~ Martin Luther King, Jr. ~



The Dallas Post Tribune

2726 S. Beckley Ave • Dallas, Texas 75224

P.O. Box 570769 Dallas, Texas 75357 - 0769

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VOLUME 77 NUMBER 19

SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

January 16 - 22, 2025

States Leading the Way in Racial **Progress Ahead of MLK Day**



Photo Credit: NNPA Files

The report identifies regions with the highest and lowest disparities, noting that Hawaii has the smallest median annual income gap, while the District of Columbia has the largest.

By Stacy M. Brown

As the nation prepares to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day, significant disparities remain between the income and employ-

ment rates of white and Black Americans. In response, WalletHub has released its comprehensive report on the "States That Have Made the Most Racial Progress," evaluating 22 key indicators of equality across all 50 states and the District of Columbia, including median annual household income, standardized test scores, and

Continue Racial Page 2

Dallas ISD students prepare for annual MLK Jr. Oratory Competition

By Jenna Carpenter



Photo Credit: Dallas ISD/The HUB

Eight students across Dallas ISD will represent their school in the upcoming MLK Jr. Oratory Competition.

These fourth and fifth graders were selected to participate in the final competition, which will take place at 11 a.m., Friday, Jan. 17, at the AT&T Performing Arts Center.

The students are:

• Sullivan P., fourth grade: Adelle Turner **Elementary School**

- Jaxon W., fourth grade: Charles Rice **Learning Center**
- Danielle A., fifth grade: Clara Oliver **Elementary School**
- Sidiba D., fourth grade: Solar Preparatory for Girls
- Deon H., fourth grade: J.P. Starks Math, Science, and Technology Vanguard
- Ivan S., fifth grade: Arturo Salazar Ele-

mentary School

- Khalyn T., fifth grade: Eddie Bernice Johnson **STEM** Academy
- Zayden V, fifth grade: Frederick Douglass Elementary School

This year's theme is "What would Dr. King tell us about our responsibility as citizens and leaders in America today."

A tradition spanning

over 30 years, the MLK Jr. Oratory Competition is a celebration of cultural diversity and an opportunity to spotlight talented Dallas ISD students as they learn about the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The three-part contest begins with in-school competitions, where students are selected to participate in the semi-finals. From there, they are

Continue MLK Page 4

Biden to Deliver Farewell Address, Capping a **Half-Century of Public Service**

By Stacy M. Brown

President Joe Biden is scheduled to deliver his farewell address to the nation at 8 p.m. Wednesday from the Oval Office. This will be Biden's fifth time speaking from this venerable office, marking his final formal speech before he hands over the presidency to President-elect Donald Trump. This address will occur just five days before the presiden-

tial transition. In his previous Oval Office address six months ago, Biden shared his decision not to seek reelection, focusing on a momentous tenure marked by unprecedented challenges and significant achievements. During his presidency, Biden navigated the country through a severe pandemic, economic upheaval, and a direct assault on democratic values, efforts that he says unified and strengthened

"Four years ago, we stood in a winter of peril and a winter of possibilities," Biden noted in his pre-address letter. He emphasized that despite the worst pandemic in a century and economic crises not seen since the Great Depression, "We emerged stronger, more prosperous, and more secure."

Under his administration, the U.S. has created 16.6 million new jobs, significantly reduced inflation, and had the lowest racial wealth gap in two decades. Biden highlighted the revitalization of manufacturing, leadership in global science and technology, and substantial healthcare reforms, including reducing prescription drug costs and expanding health insurance coverage.

Furthermore, Biden pointed to legislative successes, such as significant veterans' health and climate laws and the first major gun safety law in nearly three decades. "Today, the violent crime rate is at a 50-year low," Biden added, underscoring the safety improvements during his term.

Reflecting on his

Continue **Biden** Page 3

Dallas Fire Rescue Firefighters Deploy to California to Aid in Wildland Fire Response



Photo Credit: City of Dallas

In a continued effort to support firefighting operations nationwide, Dallas Fire Rescue (DFR) is deploying six personnel to assist with ongoing wildland fire response efforts in Los Angeles County, California. The deployment, which takes place on Saturday, January 11, 2025, includes a Type 3 fire engine staffed with four wild-

land firefighters as part of a strike team composed of resources from around the state. Additionally, two DFR members will join the **Emergency Medical Task** Force to provide critical medical support for fire crews.

The deployments are exwith the possibility of

Continue **Rescue** Page 5





Sharon Jones-Scaife: Award-Winning Author Celebrates Black History Month by Transforming Grief into Purposeful Stories That Inspire Hope, Diversity, and Representation



Author Sharon Jones-Scaife

Dallas, TX – [January 8, 2025] – In honor of Black History Month, awardwinning children's author Sharon Jones-Scaife is using the power of storytelling to inspire hope, celebrate diversity, and close the literacy gap. Through her publishing company, Coffee Creek Media Group, Sharon is changing the narrative—one book at a time—by providing children with

stories that reflect their identities and dreams.

Turning Pain into Purpose

After losing her husband to cancer, Sharon turned to storytelling as a way to help her grandchildren cope with grief. What began as a deeply personal journey to heal her family soon became a mission to heal communities, increase representation, and make literacy accessible for all children.

Representation That Inspires Confidence

Studies show children develop a stronger sense of identity and confidence when they see themselves represented in books. Sharon's work delivers that representation, empowering young readers to embrace their culture, build empathy, and believe in their potential to succeed.

Beyond Books: Building Interactive Experiences

Sharon's impact extends beyond the pages of her books. From branded merchandise like plushies and journals to author visits and workshops, her interactive approach makes reading fun and engaging. She brings stories to life, showing children that books are more than words—they are gateways to pos-

sibility.

.An Advocate for Change

Sharon's dedication to literacy and representation has earned her recognition as a changemaker. Her work has been featured in The Dallas Post Tribune and celebrated through partnerships with SMU Cox School of Business and Youth Believing in Change. Recently accepted into the Dallas Mavericks Business Assist Program and the Milestone Circles program at the Nasdaq Entrepreneurial Center, Sharon continues to grow her impact, inspiring communities and drawing attention from several media outlets.

The Lil' Marco and Friends Series

Sharon's popular Lil' Marco and Friends series has become a cornerstone of her mission, teaching children important values like kindness, respect, and empathy. These stories not only entertain but also encourage conversations about character and community.

Media Availability

During Black History Month, Sharon Jones-Scaife is available for interviews, school visits, and speaking engagements.



Career Day



Author Sharon Jones-Scaife read her book to students at Frank Guzick Elementary School.



at Shaw Elementary



'MADDIE ON A MISSION' book.



Author Sharon Jones-Scaife



Boy reading 'It's Bedtime Lil Marco' book.

About Sharon Jones-Scaife

Sharon Jones-Scaife is an award-winning author, publisher, and advocate for literacy and diversity in children's literature. As the founder of Coffee Creek Media Group, she is dedicated to closing the literacy gap and increasing representation in books that inspire young readers.

Born and raised in Marvell, Arkansas, Sharon earned a Bachelor of Arts in Graphic Design and Illustration from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She is the publisher of several diverse children's books, educational materials, journals, and more. Her work fosters empathy, imagination, and critical thinking in children and teens. Residing in Sachse, Texas, Sharon enjoys family time, running, cycling, and reading. She is available for media interviews and speaking engagements at sharon@coffeecreekmediagroup.com. Learn more at www.coffeecreekmediagroup.com.

'Burn Hollywood Burn' Trends During L.A. Wildfires, Chuck D Responds with a Plea for Understanding



Photo Credit: **NNPA** Files

Chuck D, the legendary frontman of Public Enemy, has long emphasized the power of visuals in shaping understanding. "People listen with their eyes; they don't really listen with their ears," he has said, noting the weight of im-

ages emanating from the Los Angeles County wildfires. That perspective has taken on new significance as Public Enemy's protest anthem, "Burn Hollywood Burn," trends again during one of the worst wildfire

disasters in Southern Cali-

fornia history.

The song, released over three decades ago on the group's iconic album "Fear of a Black Planet," features Ice Cube and Big Daddy Kane and critiques systemic racism, exploitation, and the lack of authentic Black representation in Hollywood. Lyrics such as "Make our own movies like Spike Lee / 'Cause the roles being offered don't strike me / As nothing that the black man could use to earn / Burn Hollywood, burn," were intended as a call for empowerment, not destruction.

With wildfires devastating Los Angeles, some social media users have appropriated the song, misusing it in reels and videos depicting the destruction. Chuck D has spoken out, urging fans to respect the song's original intent and avoid connecting it to the ongoing tragedy.

In a statement and in previous interviews, Chuck explained, "Burn Hollywood Burn' is a protest song," referencing its roots in the Watts Rebellion of 1965. He credited DJ Magnificent Montague's famous phrase "burn, baby, burn" as inspiration, noting its origin as a rallying cry against inequality. He added, "We made mind revolution songs aimed at a one-sided exploitation

Continue **Burn** Page 5

Continued Racial Page 1

voter turnout.

Texas tops the list as the state that has made the most racial progress, particularly in reducing health disparities and closing gaps in the business sector. Wyoming and Mississippi also show significant income levels and poverty reduction improvements, respectively. The report identifies regions with the highest and lowest disparities, noting that Hawaii has the smallest median annual income gap, while the District of

est median annual income gap, while the District of Columbia has the largest.

Expert commentary within the report points to historical discrimination in housing and lending as significant contributors to racial wealth gaps. Dr. Rodney Coates of Miami University suggests that state and local authorities can help reduce these disparities through equitable

funding for education and

incentives for businesses to operate in economically disadvantaged areas.

WalletHub Analyst Chip Lupo stated, "Wyoming has closed the racial income gap by 42 percentage points since 1979, and Mississippi has decreased disparity in poverty levels by 27 percentage points since 1970."

Dr. Edlin Veras of Swarthmore College adds, "The major causes of the racial wealth gap are undoubtedly tied to the legacies of slavery and white supremacy. Black people's concerted and systematic exclusion from politics, business, education, and land ownership in the United States has long-term effects that are still evident today."

For more detailed findings and expert insights, visit the full report on WalletHub.

RELIGIOUS/NEWS

The Danger of Unbelief, (Part II)

Hebrews 3:12-19



The superiority of Jesus Christ to anything that Judaism has to offer is the supreme theme of the book of Hebrews. The author, who is anonymous, has unmistakably proven that Jesus Christ is superior to the Prophets because the revelation that Prophets revealed was partial and fragmentary (Hebrews 1:1-3); Jesus Christ is superior to Angels (Hebrews 1:5-2:18) in that Angels were mere servants (messengers), but Jesus Christ is the Son who will reign supreme in the Millennial Kingdom. Moreover, the author went on to demonstrate that Jesus Christ is superior to Moses in Hebrews 3:1-6, for Moses was just a servant in the

house, whereas, Jesus

central message, Biden re-

iterated, "I ran for president

because I believed that the

soul of America was at

stake." He maintained this

belief, praising America as

an idea of equality and

rights stronger than any

campaign's

Christ is the builder of God's house.

In Hebrews 3:7-11, the author quotes from Psalm 95:7-11 and reviews Israel's sordid history, a hisof perpetual tory complaint, lust, idolatry, unbelief and rebellion. The Lord has persistently performed awesome miracles before the Nation of Israel, yet when fresh trials invaded their rank, they refused to trust God. God had been faithful to the nation of Israel, for He had emancipated them by His stupendous power in parting the Red Sea; in the wilderness, He protected them and denoting His presence among them by the "pillar of fire by night" and the "pillar of cloud by day". Yet, having shown His continual care for His people, the people constantly rebelled against God's authority.

Beginning in Hebrews 3:12-15, we have the application which the Holy Spirit draws for us from Israel's experience. The author is exhorting his readers to be constantly on guard against a rebellious and unbelieving heart that might cause them to fall away from the living God! In days of difficulty and distress, God's people should be urging others not to forsake Christ for religions that cannot deal with sin effectively; religions that leave a man with no forgiveness of sins, no hope beyond the grave and no possibility of repentance. So, a strong antidote to those who are about to

forsake Christ is for believers to mutually exhort them to remain steadfast in the faith (vv. 13-14). So, in verse 15, the author concludes his personal application of Israel's sad experience by repeating the words of Psalm 95:7-8, for with a sense of urgency he said:

"Today if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation." This urgent appeal, once directed to Israel, is now directed to any who might be tempted to forsake the good news and return to

In verses 16-19, it is indeed tragic to note that of all that left Egypt by Moses, only two really trusted God - Caleb and Joshua. Because of their

unbelief the Nation of Israel was condemned to ceaseless wanderings in the wilderness until they were overtaken at last by death. Unbelief overcame them! They were saved, but they never enjoyed Canaan. They settled for less than God had for them. A people who had trusted God to bring them out of Egypt simply rebelled at the notion to trust God to bring them into Canaan. As a result, they forfeited, not their salvation, but the joy, peace, and rest God intended for them in the Promise Land (3:18-19).

Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith

My brothers and sisters, it would be indeed disastrous for us to begin this Christian journey trusting in His power to save us and protect us;

but when fresh trials erupt in our lives, we begin to waver in our trust that He is able to sustain us even in the tough moments of our lives. When you are encountering difficult trials in life, don't forget His past Divine deliverances. Our God is a great deliverer, and He guarantees us that our Christian journey will be triumphant, for Jude 24-25 says: "Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both

May God Bless!

now and ever, Amen."

Continued **Biden** Page 1

force and broader than any

Concluding his letter, Biden expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve, describing his journey from a modest upbringing to becoming the president as the "privilege of my life." He encouraged Americans to continue building on the progress achieved, ending with a call to unity: "We are the United States of America, and there is simply nothing beyond our capacity when we do it together."

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~ THE GRAMMYS ~

(Solution to January 9, Puzzle - see page 5)

ACROSS

presidential

- 1. 43,560 square feet
- 5. Undergarment
- 8. "She ____ a Yellow Ribbon"
- 12. Ocean Spray ____-Apple juice 13. #5 Across, pl.
- 14. Concentration of solution, in chemistry
- 15. CISC alternative
- 16. Swearing-in words 17. Goodwill branch
- 18. *Artist with most Grammy nominations
- 20. ALCS counterpart
- 21. Winter Olympics participant 22. IX minus II
- 23. Drum roll sound
- 26. Front of building, pl. 30. Get it wrong
- 31. Upholstery choice
- 34. Reflect deeply 35. Raccoon's cousin
- 37. "____ the fields we go"
- 38. Binary digits code 39. Capital on a fjord
- 40. Isaac of science fiction fame 42. Consumed
- 43. Within shortest distance
- 45. *100-year-old Grammy Award nominee
- 47. Beer faucet

52. *2025 Grammy nominated former band,

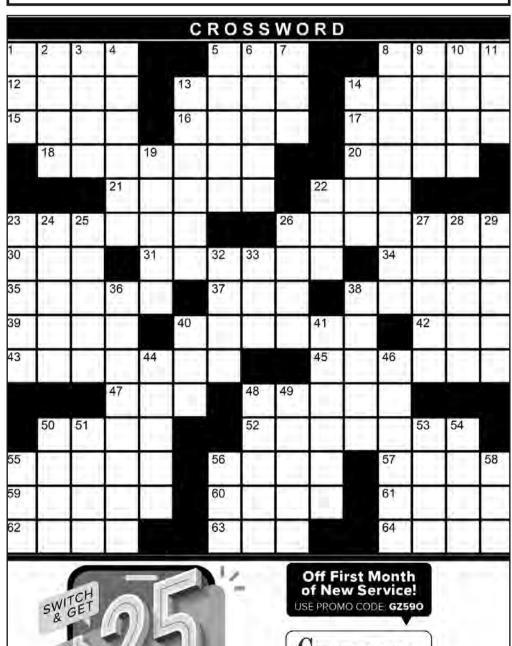
- 48. Corpulent 50. Self-satisfied
- with The 55. Twist and distort
- 56. Bank's provision 57. Flock's response
- 59. Ranee's wrap
- 60. Elvers
- 61. *2003 Lifetime Achievement Award re-
- cipient ____ Puente
- 62. Like some wines 63. ____ it or lose it
- 64. Formerly, formerly

DOWN

- 1. Acronym, abbr.
- 2. Discarded cards in cribbage
- 3. Tear down
- 4. Enclose in a cyst 5. Orthodontic appliance
- 6. Motion Picture Association of America,
- 7. Certain tray content
- 8. *Former multiple time Grammy host Andy
- 9. Related to ear 10. RPMs
- 11. Before, in verse
- 13. Predatory fish
- 14. Gin's partner
- 19. Giraffe's striped-leg cousin
- 22. *1995 "Have I Told Your Lately That I
- Love You" winner ____ Morrison
- 23. Scout's mission 24. What phoenix did
- 25. ____-la
- 26. Non-negotiable
- 27. Old European coin
- 28. Last 8 in college basketball
- 29. More than sly
- 32. *Nominated artist Post Malone's actual
- last name
- 33. Hula dancer's necklace 36. *Taylor Swift's "The ____ Poets Depart-
- ment" 38. Nautical "Stop!"
- 40. Nile viper
- 41. *Grammy winners Frank and Billy
- 44. Top scout
- 46. Make a connection 48. Double-reed instruments
- 49. Famous Memphis street
- 50. Unforeseen obstacle 51. Foal's mother
- 53. Chieftain in Arabia
- 54. Tennis amount
- 55. General Services Administration
- 56. Romanian money
- 58. *Kendrick Lamar's "____ Like Us"

JUSTICE: "INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS A THREAT TO JUSTICE EVERYWHERE" ~ MLK

Statepoint Crossword Puzzle Theme: THE GRAMMYS





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January 1, 2025

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Must be at least 18 years old (CDL Driver, 21 yrs.)

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Please visit our website: www.edbellconstruction.com/careers

Or email your resume to: careers@edbellconstruction.com

NEWS

selected to advance to the final competition.

Continued MLK Page 1

Students are required to deliver a 3-to-5-minute speech, incorporating ideals from MLK Jr. They are judged on delivery, presence and decorum, content, interpretation, and memorization.

ADS



Parkland to offer free tax prep for qualifying patients and employees

In collaboration with Foundation Communities, Parkland will offer 6 'Tax Prep Tuesday' events

DALLAS – Tax season is approaching, and Parkland Health is partnering with Foundation Communities to offer free tax preparation services every Tuesday at Parkland Memorial Hospital and Parkland Community Oriented Primary Care (COPC) health centers to low and middle-income families and individuals. The service will run from Feb. 11 through March 18, 2025.

"Our goal with this program is to not only address the financial health of our Parkland population but to also empower individuals and families with the tools they need to thrive," said Vidya Ayyr, Director of Community Social Impact

at Parkland. "By offering free tax preparation services and access to vital tax credits like the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), we are helping our community unlock opportunities, reduce financial stress and build a stronger foundation for their future."

Families and individuals earning less than \$67,000 annually can register for an appointment to meet with an IRS Certified Preparer who can assist with:

- Current and prior years' federal tax returns
- Amendments to previously filed tax returns
- IRS letter queries
- ITIN applications and renewals

students and non-U.S. residents

Additionally, preparers

• Tax returns for foreign

will ensure eligible individuals and families are informed about and can claim the EITC, which provides significant financial support to low- and moderate-income working individuals and families. They will also assist with accessing other programs and credits, such as the Child Tax Credit (CTC), the American Opportunity Tax Credit (AOTC) for education expenses and guidance on using refunds to build financial security.

Dubbed "Tax Prep Tuesdays," the program will offer appointments at the following locations from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on these dates:

- Feb. 11: Moody Outpatient Center, 5151 Maple Ave., Dallas, 75235
- Feb. 18: Parkland Memorial Hospital, 5200 Harry Hines Blvd., Dallas, 75235
- Feb. 25: Garland Health Center, 802 Hopkins St., Garland, 75040
- March 4: Bluitt-Flowers Health Center, 303 E. Overton Road, Dallas, 75216
- March 11: Hatcher Station Health Center, 4600 Scyene Road, Dallas, 75210
- March 18: Southeast Dallas Health Center, 9202 Elam Road, Dallas, 75217

Quinn Minute

Revisiting the classics

By Rix Quinn

Most students read "Romeo and Juliet" by Shakespeare, then ask (1) Where did those people learn to talk so cool? and (2) Wasn't this the same plot as "West Side Story?"

The play centers around Romeo Montague and Juliet Capulet (a name that rhymes). Juliet's dad arranges for his daughter to marry a bigshot named Paris, and sets up a costume party where they can meet.

where they can meet.

Romeo shows up in disguise, thinks Juliet is hotter than a blowtorch, and grabs a kiss. Then he follows her home, stands

under her window, and blathers all sorts of gushy stuff that lovesick guys have quoted for centuries.

Juliet adores Romeo right back, even though the families hate each other. But, what the heck...they're both 14, so they decide to marry!

Romeo convinces a friendly friar to tie the knot immediately.

Then, in events more twisted than a contortionist's colon, Romeo's friend and Juliet's cousin slice-and-dice each other. Romeo tries to bust up this knife battle, but accidentally kills the Capulet

kid, and goes into hiding.

Then the friar hatches a plan. He gives Juliet a sleeping potion to make her "appear dead." When her family carries her to the tomb, the friar will fetch Romeo to rescue Juliet, and they can escape!

But news of Juliet's "death" reaches Romeo before he learns about the trick. Heartsick, he buys poison, then races to her tomb so they can dirt nap together.

When Juliet wakes up to find Romeo deceased, she stabs herself. The warring families find the fallen lovers, and the philosophical friar explains that the couple wished only love, which reunites their families.

I've left a lot out, but the basic message is: (1) don't kiss strangers in costume, (2) never fight if you can avoid it, and (3) middle school is way too young to marry.

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7 Day Weather Forecast for DF

Thursday, Jan. 16

Friday, Jan. 17

Saturday, Jan. 18

Sunday, Jan. 19

Monday, Jan. 20

Tuesday, Jan. 21

Wednesday, Jan. 22





H-63



H - 49





H-31





H-40

Jerry Jones talks to Deion Sanders about Cowboys coaching job

By Todd Archer, ESPN Staff Writer

FRISCO, Texas -- The and Dallas Cowboys are in the early stages of their search to replace Mike McCarthy as head coach, but one name is already known: former Cowboys cornerback and current Colorado coach Deion Sanders.

A source said Cowboys owner and general manager Jerry Jones and Sanders spoke Monday, and while an interview has not been scheduled, the two are expected to continue their dialogue. Fox Sports first reported the conversation between the two sides.

Cowboys job that was not even open in the fall.

"To hear from Jerry Jones is truly delightful,

it's intriguing," Sanders told ESPN's Adam Schefter on Monday night. "I love Jerry and believe in Jerry. After you hang up and process it, and think about it, it's intriguing. But I love Boulder and everything there is about our team, the coaches, our student body and the community."

Sanders just completed his second season at Colorado, where he has posted a 13-12 record, including a 9-4 mark in 2024 during which the Buffaloes had the Heisman Trophy winner wide in Sanders was linked to a receiver/cornerback Travis

> In November, Sanders was asked about potential interest from NFL teams.

"I'm happy where I am, man," Sanders said. "I've got a kickstand down. You know what a kickstand is? ... That means I'm resting. I'm good, I'm happy, I'm excited. I'm enthusiastic about where I am. I love it here, truly do."

Sanders received a fiveyear, \$29.5 million contract when he was hired at Colorado in late 2022 after his successful run at Jackson State.

Sanders played five seasons of his Hall of Fame career for the Cowboys, helping the team win Super Bowl XXX in 1996 against the Pittsburgh Steelers. He remained in north Texas after his playing career ended, and he has maintained a close relationship with the Jones family.

Per the NFL's Rooney Rule, teams must interview two external minority head coach candidates in their

search. The Cowboys nounced Monday that they and McCarthy would part ways after five seasons. McCarthy posted a 49-35 regular-season record, including a 7-10 mark this

season. Rules prohibit any interviews to be scheduled yet, but McCarthy is expected to interview with the Chicago Bears as early as Wednesday, according to multiple sources. The New Orleans Saints also are expected interview to McCarthy.

Special Counsel's Report Details Systematic Efforts by Trump to Overturn 2020 Election

By Stacy Brown

Special Counsel Jack Smith, in a comprehensive 174-page report submitted to Attorney General Merrick B. Garland, concluded a thorough investigation into former President Donald J. Trump's actions aimed at overturning the 2020 presidential election results, and the report concluded that there was sufficient evidence to not only convict Trump but withstand any higher court challenges to such a conviction.

The damning report meticulously documents attempts by the now-incoming president to disrupt the lawful transfer of power and manipulate the electoral outcome.

The investigations delineated two principal areas: the direct manipulation of election results through pressure on state officials and the unlawful retention of classified documents post-presidency. Despite significant public and personal attacks, Smith's team strictly adhered to fairness and non-partisanship, the report said.

Smith details specific incidents and reveals that Trump applied intense pressure on several state officials, leveraging baseless claims of electoral fraud to alter the outcomes. Notably, on January 2, 2021, Trump explicitly requested Georgia's Secretary of State to "find 11,780 votes," precisely the number required to overturn Biden's victory.

The report also exposed a coordinated scheme to submit fraudulent electoral certificates from seven states where Trump lost. This was part of a broader strategy to obstruct the January 6, 2021, Congressional certification. Smith said Trump and his associates orchestrated this plan, despite clear indications from numerous officials, including Republicans, who affirmed the election's integrity and resisted these subversive efforts.

Following a rigorous investigation, the Special Counsel's office found "substantial federal interests in prosecuting Mr. Trump, citing the para mount importance of protecting electoral integrity and the peaceful transfer of power."

"Our work rested upon the fundamental value of our democracy that we exist as a government of laws and not of men," Smith concluded.

Continued Burn Page 2

by [an] industry. The song has nothing to do with families losing everything they have in a natural disaster." Chuck concluded with, "Learn the history.

Godspeed to those in loss."

Fans in the comments supported his plea. According to The Root, one commenter wrote, "I don't know how anyone that listens to your music could have misconstrued that." Another added, "As an L.A. native, we know that

song wasn't a literal desire to burn Hollywood down. You were expressing disdain for Hollywood elites. We gotcha back." Chuck reiterated his request, writing, "Please don't use our song on your reels and pictures of this horrifying natural disaster."

The wind-fed wildfires have already killed at least 24 people, burned through 40,000 acres, and destroyed over 12,300 structures. The largest fire, the

Palisades Fire, is only 14 percent contained and continues to threaten neighborhoods like Brentwood, Encino, and Westwood. 105,000 residents, with an additional 87,000 in warning zones prepared to leave immediately. Entire communities have been reduced to ash as firefighters work tirelessly to contain

the destruction. Chuck D's ability to recall moments in vivid detail has shaped much of his work, including his book, "The Moments That Met Me." In a recent interview, he shared how he captures and documents history. "I take moments that I was in the middle of, and I draw everything out how I visualize it," Chuck said in a published interview. "That goes back 62 years. I shocked my mom and said this is our apartment when I was 1 year old, and she's like, 'Well, that is it!'"

Continued Rescue Page 1

of extension based on operational needs and conditions the ground.

"We stand in solidarity with the teams of firefighters working to protect lives and property," said Justin Ball, Dallas Fire Rescue Interim Fire Chief. "Dallas Fire Rescue Department is always ready to step in to support our fellow firefighters, especially in these extremely challenging conditions."

Wildland firefighters, including those from

are specially trained in wildlfire suppression, capable of tackling fires in difficult and hazardous environments, such as steep terrain and high temperatures. The strike team, consisting of five firefighting units and a designated Strike Team Leader - will be deployed to high-priority areas where their efforts can make the greatest impact. DFR will join other strike teams made up of personnel from Parker County, Greenville, Allen, Frisco and McKinney.

The deployment is made possible through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), a mutual aid agreement that allows states to request assistance from other states and local departments during large-scale emergencies. Dallas Fire Rescue is proud to answer California's call for aid and provide critical resources to combat this ongoing wildfire emergency.

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STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

(Solution to January 9 Puzzle ~ SNOW DAY)

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Regulations for Publication

1) We reserve the right to edit articles for content and proper grammar. We also reserve the right to truncate articles for space requirements.

2) We reserve the right to refuse any advertisement or cancel any advertisement contract.

3) Deadline for receipt of articles is MONDAY AT NOON WITH NO EXCEPTIONS unless authorized by the publisher.
4) Deadline for receipt of advertisements is MONDAY AT NOON. Advertisements will not be received after that point unless they are camera ready and have been approved by the publisher.

5) All articles and advertisements must be proofed by the article placer or advertiser. We will not be held responsible for any errors if the article placer or advertiser does not proof their article or advertisement.

ticle or advertisement.

6) Articles and advertisements received past the stated deadlines will be held over for the next publication if applicable.

7) We will not be held responsible for pictures that are not claimed after two (2) weeks. Pictures held after two (2) weeks are subject to disposal.

8) Advertisement positioning based on a first-come basis. Positioning can be guaranteed for 15% over total cost.

EDITORIAL PAGE

Will The New President's Appointments Bring Americans Relief Or Remorse?

By James B Ewers Jr. Ed.D



James B. Ewers Jr. Ed.D

The life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was a tapestry of courage, hope and enlightenment. His ongoing goal was to help other people. Dr. King was and still is the signature voice of the Civil Rights Movement.

He walked in places many feared to tread. The marches and protests orchestrated by him were life changing. Dr. King's inspiration gave others aspiration, so that the work he started could be continued.

His day is celebrated on Monday, January 20th. It will be a day of service and a call to action. Evil and wrongdoing do not rest so neither can we as we conquer it. Being in his presence and shaking hands with him when I was a student at Johnson C. Smith

will forever be etched in my spirit.

Many people are wondering today about the unrest in the world. It seems that at every corner there is discord and disharmony. Basic human rights and dignity are on the brink. Now in many circles, we have unscrupulous people doing unthinkable things.

Showing goodness and mercy are not popular traits to have these days. We are simply out to get one another.

Our first month of the year has already been challenging with the terrorist attack in New Orleans where 14 people lost their lives and 35 people were injured.

City officials have brought in William Bratton who was the police chief in both New York and Los Angeles, two of the largest cities in the country. He will be assisting the city in developing plans to better secure it from further attacks and to make people feel safe as they move around the city.

presence and shaking hands with him when I was a student at Johnson C. Smith university in Charlotte NC New Orleans Police Chief, Anne Kirkpatrick said, "He is here to serve all of us. This is a community

endeavor." Mr. Bratton is the chair for the U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security's Advisory Council.

America lost one of its former presidents as Jimmy Carter passed away on December 29th at 100 years old. His wife, Rosalynn Carter passed away on November 19th, 2023. They had been married for 77 years. They were a power couple before the term was used.

President Carter brokered the peace talks between Egypt and Israel in 1978. His post-presidency with Habitat for Humanity and the creation of the Carter Center were historic milestones in his exemplary life. President Joe Biden said of President Carter, "Today, many think he was from a bygone era. But in reality he saw well into the future."

Days have come and gone with the fires burning tragically in Los Angeles County. Reports say that currently six fires are out of control. So far, 16 people have lost their lives. Officials believe there are more, however they can't get into the neighborhoods

to gain a true count.

CNN reports there are hundreds of homes with billions of dollars in damage that have occurred. The homes of countless men and women have been destroyed. Aerial views of the devastation are painful to watch. The rebuilding of this area will take time, money and patience.

Fire officials in the area are doing all that they can to put out these fires. Water and water pressure are both low. Windy conditions have made the fires spread and at this moment there seems to be no end to them.

Let us pray mightily for the people and families affected by these catastrophic events. Our hearts hurt because all of us are in the human quilt called humanity. When one of us hurts, we all hurt. We are today and always, our brother's and sister's keeper.

The Bible says in Micah 6th chapter, "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God".

One year in-State \$65.00 One year out-of-State \$75.00 HUD Awards Nearly \$650,000 in Grants to Increase Affordable Housing

and Supportive Services for Seniors and Disabled Persons in Dallas

Funding connects senior and disabled tenants with vital resources.

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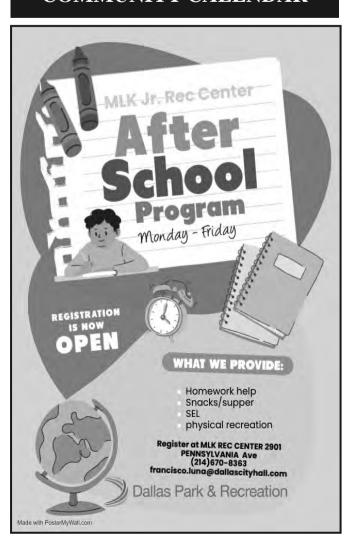
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR



DALLAS -The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Office of Multifamily Housing Programs announced today it has awarded \$40 million in grants to increase the availability of service coordinators who connect seniors and disabled persons with critical resources. In Dallas, Casa Trevino Elderly Apartments received a grant for \$653,055 under the program. See all the grantees listed below.

"The Biden-Harris Administration is committed to ensuring that our seniors

have access to homes they can afford," said HUD Agency Head Adrianne Todman. "Too many seniors are facing housing instability and homelessness. As a country, we must do more to ensure that we are caring for those who came before us. It is the right thing to do."

Service Coordinators in Multifamily Housing Program Awards

Through the Service Coordinator in Multifamily Housing (SCMF) program, nearly \$40 million in funds will be allocated 104 grantees to pay salaries and associated benefits for service coordinator professionals at 107 affordable multifamily homes. Service coordinators connect residents aged 62 years and older and persons with disabilities with resources to help them age in place and live independently. These resources include financial management assistance, opportunities for social connections, and health and well-being programs. Tenants have the option to choose services according to their preferences. Service coordinators also help property management better understand the needs of their resident population.

"These funds help enhance the quality of life for these residents by bringing appropriate community-based services within reach, enabling residents to live independently with dignity," Deputy Assistant Secretary of Multifamily Housing Programs Ethan Handelman.

These grantees are the recipients of the Service Coordinator awards announced today:





Find your rhythm.

Healthy hearts aren't made overnight. They're built through repetition. That's why Methodist Health System is giving you heart-smart tips that you can grow into lifelong habits this heart month. Helping our friends and neighbors make heart health part of their daily rhythm. That's community and why so many people **Trust Methodist.**



A Community Icon and Skilled Barber: Jeffrey Boone

Written by: Opal Myles

There are people in your life who leave a lasting impact, not just through their work, but through their character. For my family, that person is our barber, Jeffrey Boone, a man who's been a constant for over 20 years. What started as a routine haircut for my son has turned into a lifelong relationship that spans generations. Today, he's not just cutting my son's hair, over 20 years but now also my 4year-old grandson's. This is a story of dedication, hard work, and the deep bonds that can be formed over a pair of clippers and a great haircut.

It all began when he was just 12 years old, cutting hair in his hometown of Smackover, Arkansas. From those early days, it was clear that he was destined for greatness in the world of barbering. Now, as a staple of the Pleasant Grove area, he's built a reputation for dependability and excellence. Over the years, his skills have transformed countless lives—not just through haircuts, but through the care, compassion, and energy he brings to every appointment. He doesn't just cut hair; he shapes appearances, offering wisdom, laughter, and a listening ear and, in many cases, reshapes a person's outlook on life.

What makes him stand out is not just his incredible talent, but his motivation. His drive to be a self-sufficient entrepreneur and meet new people keeps him excited about every day in the barber's chair. He's created a space where people feel welcome and cared for. He's an expert at making people feel comfortable, whether they're regulars or firsttimers, and he takes the time to get to know everyone.

One of the most remarkable things about being a barber, he often says, is managing the schedule. With an average of 115 haircuts per week, accommodating clients' needs can be a challenge, but he does it with ease and grace. He understands the importance of flexibility, and that's why he's dedicated to offering services that cater to all his clients, including those with disabilities. His mobile service, where he'll come to you, is just one of the ways he makes sure that no one is left out.

It's not just about the cuts, though. He's shaped more than just hair—he's transformed lives. A good haircut can boost a person's confidence, and he's seen firsthand how a simple trim or style can completely shift someone's perspective. From his early days in Arkansas to his established place in Pleasant Grove, he's become much more than a barber; he's a community leader who's touched the lives of so many.

To our barber: Thank you for the amazing haircuts, but also for the kindness you've shown our family through all these years. You're more than just a barber-you're a friend, a mentor. You've made a difference in our lives and in the lives of so many others. Your skills, your generosity, and your commitment to this craft have shaped a community. We're grateful to have you as part of our family's story. We look forward to many more years of perfect haircuts, good vibes, and meaningful con-

His operation hours are Tuesday through Saturday, with appointments preferred, but walk-ins are always welcome. Whether you're looking for a fresh look, a clean shave, or just a good conversation, he's always ready with a smile and a pair of sharp scissors.

Cuts 4 U 9911 Lake June Rd. **Dallas TX 75217** 214.995.9848







Photos caption: Jeffrey Boone and clients

Photos Credit: Family Album

Coyote Mating Season Underway – Important Information for Residents



As coyote mating season is underway, residents are advised to be aware that coyotes may be more visible and vocal as they protect their families and territories. In adapting to life (and the search for food) near people, some coyotes become more willing to venture into yards and neighborhoods. Residents can take steps to discourage their visits to community spaces prevent negative interactions between wildlife, pets, and people.

Dallas Animal Services encourages dog owners to take the following steps to reduce in-

teractions with coyotes: Always keep dogs on a

Supervise pets when enclosed in a fenced-in

Avoid walking dogs along creek lines or through empty fields

Never permit dogs to run loose, especially in areas with elevated coyote activity (i.e., White Rock Lake)

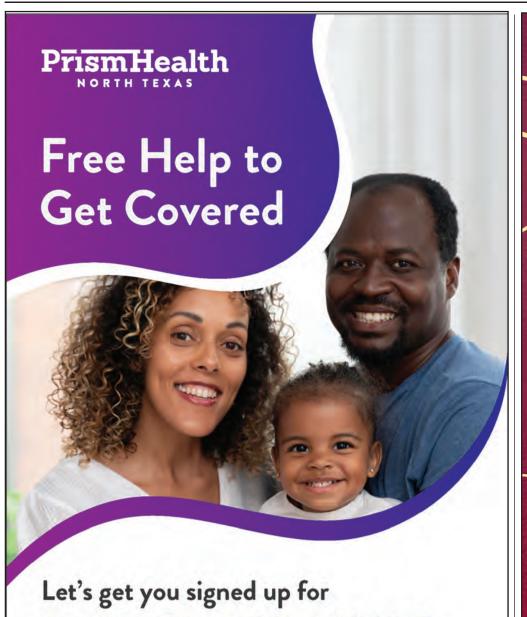
If you see a coyote, scare it away by yelling, waving your arms, and throwing objects near (not at) them to let them know they are unwelcome

The most effective solution for managing coyote conflicts is a combination of community education and awareness, preventative measures, and hazing.

To Report a Coyote Sighting:

Call 469-676-9813

If a coyote appears sick or injured, call 311 for assistance.



HEALTH INSURANCE

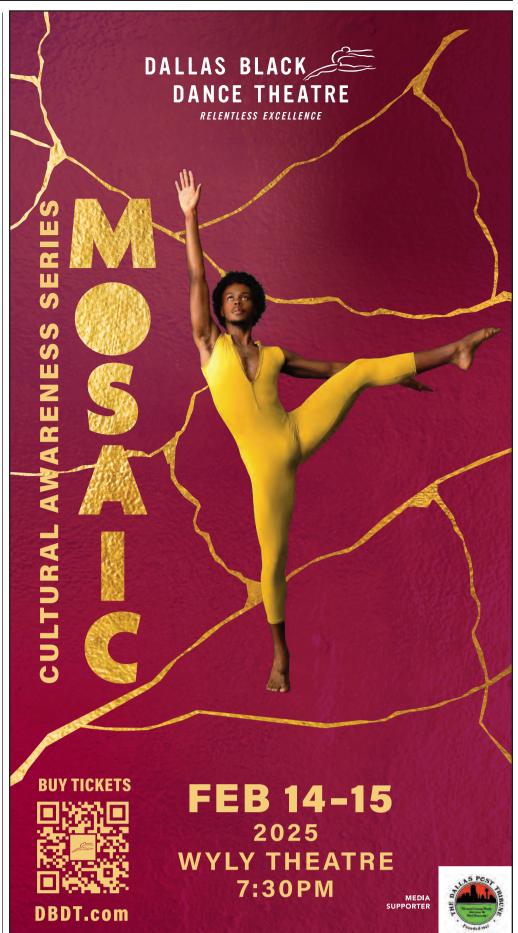
Connect with us in-person, online, or over the phone.

MarketplaceNavigator.org 469-884-6801



Health Insurance Marketplace

The project described was supported by Funding Opportunity Number CA-NAV-21-001 from the Centers of Medicare & Medicaid Services. The contents provided are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of HHS or any of its agencies. 10/21



"Let no man pull you so low as to hate him" - MLK



Job Fair

Wednesday, Jan. 15 | 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

An in-person job fair held at the Briscoe Center at Fair Park in partnership with Workforce Solutions of Greater Dallas featuring on-site interviews and job offers from 75 employers.

Multicultural Showcase

Thursday, Jan. 16 | 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

Join the Youth Commission in the Dallas City Hall lobby celebrating the rich tapestry of cultures, ethnicities, and traditions of Dallasites while honoring and celebrating the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Equity Indicators Symposium

Friday, Jan. 17 | 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Join the city of Dallas Offices' of Equity & Inclusion, Environmental Sustainability, and Community Care for the Sixth Annual Equity Indicators Symposium centered around the update of the 2023 Equity Indicators Report which incorporates a sixth

MLK Day Parade

theme: Environmental Justice.

Saturday, Jan. 18 | 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. H.E.L.P and the city of Dallas invites you to participate in the annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Parade.

For more information, please click: 2025 MLK Day Parade!





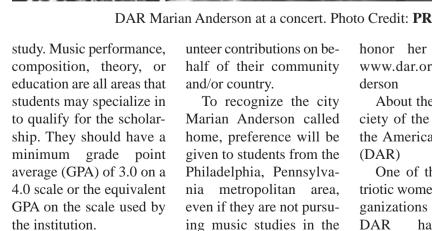
DAR Marian Anderson Legacy Scholarship Accepting Applications, Apply by Jan. 31

WASHINGTON - Undergraduate and graduate students studying music can apply for the DAR Marian Anderson Legacy Scholarship through January 31, 2025. Sponsored by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), the scholarship provides a one-time \$5,000 award to one student annually who is pursuing undergraduate or graduate study in music.

Marian Anderson (1897-1993)was groundbreaking African American contralto and an inspiration for civil rights. "This scholarship pays tribute to Marian Anderson's life, and the Daughters of the American Revolution seeks to honor her legacy through today's aspiring musicians. Her legacy lives on in others who aim for excellence in musical studies, are committed to their communities, and willing to stand up for what is right," said Pamela Wright, DAR President General.

Applicants should be accepted or currently enrolled in an accredited university or college in the United States and have a concentration in

music in their course of



Applications require references sent through the application system, so students need to request their references ahead of the Jan. 31st application deadline.

In honor of Ms. Anderson's commitment to the community throughout her life and her willingness to share her incredible talent with the world, applicants are asked to write a personal statement describing

their humanitarian or vol-

unteer contributions on behalf of their community and/or country.

To recognize the city Marian Anderson called home, preference will be given to students from the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania metropolitan area, even if they are not pursuing music studies in the Philadelphia area.

This scholarship is not automatically renewed. However, recipients may reapply for consideration each year for up to four consecutive years.

The scholarship is supported by the Daughters of the American Revolution's Marian Anderson Legacy Fund. Learn more about the relationship between Marian Anderson and the DAR, and the organization's on-going efforts to

honor her memory at www.dar.org/MarianAnderson

About the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)

One of the largest patriotic women's service organizations in the world, DAR has 190,000 members in approximately 3,000 chapters across the country and several foreign countries. DAR members promote historic preservation, education and patriotism via commemorative events, scholarships and educational initiatives, citizenship programs, service to veterans, meaningful community service and more. For additional information about DAR and its relevant mission, visit www.dar.org.