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RAPPIN'
Tommy Wyatt
Congratulations,
Coach Charlie
Strong!

It is a pleasure to congratulate **UT** Coach Charlie Strong on accomplishing one of his main goals for this season - becoming Bowl eligible. That means that the team is guaranteed to be invited to a post-season bowl after their win over Oklahoma State last Saturday. The team now has one more game to win before declaring his first season a success. They need to beat **TCU** on Thanksgiving day. Beating TCU is a tall order, but after overcoming some of the other challenges Strong faced this season, this should be relatively mild.

All of Austin was watching the team this season under the new coach. And at the beginning of the season, the fans were not very supportive. They became more unsatisfied when Strong dismissed several members from the team for violating his rules. Then the first string quarterback was injured and out for the season, forcing Strong to depend on a sophomore for the rest of the year.

Tyrone Swoops was never expected to be the starting quarterback for the team, but stepped up when called upon. And with the help of the coaches and his teammates, he has improved every week. Now, all eyes will be on him to see whether or not he can put a bow on the Longhorns' season.

The University and the City should appreciate the way Coach Strong stood by his core values, even if it would cost him a successful year. We should also admire the team for buying into those values. As a result, many of the members were given an opportunity that they did not expect to have. And given the opportunity, they showed that they were the players that they were expected to be when they were selected to be a member of the Longhorn team. With their success this season, so far, they have their eyes set on completing this season on a high note. The strong support of the fans could go a long way to make it happen.

Austin Housing Authority Chairman and Former Public Housing Resident Receives Highest National Affordable Housing Honor



HACA Chairman Carl Richie (center) was recently inducted into NAHRO's most elite class of affordable and assisted housing professionals, the NAHRO Fellows. Richie accepted his award at the NAHRO National Conference and Exhibition last month in Baltimore.

Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) Chairman Carl Richie has been inducted into the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials' (NAHRO's) most elite class of affordable and assisted housing professionals, the NAHRO Fellows. Richie was officially inducted into the NAHRO Fellows Program at the recent NAHRO National Conference and Exhibition in Baltimore.

A former resident of public housing, Richie is only the 21st inductee to the NAHRO Fellows Program. As a dedicated public servant, much of Richie's career has focused on developing and protecting programs and services for Austin's most vulnerable. Richie also provides strategic counseling to housing authorities and mentoring to public housing commissioners. Profes-

See **RICHIE**, page 2

Austin Fashion Week Rebrands and Expands To Dallas

By Naomi Richard

If you haven't already heard the good news, Austin Fashion Week (AFW) has a new web presence! The old AFW blog has been replaced by www.fashionaustin.com. Fashion X Austin is the ultimate source for all things fashionable in the Capital City. You will find new content and collaborations on everything fashion along with a new section for men.

In addition to the web changes, this highly talented and superior fashion engine decided to expand



Designed by **Korto Momolu.**
Photo by **Chris Jones.**

its reach, creating Fashion X Dallas (FXD) showcasing independent and emerging designers from Dallas and beyond.

FXD provided the audience with pop up shops, nightly fashion runways and the last evening ending with designers from Lifetime's hit TV show



League of Rebels **Men's Wear.**
Photo by **Chris Jones.**

Project Runway All Stars™ at Fashion Industry Gallery (FIG).

We were particularly impressed with the classy and elegant looks shown by the League of Rebels Men's Wear, and Project Runway designers Cecilia



Designed by **Cecilia Motwani.**
Photo by **Chris Jones.**

Motwani and Korto Momolu.

Follow www.fashionaustin.com to stay informed of upcoming events!

HT Receives \$15,000 Grant from the Welch Foundation

(AUSTIN, Texas) — Huston-Tillotson University received a \$15,000 grant from the Welch Foundation to support chemistry research and classroom applications. The grant will enable chemistry faculty to complete research, advance instruction through practical applications beyond the classroom, and provide resources for advanced scientific equipment.

Huston-Tillotson University offers a bachelor's degree in chemistry and 19 other areas of study.

INSIDE



Austin opens health coverage enrollment guidance center.

See **ACA**
Page 2



Historic Victory Grill gives local minority artists a platform.

See **EAST**
Page 3



Democrats press for immigration reform and criminal justice.

See **LIBERAL**
Page 6

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

A Rockin' New Musical!

Three Spectacular Live Shows Make ZACH Theatre A Holiday Destination!



by Naomi Richard

AUSTIN, TX – ZACH Theatre has performances to suit every age and taste this holiday season. Dave Steakley's brand-new musical adaptation of A Christmas Carol, plays from November 26 through December 28, 2014 on stage at the Topfer Theatre, Martin Burke's captivating one-man performance of This Wonderful Life plays on the intimate Whisenhunt Stage from November 28 through December 28, 2014 and Holiday Heroes returns for the 16th straight year, this year on stage at the Topfer Theatre, for two public performances only, on Saturday, December 13 and

See **ZACH'S**, page 2

THE COMMUNIQUE

Affordable Care Act Enrollment Assistance Center Opens in Austin

[AUSTIN, TX] – Open Enrollment for the coverage under the Affordable Care Act runs from November 15, 2014 through February 15, 2015. In conjunction with the Open Enrollment period, SRA International, a leading provider of IT solutions and professional services to government organizations, has opened an Enrollment Assistance Center in Austin to provide fair, accurate and impartial guidance to individuals as they make their ACA health care selections.

The enrollment assistance center is staffed with trained and certified personnel with knowledge of the qualified health programs (QHP) within the state. They are available to assist individuals through the process of selecting a QHP for health care.

Assistance is free and bilingual representatives are available. The centers are open for walk-in assistance or appointments Monday through Friday from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm and Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm.

Austin Enrollment Assistance Center location:

2101 S Interstate 35 #121

Austin, TX 78741

Tel: (512) 534-0802

Email: enroll_austin@sra.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/enrollaustin

Twitter: @Austin_EAC

Now in its second year of operations, the availability of in-person assistance remains critical to people seeking to gain health insurance through the Health Insurance Marketplace. People who want help in understanding their options will continue to have in-person access to trained, certified, and unbiased personnel at

THANKSGIVING IS NOVEMBER 27TH...

WHAT ARE YOU THANKFUL FOR?



ZACH's Family Series strives to delight children, young and old

continued from page 1

Saturday December 20, 2014.

Spectacular holiday carols and surprising anachronistic tuneful classics whisk your family on a captivating ride with the three soulful, rockin' ghosts in Scrooge's transformative dream. A Christmas Carol features a traditional Victorian setting and gorgeous period costumes, but with a musical score that spans genres and eras, from rousing gospel to rock-n-soul favorites, and from nostalgic harmony classics to contemporary hits.

Back by popular demand, This Wonderful Life plays November 28-December

28 on the Whisenhunt stage, starring Martin Burke of ZACH's The Santaland Diaries and Harvey. Based on the classic holiday film It's a Wonderful Life, Burke plays all 37 characters in Bedford Falls including "George Bailey" a la Jimmy Stewart, "Mary," "Clarence the Angel" and "Old Man Potter." This comical romp underscored with tender sweetness is a joyous gift for all ages. This Wonderful Life is written by STEVE MURRAY, and directed by RICHARD ROBICHAUX.

ZACH's Family Series presents Holiday Heroes, guaranteed to delight families and children ages three

and up. The popular and hilariously fun holiday sing-along show created by Shaun Wainwright-Branigan and Jerome Schoolar is in its 16th year! Our heroes, Ernie and Rufus are ready for the holidays when too much fun causes a raucous mix up of Christmas, Hanukah and Kwanzaa. Celebrate the season with singing, laughter, and seasonal cheer for all.

Tickets for Christmas shows are available online at www.zachtheatre.org/buy-tickets, by phone at 512-476-0541 ext. 1, or in person at the ZACH Theatre Box Office, in the Topfer Theatre, 202 South Lamar Blvd.

Richie has served as chairman of HACA's Board of Commissioners since 2013

continued from page 1

sionally, Richie represents some of the nation's leading companies on public policy issues before the Texas Legislature through his legal practice.

"Carl has been a leader and visionary in the housing industry for two decades," said HACA President and CEO Michael Gerber. "He has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of public housing residents in Austin and across the nation through safe housing coupled with opportunities in education and job-skills training."

Richie was the two-time recipient of the Texas NAHRO Commissioner of the Year Award, Southwest NAHRO Regional Council Public Service Award as well as the NAHRO Elizabeth B. Wells Memorial Award which recognizes deserving commissioners for excellence in advocacy for housing and commu-

nity development programs. Richie is currently serving as parliamentarian for the NAHRO Board of Governors.

"Established in 2008 by the NAHRO Board of Governors, the NAHRO Fellows Program honors accomplished housing and community development practitioners for their years of service to the most vulnerable in their communities," said Preston Prince, CME, president of NAHRO. "As Fellows, members become mentors to association colleagues, serve as jurors and uphold the code of professional conduct and ethical standards."

Richie has served as chairman of HACA's Board of Commissioners since 2013. He was initially appointed to the board in 1997 by former Austin Mayor Kirk Watson. Within two years of his appointment, he helped turn HACA

from a troubled agency to a high-performing agency.

Richie helped rewrite the industry's handbook for public housing board members, "The Commissioner's Handbook on Public Housing." He also has chaired a NAHRO standing committee. In addition, Richie earned his NAHRO Commissioner Certification from NAHRO.

NAHRO is a membership organization comprised of 23,000 housing and community development agencies and professionals throughout the United States whose mission is to create affordable housing and safe, viable communities that enhance the quality of life for all Americans, especially those of low- and moderate-income. Established in 1933, NAHRO's membership administers more than 3 million housing units for 7.6 million people.

Lynch Nomination will Test Obama's Relationship with New Congress

By Freddie Allen ~ NNPA Senior Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON (NNPA) – In what may be the first test of the GOP-controlled, United States Senate's willingness to work with the White House, President Barack Obama nominated United States Attorney Loretta Lynch to succeed Eric Holder as the next attorney general.

If confirmed, Lynch would become the first Black woman to serve as Attorney General.

Praising his new nominee, President Obama said, "It's pretty

hard to be more qualified for this job than Loretta. Throughout her 30-year career, she has distinguished herself as tough, as fair, an independent lawyer who has twice headed one of the most prominent U.S. Attorney's offices in the country. She has spent years in the trenches as a prosecutor, aggressively fighting terrorism, financial fraud, cybercrime, all while vigorously defending civil rights."

Lynch earned degrees from Harvard Univer-

sity and Harvard Law School and served as a United States Attorney of New York under President Bill Clinton a position she returned to during the Obama Administration.

But Republicans have already signaled that they don't have any plans to take up the nomination until the new Congress in 2015, leaving some Washington watchers to speculate about what President Obama will have to give up to get Lynch confirmed by the majority-Republican Senate.

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CHURCH & TOWN BULLETIN

Artists Exhibit at the Historic Victory Grill during EAST



East Austin Studio Tour artist at the historic Victory Grill

East Austin Studio Tour kicked off this weekend with a full roster of visual artists and schedule of events. Since 2011, Capitol View Arts and the Victory Grill have participated in the tour, giving local minority artists a chance to exhibit for the public. GIVE Gallery, Gallery in Victory East, transforms the historic venue into an art exhibition featuring six artists.

This year finds a talented group showcasing their work for both weekends of the tour. Jeweler, **Claudio Lopez**, originally from Mexico City, but now calling Austin home, creates beautiful pieces in silver. Photographer, **DebbieJayne**, captures images of Austin, the city that inspires her. Austin native **Damon Moseley's** paintings reflect the beauty of Black American culture. Book illustrator **Bianca Neal** contributes family oriented drawings as well as hosts hands-on creative workshops for

EAST tour participants. **Dustin Schaible** uses contrast and basic shapes to produce a futuristic vision. **Carlotta Vann** covers both realistic and abstract content through her paintings aimed at provoking an emotional response.

While visual art is front and center during EAST, music is featured in the afternoons on the Victory Grill stage. This past weekend EAST guests enjoyed hip hop acts, **Riders Against the Storm** and **Drastik**, as well as **SaulPaul and the Fam's** special family friendly show. Coming up next weekend will be acoustic duo **Tully** on Saturday and versatile urban songstress **Serafia** and

Bobbi Jean will close out the art tour on Sunday.

Capitol View Arts is a nonprofit organization offering support to local minority artists, particularly on Austin's east side. East Austin Studio Tour features over 400 artists displaying work on Austin's east side for two weekends each November. GIVE Gallery at the Victory Grill will be open Saturday and Sunday, November 22 and 23 from 11am to 6pm. Artists will be on site to meet the public and artwork will be available for purchase. Live music will be featured both days from 4pm to 6pm. Admission is free. For more information, go to capitolviewarts.org.



YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR'S BUSINESS SUPPORTS LUPUS

"What do you want to be when you grow up?" As students approach high school graduation, the question evolves to "What are you going to do after graduation?" Meet **Devon Dudley**, a sixteen year-old entrepreneur who is using a different approach to answer that question.



Devon Dudley

Devon is a junior at

Cedar Ridge High School and the founder of Sweet Sensations, headquartered in Round Rock, Texas. He created this business to use his creativity, interest in food, and business principles learned real-time. Devon began exploring his interest in cooking at an early age, attending Young Chef's Academy and later taking Principles of Hospitality in high school. His recipes are a combination of recipes received from family members, infused with his own special fixings. He uses only quality ingredients resulting in desserts he says, "Reminds you of home."

Devon takes great pride in his products. His desserts have been taste-tested by many to get the look, taste, and marketing just right. Some of Devon's specialties are sweet potato pie, peach cobbler, bread pudding, and pecan pie. All are very savoury and sumptuous. Perfecting mouth-watering recipes is not the only thing Devon has done to prepare for the launch of his business. He has created a business plan, logo, and website, as well as applied key business principles such as market analysis, product branding, and financial evaluation. He holds a State Food Safety certificate for Food Handler Training, ap-

proved by the Texas Department of State Health Services, and a food permit. Motivated by his maternal grandmother, from whom he received recipes for some of his delicious, homemade treats, Devon recognizes the need to give back. As a result, a portion of Sweet Sensations' profits will be used to make a donation to a cause that hits close to home—Lupus. Lupus is a disease that is believed to have a hereditary trait affecting minority women at a higher rate than others; one of those women is his grandmother. Devon says, "I want to use this business as a way to educate others on the disease and do my part to help find a cure."

Chef, brand Marketing, entrepreneur, what will Devon decide to do after he graduates high school? Who knows? What this sixteen year-old entrepreneur does know is the sooner he prepares himself to answer that question, the better off he will be. **Are you in need of homemade baked goods for the holidays at work or at home?** Support Devon and his new business at sweetsensationstex.wix.com/home **Place your order today!** Should you have any questions email Sweet Sensations at sweetsensationstexas@gmail.com.

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--- Martin Luther
Romans 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ

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SaNaya White
Cedars Int'l Academy

I'm finally done! I finished my documentary on the American Revolution. My group in class finished our scripts and now we are ready to film it. There are 6

people in my group which consists of 1 narrator and 5 experts. I am an expert on the Intolerable Acts of the Declaration of Independence and the Boston Tea Party. The Boston Tea Party was when the sons of Liberty dumped 342 boxes of tea into the Boston harbor which is what led to the Intolerable Acts.

The Intolerable Acts were punishments for the Boston Tea Party. The Declaration of Independence is a symbol saying that the 13 colonies were free!! I have to be recorded on how well I know this information and I am positive I will get a great grade. Our documentary will never awesome!

Happy



Imani Demps
Del Valle High School

So, since I stayed on top of my project I passed. I'm so happy I did what I did, that was a good strategy, I got so much done and I still had time to find something nice to wear

for my presentation. My teacher was very pleased with my project and said that this was the best project I've done since I have been in the class. This made me think that I should do this in all my classes to have the grades that I want. I have so much to do to get ready for the big decision I'm about to make. I don't know where life is going to take me but I guess I'm as ready as I'll ever be. I know what I have to do to become the person I want to be, I just have to stay focused and keep the mind set that I have. I just hope I make the right decision because it's a big one!

Student Section Blues



Kiara Myers
Vista Ridge H. S.

The Vista Ridge Student Section made a daring move on Friday, November 8th during one of the most important football games of the season. Right after halftime a large part of the student section decided to throw up red powder into the air. I must say the pictures were really cool afterwards, and most students said it increased school spirit. However, the aftermath is what has caused the most trouble between students and the administration.

An email was sent out to parents and students pertaining to the event outlining the nega-

tive effects of the powder throwing, and how the school or district did not endorse it. One person in the audience was allergic to red dye and another family with a special needs child suffered from anxiety about their child's health. Even beyond the health issues, the damage done to the stands was captured in the letter through a photo. Multiple power-washings were done in order to completely remove the staining.

My principal met with many student leaders in the school in an effort to make a compromise. He wanted to ensure that students don't come to resent the administration for their strict rules on student section behavior, while also learning to respect authority. It all comes down to accountability and taking responsibility for our actions. We must consider that students are not the only people at football games and conduct ourselves accordingly.

DECA Test Prep



Wesley Dickerson
Cedar Ridge H. S.

I am very fortunate to be an active member of multiple organizations at my school and one of the clubs I am part of is called DECA. DECA is a student business organization that allows students to compete in business related competitions. This will be my second year as a member of DECA and I am very excited to be apart of this organization again.

Just like sports DECA has a "season" and it just so happens to be right now. There are many things that go into preparation for DECA competition. Right now as a DECA chapter we are having bi-weekly meetings that are used to bring the members together and inform us of upcoming events. Another thing we are doing as a chapter is hosting test preparation sessions to get us ready for

the tests we have to take that are a required part for certain events. For example my event is a role-play where I make a presentation after reading a certain scenario with my partner. This is only half of the event; the other half is a test over principles of business. Sadly my test score is what kept me from going to the state competition last year, experienced DECA members like to say that the test is common sense. Let me just say that most of the laws regarding marketing are not common sense for a high school freshman. Although my sophomore year will be different because our chapter is doing almost everything possible to make sure that all members score well on their respective tests.

I believe that this year will be a successful year for CRHS DECA as well as for me personally in my event. DECA is probably one of my favorite extra curricular activities because it lets students get involved in the business world and it can open up a multitude of opportunities as well as introduce you to new people with common interests. Also DECA is competition based so it appeals to a large number of competitive people. This is a great club to be apart of and I am very excited for this "season's" series of competitions.

College Applications



Alon Rodgers
Hendrickson H. S.

If you are planning to attend university in Texas go to ApplyTexas www.applytexas.org/ for admission to any public university in Texas.

If you are looking at other states try the Common Application at www.commonapp.org/Login Seniors have to be aware of the following details about college admission. December 1st is a hard deadline for many college applications. Additionally, many Scholarship Applications and Honors Programs Applications deadlines fall on or near December 1st. Before you are allowed to register for classes, you must submit proof of Meningitis shot records. The

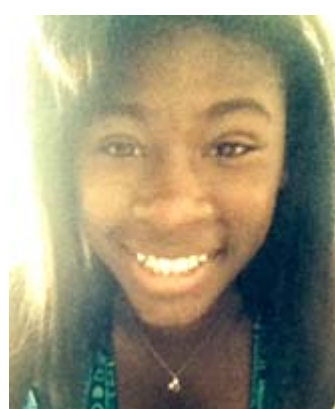
Class of 2015 was the first class required by Texas to get this shot in seventh grade so you had the first shot in middle school. But you must get a booster within 5 years.

Housing applications are already active for many universities. The fees are high but most universities apply the fee toward the initial housing payment after you are accepted and register for classes. Most housing applications are refundable minus a processing fee. The Class of 2015 has already earned \$1,200,000 in scholarships this year. One in four students from the Class of 2014 earned a scholarship.

The girls volleyball season ended with a 3-0 loss to Westlake.

After defeating Austin High School the Hawks football team advances to Area Nov. 21 against Westfield Mustangs, one of the best teams emerging from the Houston region. Boys basketball begins this week vs. Vandergrift. The girls team has already played three games and will be in the Marble Falls Tournament this week.

Philanthropist



Whitney Brown
S. F. Austin H. S.

This week Austin High Lady Basketball started. Varsity started off with a well earned win against Vandergrift High School. Their next game is tonight, Monday, November 17, 2014 @ 7:00, so Let's Wish Them The Best. This week went well. Our biggest achievements as a team came from hard work and self perseverance. We all know, how we practice is how we play, so going through scrimmages and non-district games we have realized that though

practice is not a real game we should still think of it as important. It is a way to see what we need to work on, work on it, and use those practices and skills to the best of our ability. In my Professional Communications class our next major project is based on each student being a philanthropist. It was explained that most of the time when we, the student population, hear the word philanthropist, names such as Beyonce, Dwayne Wade, and Michael Dell. Well celebrities are not the only people who can be named philanthropist. A philanthropist is anyone who seeks to promote the welfare of others, and not just but the donation of money. I would love to eliminate the hunger ratio that burdens our nation today. As I take action on that cause, I now can be named a philanthropist. I aspire to help people in a magnificent way; I just have to figure out how.

Basketball



Kevin Parish
Park Crest M.S.

Last week, Park Crest Middle School had basketball try-outs and it took a whole week for coaches to decide who makes the team. There are two cuts; the first one is to see if the

coaches still want you to be considered for the 7th grade basketball team. Then the final cut was on Friday after school to see who made the basketball team. I MADE IT! On Monday, my first practice for basketball season will begin. There are many positions for basketball but my favorite one is shooting guard. I really like it because you can get the ball and shoot a lot. Whenever I have free time I practice to shoot from different angles so I can make the A team. I will keep you posted next week.

Go Pumas!!

Teen Pregnancy



Aubri Allen-Brent
Del Valle High School

Now teen pregnancy is the #1 reason why teenagers drop out of highschool. Being pregnant while in highschool is very challenging, children of teens who become pregnant in highschool are most likely to fail and grade. even getting pregnant at a young age their are some risks your taking. Your body is not fully developed all the way so therefore you might have complications giving

birth to a baby. Another reason why being a teen mom is challenging because you have school and a baby, you are going to exhausted if the baby starts crying in the middle of the night and you have school in a few hours, you may become stressed also. All the money you have will be spent on the baby. For bottles, formula, diapers, clothes & etc. 3 in 10 girls will get pregnant before the age 20, that's more than 700,000 teen pregnancies each year.

Some teens believe that having a baby will make him "stay". But the fact is 8 in 10 baby fathers, don't marry their baby's mother, it is also true that these fathers \$800 annually for child support. Next time I will interview 2 teen moms, and You see the difficulties they go through. until next time GOO CARDS!

YOUTH BRIGADE

The Book Parade



Erika Lipscomb
Manor Elementary

Just in time for Hal-

loween, we celebrated Dr. Seuss birthday by having a parade. You could dress up as a book character, character from a movie, or even a Halloween character. I was a 90's pop girl singer. For Halloween, I am going to be a psychic or a fortune teller. We walked through the school hallways.

My friend dressed up kinda like a scary clown. Everybody was screamin. The parade was fun.

Raider's Football



Zyion Hill
Reagan High School

Hello Readers,

This week at Reagan High School, we took the M.O.Y. on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. Monday we took the English Lan-

guage Arts test, Wednesday we took Geometry test, and Thursday we took the Chemistry test all of which contain about twenty questions.

The latest on the Reagan Raider's football team, they made it to the playoffs. Unfortunately, they could not execute against the more talented Cedar Creek High football team. Since they could not make it happen, the season for the Raider's is over. Shouts out to the Raider's football team because they did fight long and hard.

Until next time.

Planning



Genesis Stiggers
Elgin Middle School

I am always thinking about the future. I think about happy things like what my family is going to be like. I think about sad things like leaving my childhood. I think about getting a job. Sometimes I just think about what my friends might be like in the future.

I am nervous about the future. What if I don't get a good job? Will I be happy? I am scared of the

future. I am scared because I don't know what to do with it.

I have no idea what I want to do in life. I can't even decide what subject I like best. People say that childhood is short. What happens if I don't plan in time for adulthood? Adults make the future look easy.

I do know some things I'm going to do in life though. I know I am going to do good in school to go to a good college. I know I am going to graduate and find a good job that I like. I also know I am going to have a family of my own so I can show off how easy adulthood looks. I might need to work out the kinks when it comes to the future, but I know when I need to, my planning will be foolproof.

We Are The Champions



Trenton Leary
Hornsby Dunlap Elem.

On Saturday November 15, 2014, the Capital City Bearcats Junior team defeated the Kyle Invaders 13-6. This was a great game. We had to play in the cold and the rain but we came home

with the trophy.

It feels good to be a Bearcat. I want to thank all our Junior Coaches. Me and my team could not wait to play Kyle because this was the team we played last year in the championship and they beat us. The game on Saturday was a hard game but we ended the season undefeated. We are still number one and it feels good. We Are the Champions!

Football season has come to an end and now it's time for basketball. I wish you have a great safe week. Be Bless

M.O.Y. Testing



De'Ja Hill
Lamar Middle School

Hello Readers,

Friday, was the last day that my guitar class will practice during school for our concert on November 18th, we will have another rehearsal after school on Monday. I hope we do well when we are

performing. On December 1st and 2nd my dance class will have to stay after school to rehearse for our Concert that will be on December 3rd, on the first day it will be a normal rehearsal but on the second day we have to have a full dress rehearsal. A full rehearsal consists of wearing the entire dance costume, along with makeup, dance shoes, and our hair fixed properly.

Tuesday we will be taking our Middle of the Year (M.O.Y.) test, which is kind of like taking a S.T.A.A.R. test but not exactly the same. The M.O.Y. test lets the teachers know how well the students are doing since school began.

Until next time.

School



Damon Luckett II
Hays High School

School is a place where you can learn for free. School is the most

important thing as a child because it determines whether you're going to have a good job. If you want to be a lawyer, teacher, doctor, or a business man or woman, you have to go to school. When I go to college, I want to major in business and minor in music production.

I think school is good because it gives kids a chance to be somebody. They can be whatever they want to be as long as they go to school. I love school because, I learn new things every day and, I can be somebody.

Social Media



Hannah Robertson
Connally High School

This past weekend the Aaliyah's Biopic "Princes of R&B" came out and with it there was a lot of fuss on most social media sites. The discussion centered around how the actors in the movie didn't match up well with the real life. Rapper Timbaland used social media to mock the cast with memes and other

posts.

Social Media had a strong way of getting there point across. Due to the technology age a lot of people depend on technology to get their opinions on various topics but also to voice their opinions on subjects that matters to them. These opinions can turn out to be either positive or negative depending on the outcome. But we should always remember people have a right to their opinion and now because of technology people have a way to express those opinions. At the end of the day it is still just a matter of opinions and you should not let other people's opinions affect your life. A Chinese Proverb says, "A wise man makes his own decisions. An ignorant man follows public opinion."

Communities in School



Aaron Williams
Kealing M.S.

This week in my skills for living class, we are learning how to cook. So far, we have been watch-

ing shows that let us know what to do. It seems like cooking will be a lot of fun.

In Communities in School (C.I.S.), I am in this program called Longhorn Leaders. We talk with several different people from the University of Texas about the kind of work we are doing in school. They also talk to us about things that are going on in their lives too. I like when the football players talk to us because I get to hear things about people like Malcolm Brown and other players.

Until next time,

Mustang Sports



Averill Topps
O. Henry Middle School

At O.H.M.S., we are having an event this week called "Mustang Ball." Mustang ball is a combination of basketball, football, ultimate frisbee, and soccer. The rules are that you can't move around with the ball, you have to have one goalie to protect your wall and you have to hit your opponent's wall to gain a point. Mustang ball is a fun game to play with your friends and family. All it requires is a

ball.

The O.H.M.S. Football teams finished the season with a good record. The 8th grade A team had a record of 6 - 2 with 2 shutout games! They won the District Tournament bracket. The 8th grade B team finished with a record of 3-2-1 and 1 - 1 in the District.

The 7th grade A team had a District record of 2-1, and 3 - 5 overall. The 7th grade B team did not play all District games due to game cancellations and they had no wins for the season, but they did have team spirit and determination during their short season. Congratulations to the O.H.M.S. Football Athletes and coaching staff. Represent!

A reminder that Basketball/B-ball tryouts start this week after school. Well that's all for this week in Sports. Until next time... Go Mustangs

Concert Band Begins



Jaylon Knighten
Del Valle High School

Last week the Proud Cardinal Band started up

Concert Band session for a chance to get a sweepstake trophy, which is very important to the band program. Our Marching Band received a one this year so we would like to continue with recognitions. We have three bands, Wind ensemble, Symphonic and Concert Band.

I am part of the Wind Ensemble which is amazing to be in. I play the Tuba. Next week we will be out of school for the entire week for Thanksgiving Holiday.

Kick Off Your Holiday Season! Join Us In Celebrating 30 Years of Changemakers!

THE CONTAINER BAR
90 Rainey Street | Austin, TX
THURSDAY December 4, 2014
6:30 PM VIP Reception, Dinner, Open Bar & Show
8:00 PM General Admission, Open Bar & Show
FMI visit www.atxacc.auction-bid.org/micro2.php

Manor Playoffs



Latrice Lipscomb
Manor High School

I'm very thrilled to announce that with the hard work the Manor Mustang football team has put into their 2014-2015 season, we made it to the playoffs! Although the Mustangs have played some pretty tough teams in their division, they have pushed themselves

to the next stage... the playoffs.

Unfortunately, the Manor Mustang football team did not bring a victory home to the Mustangs. They tried with full effort but did not reach the victory they wanted. The Mustang teams opponent on Friday November the 14th was Bryan High School. Bryan High brought their best game to the playoffs and in result beat the Manor team 48-27.

I do have major faith in our Mustang football team and I can't wait to see what they produce next year. With their hard work, dedication and team work, I know that there's more to come.

Dressing Warm



Sarah Robertson
Athlos Leadership Acad.

Over the past weekend the weather changed so now it is colder than usual. This is not unusual

for the fall season, but it was cooler than usual for Austin. With this colder weather you can get sick easily. Especially, if the colder weather comes with rain and wind.

To avoid getting sick remember to cover up when you go outside. Wear a cap that cover your ears and button-up or zip-up your coat. Dressing warm for cold weather can help you from getting sick or catching the flu. Also, make sure you get your flu shot because you don't want the flu or other stuff. Remember to cover up so you won't get sick.

CITY ~ STATE ~ NATIONAL ~ WORLD



Beverly Kearney

This year the NAACP celebrates 105 years of

NAACP to Host 49th Annual Freedom Banquet

history as the nation's oldest civil rights organization. On December 6, 2014 at 6:00 p.m., the Austin NAACP Branch will host its 49th Annual DeWitty/Overton Freedom Fund Banquet at the Hyatt Regency Austin Hotel, 208 Barton Springs Drive, Austin, Texas 78704.

The banquet honors two great Texans who fought on the front lines

for civil rights: Arthur B. DeWitty and Volma Overton. The DeWitty/Overton Award recipient is Pamela Wade of the City of Austin- Human Resource, Municipal Civil Service. The prestigious Captain Louie White Award recipient is Captain Cyril Friday of the Travis County Sheriff's Department. This year's theme is "African Ameri-

can Quality of Life 10 Year Assessment and Review".

The Austin NAACP branch is proud to announce our keynote speaker for the 2014 banquet will be Beverly Kearney former University of Texas Coach and Field for 21 years. Beverly Kearney led the Longhorns to six NCAA

Track Championships and has been a source of inspiration for African American Athletes all over the nation. In 2006, Kearney founded Pursuits of Dreams, a nonprofit organization committed to reconnecting and assisting individuals with their Life's purpose, passions, and dreams.

For additional information contact Polly



Nelson Linder

Street @ 512-497-4342 or rpstreet@gmail.com

Looking Back at the Election Loss

by Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

Once again, Texas' Democrats fail to win any statewide office on Election Day. Not only, they didn't win any statewide office, but also lost numerous judicial seats in the Senate, and House. Therefore, the State of Texas became a "redder" state in which Republicans now hold all statewide offices and more Texas Legislature seats. Moreover, analyzing the factor of a loss does not impute blame but, rather to find out what works and doesn't work.

The Democratic Party expected that in 2014 that they would win or achieve a better score, however neither both did not happen. Moreover, Texas Democrats lost due to sev-

eral issues, such as not having a consisting message; overpaying consulting; and the failure to coordinate with groups like Battleground Texas. First of all, Davis campaign first started with themes like abortion and then sought to talk about gun ownership. Moreover, the abortion appeal did not expand the base to more conservative voters. Secondly, the consultants who were advising the campaign received a lot of money which may have hampered a better "ground game."

However, Democrats in Travis County did have some different results. Despite Diane Henson lost to the 3rd Court of Appeals, Democrats did have a "good night." In Northern Travis County, the Democrats retained Celia Israel Texas House District seat; while Randall Slagell was able to beat the incumbent Republican Justice of Peace Precinct II judge. According to the group Diaspora Vote, "These two wins show that the growing African Diaspora and other Diaspora communities living in Northern Travis County and Pflugerville helped Democrats retain a seat and to win the others."

The Liberal Austin Democratic Club



Jim Bryce, Precinct Chair of Travis County Democrats, Chantal Eldridge, Executive member of Liberal Austin Democrats and Saurah Das, Liberal Austin Democrats member. Photo by Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

On November 15, the Liberal Austin Democratic Club held their "Greet and Meet" social event. At this great and meeting, there was "barbecue and also invited guest like Congressman Lloyd Doggett, Steve Adler and Mike Martinez who are both Mayoral candidates. According to David Thomas, the president of the Liberal Austin Democrats, "There were a-least 50 people and more who attended this event." In addition, Mr. Thomas stated,

We were well pleased with the turnout." After serving the barbeque, the guest speakers addressed the crowd that was gathered there.

First of all, Central Texas longtime Congressman Lloyd Doggett spoke to the members of the Liberal Austin and their invited guest. Congressman Lloyd Doggett has been a very strong advocate and a voice for "liberal and progressive ideas and policies." For instance, Doggett has been a

strong advocate for maintaining social security; promoting affordable prescription drug coverage for seniors; and voting for the Affordable Care Act which is a landmark legislation offered by the president. Secondly, Steve Adler who is running for mayor also spoke to the crowd. Steve Adler spoke to the fact that "he has also been a strong voice for Liberal/progressive causes. Thirdly, Mike Martinez a current councilmember running for mayor

spoke to the fact that "As a council member he has never waited for Congress to pass law that would help people." For instance, he mentioned that the Austin City Council has passed ordinances that would increase the minimum wages pay of workers at \$11.00 an hour.

Moreover, the Liberal Austin Democrat group is one of the well-attended clubs. According to Mr. Thomas, "The Liberal Austin Democrat group was founded after the Bill White campaign lost." Moreover, Chantal Eldridge who is a member of the Liberal Austin Democrats and also who plans to run for the 450th District Court mentioned that, "The group is made of people who love democratic ideas on issues such as immigration to criminal justice matters; and also they support progressive candidates." In addition Chantal mentioned that, "The Liberal Austin Democrats tend to invite various speakers who can educate the group on a variety of issues." Finally Mr. Thomas mentioned that, "The groups seek to make the label "liberal/progressive into a positive one."

Voter ID laws: A Microcosm of a Divided America

by Aaron Blake, THE WASHINGTON POST (Black Press USA)

(WASHINGTON) - The voter ID debate isn't going anywhere.

The issue is largely a state-by-state one. Generally, Republicans rise to control in certain states and pass legislation, and then liberal and minority groups and supporters sue to overturn. And with the GOP obtaining full control of even more states after the 2014 election — they now have 24 — more states could look at such laws in the near future.

So where do the American people stand? Well, on the surface, polls show they are overwhelmingly in favor of the concept of presenting identification before voting. But dig a little deeper, and you'll find a pretty deep divide

on the basis for such laws.

A new poll from the Public Religion Research Institute asked people which they thought was a bigger problem: voter fraud or voter disenfranchisement. Forty percent of Americans said the former, while 43 percent said the latter — about an even split.

And as you might expect, there's a pretty big partisan split. While 68 percent of Republicans say ineligible voters casting ballots is a bigger problem, 64 percent of Democrats say eligible voters being denied the ability to do so is the prevailing issue.

Perhaps the most interesting numbers: Among people who say Fox News Channel is their most trusted media outlet, 76 percent say voter fraud is the bigger issue, while just 12 percent cite disen-



Greensboro, N.C. voter casts his ballot on Election Day. Photo courtesy of John Taggart/EPA

franchisement. Among CNN and public television viewers, the split is in favor of disenfranchisement by double digits.

Among whites, it's 49 to 33 in favor of voter fraud. Among nonwhites, it's 63 to 22 in favor of disenfranchisement. (Democrats allege that voter ID laws are tailored toward helping the GOP — in particular by making it more difficult for minorities who might not have ID to vote.)

Adults younger than

30 favor voter disenfranchisement as the bigger problem by a margin of 63 to 28; seniors favor voter fraud, 49 to 25.

Of course, it's no news flash that Republicans and Democrats disagree about policy. What makes the voter ID battle so interesting is that they don't even agree on the underlying problem — or alleged problem — that is being addressed.

And even something that might not seem like an inherently partisan issue has become one.

Burkina Faso Has a New Leader

by Tsoke (Chuch) Adjavon

After the abduction of the former president due to social unrest, the nation of Burkina Faso has a new interim leader Michael Kafando who was chosen on November 17, 2014. President Kafando was chosen by the interim committee made up of the Burkina Faso's military, political class, and also of community activist. Moreover, Kafando was chosen as interim president due to his vast knowledge in Foreign Affairs, and due to the fact he served his country as an Ambassador to the United Nation (UN). In addition, he has held key government positions in the past. Now the task of the new interim president is to "Set markers for election that is supposed to be held in 2015."

The past unrest was due to the fact that the ex-President Compaore failed to listen to his people and the international community which asked him not to modify the constitution. After seeking to modify the constitution by passing through the national assembly, over 1 million people got in the street to block the National Assembly from passing that law. Also, due to pressure from the military and civilians Compaore fled, which led to a power vacuum.

Now that Burkina Faso has a new interim president hopefully, the nation will be renewed with economic growth and stability. Burkina is a landlocked country whose population stands approximately at 16,900,000 million inhabitants. The people of Burkina Faso are both religiously and ethnically diverse who have managed to keep the country united.

CLASSIFIEDS ~ PUBLIC INFORMATION

What Will You Find During Medicare Open Enrollment? October 15 - December 7

Your health needs change from year to year. And, your health plan may change the benefits and costs each year too. That's why it's important to review your Medicare choices each fall. Compare your current plan to new options and see if you can lower some costs or to find a plan that better suit your needs. Open Enrollment is the one time of year when ALL people with Medicare can see what new benefits Medicare has to offer and make changes to their coverage.

Whether you have Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, you'll still have the same benefits and security you have now:

- Certain preventive benefits – including cancer screenings – are available at no cost to you when provided by qualified and participating health professionals. The annual wellness visit lets you sit down with your doctor and discuss your health care needs and the best ways to stay healthy.

- Medicare will notify you about plan performance and use its online Plan Finder to encourage enrollment in quality plans.

- In 2015, if you reach the "donut hole" in Medicare's prescription drug benefit, you'll get a 55% discount on covered brand name drugs and see increased savings on generic drugs.

It's worth it to take the time to review and compare, but you don't have to do it alone. Medicare is available to help.

- Visit Medicare.gov/find-a-plan to compare your current coverage with all of the options that are available in your area, and enroll in a new plan if you decide to make a change.

- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) 24-hours a day/7 days a week to find out more about your coverage options. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

- Review the *Medicare & You 2015* handbook. It's mailed to people with Medicare in September.

- If you have limited income and resources, you may be able to get Extra Help paying your prescription drug coverage costs. For more information, visit socialsecurity.gov/i1020 or call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213. TTY users should call 1-800-325-0778.

- Get one-on-one help from your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP).

Visit Medicare.gov/contacts or call 1-800-MEDICARE to get the phone number.

This message is brought to you by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.

Nurses: Super Heroes in our Midst

By Punit Chadha, M.D., Texas Oncology—South Austin

I work with super heroes. Every day, they fight for their patients so they can fight cancer. As we pause to reflect on life's blessings, let's add nurses and healthcare teams, my super heroes, to the list of things for which to be thankful.

Like all super heroes, nurses share several common traits.

§ **They are easily identified.** Healthcare teams are the ones helping their patients overcome obstacles, big and small.

§ **They lead dual lives.** Members of the healthcare team are mothers and fathers, husbands and wives, other people's children. They have the same life stressors we all do. Somehow, they are adept at leaving their problems at the door and adopting their alter egos. This enables them to focus on their patients. It is only when their work is done that they quietly slip back into their personal lives.

§ **They give unselfishly.** This trait is even more amazing when you consider much of the work is often thankless. I've seen nurses stay late to ensure a patient's nausea medication is working or use a smaller needle on very fragile veins to minimize pain. They give patients and families a shoulder to cry on, celebrate completion of treatment, and provide encouragement at the moment it is needed most. They ask for nothing in return.

§ **They fight for the underdog.** Battling evil, in this case, cancer, typically involves treatments that leave patients in weakened and vulnerable states. Our healthcare teams are some of the strongest advocates a patient has and are always looking for a way to make life a little better. They may care for a patient for only a short while, but their impact can last a lifetime.

§ **They have a calling.** Oncology nursing is not a profession for the faint of heart. People who enter healthcare do so because of a desire to help people. Many knew they wanted to be a nurse from a very early age and never considered another option.

§ **They are indispensable.** I challenge anyone to overcome any health challenge without a great nurse and healthcare team. Trust me; it is extremely difficult. In the fight against cancer, they are essential.

This year, more than 119,000 Texans will be diagnosed with cancer. While their treatment plans will be as diverse as our state, they will all have super heroes fighting for them. For more than 25 years, the outstanding nurses and healthcare teams of Texas Oncology have provided leading-edge cancer treatments to patients in their communities, enabling patients to stay close to the critical support of their family and friends.

Thurgood Marshall College Fund Announces New Alliance with University of Phoenix to Give HBCU Students Access to Online Learning

(BLACK PR WIRE) – PHOENIX & WASHINGTON—(BUSINESS WIRE)—The Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCF) and University of Phoenix today announced an important new alliance that will allow students at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) to supplement their course loads on-campus with access to certain course requirements online using the University of Phoenix online platform. University of Phoenix, one of the largest institutions of higher education in the U.S., has agreed to offer its online platform to HBCU students. As part of this alliance, University of Phoenix will support TMCF by making possible scholarships for students attending HBCUs.

Individual HBCU institutions that participate in the new alliance will be able to help students satisfy course requirements by completing online offerings at University of Phoenix as part of their semester-based tuition and fees. Students will incur no additional costs under the alliance and can now avoid graduation delays when certain course requirements are hard to access. Students can also remain on track toward on-time completion with courses available through the University of Phoenix online platform.

"We're proud to offer more scholarships and grants for nontraditional students as part of this new alliance, and we are thrilled to join the Thurgood Marshall College Fund in helping more HBCU students reach graduation," said Timothy P. Slottow, President of University of Phoenix. "We are eager to help HBCU institutions expand their online education capabilities. It is an honor to help fulfill our mission by partnering with our nation's vitally important Historically Black Colleges and Universities."

HBCU institutions will also be able to introduce existing faculty to University of Phoenix online instruction methods and share insights into how technology can create effective modes and means of expanding access to learning resources and collaboration.

"Our work together will help students stay on track toward graduation and advance toward their professional goals – but it also helps HBCU institu-

tions expand into online learning in ways that will strengthen their capabilities for the future," said Byron Jones, Chief Financial Officer of University of Phoenix. "Our work together with the Thurgood Marshall College Fund will provide more accessible and affordable online courses to more HBCU students. Schools will be able to offer more courses to more students through this alliance."

All HBCU students enrolled in the online courses offered under this new framework will also have access to the educational tools and resources provided to every current University of Phoenix student, including its online library, academic labs and workshops, 24/7 live math tutoring and other services in the University's online math and writing centers.



New Jobs for the Week of 11/09/2014
Specialist, SI & Bridge Recruiter/Advisor
Round Rock Campus (North ACC Campuses)
Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., varying evening hours
\$3,023-\$3,779/Monthly
Job# 1410009
Apply at HR
Middle Fiskville Rd.
6th Floor, Austin, TX 78752
Job Line (512) 223-5621
<http://www.austinc.edu>
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City of Austin Featured Job Opportunities

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

- Park Ranger I (2 Openings)
- Animal Health Technician
- Public Information & Marketing Corporate Manager
- Building & Grounds Lead
- Administrative Assistant
- Dispatcher Technician- Temporary
- Building & Grounds
- Drainage Ops & Maint III
- Traffic Signal Technician
- Engineer A
- Administrative Specialist

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/smb>.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF MARY ELLEN SARTAIN AKA MARY ELLEN RIEKER SARTAIN Deceased, No.C-1-PB-14-002031 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas. DAVID SARTAIN II AND ALL.

The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed in Probate Court No. 1, Heman Marion Sweatt Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas, on November 13, 2014, an Application to Determine Heirship and for Letters of Independent Administration in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said MARY ELLEN SARTAIN AKA MARY ELLEN RIEKER SARTAIN, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on November 13, 2014.

Dana DeBeauvoir
County Clerk, Travis County, Texas
P.O. BOX 149325 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325

By Deputy:

ABRAM GONZALEZ



MEMBER FDIC

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