

## **Exonerated Five, Sue Donald Trump for Defamation Over False Debate Remarks**



Photo Credit: NNPA Files

### By Stacy M. Brown

The five men wrongfully convicted in the 1989 Central Park assault case, known as the "Exonerated Five," have filed a defamation lawsuit against former President Donald Trump after he made false statements during a September 10, 2024, presidential debate. The lawsuit, filed in federal court in Pennsylvania, claims that the 34times convicted Trump falsely asserted they had

"pleaded guilty" to the crime and falsely stated they "killed a person ultimately" during the assault, claims that have widely been debunked.

Antron McCray, Kevin Richardson, Raymond Santana, Korey Wise, and Yusef Salaam—who spent years in prison before their 2002 exoneration—accuse Trump of defaming them, painting them in a false light, and intentionally inflicting emotional distress by continuing to spread falsehoods about their case. The lawsuit references Trump's debate comments, which were broadcast to millions of viewers, as particularly harmful given the ongoing efforts by the men to rebuild their lives after their wrongful convictions. While Trump has lashed

out at the innocent men, the twice-impeached former president is awaiting sentencing after being convicted of 34 felony charges in New York. A civil jury also found Trump guilty of sexually assaulting a journalist, and a judge levied a verdict of nearly \$500 million against the Republican presidential nominee for committing massive business fraud.

The court filing provides a detailed account of

Continue False Page 7

**Study: Stress Levels Soar as Americans Fear Election** Violence and

## Skyline goes pink to support a friend and colleague

By MariCarmen Eroles





## Threat to Democracy

By Stacy M. Brown

A new Stress in America poll by the American Psychological Association (APA) reveals that Americans are under immense stress as the 2024 U.S. presidential election approaches, with over 70% fearing that the election results could lead to violence. Conducted by The Harris Poll, the survey highlights the pervasive anxiety triggered by political and societal concerns.

The poll shows that 77% of adults cite concerns about the nation's future as their top stressor, followed closely by economic worries (73%), and the upcoming election itself (69%). Stress-related to the election had risen slightly compared to 2020, when 68% of respondents expressed concern, and significantly from 2016, when only 52% reported similar stress levels.

Worry about the potential fallout from the election is widespread, with 72% of adults fearing that

the results could lead to violence and 56% concerned that the 2024 election could mark the end of democracy in the U.S. "What sets the 2024 poll apart from previous APA election surveys is the collective stress about the potential fallout from the election results," said APA CEO Arthur C. Evans.

The survey also identified additional stressors affecting Americans, with 62% citing U.S. politics as a significant source of stress, 55% pointing to healthcare, and 54% to crime. Concerns about the environment (51%) and global tensions (51%) are also significant. Issues like housing costs (65%), mass shootings (63%), and the spread of false information (62%) continue to add to the nation's anxiety.

Political divisions impact personal relationships, with 32% of adults reporting that the political

Continue Study Page 3

When Christi Canady-Boyd, a speech therapy assistant at Skyline High School, was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2021, she was anxious about talking to her supervisor.

Little did she know the conversation would lead to a four-year legacy of love and support as dozens of Skyline Raiders walk every year in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure."It was my first year at Skyline, but I had known her from [W.H] Gaston [Middle School]," said Sonja Nix, assistant principal at Skyline High School. "When she told

me, I took off my supervisor hat and put on my friend hat and asked her what we could do to support her."

Canady-Boyd got her treatment and is doing well, but because Nix was raised always helping others, and is part of a sorority that emphasizes service to others, she went a step further to support her friend and team member in her fight against a disease that affects one in four women in the United States.

Nix created a Skyline Raiders team for that year's Komen Race for the

Cure and encouraged the school's athletics teams to join. Several did, including the drill team—the Skyline Silhouettes-who stopped every so often along the route to do a routine and cheer on the other participants. The first year, the Skyline team had about 150 participants and raised \$1,500.

For Nix, getting students involved was important because often people go through their everyday lives missing what is going on in others' lives.

Breast cancer touches everyone on some level, and the race teaches students-and adults-empathy.

"There aren't a lot of opportunities to reach out and touch someone else," Nix said. "This lets them take a break from themselves and think about how they can impact others' lives."

The second year, the numbers increased, and the team had about 250 people participate, including the boys baseball team. The organization even requested the Silhouettes come back with their routines.

Continue **Pink** Page 3



**Recognizing #BLACK EXCELLENCE for 77 Years** 



Photo Credit: Dallas ISD

## **The 2024 State Fair of Texas Welcomes Nearly 2.4 Million Fairgoers**

By State Fair of Texas



As the Texas Star slows and Big Tex bids farewell, the 2024 State Fair of Texas comes to a close, but the memories made this year linger on throughout Fair Park. Until the gates open again next fall, the spirit of the Fair lives on in the hearts of everyone who joined us. The 2024 State Fair of Texas is estimated to have welcomed nearly 2.4 million people through the gates during its 24-day run.

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, the Fair aims to support the community, both locally and statewide. The proceeds from the Fair are used to preserve and improve Fair Park; underwrite community initiatives, support scholarship programs for stuPhoto Credit: State Fair

dents throughout the Lone Star State pursuing higher education, and Fair Park's museums; and help improve State Fair operations. The annual State Fair of Texas serves as the organization's largest fundraiser of the year – a successful 24-day run for the Fair means more support for Fair Park and the surrounding community. In 2023, due to the success of the prior year's Fair, the State Fair of Texas was able to contribute nearly \$15.8 million through philanthropic and Fair Park giving.

> "At the heart of the State Fair of Texas is a commitment to creating lasting memories and celebrating what makes the Lone Star State unique. This year we've seen incredible moments of joy

and connection that remind us of the power of this tradition here at the most Texan place on Earth. It's always a privilege to witness people from all walks of life come together to share in the fun, culture, and community that makes the Fair so special," said State Fair of Texas President Mitchell Glieber.

Serving as our largest community program and fundraiser of the year, the 2024 State Fair of Texas proved to make a difference in more ways than we can count. Below are just a few of the noteworthy successes from this year's exhibition:

• The State Fair of Texas is estimated to have welcomed nearly 2.4 million fairgoers through the gates.

• More than 549.000 Visitor's Guides were handed out, informing fairgoers of all the State Fair fun they can enjoy during their visit.

• The Fair's busiest day for the 2024 season was Saturday, October 12 – the Allstate® Red River Rivalry. Big Tex welcomed more than 211,000 fairgoers that day.

• The Big Tex Contact Center answered nearly 12,200 calls from fairgoers during the run of the Fair.

• The State Fair of Texas marketing team made 55,559 new Fair friends across all social media channels

during the Fair, with one video reaching more than 9.7 million views.

### Community

• 1,100 admission tickets were donated to local nonprofit organizations for the community to enjoy the Fair.

• More than 180,000 canned food items, including jars of peanut butter, were collected during the State Fair of Texas and donated to the North Texas Food Bank.

• Nearly 135 faith leaders and community partners came together for fellowship during the annual Pastors Luncheon hosted by the State Fair of Texas during the Fair on October 3, 2024.

• More than 1.88 million free admission tickets were given to students throughout North Texas, and more than 300,000 teachers received a voucher for free admission.

• More than 300 nonprofit leaders attended Community Engagement Day, which was hosted by the State Fair of Texas during the Fair on October 15, 2024.

• The State Fair of Texas and the Juanita J. Craft Civil Rights House & Steering Committee hosted the

Seventh Annual Juanita Craft Humanitarian Awards, honoring seven individuals following in Mrs. Craft's footsteps. Nearly 200 community members were in attendance.

• As of 2024, Big Tex Urban Farms has donated more than 26,360 pounds of fresh produce. This equates to more than 1.7 million servings donated to help feed the South Dallas/Fair Park community since 2016.

• In 2024, the Fair's Big Tex Scholarship Program awarded more than \$1.3 million in new college scholarships to 225 students throughout the Lone Star State.

• With college applications right around the corner, the Fair encourages eligible high school seniors and seasonal employees to go online to com/Scholarship and apply now for a 2025 Big Tex college scholarship.

• More than 17,300 first responders and their families visited the Fair over 24 days, utilizing the special discount offer in gratitude for their service.

• More than 52,000 members of the military and their

Continue Fair Page 4

### Clues

### ACROSS

1. Eight performers 6. Air traffic control controlling org. 9. 100-meter race 13. \*Fauna, Merryweather and , fairy godmothers 14. Adam's body part in Bible 15. Stone fruit 16. Type of bulrush, pl. 17. \*"Dawn of a new 18. Pertaining to ear 19. \*" list" 21. \*"Your wish is my 23. Actor Danson 24. Pottery oven 25. \*Migos: "Look at My 28. Cold cuts counter 30. Inner skin layer, pl. 35. Riyadh native 37. One thousandth of a liter, pl. 39. \*"Till do us part" 40. Inconclusive 41. Where there's trouble? 43. On a cruise, e.g. 44. Man-made stone pile 46. Purse for a formal affair 47. Animal house 48. When a 3rd party holds assets 50. Prefers 52. Desk well content 53. Withdraw gradually 55. Black and white sea bird 57. \*" up the wrong tree" 61. \*"A date which will live in 64. Certain monochromatic cookie, pl. 65. Weary traveler's destination 67. Robin Hood's companion Tuck 69. September stone 70. Tolstoy of "War and Peace" fame 71. Salon file 72. Hurly burly 73. Immeasurable period 74. Raja's wife

### DOWN

1. Oftentimes, poetic abbreviation

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6. Worry	13			
7. *"I'm walkin' on"	16			┝
8. Old-time calculators	10			
9. Ringo Starr's instrument		19		┢
10. Ambience				
11. Bridge, e.g.				ł
12. Kept together				
15. *F. Scott Fitzgerald's "The Beautiful	25	26	27	
and the "				
20. Possible allergic reaction	35			
22. *"What's is new again"				
24. One thousand tons	40			
25. *"like no one is watching"				
26. La Scala solos	44			ſ
27. Fundamental				
29. *" is like a box of chocolates"	48			
31. Madrid's Club de Fútbol				
32. Kenyan warrior				
33. Dined at home	67	50	50	
34. *"Jump the," what Fonzie did	57	58	59	
36. 100 cents in Ethiopia	64			┝
38. *"No for you!"	04			
42. Previously an Oiler	69			┢
45. In no manner, archaic	00			
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51. Bear pain	<b>1</b> -			
54. Quick and light on one's feet				
56. Deserved consequence				
57. *"You're gonna need a bigger "		SWI	TCH	
58. Jason's vessel		5W1	GET	
59. Use a book		6		1
60. Japanese zither			5	
61. Involved (2 words)				
62. Demeanor				
63. Ready and eager				
66. New, prefix				
68. *J.D. Salinger's "Catcher in the				
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## Statepoint Crossword Puzzle Theme: Fill-In-The-Blanks

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# **RELIGIOUS/NEWS**

## Some Vital Instructions Needed for Church Organization Titus 1:1-16

Paul left Titus on the island of Crete in order to set straight "things that are wanting and to ordain elders in every city" (Titus 1:5). This arduous task was appointed to Titus because the organization of the Cretan church and the lives of the members had both fallen into disrepute. Some Christians had abused the grace of God and turned it into licentiousness! In this grand book of Titus, it teaches that Christian doctrine and Christian living are to be sound (Titus 1:9, 13; 2:1-2, 8). God's grace leads a person to live a godly life (Titus 1:4; 2:11; 3:17, 15). Although we do not know who founded the church at Crete, but we do know that Paul left Titus there to organize it and remedy the weaknesses of the church.

Titus 1:1-16 may be outlined as follows: I. Instructions for Church Organization – Titus 1:1-9; II. Some Characteristics of False Teachers - Titus 1:10-

#### 16. I. Instructions for Church Organization – Titus 1:1-9

Paul begins this wonderful epistle by identifying himself as a servant of God (v. 1). The word "servant" means bound slave. Paul viewed himself as a bond slave of Jesus Christ. He also referred to himself as an apostle of Jesus Christ. As a sent representative of Christ, Paul was to communicate the truth of God. As a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ, Paul focused on two main concerns: "the faith of God's elect, and the knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness." God was using Paul to call out a people for Himself and to teach them the truth that leads to godliness.

In verses 2-3, "the faith and knowledge" referred to in verse 1, are said to be resting on the hope of eternal life. This hope was promised by God back in eternality. In verse 3, God's wonderful plan of salvation was marked out before the world began, but now it has been revealed through preaching (the proclamation of the gospel).

In verse 4, Paul addresses Titus as his spiritual son. The expression, "after the common faith," refers to the faith that all believers share. From God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, our Saviour, all believers have been benefited with "grace, mercy and peace" (v.4). As a result of God's grace, we have been extended "mercy and peace." According to verse 5, Paul appointed Titus to organize the Cretan church, which was located on an island on the Mediterranean Sea. Titus was to "set in order" and remedy the spiritual weaknesses of the Cretan church. The expression "set in order" is a medical term, meaning "to set a broken bone, or straighten a crooked limb." The church is a body, and the spiritual leader must

remedy the spiritual weaknesses of the body by applying the Word of God!

Beginning in verse 6, Paull will list some seventeen qualifications of elders/bishops. These qualifications are: (1) the elder must be blameless, or live a life above reproach (I Timothy 3:10); (2) husband of one wife, meaning a onewoman man; (3) an elder must have his own household under control; (4) an elder must not be overbearing, not arrogant and selfwilled; (5) an elder must not be quick-tempered; (6) not given to much wine; (7) not violent; (8) not desirous of dishonest gain; (9) must be hospitable; (10) one who loves what is good; (11) self-controlled; (12) upright; (13) holy; (14) disciplined; (15) holding firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught; (16) encourage others by teaching the word; (17) refute those who oppose the word. **II. Some Characteristics** 

Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith

#### of False Teachers - Titus 1:10-16

In verse 10, Paul described those who oppose or contradict sound teaching by offering three prominent characteristics they possessed; they are rebellious, mere talkers and deceivers. These false teachers must be suppressed because of the ruin they were doing to the families of the congregation. These false teachers were interested in dishonest gain (v. 11).

In verse 12, Paul quotes a famous poet called Epimenides, who described the Cretians as liars, ferocious beasts and "idle gluttons." In Paul's day, the people invented a new word out of the name "Cretian" which meant "to lie, to speak like a Cretian." Paul was not suggesting that all Cretians were lazy gluttons and liars. There were many people, both within and without the churches, who lived descent lives. The forthright quotation by Paul regarding the

Cretians was candid (v. 13).

Titus was admonished by Paul to rebuke the false teachers sharply so that they will be sound in the faith. In verse 14, Titus was to severely rebuke the those in error so that they would cease paying attention to Jewish myths and to the commands of those who reject the truth.

In verse 15, Paul set forth a teaching by Christ that stated in essence that purification is a matter of internal rather than the external (Mark 7:15; Luke 11:39-41). Nothing outside can corrupt one who is internally pure; but someone who is internally impure corrupts all he touches. The problem with false teachers was their minds and consciences were impure. Thus, in verse 16, their impure interiors made them externally detestable to God and unfit for doing anything good.

May God Bless



## **Continue Study Page 1**

has strained climate family ties and 30% limiting their time with family members due to differing values. Many are contemplating significant changes in response to political tensions-41% have considered moving to a different country, while 39% are considering relocating to another state.

Sixty-one percent feel optimistic that the election will bring about positive change, and 59% believe it could lead to a more inclusive society. Voter turnout is expected to be strong, with 77% of respondents indicating they intend to vote in the 2024 presidential election. Additionally, 51% said they feel more compelled to support causes they care about, up from 45% before the 2020 election.

Mental health experts have offered advice on coping with election-re-

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**Top's Café** 644 Wynnewood Village Dallas, Texas

**Comerica Bank** 753 W. Illinois Ave. Dallas, Texas

Luby's Cafeteria 5600 S. Hampton Rd. Dallas, Texas

**TD'S Barbeque** 3403 S. Lancaster Rd. Dallas, Texas

**Greenville Avenue Church of Christ** 1013 Greenville Ave. Richardson, Texas Despite the overwhelming anxiety, some respondents feel hope. lated stress. Psychiatrist Dr. Sue Varma recommended setting boundaries around social media use to limit exposure to constant news updates. "It's really important to carve out sacred spaces throughout your day where you don't have constant notifications," Varma said in a CBS News interview.

## **Continue Pink Page 1**

People donated \$5 for m walkers to wear T-shirts with the name of a loved sp one who had been diagnosed with the disease. at The team raised \$2,500 th for the Susan G. Komen 2 Foundation, which provides support for those S diagnosed with breast for cancer as well as funding ra for research to find treatments and eventually a ti

cure. "I am thankful that I had someone in my life like Ms. Nix," Canady-Boyd said. "I feel good because it has impacted so many, changed so many lives because we all have purpose. I feel like going through this is fulfilling the purpose that the Lord almighty has for me."

Latronda Williams, a special education teacher assistant at Skyline, is also organizing a "More than Pink" walk on Oct. 26 at the school for those who couldn't make the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure., Funds raised for that will also go to the Komen Foundation.

Williams believes it's important that students and team members who couldn't get to the Plano event have an opportunity to "be of service and be the gem in their community. To say, 'I don't know them, but I can walk with them in this fight.""

The Skyline women

hope that the legacy of empathy they started to support a friend and colleague takes root and continues for many years at Skyline and wherever the students go after they graduate.

"I am a Skyline alum and a Silhouette, so this rings very deep for me," Canady-Boyd said. "I truly am wonderful because of all the support. In the Skyline special education department, we are like a family. Everybody was so supportive. Our Circle Soulja Pink, that's what I call my group, I felt their love from work, from home, from family. It really helped me to get through everything."



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## **Take Charge: The Importance of Regular Breast Self-Exams**

HEALTH

If you think you are too young to develop breast cancer, Parkland Health experts urge you to think again.

Breast cancer is the second most common cancer among American women, with new cases occurring in 10% of women younger than 45 years old, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Often, their cancer is found to be more advanced than malignancies found in older women.

"One of the most important things for women under 40 is to know themselves. You really need to know what is normal for you," said Parkland Mammography Outreach and Education Manager Aeisha Taylor, DHA, BSRS, RT(R)(CT)(M). Taylor recommends that women of all ages practice monthly breast self-exams and learn what is normal for their bodies. "Women should understand what they feel and what they see when doing a breast self-exam," she said.

### What do you feel?

When performing your self-exam,

use your fingers to feel for any lumps. "You can use the pads of your index, middle and ring finger," said Taylor. Doing so will give a better chance of feeling anything abnormal. Women should press gently yet firmly using small motions to examine the entire breast. The lumps can vary, with some being able to move around like a small pea or feeling hard and staying in place. "The most important thing with the lump is that if it is new, we want to get it checked out," urges Taylor.

### What do you see?

Taylor recommends doing a breast exam when you are either lying down or standing up and especially in front of the mirror. "We can't see underneath the breast, so we need to make sure we can view in a mirror because some skin changes can hide underneath the breast," said Taylor. Women should look for changes in skin tex-

ture, such as dimpling and peeling or nipple inverting and discharge.

According to the CDC, women ages 40 to 74 should get regular mammograms. However, women of all ages who are high risk or detect something can start theirs at an earlier age. "If there wasn't something there the last time you checked your breasts, speak with your provider to get it checked out," said Taylor.

The staff of Parkland's Breast Health Center is hosting community mammogram events in October and year-round. During the events, Parkland experts will offer breast cancer education and mammograms at no cost to Dallas County residents who live in certain targeted ZIP Codes. Women must be between the ages of 40 to 74 and have not had a mammogram in the last 12 months. Registration is required for each event. Find an event near you and register by visiting www.parklandhealth.org/mammograms-save-lives.

## **Continued Fair Page 2**

and their families visited the Fair over 24 days, utilizing the special discount offer in gratitude for their service.

### Entertainment, Attractions, and Midway

• More than 144,000 fans were in attendance for the State Fair Classic and the Allstate® Red River Rivalry at the historic Cotton Bowl® Stadium during the Fair. • The Kroger® Starlight Parade featured brand-new floats that illuminated the fairgrounds each night, with more than 800 riders adorning the floats during 24 processions.

Series, more than 60 Texas music artists performed throughout the grounds.

• More than 35 acts took to the Chevrolet Main Stage this year, with Los Pescadores, Jesse & Joy, Wyatt Flores, and The Commodores drawing the largest crowds at their FREE concerts.

• The Bud Light Stage hosted 30 acts this year, with Luna Luna, Los Gran Reyes, and Sarah Jaffe drawing the largest crowds. • Throughout the 24 days of the Fair, 3,099 activities happened across the fairgrounds, including shows like Steve Goodtime, Dino Time with Professor T. Tex, live music shows, and more.

• Fairgoers joined the Showstoppers in the Cupid Shuffle over 95 times.

• Little Big Tex made over 150 appearances across the fairgrounds, taking over 10,000 photos with fairgoers. • Sara Twister split 33 apples with bare hands, with one split by the hands of a member of the audience.

value of \$1.4 million. • More than 100,000 rides were taken on the iconic Texas Star Ferris Wheel.

• Exhibits and Creative Arts

• The State Fair welcomed 20 new shopping booths this year, creating 186 shopping locations for fairgoers to enjoy.

• The Texas Auto Show showcased 288

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• During the fifth year of the Lone Star Music

• More than 1,200 playing cards were torn by our resident Mighty strongman, Mike.

• The Love Bug horn blew more than 4,000 times throughout the 24-day run of the Fair. • More than 400,000 prizes were won at the State Fair Midway, with an estimated cars and seven golf carts, featuring the latest vehicles-from electric models to spacious family SUVsat one of the largest automotive displays in the Southwest.

• State Farm gave out 29,486 bobbleheads to fairgoers during all 24

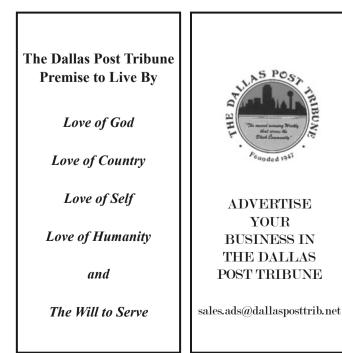
Continue Fair Page 9

## Quinn Minute

# **Classroom smells**

#### By Rix Quinn

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.



My friend Debi asks, "Why do they call the little candy 'fun sizes?' Wouldn't it be more fun to eat a big one?"

Wow, Debi, what a flavorful question. Let me chew on that a little with my sweet tooth.

Candy has been around throughout recorded history. Actually, ancient civilizations prized it even before they made recordings.

The earliest sweets were likely those made of candied nuts and fruits in

honey. Centuries ago, explorers discovered the cocoa bean and cacao trees. I'll be forever grateful to these pioneers of chocolate.

And don't forget chewing gum. In the late 1860s flavor was added to chicle, creating the first modern gum. I chewed so much when I was a kid, I considered gum one of the primary food groups.

Hard candies also became popular in the 1800s. Chocolate bars were invented around

1850. I don't know exactly when "fun sizes" began, but here's my theory.

Fun sizes allow friends to share candy. That's a very generous idea. But here's my problem.

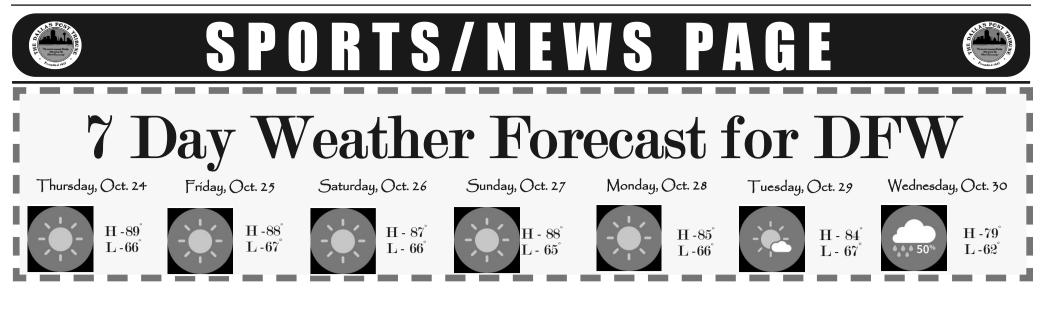
I don't like to share candy. If I buy the candy, I want it all...no matter what the quantity. I personally love the fun size, because it gives me more sugar to gobble.

So, in the future, when I'm with a friend, I'll buy myself a fun size. And - if I'm feeling generous – I'll buy him one too.

I just hope his friendship is worth the extra investment.

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**Recognizing #BLACK EXCELLENCE for 77 Years** 



# **Kendricks: No regrets choosing Dallas over 49ers**

#### By Dallas Cowboys Staff

FRISCO, Texas – On March 11th, veteran linebacker Eric Kendricks had agreed to terms with the San Francisco 49ers. Four days later, he was signing a contract to play for the Dallas Cowboys and his former defensive coordinator in Minnesota, Mike Zimmer.

Fast forward to now, and Kendricks is looking to face off against the team that he almost joined during the offseason. He was a limited participant in practice on Wednesday after missing a full week of practice and the game against the Detroit Lions.

"I am working hard to get back, I take very good care of my body, I take it very seriously, I'm a professional in all sense of it," Kendricks said. "I'll be being a professional this week, and let the chips fall where they may." Kendricks is Dallas' leading tackler with 52 to his name through five games to go along with two sacks, an interception and a forced fumble. He's been the piece that makes the defense go, and his presence was greatly missed against the Lions. The past is in the past however, and Kendricks has his eyes set on the rest of the season.

"It always sucks mis-

sing a game, but I'm just looking forward." Kendricks said.

When Kendricks hit the market looking for a new team, part of the deal he was looking for was the opportunity to play MIKE linebacker. The bonus in coming to the Cowboys was reuniting with Zimmer.

"It was a big influence," Kendricks said on how much Zimmer impacted his decision. "I obviously wanted to be the MIKE as well, but both factors into it... Fred [Warner]'s the Mike there... I wanted to be MIKE."

In his seven seasons with Zimmer in Minnesota, Kendricks tallied 100 or more tackles in all but one of his seasons with the Vikings as a clear cut leader of the defense. Back with Zimmer now in Dallas, Kendricks has been a resource for his teammates throughout their struggles as a unit this season.

"You got to lean on each other, there's been times where we all have faced adversity," Kendricks said. "We got to dig deep through those times and we're a good ball club, so we got to prove it."

## Here's how to vote in the Texas 2024 Election Continued 10/17/2024 - (Final Part)

### What if there's an issue with my mailin ballot?

Texas will allow voters to correct their mail-in ballots if the ballots are at risk of being rejected for a technical error, including missing information or signatures. This also applies to issues with the applications for those ballots. County officials are responsible for alerting voters if there is a defect with their application or ballot.

Voters can use a new online ballot tracker to check the status of both their application to vote by mail and their ballot. The tracker can also be used to make corrections. You can access the tracker here (https://teamrv-mvp.sos.texas.gov/Ballot-TrackerApp/#/login.) The deadline to correct mail-in ballot applications is Oct. 25. The deadline to correct a mail-in ballot is Nov. 12. on the registration and their photo ID, however, must be "substantially similar." So it's important voters make sure the names match, KERA News reported.

### What if I don't have a valid photo ID?

Voters can still cast votes if they sign a form swearing that they have a "reasonable impediment" from obtaining a proper photo ID. However, those voters will also have to present one of the following types of supporting identification documents:

about who or what to vote for). If a voter makes a mistake while marking their ballot, they have a right to use up to two additional ballots to make corrections. Voters generally have the right to cast their ballots in secret and should not be subject to intimidation.

Voters with disabilities or limited English proficiency can also get interpretation, assistance or accommodations to vote. A state law passed in 2023 also allows voters with disabilities or mobility problems to skip the line at their polling location and requires each polling location to have a designated parking spot for curbside voting. Read more in our guide disabilities for voters with (https://www.texastribune.org/2024/08/16 /texas-voter-disabilities-election-2024/.) Texas law says voters have the right to vote during work hours without being penalized or losing pay, but this may not apply if a worker has two hours before or after work to go vote. On Election Day, voters have the right to cast their ballot as long as they're in line by 7 p.m. At the polls, voters can talk to election officers or poll workers if they run into issues. The secretary of state's office has a helpline at 1-800-252-VOTE (8683) that voters and election officials can use to reach state attorneys to assist them with questions. A coalition of voting rights groups runs voter protection hotlines in several languages. Disability Rights Texas also offers a helpline for people with disabilities.

your county elections office to determine if you're eligible for curbside voting, which must be made available at every polling place for voters with disabilities that are unable to enter a polling location.

## How can I make sure my ballot is counted?

## How do I know if my provisional ballot was counted?

If you voted through a provisional ballot because of an administrative issue or photo ID problem, you should receive a notice by mail letting you know if your ballot was counted in the local canvass, which is the official tallying of votes. These notices must be mailed by Nov. 15, according to the state's election law calendar.

## What do I need to know about going to the polls?

## How can I find which polling places are near me?

By Oct. 15, county election offices are supposed to post on their websites (https://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/voter /links.shtml#County) information about polling locations for Election Day and during the early-voting period. The secretary of state's website will also have information on polling locations closer to the start of voting. However, polling locations may change, so be sure to check your county's election website before going to vote.

#### What form of ID do I need to bring?

You'll need one of seven types of valid photo ID to vote in Texas:

- State driver's license (issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety)
- A Texas election identification certificate (issued by DPS)
- A Texas personal identification card (issued by DPS)
- A Texas license to carry a handgun (issued by DPS)
- A U.S. military ID card with a personal photo
- A U.S. citizenship certificate with a personal photo
- A U.S. passport

Check out this story for more details. Despite a recent state policy change blocking transgender Texans from updating the sex listed on their ID, a poll worker is not required to check to see if the sex on a voter's registration matches their state ID or driver's license, according to election officials. The name of the voter

- A valid voter registration certificate
- A certified birth certificate

• A document confirming birth admissible in a court of law that establishes your identity (which may include a foreign birth document)

• A copy of or an original current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other document that shows the voter's name and address (Any government document that contains a voter's photo must be an original.)

If you have a valid photo ID but forgot it, you can cast a provisional ballot. You will have to visit the local voter registrar's office within six days of the election to present an acceptable ID or documentation in order for the ballot to be counted. A registered voter without a valid photo ID or any of the supporting documents can also cast a provisional ballot.

#### Are there rules at the polls?

Cellphones, cameras, computers and other devices that can record sound or images cannot be used within 100 feet of voting stations (where ballots are marked). There are usually traffic cones or signs indicating this. Campaigning, including wearing clothing or other items that publicize candidates, political parties or measures on the ballot, is also banned beyond this point.

Voters are allowed to use written notes to cast their ballot at the discretion of election officers, who may determine if the material counts as campaigning.

Firearms, including handguns, are also prohibited at polling places, according to Texas law.

### What are my rights as a voter?

If a registered voter's name does not appear on the list of registered voters because of an administrative issue, they have the right to cast a provisional ballot. Voters are entitled to get written instructions about how to cast a ballot or to ask a polling place officer or worker (but not

### What if I was planning to vote in person, but I got sick or injured?

If you get injured or sick, such as with COVID-19 or are exhibiting symptoms, consider requesting an emergency early voting ballot or using curbside voting.

**Emergency ballot:** These ballots can be requested if you become sick or disabled close to an election and are unable to go to a polling place on Election Day. To qualify, you must designate a representative to submit an application in person on your behalf and have a certified doctor's note. The application must be received by your county's early voting clerk before 5 p.m. on Election Day.

Your ballot must be returned to the same designated representative before 7 p.m. on Election Day to be counted. Contact your county elections office for more details about receiving an emergency early-voting ballot due to sickness or disability.

Curbside voting: You can also contact

### What about regular ballots?

To ensure vote counts are accurate, counties test election equipment multiple times, including in a public test conducted before an election.

"If that county has performed a successful logic and accuracy test before that election and that voter in that county has actually marked their ballot and cast it, I believe they can safely assume that their vote is counted," said Chris Davis, the voter registration division director for Travis County.

#### What voter data is public?

Under Texas's election statutes, a voter's name, date of birth, address, voter ID number and voter history are generally public information. Voter participation history includes primary election history, during which voters have to pick either the Republican or Democratic primary. Candidates often use this data for campaigns and to monitor trends.

However, a voter's social security number, Texas driver's license number, and personal ID number issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety are confidential. A voter's date of birth may be public, depending on which voting records are requested. According to the secretary of state, "if a person requests an individual's voter registration information, the voter's date of birth would be confidential. However, if a person asked for a list of all registered voters, then the date of birth for all registered voters would not be redacted."

Under a 2023 law passed by Texas lawmakers, counties must make images of ballots or records of cast votes available for public inspection 60 days after election day. Any personally identifiable information must first be redacted.



NOTICE OF ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Dallas, Texas, has called a special election to be held within the City of Dallas, Texas, on Tuesday, November 5, 2024.

_	FOR	PROPOSITION A
	FOR	Shall Chapter 40A of the Dallas City Code, known as the employees' retirement fund of the City of Dallas, be amended in accordance with
	AGAINST	Ordinance No. 32801 to: add, revise, and delete various definitions; provide amended terms and term limits of the board; modify the retirement fund board's powers and duties; specify the date the board shall adopt the actuarially determined contribution rate, the current
		total adjusted total obligation rate, the current total obligation rate, and the pension obligation bond credit rate for each fiscal year; provide
		amended contribution amounts for the city and employees; provide a contribution maximum for Tier A and Tier B employees; provide that the city may contribute additional monies to the retirement fund in its sole discretion; amend the modifications of contribution rates; provide
		guardrails with respect to the calculation of the actuarially determined contribution and incorporating the guardrails into actuarial assumptions;
	FOR	and amend the procedure to amend Chapter 40A? PROPOSITION B
	FOR	Shall the Dallas City Charter be amended by adding a preamble that declares the city to be an equitable democracy, comprised of
	AGAINST	representatives that act to make the city fair, equitable, just, and safe for all residents? <b>PROPOSITION C</b>
	FOR	Increasing Salaries for the Mayor and Councilmembers
		Shall Chapter III, Section 4(a) of the Dallas City Charter be amended to increase the annual salary for the mayor to \$110,000 and the annual salaries for councilmembers to \$90,000 with salaries subject to a yearly adjustment equal to the year-over-year percentage increase in the
	AGAINST	local consumer price index, effective January 1, 2025?
_	FOR	PROPOSITION D Removing Election Date from the Charter
	FOR	Shall Chapter IV, Section 3 of the Dallas City Charter be amended by deleting the requirement that elections for members of the city council
	AGAINST	be held in May and instead be held according to state law and as designated by city resolution or ordinance? <b>PROPOSITION E</b>
	FOR	Eliminating the Ability for Councilmembers and Mayor to Run Again After Serving the Limit of Terms
		Shall Chapter III, Section 3A of the Dallas City Charter be amended to eliminate the ability for members of the city council to run for city council again after serving the maximum four two-year terms and to eliminate the ability for the mayor to run for mayor again after serving
	AGAINST	the maximum two four-year terms?
_	EOD	PROPOSITION F Providing the City Secretary and City Auditor with Employees
	FOR	Shall Chapter IIIA, Section 2 and Chapter IX, Section 2 of the Dallas City Charter, which requires the city council to provide assistants to
	AGAINST	the city secretary and city auditor, be amended to also require the city council to provide employees to the city secretary and city auditor?
		PROPOSITION G
	FOR	<u>Adding Eligibility Criteria for Serving on the Redistricting Commission</u> Shall Chapter IV, Section 5(b)(2) of the Dallas City Charter, which establishes the redistricting commission, be amended by adding
	AGAINST	eligibility criteria for serving on the redistricting commission?
_	TOP	PROPOSITION H Eliminating the Requirement that Members of Boards and Commissions Created by Charter be Registered to Vote, Qualified Voters, or
	FOR	Qualified Taxpaying Citizens
	AGAINST	Shall Chapter IV, Section 5; Chapter XV, Section 3; Chapter XVI, Section 1; and Chapter XVII, Section 2 of the Dallas City Charter be amended by eliminating the requirement that members of the redistricting commission, city plan commission, civil service board, and park
		and recreation board be registered to vote, qualified voters, or qualified taxpaying citizens? <b>PROPOSITION I</b>
	FOR	Amending Initiative and Referendum Petition Procedure by Extending Deadline for Petition Signature Collection from 60 Days to 120 Days
		and Reducing Number of Signatures Required on a Petition to Initiate a Referendum Shall Chapter XVIII, Section 11 of the Dallas City Charter, which establishes procedures for initiative and referendum of ordinances, be
	AGAINST	amended to extend the deadline petitioners must meet to collect required signatures from 60 days to 120 days and reduce the number of
		signatures required on a petition from 10 percent of the qualified voters of the City of Dallas to five percent? <b>PROPOSITION J</b>
	FOR	Allowing City Council to Replace City Board and Commission Members Before Completion of Board and Commission Terms
	AGAINST	Shall Chapter XXIV, Section 17(b) of the Dallas City Charter be amended to allow city council's appointments to city boards and commissions to be replaced by city council prior to completion of a member's two-year term?
		PROPOSITION L
	FOR	Adding the Office of the Inspector General to the Charter Shall Chapter XI, Section 2 be amended and a new chapter be added to the Dallas City Charter that establishes the Office of the Inspector
	AGAINST	General with the Inspector General being appointed by city council and lists the duties of the Inspector General?
	TOP	PROPOSITION O Amending the Appointment Procedure and Qualifications of Associate Municipal Judges
	FOR	Shall Chapter VIII, Section 6 of the Dallas City Charter be amended to clarify the terms of associate municipal judges and state that associate
	AGAINST	municipal judges are appointed by city council, receive assignments from the administrative judge or the administrative judge's designee, and must be residents of Dallas within four months of the date of appointment and practicing attorneys in good standing?
		PROPOSITION P Deleting the Requirement to Pay One-Half the Costs of Administrative Law Judge
	FOR	Shall Chapter XVI, Section 12.1 of the Dallas City Charter be amended by deleting the requirement that a city employee who appeals his
	AGAINST	or her discharge or reduction in grade to an administrative law judge pay one-half of the costs attributed to having the administrative law judge conduct the appeal hearing?
		PROPOSITION Q
	FOR	<u>Technical Amendments to Conform to State Law, City Code, and Actual Practices; to Correct Terms; and to Clarify Language</u> Shall Chapter III, Section 3; Chapter III, Section 4; Chapter III, Chapter 8(b); Chapter III, Section 13(a); Chapter III, Section 19; Chapter
	AGAINST	IV, Section 6(a); Chapter IV, Section 6(c)(2); Chapter IV, Section 13; Chapter XI, Section 1; Chapter XI, Section 3; Chapter XII, Section 4;
		Chapter XIII, Section 2(2); Chapter XIII, Section 9; Chapter XIV, Section 8; Chapter XV, Section 3; Chapter XV, Section 4; Chapter XVI, Section 3(b)(1); Chapter XVI, Section 7; Chapter XVI, Section 10(a); Chapter XVI, Section 11(b); Chapter XVIII, Section 7; Chapter XVI, Section 7; Chapter XVI, Section 10(a); Chapter XVI, Section 11(b); Chapter XVIII, Section 7; Chapter XVI, Section 10(a); Chapter XVI, Section 11(b); Chapter XVIII, Section 7; Chapter XVIII
		Section 11(1); Chapter XVIII, Section 15; Chapter XIX, Section 7; Chapter XXII, Section 2; Chapter XXII, Section 3; Chapter XXII, Section
		4(1); Chapter XXII, Section 10; and Chapter XXIV of the Dallas City Charter be amended to conform to state law, conform to the city code, match actual practices, correct terms, clarify language, and other technical amendments?
		PROPOSITION R
	FOR	<u>Reform Marijuana Enforcement</u> Shall the Dallas City Charter be amended by adding a new section in Chapter XXIV that reforms marijuana possession enforcement by
	AGAINST	prohibiting the Dallas Police Department from making arrests or issuing citations for marijuana possession or considering the odor of
		marijuana as probable cause for search or seizure, except as part of a violent felony or high priority narcotics felony investigation; making enforcement of Class A (currently, two to four ounces) and Class B (currently, up to two ounces) misdemeanor marijuana possession the
		Dallas Police Department's lowest enforcement priority; and prohibiting city funds or personnel from being used to test cannabis-related
		substances to determine whether a substance meets the legal definition of marijuana, except in limited circumstances? <b>PROPOSITION S</b>
	FOR	Granting Standing to Residents and Waiving Governmental Immunity
	AGAINST	Shall the Dallas City Charter be amended by adding a new chapter that grants standing to any resident of Dallas to bring a lawsuit against the city to require the city to comply with provisions of the city charter, city ordinances, and state law; entitles claimants to seek declaratory
		and injunctive relief against the city and recover costs and reasonable attorney's fees; and waives the city's governmental immunity from
		suit and liability in claims brought under this amendment? <u>PROPOSITION T</u>
	FOR	Annual Community Survey Shall Chapter VI of the Dallas City Charter be amended by adding a new section compelling the city to conduct the city-commissioned
	AGAINST	Community Survey on an annual basis, to be completed by a minimum of 1,400 Dallas residents on their satisfaction on quality of life
		issues, the results of which will result in the city manager earning additional performance compensation (between 0 percent and 100 percent of the city manager's annual base salary) or the termination of the city manager?

AGAINST

## **Continued NOTICE OF ELECTION** Page 6

## **PROPOSITION U** FOR

Police and Fire Funding Appropriation

Shall Chapter XI of the Dallas City Charter be amended by adding a new section compelling city council to appropriate no less than 50 percent of annual revenue that exceeds the total annual revenue of the previous year to fund the Dallas Police and Fire Pension, with any monies remaining of that 50% to be appropriated to increasing the starting compensation of officers of the Dallas Police Department and to increase the number of police officers to a minimum of 4,000, and to maintain that ratio of officers to the City of Dallas population as of the date of passage of this amendment?

Note: Propositions K, M, and N were removed per Ordinance Number 32849, approved on September 11, 2024, by the Dallas City Council.

Dates October 21-25, 2024 October 26, 2024 October 27, 2024 October 28 - November 1, 2024 Day of the Week Monday-Friday Saturday Sunday Monday-Friday

Hours 8 AM - 5 PM 7 AM - 7 PM 12 PM - 6 PM 7 AM - 7 PM

Dallas County Early voting and Election Day locations: https://www.dallascountyvotes.org/voters/election/11052024-2/

Collin County Early voting and Election Day locations and dates/times: https://www.collincountytx.gov/Elections/polling-locations

Denton County Early voting and Election Day locations and dates/times: https://www.votedenton.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/1124\_EV\_Locations.pdf https://www.votedenton.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/1124-Unconsolidated-ED-Locations.pdf

## FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE: Bilierae Johnson (214) 670-5654 or Miroslava Martinez (214) 670-3809

**WATCH: Pressed Repeatedly, Ted Cruz AGAIN Refuses to Answer for No-Exceptions Stance** on Abortion



Photo Credit: NNPA Files

AUSTIN, Texas - Everywhere Ted Cruz goes he's getting pressed about his record of opposing reproductive freedom, and every time he tries to hide.

This time, NBC News' Ryan Nobles pressed Cruz repeatedly on that record: "Cruz last night still wouldn't tell me if he supports exceptions for abortion bans for rape, incest or life of the mother."

Cruz also would not say whether he'd vote to pass a national abortion ban, despite having "introduced or co-sponsored at least three versions of national abortion bans."

Watch the full exchange here:

https://x.com/ryanobles/status/1848810317729697888

Continued False Pag 1

Trump's decades-long association with the case, beginning in 1989 when he famously took out fullpage ads in New York City newspapers calling for the death penalty in response to the arrests of the five teens. The lawsuit notes that, despite the exoneration of the five men based on DNA evidence and the confession of the actual perpetrator, Matias Reyes, Trump has continued to make inflammatory and false remarks about their guilt. "Plaintiffs never pled guilty to any crime and were subsequently cleared of all wrongdoing. Further, the victims of the Central Park assaults were not killed," the lawsuit states, pointing to the fact that the actual perpetrator's confession and DNA evidence absolved the men of all charges. The lawsuit also notes that Trump's remarks were made negligently, with knowledge of their falsity or reckless disregard for the truth.

50s, have since become advocates and public figures, working to address the injustice they suffered. Yusef Salaam, a New York City Council member, was present at the September 10 debate and later confronted Trump in person. When Salaam introduced himself, Trump reportedly waved him off, saying, "Ah, you're on my side then," to which Salaam replied, "No, no, no, I'm not on your side." The lawsuit asks for unspecified compensatory and punitive damages with a focus on the emotional harm and damage to Trump's reputation that his repeated lies have caused. "These statements have caused the plaintiffs serious reputational damage and severe emotional distress, especially given their wrongful convictions and efforts to move past this chapter of their lives," the filing states. In 2002, the men were exonerated after DNA evidence linked Reyes, a serial rapist, to the assault on

The men, now in their

a female jogger in Central Park. Their convictions were vacated, and the City of New York ultimately paid the men a \$41 million settlement in 2014. Despite these facts, Trump has maintained his stance. "Trump's statements

were false and defamatory in numerous respects," the lawsuit asserts. "The exoneration of the plaintiffs is a matter of public record, yet Trump's continued public statements attempt to rewrite history and cast doubt on their innocence." The lawsuit also draws attention to Trump's previous statements, including a 1989 ad in which he called for the death penalty and a 2013 tweet where Trump referred to the exoneration as a "onesided piece of garbage" and continued to imply their guilt. Despite overwhelming evidence proving their innocence, Trump's remarks have perpetuated misinformation, resulting in ongoing harm to the plaintiffs, the filing states.





Find out what you need to vote, including which forms of ID are approved to bring to the polls.

## BRING **1 OF THE 7 APPROVED FORMS OF** PHOTO ID WITH YOU TO THE POLLS.



**U.S. PASSPORT\*** 

(BOOK OR CARD)

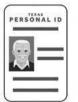




**TEXAS HANDGUN** 

LICENSE\*

**U.S. CITIZENSHIP** 



**CERTIFICATE WITH PHOTO** 



**U.S. MILITARY ID CARD\*** 

**TEXAS PERSONAL ID CARD\*** 

**TEXAS ELECTION ID CARD\*** 

## WHAT IF I DO NOT POSSESS AND CANNOT REASONABLY **OBTAIN ONE OF THESE PHOTO IDS?**

You can still vote. Simply fill out a Reasonable Impediment Declaration and show a copy or original of one of the following approved IDs:

- Certified Domestic Birth Certificate or Court Admissible Birth Document
- Current Utility Bill
- Bank Statement
- Government Check
- Paycheck
  - name and address including your

If you're eligible to vote by mail, learn more about the requirements and how to identify yourself on your ballot by mail materials

Find out more about voting in Texas at **POWERED BY THE TEXAS SECRETARY OF STATE** or call 1-800-252-VOTE (8683)

\*For voters aged 18 - 69 years, photo ID can be expired for up to four years. For voters aged 70 and older, photo ID can be expired for any length of time if otherwise valid.

TEXAS DRIVER

**TEXAS DRIVER** 

LICENSE\*



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# **EDITORIAL PAGE**

Are You Raising One of the Next Generation of Hoodlums:

## FOSTERING THANKFULNESS

By Dr. Joyce Teal

1 Can I honestly look forward to spending time with my son? 2 Is my son's company pleasant?

3 Do I get upset when school closes for unplanned reasons and I must monitor mv own son?

4 Is my son so respectful and obedient that the time he spends with me and in the presence of other adults is a pleasant experience?

These are just a few assessment queries. There are numerous personal others that can assist you to determine if you are raising your child in such a manner that you know, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that he is certainly unlikely to be numbered as one of the next generation of hoodlums. So please, take the time to raise your child well. Take the time to learn who his friends are and with

whom he spends his spare time. You see, hoodlums are not born. Every child is born innocent and precious. Hoodlums are made. And they don't make themselves.

God allows the vast majority of babies to be born normally and healthily. And what takes place in each boy's life during early childhood and adolescence will determine, to a significant degree, whether or not he becomes one of the next generation of hoodlums. Boys who are loved and nurtured and consistently involved in positive, ageappropriate activities usually continue to be healthy and normal as they make the transition from adolescence to adulthood. However, boys who are left to their own devices, boys without proper role modeling supervision and/or nurturing, boys who are browbeaten and talked negatively to with regularity, are a lot more likely to land in this unsavory category.

Parents: take the time to give your sons what the old timers referred to back in the day as hometraining. Teach them to respond to their elders with a respectful, "Yes Mam" or "Yes Sir." Teach them that it is inappropriate to interrupt adults' conversations. Teach them to be respectful of their teachers and other adults., and also their peers. Involve them in positive, age-appropriate activities continually throughout their childhood and adolescence. Yes, all of this takes time and effort, but it is time and effort well spent. It is time and effort that will eventually become your wisest investment!

PARENTS: WILL-**INGLY INVEST! I PROMISE YOU** WON'T EVER REGRET IT! Visit www.untealthen.com

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## If You Don't Vote, You **Dishonor Our Ancestors**



Dr. Joyce Teal

Giving thanks is on a lot

of people's minds during

the MID-TO-LATE DAYS

of OCTOBER and even

more so as Thanksgiving

grows closer. And for par-

ents and guardians who are

in the process of rearing

black boys, this is an ideal

time to assess whether or

not you are raising them so

that you can be thankful

for and appreciate spend-

ing time with them. Since

this is a personal assess-

ment, honesty is essential.

As part of your personal

assessment, you might ask

yourself and answer the

following questions:

l	
	Name
	Address
	City
	State
	Zip
	Phone
	Check Number
	Signature

## **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**



**Domestic Violence Awareness** SATURDAY, OCT. 19 11 A.M. TO 1 P.M. ARTIN LUTHER KING JR. COMMUNITY CENTER **STAGE AREA** 2922 MLK JR. BLVD. | DALLAS, TX 75215 Join us for domestic violence awareness in our community. There will be special guest speakers, food trucks and pet adoptions in a family friendly environment. CONTACT US AT WWW.FIRSTCHOICESOCIALSERVICES.ORG CHARLOTTE.GILLIAM@FIRSTCHOICESOCIALSERVICES.ORG OR WWW.DALLASMLKCENTER.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION.

BE DALLAS90.

Office of Community Care

James B. Ewers Jr. Ed.D

There is an important election that is coming up in November. By now, we know the candidates and their positions on the issues. We have watched the debates and seen the commercials. There should be no hesitation or reservation about voting.

Everywhere we go, we hear people in leadership positions urging us and encouraging us to vote. We have an opportunity to change the course of our America. Going to exercise our right to vote gives us the power. However, we must believe that we have that power.

Growing up in the South, I heard my parents and members in the community talking about the importance of voting. It was a tradition that was passed on to me. In my

#### By James B Ewers Jr. Ed.D

~ Don't Be Left Out ~

neighborhood, it was a big deal to vote and was celebrated.

Staying at home on voting day is not an option for us. African Americans like me have not always had the right to vote. We have been both persecuted and prosecuted for wanting to exercise a right given to every American. Our history of sacrifice and struggle is the major reason that we should vote in every election. We must vote on every issue and law that is on the ballot.

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 made racial discrimination in voting unlawful. It was signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson during the Civil Rights Movement. The National Archives and **Records** Administration stated, "The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was the most significant statutory change in the relationship between the federal and state governments in the area of votsince ing the Reconstruction period following the Civil War."

Essentially, this allowed for a new set of voters to vote. Our

family members had some assurances they could vote without fear. Now from a practical point of view, it was still dangerous for Black people to go to the polls and vote. It was simply not as dangerous.

This signature piece of legislation has been amended at least five times to strengthen it. The right to vote has always been a challenge for us. Some people in America are troubled by our right to vote even today.

We are approaching November 5th which is election day. According reports, record to numbers of people have registered to vote. In my opinion, it is because of the importance of this election. Early voting is happening now. For example, over 300,000 people in Georgia have already voted. Does that favor any candidate? There are different opinions about that question.

This early voting activity has been around for a while. It is also called advance polling or prepoll voting. The overarching goal is to

encourage more people to vote. I believe it is achieving its purpose.

If you are a voting veteran like me, we must sound the clarion call to get family and friends out to cast their ballot. Apathy cannot and should not be a part of our voting equation. Too many proposed laws and regulations today need our intentional attention.

Some would argue that a segment of our population has not been a part of the solution because of their attitudes thinking that their vote doesn't count. This is negative thinking and this trend must stop. Every vote matters in every election.

While we may not be able to change all minds, we will be able to change some minds. Sharing information with them will help to eradicate their reluctance to vote and will help them to see the power of their vote.

So, let's get ready America to participate in a time-honored exercise that will make our country stronger and will show other countries our standing in the world.







## Lowering costs, protecting our democracy and your freedom to vote.

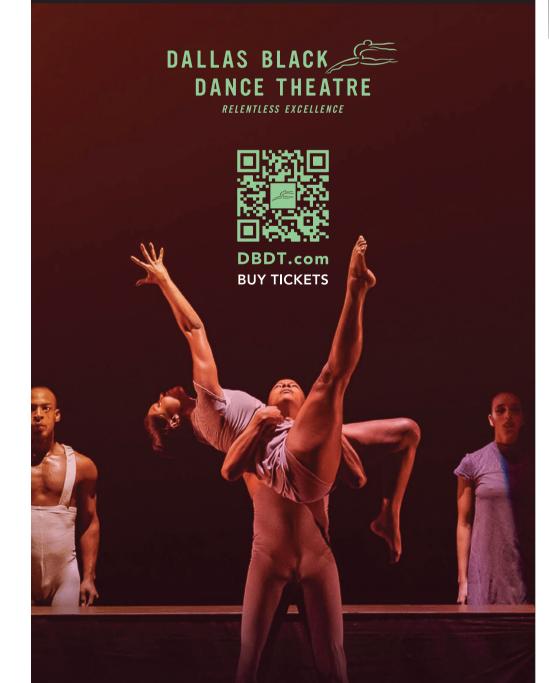
That's Colin Allred, and in November he will become t<u>he first Black Senator</u> in Texas history with your help.

## Early Voting: October 21 - November 1

Election Day: November 5 Head to MyTexasVotes.com for more info!

Paid for by Colin Allred for Senate





**COLIN ALLRED** 

FOR SENATE

## **Continued Fair Page 4**

days of the Fair. • Mundo Latino was the heart of the State Fair's Hispanic Heritage Month, with stunning Catrina figures, symbolizing Día de los Muertos and 15 altars showcasing the vibrant traditions of the Hispanic culture. • Community members got crafty with more than 12,000 entries in the Fair's Creative Arts competitions. The State Fair awarded 4,434 ribbons to folks celebrating their creativity this year.

Choice Awards Finalist, The Drowning Ta-

Texas Food Bank. • More than 71,250 folks attended FREE rodeo events across the 24-day run of the State Fair. • The Fair's livestock and agricultural events hosted more than 13,190 livestock entries. • The Grand Champion Market Steer of the Big Tex Youth Livestock Auction broke a record this selling for year, \$180,000 to Frank Deel. • The Livestock Birthing Barn celebrated 76 animal births throughout the run of the Fair: 43 piglets, 13 calves, 12 kids (baby goats), and eight lambs.

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• The State Fair Creative Arts contests featured 3,604 participants from across the state.

• A total of 1,172 individual cookies entered the gates of the State Fair of Texas on the day of the Cookie contest.

Food and Beverage
More than 60,000 individual taquitos were hand rolled and sold in 24 days at Tony's Taco Shop — home of the Big Tex

quitos.

• Seven new vendors joined the State Fair of Texas community of vendors this year, bringing in a total of 14 new concepts.

• During the 24-day duration of the State Fair of Texas, approximately 550,000 Fletcher's Original Corny Dogs were sold, accompanied by 1,800 gallons of mustard and 850 gallons of ketchup!

• About 100,000 pieces of Rousso's Cotton Candy Bacon on a Stick from Magnolia Beer Garden, Holy Biscuit, and Who Dat Daquiri were enjoyed throughout the run of the Fair.

• Livestock and Agriculture

• Ag Awareness Day gathered 203 chapters of 4-H, FFA, and FCCLA to participate in the canned food drive, donating more than 30,090 pounds of food to the North The State Fair of Texas is privileged to be an integral part of the year for so many families, and we hope y'all will join us again next year for the 2025 State Fair of Texas, running in historic Fair Park from Friday, September 26 through Sunday, October 19, 2025.

## VOTE NO AGAINST PROPOSITIONS; S, T, & U!

Photo by Sharen Bradford - The Dancing Image







# **Democrats** are fighting for our rights, and we won't go back.

Our future is on the ballot. Your vote matters.

# Make a Plan to Vote.





## Visit **IWillVote.com** to make a plan to vote today.

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