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# The Battle Begins: Early voting is heavy in first days of the 2020 election

By David Wilfong  
NDG Contributing Writer

There's a healthy chunk of time left before Election Day proper (Nov. 3), but with early voting underway the 2020 Election is happening now. Around the nation, voters are dealing with long lines and sometimes confusing instructions in order to make their voices heard. So far, numbers indicate this will be a high-turnout election.

While the professional prognosticators make their cases (with most leaning toward a Biden victory), the variables are too great in the current competition for either side to rest easy.

Changing demographics are part of a major question mark in the outcome of many swing states, and could be a factor in Texas as well.

"Compared with national figures, some states have seen even more significant declines in the share of the electorate for non-Hispanic whites without a college degree," wrote Jeffrey Salzgeber in a release for the New American Economy. "Leading the way here are some key electoral states, such as Nevada (-9.1 percentage points), Florida (-7.6), Utah (-7.4), Minnesota (-7.2), Nebraska (-7.2), and Arizona



Voting has already begun in the long-awaited showdown between President Donald J. Trump (at left) and former Vice President Joe Biden (right). Dallas had more than 57,000 show up on the first day of early voting. (Photo: Gage Skidmore / Flickr)

(-7.1).

"Some of this shift is due to increasing shares of the electorate that identify as Hispanic or Asian. For example, in California, Nevada, Florida, Arizona, New Mexico, Rhode Island, and Texas, the Hispanic share of the electorate increased by at least 4 percentage points, compared to the national average of 2.7 percentage points."

Salzgeber also noted the immigrant vote will be significant in some swing states. Overall, the immigrant vote in the U.S. rose by 1.5 percentage points; but key states

saw much higher numbers, with New Jersey increasing by 3.4%.

In Texas, Latinos constitute the largest part of this new voting group. Hispanic organizations have been busy trying to maximize the input of their community through registration drives and get-out-the-vote public awareness events.

"We need to get out like never before and take action if we want the voices of Juan and Maria to be heard," said Domingo Garcia, LULAC National President and Dal-

See 2020 VOTE, Page 12



A [White] House  
in pandemic  
cannot stand

- See Page 3



Pandemic can  
complicate cases  
for missing kids

- See Page 4



Chauvin is  
released on \$1  
million bond

- See Page 5



Plano Health &  
Wellness Fair  
slated for Oct. 17

- See Page 8



Nearly  
Dying to  
Vote

- See Page 10



Dak goes  
down in game  
against Giants

- See Page 13



Black voices are  
loud at 2020 NY  
Film Festival

- See Page 14



Sister Tarpley:  
Pray for Our  
Leaders

- See Page 15

## Inside...

People In the News .....	2
Op/Ed .....	3
Health .....	4
Community .....	5
Education .....	6
Irving / Carrollton / Plano .....	8
Feature .....	9-10
Dallas Cowboys .....	13
Entertainment .....	14
Marketplace .....	15-16
Career / Obituaries .....	17
Church Directory .....	18-19
Advertising .....	20

## See Page 2



Dominique Foxworth



Tom Landry



Michael LaVan

## People In The News...

*NDG Quote of the Week:* "Greatness occurs when your children love you, when your critics respect you and when you have peace of mind."  
— Quincy Jones

## Dominique Foxworth

Writer and commentator Domonique Foxworth has signed a new multi-year extension with The Unde- feated, ESPN's content ini- tiative exploring the inter- section of sports, race and culture. The former NFL player and NFL Players Association president will continue to contribute to The Unde- feated and across ESPN platforms, includ- ing programs such as Get Up, First Take, Outside the Lines and Highly Question- able.

Foxworth is a thoughtful and highly-respected voice on topics that intersect



sports and race, as well as labor issues, football analy- sis, and more. In addition to having played seven NFL seasons, Foxworth under- stands the business aspects of sports as well as anyone from his work with both the

NFL and NBA players as- sociations where he played an integral role in the col- lective bargaining process.

"I am thrilled to be back with The Unde- feated dur- ing this period when the intersection of race, culture and sports is as important as it has ever been," said Foxworth.

Next week, Foxworth profiles Kansas Chiefs All- Pro safety Tyrann Mathieu in the latest ESPN Cover Story. The multi-platform piece – which will in- clude video elements on SportsCenter and other ESPN programs – high- lights Mathieu's journey from growing up in New

Orleans through his cel- ebrated college career at LSU to the 28 year-old's recent Super Bowl LIV championship season with the Chiefs.

Kevin Merida, Senior Vice President and Editor- in- Chief, The Unde- feated, added: "'Dom is brilliant— as an analyst, a writer, a host, a thinker. I believe he is the most versatile former professional athlete work- ing in media today. And he is a generous colleague. We are honored to have him at The Unde- feated.'"

In addition to his written pieces and host role with the recurring digital series "I Don't Give a Damn"

and "The Roundtable" for The Unde- feated, Foxworth regularly appears on High- ly Questionable, Around the Horn, The Dan Le Ba- tard Show with Stugotz and other ESPN programs. He also contributes to ESPN Daily and other ESPN Au- dio podcasts.

Foxworth played seven NFL seasons (2005-11) for three teams – Denver Bron- cos, Atlanta Falcons and Baltimore Ravens – after being selected in the third round (97th overall) of the 2005 NFL Draft by Denver.

Elected by the Broncos in 2007 as an NFLPA play- er representative, Foxworth became the youngest vice

president of the NFL Play- ers Association (NFLPA) Executive Committee, and one of the youngest play- ers elected president of the NFLPA in 2012.

After retiring from pro football, he earned an MBA from the Harvard Business School and was later ap- pointed Chief Operating Officer of the NBA Players Association.

Foxworth grew up in Baltimore and attended the University of Maryland, where he was a three-time All-American. He and his family live in the Wash- ington, D.C., metropolitan area.

## Tom Landry

Dallas Cowboys fans are in for a #throwbackThurs- day like no other. The Dal- las Historical Society is hosting a panel of iconic Cowboys players, includ- ing Cliff Harris, Mel Renfro and Drew Pearson, to open the Tom and Alicia Landry Family Collection, spon- sored by the Murchison Family. The exhibit opens at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 12 at the Hall of State in Fair Park. Mike Doocy, sports anchor for Fox 4, will mod- erate the panel discussion.

"Having these legend- ary players be part of the



opening night event for the Landry exhibit is amazing! I can't wait for these players to see their coach's mementos and for diehard Cowboy fans to hear the players' stories," said Executive Direc-

tor of the Dallas Historical Society Karl Chiao. "The Dallas Historical Society has been securing Coach Landry's artifacts from the Landry family for several months, so I can't wait to have it on display Novem- ber 12th for fans to enjoy."

In part, the exhibit and panel are a celebration of the Dallas Cowboys 60th anniversary. More than 60 artifacts on display will tell the life of the famed Coach Landry from his childhood years and service in the Air- force, to playing in the Su- perbowl with the Giants and coaching the Cowboys to multiple Superbowl wins,

and even after his retire- ment from coaching.

Viewing the exhibit and panel, on opening night and afterwards, requires a ticket. The opening night event begins at 6 p.m. with cocktails and free roaming of the collection, followed by an in-person viewing of the panel discussion and a chance to interact with the panelists themselves. Be- cause of social distancing protocols, in-person atten- dance is limited. Those not able to secure a seat at the Hall of State for opening night can still purchase a ticket that includes watch- ing the panel online and the

ability to schedule a time to tour the exhibit in per- son up until Dec. 12. After that, fans will have to wait until 2021 to see the col- lection again, as the items will be temporarily moved to the historical society's archives.

All fans across the na- tion can tune in to watch the panel from the comfort of their own home as it's livestreamed on Nov. 12. Ticket options and pricing can be found here.

"It's important to the Dallas Historical Society to share this opportunity with the whole country be- cause we're talking about

'America's Team' here," said Dallas Historical Soci- ety's Chairman of the Board of Trustees Veletta Forsythe Lill. "We anticipate some great stories from these re- nowned athletes, and we want any Cowboys fan, no matter where they're locat- ed, to be able to watch, and laugh, and remember the days of Tom Landry with the 'The Boys'."

Both Mel Renfro and Cliff Harris are Pro Foot- ball Hall of Famers, having been inducted in 1996 and 2020 respectively. Drew Pearson is scheduled to join his teammates in the Hall of Fame in 2021.

## Michael LaVan

(BlackNews) Michael LaVan, The Realtor, has been in the real estate busi- ness for over five years and already sells between 45 to 50 homes a year.

Along the way, he has won numerous Office Awards and even Company Regional Awards; just in his first few years in busi- ness. Additional awards that he has won include Ya- hoo Finance, the Weichert Realtors Top Regional



Sales Agent (twice), and the Weichert Realtors Re- gional Rookie of the Year.

Furthermore, he partici- pates in the Faith Grind In- spire podcast.

During his tenure of as- sisting numerous clients get the keys to their first homes, he noticed that they all had the same general questions. This is where he conceived the concept for the book, I Got the Keys.

In the book, you will find a simple but effective step by step guide for the first- time home buyer. Addition- ally, you will learn from beginning to end how easy

it can be to go through the home buying process; if you stick to all his proposed general guidelines.

By visiting the "I Got the Keys" website, you will find links to purchase the informative book which will teach you how to pur- chase your very own dream home. Furthermore, you will find links to upcoming events, videos, blogs, testi- monials, etc.

For more information on Michael LaVan, The Re- altor, or how to purchase

his information book that will teach you his insights on how to purchase your dream home, visit his web- site at LavanGotTheKeys. com.

Visitors to the site will not only find more infom- ration about LaVan and his program, but also a helpful blog regularly updated with infomration about real estate and the latest develop- ments.

Michael LaVan is a li- censed real estate profes- sional with over five years

of realty, rehab, and demo experience. During his first five years as a Real Estate Agent, he has helped over 200 first time home buyers get the keys to their first homes.

Not only has he helped his clients buy a house, he also helps them build their dream house! Furthermore, he has redeveloped over a multi-million dollars of investments. He looks forward to showing you how the Real Estate Investing side of things works as well.



Winnifred "Wini" Cannon

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# A [White] House in Pandemic Cannot Stand

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior  
National Correspondent

The virus is "coming from inside the White House," blared the latest headline from *The Atlantic*, one of a multitude of news organizations to cover the surreal events surrounding President Donald Trump's coronavirus diagnosis and subsequent behavior.

"Asking whether the celebration of Amy Coney Barrett's [U.S. Supreme Court] nomination was a 'super-spreader' event misses the point: Trump's irresponsibility made this crisis likely," *The Atlantic* continued.

In his motorcade around Walter Reed Hospital in Bethesda, Maryland, Trump's ill-advised ride raised alarm bells inside and out of the White House and is only one incident in many that points to an administration in disarray.

Dr. Sean Conley, who heads the White House medical team, told reporters that doctors had begun treating the President with dexamethasone, a steroid that the medical experts said is usually reserved for those with the most severe cases of Covid-19.

Information from the World Health Organization (WHO) notes that dexamethasone can suppress the immune system and is "potentially harmful for patients who take it too early" after their COVID diagnosis.

Trump announced a positive test on October 1 and, within two days, began the steroid treatment.

"Trump's dexamethasone drug is risky if used early," tweeted Epidemiologist and Health Economist Dr. Eric Feigl-Ding.

"The WHO warns that this drug used by Trump is a powerful anti-inflammatory for 'severely ill and critical patients,' and can also increase viral replication too and make Covid-19 worse."

Richard Stengel, an under Secretary of State in



iStockphoto / NNPA

President Barack Obama's administration and an editor at Time, suggested that Trump's condition may have approached a fatal point.

"I'm not a doctor, but throwing an experimental antibody cocktail, plus dexamethasone, plus remdesivir, plus supplemental oxygen all at the same time suggests the house was on fire and they had to put it out. Not one of the 7 million Americans infected got the same treatment," Stengel determined.

Dr. Megan Ranney, an emergency physician at the Rhode Island Hospital and an associate professor at Brown University, said dexamethasone could cause psychosis and mania.

She also called some of Trump's behavior, like the joyride around Walter Reed, "certainly concerning."

Added Dr. Vin Gupta, a member of the faculty at the University of Washington's Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation: "The treatment the doctors report they administered suggest the president has COVID pneumonia of at least mild severity."

Despite his unhealthy condition, Trump briefly left the hospital on October 4 and rode in his motorcade up and down Rockville Pike in Bethesda, Maryland.

White House press secretary Kayleigh McEnany announced she had tested positive for the coronavirus.

While the President had previously referred to the virus that has claimed more than 210,000 American lives as a hoax, he's sending

mixed signals about just how serious he's taking his own diagnosis.

It wasn't immediately known what Trump's personal physicians at Walter Reed Medical Center thought of the President's impromptu trip outside of the hospital, but other doctors expressed disbelief.

"It's all ridiculous," noted an exasperated Dr. Ebony Hilton, an associated professor of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Anesthesia at the University of Virginia School of Medicine.

"If Donald Trump were my patient, in unstable condition with a contagious illness, and he suddenly left the hospital to go for a car ride that endangers himself and others, I'd call security to restrain him and then perform a psychiatric evaluation to examine his decision-making capacity," declared former Baltimore City Health Commissioner Dr. Leana Wen.

"This is infuriating," blasted Dr. Taison Bell, an emergency department physician specializing in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at the University of Virginia.

"The White House is past the point of just making wrong decisions at almost every juncture. They are now literally making up ways to do irresponsible things."

Tweeted Harvard Medical School graduate, Dr. Michael McClurkin:

"I cannot believe the President endangered his staff by asking them to drive him around the block to take photographs. He's mad."

Trump's handling of his coronavirus diagnosis has even infuriated the Secret Service, a federal agency charged with protecting the President.

Three agents, who spoke to CNN on the condition of anonymity, expressed outrage at the President's hospital antics.

The network noted that agents have tested positive for the virus while traveling for Trump's political rallies, which he insisted on maintaining even against federal health guidelines.

According to CNN, as employees self-quarantine or isolate in place, others have been forced to work longer hours to fill the void.

"That should never have happened," one current Secret Service agent who works on the presidential and first family detail said after Trump's drive-by, adding that those agents who went along for the ride would now be required to quarantine.

"I mean, I wouldn't want to be around them," the agent said, according to CNN, expressing a view that multiple people at the Secret Service also voiced in the wake of the October 4 appearance.

"The frustration with how we're treated when it comes to decisions on this illness goes back before this, though. We're not disposable."

Another veteran Secret Service agent also expressed deep dismay at the Walter Reed ride. However, he was sympathetic for those around the President, given the difficulty in pushing back on the commander-in-chief.

"You can't say no," the agent said.

While agents in the Secret Service have the power to say no to activities that could put a president in danger, they can't say no in situations that could put themselves in danger.

A third agent told CNN: "It was simply reckless."

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# Black and Missing Foundation Founder warns pandemic could further expose the vulnerable

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National  
Correspondent

Within days of each other, separate investigations by the United States Marshals Service in Ohio and Georgia led to the rescue of 39 missing and endangered children.

In August, these operations were viewed as two small victories in the widespread problem of missing children.

Natalie Wilson, the co-founder of the Landover Hills, Maryland nonprofit, Black and Missing Foundation, Inc., said child sexual abuse online continues to occur in America at an unfathomable rate.

Wilson has worked for more than 12 years through her organization to shine a spotlight on missing individuals of color.

She cited FBI statistics that revealed startling facts about missing people of color – particularly African Americans.

“Approximately 230,302 minorities were reported missing in the United States out of 612,846 for all races,” Wilson declared, citing FBI statistics that included all of 2018.

“It’s important to note that the FBI groups Hispanics in with whites, so the percentage of those reported missing in 2018 are 59 percent white and about 40 percent people of color. Think about that. African Americans make up about 13 percent of the U.S. population, and four and ten are reported missing. The keyword is reported. There are many more.”

Wilson revealed her fears lie that the number of missing has likely increased during the coronavirus pandemic.

Technology continues to evolve, and young people spend an increased amount of time online, so extreme precaution must take place, Wilson acknowledged.



*Technology continues to evolve, and young people spend an increased amount of time online, so extreme precaution must take place.  
(Photo: iStockphoto / NNPA)*

“The children are online, and they may meet someone who gains their trust,” Wilson stated. “Then, that person eventually will try and lure them somewhere because they’ve now gained that trust.”

According to a recent study conducted by NortonLifeLock, a global leader in consumer Cyber Safety, nearly 7 out of 10 parents (about 70 percent) said their child’s screen time has heightened during the pandemic.

In contrast, most parents (60 percent) are concerned they don’t have enough time to keep track of what their child is doing online.

“Child internet safety is important now more than ever, and we must educate ourselves and our children

about the cycle of online child sexual abuse to prevent more victims,” Wilson stated.

She echoed an earlier Black and Missing Foundation, Inc. memo, which noted practical steps parents could take as many children now learn virtually.

“Set up parental control tools on all internet-enabled devices including age appropriate filters to block harmful websites, videos, and images,” Wilson said.

“Regularly check the online communities your children use, such as social networking and gaming sites, to see what information they are posting, and spend time online with your children and build an atmosphere of trust by establishing an ongoing dialogue and open lines of

communication.”

Further, Wilson warned that “there are no takebacks online.”

She encourages parents to teach children to think before they post and avoid sharing personal information and communicating with strangers. “Supervise the photos and videos your kids’ post and send online, instruct your children to avoid meeting face-to-face with someone they only know online or through their mobile device because

you cannot recognize a disguised predator,” Wilson demanded.

She offered that parents should discourage the use of webcams and mobile video devices for younger kids and guide teens and tweens in ways to use video safely.

Further, parents should consider disallowing access to chat rooms and only allow live audio chat with extreme caution and set up the family’s cyber-security protections.

“Periodically check your child’s online activity by viewing your browser’s history,” Wilson demanded. “Parents, teachers, law enforcement and tech companies, play a vital role in mitigating online harm to children, finding our missing, and advocating for a digital world where kids are free from online sexual exploitation.”

For more information about the Black and Missing Foundation, visit [www.BAMFI.org](http://www.BAMFI.org).



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# Officer in George Floyd killing released on \$1 million bail

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior National  
Correspondent

Derek Chauvin, the ex-Minneapolis police officer facing murder charges in the killing of George Floyd, was released from custody after posting \$1 million bond.

The Hennepin County Department of Corrections confirmed on Oct. 7 that Chauvin posted the bond and walked out of the maximum-security Minnesota Correctional Facility in Oak Park Heights shortly after 11 a.m.

Chauvin initially was housed at the Ramsey County Jail in St. Paul before authorities transferred him temporarily to Hennepin County Jail.

Prior to his release, Chauvin was incarcerated at the Oak Park Heights prison.

He faces second-degree murder, third-degree murder, and second-degree manslaughter in the May 25 killing of Floyd, a hip-hop artist, truck driver, security guard, and mentor.

Video of the incident showed Chauvin pressing his knee on the neck of a handcuffed and subdued Floyd for more than 8 minutes.



*Derek Chauvin, the former police officer who was filmed with his knee on the back of George Floyd's neck for 8 minutes prior to his death has been released on bond.*

Three other officers stood by and did nothing as Floyd struggled to breathe and call out for his mother.

Prosecutors charged the other officers, Alexander Kueng, Thomas Lane, and Tou Thao, with aiding and abetting second-degree murder and aiding and abetting second-degree manslaughter.

Hennepin County terminated each of them.

"Mr. Floyd was treated with particular cruelty," prosecutors wrote in court filings. "Despite Mr. Floyd's pleas that he could not breathe and was going to die, as well as the pleas of eyewitnesses to get off

Mr. Floyd and help him, [Chauvin] and his codefendants continued to restrain Mr. Floyd."

Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz appointed State Attorney General Keith Ellison as lead prosecutor in an effort to quell growing racial tensions and to ensure justice in the case.

"Unfortunately, our constituents, especially constituents of color, have lost faith in the ability of Hennepin County Attorney Mike Freeman to fairly and impartially investigate and prosecute these cases," Walz wrote in a letter explaining the appointment of Ellison, an African Ameri-

can.

Chauvin's release from custody comes within weeks after a Grand Jury in Louisville, Kentucky, failed to indict police officers in the shooting death of Breonna Taylor, an African American woman who was sleeping in her home when officers served a late-night warrant.

The officers claimed that Taylor received mail at home for her ex-boyfriend, Jamarus Glover, an alleged drug trafficker.

However, authorities never found proof of that claim, and police cited as evidence "a package" Glover allegedly left at Taylor's apartment about two months earlier.

Glover was arrested and released after the March 13 incident.

When authorities re-arrested Glover in August, he told reporters he had nothing to do with what happened at Taylor's apartment.

"The police are trying to make it out to be my fault and turning the whole community out here making it look like I brought this to Breonna's door," Glover stated.

"There was nothing ... anything ... ever there. They went about it the wrong way and lied on that search warrant and shot that girl."

When officers broke in through Taylor's front door, her boyfriend, Kenneth Walker, said he feared they were intruders because they didn't identify themselves.

Walker, licensed to carry a weapon, fired a shot that

hit one officer in the leg.

At the scene, police reigned a barrage of bullets into the apartment, hitting Taylor 8 times and killing her.

After Floyd's death, demonstrations took place worldwide in support of the Black Lives Matter movement.

Major corporations, including Disney, Hulu, and Pepsi, called for racial justice and social change.

When American professional sports leagues resumed play, athletes kneeled during the National Anthem.

The NFL played "Lift Every Voice," the Black National Anthem, at every stadium during its opening week.

**See FLOYD, Page 8**

*Carl*  
**SHERMAN**  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**  
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# Prairie View A&M's Vote or Miss Out Challenge highlights the importance of making a voting plan

(PRAIRIE VIEW A&M)

Two faculty members in Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU)'s Division of Social Work, Behavioral & Political Sciences are leading the charge for making a voting plan in the upcoming election with the Vote or Miss Out Challenge (V.O.M.O.).

Beverly Spears, Ph.D., an assistant professor in the social work department, and Ralph Morales, Ph.D., a history instructor, are both members of the division's Community Engagement Committee, which seeks to engage the university community and the community-at-large with research and educational activities.

"Since this is the year for the presidential election and voting, the committee felt it was important to educate our students and community about their rights to vote, and the various methods of voting," said Spears, who also serves as chair of the committee. "The idea to conduct a challenge came in response to former First



Lady Michelle Obama's and Kevin Hart's call to action on a non-partisan TV program."

The PVAMU V.O.M.O. is simple: check to see if you're officially registered, decide how you will vote, and prepare ten friends and family for Election Day. In Texas, the deadline for mail-in applications is Oct. 23. In-person early voting is from Oct. 13-30, and in-person election day voting is Nov. 3.

"We wanted to find a way to encourage our students to vote and to take that enthusiasm for voting back to their homes and communities, as well as to friends who may attend other schools," Spears said.

"All indications about this election have shown that voter turnout is going to be massive, which can only be a good thing. We want our students and members of the community to be aware that there are other ways to vote, either by requesting a ballot by mail or by participating in early voting, to avoid the rush on Election Day."

While PVAMU students cannot vote early on campus, there will be a polling place in the Memorial Student Center on Election Day, Nov. 3. Nearby early voting locations are available on the Waller County website. While the last day to register to vote in Texas was Oct. 5, Spears urges it is still a good idea to ensure that you remain registered.

"We are in unprecedented times and experiencing a great number of crises and events that are affecting everyone — a pandemic, police brutality, Black Lives Matter, high unemployment rates, lack of and insufficient health-

care, and homelessness," Spears said. "This election is an important event and calls for everyone to make a plan. One needs to make a plan detailing when, where, and how they will vote."

The committee disseminated information about the challenge by developing a flyer about registering to vote and early voting facts. They also shared a PowerPoint presentation created by local school psychologist Anjelica Greene, Ph.D., LSSP, and a website interview with Greene and Morales. Each faculty member in the division was asked to post the information onto their Canvas platform, challenging their

students to register to vote, and share the information with friends and family.

"While the challenge was originally intended for our division, it has expanded to other groups and departments on campus," Spears said.

Morales and Spears encourage everyone to make a voting plan for the upcoming election.

"I think it is vital that our students participate in voting as a way of ensuring that their voices are heard," Morales said. "If we want change in our cities, states, and communities, elections are the surest way to make that happen. We want our students to be engaged in

the voting process during this vital year of a presidential election, but also every other year that local officials are elected to office."

"For change to happen, everyone needs to make a plan to vote," Spears said. "Everyone's voice is important, and the best way to make our voices heard is to vote. Not voting is not a choice, but choosing the best person for the job is a choice."

For more information about voting in Texas, visit [www.texastribune.org/series/texas-voter-registration](http://www.texastribune.org/series/texas-voter-registration) or [www.democracyworks/covid-19](http://www.democracyworks/covid-19). You can also visit [www.pvamu.edu/sa/pvamu-votes](http://www.pvamu.edu/sa/pvamu-votes).

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	JUDGE MONICA PURDY (DEM)	OPPONENT (REP)
Lifelong Democrat.	✓	✗
MORE THAN 10 YEARS of broad judicial experience.	✓	✗
Consistently ranked by trial lawyers as one of the TOP THREE civil judges in Dallas County.	✓	✗
Performing civil judicial duties on the bench since 2013.	✓	✗
Presided over more than 30 jury and bench trials in Dallas County's Civil District Courts.	✓	✗
UNANIMOUSLY appointed to serve as an Associate Judge by the 13 elected State Civil District Court judges.	✓	✗
Ready to serve on DAY ONE, EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE on the bench, PROVEN EFFICIENCY and WELL-EARNED REPUTATION for being prepared and making fair and impartial rulings.	✓	✗
Placed over as the governor's first choice as the Republican appointee to fill the judicial vacancy in the 95th Civil District Court.	✗	✓
Not voters' choice. DEFEATED SIX TIMES (2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018) in bid for elected office by the voters of Dallas County.	✗	✓

**JUDGE PURDY**

**GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 3, 2020**

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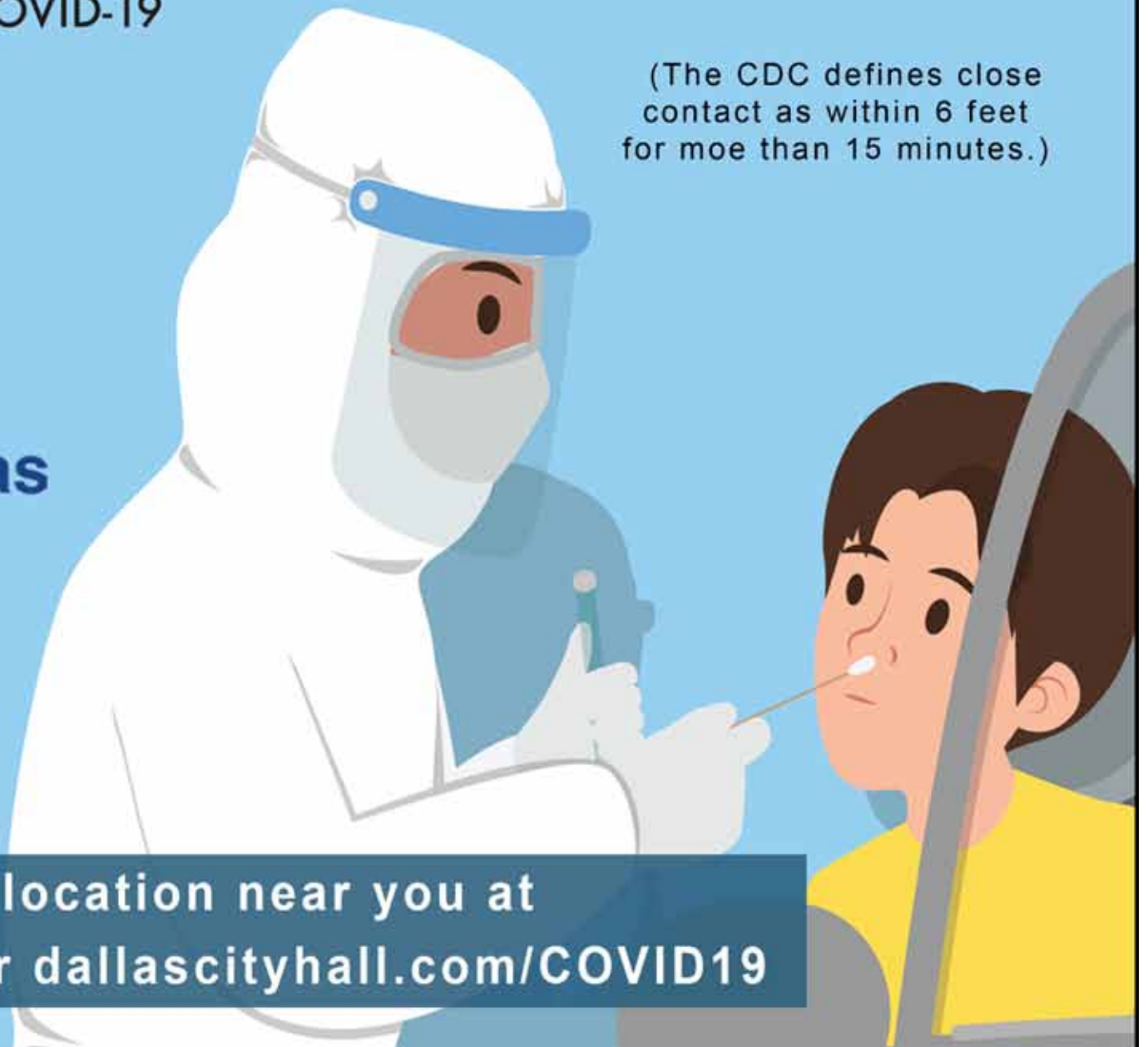
Free COVID-19 testing available for:

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- People who have been in close contact with others who are experiencing symptoms or have tested positive for COVID-19

(The CDC defines close contact as within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes.)



**City of Dallas**



Find a location near you at  
**214-670-INFO or [dallascityhall.com/COVID19](https://dallascityhall.com/COVID19)**

# Third annual Plano Families First Health & Wellness Fair to offer free health services, school supplies and more Saturday, Oct. 17, at Plano Event Center

In a year when health is more important than ever, the third-annual Plano Families First Health & Wellness Fall Fair event gets underway Saturday, Oct. 17, from 8:30 a.m.-noon at the Plano Event Center (2000 E. Spring Creek Pkwy). Presented by United Healthcare, the event provides a number of free health and human services in an effort to alleviate the hardships thousands of Plano families have experienced during the pandemic. From flu shots to health and dental screenings to free school supplies, Plano Families First is



CDC / Unsplash

where residents can get the services and supplies they need during these difficult times.

Free services will include flu shots for uninsured chil-

dren (available on a first-come, first-served basis), dental screenings and fluoride varnishes (for children only) along with community and educational informa-

tion and resources.

Plano ISD students will receive free school supply packets (available on a first-come, first-served basis). In addition, Plano Public Library will be on site offering free books, bubbles, pencils and other fun items, and the North Texas Food Bank will give away free jars of peanut butter.

The Job Fair takes on a new look this year! Presented by the Plano Chamber of Commerce, the Fair goes virtual, featuring a multitude of jobs including several open positions with Plano ISD. View the online listings at planofamilies-

first.com from Oct. 17-Dec. 15, 2020. Event goers can get a free LinkedIn photo shot by a professional photographer.

Photo ID and proof of residency are required to attend. Plano ISD families are encouraged to visit PlanofamiliesFirst.com to print and complete the school supply registration form in advance and bring to the event. Additional staff will be on hand the day of the event to ensure as many families as possible are served.

Masks are required for ages 3 and up, and social

distancing and other safety measures will be in place. Some items and services will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

In addition to presenting sponsor United Healthcare, other sponsors are Bank of America; Capital One; Care Van; Children's Health; City of Plano; FedEx Office; Liberty Mutual; North Texas Food Bank; NTT Data; Plano Chamber of Commerce; Plano ISD; Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Plano; and TXU.

For more information, go to planofamiliesfirst.com.

## FLOYD, from Page 5

NBA players, led by Los Angeles Lakers superstar LeBron James walked off the court and halted play in protest.

In subsequent negotiations with the players, team

owners agreed to several demands, including establishing a social justice coalition to focus on increasing access to voting, promoting civic engagement, and advocating for

meaningful police and criminal justice reform.

The agreement also included NBA owners opening their arenas to serve as polling places around the country.

It was unclear who posted Chauvin's bond.

Bail bond companies in Minnesota charge a non-refundable premium of up to 10 percent of the bond amount, meaning, at most, Chauvin needed \$100,000.

A trial date for Chauvin and the other officers hasn't been set.



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# BIDEN HARRIS

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Joe Biden believes we cannot build back better without a major mobilization of effort and resources to advance racial equity across the American economy.

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WHEN ICONIC MEETS INNOVATIVE  
THE RESULT IS ELECTRIC!



The All-Electric Mustang Mach-E\*

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\*Preproduction computer generated image shown. Available late 2020.

# Nearly Dying to Vote

By Allen R. Gray  
NDG Contributing Writer

Throughout history, the devices used to inspire Blacks to shake off their apathetic ways and vote have been a varied cacophony of methods and motivations. The newfound freedom of the Reconstruction period caused Blacks to shake off their shackles and line up at the polls. Then there were the godly and defiant speeches of the 1960s that inspired Blacks to live out their dreams and cast their ballots. With the dawn of the 21st century, Blacks lined up at polling places to make manifest the day some believed they would never realize, the election of a



Black man as president.

Yet no one could have imagined that the egotistical and despotic ways of Donald J. Trump would provoke Blacks to stand in line for hours just to exercise their right to vote him out of the Oval office. Oddly someone so wrong could generate something so right.

In fact, in Travis County, Texas alone 97% of all eligible voters registered to vote in the upcoming elections. This upward trend is

also reflected nationwide, as folks who were reluctant to vote—or who had never voted at all—are anxious to vote for what they hope will become a better America.

So, it was this past and recent history that was the driving force behind the efforts of Annette, a mature Black woman who had committed herself to vote on October 13th, the very first day of early elections in Texas. (Her name has been changed to maintain her anonymity and to save her from “embarrassment.”)

Annette’s day was planned out almost to the minute. She would go to her doctor’s appointment to address her prolonged medical issues, and then she

would skirt over to the Cedar Hill Government Center and vote for what she believed would take about thirty minutes or so. What she found when she arrived at the government center, though, was something to the contrary.

First, there was no nearby parking, which meant Annette had to park across the street and at the backside of the local movie theater. Annette then walked several blocks to a spot at the end of a long and winding line of voters. She then learned that voters who were even more committed and eager than she had begun forming that line at 4:00 that morning; and that the wait to vote would be anywhere from

three hours and more.

Hour 1:

Annette is stern and resolute as she slowly and meticulously moves from one social distance marker to the next. She turns down an initial offering of water from a strolling poll worker. “Martin and John Lewis weren’t offered water when they had to march all those miles through the hot sun and vicious racist,” she said to herself. “My slave ancestors didn’t have a cool refreshing drink when they had to pick cotton from sun-up to sundown. I can make it, too.”

That’s when a guy wearing a mask and t-shirt that were both inscribed with “Roland Martin” walked

past Annette and others as he panned and recorded the long line of voters with a video camera, proclaiming “Beautiful. This is just beautiful.”

Wait! That was Roland Martin. “Roland Martin. What are you doing here?” someone wanted to know. With a gleeful grin that was evident even through the Roland Martin mask, Martin let them know, “I live in Cedar Hill, and I just finished voting.”

Hour 1.5:

Annette social distanced her way out of the cool of the shade and into direct sunlight. She then rejects a second offer of water from

**See DYING, Page 11**

**They don't want us to vote.  
Because they know our  
votes are powerful.**

**Republicans are trying to stop us from voting.** They're spreading misinformation to make us feel powerless. Because one vote per neighborhood can literally decide who represents us in Congress, and whether the change we're marching for actually happens.

**We know our power. Too much is at stake to stay home.**

A police reform bill that is currently being blocked by Republicans. Our ability to raise the minimum wage, invest in Black owned businesses, and expand job training. It's all on the ballot - change is only possible with our votes.

**Early voting in-person starts  
October 13 and ends October 30.  
Go to [iwillvote.com](http://iwillvote.com) to make your plan.**

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# NDG Book Review: The Organ Thieves is a nonfiction medical thriller

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

It gives you such a great feeling.

Yep, generosity: you can't beat it. To hand over a gift, to watch someone smile, that's the best. Providing a life-saving item or needed supply gives you a warm-fuzzy from your toes on up. You can't beat the feeling you get from giving but, as in the new book "The Organ Thieves" by Chip Jones, be sure your heart is in the right place.

Because of its unique location, easy to reach, just north of the South, the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond enjoyed a stellar surgical reputation



in the 1960s.

The "MCV" had overcome so much: almost literally, its closets were full of skeletons from Civil-War-era resurrectionists and early-20th-century human experiments. Racism was

an ongoing issue, too. But in 1966, the optimism within MCV's walls came from two surgeons, both hoping to become pioneers in heart transplantation.

Doctors David Hume and Richard Lower were both experienced in transplanting organs in animals and in humans, and both were well-regarded enough for South African surgeon Dr. Christiaan Barnard to request time to work with and learn from them. But transplanting a heart, human-to-human, would be different than anything they'd done before. There was no chance to rush; they had to get it right, while being mindful of ethical matters.

Where is the line between life and death? Technology available in 1967 couldn't answer that question enough, and therein lay the dilemma. The obvious best donor then was still alive but not really; the obvious best recipient of a transplant was otherwise in great health. These were not the only considerations, but they were the biggest.

There were laws to follow, and rules to heed, but shortly after Barnard beat Hume and Lower in the race to be first with a human heart transplant, the pressure was on. Waiting in the wings was an ailing white businessman with a bad heart. So when a fifty-

four-year-old Black man was brought to the hospital with head injuries, the surgeons made their moves...

Murder, or medical marvel? When it comes to health-related breakthroughs like that in "The Organ Thieves," we often read of "firsts" but not-so-often about subsequent, likewise notable, milestones achieved, and even more rarely of controversy tied to the event. But here, author Chip Jones tells all of the above, anchored by accusations of crime with racism at their core, a tale that still lingers for many concerned.

That's heartbreaking

and painful to read about, although some may argue that there was a modicum of gain here, in medical knowledge and in eventual legislation. Also up for debate: did a later-famous surgeon have a role in the push to break the rules? Were those rules even broken? Jones leaves courtroom records – and readers to self-argue these details of that day in 1968.

Though this is a nonfiction book, fans of medical thrillers will devour it. Readers who love true medicine stories, history, and courtroom drama will love it, too, so find "The Organ Thieves" because you can't beat it.

## DYING, from Page 10

the persistent poll worker, fearing that nature might make an untimely call and she'd lose her place in line. "Martin and slaves didn't have water," Annette repeated to herself. But Annette overlooked the fact that Martin and the slaves operated in times before global warming and that they had the protection of an ozone layer that has since been depleted by greenhouse emissions.

Fifteen minutes later, Annette's mind is focused on the afterward, when she would have completed her civic duty and she would be snapping selfies of herself sporting her "I Voted in Dallas County" sticker and her sending those selfies to friends and family...Then she felt the sidewalk begin to slightly undulate.

A quick lesson on culture: when a Black woman flings her cell phone all the way over there and chucks her designer purse way over yonder, it means she is on the verge of death or already dead.

Suddenly the sidewalk made a move like a side-winder causing Annette to unwittingly and violently separate herself from her phone and purse. Now Annette stumbled backward but luckily into the fortuitous grasp of the man in line directly behind

her. The man laid the dead weight that was Annette in the grassy ground next to them.

The poison brewed by the likes of Texas Governor Greg Abbott had taken roots in Annette's constitution and siphoned her body of its energy. She had avoided devices like single drop boxes for a county the size of Dallas and signatures that don't match, but she was caught off guard by this war of attrition that was aimed at the physical dexterity of voters with preexisting conditions. Annette was not the only potential victim. Also in that long line of Cedar Hill voters were people of all races who were elderly, on walkers, on canes, and in wheelchairs.

But the pure of heart will not go quietly into some good night and the indomitable will of the American spirit rises like a phoenix.

Nearby, two police officers who were directing traffic saw the commotion. They rushed over to provide immediate medical aid. Then paramedics were summoned to check Annette's vital signs and make sure that she would not die. After many minutes of intense medical care, Annette was finally able to stand as she was being supported on both sides by the police officers.

Another quick lesson on

culture: when a Black woman is seen in public with twigs and leaves all through her hair and all over her cute clothes, it means she is on the verge of death or already dead.

The police officers removed the twigs and leaves from Annette's hair and clothes and made sure she was again presentable. Annette stood nearly unflappable as she was being supported by the officers. Internally, she was even more than unflappable. She was an austere testament to resiliency.

A war of attrition is about a psychological wearing down of one's adversary—but it also about the intestinal fortitude of the human spirit. Annette gently brushed the police officers away from her and she pulled back her shoulders. Then she boldly stated what no expected to hear...

"I still want to vote."

To the massive throng of prospective voters that witnessed the entire event, those five little words proved to be both affirming and inspirational. It was exactly why they braved standing for hours on end in the vengeful sun so that they would be resiliently heard with the power of their vote.

The throng of voters spontaneously erupted into a thunderous ovation and cheered loudly for all that was brave and good and

right.

Annette was whisked away and carried to the polling booths. The people inside repeatedly shouted out, "Y'all move! This is the lady who fell out!"

Annette was seated delicately at a table reserved

for the disabled and the infirmed.

It was on that very first day of early voting in Dallas County, that Annette executed her right to vote for the candidate of her choice.

As Annette was being escorted out of the polling

area and she placed her ballot into the depository, an elderly Black lady, who was a volunteer worker, asked her, "Do you want your 'I Voted in Dallas County' sticker?" "Yes," Annette responded without question. "I deserve it."

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Laurel Land Cemetery charges for cost of single plot: \$3995.00  
Discount Amount, if you act right away: <\$1500.00> (your savings)

Your Cost: \$2495 (financing available)

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# Michelle Obama urges empathy for Black women, excoriates Trump in new video released by Biden campaign

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Senior  
National Correspondent

Former first lady Michelle Obama believes America needs a fresh start and urged undecided voters to empathize with Black women.

"I want everyone who is still undecided to think about all those folks like me and my ancestors," Obama stated in a video released on Oct. 6 by the Biden-Harris campaign.

"The millions of folks who look like me and fought and died and toiled as slaves and soldiers and laborers to help build this country."

"Racism, fear, division, these are powerful weapons. And they can destroy this nation if we don't deal with them head-on."

During the 2016 presidential campaign and amid constant attacks by then-Republican nominee Donald Trump against Democrat Hillary Clinton, Obama spoke of raising the bar in the battle of barbs



and innuendo.

"When they go low, we go high," she famously stated.

In the new video billed as Obama's "closing argument," the popular former first lady pointed out Biden's decades of public service and his perseverance in the aftermath of the tragic deaths of his wife and young daughter and eldest son.

She also pleaded for a large voter turnout.

"We don't have the luxury to assume that things are going to turn out OK," Obama declared. "We cannot afford to withhold our votes or waste them on a protest candidate. Work

like this may not feel as impactful as attending a protest, but trust me, it is absolutely the most important thing that we can do right now to save our democracy."

She continued:

"We can no longer pretend that we don't know exactly who and what this President stands for. Search your hearts, and your conscience, and then vote for Joe Biden like your lives depend on it."

Obama cautioned minority voters not to give in to frustration and allow distraction to lead to disenchantment.

"Right now, the President and his allies are trying to

tap into that frustration and distract from his breathtaking failures by giving folks someone to blame other than them," she said.

"They're stoking fears about Black and Brown Americans, lying about how minorities will destroy the suburbs, whipping up violence and intimidation – and they're pinning it all on what's been an overwhelmingly peaceful movement for racial solidarity."

"So, what the President is doing is, once again, patently false. It's morally wrong, and yes, it is racist. But that doesn't mean it won't work."

Obama then seized upon Trump's mishandling of the coronavirus that has led to more than 213,000 American deaths and millions more getting sick.

"Seven months later, he still won't wear a mask consistently and encourage others to do the same, even when those simple actions could save countless lives," Obama observed.

"Instead, he continues to gaslight the American peo-

ple by acting like this pandemic is not a real threat."

She excoriated Trump for his repeated demand that schools immediately reopen.

"Everybody wants their kids back in school as soon as it's safe," Obama reasoned. "But as a mom, it is frightening thinking about all of these young people, who were just our babies yesterday, quarantined alone in dorms or apartments with little or no support as the disease continues to spread, unable to come home if their symptoms get worse."

The emphatic statement by Obama continued as she aimed arrows at white privilege.

"Think about it: You've worked hard all your life, and for too long, you've watched the rich get richer ... you've seen your beloved towns shattered by joblessness ... and it's frustrating to hear some folks say that you've been the beneficiary of privilege, that the color of your skin gives you a head start,"

Obama said.

"The President and his allies are stoking fears about Black and brown Americans, lying about how minorities will destroy the suburbs, whipping up violence and intimidation. It's morally wrong, and yes, it is racist."

"Imagine how it feels to have suspicion cast on you from the day you were born simply because of the hue of your skin, to walk around your own country scared that someone's unjustified fear of you could put you in harm's way. Terrified of what four more years of this kind of division might mean for the safety of you and those you love?"

"Electing Joe Biden is a chance for a fresh start."

Former President Barack Obama re-tweeted his wife's video.

"This is as powerful an argument as I've ever heard about the stakes of this election," the popular ex-president wrote. "Watch it. Share it and get everyone you to know to vote for Joe Biden."

## 2020 VOTE, from Page 1

las attorney. "We have been the political piñatas long enough. Now it's time we decide for ourselves how we want to be counted and treated. Latinos have the numbers to show their power but only when we remind our leaders we're here and when we go vote."

Texas has shattered registration records according to numbers released by the Secretary of State. There has been a net increase of 1.3 million new voters in Texas since November 2018, and another 1.9 million since the last presidential election. Dallas County itself has seen an increase of 32,736 new registered voters since Sept. 1. Dallas also saw a large turnout on the first day of voting, with a reported 57,000 showing up to the polls.

With 3 million more

votes being cast, as well as a continuing change in Texas demographics, Democrats have not given up on their long-held hopes of "Turning Texas Blue."

"Texas is the biggest battleground state because Texans are rising up and demanding change," said Texas Democratic Party Executive Director Manny Garcia. "Texans are sick of Republicans who have failed at every level, want to repeal healthcare in the middle of a pandemic, are caught in scandal after scandal, and don't have ideas or solutions to bring our economy back better."

"As one of the youngest and most diverse states in the country, the electorate in Texas has fundamentally shifted over the past few years. Turnout in the election is expected to break

records and Texas Democrats have built a winning coalition of voters because we have earned the trust of Texans.

"This is our moment. We're on the cusp of victory. This election is a coin flip and with the energy and movement Texas Democrats are feeling, we will win the election in November."

The squabbling over votes has begun too.

A move by Texas Governor Gregg Abbott to limit mail-in hand delivery locations to one per county drew the ire of Texas Democrats. On Oct. 9, U.S. District Judge Robert Pitman blocked the move, saying it placed an unreasonable burden on voters, especially those vulnerable to the Covid-19 virus. However, the block was overturned by the 5th U.S. District Court of Appeals, by a panel of three

judges all appointed by President Donald J. Trump.

The GOP is also raising objections on how the election is being conducted, saying Democrats are up to shenanigans in trying to increase their vote totals.

On Monday night the Republican Party of Texas filed a lawsuit against a Harris County Clerk they claim is attempting to circumvent election laws in order to gain advantage for the Democratic side.

"Chris Hollins is telling all Harris County residents that they are eligible for curbside voting when he knows that is not the case," the GOP said in a statement. "Any voter that does not qualify to vote curbside under narrow statutory language would be voting illegally if allowed to vote drive-through."

"The Texas Supreme Court has already held in

the context of absentee ballots that a lack of immunity to and fear of COVID-19 is not a disability. It is simply a political maneuver by the Democrat partisan, Chris Hollins, to undermine electoral integrity."

Election fairness, and security against outside threats, are such a concern in this particular election that Senators Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Bernie Sanders (I-VT) sent a letter to Senate Majority leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) last month asking for a special committee to be formed on the national level to deal with election discrepancies.

"Nothing is more fundamental to our democracy than the integrity of our elections," Senators Schumer and Sanders wrote. "Sadly, there are some who are systematically undermining public confidence in the voting process, and irresponsibly

fanning suspicions and conspiracy theories about the legitimacy of election results.

"With the election less than two months away the Senate should immediately establish a special bipartisan committee, with equal representation from both parties," the senators continued. "The function of that committee must be to hold hearings about what is being done around the country to make certain that our public institutions are prepared to conduct a smooth and reliable election which will be free from voter suppression and intimidation, that every vote will be counted and that there will be confidence in the ultimate outcome."

For the politically motivated on both sides of the spectrum, the next few weeks could prove to be a bumpy ride.

# Dak goes down in heartbreaking plot twist for Dallas Cowboys

By Dwain Price  
NDG Sports

The Dallas Cowboys used a gritty performance to take over sole possession of first place in the NFC East on Sunday. But what a heavy price they had to pay to get there.

Quarterback Dak Prescott suffered a compound fracture and dislocation of his right ankle when he was tackled by New York Giants safety Ryan Logan in the third quarter of the Cowboys' come-from-behind 37-34 victory. The gruesome injury brought a hush among the 25,147 fans at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, who cheered Prescott as he raised his right fist while he was carted off the field with tears rolling down his eyes.

Prescott, who has never missed a game in this his fifth NFL season, underwent successful surgery Sunday night and could possibly miss the rest of this season.



Cowboys fans were stunned by the season-ending injury Dak Prescott suffered against the Giants. (Photo: All Pro Reels / Flickr)

"I feel terrible for him," Cowboys' first-year head coach Mike McCarthy said. "He was having a tremendous year in my short time working with him."

"He's made such an impression on me and he's clearly the leader of this football team and I have no doubt that he'll bounce back from this. This will be all part of his great story."

The Cowboys won the game when Greg Zuerlein booted a 34-yard field goal

as time expired to help Dallas snap a two-game losing streak and raise its record to 2-3. But those heroics took a back seat on a day when the unfortunate injury to Prescott may have derailed any hopes the Cowboys had of reaching the Super Bowl.

"It (doesn't feel good) to see a warrior go down like that," said running back Ezekiel Elliott, who rushed for 91 yards and a touchdown. "I know we won, but it just (doesn't feel good) to

lose Dak, our leader."

On the play in question, Prescott got flushed out of the pocket and was scrambling up the field when he was tackled by Logan following a nine-yard gain with 6:46 remaining in the third quarter. As he was on the ground writhing in pain, it was clear to Prescott this was a major injury that would have long-term ramifications.

"I saw it instantly as soon as it happened," said rookie wide receiver CeeDee Lamb, who had eight receptions for 124 yards. "I don't really like seeing things like that, so that's when I turned away. Just to see him go down, it is upsetting."

Well-wishes immediately poured in for Prescott from all across the sports landscape, even from players on rival NFL teams, including from Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes and Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Carson

Wentz.

"Rivalry or not, all our thoughts and prayers are with Dak Prescott," said Giants head coach Joe Judge, whose team fell to 0-5. "I have a tremendous amount of respect for him as a player, and even more as a person."

"You don't want to see anybody get hurt. Our players are concerned about him, our coaching staff are concerned about him."

After failing to reach an agreement on a new contract over the offseason, Prescott was playing his season on the franchise tag that was paying him \$31.4 million. And he was hoping to parlay another exceptional season this year into a long-term contract.

Now this.

"We are all heartbroken for Dak and this very disappointing injury," Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said in a statement released by the team. "The outpour-

ing of messages that I have received regarding his setback speaks volumes to the respect and admiration that he has earned from his teammates, former Cowboys players and Cowboys supporters everywhere.

"I know this young man very well. I know the personal hardship and strife that he has faced, dealt with and overcome in his young life. And I know of no one who is more prepared, from the perspective of mental and emotional toughness and determination, than Dak Prescott to respond and recover from this challenge that has been put in front of him."

Linebacker Jaylon Smith has an idea of what Prescott is dealing with. While a senior at Norte Dame in 2016, Smith tore his anterior cruciate ligament and medial collateral ligament in the Fiesta Bowl, and after slipping from being a top prospect in

See COWBOYS, Page 15



PAID FOR BY MJ FOR TEXAS

Black and Brown communities have been hit hardest during this pandemic.

***I'll fight to make sure no Texas family is left behind.***



**I'M MJ HEGAR.**

During my third tour in Afghanistan, I was shot, and we went down. After being rescued, I returned fire as we flew to safety. We fought like hell to get everyone home safe that day.

**My mission isn't over.** Texas families are still in danger. Texas is facing a public health crisis from the COVID-19 pandemic — and it's hitting Black and Brown communities the hardest.

**In the Senate, I will:**

- ★ Fight for solutions to help Black communities facing a public health crisis that's been made even worse by the coronavirus
- ★ Make sure no one has to wait until payday to see a doctor or get their medicine
- ★ Protect Medicare and Social Security for Texas seniors



# Black voices are loud and clear at 2020 New York Film Festival

By Dwight Brown  
NNPA News Wire Film Critic

The lineup at the 2020 New York Film Festival included an impressive array of African diaspora films and the festival's usual collection of international motion pictures.

Attesting to NYFF's eagerness to hear black voices, the fest featured three main slate films from British director/writer Steve McQueen (12 Years a Slave) that are part of a five-episode West Indian community-based mini-series Small Axe. McQueen's homage to his Caribbean roots will appear on Prime Video later this year. Other NYFF entries will roll out in theaters, VOD and on streaming services—in months to come.

**All In: The Fight for Democracy** (\*\*\*) If voter suppression doesn't spark righteous indignation, nothing will. To understand the gravity of the problem, reflect on the findings of directors Liz Garbus and Lisa Cortés and 2018 Georgia gubernatorial candidate Stacey Abrams. The history of voting mach-



inations goes back to the 1700s, when only white people who owned land could vote. Eventually others could, but progress was followed by regression: poll taxes, literacy tests and a 2013 Supreme Court ruling that gutted parts of the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

**David Byrne's American Utopia** (\*\*\*) A good shot of '80s rock music—you gotta love it. Talking Heads legend David Byrne's Broadway musical has been recorded on film by director Spike Lee. And now, Lee seems much more willing to test the boundaries of creatively filming a live the-

ater piece than he was with *Passing Strange* in 2009. Viewpoints (cinematographer Ellen Kuras) from the front, top, back and the sides of the stage pull you into the piece. An energized and crowded theater generates a euphoric atmosphere, while natty gray costumes and glistening beaded curtains add a contemporary feel.

**The Disciple** (\*\*\*) Traditional vocal Hindustani music from Northern India dates back to the 12th century and weaves improvised tones into a spontaneous mosaic of sounds. Indian filmmaker Chaitanya Tamhane displays a certain rev-

erence for the art form's past and its transitions into the 21st century. Kayal, one the most important Hindustani genres, is adored by Sharad (Aditya Modak), a disciple who follows in his father's footsteps as singer. His quest to keep the music alive and unblemished takes viewers on an excursion around India as elements of the old country clash with a new more commercialized era.

**I Carry You with Me** (\*\*\*/1/2) In Mexico, Iván (Armando Espitia), a closeted father/restaurant worker is having an affair with Gerardo (Christian Vazquez), a single and out gay teacher. This initial premise seems as dated as it is cliché. But, as the film progresses, you're drawn into the dishwasher's ambition to leave Mexico and head to the U.S. for a better life. It's a vitalizing plot turn. Further in, the story and its actors melt into real life, as the actual, older Iván's life blurs the lines between feature film and documentary.

**Lovers Rock** (\*\*\*\*) "I should have worn my

church shoes," says Martha (Amarah-Jae St. Aubyn). "You can't wear church shoes to a blues party," replies Patti (Shaniqua Okwok), her friend. The two young women head to a West Indian house party in this very evocative and visually stunning period film by writer/director Steve McQueen (12 Years a Slave). The festivities take place in 1980s London, where the magic of dance and reggae/pop music put a joyful aura in the air that's so powerful party goers sing along to the music like they're in a Broadway show. The thinly plotted drama/romance follows Martha as she meets the very debonair Franklyn (Micheal Ward).

**Mangrove** (\*\*\*/1/2) In the Nottinghill section of London in 1968, the West Indian community has taken the neighborhood restaurant Mangrove into its heart. The café is run by Frank Crichlow (Shaun Parkes, TV's *Lost in Space*), a Trinidadian immigrant who is as proud to serve émigrés and local activists curry goat as he is to offer them a com-

munity center. Police harassment is part of daily life. Says Darcus (Malachi Kirby, *Roots*), a Black Panther: "The police will have to stop it or the Black community will have to stop them." It's a sentiment echoed by his comrade Altheia Jones-LaCointe (Letitia Wright, *Black Panther*). Continued brutality incites a neighborhood march, which involves a clash with the cops. Nine people are arrested, imprisoned and dubbed the "Mangrove Nine" as they fight for their freedom in an impassioned court case.

**MLK/FBI** (\*\*\*) J. Edgar Hoover's evil attempts to silence Martin Luther King in the '60s are notorious. But it took documentarian/director Sam Pollard (Mr. Soul!) and co-writers Benjamin Hedin and Laura Tomaselli to draw a straight line between the FBI and King based on newly declassified files. Hoover feared the rise of a Black Messiah, and his racism and paranoia motivated him to connive.

**Nomadland** (\*\*\*) Itiner-

See FILM, Page 19

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# JPMorgan Chase commits \$30 billion to advance racial equity

JPMorgan Chase recently announced new long-term commitments to advance racial equity. The firm will harness its expertise in business, policy and philanthropy and commit an additional \$30 billion over the next five years to provide economic opportunity to underserved communities, especially the Black and Latinx communities.

Structural barriers in the

U.S. have created profound racial inequalities that have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The existing racial wealth gap puts a strain on families' economic mobility and restricts the U.S. economy. Building on the firm's existing investments, this new commitment will drive an inclusive economic recovery, support employees and break down barriers of sys-

temic racism.

"Systemic racism is a tragic part of America's history," said Jamie Dimon, Chairman and CEO, JPMorgan Chase & Co. "We can do more and do better to break down systems that have propagated racism and widespread economic inequality, especially for Black and Latinx people. It's long past time that society addresses racial ineq-

uities in a more tangible, meaningful way."

Over the next five years, the firm expects these new commitments, which include loans, equity and direct funding, to:

## Promote and Expand Affordable Housing and Homeownership for Underserved Communities

- Originate an additional 40,000 home purchase loans for Black and Latinx house-

holds. To do this, the firm is committing \$8 billion in mortgages. Efforts include:

- Improving key home lending products and offerings, including substantially increasing the Chase Homebuyer Grant in underserved communities.

- Help an additional 20,000 Black and Latinx households achieve lower mortgage payments through refinancing loans. To do

this, the firm is committing up to \$4 billion in refinancing loans.

- Finance an additional 100,000 affordable rental units. To do this, the firm will provide \$14 billion in new loans, equity investments and other efforts to expand affordable housing in underserved communities. Efforts include:

See JPMorgan, Page 16

## COWBOYS, from Page 13

the 2016 NFL Draft, he fell to the Cowboys in the second round.

The major knee injury subsequently forced Smith to sit out his entire rookie season.

"I know how it feels," Smith said of Prescott's horrific injury. "I've experienced it myself, but I know Dak's a fighter."

"We came in (the NFL) together and built a great relationship. One thing I know about him, he's going to fight."

As has been their custom this season, the Cowboys fell behind again and had to fight their way back into Sunday's game. The Cowboys found themselves down, 17-3, with 13:30 left in the second quarter after linebacker Kyler Fackrell picked off a Prescott pass and ran it back 46 yards for

a touchdown and Graham Gano booted a 55-yard field goal.

But the Cowboys vaulted ahead, 24-20, at the half when Prescott – on a trick play – scored on an 11-yard reception from wide receiver Cedrick Wilson. And the Cowboys eventually assumed a 31-23 lead after Elliott's 12-yard TD dash completed the 10-play, 79-yard excursion on the same drive when Prescott was injured.

However, back-and-forth they went as the Giants nudged ahead, 34-31, with 8:46 to go in the game following a 4-yard burst by Devonta Freeman. Nevertheless, with former TCU alumni Andy Dalton replacing Prescott, the Cowboys received a 40-yard field goal from Zuerlein with 1:56 remaining, and he later added

that important game-winning kick.

Signed in the offseason as Prescott's backup, Dalton completed nifty sideline passes to Michael Gallup of 19 and 38 yards to highlight the game-winning drive. A three-time Pro Bowl quarterback, Dalton led Cincinnati to five playoff berths during his nine seasons with the Bengals before he signed a one-year contract with the Cowboys during the offseason.

"You never want anything to happen, but you've got to stay ready," said Dalton, who completed 9-of-11 passes for 111 yards. "You want to have the opportunity to play."

"Yeah, I knew the situation that I was in and I just tried to do my best to support Dak and everything that he's doing. I feel like I was prepared for these moments."

Now as the Cowboys prepare to host the Arizona Cardinals on Monday at 7:15 p.m., they do so knowing they may also have to play the rest of the season with

Prescott.

"I know how much this means to him and how much being out there for his teammates means to him," Elliott said of Prescott. "It's hard,

but all we can do right now is support him."

"We just got to support him, make sure he's good and go out there and win ballgames for him."

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## JPMorgan, from Page 16

- Investing additional capital in vital community institutions and increasing funding for the construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing for low and moderate-income households nationwide.

### Grow Black- and Latinx-owned Businesses

- Provide an additional 15,000 loans to small businesses in majority-Black and -Latinx communities. To do this, the firm will deliver \$2 billion in loans. Efforts include:

- Launching a new program designed to help entrepreneurs in historically underserved areas access coaching, technical assistance and capital.

- Accelerating a digital lending product to better support the needs of small Black- and Latinx-owned businesses seeking quick access to capital.

- Spend an additional \$750 million with Black and Latinx suppliers.

### Improve Financial Health and Access to Banking in Black and Latinx Communities

- Help one million people open low-cost checking or savings accounts. To do this, the firm commits to hiring 150 new community managers, opening new Community Center branches in underserved communities and materially increasing marketing spend to reach more customers who are currently underserved, unbanked or underbanked. Other efforts include:

- Continuing to open 100 new branches in low-to-moderate income communities across the country as part of the firm's market expansion initiative.

- Building awareness and trust in Chase Secure Banking to meet the needs of Black and Latinx unbanked and underbanked households and expand access to traditional banking.

- Invest up to \$50 mil-

lion in the form of capital and deposits in Black and Latinx-led Minority Depository Institutions (MDI) and Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI), and continue to mentor and advise select MDIs and CDFIs to help them achieve future success.

### Accelerate Investment in our Employees and Build a More Diverse and Inclusive Workforce

- Continue to build a more equitable and representative workforce and hold executives accountable by incorporating priorities and progress into year-end performance evaluations and compensation decisions for members of the Operating Committee and their direct reports.

- Provide financial coaching services to the firm's U.S. employees.

The firm will also provide \$2 billion in philanthropic capital over the next five years to drive an inclusive economic recovery and sup-

port Black, Latinx and other underserved communities. This extends and increases the firm's current five-year \$1.75 billion philanthropic commitment made in 2018. It will also include an emphasis on supporting Black- and Latinx-led organiza-

tions.

### Holding Ourselves Accountable

Measuring impact and ensuring accountability is central to these new commitments. Progress will be tracked regularly and shared with senior leader-

ship across the firm, as well as externally with the Chase Advisory Panel, to assess performance and hold the business accountable. These efforts will further allow for maximum impact and bring an enhanced equity lens to the firm's business.

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### Ongoing City of Dallas

The City of Dallas' HR Dept is currently accepting apps for the Budget and Contract Administrator position. Bachelor's degree in a business/public administration, human resources or healthcare administration field, plus 7 yrs exp.

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### Ongoing House of Blues

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### On-Going Customer Rep job fairs

Pro Staff in Arlington will be hosting an in office Customer Service Representative Job Fair for a call center located downtown Dallas every Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 700 Highlander Blvd. Suite 110. The positions pay between \$12 - \$13.50 per hour plus up to \$1.50 an hour in performance pay. The workdays will vary, must be available 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., with overtime as needed. Must have at least one year of customer service experience.

**NOTE:** As the recent pandemic has caused many changes to the normal operations of businesses and organizations, double-check any events before attending.

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*Note: Until further notice, all services at Bethel church will be via Video-Conferencing and perhaps other churches as well; log on individual churches websites for details. See Bethel's website [www.bethelbiblefellowship.org](http://www.bethelbiblefellowship.org) for their details because of the Coronavirus.*

#### October 18, 9:45 am

Please join us in our quiet time, "Prayer and Meditation" followed by Morning Worship. You will be blessed and inspired as we celebrate service to God, our community and all mankind.

#### October 21, 7 pm

You are invited to join us via video-conferencing for Prayer and Bible Study from 7 to 8:45 pm as we pray for the world's Coronavirus.

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## CHURCH HAPPENINGS

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#### October 18

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#### October 21, 7 pm

Join us in our Wednesday's 12 Noon-Day Live, Prayer and Bible Study class and/or our Wednesday Night Live, Prayer and Bible Study at 7 p.m. to learn more about God's Word. Be encouraged by God's plan for your maturity and His glory; and most of all; be prepared to grow.

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- Malachi 3:8-10

Check "IBOC's" website for details of their services until further notice because of the Coronavirus.

#### October 16, 7 pm

All men are invited to Men's Ministry meeting each Friday night at 8 pm, (IBOC promotes proactive male leadership.)

#### October 18, 10 a.m.

Join us for our Morning

Service; and don't forget to invite family and friends to join us as we celebrate our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

#### October 19, 7 pm

You are invited to Monday School to see what God has

to say to us in His Holy Word.

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See CHURCH, Page 14



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# Junk Is a Matter of Personal Definition

By Dr. James L. Snyder

I thought I had everything organized and in order. It just shows how useless my thinking is these days.

There are many piles in my office and on my desk, and I know what is in each pile. Everything is organized to my specifications. My rule is: if I can't find something, I don't need it. Believe me; there's a lot of things I don't need.

At the end of the week, I was finishing up my office area and closing it down for the week. I sighed a deep sigh of relief, knowing that my work for the week was done. Nothing is more satisfying than when a plan comes together.

It was at this point that the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage came into my office area and said rather strictly, "What is all this junk?"

At first, I did not know what she was talking about.

I looked around my office area, and I could not see any junk. So I asked her, "What junk are you referring to?" It was a very sane and insightful question, at least from my point of view.

I've been married long enough to know that there is a different way of thinking and looking at something on either side of the marriage aisle. After all of these years of being married, I just can't figure her side out.

"All this junk in your office is what I'm referring to," she replied.

The only junk I could see in my office area was the waste can, which was full at the time. So I picked up the waste can, took it out, emptied it, and brought the empty waste can back.

"There," I said with a degree of satisfaction, "I got rid of all the junk."

You would have thought that being married as long as I have been, I would not have come to that conclu-

sion.

My method of organizing is not the same as hers. For example, on the other side of the house, she has what she calls her "Craft Room." I walked into it once, and it was so organized I had to get out as quickly as possible. It gave me a headache. It looked like a well-organized store of craft products. Everything had its place, and every place had its thing.

My idea of organization is that I know where everything is and if I can't find it, well, you know the rest of that.

"Look at all of the junk in your office. How can you work with all of this junk around you?"

Still, I do not understand what her definition of junk in my room is. But the fact is, I work better when I'm surrounded by what she calls "junk."

Then she said something that froze my liver. "I have some time so let me help

you organize your office."

I know she meant well. But I also know that if she organizes my office according to her specifications, I will never find anything I want when I want it.

Then she briskly walked towards one of my "piles." I almost panicked.

"No, no," I said as gently as I could even though I was in panic mode. "Everything is okay; I'll take care of it, you don't have to worry."

Whenever my wife gets a project in her mind, she can't stop until she has completed it to her satisfaction. She's a gifted organizer and very specific. I know that if she organizes my office, it would be supreme.

If she organized my office, it would take me months to get it back to the place where it functions according to my level of function.

When I'm finished with a project, I go over to one of the piles and just sort

through it and find something I had forgotten about, which becomes my next project. If it was organized, I would never find the next project to do.

I thought my life had come to an end, at least my work life. Then something happened that saved me from this predicament.

My wife's cell phone rang, and it was our daughter. She wanted to know something about a craft project she was working on and wanted to know if her mother could help her.

I saw her eyes light up as she left my office area and went back into her craft room to help our daughter. I think that's why God gives us daughters!

Getting out of this predicament was a great thing, but I had to think of what I would do the next time it happened. I needed a plan.

One person's junk is another person's workspace. Just because you don't un-

derstand how my office is organized doesn't mean it's not organized, and it doesn't mean I don't know what I'm doing in my office.

My workspace, or junk as my wife says, is my environment to think and to work.

While my wife was back in her craft room, talking to our daughter, I happen to think of a verse of Scripture. "Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established" (Proverbs 16:3).

When in my space, no matter how somebody else may do it, I am in an atmosphere to do the thinking I need to do. Most of the time, my thoughts are rooted in God and how he has marvelously blessed my life.

Dr. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, Ocala, FL 34472. His e-mail is james-snyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.

## CHURCH, from Page 13

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# Pray for Our Leaders



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*"I urge, then, first of all, requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all men; for kings and those in authority"*

(1 Timothy 2:1).

In 1 Timothy 2:1 Paul exhorts his young protégé to make prayer and intercession for those in authority the first work of the church.

Whereas we once thought of those in politics, military, religion and economics as controlling the earth, today we recognize the enormous influence wielded by those in the Christian's life.

Our mindsets are changing; those in the workplace, including business leaders, we now include as those in authority. They, too, are among those Paul exhorted Timothy to cover in prayer.

God is transferring His anointing to be placed upon all saints to get the job done. This is requiring the local church to give more focus on equipping men and women to live out their faith in the workplace and the community.

The modern day Church is in a major shift! It is not surprising that the Lord would begin to move in this way. If we are going to see a major harvest in the last days, it will have to come through the largest segment of the body of Christ - those who are Christ's repre-



*This group of wonderful and caring volunteers, posed to take a picture, after giving out donations to two different apartments residents, to help them during these hard times as they go through our Coronavirus epidemic, they are as their motto says, "Be the Change."*

sentatives in government, business, and education.

The book of Acts records Lydia, a businesswoman, as God's instrument to introduce the gospel to Europe. The Ethiopian eunuch who

was in charge of the treasury of Candace, "Queen of the Ethiopians", introduced the gospel to Africa.

Peter launched the gospel into the gentile world through Cornelius, a Ro-

man centurion. And three "workplace ministers" reached Europe, Africa, and the gentiles.

These examples indicate the importance of the workplace and community influence and why intercession is so important for leaders in places of authority.

God's Word says, "... those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall

*run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint" (Isaiah 40:31).*

Ask Him to renew your strength; to help you to run this race of life and live for Him without becoming weary; to help you to stand for what's right, to walk forward and not faint.

Don't forget to thank Him for His promises. Thank Him for lifting you up and sustaining you, in the precious name of Jesus.

## FILM, from Page 14

ant Americans, sometimes of an older age and living off low-wage jobs, are particularly susceptible to a down economy. That was depicted in Jessica Bruder's 2017 nonfiction book *Nomadland*. Now a face is attached to this demographic, as created by writer/director Chloé Zhao's (*The Rider*). Her poignant script looks at the nomadic existence of transient people who live within the margins of the low-cost labor pool. Fern

(Francis McDormand) resides in her white van, using it to travel to seasonal jobs. She's a rolling stone, dismissing lovers (David Strathairn) and keeping family members at bay. Says her sister: "It's always what's out there is more interesting."

**On the Rocks (\*\*1/2)** Felix (Bill Murray, *Lost in Translation*) is the father of an adult daughter (Rashida Jones) who is having marital problems with her very

successful husband (Marlon Wayans). Dad sticks his nose in their business and nothing goes right. Why would it? Writer/director Sofia Coppola seems to have fun spinning this eccentric romantic dramedy. When the film focuses on modern family life (Felix and his biracial grand kids playing cards) it's on target. Its attempts at humor are not as consistent. The exception is a sequence when dad and daughter track her man's whereabouts to Mexico, which becomes a comedy of

errors.

For more films and information about the New York Film Festival go to: <https://www.filmlinc.org/daily/category/nyff/>

Visit NNPA News Wire Film Critic Dwight Brown at [DwightBrownInk.com](http://DwightBrownInk.com) and [BlackPressUSA.com](http://BlackPressUSA.com).

**NDGtv** North Dallas Gazette takes a moment to reflect on the past with **Historical Perspectives from Sister Tarpley**. Hear what it was like growing up in a very different Dallas when Booker T. Washington was a black school. Sister Tarpley graduated from there and went on to college and later became a city councilmember in Carrollton.

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