

“Everything that is done in this world is done by hope”

- Martin L. King, Jr.



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VOLUME 77 NUMBER 11

SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

November 21 - 27, 2024

City of Dallas Provides Update on Proposition S and Its Implications

Dallas, TX- The City of Dallas wishes to inform residents about the recent developments regarding Proposition S, which was approved by voters at the November 5, 2024, election. On June 18, 2024, the City Secretary's Office received a petition for a Dallas City Charter amendment form Dallas HERO. Because

the petition was supported by signatures of a sufficient number of qualified voters, the city council was required by law to submit the measure to the voters.

On November 5, 2024, Dallas voters approved Proposition S, a charter amendment allowing residents to bring lawsuits against the city to enforce

compliance with the city charter, city ordinances, and state law and waiving the city's governmental immunity for such suits.

The City of Dallas respects the will of its voters and acknowledges the community's desire for increased transparency and accountability. However, the city also recognizes that the adop-

tion of Proposition S may result in unintended consequences, including a significant increase in lawsuits. The city will vigorously defend all lawsuits. However, responding to and defending these claims will require substantial legal and financial resources.

Interim City Manager Kimberly Bizzor Tolbert

stated, “We understand the intent behind Proposition S. However, we want to ensure that residents are aware of its broader implications. The resulting legal costs and administrative demands will divert resources from critical city services such as public safety, infrastructure improvements, and community pro-

grams.”

The city is committed to managing this new reality responsibly while minimizing the potential impact on essential services. Leadership will work to address these challenges in a manner that ensures continued service delivery and compliance with the new charter provisions.

Medicaid Faces Uncertain Future as Republicans Target Program Under Trump Administration

By Stacy M. Brown



Photo Credit: NNPA Files

Medicaid, a critical lifeline for millions of Americans, faces an uncertain future as Republicans prepare to take control of Washington. The program, along with the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), provides health and long-term care coverage to 80 million low-income children, pregnant women, adults, seniors, and people with disabilities, is under scrutiny with

proposed funding cuts and new eligibility requirements.

In Washington, D.C., Medicaid and CHIP collectively covered 260,218 residents as of June 2024, with total spending reaching \$4.2 billion in fiscal year 2022. The federal government accounted for 78.2% of these costs. Since pandemic-era continuous enrollment provisions ended in March 2023, the

District has disenrolled 67,619 individuals, even as total enrollment remains 7.7% higher than pre-pandemic levels. These numbers reflect growing pressures on state budgets and federal support.

Nationally, Medicaid's expansion under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) added 23 million people to its rolls, but that growth has made it a target for Republican lawmakers. With

President-elect Donald Trump returning to office, proposals to cut Medicaid funding and impose work requirements have resurfaced. These measures, they argue, could help fund the extension of tax cuts that primarily benefit corporations and the wealthy.

GOP Rep. Jodey Arrington of Texas, chair of

Continue **Medicaid**
Page 4

Disneyland Park



Actress Anika Noni Rose, voice of Tiana “The Princess and the Frog,” poses at Tiana’s Bayou Adventure at Disneyland Park, Disneyland Resort/Sean Teegarden

"Magic Meets Culture: Tiana's Bayou Adventure Brings Joy to Disneyland!"

- Article Page 3 -

By: Dawn Montgomery

Mark Your Calendar: Dec. 14 “National Wreaths Across America Day.”

American Legion Post 511 Auxiliary will host a “National Wreaths Across America Day” on Saturday, December 14th, 2024, between 9 am and 10 am. Since 2008, Congress proclaimed a Saturday in December to remember and honor those who served in the armed forces by placing a Christmas wreath at their gravesites.

The Dallas-based group will be joined by volunteers who will place more than 2 million Christmas wreaths at local, national, and military cemeteries and other historic sites

To purchase a wreath or find a location near you to support it, please visit www.wreathscrossamerica.org.



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- Clues -

(Solution to November 14 Puzzle, see page 5)

ACROSS

1. Figaro's solo, e.g.
5. Not sin, as in math
8. Designer Laroche
11. Pi-meson
12. Cut, like a log
13. *Telephobia, or fear of this device
15. "He's Just Not That ___ You", movie
16. 2D measurement
17. Gives a helping hand
18. *Ludomania, obsession with ___
20. Therefore
21. Poetic feet
22. Accident
23. * ___ mania, obsession with wealth and power
26. Type of throw, in baseball
30. Miner's load
31. Member of Round Table
34. Quartet minus one
35. Spacious
37. Last word of "America the Beautiful"
38. Young chicken
39. Cocoyam
40. Largest Asian antelope
42. Haute couture gala location, with The
43. Slimy phlebotomists
45. * ___ phobia, fear of public speaking
47. Took the bait
48. Tempter
50. Dumbstruck
52. *Gamophobia, fear of ___
55. September stone
56. Cantina cooker
57. Apple leftover
59. Lakes, in Scotland
60. ___ gin
61. "On a ___," or carefree
62. * ___ mania, obsession with oneself
63. Cough syrup amt.
64. Additional

DOWN

1. * ___ phobia, fear of bees
2. Bananaphone preceder
3. Itty bit
4. Language disfunction
5. Indigenous person of Lesser Antilles
6. Track and field star, 1936 Olympics
7. Tear in pantyhose
8. Struck with a mallet
9. Back arrow key
10. Indeed
12. Against the stream swimmer
13. Say "pretty please"
14. * ___ phobia, fear of snakes and crocodiles
19. Uncooperative, like a mule
22. "Battleship" success
23. Kind of mushroom
24. Grind down
25. Glittery stone
26. Carpet style
27. Lily genus, pl.
28. Angers
29. "All for one and one for all," to Musketees
32. Egyptian goddess of fertility
33. Hair raiser
36. * ___ effect, or compulsive handwashing
38. Pileus, pl.
40. Entomologist's catcher, sometimes
41. Agora, plural
44. Tannery supply, pl.
46. Delphi talker
48. Room partitions
49. Lowest deck on a ship
50. Full of excitement
51. Home to Baylor University
52. Lion's share
53. Hockey score
54. Commits a faux pas
55. A in IPA
58. Increase

Statepoint Crossword Puzzle
Theme: MANIAS AND PHOBIAS

CROSSWORD												
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RELIGIOUS/NEWS

An Overview of the Epistle of Hebrews Key Verses Hebrews 4:14-16; 12:1-2



Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith

The author of this grand epistle of Hebrews is questionable; however, despite the uncertainty of its author, the rich and wealth of this book's message remains unmarred. The author of this marvelous epistle presents a superb presentation of the grandeur of the person of Christ, showing without doubt, that Jesus Christ is superior to anything that Judaism had to offer. The Hebrew Christians in this grand epistle were under severe persecution since embracing Christ; and because of their persecution as a result of their faith in Christ, they felt pressure

to revert to their former religion of Judaism and abandon Christianity. But the author of this superb epistle wrote to persuade these believers that to abandon Christianity for Judaism would be like forsaking "substance for shadow" or the "antitype for the "type." Why would they want to abandon Christianity – for Christ, the Head of the Christian movement, is exceedingly better than Judaism with its rituals and ceremonies! In spite of the Hebrew Christians' persecution, the writer will exhort them to "press on unto perfection" (He-

brews 6:1).

The author exhorts his readers to a life of faith by, first of all, presenting a marvelous presentation of the person Christ, showing that the person of Christ is superior to the prophets (Hebrews 1:1-3); He is superior to the angels (Hebrews 1:4 – 2:18); He is superior to Moses (Hebrews 3:1 – 4:13); He is superior to the Aaronic Priesthood (Hebrews 4:14-7:28); Christ's Covenant is superior to the Old Covenant (Hebrews 8:1-13); and Christ has a superior sanctuary and sacrifice (Hebrews 9:1-10:18).

After presenting such a mighty presentation of the person of Christ, the author will exhort his readers to an exemplary walk of faith by challenging them to look at those who triumph in faith despite the many odds in which they faced (Hebrews 11). Despite the many trials of their faith, these Old Testament worthies placed their faith in God, trusting solely in God's promises even before the proofs of His promises were realized! That is exceptional faith – indeed! As Christians today, we can triumph in faith as we look "unto Jesus, the author

and finisher of our faith (Hebrews 12:2). As the author and finisher of our faith, Jesus Christ endured hostility, resulting in His death and resurrection for us. And as Jesus endured Divine discipline, we too must endure Divine chastisement, which is a proof that we belong to Him (Hebrews 12:1-19).

Lastly, the author exhorted his readers to a life of loving concern for one another (Chapter 13), concluding with a masterful benediction (v. 20-21), as he gives his closing remarks. There are several warning passages (Hebrews 2:1-4, 3:7-4:13,

5:11-6:20, 10:19-39, 12:25-29) interspersed in the author's presentation to caution his Jewish audience in recognizing the severity of their pressured position to abandon Christianity for Judaism.

The outline of this superb book could be outlined this way:

I. The Supreme Presentation of the Person and Work of Christ (Hebrews 1:1-10:39)

II. The Supreme Example of the Life of Faith (Hebrews 11:1-13:25)

May God Bless!

On Veteran Day Veterans Give Back to Veterans

Disneyland

American Legion Post 511 New White Sock Drive

By Sandra Crenshaw



Veterans donate socks (Left to Right) Marine Corp Veteran Steve Tone, Atty. John Washington, Navy Vietnam Vet, and Rev. Paul Freeman Vietnam Vet Landy Henderson, Army Vietnam Vet.

Photo Credit: Sandra Crenshaw Files.

Veterans who live in the Pegasus Villas participated in the American Legion Post 511 white socks drive on Veterans Day. The socks are given to the unsheltered veterans. "We are very blessed to have survived the war and live in a safe and secure home"

said Rev. Paul Freeman, a Vietnam veteran and a chaplain for the Dallas Police Department.

Social workers have long said "New socks are gold to homeless people because they feel "snuggly and comfy." Donors ask why socks? Out of all

clothing items, socks are the least donated. Wearing socks helps defend humans from several health issues. New socks reduce the risk of frostbite, cellulitis, fungal infections, and skin breakdown. Socks can protect against the cold and dampness which create

blisters and other ailments.

Marine Corps veteran Steve Tone reiterated "A pair of socks is the least we can do for someone who is less fortunate. I'm glad we can continue to be of service."

Veterans who are resident of this high-rise Sr.

Citizens complex donated to the cause but are not pictured here include Grady Duncan, Navy Vietnam Vet, Daniel Muerette, Vietnam Vet, Randy Nelson, Vietnam Vet, Raymond Simmons Vietnam Vet, Clarence Taylor Marine Corp Vietnam Vet, Robert Wilson Army Peace Time.

American Legion Post 511 Commander Richard Batiste said that Post 511 will collect socks year-round. The last day that Pegasus Villas will collect donations from the residents is December 7th. "You may bring your donation of new white socks, canned goods for our food drive and toys for Christmas to American Legion at 3607 S Robert L. Thornton Fwy at Overton Rd in Dallas," said Second Commander Dr. Jamal Rasheed We are open from noon to 12 am. Monday-Saturday. Stop by and have a meal for \$15 from the Post Kitchen. A different menu is served every day. Call us at 214-375-9931.

Disneyland welcomed guests and the press to attend a grand opening ceremony where attendees visited New Orleans Square and Tiana's Bayou Adventure. Celebrating the culture and spirit of this music-loving land, guests enjoyed classic attractions, authentic dining, entertainment, shopping, and more. The land features fresh additions inspired by Tiana's story from Walt Disney Animation Studios' "The Princess and the Frog," including Eudora's Chic Boutique featuring Tiana's Gourmet Secrets retail shop and her restaurant, Tiana's Palace.

Tiana's Bayou Adventure ride replaced Splash Mountain and was inspired by Disney's first Black Princess. Music and signs convey the message of inclusivity—"Everyone is welcome!"—surrounding the water ride. "We wanted to give that feeling for everyone coming off of the ride, we are better together," says Josef Lemoine, senior story editor at Walt Disney Imagineering. "The story as a whole is all about getting everybody together and also to find those individuals who might be overlooked."

Released in 2009, the film "The Princess and the Frog" celebrates the rich music and culture of New Orleans. The film portrays the resilience of Black families and emphasizes how a shared love for food can bridge gaps and connect people. Disneyland guests

Continue
Disneyland Page 7



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NEWS

Continued
Medicaid Page 1

the House Budget Committee, has described work requirements as "responsible and reasonable," while Texas GOP Sen. John Cornyn has advocated for block grants to replace the current funding model. Critics caution that these changes could destabilize Medicaid, leaving states with significant funding gaps.

"If you want to avoid a debt spiral, there have got to be reforms made to federal health programs," Brian Blase, a former Trump adviser who supports reducing federal contributions to Medicaid expansion, told the New York Times. Proposals under discussion include lowering the federal match rate for expansion enrollees from 90% to as low as 40%, a move that could force some states to drop the program entirely.

Medicaid's role in American healthcare is substantial. It supports nearly half of all children in the U.S., covers significant portions of mental health and nursing home care, and plays a vital part in managing chronic conditions. In D.C., for instance, 95,577 Medicare beneficiaries and 71,021 enrollees in Medicare Part D also depend on Medicaid for supplemental support.

Advocates for the ACA's expansion and consumer protections warn that cutting Medicaid would disproportionately harm vulnerable populations. "Without Medicaid coverage, you've got folks choosing between how to put food on the table or pay for their kids' health care," said Daniel Tsai, head of Medicaid at the Centers for

Continue
Medicaid Page 5

Quinn Minute

What is the bell-shaped curve?

By Rix Quinn

There's increasing emphasis for both private and public sectors to focus on higher-scoring people in certain skills. For many skills and specialties, folks are selected by how well they do in comparison to others who took the test. The range of test scores can be put on a "bell-shaped curve." And what is this "curve?" It's a scientific graph that resembles a mountain range. The top of this mountain represents

the largest percentage of our population. Let's say, for example, we want to graph "athletic proficiency," although why we'd want to graph anything is beyond me. (This also explains where I rank on the graph.) The left slope of the graph represents those who fall "below average." The descending slope means "the further the drop below average, the fewer people in that category."

The right side of the descending curve represents "above average." This means the lower you fall on the right slope, the better athlete you are. And the better you are, the fewer people will share your skill level. Here's the point: My goal is to rank "average" in every skill category. Remember, the closer someone falls to average, the more opportunities. One can buy average-sized clothes, or expect to live

about 77.28 years. That is great news unless that person is already 78. But if you get too far above average, people might expect great things. You'll expend so much effort reaching your potential you won't have time for fun stuff, like painting your mustache red for the holidays. So, I'm happy near the middle of this mountain range, where there are lots of people who enjoy the view.

SPORTS/NEWS PAGE

7 Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, Nov. 14	Friday, Nov. 15	Saturday, Nov. 16	Sunday, Nov. 17	Monday, Nov. 18	Tuesday, Nov. 19	Wednesday, Nov. 20
H - 68° L - 45°	H - 63° L - 43°	H - 69° L - 56°	H - 78° L - 63°	H - 75° L - 55°	H - 68° L - 53°	H - 60° L - 43° 40%

Jake Paul vs. Mike Tyson Match Sets Betting and Streaming Records

Held at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas, the event was a commercial success despite the underwhelming performance inside the ring.

By Stacy M. Brown



Photo Credit: NNPA Screenshot

The highly anticipated boxing match between Jake Paul and Mike Tyson shattered records across sportsbooks and streaming platforms, drawing unprecedented attention to the world of combat

sports. Held Nov. 15 at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas, the event was a commercial success despite the underwhelming performance inside the ring. According to

BetMGM, the fight attracted more bets and more money than any other boxing or MMA event in the sportsbook's nearly seven-year history. The company reported that the Tyson-Paul fight

generated four times as much money as any previous combat sports event, highlighting its massive appeal. ESPN BET also declared the bout its most-wagered combat sports event, with more than

twice the handle of its biggest MMA event since launching in November 2023.

"It was unbelievable for business," said John Murray, executive director of the Westgate SuperBook in Las Vegas. "Casino was packed. Bets flying in all day. I was stunned."

Over 70,000 fans filled the Dallas Cowboys' home stadium, while millions tuned in via Netflix to witness the clash between Paul, a YouTuber-turned-boxer, and Tyson, the legendary heavyweight stepping back into the ring after nearly two decades. Netflix reported a staggering 60 million households tuned in, peaking at 65 million concurrent streams. The platform described the event as a "mega-event," citing record-breaking viewership and significant social media buzz.

Despite the spectacle, the fight itself left much to be desired. Paul secured a unanimous decision victory after eight uninspiring rounds. Tyson, now 58, showed signs of his age, throwing just 97 punches and landing 18. Paul's athleticism carried him

through the match, improving his professional record to 11-1.

The event elicited mixed reactions from fans and fellow fighters. Evander Holyfield, Tyson's former rival, called the fight lackluster. Nicola Adams, an Olympic gold medalist, remarked that a prime Tyson would have easily dominated Paul. "Let's be real," Adams posted on X. "A young Mike Tyson would've absolutely annihilated Jake Paul tonight."

The bout also drew criticism for its quality, particularly when compared to the co-main event featuring Katie Taylor and Amanda Serrano. Their thrilling match saw Taylor controversially retain her undisputed world lightweight champion status, providing a stark contrast to the main event.

"I love Mike Tyson, but they giving him too much credit," wrote Terence Crawford, a four-division world champion, on X. "He looked like trash, to train that long and only throw 97 punches the whole fight is crazy. I'm just glad he didn't get hurt out there."

Continued Medicaid Page 4

Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

The appointment of Dr. Mehmet Oz to lead CMS signals the Trump administration's intention to focus on cost reduction and fraud prevention. However, significant resistance is expected to sweeping cuts. In 2017, similar efforts met with public outcry, and polls show that over 70% of Americans support keeping Medicaid largely unchanged.

State officials are revisiting measures such as work requirements, which faced legal and logistical

challenges during Trump's first term. Arkansas saw thousands lose coverage due to work requirements before the court struck down the program. Georgia remains the only state that has implemented these requirements successfully.

The financial strain on states is already mounting, with federal Medicaid funding reduced by \$60 billion for fiscal year 2024. Technical and administrative hurdles have left eligible Americans needing more coverage, exacerbating the problem.

Crystal Harp, a mother from Tennessee, described to the New York Times how Medicaid en-

abled her to manage her daughter's rare epilepsy. "It's unbearable to think about the medical debt we would be in if we did not have Medicaid," she said.

As Republicans advance their policy agenda, Medicaid's future is in peril. With millions depending on the program for basic healthcare needs, the debates in Congress will determine whether Medicaid continues as a cornerstone of American life or faces sweeping changes. "It could be the most consequential year in Medicaid's life," said Joan Alker of Georgetown University's Center for Children and Families.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

(Solution to November 14 Puzzle - THANKSGIVING)

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My Day

SAVING Thanksgiving

By Dr. J. Ester Davis



Dr. J. Ester Davis

Is Thanksgiving the same? What is the matter with retailers? Why can't we have one family day that is celebrated without retail interruptions? Do we need to save Thanksgiving? Should we move Thanksgiving back to its original date? But, some retailers have announced their Black Friday plans even earlier than last year, and a record number of customers are expected to show up for the early sales with tents, coffee, and wearing pajamas. Black Friday has moved to Thursdays after Thanksgiving dinner and the tradi-

tional turkey day trend is rapidly losing precious family time.

However, something is changing. The list of holiday closures on Thanksgiving Day is losing its charm. For years, Black Friday has been steadily creeping into Thursday, Thanksgiving Day, with full opening hours. Now, in 2024, we are receiving notices of not being opened at all. For example, this year, Sam's Club, Costco, Walmart, and Target will be closed on 'Turkey Day'. Two years ago Target opened at 8:00 PM Thursday, Thanksgiving night, with continuing non-stop shopping through Black Friday. Sure ordering online is the answer, except there are more returns than anticipated, which "gnaw" at your profit line.

What is changing you ask? Well, it seems that family is still King! For about two years, there have been online and community circulars protesting the early hours of Black

Friday Sales. At one time there were about sixty(60)petitions online protesting the earlier competitive hours for Black Friday sales. Some of the online comments are thought-provoking. One comment is, "Only in America can people run over each other one day after being thankful for what they already have."

The last time I checked the petitions it was near 200,000 signatures for retailers to CLOSE on Thanksgiving Day for obvious reasons. Stores proclaim sales of 20%- to 40% of their annual sales between Black Friday and Christmas. That argument did not 'hold water', and the petitions grew larger and more demanding; however, it is admirable that families still value their time together in America. Family is important. And while every day is a day of Thanksgiving, being together as a family is a precious treasure.

On a more serious note,

our landscape with 'open air' shopping is nearing a close. Some of the other retailers that will be closed on Thanksgiving Day 2024, will be Marshall's and T. J. Max. J. C. Penney will permanently close their remaining fleet of stores that are still open around the nation. On the list of permanent closures still remain CVS (select stores), Victoria's Secret, Denny's, and Best Buy. Macy's will shutter 55 stores in 2024 and more over a three (3) year period. I think we are up-to-date on Revlon and Tuesday Morning. Walmart remains fascinating in that class all by itself. They continue to close more stores blaming underperformance and theft.

Happy, Happy Thanksgiving
EsterDavis2000@gmail.com

FinishingTHATArticle: "Grandparents Raising Grandchildren". My apologies for the delay.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

By James B Ewers Jr. Ed.D



Being in the fourth quarter of my life has given me a front-row seat to many signature events in the United States of America. They have left me happy, sad, amazed and dumbfounded. Lately, of recent events that have occurred, I have been left mostly dumbfounded.

Maybe that's my current feeling because of the uncertainty of the direction of our country. We are at a pivotal time in our nation. We can't play around as if we are in the backyard playing marbles. These are serious times that call for serious people making serious decisions.

Like you, I am watching closely as the new president is beginning to make cabinet nominations and recommendations. Some of his nominees are people who he has had differences with during the past two cam-

paigns. Did they break-up just to make-up?

One thing we are finding out is that he can berate and belittle an opponent in the public square, and they will come running back to him. Take for example, Ted Cruz, Republican Senator of Texas. The former president talked about Cruz and his family like they were junkyard dogs. Now, Cruz is back in the kennel of kindness.

Where is the integrity and treating people the way you want to be treated. How about Brian Kemp, governor of Georgia and his history with Mr. Trump which has been questionable and problematic. Now they are peachy keen.

Just last week, Mr. Trump nominated Republican Senator Marco Rubio to be secretary of state. At one point eight years ago, Mr. Rubio called Trump a con man. That was then however this is a new day. In a recent statement, Mr. Trump called Rubio a highly respected leader and a very powerful voice for freedom who will be a strong advocate for our nation.

Some Democrats agree. Democratic Senator Mark Kelly of Arizona said, "I've

got a good relationship with Marco, and I think Marco is very capable. Democratic Senator John Fetterman of Pennsylvania called Rubio a strong choice and that he looks forward to voting for his confirmation.

Senator Rubio will be the first Hispanic American to serve as secretary of state. We will see how he orchestrates and coordinates our foreign policy. Critics believe he will not be an extreme decision-maker. I hope they are right.

While Senator Marco Rubio has received some positive reviews, the same can't be about Matt Gaetz and Pete Hegseth. Representative Gaetz of Florida has a dark side that he doesn't want to come to light. It is alleged he was involved in some highly inappropriate activities. Mr. Gaetz has denied it, and Speaker Mike Johnson of Louisiana doesn't want anyone to know about it and doesn't want to release the Ethics Committee's files.

He has received push-back from members of his own party regarding his selection as attorney general. Some believe that coverups and falsehoods will be his calling card if he is se-

lected.

Another of the new president's possible appointments, Pete Hegseth is also under fire for his misconduct. He has been nominated for secretary of defense. He is an Armed Services veteran and is currently a commentator for Fox News. Mr. Trump, in a press release, said that Mr. Hegseth will make America safe and great again. On the other side, Democratic Representative Jason Crow of Colorado said, "The Secretary of Defense makes life and death decisions daily that impact over 2 million troops around the globe. This is not an entry-level job for a TV commentator."

Two of his vocal supporters, Kash Patel, who has been linked to the top FBI position, and Tulsi Gabbard, who has been linked to the top intelligence job, have not been formally offered yet. Where are Nikki Haley and Tim Scott in the political mix of Mr. Trump's world?

In the meantime, we, the people, will pay close attention to these positions of power. 19th century writer, Lord Acton said, "Power corrupts, and absolute power corrupts absolutely."

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New Clinical Trial Enrolling Patients in Dallas Offers Hope for People with Epilepsy



There is a new study evaluating a promising new treatment for epilepsy. Neurology Consultants of Dallas is currently seeking to enroll patients in this study, called Rise, between the ages of 18-75 who have been diagnosed with focal onset epilepsy and have experienced resistance to existing treatments.

Epilepsy is a chronic brain disorder that affects over 50 million people worldwide. It is characterized by recurrent, unprovoked seizures, which can vary in intensity and frequency. Despite numerous treatment options, about 40% of people with epilepsy do not achieve seizure control with current medications. This highlights the urgent need for new effective treatments.

Understanding Seizures

Seizures are sudden surges of abnormal and excessive electrical activity in your brain and can affect how you appear or act. Where and how the seizure presents itself can have profound effects. Focal seizures are the most common type of seizure, affecting up to approximately 61% of people with epilepsy. They begin on one side of the brain and may cause changes in awareness, behavior, sensation, or abnormal movements usually on just one side of the body.

Challenges of Living with Epilepsy

Living with epilepsy can be incredibly challenging. The unpredictable nature of seizures can make daily activities, such as driving, working, or even socializing, difficult and stressful. For many, the fear of a sudden seizure looms, impacting their quality of life. In addition to physical challenges, epilepsy can also bring about emotional and psychological burdens, such as anxiety, depression, and social isolation.

A Promising Investigational Treatment

Fonda Chan, MD, who is leading the trial in the Dallas area, is optimistic about the potential of this new treatment. "We are looking for people with focal onset epilepsy to participate in this study to help evaluate the effectiveness of this promising treatment in controlling seizures and improving the quality of life for those with epilepsy," said Dr. Chan. "The involvement of people with epilepsy will provide critical data that can lead to breakthroughs, offering hope to the millions affected by this condition."

Enrollment Information

The clinical trial is currently enrolling patients at sites across the United States. Locally, the trial is being conducted at Neurology Consultants of Dallas. If you or someone you know is struggling with epilepsy and is interested in participating in the trial, please visit epilepsyresearchstudy.com or call 214-750-9977 for more information. Eligibility criteria for participating in the trial include individuals who:

- Are between the ages of 18 to 75
- Have been diagnosed with focal onset epilepsy for at least one year
- Have been unsuccessful with at least two anti-seizure medications (ASMs) and are currently on a stable dose of one to three ASMs
- Have at least four or more observable focal seizures every 28 days

The Rise clinical trial represents a significant step forward in the search for more effective epilepsy treatments. By participating, patients not only have the potential to benefit from a new therapy but also contribute to crucial research that could improve the lives of countless others in the future.

Continued Disneyland Page 3

can now experience a continuation of this storyline as they ride through Tiana's Bayou Adventure. The initial planning for this ride started back in 2019. "Then the world changed," said Carmen Smith, a senior vice president who heads inclusion strategies for Disney Imagineering, referring to

the COVID-19 pandemic and the murder of George Floyd.

"Life lets you know when it's time for something to give birth to a concept, and it was without hesitation that leadership came together and said, you've been working on it; you've got an idea. Let's move forward on this."

Disney's commitment to keeping up with the times is clear in attractions

like Tiana's Bayou Adventure, which shows they're listening to their audience. With the increasing demand for unique experiences, Tiana's Bayou Adventure gives Disney an edge over other amusement parks across the country. Bring your family and friends to Disneyland and Walt Disney World Resort to experience this new ride and exciting cultural experience.

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