

“Repetition does not transform a lie into a truth.”

~ Roosevelt ~



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SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

September 19 - 25, 2024

Texas officials say they've scrubbed the voter rolls. Here's how to check if you're still on them.

The deadline to register to vote is Oct. 7. The Texas Tribune, ProPublica and Votebeat want to hear from people removed from voter rolls.

By María Méndez/Texas Tribune

"Texas officials say they've scrubbed the voter rolls. Here's how to check if you're still on them." was first published by The Texas Tribune, a nonprofit, nonpartisan media organization that informs Texans — and engages with them — about public policy, politics, government and state-wide issues.

Texas voters have less than a month to register for the Nov. 5 election.

But as county elections officials work to get more people registered, more than 1 million voters have been deemed ineligible. That includes people who moved out of state or are dead — and it's a routine process.

"We do list maintenance every single day," said Trudy Hancock, the Elections Administrator for Brazos County. "So you know it's not something

that's happened just overnight and something that's been put in place, but it is important to check your registration."

Gov. Greg Abbott issued a press release last month touting the removal of ineligible voters, claiming some of them were possibly noncitizens. Experts quickly warned the governor's framing could be

Continue **Voter** Page 2

STATE FAIR OF TEXAS



Photo Credit: State Fair Screenshot

Ken Paxton withdrew an opinion on gun bans weeks after suing Texas State Fair for a similar restriction

Paxton sued Dallas and state fair officials last month, arguing the fair's private organizer had violated state law by banning firearms on the fairgrounds.

By Jasper Scherer

Attorney General Ken Paxton this week withdrew an eight-year-old legal opinion that gave private nonprofits the green light to ban guns on land they lease from a city — a move that comes as Paxton challenges the nonprofit State Fair of Texas' ban on firearms.

Paxton, a Republican who ardently opposes gun restrictions, sued the city of Dallas and state fair officials last month, arguing the State Fair of Texas had violated state law that

largely bars local governments from restricting firearms on land they own or lease. Fair Park, the site where the fair is held, is owned by the city of Dallas and leased to the nonprofit that runs the fair. The event is set to run from Sept. 27 through Oct. 20.

In court filings, Paxton argued that the private fair organizer "acts under authority" of the city and cannot ban guns at the site.

Continue **Fair** Page 7

All in this together — Booker T. Washington students prep for the first performance of the school year

By Jenna Carpenter



Photo Credit: The HUB

At Booker T. Washington High School for the Visual and Performing Arts, students of all expertise are coming together for the first performance of the new school year.

"It's definitely a process, getting all these different conservatoires together," said Thomas C.

"You have all these different ideas, and then it comes together, and it's like, 'we have a show.' There are a lot of first-time things being done, and it's just seeing everything executed. It's very cool."

The senior is in the music conservatory at Booker T. He is also one of

the dozens of students who signed up for the all-conservatory production of "On Your Feet! The Story of Emilio and Gloria Estefan."

Olivia L., a senior in the theater conservatory, said there are many pieces that need to be put together to make an all-school per-

formance happen.

"The show cannot properly function without technical theater, actors, dancers, musicians, or a strong group of producers and directors. Thankfully, we have all of those," she said.

Continue **Prep** Page 3

Iconic Jackson 5 Member Tito Jackson Dies at 70

Written by Stacy M. Brown



Photo Credit: NNPA Files

Tito Jackson, a founding member of the legendary Jackson 5, has died at the age of 70. The Jackson 5, which included Tito and his brothers Jackie, Jermaine, Marlon, and Michael, skyrocketed to fame in the 1970s with timeless hits like "ABC" and "I'll Be There," reshaping the music scene and turning the group into teen heart-

throbs.

Sons Taj, Taryll, and TJ, confirmed Jackson's death, sharing the news in an Instagram post on their music group 3 T's account. "Some of you may know him as Tito Jackson from the legendary Jackson 5, some may know him as 'Coach Tito' or some know

Continue **Tito** Page 8



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Continued **Voter** Page 1

used to undermine trust in elections. At the same time, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton has sued to stop two urban counties from sending voter registration forms to people who are eligible to vote, claiming state law doesn't allow that kind of outreach and it would risk adding noncitizens to the voter rolls.

Election officials have found no evidence of widespread voting by people who are not citizens in U.S. elections. In 2019, Texas incorrectly flagged 95,000 naturalized citizens for removal from the voter rolls, but backed off those previous removal attempts to settle lawsuits over the matter.

Federal law prevents states from systematically removing registered voters within 90 days of a federal election, though there are some exceptions if the voter has died, been convicted of a felony or been declared mentally incapacitated. Checking your voter registration to make sure it's active and up to date could save you trouble at the polls. You'll want to do that before the Oct. 7 deadline to register. It could also help us report on these issues.

Here's how to check your voter registration. The Texas Tribune, ProPublica and Votebeat want to hear from Texas voters who believe their registrations have been erroneously can-

celed. Let us know if you find issues with your voter registration through the form at the bottom of this story.

How do I check if I'm registered to vote?

Once you register to vote, you generally remain registered, but there are various reasons why you may want to verify your registration status, especially if you've had a name or address change. You can make those updates online here.

You can check to see if you're registered and verify your information through the Texas Secretary of State's website.

You'll need one of the following three combinations to log in:

Your Texas driver's license number and date of birth.

Your first and last names, date of birth and county you reside in.

Your date of birth and Voter Unique Identifier Number, which appears on your voter registration certificate.

How are voter registration applications reviewed?

When a person submits a voter registration application, county and state officials verify the person's eligibility using various sources, including birth and death certificates and the courts system.

Local election officials

will review the application to make sure the submitted address is a residential location within the county. They share voter registration records with the state daily. The state also reviews the voter registration before it becomes effective. Registered voters are sent a registration certificate within 30 days and it becomes effective 30 days after it is submitted.

Voters receive a new certificate if they update their name or address. Otherwise, voters are sent a new certificate every two years, according to the state.

What does it mean if my voter registration is in "suspense"?

If a county voter registrar receives a nondeliverable notice after sending a voter registration certificate or receives information that there's been an address change, a voter is placed on the state's "suspense list" and asked to confirm their address. Sometimes this can be due to errors at the post office or when a jury summons doesn't go to the proper address and is returned, said Trudy Hancock, the elections administrator for Brazos County.

Voters on the suspense list can still vote as normal if they update or confirm their address before the voter registration deadline or fill out a "statement of residence" when voting. But if they have moved to

a different county or precinct, they may have to vote at their previous polling location or vote a limited ballot.

If a suspended voter takes no action, they are removed from the voter rolls after about four years, according to the Texas Secretary of State's office.

How do I register to vote?

You must complete and submit a paper voter registration application by Oct. 7.

You can request a postage-paid application through the mail or find one at county voter registrars' offices and some post offices, government offices, or high schools. You can also print out the online application and mail it to the voter registrar in your county.

Applications must be postmarked by the Oct. 7 deadline. Download your application here.

Additionally, you can register to vote through the Texas Department of Public Safety while renewing your driver's license. You may be able to register to vote online if you're also allowed to renew your license online. This is the only form of online registration in the state.

What if I registered, but moved after the voter registration deadline?

You must reside in a Texas county by the voter

registration deadline to vote in the upcoming election. Voters who are 65 or older, have a disability or will be absent during the entire voting period, such as members of the military of voters living overseas, qualify for an absentee ballot. You can read more about absentee and mail-in voting here.

If you are a registered voter but moved after the Oct. 7 deadline, you can vote at your previous polling location if you moved within the same county or political subdivision. Or you can vote at your new polling location, but the ballot will only include races available to voters in both your new and old political districts, such as statewide races. Limited ballots are available only during early voting at a "main early voting polling place." Those are usually the office of the election administrator or county clerk who runs elections in your county. The main polling place should be noted in a county's list of early voting locations.

What do I do if I run into issues with my voter registration?

If you have questions or concerns about your registration, you can find your county's voter registration contact here.

Inside polling locations, there are typically "resolution desks" where poll workers can address registration issues. If you believe you should be registered but don't appear

on the voter registration list at the polls, you can cast a provisional ballot. There's no guarantee that a provisional ballot will ultimately be counted. The best bet to ensure you don't have problems is verifying your registration is active and up-to-date ahead of the Oct. 7 deadline to register to vote.

Your local voter registrar must review the provisional ballot and verify your registration within six days of the election. The registrar then passes that information to the local ballot board, which decides whether the provisional ballot is eligible to be counted under election laws, according to the Texas Secretary of State's voter education website.

Provisional voters must be sent a notice about whether their ballot was counted no later than 10 days after the election is certified.

You can also find more information on frequently asked questions from the Secretary of State's Office at votetexas.gov.

If you need help navigating voting issues, a coalition of voting rights groups has a helpline at 866-687-8683. The Texas Secretary of State's office has a helpline at 1-800-252-8683.

This article originally appeared in The Texas Tribune at <https://www.texas-tribune.org/2024/09/16/texas-voter-registration-check/>.

RELIGIOUS/NEWS

Reviewing One's Spiritual II Timothy 1:1-18



Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith

I & II Timothy and Titus are called Paul's prison epistles, for they were written from a lonely and deserted prison cell. This prison epistle was written in A.D. 67. Prison is the last place from which to expect a letter of encouragement, but that was the essence of Paul's letter to Timothy. In this lofty epistle, Paul assures Timothy of his undying and continual love and prayers for him, and Paul reminds Timothy of his spiritual heritage and his responsibility to "endure hardship as a soldier of Jesus Christ" (II Timothy 2:3). He went on in verse 4 of Chapter 2 to say: "No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please Him who hath chosen him to be a soldier."

Although II Timothy is Paul's last will and testament, this epistle offers comfort, and it challenges a timid and faithful spiritual son to be courageous in view of his difficult ministry in Ephesus. In spite of Paul's bleak circumstance as a prisoner of Jesus Christ, Paul encourages Timothy on to steadfastness in the fulfillment of his divinely appointed task. Paul warns Timothy in this lofty epistle that his teaching will be assailed or attached because men will abandon the truth for ear "itching words" (II Timothy 4:3).

However, in view of mounting opposition from without and increasing pressure from within, Paul offers to Timothy his own example to guide him, and God's word to fortify him.

Central to the variegated issues and problems he had to deal with, Timothy was admonished to remain steadfast in the sure foundation of God's inerrant and infallible word! In this grand epistle, Paul stressed the importance of God's word – the only foundation strong (stout) enough to withstand persistent opposition from without and mounting problems from within! II Timothy 1:5-12 may be outlined as follows: I. Timothy's Early Upbringing and Certification to Serve – II Timothy 1:1-7; II. Timothy's Call to be Courageous – II Timothy 1:8-18.

I. Timothy's Early Upbringing and Certification to Serve – II Timothy 1:1-7

After Paul's salutation to his "beloved spiritual son" (II Timothy 1:1-2), he offered thanksgiving to God, praying for Timothy night and day. As Paul prayed for Timothy, his gratitude for Timothy continued to overflow. Paul longed for Timothy's companionship which was a source of joy (vv. 3-4). Paul attrib-

uted Timothy's faith to the godly influence of his Jewish mother Eunice and grandmother Lois. Timothy's father was a Greek, and it is not known whether he was in the faith. Paul remembered Timothy's unfeigned or unhypocritical faith that stood out, for Timothy was well trained in the scriptures, for II Timothy 3:15 says: "And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

In verse 5, Paul expresses his thanksgiving for Timothy's "genuine faith." Assured of Timothy's possession of genuine faith, Paul urged Timothy his young son in the ministry to fan into flame his God-given ability for ministry. Paul reminds Timothy of his responsibility to use his spiritual gift because God had given Timothy the requisite ability for service (I Timothy 4:14). Paul merely put his hands on Timothy as a sign that Timothy was a partner with Paul. Paul admonished Timothy to "stir up the gift of God, which is in thee" (v. 6).

In verse 7, having been reminded of Timothy's fitness to serve, Paul directed Timothy to this fact: "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." As servants of

God, timidity or cowardice has no place in God's service. Instead, God gives us a spirit of power, of love and self-control. As a spiritual father, Paul urged his son in the ministry to overcome his natural timidity and boldly use his gift of proclaiming God's word even if it meant that he would suffer for doing so.

II. Timothy's Call to be Courageous – II Timothy 1:8-18

In verse 8, if Timothy's ministry were marked by power, love and self-disciplined, he would be able to stand tall against his opponents and would not be ashamed to testify about our Lord or ashamed of Paul, His prisoner. Paul exhorted Timothy to join him in suffering for the gospel, for in such circumstances the power of God is made manifest.

Having mentioned the gospel, Paul went on to say in verse 10 that God saved us and called us to a holy life. We did not merit God's salvation; however, God granted us with salvation because of His own pure purpose and grace. Before the world began, we were granted God's unmerited favor. In verse 10, we became aware of God's unmerited favor through the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Christ,

who embodied God's saving plan of salvation destroyed death, the product of sin, and brought life and immortality into view.

In verses 11-12, Paul had been entrusted with being a herald of the gospel (v. 11). Although Paul was entrusted with being a herald of the gospel that entailed suffering for the cause of Christ, he trusted his destiny to the same One who had entrusted him with the stewardship of the gospel (v. 12).

In verse 13, furthermore, Timothy was exhorted by Paul to keep or maintain the sound doctrine or "healthy doctrine" he had heard from Paul. Timothy was to hold the truth with faith and love in Christ Jesus. In verse 14, with Timothy's possession of the truth, he was to guard the truth with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us. Timothy was to preserve sound teaching from corruption and distortion.

In verse 15, Paul gives the actual name of two men who were unfaithful: Phygelus and Hermogenes. However, in verse 16-18, Paul cited Onesiphorus who had supported Paul in Ephesus and Rome. Despite Paul's imprisonment, Onesiphorus remained steadfast in his ministry.

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Dallas, Texas 75216

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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

Continued Prep Page 1

An assistant stage manager, this is Olivia's first time being involved in an all-school production.

"I was nervous at first because theater folk, especially stage managers, are very used to doing things a certain way, as are dancers and musicians. It can be daunting to incorporate multiple methods of process but I have been enjoying it a great deal," she said.

Full of heart and heritage, the show tells the true-life story of the iconic duo. That's what makes this performance special, said Brookelle T., a senior who is in the theater conservatory.

"This show has a lot of culture and is based on someone's life," she said. "It's different and unique. The events in this show happened in real life, and it's cool that the person who wrote it is the person in the show."

Working in costumes, Brookelle was one of the first to sign up for the production.

"I knew it was a big opportunity, and it would just showcase my leadership," she said. "I knew I could learn a lot from doing a bigger show."

Brookelle is the head designer of the show. She worked with local businesses and vendors to donate items to use in the production. She then hand-makes costumes using those, including a red dress worn by Gloria Estefan near the end of the show.

"I'm excited to see how the audience feels about the wow factor. It's supposed to be like a gasp at the end," she said.

While "On Your Feet! The Story of Emilio and Gloria Estefan" was well-received on the show stage, not many people have seen – or even heard of it. This gave Booker T. students a chance to work together to showcase their creativity and try new things.

"I'm excited to showcase all the dances. Because we've been working really hard at them, and I think that they look really great," said Vivianna G. "I think the costuming and it all fits together really nicely. The dance styles, like salsa, we haven't done before. I'm just excited for everybody to see it."

A junior, Vivianna is in the dance conservatory at Booker T. She, along with the rest of the crew, say the best part of working together is learning more

about one another's craft.

"You have so much work that went into the show, and I think especially for all of us who worked on it, this gives us an appreciation for the work it takes," said Soleil S., a junior in the visual arts conservatory. "Someone who's never been lead in a show before, they just see the show. They don't see everything that goes on to make the show happen."

Eloise N., who is also a junior in the visual arts conservatory, agreed.

"I feel like as artists, we look at what we make and see all the bad things about it. We want to criticize it so much," she said. "But having other conservatories join in and work on it, too, you finally see it all wrapped up together in the end. It is mind-opening of what it will become just from you putting your effort into something."

Planning for the show started in the summer. The first performance of the season, the team say it's an opportunity to set the scene for the rest of the school year.

"I believe in starting the school year strong, and this is a good kick off of what shows could be," Eloise said.

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Parkland staff offer tips to prevent falls

Falls are a leading cause of fatal injuries in older adults

DALLAS — Falls are the leading cause of fatal and non-fatal injuries for older Americans. They threaten seniors' safety and independence and generate enormous economic and personal costs. But falling is not an inevitable result of aging. Through practical lifestyle adjustments, evidence-based falls prevention programs, and clinical-community partnerships, the number of falls among seniors can be substantially reduced.

During September, Fall Prevention Awareness Month, Parkland's Center for Geriatric Care and Healthy Aging will host a series of free events to the public to emphasize that falls are preventable. At the events, Parkland will offer fall risk assessments and information about how to decrease your fall risk.

The events will be held on the following dates and times:

- Friday, Sept. 20, 10 a.m. - noon., Bluit-Flowers Health Center, 303 E. Overton Road, Dallas, 75216
- Friday, Sept. 27, 10 - 11:30 a.m., Hatcher Station Health Center, 4600 Scyene Road, Dallas, 75210

According to the Centers for Dis-

ease Control and Prevention (CDC), one in four Americans aged 65 and older falls each year. Every 11 seconds an older adult is treated in an emergency room for a fall and every 19 minutes an older adult dies from injuries sustained in a fall. The CDC reports, older Americans experienced 3 million injuries treated in emergency departments annually, including over 800,000 hospitalizations and more than 38,000 deaths.

The cost for these fall injuries was \$50 billion, according to CDC data. The financial toll for older adult falls is expected to increase as the population ages.

"More than 10,000 U.S. baby boomers turn 65 each day. This means that nearly seven baby boomers are turning 65 every minute," said LaTrica Rhynes-Hicks, PhD, Clinic Educator in Parkland's Center for Geriatric Care and Healthy Aging. "This increases the likelihood that fall-related injuries and deaths will leap in the coming years. That's why preventing falls is a top priority for older adults, their families and caregivers."

According to Dr. Rhynes-Hicks, there are many things older individuals can do to decrease or prevent falls, such as:

- Begin a balance and exercise program to improve strength, flexibility and stability
- Talk to your healthcare provider about your fall risk and share your history of recent falls. Talk with them about specific things you can do
- Review your prescription and over-the-counter medications with your doctor or pharmacist regularly to make sure side effects are not increasing your fall risk. Take medications only as prescribed
- Get your vision and hearing checked every year and update your eyeglasses with new prescription lenses as needed. If you have bifocal or progressive lenses, you may want to get a pair of glasses with only your distance prescription for outdoor activities, such as walking. Sometimes these types of lenses can make things seem closer or farther away than they really are
- Keep your home safe — remove tripping hazards, improve lighting, install grab bars where needed and make stairs safe
- Talk to family members to get their support to help you stay safe.

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Quinn Minute

Superstitions

By Rix Quinn

Throughout the ages, our forefathers — and foremothers too — have been told that certain things bring bad luck.

My uncle got sick one time because he did not listen to the old poem that said, "Leave fresh food out of the refrigerator, and you're sure to vomit sooner or later."

You've likely heard it's dangerous to walk under a ladder. This superstition reportedly

originates from medieval times, when ladders sometimes led to the hanging gallows.

But there's also a reported "cure." You can cancel the bad luck by saying "bread and butter" as you walk under the ladder. Huh?

Here's my luck with bread and butter. If I drop it on the floor, it almost always lands the butter side first.

Another belief claims that hanging a

horseshoe on a wall keeps evil spirits away. I don't know about this, but I'm sure that's inconvenient for one shoeless horse.

Another tale says that breaking a mirror brings seven years of bad luck. You can supposedly solve that problem by rubbing a piece of the broken mirror against a gravestone.

I will admit that I accidentally broke a girlfriend's make-up mirror

when I was 23, and I had seven years of bad dates.

But here's one superstition that sounds positive. "Find a penny, pick it up. And all day long, you'll have good luck."

I wonder if accidentally finding folding money would bring even more luck? Then the poem could change to "Find a lost ten-dollar bill...and later you could buy a meal."

SPORTS/NEWS PAGE

7 Day Weather Forecast for DFW

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McCarthy 'disappointed' after Cowboys' loss to Saints: 'We need to learn from it'

Patrik Walker
DallasCowboys.com Staff Write



Mike McCarthy, Dallas Cowboys Coach /Photo Credit: TV Screenshot

FRISCO, Texas — Only a few days after decimating the Cleveland Browns on the road in the regular season opener, the Dallas Cowboys were victimized in much the same way, though a bit worse, at the hands of Derek Carr and the New Orleans Saints to the tune of 44-19 in Arlington.

There were plenty of opportunities for the offense to match serve despite an abysmal showing by the defensive unit, but miscues

and untimely penalties took points off of the board and forced a flurry of field goals in response to what devolved into six touchdowns allowed on the first six drives by the Saints.

There wasn't much of anything working for the Cowboys, save for the continued excellence and lethality of Brandon Aubrey.

"We need to be better in this week's preparation," said head coach Mike McCarthy. "We weren't

quick to the first punch. ... And I thought that they finished better than we did. So those are two of the biggest constants throughout the evaluation process today with the players.

"We need to learn from it."

It was eerily reminiscent of the previous loss at AT&T Stadium, when the Green Bay Packers had their way with the Cowboys on Super Wild Card Weekend, dismissing them from

the playoffs in the process. It's a long season and plenty of games remaining to repair what was put on film against the Saints, yes, but it's also true that, two weeks in, the Cowboys have now swung wildly between two opposite polarities.

For his part, McCarthy says the truth about where they are heading into Week 3 lies somewhere in the middle.

"It's never as good as you think it is, and it's never

as bad as you think it's now," McCarthy said of his evaluation after the first two weeks of the 2024 season. "It was not good [vs. Saints], I'm not saying that [it was], but I stood here seven days ago, on a Monday, and said we got a lot of work to do — having won by three scores [in Cleveland] — and that wasn't lip service.

"We have a lot of work to do. We looked like a young, inexperienced football team at times, and that was my first impression when I finished watching all three phases last night. So then after going through all the eval with everybody, we need to be better."

It's true that the Cowboys are fielding one of the youngest teams in the entire NFL, but they also have plenty of high-caliber veterans in the locker room and on the field as well who, to McCarthy's own admission, helping to coach the young players up in real time.

It's something that's been happening throughout training camp and in Week 1 as well, but it appears McCarthy is expecting (read: demanding) more of it going forward, and particularly when things aren't going as planned over the course of a contest.

"Our young guys, they made some mistakes," he

said. "Unfortunately, at times, they were costly, but that's part of playing young players — this many young players, really. I'm calling on the veterans to help pull us through those moments."

An equally daunting test is en route to AT&T Stadium by way of Lamar Jackson, Derrick Henry and the Baltimore Ravens, desperate to avoid an 0-3 hole to start the season, and with a very capable defense (to say the very least) in tow.

Needing to reset to regain their Week 1 mojo without forgetting the lessons of Week 2, the Cowboys are now 1-1 and trying to avoid a two-game losing streak at home — something that has been unheard of recently in Dallas.

"I'm disappointed like everybody else," said McCarthy. "It was our first home game and we had some momentum coming out on Week 1. You always want to improve. At the end of the day, the result is it's the ride, it's the competition, and that's what counts. It's the process.

"We did not improve from Week 1 to Week 2, and that's the biggest disappointment. The results speak for themselves."

McCarthy and his coaching staff are back to work and trying to force the results to say something different next Sunday.

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EDITORIAL PAGE

How Important Is Climate Change In This Year's Presidential Election

James B Ewers Jr. Ed.D



James B. Ewers Jr. Ed.D

It's hurricane season and if you live in certain parts of the country, you know exactly what I am saying. Each year between the months of June and November, you pay closer attention to weather reports. Life has certain trepidations, and weather is one of them. It is one of the factors that can greatly influence the quality of our life. We live where we live knowing the rewards and the risks of being there.

We want "nice" weather all the time. It doesn't work that way. We live on the Gulf Coast and the weather is enjoyable much of the year. If you live in this region, you know that you can use your grill well into November and December. There is also another side to living in a nice weather region as these re-

gions are susceptible to tropical storms and to hurricanes. Hearing and using terms like wind damage, flooding and power outages are commonplace.

Recently, areas off the coast of Texas and Louisiana prepared for a tropical storm which later became a hurricane. It was a category 2 hurricane named Francine and came ashore in southeastern Louisiana. It had winds of more than 100 mph.

Instantly and abruptly, lives were altered and turned around. Families were distressed and daily routines stopped. Schools and stores were closed because of this violent weather event.

Shelters were opened in some parts of the Bayou State providing much-needed relief for residents. The American Red Cross was also there to assist in the recovery efforts.

Now, citizens are contacting insurance companies for estimates and repairs. Of course, some of the estimates will have a lot of money attached to them. At some point, rates will increase if history repeats itself.

Another challenge is that some of us are in a

constant state of rebuilding and repairing. By the time one repair has been completed, another hurricane comes along to undo the repair. It can be a frustrating and painful experience. Some residents have chosen to leave some states because of it.

Fires, floods, tornados, earthquakes and hurricanes seem to be happening more frequently these days. Science and technology have given us reasons why what is happening today didn't happen back in the day.

Experts use the terms climate change and global warming to explain these natural events. Climate Action on the United Nations website says, "Climate change refers to long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns. Such shifts can be natural, due to changes in the sun's activity or large volcanic eruptions. But since the 1800's human activities have been the main driver of climate change, primarily due to the burning of fossil fuels like coal, oil, and gas."

Some years back, former vice president Al Gore, then a member of the US House of Repre-

sentatives held the first congressional hearings on climate change and co-sponsored hearings on toxic waste and global warming. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize jointly with the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate). He said at the time, "It is a threat that is real, rising, imminent and universal."

Democratic presidential nominee, Vice President Kamala Harris said, "Climate change is very real. You ask anyone who lives in a state who has experienced these extreme weather occurrences who now is either being denied home insurance or it's being jacked up; you ask anybody who has been the victim of what that means in terms of losing their home, having nowhere to go."

As a nation, climate change is affecting all of us. Keeping the issue front and center will be important as we move closer to the November presidential election. The Harris-Walz ticket realizes the importance of it to the American people. Let's cast our ballot for them for a cleaner and safer environment.

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Yvonne Davis
DISTRICT 111

Representative Yvonne Davis to host Legislative Town Hall Meeting

State Representative Yvonne Davis will hold a Legislative Town Hall Meeting to discuss the upcoming Legislative Session as well as other issues facing the community.


The Legislative Town Hall meeting will be held at the following location and date:

Methodist Charlton Medical Center - (Auditorium)
3500 W. Wheatland Road
Dallas, Texas 75237

Saturday, September 21, 2024
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For more information contact Representative Davis's District office at (214) 941-3895.




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Continued Fair Page 1

City and fair officials have insisted the city has nothing to do with how the nonprofit operates the event and played no role in this year's gun ban — thus making the policy fair game, they argue. Both entities say the attorney general's case is at odds with an opinion he issued in 2016, which found that private entities could post notices banning guns on government-leased land without fear of civil penalty as long as said government "has no control over the decision to post such notice."

Later in 2016, an official from Paxton's office cited that opinion in finding that firearm-banning notices could be posted at the entrances of the Fort Worth Zoo because, while the zoo is on city-owned land, the city contracts with a nonprofit

corporation to oversee the zoo's operations and management.

The attorney general's website states that the 2016 opinion — which is legally nonbinding — was withdrawn "pending issuance" of Paxton's forthcoming opinion responding to two Republican lawmakers who questioned last month whether the State Fair of Texas was "operating jointly" with the city and thus prohibited from banning firearms at the fairgrounds. A spokesperson for Paxton's office did not respond to a request for comment Friday.

In their letter to Paxton requesting his opinion, state Sen. Mayes Middleton of Galveston and state Rep. Dustin Burrows of Lubbock argued that the city "exerts significant control over the operations of the fair" and is "intertwined" with the private organizer.

Attorneys for the State Fair of Texas denied the claim, writing to Paxton that it was based on "mistaken assumptions" about the nonprofit's relationship with the city.

"There is no overlapping leadership structure between SFOT and the City," the nonprofit's attorneys wrote. "SFOT is currently governed by a 20-person board of directors, none of whom are government employees, government officials, or government appointees. SFOT is also financially independent and does not receive any money from the City to host the Fair."

This article originally appeared in The Texas Tribune at <https://www.texastribune.org/2024/08/29/texas-state-fair-gun-ban-court-challenge-paxton/>.

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Continued **Tito** Page 1

him as ‘Poppa T,’” the statement read. “Nevertheless, he will be missed tremendously.” Former Jackson family manager Steve Manning revealed that Tito died of an apparent heart attack while driving from New Mexico to Oklahoma on Sunday.

Born Toriano Adaryll Jackson on October 15, 1953, in Gary, Indiana, Tito was the third of ten children born to Katherine and Joe Jackson. His early talents as a singer and guitarist caught the eye of his father, Joe, who formed the Jackson Brothers in 1964, initially featuring Tito, Jackie, and Jermaine. As the group evolved into the Jackson 5, they became one of the first Black American groups to achieve crossover success, breaking racial barriers with their infectious music and dynamic performances.

The Jackson 5’s rise to fame was meteoric. With Motown Records backing them, they delivered chart topping hits that re-

main classics today. Their infectious energy and catchy songs turned them into pop culture icons almost overnight. After leaving Motown in 1975 and signing with Epic Records, they were forced to change their name to The Jacksons. Despite the shift, they continued to dominate the music scene, with Tito playing a crucial role in the band’s success.

While the Jackson 5 set the stage for Michael Jackson’s solo superstardom, with Michael permanently leaving the group in 1984 following the massive success of his “Thriller” album, Tito also carved out his own place in music history. The Jackson 5 were inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in 1997, a testament to their enduring impact on the music industry.

Though never officially disbanding, the Jacksons saw their members explore solo endeavors. Tito ventured into a solo career later in life, releasing his debut album “Tito Time” in

2016, followed by “Under Your Spell” in 2021. His work as a solo artist showcased his versatility and deep-rooted love for music, allowing him to step out of the shadow of his famous family name. Tito also fronted a blues band that performed mainly in Southern California but had made a name for itself nationally.

Tito Jackson’s legacy is more than just his role in one of the most successful pop groups ever. He was part of a cultural phenomenon that helped shape the music industry and left an indelible mark on fans across the globe. His contributions to music, both as part of the Jackson 5 and as a solo artist, resonate with generations who grew up listening to his voice and watching his performances.

The Jackson 5’s influence paved the way for countless artists and helped establish the blueprint for modern boy bands. It also launched Michael Jackson’s unparalleled career as the “King of Pop.”

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