * 911 Call Taker Trainee- Multiple Positions (Temp. – Fulltime)
- * Mail Services Clerk Senior
- * Engineer A
- * Program Specialist (Library)
- * LIFEGUARD
- * Administrative Assistant (Library)
- * Plumber I
- * Austin Energy Quality/Compliance Program Manager
- * Parks - Desk Attendant (2 Temporary, Part Time Openings)
- * Park Entry Cashier (Emma Long Park) 5 openings
- * Athletic Officials/Score Keepers (20 PT Openings)

Please visit the City of Austin employment website at www.austincityjobs.org to view requirements and apply for these and other job opportunities. We encourage you to check the employment website often as new job opportunities are posted daily. If you have any questions or need assistance, please call 512-974-3210 or email us at employment.services@austintexas.gov. The City of Austin is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



City of Austin Purchasing Office

The City of Austin Purchasing Office invites you to view current bid solicitations at https://www.ci.austin.tx.us/financeonline/vendor_connection/solicitation/solicitations.cfm. 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.austintexas.gov/smbr>.

PROGRAMS ~ AWARENESS

JUNETEENTH HIGHLIGHTS



H.E.B.



2014 Little Miss Juneteenth

Photos by Angela Wyatt



Austin All-Star Band Dancers



Wells Fargo & Company



Austin Police Department & Blue Santa



Central Texas Buffalo Soldiers lead 2014 Juneteenth parade



Austin Fire Department



Central Texas Boy Scouts

THANK YOU MR. OTT and MR. McDONALD



We the Students who are attending the 2014 college tour would like to say THANK YOU to, Austin City Manager Marc Ott and Deputy City Manager Michael McDonald for supporting and sponsoring our 2014 college tour.

Under their leadership, more than 800 Fine Arts students from middle and high schools throughout Austin have had the opportunity to participate in educational college trips and showcase their talents at colleges and universities throughout the U.S.A. Our fellow students also had the opportunity to experience places, for most of them for the first time, like the Grand Canyon, The White House, The US Capital Chamber, where Congressman Lloyd Doggett introduced them on the house floor, The Hoover Dam, to swim the Gulf of Mexico, the Pacific as well as the Atlantic oceans. They also had the experience of staying in a college dorm room at California State University, Dominguez Hills and even a visit Disney World.



YOU HAVE ENRICHED US ALL WITH YOUR LEADERSHIP