GOLDEN APPLE AWARD PROGRAM HONORS SEVEN EDUCATORS

The Austin (Texas) - Seven outstanding Austin area educators were recently honored by Al- pha Kappa Sigma Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., at their Golden Apple Award Program. Seven local educators were selected in congruence with honoring the legacy of the seven, young musical teachers who were the sorority’s founders. Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. was organized on November 12, 1922, on the campus of Butler University, Indianapolis, Indiana. The Golden Apple Award Program was the culminating event for the chapter’s community service activities during Founder’s Week, and was held in the magnificent edifice of St. James M.B.C., in Austin.

The 2018 Golden Apple Award Program honored included men and women, and each person has a distinguished career in the field of education.

Mr. Jon Bailey is the principal at Manor H.S. Previously, he served as an Assistant Principal of Decker M.S., Assistant Principal at Manor M.S., and 9th Grade Principal at Manor H.S. In these roles, Mr. Bailey provided administrative support to instructional programs, assisted with the implementation of a campus wide attendance committee, including policies and procedures for dropout prevention, and served as an advocate during student transfer from middle school to high school. He used his musical talent to serve as a Drumline Instructor, for 10 years, with multiple extracurricular programs at various schools in Pflugerville, Austin, and Manor.

Mrs. Aligene M. Akins Craig (Posthumously) was the first black elementary school librarian in Texas and organized the Blackshear Public Library’s Oral History Program. Mrs. Akins Craig was instrumental in securing historical markers for Becner B.E., First B.C., Wesley U.M.C., and Mt. Zion ISD, and provides leadership and oversight for the district’s 18 middle schools. She helps to ensure that all middle school students demonstrate high academic achievement, while developing confidence and character to succeed in high school and beyond. During his tenure as a teacher, he led Manor H.S.’s, his district became the second principal to receive a “sustainability” rating from the Texas Education Agency. In Round Rock ISD, his middle school was selected as a National Blue-Ribbon School, and in Pflugerville ISD, his campus achieved a “Recognized Rating” from the Texas Education Agency.

Mr. Roland Hayes, a Professor of U.S. History and the Director of the African American Cultural Center at Austin Community College’s Eastview campus. With over 40 years of experience in education, he has written on African American history for a variety of publications, including the Texas State Historical Association and The Handbook of Texas. Additionally, his interview with the late, Honorable Barbara Jordan is a part of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library’s Oral History Collection.

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The two worlds of poverty and aristocracy bond through depression and isolation

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PUBLIC NOTICE

DRAINAGE CHARGE MAY CHANGE IN FEBRUARY FOR SOME AUSTIN RESIDENTS

The City of Austin is updating the impervious cover data used to calculate the drainage charge. In about 85% of cases, this will result in a change of less than $1 per month. For others, there will be a decrease.

Use the "Find My Drainingage Charge" tool on our website to get an estimate of your drainage charge.

The drainage charge pays for drainage projects and programs to help with flooding, erosion and water pollution.

For billing questions, call 512-445-9400.

For more information on drainage charges, visit www.austintexas.gov/drainagecharge
Democrats set to seize House on multiple fronts

From a page of the New Lincoln Missionary Baptist Church


Continued from page 2

make the border any safer. “The partisanship, rancor and dysfunctions of the Trump shutdown is exactly what voters rebuked in November,” the second-term lawmaker of Colorado, a new leader of the freshman class, in the Democrats’ weekly address. “And that is why on Jan. 3, when the newly-elected Democratic House majority arrives, we will bring the hope, vision and goals of effective governance back to the forefront.”

But with Trump dug in over the $5 billion he wants to build the wall, the shutdown could drag on. Senate Republicans are reluctant to consider the House bills unless they know the president is on board. And Trump has signaled he’s in no hurry to end the shutdown, believing it will impair the Demo- 

crats’ new House majority.

Democrats are eager to move forward in the House on multiple fronts. They're set to approve a rules package on Thursday that sets a new tone for governing. For example, it requires that legislation first be consid- ered in committees before bills are brought to the floor.

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Budukusu Celebrates with Austin’s African Soccer Association

Budukusu played to have such a musical awards. Has been considered for Best World Music and Reggae artiste, rapper songwriter, hip-hop and naian musician, annual End of the Year Texas hosted their annual Association of Central 2018, the African Soccer

Howard

The African Soccer Association

On December 29, 2018, the African Soccer Association of Central Texas hosted their annual End of the Year event. Budukusu played songs; Road Block, Africa

Howard

As a part of the Blu-C Delta Project, James Talarico of Williamson County was elected to the Texas State House. Over the years, Williamson County has become known as the “purple” county. In other words, Williamson County becomes a battleground in which both parties have an opportunity to make factors as such; the influx of new residents and Coasts which encompassed their history and culture. In addition, attending the opportunity to purchase items from various vendor present at the event, like Ozi Jewelry.

The event kicked off with a historical explanation of Kwanzaa by Doris

As of how Kwanzaa was started and the role it plays within the African American community. According to CNN, “This is an event that was meant to unite both the African American and African Diaspora Communities of Phlugglever, Texas and celebrate togeth.” Consequently, the program focused on African American and various cultural and historical experiences.

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which are publicly efforts, said in a pre-

the Walton Family

ganizations such as the

mainstream national or-

from grassroots groups

prominent and like-

financial support to

ment, is spreading its fi-

charter school move-

supporters of America's

community.

advocates and influen-
tune have been working

Walmart company for-
dents, the heirs to the

are good for Black stu-

of the season.

head coach—out of just

became the fifth Black

Bengals'

ball season. Many Twit-

Black head coaches at

with the firing of five

head coach firings, took

ter the season when

League, the first day af-

National Football

Black Monday in the

www.theaustinvillager.com

"Those closest to

curbed.

have demanded charter

also among those that

Matter movement is

issues. The Black Lives

in their communities, a

segregation, inconsis-
tent student outcomes,

federal data, but the rise

students as of 2015-16,

Black enrollment in char-

Black populations, in-

in urban areas with large

while some Black

leaders see charters as a

safer, better alternative in

their communities, a
d ref old of opinion was

by a 2016 call for a moratorium on

charters by the NAACP; a

a lifetime that expressed concerns about

school privatization, transpar-

acy and accountability issues. The Black Lives

Matter movement is

also among those that

have demanded charter school

bureaucracy. When NAACP lead-
ers gathered to discuss

charters in 2016, a group of

demonstrators led the

Cincinnati hotel to com-

plain to police that they

were trespassing.

The three busses that brought

the 150 Black parents from

Pennsylvania on the

14-hour road trip were

provided by The Mem-

phis Lift, an advocacy
group that has received

$1.5 million from the

Walton foundation since

2015.

Deidra Brooks,

chief of staff for The

Memphis Lift, said they

were not asked by Walton

to carry out the protest and declined to

say how much of their

budget came from the

foundation. The startup

advocacy group secured

by Walton money also

provides parents school

choice counseling and

advocacy training.

Like U.S. Education

Secretary Betsy DeVos,

Microsoft co-founder

Bill Gates and many

other deep-pocketed

billionaire philanthro-

pists, the Walton heirs — one of America’s rich-

est school charter

educators, and the

NAACP, an advocacy

organization, the

NAACP's education di-

versity, said the Walton

foundation sponsored a

conference for the Na-

ional Urban League. The

conference was

endorsed by Walton

money and posted on

the NAACP's website.

"It's a sad thing that

we've seen push back from people in general, but

that goes with privatization. The forces of

pluralism are pow-

erful and have an almost

diverse of sorts, said

Vicent Goode, the

NAACP's education di-

rector.

Are you interested in doing business with the City of Austin? We are here for you! City of Austin Purchasing Office Vendor Registration 512-974-2018 VendorReg@austintexas.gov For information on the City of Austin’s Minority/Women-Owned Procurement Program please contact the Small & Minority Business Resources line at 512-761-0769 or visit austintexas.gov/smb
IN MEMORIAM: Cigars and Whiskey – America’s Oldest Veteran, Richard Arvin Overton, Dies at 112

By Lauren Victoria Burke | NNPA Newswire Contributor

On Monday, Dec. 27, 2018, America’s oldest living veteran, Richard Arvin Overton, died at the age of 112. Overton retired from the U.S. Army on September 3, 1940 at Fort Sam Houston in Texas. Overton then fought in World War II, serving in the all-black 1887th Engineer Aviation Battalion. He fought in the South Pacific from 1940 through 1945, a time which included battle deaths in battle.

Overton was believed to be the oldest living veteran and was attending the Veteran’s Day Breakfast at the White House. (Official White House Photo by Lawrence Jackson)

FILE: President Barack Obama greets Richard Overton, with Earlene Love-Karo, in the Blue Room of the White House, Nov. 11, 2013. Mr. Overton, 107, is the oldest living World War II veteran and was attending the Veteran’s Day Breakfast at the White House. (Official White House Photo by Lawrence Jackson)

As the years went by Overton became a local and then national celebrity. In 2013, at the age of 107, Overton won widespread media attention after telling Fox News he would spend Memorial Day “smoking cigars and drinking whiskey-stiffened coffee.” He was later invited to the White House.

Overton had been hospitalized with pneumonia but was released from the hospital on December 24, Christmas eve according to family member Shirley Overton. He had become known in his community for driving others to church well after turning 100 years old.

“With his quick wit and kind spirit he touched the lives of so many, and I am deeply honored to have known him,” wrote Texas Gov. Greg Abbott in a statement on December 27 after hearing the news of Overton’s death.

The Governor added that Overton was, “an American icon and Texas legend. Richard Overton made us proud to be Texans and proud to be Americans. We can never repay Richard Overton for his service to our nation and for his lasting impact on the Lone Star State.”

LOOKING BACK:

In 2018, “Living While Black” Stories Exploded on Social and Mainstream Media

By Lauren Victoria Burke | NNPA Newswire Contributor

- In December in New Jersey, Andrew Johnson, a Black high school wrestler, was compelled to have an impromptu pre-match haircut after a referee with a racist incident in his past decided Johnson’s hair violated the rules. The referee, Alan Maloney, was later fired.
- In late December, a security guard at a DoubleTree Hotel called the police on Jermaine Massey as he used a phone in a lobby. Two employees were fired because of the incident.
- In May in Philadelphia, two men, Donté Robinson and Rashon Nelson, were arrested at a Starbucks after an employee called the cops on them as they waited for a business meeting to begin. The multi-billion-dollar coffee chain would later close all of its stores to conduct training for all their employees regarding racial bias.
- In August in Madison, Wisconsin, Sheila Stubbs, who is the only African-American on the 37-member Dane County Board of Supervisors, was campaigning in her district when someone called the police.
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The reality of social media content has become contentious with President Trump’s relentless focus on vifying and stereotyping minorities, particularly Mexican immigrants, while at the same time failing to quickly and affirmatively denounce racism and xenophobia.

Hate crimes along with a resurgence of white supremacist groups have been recorded by the Southern Poverty Law Center and other hate-watchdog organizations. The incidents have highlighted the power of social media a few years after the birth of Black Lives Matter which also featured the power of social media content.

(AFRRO) - Born on May 11, 1908, Richard Arvin Overton, a member of what is often called America’s “Greatest Generation,” died on December 27th in Austin, Texas. Overton was believed to be the oldest living veteran and was attending the Veteran’s Day Breakfast at the White House.

FILE: President Barack Obama greets Richard Overton, with Earlene Love-Karo, in the Blue Room of the White House, Nov. 11, 2013. Mr. Overton, 107, is the oldest living World War II veteran and was attending the Veteran’s Day Breakfast at the White House. (Official White House Photo by Lawrence Jackson)

The second World War was the deadliest conflict in modern military history as over 70 million people lost their lives and the U.S. suffered over 407,000 deaths in battle.

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