

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!



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SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

November 28 - December 4, 2019

The Moral Burden of Thanksgiving

By Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, Sr.

In the bloody summer of 1863, the Union Army defeated General Robert E. Lee's Confederate forces at Gettysburg, a three-day battle that changed the course of the Civil War and the long journey from slavery to freedom.

Three months later, in a profound gesture of gratitude, President Abraham Lincoln officially proclaimed the fourth Thursday of November to be a national holiday, a national day of thanksgiving.

The Union would hold. The people would be free.

“No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things,” the proclamation read. “They are gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American People.”

Thanksgiving has always been about more than football and turkey. It is about justice and the creation of a more perfect union. It has always been political.

Poverty and hunger are enemies of the union. They are homegrown terrorists, traitors to the America we can and must become. They have no place in a nation as rich, powerful and fundamentally good as ours.



(AP Photo/Larry Crowe, File)

In the true spirit of Thanksgiving, this is a time not to focus on one big meal on one big day. This is a time to commit and work even harder to end poverty and hunger in this land of plenty.

We have much work to do. There are nine neighborhoods in Chicago – endangered communities – where poverty is at almost 20 percent and unemployment hovers around 40 percent.

That is a sin.

There are an estimated 13.1 million children – 1 in 6 – in the U.S. living in households where there is not enough to eat. Experts say that children who suffer from hunger in the first years of their education often lag behind their peers in school, a beginning that can haunt them for the rest of their lives.

The moral burden of Thanksgiving is not to eat turkey but to feed justice.

'Queen & Slim' is romantic, urgent and beautiful



The remarkable “Queen & Slim” is a romance and a road movie, a film about outlaws on the run, two journeys of self-discovery and a nuanced social commentary. It's not perfect but it's close — an urgent, beautiful and socially conscious trip through the American racial psyche in 2019.

“ ” is the feature-film directorial debut from Melina Matsoukas, who has directed episodes of HBO's “Insecure” and helmed Beyoncé's Grammy-winning video “Formation.” The script is from Emmy-winner Lena Waithe (Netflix's “Master of None”) with, bizarrely, an assist from disgraced “A Million Little Pieces” author James Frey, and a nod to “Thelma & Louise.”

Continues on Page 2

*Final Series - Patriot Series:
The African American Soldier*

My Day

By Dr. J. Ester Davis

In this our final series on the African American Soldier, we wanted to shed light on the women that serve in the military. Let me share a wonderful story with you about the picture above.

Back in the late 90's Akua Rahsaan, Kofi Enterprises, and The Ester Davis Catalog, received several grants from the DeSoto Art Commission, entitled The Distinguished Art Series. Each year of the grant we brainstormed to create a greater and more renown assembly of African American archival history pieces for the month of February.



Tuskegee Women Mechanic and Machinist

Continues on Page 2



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EDITORIAL PAGE



U.S. Senate Candidate Royce West Officially on Texas Ballot

DALLAS, Texas—Texas Senator Royce West released the following statement today as he filed all the necessary paperwork with the Texas State Democratic Party to appear on the ballot for

U.S. Senate:

“It’s official! I will be on the ballot for U.S. Senate in Texas and now the real work begins—now is when we really dig in deep and fight for the soul of our country, and our great

state. Now is when we must stand up and reject the radical far-right policies of Donald Trump and John Cornyn.

“I have been so humbled to meet all of our incredible supporters across Texas

and hear your stories. It’s been your drive and passion that convinces me that we will succeed. That together, we will flip Texas for the first time in over two decades—2020 is our time,” West said.

Final Series Patriot Series:

The African American Soldier

Continued from Page 1

These exhibits reaching a peak collection of five hundred works, held in the Atrium of DeSoto City Hall, surpassed all our expectations.

At Eagle Advantage School one “Career Day” I met a Chief Warrant Officer (CWO Walker) who was on the panel with me. His uncle was a ‘natural born Tuskegee Airmen’ living in Savannah, Georgia. I sent Airmen John Walker a letter for pictures from his training days at the Tuskegee Institute back in the 30’s. I never met this Tuskegee in person, but we subsequently spent time on the phone. John Walker was jovial and extremely proud

of his service to this country. There were other articles written about him and his days in training and flying. Airmen Walker sent his nephew a “tug” of photos for me. I was in total awe because many of the photos were of the support staff. i.e., the cooks, nurse, bombardiers, mechanics and machinist as pictured above. These photos Airmen Walker said “nobody else had”. At the time, I thought he was right because all of the history of the Tuskegee Airmen were of the men who served. In the collection from Airmen Walker were stunning visuals of women working over and under the aircraft. With the receipt of these sobering pieces of history, we were inspired to go back in

history, engage in more research and look up other women that were part of these first black aviators’ courageous odyssey. Just keep in mind that these days were laced loudly with discrimination both in and out of the military for black men and women.

My notes reminded me that there was a female writing about flying for the Chicago Defender back in the 30’s. The column was entitled “Negro Aviation”. The aviation trend continued to soar. The Coffey School of Aeronautics opened in 1938, where other women attempted to enter aviation to no avail. But the beauty is. . . they did not give up.

Years after the exhibits with the Black Pilots Association, someone mentioned Harlem Airport in Chicago. What? Where? There was “another Harlem” in predominate black South Chicago. In 1931, a group of pilots bought a half mile wide tract of land. Black Women are recorded as taking flying lessons. To date, historians consider it the first black owned airport in the United States.

To all the African American Soldiers. . . you are more than just veterans to this nation. . . you are sincerely the real heroes of veterans.

Esterdavis2000@gmail.com

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‘Queen & Slim’ is romantic, urgent and beautiful

Continued from Page 1

The film starts in a Cleveland diner with a mismatched pair who have connected online. She’s a stiff lawyer in a turtleneck; he’s a peaceful retail worker in Carhartt. She picked him because his profile picture looked sad. (“I felt sorry for you,” she says.) This date is going nowhere.

Driving her home — we don’t learn their real names until the very end — Slim is pulled over for failing to execute a turn signal. The white police officer’s aggressive style cycles out of control and ends with the cop shot, Queen injured and three lives forever altered. The couple can’t wait around to explain they acted in self-defense: They’re both young and black and a white cop is dying. They have to go. Now.

The script has Queen and Slim travel from Ohio through Kentucky, Tennessee, Louisiana, Alabama, Georgia and Florida, encountering different people along the way. The film starts in snowy darkness and ends in warm sunshine. The characters shed their old identities — clothes and hair as well — for new ones, growing more human and empathetic each mile that rolls

past.

Daniel Kaluuya of “Get Out” fame takes Slim from a sad-sack who obeys the rules to a man deeply in love and ready to fight for it. Jodie Turner-Smith, in her first feature film lead, makes an astonishing debut, stiff and understated when we meet her and evolving into a vulnerable warrior in a leopard minidress. Both are haunted, anxious and guilty. They end the film undaunted.

Intriguingly, the couple travel without access to Twitter or Facebook or Instagram. Queen has advised the pair to toss their phones in case authorities are tracking them, leaving them in a social media blackout. (The couple who met on Tinder are now cut off from the world.) We know they are being pursued from screaming newspaper headlines and TV snippets of viral video but Queen and Slim are really left in their own bubble — usually the confines of a car — with the radio playing.

And, wow, is the music good. The is a tour through black music, from soul to Afrobeat to hip-hop and New Orleans bounce, with varied artists like Fela Kuti, The-Dream, 6lack, Vince Staples, Bilal, Solange, Lil Baby, Marvin Sapp, Megan Thee Stallion, Herbie

Hancock and Luther Vandross. Lauryn Hill offers the new song “Guarding the Gates,” playing over the end credits.

What makes “Queen & Slim” more than just a road movie is the subtle and yet devastating way in which these would-be lovers are seen by those they come across. A black man in a parking lot holds up the Black Power fist while a white woman in genteel Savannah, Georgia, wants to turn them over to the cops. A white gas station clerk hopes to hold Slim’s Glock, while a young black boy is so moved by their actions that he provokes a fight with police.

Queen and Slim are just scared and falling in love. They don’t see themselves as revolutionaries or cowards or symbols. Yet their very presence frays marriages, strains the blue bonds between police, fractures the notion of black solidarity, and tests a father and son.

There are lovely small roles by Indya Moore and Bokeem Woodbine. Sturgill Simpson plays the officer who starts the manhunt off, and Chloe Sevigny and the Red Hot Chili Peppers’ Flea are the bickering Georgia couple. The look of the film is arresting in its focus on lived-in decay and seedy,

weedy poverty and the filmmakers, intriguingly, have given the actors dialogue never spoken out loud but communicated almost telepathically.

Matsoukas handles comedy and drama expertly, and she directs a pivotal dance sequence with slinky care — it signals the relationship between Slim and Queen moving into lustful territory — but stumbles slightly juxtaposing the couple’s intimate love scene with a clunky violent street demonstration.

Otherwise, she keeps the tension going wonderfully, with music and fake-outs and frightened glances. “Queen & Slim” is a powerful look at places and issues not often explored in movies, and it’s unusual for being a big studio film starring two people of color created by people of color. There is much talk in the film about legacy — what we leave behind — but everyone involved in this film should be proud of what they’ve offered the world.

“Queen & Slim,” a Universal Pictures release, is rated R for “violence, some strong sexuality, nudity, pervasive language and brief drug use.” Running time: 132 minutes. Three and a half stars out of four.

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2510 E. Ledbetter, Dallas, Texas 75216
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The best source for information about the Marketplace is the website www.healthcare.gov. The website is available 24/7 and provides information on how the Marketplace works, what the benefits are and key deadlines. Individuals can also call 1-800-318-2596 to speak with trained customer service representatives 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

For individuals needing further assistance, Parkland Health & Hospital System will have certified application counselors available from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday in Parkland's Business Office to answer questions about the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and provide help enrolling in the Marketplace. The Business Office is located on the first floor of the old Parkland OPC, 5201 Harry Hines Blvd., Dallas, 75235.

If an individual misses the 2020 open enrollment period and does not qualify for a Special Enrollment Period (SEP), they will have to wait until open enrollment begins for 2021. Additional information on exemptions is available at www.healthcare.gov.

In addition, a special enrollment period (SEP) outside of the yearly open enrollment exists for those with certain life events including losing health coverage, moving, getting married, having a baby or adopting a child. If an individual qualifies for an SEP, they usually have up to 60 days following the event to enroll in a plan. If they miss that window, they have to wait until the next open enrollment period to apply.

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Analysis: Whatever color Texas is, everybody's running like it's purple



BY ROSS RAMSEY

President Donald Trump has been to Texas seven times this year.

Michael Bloomberg will be on the Texas Democratic primary ballot for president.

Former San Antonio Mayor Julián Castro isn't (politically) dead, though his shot at winning the Democratic presidential nomination is all but gone.

And Republican powers in Austin are assembling a political action committee to try protect their majority in the Texas House.

All roads lead to this: Texas might not be blue — or even purple — but it will be competitive electoral ground in 2020.

You might not believe it, but it's clear that the Democrats are ambitiously plotting to win seats in the congressional delegation and the Texas House in particular. And that the Republicans are planning defenses and recruiting voters in anticipation of a vigorous Democratic campaign.

National political money might get spent in Texas. That's just weird. Texas is an ATM state — a place where political campaigns

and candidates come to get the money they want to spend in exotic places like Iowa and South Carolina.

It's still an incredibly expensive place to run a statewide campaign. It's cheaper to win a U.S. Senate seat, for instance, in a smaller state with fewer voters and places to spend money. And a senator from a place like Arizona has the same voting power as one from Texas.

But down the ballot — in congressional and state legislative seats — the numbers work a little better.

On the congressional front, Texas will have six open seats next year. All are currently held by Republicans. Three will likely have new Republicans in them after the November 2020 elections, but three — the seats held now by Will Hurd of Helotes, Kenny Marchant of Coppell and Pete Olson of Sugar Land — will be competitive. And national Democrats intent on holding their majority in the House are pushing to win three or four more seats now held by Republicans.

If you're the sort of person who looks at unit pricing in the grocery store, the bang for the buck on a con-

gressional bid is more efficient than on a statewide race for Senate.

And the real plum is in the Texas House, where a Democratic majority could push new congressional redistricting maps out of the hands of elected Republicans in 2021. The current mix in the House is 83 Republicans and 67 Democrats, a narrow but working majority. Democrats won 12 seats from the Republicans in 2018 and need nine more — a tall order — to get a majority.

The state Senate is expected to remain in the hands of the GOP after the 2020 election. Shortly after, in the 2021 legislative session, maps for legislators will be drawn either by the lawmakers themselves or by a state Legislative Redistricting Board that is already stacked with elected Republicans.

But if the Texas House and Senate can't agree on congressional maps — if, for instance, the House has a Democratic majority and the Senate has a Republican one — new maps would be drawn by federal judges.

Democrats might not do any better with the courts, but it beats letting four or five elected Republicans draw maps that favor their party.

More to the point, it matters to the national political people who decide where to spend their political money. And those Democrats, who usually focus on federal races, are talking about helping in state races.

And it helps explain the GOP's effort to raise \$5 million to defend the Republican majority in the House, and the installation of a nationally known political op — Karl Rove — as the treasurer. The founders say they won't oppose incumbent state representatives of either party. But keeping their edge is evidently worth millions.

Is there a chance they won't? The state remained Republican red in the face of a strong Democratic turnout in 2018. Democrats came closer to winning several statewide races than they have in decades, and they flipped two congressional seats to go with the dozen state House pickups and a net of one in the state Senate.

They're reaching for more. Bloomberg's strategy is to skip the early primary states in hopes of scoring big in Texas. Castro will be on many short lists when it comes time to pick vice presidential candidates for the eventual nominee; he ran a good campaign, can attract Hispanic votes and might help in Texas if things here get close.

Trump is working a state that should, according to recent history, be firmly in hand. Texas might remain red in 2020, as it has been for years. But candidates across the spectrum are treating it as competitive.

The Texas Tribune is a nonpartisan, nonprofit media organization that informs Texans — and engages with them — about public policy, politics, government and statewide issues.

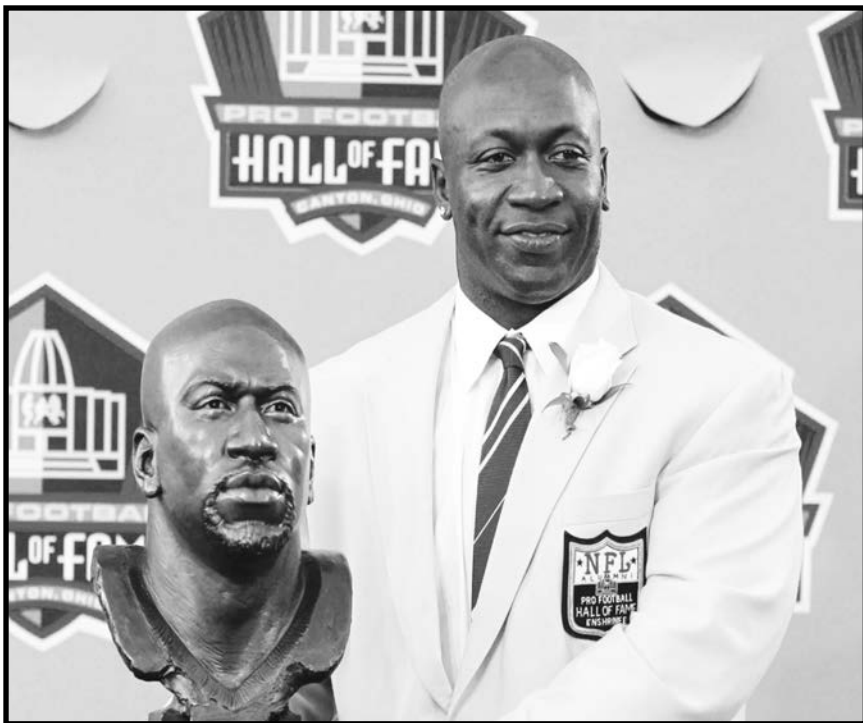
SPORTS PAGE

7 Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, November 28 Friday, November 29 Saturday, November 30 Sunday, December 1 Monday, December 2 Tuesday, December 3 Wednesday, December 4

H - 50°
L - 49°H-72°
L-62°H-68°
L-45°H-58°
L-36°H-57°
L-38°H-64°
L-47°H-63°
L-45°

NFL's Legends Community reaches 10,000 members



By BARRY WILNER

John Randle did enough great things on the football field to be inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

He's now being rewarded after his playing career not only with such accolades, but simply by being able to help others. Specifically, former NFL players.

Randle, the dynamic defensive lineman for Minnesota and Seattle over 14 seasons — he smiled at opponents while wrecking offenses — is a director for the NFL Legends Community. The organization launched six years ago “celebrates, embraces and connects players with each other, their teams and the league” and recently hit 10,000 members.

For so many former pro athletes, making the transition to the next phase in life can be extremely difficult. Randle believes Legends provides an essential ingredient for that transition.

“One of the biggest things is that options we can offer to each other, and also the brotherhood,” he says. “When

guys retire, you wonder what the next step is for you in your life. Some guys have money and some don't; some have families and some don't. They are not sure what they want to do or how to get started.

“I was talking to a guy who wanted

to get involved as a high school football coach. I introduced him to some people I know in the Minnesota community, and that is a courtesy I can do. I can connect people. Being a resource for guys who don't have the info to cross the bridge, that is very fulfilling.”

Like the Trust, which came out of the 2011 labor agreement, the Legends Community is run by the NFL Players Association and provides a multitude of resources for former players. It organizes gatherings on the local and national levels, which can range from community outreach programs to draft day parties to golf tournaments.

Each year, a former player will announce at least one draft selection by his former team, for instance. That affords many of them the opportunity to get together and basically talk shop — whether it's about their NFL careers or their current status.

“When guys retire from football, and you look back at what you did, one of the biggest things we talk about is the

camaraderie in the locker room,” Randle says. “When you're done playing, guys are trying to find ways to have that camaraderie; that is what the Legends Community offers to guys.

“I've had so many conversations with guys who want to go back to what we talked about 10 years ago or what happened way back. Those wonderful moments you have been a part of. We were playing a game so many people wish they could have played ... to sit around and talk about stuff that impacted your life and stuff you can't share with just anybody, that is special.”

Tracy Perlman, the NFL's senior vice president of football communications and marketing, sees the Legends Community as an umbrella over all the programs out there for retired players. Other organizations — the NFLPA with the Trust, the NFL Player Care Foundation, the NFL Alumni Association — fall under that umbrella. Those groups often partner together for events.

There are player care experts who work with players in dire need, perhaps aiding them to find grants for entrepreneurship, or helping with total wellness. Therapy sessions are available at no cost. Vocational opportunities, too.

“We can get you hooked up with a case manager and start to help you through whatever that struggle is,” Perlman says. “The Legends provide a communications mechanism through every single group that wants to give players opportunities.

“You're talking about some guys who are in their 30s and some in their 80s, so you hear different things from them across the board. A lot of what we hear is, ‘I need transition assistance.’ So we built a program with player engagement we call Bridge to Success, to help

make that transition. Perhaps they want to find a path into coaching. When you decide it is over, you feel there is a way to transition to a life after football with the same passion you had for the game.”

That can be a slope as slippery as Lambeau Field in December. NFL players — and all professional athletes, really — grow accustomed to being treated differently than the public. Then, they become, well, ordinary people, albeit with a personal backstory most folks can't relate to.

“Sometimes they see the bridge but they are not sure that is the bridge they want to take,” Randle says. “Some have all the assets in the world but don't know what they want to do. Maybe they are bored. We want to get them involved in something, maybe a charity, or coaching, or going overseas to get involved with a sport.

“The words resources and bridge are used, to me it is about brotherhood. When I run into a player and he tells me what the Legends Community has done for him and his family, that is the biggest part for me. To see guys who have had success on the field, but to see them have major success off the field, is very rewarding.”

Randle hopes every former NFL player joins. Perlman notes that the Legends Community is beginning to work with high school and college players through clinics and drills and one-on-one mentoring.

“When a current player transitions out, they should never feel it is over,” Perlman notes. “They feel it is the next phases of their career. It's about mentoring and moving the game forward, making sure current players never feel that drop-off.”

If you have sports information that you would like placed in the DALLAS POST TRIBUNE Sports Section e-mail us at: production@dallasposttrib.net

News You Ought to Know

Culture Pass to bring free arts experiences to Dallas library cardholders

Dallas, Texas — The City of Dallas Office of Arts and Culture and the Dallas Public Library are partnering to bring Dallas residents free access to cultural events across the City through the new Culture Pass. Culture Pass gives library cardholders free admission to participating organizations when they “checkout” a ticket at Library cardholders can use these free passes to visit local museums or attend theater, symphony, dance performances and more.

“Culture Pass is a major step forward for all Dallas residents with a library

card,” said Director of Arts and Culture, Jennifer Scripps. “For the first time, this card will allow library cardholders to peruse not just books and materials in the library system but also to scan the offerings at Dallas' museums and performing arts venues and reserve their tickets. It makes our arts more accessible to all Dallasites! We are delighted that by partnering with the Dallas Public Library, the City of Dallas is able to offer Culture Pass as one of the key initiatives to come out of the 2018 Dallas Cultural Plan.”

Culture Pass is a perk for library cardholders available in other markets nationwide, including the greater New York City area, Phoenix and Minneapolis. In Dallas,

the initial launch selection includes free passes to Dallas Chamber Symphony, Dallas Children's Theater, special exhibition at the Dallas Museum of Art and more.

“Culture Pass increases the value of the library card offered by Dallas Public Library by connecting patrons to new cultural experiences,” said Director of Libraries Jo Giudice.

Current cardholders can visit culturepassdallas.org to begin reserving passes. An active card number and pin is required. A Dallas Public Library card is free to Dallas residents, City of Dallas employees and Dallas public school students and teachers. Visit to find the nearest library

location.

Bill Cosby vows no remorse, expects to serve 10-year maximum

LEGEVILLE, Pa. (AP) — Bill Cosby says he's prepared to serve his 10-year maximum sentence for sexual assault rather than show remorse for a crime the comedian says he didn't commit.

Cosby is serving three to 10 years in a state prison near Philadelphia after a jury last year convicted him of sexually assaulting a Temple University employee in 2004. The 82-year-old says the Pennsylvania parole board is “not going to hear me say that I have remorse.” He thinks it's therefore unlikely he'll be released

early.

He made the comments in a phone interview on Sunday with as he his felony conviction and sex offender status.

Legal experts say sex offenders typically must show remorse to be considered for parole.

Cosby is best known for his 1980s-era sitcom, “The Cosby Show.”

Joycelyn Savage, 23, R. Kelly's long-time girlfriend, says she is a victim of the “me too” accusations

One of singer R. Kelly's most steadfast supporters and longtime girlfriend is saying “me too” to what she says is the singer's abuse.

An Atlanta-based attorney who represents Savage's family said that he and the family believe the account does belong to Savage based on details that only she would know, such as allegedly being choked and her signing a nondisclosure agreement.

Savage's family has been trying to contact Joycelyn through her Patreon account and other social media platforms she is using to disclose the daily information, without success.

Although Kelly's attorney, Steven Greenberg, released a statement disavowing Savage's posts, further validating the authenticity of the account, Griggs said.

Navy veteran may have been dead in apartment for 3 years



DESOTO, Texas (AP) — Doris Stevens' son, a Navy veteran who traveled the world for work and pleasure, suddenly stopped answering her phone calls in 2016. Stevens said she spent years trying to find out what happened, appealing to authorities to no avail.

Earlier this month, Stevens received a grim answer when maintenance workers found Ronald Wayne White dead on the floor of his apartment in a Dallas

suburb. The condition of his body indicated White had been dead for an "extended period," according to the Dallas County Medical Examiner's Office, possibly since around the time his mother last heard from him three years ago.

"A part of me is missing and I'm not going to ever see him again," Stevens told last week. "I want answers."

A spokesman said the medical examiner's office could not discuss the condition of White's body or his cause of death until an autopsy has been completed. Police in DeSoto, where White was found, are continuing to investigate but they suspect White's death may be linked to his diabetes and have found no indication of foul play, Detective Pete Schulte said.

White's third floor, corner apartment was locked from the inside and there was no odor in the hallway, Schulte said. White appears to have died soon after moving into the DeSoto Town Center Apartments on a month-to-month lease in November 2016, the detective said.

Stevens said she last spoke with her son that month, soon before he was set to move and turn 51. When months passed and she hadn't heard from him, Stevens said she called police in the Dallas area out of concern but also told them that her son loved to travel and might be on a trip.

A "highly unusual" confluence of circumstances allowed White's death to go undetected for years, said David Margulies, a spokesman for the apartment complex.

White worked as an independent defense contractor and his rent was withdrawn from an account linked to his Navy retirement, Schulte said.

Margulies said White's family didn't know he had moved into the apartment and that no friends or employer asked after him. White was known to travel frequently, and when staff checked on the apartment and got no response they assumed he was out of town, Margulies said.

"His mail didn't pile up. His rent was paid automatically," Margulies said. "All of the things that would have normally triggered a welfare check just didn't take place in this situation."

It wasn't until workers looking into a water issue drilled through the lock on White's door that anyone realized he'd died, Margulies said.

"Now as I look back, all the while I'd been crying about my son in Dallas, my son was dead in that apartment complex and I didn't know," Stevens said.

How to start investing for the long-term



Generally, you can afford to take on more risk earlier in your career because you have time to adjust if the market takes a downturn before you withdraw the money. Once you're closer to retirement, you'll want to take on less risk to help ensure your retirement funds are more secure when you need them.

Work with a financial planner

Everyone prefers a different level of autonomy when it comes to investing. While those who want to retain complete control can pursue a self-directed investment strategy, many find it helpful to seek outside advice. You can get started by visiting the website to get an understanding of the basics of investing and retirement, like how social security works, or what the difference is between stocks and bonds.

Another option to consider for guidance is robo-advisors. These online platforms provide an automated investment service, some of which with access to human financial advice. You can also seek the advice of a Certified Financial Planner™ (CFP®) to build a unique plan that works best for you. A CFP can help you manage your goals and simplify the complex world of investing. To find a CFP in your area, visit the Financial Planning Association's See if there are free resources available to you locally as well.

As you plan to invest, keep your personal financial goals in mind and be ready to adjust your plan as your situation changes. When you prepare, investments can be a great way to help you reach financial goals.

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Learn about the investment options available to you that make the most sense for your long-term financial success.

Investing can help your money grow. But before you move your money to anything riskier than a savings account or , you should review the ways you can do so.

Making well-advised investments comes down to cultivating the right mindset and getting educated about the options available to you. Investing can be a means to secure your long-term financial health, but you should also consider the risks attached to each investment option, and how these relate to your own willingness to take on risk. Framing investment risk against your own long-term priorities can help you decide what investment vehicles will be best.

Follow these key steps to hone your investing strategy.

Choose investment priorities

Ask yourself why you want to invest: Is it to prepare for retirement, buy a home, or start a new business? How much money will you need for your goals? Then, organize your investment priorities by the amount of time needed to achieve them. Writing them down can help you think clearly about which goals you have, and which you need to start with.

Your investment priorities should also be informed by your particular financial situation. You should invest no more than you can afford to lose. That way, you won't jeopardize your short-term financial health as you work toward achieving more long-term aims.

Invest in your company's employer-sponsored retirement plan

It's never too early to start investing in your retirement. Take advantage of your employer's plan, if they offer one. Set aside as much money as your employer is willing to match.

Employer-sponsored retirement plans can take many forms, such as a 401(k), 403(b), or 457(b). Some people choose to manage their own investment portfolio by investing in a mixture of stocks and bonds. A portfolio with more stocks than bonds is considered higher risk, along with a potential for high returns on investment, while a portfolio with more bonds than stocks will be the opposite. If you choose to manage your own retirement portfolio, think about which balance makes the most sense for you.

That balance could also shift over time depending on your risk tolerance as you get older. For example, as you near retirement, investing in less risky bonds rather than stocks could be a better approach.

Thank A Farmer This Thanksgiving

An Editorial by Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller
November 25, 2019

Howdy neighbors! In just a few short days, it will be time to gather for a day of feasting with friends and family. Your plate will probably be piled high with turkey and mashed potatoes, with just enough space left over for Grandma's homemade pumpkin pie.

All across Texas, families will come together to give thanks and reflect on this year's blessings. Those might include a good health, a new job, or a new baby.

This Thanksgiving, I'd like you to add one more thanks to your list. Please remember to add a well-deserved thank you for every hardworking Texas farmer and rancher who provides for the nourishment of our bodies not just on Thanksgiving, but all year long.

Each day, starting before dawn and finishing long after dark, American farmers and ranchers are putting in countless hours to supply our nation – and the world – with food and fiber.

You might have thought you loaded up your plate with too much turkey, but did you know that American turkey farmers provided over 4 billion pounds of turkey meat last year? With the average turkey weighing in at 30 pounds, turkey farmers raised enough turkeys for each person in the United States to enjoy a whole bird . . . without having to share. Additionally, in 2018, farmers in the top five pumpkin-producing States harvested just over 1 billion pounds of pumpkins. How many of Grandma's pumpkin pies would that make?

So as you're recovering from your post-turkey nap, or making your list for Black Friday, I'd like you to think of that rancher who just finished feeding his last pen of cows, or that a farmer who has closed the door to his tractor after a long day in the fields, and the family who can't wait to see them before the sun comes up and the work starts all over again.

This Thanksgiving remember to raise your fork for the farmers and ranchers who help produce that food on our table, clothes on our back and work tirelessly from sunrise to sunset to keep our agriculture industry alive.

As I always say, there will be times you'll need a good doctor, and probably occasionally a good lawyer at some point in your life.

Yet every day, three times a day, you're gonna need a farmer. That is why Texas agriculture matters.

May God continue to bless all our farmers and ranchers across Texas and the nation. Have a happy Thanksgiving and a peaceful and joyous holiday season!

ICYMI: Sanders Kicks Off HBCU Organizing Program With Huge Morehouse College Rally, New Policy to Fund HBCUs

WASHINGTON - Last week, Bernie Sanders released the most substantive to support Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority-Serving Institutions.

While most other candidates stop short by proposing funds with no plan, Bernie's multi-billion dollar plan includes making all private and public HBCUs tuition-free, an Executive Order to eradicate systemic racism impairing HBCUs, the cancelation of burdening public loan debt held by HBCUs, and targeted funding to address disparities in health care, education, and agriculture affecting Black people and other marginalized communities. Additionally, Bernie's plan will increase enrollment at HBCUs, the most crucial problem impacting most of these schools.

Black students who are exposed to at least two Black teachers by third grade are 32 percent more likely to enroll in college, but only 7% of teachers are African American compared to 15 percent of public school students. To close the gap, Sanders will dedicate \$5 billion to expand HBCU and MSI teaching programs and an additional \$5 billion to recruit, train, and retain Black K-12 teachers. Bernie's plan also ensures teachers will be justly compensated with a minimum \$60,000 per year salary.

Bernie's plan will provide \$5 billion to expand HBCU and MSI medical training programs, offer \$1 billion for agricultural science programs at HBCU land-grant institutions, give \$5 billion in HBCU infrastructure grants, and double Title III and Title V funding-- the primary sources of current federal grants to HBCUs and MSIs. Sanders also sets aside billions of dollars in Green New Deal research funds for HBCUs and MSIs to make sure communities of color, who are most predisposed to the effects of climate change, are guaranteed a role in an expansive plan to transform our country's energy system and create 20 million new jobs.