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~ Michelle Obama



# The Dallas Post Tribune

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SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

May 30 - June 5, 2024

## Dallas County Runoff Election

# Lupe Valdez loses primary runoff to Dallas County Sheriff Marian Brown

*Lupe Valdez previously held the sheriff's post before unsuccessfully running for governor in 2018. Brown's win likely clears her path to another term.*

BY POOJA SALHOTRA



Dallas County Sheriff Marian Brown.  
Photo Credit: Marian Brown for Sheriff

Dallas County Sheriff Marian Brown defeated Lupe Valdez in a primary runoff Tuesday, clearing the way for the incumbent to win another term.

In a Tuesday evening statement, Valdez conceded defeat to Brown, who was leading with 67% of votes as of 11 p.m.

"This race was never about me, this race was about highlighting the many problems at the Dallas County Sheriff Department," Valdez said. "I was honored to be able to bring attention to the many issues affecting deputies, morale and the safety of our inmates and the citizens of Dallas County. My prayer is that our campaign brought light to these issues and that they will lead to an improved Sheriff's department."

Valdez served as Dallas County's sheriff from 2005

until 2017, when she stepped down to run for governor and endorsed Brown as her replacement. Valdez won the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in 2018, but lost to Republican Gov. Greg Abbott in the November general election.

In a statement late Tuesday night, Brown said she had not yet heard directly from Valdez.

"I am thankful to voters for once again, trusting me to serve in this important position," Brown said. "We look forward to continuing our progress."

Polling locations in Dallas County remained open until 9 p.m. on Tuesday evening after heavy rain and straight-line winds tore through North Texas leaving dozens of voting centers without power.

Continue **Runoff** Page 2

## Weather



Pet (Blue) was left traumatized after the storm on Tuesday, May 28. Photo Credit: DPT / Mesquite, Texas

# South Dallas residents brace for days without power after Tuesday storm knocks down trees and power lines

"They don't ever come straight to here and get our power back on. We always have to wait for power," said Bobby Douglas, a South Dallas resident.

Author: **Brittani Moncrease**/WFAA TV



Photo Credit: DPT / Mesquite, Texas



A homeowner took a picture of the damage while looking outside her window pane after the storm on Tuesday morning, May 28, 2024 in Mesquite, Texas.

DALLAS — Just when they thought the hard part was over, it only continued.

"It came back, 'Whoo.' Then the house started shaking," said Bobby

Douglas, a South Dallas resident. "We're without power and been without power since 6:17 this morning."

Douglas took WFAA to his home where he runs his barbecue business.

He had two deep freezers full of meat. It was more than \$600 worth of food that he has to find somewhere else to

Continue **Power** Page 2



Photo Credit: DPT / Mesquite, Texas



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# EDITORIAL PAGE

## There Are Many Parallels Between Sports And Everyday Life In Our World Today

By James B. Ewers Jr. Ed.D.



James B. Ewers Jr. Ed.D.

Watching sports makes me muse sometimes about the comparisons to everyday living. The decisions we make and how they affect other people can make us famous or infamous. I suspect the important part is that we should always try to make good decisions. That should be our goal each day. In another life that I had, I would watch my opponent throw his tennis racket on the tennis court and sometimes step on it. They were boiling mad and upset because of a point they lost. Their tennis racket became the bane of their existence. Having their temper under control was just not happening. During my days of playing the sport of

tennis, I never threw my racket in anger or disgust. The reasons were simple. I didn't want to embarrass myself or my family.

Another important reason was that I didn't want to show my opponent I was affected by his play. My tennis role model was Arthur Ashe. Many years ago, I was in his presence. When you watched him play, you really couldn't tell if he was winning or losing. Another player that had similar characteristics was Bjorn Borg from Sweden. He was almost stoic on the court.

Temperament in sports is important. Keeping your cool in the heat of battle is not easy. I have often said that playing sports is not easy, especially when you lose. Losing is built into sports. There is no gray area as you either win or you lose.

It is not how you handle the winning, it is how you deal with the losing. The losing part will make you stumble but it won't make you crumble.

Players and their emotions are in the news a lot these days. Competition

stretches them and tests our will. I often say there are a few known facts in sports. First, you can't win them all regardless of your skill level and records will be broken at some point.

Losing is a part of sports competition. Ideally, you want to use the loss in a constructive way to get better. Making mistakes should not become a habit.

Will competing in sports help you later in life? I believe it will. There are many lessons that sports teach us. First, as people, we are constantly trying to get better. Plainly stated, because today was a good day does not mean tomorrow will be too. You must put in the time and the work to make it happen.

Communication is another attribute that applies to both sports and life. Talking with others and expressing opinions allows us to have a say in what will happen around us. If we remain silent, our wants and needs will go unfulfilled.

Don't let having bad days become a constant in your life. Learning how to bounce back from being

down will strengthen our resolve in life. It is not how many times you fall down, it's how many times you get up. It's not where you start, it's where you finish. Steve Prefontaine, a famous distance runner said, "To give anything less than your best, is to sacrifice the gift."

We must surround ourselves with people who have similar interests and want to achieve their goals. Being around complacent people makes us complacent too.

Not giving up on an idea or project shows that we are resilient and not easily swayed. There will be roadblocks along the way as we strive to be successful. I am reminded of Jim Valvano, championship basketball coach at N.C. State University who famously said, "Don't give up, don't ever give up".

As the popularity of sports continues to grow, let's cheer on our favorite teams and players. Remember that America and the world have a relationship with sports that won't ever be broken.

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Continued **Power** Page 1

store because he's been without power for more than 12 hours.

"I'm going to have to call my family and arrange with them to store stuff at multiple houses," said Douglas. "There's nothing else I can do."

It was not just his home. The entire neighborhood has been without power. WFAA spoke with one resident who did not want to identify herself. She had been sitting in her car all morning to keep cool.

Continued **Runoff** Page 1

Dallas County had planned to open 281 polling places at 7 a.m. on Tuesday, but more than 100 were without power and could not open, Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins said. Jenkins issued a local disaster declaration on Tuesday morning.

As of 5:30 p.m., 84 polling places remained offline, according to Dallas County's interactive map. A court order prompted Dallas County's election office to extend voting hours by two hours.

Dallas County has countywide polling, so registered voters could vote at any polling place for the runoff election. Still, dangerous weather conditions may have impacted voter turnout.

The sheriff oversees the Dallas County Jail, the second largest jail in Texas and among the largest in the country, which can house up to about 7,100 inmates.

Tuesday's runoff followed months of reports of overcrowding and lengthy

"They told me it would be fixed shortly. They're working on it now, but I don't see anybody out here working. I'm like, yeah, when are they going to start," said the resident.

It is a question many in the neighborhood had. They said they are always the last to get power restored.

"We pay too much money to the City of Dallas for us to be neglected like this, and we're right here by downtown," said Douglas.

"It takes a while," said Ronnie Boyce, another res-

ident. He and his wife, Emily Newsome, were also without power.

"Usually, we can get a message from Oncor. I'm on the list where I get an email message. I haven't gotten anything today. We've called twice," said Newsome. "I work hybrid, so this is my remote day. I don't have electricity. I don't have internet, so I can't work."

Oncor said restoration may take days. They told WFAA that they understand the frustration and that every ZIP code matters;

however, some residents said they don't feel that way.

"Look at the demographics. We're Black," said Douglas. "People that don't have anywhere to take their stuff to, what are they going to do?"

It is another question that only time can answer.

Oncor has been encouraging residents to check on each other, the elderly and vulnerable residents. They also said if you see a downed power line, stay away and call 911 immediately.

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stays at Dallas County Jail. Those issues have plagued county jails across the state but have been exacerbated in Dallas County by a new criminal case management system, the Dallas Morning News has reported.

Last month, county commissioners awarded a \$100,000 federal civil rights settlement after keeping a man jailed past when a judge said he had served his time. They also paid a separate \$60,000 settlement after keeping a man in jail beyond his release date.

In the crowded Democratic primary in March, Brown secured 42% of votes and Valdez came in just behind her with 38%. No Republican candidate ran in the primary, which means Tuesday's winner is expected to sail to victory in November.

Brown, who is Dallas County's first Black sheriff, said during a recent debate with Valdez that the system doesn't belong to the jail but is a county court system. And she said she does

not want to keep people in jail who should be out.

Both Brown and Valdez are considered pioneers in their field.

Brown started her law enforcement career with the Duncanville Police Department in 1988, where she was the first Black woman hired by the department. When she retired in 2014, she joined the Dallas County Sheriff's Department.

Valdez was the first Latina elected sheriff in Dallas County and one of few openly lesbian officeholders in Texas. Since losing her gubernatorial bid, she has worked as a DeSoto police officer. Low morale among Dallas County deputies and jailers inspired Valdez to vie for her old post, her campaign team previously told The Tribune.

During Valdez' tenure, the county jail also faced problems, such as inadequate inmate health care and poor ventilation. The facility failed state inspec-

tion eight times from 2004 to 2010 and was under a federal court order to improve mental and medical health care following a Department of Justice investigation. County officials spent more than \$138 million to renovate the jail and finally passed the state inspection in August 2010.

*This article originally appeared in The Texas Tribune at <https://www.texastribune.org/2024/05/24/dallas-county-sheriff-race-primary-runoff-2024/>.*

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# RELIGIOUS/NEWS

## The Event of “The Day of The Lord” and the Believers’ Responsibility in View of that Event

### I Thessalonians 5:1-28

#### Part 1

By Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith

The event of “The Day of the Lord” is an unusual event that will take place in the future; moreover, in view of this unprecedented event, Paul admonished the Thessalonian believers to live godly lives (I Thessalonians 5:23) in view of this event. Certainly, a right perspective and understanding of prophecy should issue in godly living (I Peter 3:8-12). Our text, I Thessalonians 5:1-28 can be outlined as follows: I. The Revelation of The Day of the Lord – I Thessalonians 5:1-11; II. Some Responsibilities of Believers in View of that Event – I Thessalonians 5:12-28.

I. The Revelation of The Day of the Lord – I Thessalonians 5:1-11

Paul begins this section of this grand epistle by explaining that he didn’t have to deal with the subject matter “The Day of the Lord” in dept because he had already informed the Thessalonian believers about this event. These believers were certainly dear to the apostle’s heart, as many members are to pastors. The Day of the

Lord had been written about faithfully by various Old Testament prophets. In the Old Testament, there are many passages that speak of the event either under the full designation or under the shorter phrase “that day” (Isaiah 2:12, 13:9-11; Joel 1:15; Amos 5:18; Zephaniah 1:14-16, 3:14). This event will occur right after the Rapture of the church. Thus, “The Day of the Lord” will begin with the tribulation period (seven years in duration) and will go on through the Millennium.

That period will be characterized as a period of both blessing and cursing or judgment. Cursing or judgment for those who will be grounded after the Rapture and will have to experience being ushered into the beginning of the tribulation period. It will be a blessing for those who will be blessed to enter into the Millennium (1,000-year reign of Christ on earth) (v. 2). Moreover, as the event of The Day of the Lord unfolds, the world will be saying “Peace and safety,” but sudden judgment ensues. The suddenness of

judgment was not anticipated much as the arrival of a thief invading one’s home.

No one really looks forward to a visit from a thief, and the world will not be looking for a time of sudden disaster also. Not only is this day an unanticipated event, but it will be an inescapable day of trouble. Just as a mother bearing a child cannot escape the pain of delivery, so those on earth will not avert or escape the awfulness of that day (v. 3).

The Tribulation period (depicted in detail in Revelation 6-19), will last for seven years, and will start immediately after the church has been raptured. During the first stage of this period (first three and one-half years) the Antichrist will engage in a covenant with the nation of Israel (Daniel 9); after which, during the latter part of the three and a half years, he will break the covenant, and the inhabitants on earth will experience unusual trouble.

The unholy forces of evil (the Devil, the Antichrist, and the False Prophet – Rev. 13) will control the world; and for those left after the

rapture, it will be a period of unprecedented trouble. To avert this period, every person needs to know without a shadow of doubt, that he or she is saved. You can be assured that you are saved by accepting the claim of God’s Word in your heart by accepting Jesus Christ as personal Saviour, for Romans 10:9 says: “That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart, that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.”

Paul begins verse 4 re-emphasizing that “The Day of the Lord” should not be such a surprise to the believers because they had been fully informed about the event. Also, these believers (the church) will be at home with the Lord (I Thess. 4:17-18). An instructed saint is an informed saint, and an informed saint will not allow any event that transpires even now to startle his or her faith in the Lord’s return. When our hearts are in tuned to the Lord’s Word, any threatening announcement made in this life will not alarm us to such a

degree that we lose perspective on the coming of our Lord. In view of the Lord’s coming, and His coming is imminent (meaning He can come at any time), Paul urges these believers to watchfulness (alert) and embrace a serious (sober) disposition, because they were children of light and children of the day (vs. 5-6).

As children of God, and in light of His soon return, our behavior should reflect that we are both the “salt of the earth” (having an influence upon the world) and light of the world (being or serving as a witness to a dark world) (Matthew 5:13, 14). Paul goes on to say that our attitude of thinking and conduct is radically different than unbelievers because their lives are characterized as being spiritually insensitive (v. 7).

Moreover and because of our enlightened position as children of the day, we should soberly and righteously put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet, the hope of salvation (v. 8). Those of us who are saved should be really manifesting the three

triads mentioned by Paul: faith, love and hope. Paul loved to mention these triads in his writings (I Thess. 1:3), and we should be thoroughly equipped with them in view of the Lord’s coming. Our faith in God should result in our love for people, regardless of their race, or even social status in life. Then we need to be equipped with hope knowing that we have been exempted from the wrath to come (tribulation period), in which the “Day of the Lord” will begin.

As believers, we will escape that awful period of history and we are now awaiting the Lord’s arrival (I Thess. 4:13-18). Whether we are watchful, that is spiritually alert, or spiritually insensitive to the Lord’s arrival, we will go home with Him before the advent of the tribulation period. Isn’t that comforting! (vs. 9-10). The truth of our exemption from the wrath to come (tribulation period), ought to serve in comforting and edifying us in our local assemblies (church) (v. 11).

“May God Bless!”

## Black passengers sue American Airlines, alleging they were thrown off a plane because of false body odor complaint

By Marnie Hunter, CNN

(CNN) — A lawsuit filed Wednesday on behalf of three Black men alleges “blatant and egregious race discrimination” by American Airlines when they were removed from a flight.

The suit alleges that the plaintiffs — Alvin Jackson, Emmanuel Jean Joseph and Xavier Veal — and five other Black male passengers were ejected from American Flight 832 from Phoenix to JFK in New York City on January 5, 2024, “without any valid reason, based solely on their race,” according to the complaint.

An American Airlines representative approached each of the men before

takeoff, the complaint said, ordering them off the plane. The passengers complied.

“(O)nce they reached the jet bridge, they saw that several other Black men were also being removed from the plane. In fact, it appeared to Plaintiffs that American had ordered all of the Black male passengers on Flight 832 off the plane,” the complaint reads.

American representatives told the men a complaint about body odor had prompted their removal, according to the suit. None of the plaintiffs were told that they personally had body odor, “and in fact none of the Plaintiffs had offensive body odor,” it says.

At least one American representative agreed with the plaintiffs when they suggested that they had been singled out because they were Black, the suit alleges.

Cell phone footage taken by some of the men and shared by the Public Citizen Litigation Group representing the plaintiffs shows a chaotic scene as they question the airline’s actions and records one man saying, “So this is discrimination.”

“I agree, I agree,” says a woman wearing a badge who appears to be an airline employee.

“We’re the only ones getting taken off the plane,” says one man, panning

across the group. “Look at us.”

In another video, a man comments, “This is crazy. Y’all just took like eight Black people off the plane.”

The plaintiffs did not know each other before the flight and were not seated together, according to the complaint.

At the gate, the men were told that a White male flight attendant had made the body odor complaint, the suit says.

The men were eventually allowed back on after about an hour after the airline determined there were no available flights that evening.

“Plaintiffs then had to reboard the plane and

endure the stares of the largely white passengers who viewed them as the cause of the substantial delay. They suffered during the entire flight home, and the entire incident was traumatic, upsetting, scary, humiliating, and degrading,” the complaint reads.

“We take all claims of discrimination very seriously and want our customers to have a positive experience when they choose to fly with us,” American Airlines said in a statement.

“Our teams are currently investigating the matter, as the claims do not reflect our core values or our purpose of caring for people.”

The plaintiffs are seek-

ing “declaratory relief, just compensation for their pain and suffering, a punitive damage award sufficient to deter American from discriminating against Black passengers in the future,” as well as attorneys fees.

The complaint also refers to what it calls “American’s pattern of discriminating against Black passengers,” which prompted an NAACP warning in 2017 related to the airline. That warning was lifted nine months later after the airline made progress in addressing the organization’s concerns.

The suit alleges that the plaintiffs’ treatment was part of that pattern.



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## HEALTH

# Parkland launching new initiative aimed at broadening access to family planning services

*In partnership with Trust Her and Dallas College, mobile unit will offer contraceptive counseling and STI screenings*



Parkland Health, in collaboration with Trust Her, an initiative of the nonprofit Child Poverty Action Lab (CPAL), is deploying a new mobile clinic dedicated to enhancing access to family planning and women's health services in Dallas. The Women's Wellness Mobile Clinic will be stationed at Dallas College campuses throughout the county.

This new program, aimed at serving the health and reproductive planning needs of young adults, was unveiled during a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Thursday, May 23, at Dallas College Mountain View Campus.

Funded entirely by philanthropic dollars with a lead gift directed to CPAL from Communities Foundation of Texas' W.W. Caruth, Jr. Fund and other philanthropic dollars provided by generous donors to the Parkland Health Foundation, this mobile clinic represents a major step forward in addressing the need for accessible family planning and sexually transmitted

infection (STI) screening services in the region.

"This new women's wellness mobile clinic underscores Parkland's continued dedication to meeting the diverse needs of women and girls across Dallas County, and the critical role philanthropy coupled with public resources plays in improving access to high-quality healthcare," said Michael Horne, EdD, MPP, president and CEO, Parkland Health Foundation. "We are incredibly grateful for our partners at CPAL and the other philanthropic investors who have made this possible."

"Accurate information and access to birth control decreases unwanted pregnancies and allows for family planning that increases the chance that babies will be brought into the world at a time when their parent(s) are better able to nurture and support them," said Clay Lewis Jenkins, Dallas County Judge.

By leveraging the medical expertise of Parkland and the resources of Dallas College and Trust Her, this partnership seeks to break

down barriers to healthcare access and empower individuals to take control of their reproductive health. The mobile unit will offer a comprehensive range of services, including contraceptive counseling, STI screenings, sexual health education and more.

"Trust Her is committed to closing the gap for the tens of thousands of uninsured and low-income women in Dallas County who are seeking contraception but face barriers," said Kate McCollum, Senior Director of Reproductive and Maternal Health for CPAL. "A mother's health is inextricably linked not only to the health of her children but also to their future economic mobility. By supporting community clinics in the Trust Her network to provide patient-centered and same-day access to family planning services, and through institutional partnerships like this, we can come together to meet women and girls in their communities and break down access barriers that have multi-genera-

tional impact."

"We understand the challenges students are faced with and that can be a barrier to pursuing their education at Dallas College. Partnerships with community agencies like Parkland and Trust Her allows us to build capacity for our learner care approach where we intentionally focus on wellness and support from coaching to financial aid to health care," added Beatriz Joseph, EdD, vice chancellor student success and interim president Mountain View. "Making these services more conveniently located on our campuses will help us better meet the needs of the whole student and foster a healthier and more productive learning environment."

Staffed by a multidisciplinary team of advanced practice providers, nurses and financial counselors from Parkland, it will serve as a vital resource for individuals seeking confidential and compassionate care.

"We are excited to unveil this innovative mobile unit, which represents the ongoing commitment to promoting reproductive health and wellness in our community," said Carmen Bowling, DNP, RN, Senior Vice President, Women & Infants Specialty Health (WISH) at Parkland. "Parkland has long been dedicated to providing quality care to the Dallas community at every stage of life, and this is just another tangible example of that promise."

Continue Family Page 5

## Quinn Minute

# My frog drawing

By Rix Quinn

In my long and unproductive life, I've encountered several disgusting things...and I've stepped in a few of them.

But few gave me more displeasure than dissecting a frog. This was a school requirement, and I dreaded it for weeks.

My biology teacher, however, seemed to enjoy watching us approach a big vat of formaldehyde, grab a pair of tongs, and fish out a long-deceased amphibian from the stinky liquid.

After this, we chose a

partner, then sat next to each other at a lab table. For the dissection, we would share a frog.

Following instructions on a large display in our textbook, we laid the frog on its back, and noticed this was not this frog's first autopsy. The chest was already open, so we did our best to locate important organs by moving them around with a number two pencil.

We noticed the position of the heart, lungs, and other disgusting stuff. Each

of us attempted to sketch what we saw on a blank sheet of paper.

We noted that some of the frog's front fingers were missing. Probably the result of a frog-to-frog competition.

We handed in our sketches. Mine looked a little like a goat...but not much.

The teacher gave my artwork an F-minus. I complained to her that nobody deserved below an F.

She told me that this one was so bad, it needed special recognition.

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# SPORTS/NEWS PAGE

## 7 Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, May 30	Friday, May 31	Saturday, June 1	Sunday, June 2	Monday, June 3	Tuesday, June 4	Wednesday, June 5
60%	70%	40%	30%	30%		
H - 80° L - 71°	H - 74° L - 67°	H - 81° L - 71°	H - 84° L - 73°	H - 87° L - 74°	H - 87° L - 73°	H - 87° L - 72°

# MLB Integrates Negro Leagues Stats, Elevating Long-Overlooked Stars to Major League Status

By Stacy M. Brown  
NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent



Major League Baseball (MLB) has taken a historic step to rectify a long-standing oversight by officially incorporating Negro Leagues statistics into its historical record. Starting today, the achievements of approximately 2,300 Negro Leagues players will be recognized alongside those of MLB legends like Babe Ruth and Ty Cobb.

For decades, Babe Ruth and Ty Cobb were celebrated as the greatest figures in baseball, with Ruth hailed as the best player and Cobb as the premier hitter. However, these narratives often excluded African American athletes whose contributions were underreported or dismissed. This exclusion persisted despite the talents that led to Jackie Robinson breaking the color barrier in 1947 as the first Black player in the modern Major Leagues.

Robert Manfred announced this significant change three years ago, emphasizing the league's commitment to correcting a historical wrong by elevating the Negro Leagues to "Major League" status. John Thorn, an MLB historian, and the Negro Leagues Statistical Review Committee have been responsible for the meticulous process of officially incorporating Negro Leagues stats into MLB records. The team has been reviewing thousands of box scores and other historical data to integrate the statistics of the seven Negro Leagues into MLB's database.

Josh Gibson, a standout in the Negro Leagues, will now lead multiple batting categories. His career batting average, slugging percentage, and OPS surpass those of Ty Cobb and Babe Ruth. While some of Gibson's legendary feats, such as the nearly 800 home runs men-

tioned on his Hall of Fame plaque, will not be included, many of his official stats will now be recognized.

Thorn hailed the decision as "not only righting a social, cultural, and historical wrong, it's defining baseball as a game for Americans without exclusion." He emphasized that baseball is a sport of tradition, but its capacity for profound change is equally significant.

To honor the Negro Leagues, MLB will host a tribute game on June 20 at Rickwood Field in Birmingham, Alabama—the oldest professional baseball park in the U.S. Players will don period uniforms and pay tribute to legendary center fielder Willie Mays, an Alabama native.

With the integration of these statistics, players like Buck Leonard, Buck O'Neil, Cool Papa Bell, Doc Sykes, Monte Irvin, Leroy

Satchel Paige, and Gibson will finally receive their due recognition. Fans will now appreciate the true scope of their talents and achievements.

Sean Gibson, the great-grandson of Josh Gibson and executive director of the Josh Gibson Foundation, expressed the family's excitement over this acknowledgment. "We always considered him a major leaguer; he just didn't play in the major leagues," Sean Gibson told NBC Sports. He is eager to see how his great-grandfather's stats compare to those of other MLB legends.

Reflecting on this milestone, he added, "If Josh Gibson was alive right now, he'd be honored. He'll probably wonder why it took so long. He'll be happy for all the other baseball players, and more importantly, he'll be excited for his family to carry on his legacy."

# Updates on City of Dallas Inclement Weather Impacts

The City of Dallas continues its damage clean-up efforts and traffic signal restoration due to today's storm and resulting damage.

- Oncor reports 190,687 customers in Dallas are without power. Crews are working to restore power as quickly as possible, but it could take several days to complete repairs. To report a power outage or check the status, text OUT to 66267, use the MyOncon app, click "Report an Outage" on the map, or call 888-313-4747.
- The City has established a debris removal team to clear roads so that Oncon crews can access downed power lines. Residents should call 311 to report downed trees and debris in roadways. 311 operators will forward road blockage information to the appropriate crews.
- For tree debris on your property, please

stack debris adjacent to the street. The City has waived enforcement for early placement for pick-up. In addition, the City will allow tree debris pick-up of up to 20 cubic yards for the next 15 days. Household bulk items are not included.

- The Dallas Department of Transportation reports 316 traffic signals are out and 122 are flashing. Stop signs will be placed at key intersections.
- City facilities including recreation centers and libraries will be available tomorrow for respite. Please visit this link for latest information and operating hours.
- Please do not call 911 unless you need police, fire or emergency medical services.
- For real time updates, please visit [dal.city/WeatherMay2024](http://dal.city/WeatherMay2024) as City of Dallas continues to update its website.

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Continued Family Page 4

The ribbon-cutting ceremony featured remarks from key stakeholders, including Dallas County Judge, Clay Lewis Jenkins; Dallas College Chancellor, Justin Lonon, DM, and Vice

Chancellor of Student Success and Interim President - Mountain View Campus, Beatriz Joseph, EdD; Parkland President and CEO, Fred Cerise, MD, and Parkland Senior Vice President of WISH, Carmen Bowling, DNP, RN; and

CPAL Senior Director of Reproductive and Maternal Health, Kate McCollum.

Attendees had the opportunity to tour the mobile unit and learn more about the services it will provide. This initiative emphasizes the importance of collaboration

and partnership in addressing critical healthcare needs for the broader Dallas community.

For more information on the services provided at Parkland, please visit our website at [www.parkland-health.org](http://www.parkland-health.org).



City of Dallas

2023 Drinking Water Quality Report

The City of Dallas' Drinking Water Quality Report is produced annually to provide information about the City's water system including source water, the levels of detected contaminants and compliance with drinking water rules. The report is also produced to answer your water quality questions.

The 2023 Drinking Water Quality Report shows that the levels of contaminants in Dallas' water meet or are below the amounts allowed by law.

A copy of the 2023 Drinking Water Quality Report can be obtained by calling Dallas' 311 Information Line or downloaded from the City website [www.dallaswqr.com](http://www.dallaswqr.com).

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# Unlocked Opportunities: From Carter High School to Prairie View A&M University

BY NINA LAKHIANI



Photo Credit: The HUB

During his time at Carter High School, Patrick W. III never tried to fit in. Even though making friends and helping people feel seen comes naturally.

"That was the highlight of my years, not having to change myself. I didn't try

to fit in the crowd for the sake of making friends," he said.

Nicknamed 'Pastor Pat' by his peers, the senior embraced the role of spiritual guide and often provided them words of inspiration.

Born and raised in Cedar

Hill, Texas, Patrick W. III's upbringing was grounded in faith and family.

His father, a respected pastor, instilled in him the values of kindness and respect. His mother, a healthcare professional, inspired Patrick with her

commitment to caring for others.

For 14 years, Patrick attended a private Christian school, located over 30 miles from his home. During his time there, he stood out for his academic prowess. He also served as a class preacher where he would share words of inspiration and positivity with teachers and peers.

Despite being one of the only Black students in his grade, Patrick never let that affect his ability to thrive and form meaningful connections. However, he yearned for change.

"I felt like I was missing out on a lot of experiences where I was and didn't really have any friends where I lived," he said.

His desire to experience a diverse environment and create close connections led Patrick to enroll in his mother's alma mater, Carter

High School.

"I just wanted to be in a school where I could see more people that looked like me," he said.

As Patrick reminisced on his first day, he recalled experiencing a culture shock, due to the diversity he encountered.

It was only a matter of time before Patrick began to thrive, but that didn't come without its challenges. Joining the collegiate program as a junior was a daunting task, and his determination drove him to complete about 1,740 credit hours in two years. Last week, Patrick received his associate's degree in business.

Academics weren't Patrick's only strong suit. During his two years at Carter, he also contributed to the varsity golf team's back-to-back district championship victories.

Additionally, he was a member of the varsity swim team, and was recently honored as Carter High School's Athlete of the Year.

Patrick said he thrives best when staying true to himself and hopes to inspire others to do the same. He is committed to helping others, and that dedication inspired him to start his own nonprofit organization, Kid Inspirations. The organization focuses on providing quality resources to children in Dallas' southern sector.

"The reason why I give to other people is because I've been so blessed I feel like I can be a blessing to someone else," he said.

Patrick was accepted to over 25 colleges and universities. He will attend Prairie View A&M University this fall to study Business Management.

City of Dallas Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center  
FY 23-24:70

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Contact us at 214-670-8418 or visit [dallasmlkcenter.com](http://dallasmlkcenter.com) for more information.

## Departure of Tarrant County Jail Chief is a Necessary First Step, But More Must Be Done

The departure of Charles Eckert, Executive Chief Deputy of Confinement, marks a significant but necessary first step in addressing the alarming rise in jail deaths in the Tarrant County jail. While the long-time jail chief will be leaving after 32 years, systemic problems within the jail remain.

The ultimate responsibility for these issues lies with Sheriff Bill Waybourn.

As Sheriff, he must lead the effort to implement meaningful reforms that ensure the safety of those in custody and uphold their

civil rights.

Additionally, as county leaders, my colleagues on the Commissioners Court and I bear responsibility for this epidemic of jail deaths and the Sheriff's Office's lackluster adherence to Standard Operating Procedures, processes, and protocol.

We must work collaboratively to ensure that our facilities are safe and that our staff is adequately trained to uphold the highest standards of care and constitutional rights.

Those who are held in jail pending a criminal charge are PRESUMED INNOCENT, a presump-

tion guaranteed by the Constitution and one that distinguishes our nation from many others. No one should have to fear that a loved one's arrest for a low-level offense (or any offense) is a possible death sentence. These people are in our custody and control, and we have a legal and moral obligation to guarantee their well-being.

It is my hope that my colleagues on the court will join me in taking decisive actions to prevent further loss of life and restore public trust in our county's justice system.