Early Voting for the Saturday, May 1, 2021 Joint Election begins on Monday, April 19, 2021 and ends on Tuesday, April 27, 2021.



The Dallas Post Tribune

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April 22 - 28, 2021

VOLUME 73 NUMBER 33

SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

The Blue Wall is Dented as Minneapolis Jury Verdict Shows A Black Life Mattered

By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent @StacyBrownMedia

During the more than two-week trial, the defense called seven witnesses while prosecutors brought 38 people to the stand, including EMT workers, forensic experts, law enforcement officers, and individuals who watched as Chauvin ignored Floyd's pleas that he could not breathe.

Black Lives Matter. George Floyd's life mattered.

A mixed-race jury in Minneapolis returned a guilty verdict against former police officer Derek Chauvin on Tuesday, April 20, potentially sending the ex-cop to prison for the rest of his life.

The panel, which included six Whites and six Black or multiracial individuals, also sent the activists, community leaders, and a myriad of Black



The three other police officers involved in Floyd's death are scheduled to be tried together in August. They face charges of aiding and abetting murder and manslaughter.

people the world over has attempted to get across to American law enforcement: Black Lives Matter.

"Count one... guilty. kind of message that Count two... guilty... Count three...guilty," announced Hennepin

County Judge Cahill.

Chauvin was convicted on charges of second-and third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter.

Floyd pleaded for his

into Floyd's neck for more than 9 minutes last May. Floyd's death led to protests worldwide and the rallying cry that "Black Lives Matter"

Peter life and his mother as finally gained momentum emergency, Chauvin pressed his knee in spaces where it largely had been ignored.

watched the verdict reading from the White House and Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz declared a state of

closing schools and sending out hundreds of additional President Joe Biden National Guard troops to the Minneapolis area.

Law enforcement offi-

Continue Guilty Page 2

Verdict: "..a glimmer of justice"

Gwen Carr, Mother of Eric Garner

My Day

Dedicated to John Beckwith, Sr., Living Legend

Tuesday, April 20, 2021, was a good day in America. An American jury got it right after decades of getting it wrong. The verdict of "guilty", "guilty", guilty", was music heard around the world for the inhuman public murder of George Floyd. This verdict, as spoken by the President of United States is 'much too rare'. True and thank you, but non-the less shameful. It is a fact that *this verdict runs deep*, ocean-wide and our tears are just a of all these years. This verdict serves

as a legacy to black activists, clergy, the early black police officers, attorneys who fought

without being heard. This verdict gets a B minus. It represents a "glimmer of justice" for the generations of wrongful acts committed at the hands of white law enforcement without aforethought or suffering any consequences for their actions. This verdict is a history lesson for future generations because only a thread of 'justice was served'. This is a definite win, but the law has not



By Dr. J. Ester Davis

changed. We must chant daily that this verdict alone, is not a "change in policy". Behind this verdict should be the unanimous vote on the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, a federal law in all states, which is almost what verbatim John Beckwith, Sr., expressed more than fifty(50)years ago to black attorneys and

In Texas, we had John Beckwith, Sr., a civil rights servant with grit.

I met John Beckwith,

Continue Verdict Page 2

Faith leaders across US join in decrying voting restrictions

By DAVID CRARY, JONATHAN J. COOPER and EMILY LESHNER



FILE - In this Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020 file photo, Voters line up outside Vickery Baptist Church waiting to cast their ballots on Election Day in Dallas.(AP/Photo)..

In Georgia, faith lead- laws restricting voting

ers are asking corporate access — or face a boyexecutives to condemn cott. In Arizona and

Texas, clergy have assembled outside the state capitols to decry what they view as voter-suppression measures targeting Black and Hispanic people.

Similar initiatives have been undertaken Florida, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio and elsewhere as many faith leaders perceive a threat to voting rights that warrants their intervention in a volatile political issue.

"It is very much in a part of our tradition, as Christians, to be engaged

Continue **US** Page 8





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Continued **Guilty** Page 1

cials and city leaders in the District of Columbia, New York, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, and other major cities canceled vacations and leave in preparation for potential unrest.

Hennepin County pubemployees were ordered to go home early, and thousands of people gathered around the courthouse in anticipation of the verdicts.

Officials installed a new steel gate and concrete barriers near and around police headquarters in Minneapolis. Nearby businesses boarded up windows and added additional door locks.

The jury's decision gave most reasons to breathe a sigh of relief that the family of a Black victim of police violence finally received justice.

As a result of the guilty verdicts, Hennepin County Judge Peter Cahill could sentence the 45-year-old Chauvin to more than 40 years in

During the more than two-week trial, the defense called seven witnesses while prosecutors brought 38 people to the stand, including EMT workers, forensic experts, law enforcement officers, and individuals who watched as Chauvin

Chauvin guilty on all charges

VERDICT CHARGE SECOND DEGREE MURDER (Carries maximum sentence 40 years in prison) THIRD DEGREE MURDER **GUILTY** (Carries maximum sentence 25 years in prison) SECOND DEGREE MANSLAUGHTER **GUILTY** (Carries maximum sentence 10 years in prison)

Graphic shows the charges and verdict in the Derek Chauvin murder trial. Chauvin was found guilty on all charges in the murder of George Floyd (AP/Photo)

ignored Floyd's pleas that he could not breathe. During closing argu-

Chauvin's ments, defense attempted to pin Floyd's death on drugs and pre-existing heart conditions, prosecution witness Dr. Martin Tobin strongly refuted that testimony.

He called not plausible the defense medical expert Dr. David Fowler's idea that carbon monoxide from vehicle exhaust also helped to cause Floyd's death.

"I believe it is not reliable," Dr. Tobin asserted.

The three other police officers involved in Floyd's death are scheduled to be tried together In August. They face charges of aiding and abetting murder and manslaughter.

Judge Cahill told the jury that he would sequester them during deliberations. "Plan for long, and hope for short," Judge Cahill said.

But that proved far from prophetic as the panel came back after spending one night sequestered in a hotel where they deliberated for about four hours on Monday.

Jurors returned on Tuesday, and at about 2 p.m., they reached a unanimous decision on each count after about six more hours of discus-

"For the rest of the country, this will be a historic decision," Philonise Floyd, George Floyd's brother, told reporters.

"But for the family, this is a personal, personal issue. An issue that is deeply personal for every single member."

Continued **Verdict** Page 1

Sr., in the Finch Lockridge Cunningham Law Firm in We remained friends after I left the firm. There were four(4) black attorneys at this location. When we moved to the new location uptown South Dallas, there were six(6)black attorneys and four(4)black doctors at Forest Avenue Hospital, all within a one block area. Mr. Beckwith was a conservative southern gentleman with excellent protocol and colorful language in certain settings. His dress was always the same, black suit, white shirt, black shined shoes. He seems to

always be on a mission and unsolicited reports. secretary in the late '60's. appointment. He just the police report made his rounds. Beckwith would report the conditions of loved ones he picked up for burial to further with an explicit lengthy opinion about conditions. Mr. Beckwith had national appeal, was bold about his convictions, but the laws, especially in the south always left him voiceless and frustrated. That's why this verdict overflow bountifully with public tears at the mention of the word. I cried when I heard the verdict. It was bitter and

sweet. My recall still with an unwritten agenda leaves me bitter because "Man Dies After Medical What I remember most is Incident During Police South Dallas, while work- why he stopped by Interaction" was the initial ing tirelessly as a legal because he never had an media report taken from about Mr. Floyd's death.

Bottomline, we almost never had his verdict.

And finally, the tireless the attorneys. He went working legal team representing Mr. Floyd was exemplary. This was such a jubilee for black attorneys that enter courtrooms everyday believing and fighting against the odds.

Yes, this is a win, a glimmer of justice, but the law has not been changed.

Esterdavis2000@gmail.com Up Next: The 1st HBCU Police Training Academy The End

Establishing Global Relationships

By Arise Rejoice Media



Ambassador Shaikh Abdullah bin Rashid Al Khalifa (Center)

Shaikh

North Texas businessman and commercial real estate developer Edward Okpa recently met with

Ambassador

Abdullah bin Rashid Al Khalifa, who represents the Kingdom of Bahrain in Washington, to discuss trade and business

opportunities in that commercially viable Persian Gulf country.

Okpa, a former Dallas mayoral candidate and international economic advisor, said that issues of mutual benefit were discussed that could promote development in Bahrain and in the United States. The Bilateral Chamber hosted the meeting that was held in Irving, said Okpa whose wife, Ronke, also participated in the meeting.



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America can best lead the world away from racial and national antagonisms when it accords to every person, regardless of race, color or creed, full human and legal rights. Hating no person, fearing no person, the Black Press strives to help every person in the firm belief that all are hurt as long as anyone is held back.

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EDITORIAL PAGE

The Verdict, The Nation, and Us

By John E. Warren, Publisher, The San Diego Voice & Viewpoint



Dr. John Warren

conviction Derek Chauvin on all three counts in the death of George Floyd represents a much needed breeze of change, but it is neither the storm or whirlwind needed to correct the malignant, cancerous attitude of law enforcement

against not only Black men and women and people of color, but a society which says it's alright to be judge, jury and executioner of those having contact with police in particular. The prosecution and its witnesses in the trial made it clear that the issue is not police training, nor is it about anything other than treating people with the respect and dignity the police would expect if they were in the shoes of those who have become their victims. We know that crime does exist, that there are people who must be apprehended and not all can be done without use of force; but those selected to wear a badge and gun must know the difference and must no longer be able to hide behind such legal myths as "qualified immunity" which has excused so much of what so many police officers should be held accountable for. The verdict is a good start, but let's not think it solves our problems.

In the midst of celebrating, let us keep our eyes on the national war before us which finds Republican legislators at the Congressional and State legislative levels mounting a relentless battle for "voter suppression." They are attempting to do to people of

Derek Chauvin did to George Floyd. Their knee is being placed on our neck of democracy and we cannot breathe without fighting back. Let's identify not only those Republican legislators in each state pushing such legislation, but mount people to run against them. At the same time, let us withhold our dollars from those corporations who refuse to stand up and speak out with their dollars against those very elected officials they have funded for so long.

There are still more trials to come. Let's stay vigilant, for the struggle continues.

After Floyd, Congress ready to plunge into policing laws

By LISA MASCARO

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

WASHINGTON (AP) Bolstered with new momentum, Congress is ready to try again to change the nation's policing laws, heeding President Joe Biden's admonition that the guilty verdict in George Floyd's death is "not enough" for a nation confronting a legacy of police violence.

Legislation that was once stalled on Capitol Hill is now closer than ever to consensus, lawmakers of parties both Wednesday, a day after a Minneapolis jury found former officer Derek Chauvin guilty of murder and manslaughter Floyd's death. Behind the scenes, negotiations are narrowing on a compromise for a sweeping overhaul, though passage remains uncertain.

Tuesday's verdict launches "a new phase of a long struggle to bring justice to America," declared

Rep. Karen Bass, D-Calif., in urging passage of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act. "This is the human rights issue in the United States of America."

The revived effort, led Black lawmakers including Republican Sen. Tim Scott of South Carolina, comes at a pivotal moment. The nation is on edge over the Floyd case, the deaths of other Black Americans — including a 16-year-old girl brandishing a knife about the time the Minneapolis verdict was announced — and almost a year of protests accusing police of brutal actions that often go unseen.

The guilty verdict for Chauvin was a rare occurrence, not least because in this case an officer's actions were recorded by a bystander and shown to the jury in court. That followed months of the video being played repeatedly on TV,



AP Photo

Americans everywhere.

With political pressure mounting on all sides, Biden is urging Congress to plunge back into policing legislation.

"We can't stop here," he said Tuesday after the ver-

In private, Scott briefed key Republican senators on Wednesday, updating his colleagues on quiet negotiations that have been underway with Democrats

imprinted in the minds of for nearly two months. He told reporters he expected to wrap up those talks with the Democrats within two

> dous progress," Scott said on Capitol Hill.

"We've made tremen-

Democrats say they are

"This has to come to a stop," said Rep. James Clyburn, D-S.C., the highest ranking Black elected official in Congress, after the Chauvin verdict.

Dallas Love Field Prepares for Multi-Month Runway Closure

Runway nearest Denton Drive has reached end of useful life

DALLAS – Dallas Love Field's Runway 13R-31L, nearest to Denton Drive, is set to be closed for 10 months beginning April 27 to accommodate its reconstruction.

The runway, which is the primary one for commercial operations, has reached the end of its useful life. It will not be extended during reconstruction. Increased traffic since the

expiration of the Wright Amendment and heavier aircraft have led to deterioration of the runway's surface.

During the closure, which is scheduled to end in February 2022, all airport traffic will operate on Runway 13L-31R, nearest to Lemmon Avenue. DAL conducted a Federal Aviation Administrationrequired Environmental

Assessment and received a Finding of No Significant Impact.

The impact to air travel will be minimal, but customers may experience intermittent delays when traveling to DAL.

Area neighbors to the east of DAL will see a slight increase in noise exposure as all activity moves to that side of the airport. The full closure is

the most efficient for construction operations.

Dallas Love Field is leading the evolution of the airport experience. It served nearly 17 million passengers in 2019, the most in its history. DAL is the 2018, 2019 and 2020 recipient of the Airport Service Quality Award for North American Airports that serve 15-25 million passengers.

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3 Chad West

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4 Raha Assadi

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MAY 1, 2021 SPECIAL ELECTION AMENDMENTS TO THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF DALLAS

PROPOSITION NO. A

Eliminating the Requirement That A Member of a Board or Commission Created by the City Charter be Registered or Qualified to Vote.

Shall Chapter IV, Section 5; Chapter XV, Section 3; and Chapter XVII, Section 2 of the Dallas City Charter be amended to eliminate the requirement that a member of a board or commission created by the city charter be a registered or qualified voter? PROPUESTA NO. A

Eliminar el Requisito de que un Miembro de una Junta o Comisión creada por la Carta de la Ciudad sea Registrado o Calificado para Votar.

¿El Capítulo IV, Sección 5; Capítulo XV, Sección 3; y el Capítulo XVII, Sección 2 de la Carta de la Ciudad de Dallas será enmendado para eliminar el requisito de que un miembro de una junta o comisión creada por la carta de la ciudad sea un votante registrado o calificado?

PROPOSITION NO. B

Eliminating the Requirement That a Member of the Civil Service Board be a Qualified Taxpaying Citizen.

Shall Chapter XVI, Section 1 of the Dallas City Charter be amended to eliminate the requirement that a member of the civil service board be a qualified taxpaying citizen? PROPUESTA NO. B

Eliminar el Requisito de que un Miembro de la Junta de Servicio Civil sea un Ciudadano Calificado.

¿Se modificará el Capítulo XVI, Sección 1 de la Carta de la Ciudad de Dallas para eliminar el requisito de que un miembro de la junta de servicio civil sea un ciudadano calificado que pague impuestos?"



DALLAS COUNTY DATES / TIMES /LOCATIONS

April (abril) **19 – 23** Monday - Friday (lunes a viernes) 8a.m. to 5p.m. April (abril) 24 Saturday (sábado) 8a.m. to 5p.m. April (abril) 25 Sunday (domingo) 1p.m. to 6p.m. **April** (abril) **26 - 27** Monday - Tuesday (lunes y martes) 7a.m. to 7p.m.

LOCATION (Lugar)	ADDRESS (Dirección)	City (Ciudad)	Zip Code (Código postal)
ADDISON FIRE STATION #1	4798 AIRPORT PKWY	ADDISON	75001
AUDELIA ROAD BRANCH LIBRARY - AUDITORIUM	10045 AUDELIA RD	DALLAS	75238
BALCH SPRINGS CIVIC CENTER	12400 ELAM RD	BALCH SPRINGS	75180
BROOKHAVEN COLLEGE "W" BUILDING ROOM W105	3939 VALLEY VIEW LN	FARMERS BRANCH	75244
CARROLLTON LIBRARY @ HEBRON & JOSEY	4220 N JOSEY LANE	CARROLLTON	75010
CEDAR HILL GOVERNMENT CENTER LOBBY	285 UPTOWN BLVD	CEDAR HILL	75104

LOCATION (Lugar)	ADDRESS (Dirección)	City (Ciudad)	Zip Code (Código postal)
COPPELL TOWN CENTER	255 E. PARKWAY BLVD	COPPELL	75019
CROSSWINDS HIGH SCHOOL ROOM 104	1100 N. CARRIER PKWY	GRAND PRAIRIE	75050
DISCIPLE CENTRAL COMMUNITY CHURCH	901 N. POLK ST	DESOTO	75115
DUNCANVILLE LIBRARY ROOMS 1, 2 & 3	201 JAMES COLLINS BLVD	DUNCANVILLE	75116
EASTFIELD COLLEGE MAIN CAMPUS "C" BUILDING	3737 MOTLEY DR	MESQUITE	75150
EASTFIELD COLLEGE PLEASANT GROVE CAMPUS COMMUNITY ROOM 108/109	802 S. BUCKNER BLVD	DALLAS	75217
El CENTRO COLLEGE – MAIN CAMPUS "C"	801 MAIN ST	DALLAS	75202
BUILDING LOBBY AREA EL CENTRO COLLEGE-WEST CAMPUS	3330 N. HAMPTON RD	DALLAS	75212
COMMUNITY ROOM FIRE STATION #10	4451 ED ANIZEODO DO	DALLAC	75207
FIRE STATION #10	4451 FRANKFORD RD	DALLAS	75287
FLORENCE RECREATION CENTER ROOM 102	2501 WHITSON WAY	MESQUITE	75150
FRANKFORD TOWNHOMES	18110 MARSH LN	DALLAS	75287
FRETZ PARK LIBRARY - BLACK BOX THEATER	6990 BELT LINE RD	DALLAS	75254
FRIENDSHIP WEST BAPTIST CHURCH BANQUET HALL FOYER	2020 W. WHEATLAND RD	DALLAS	75232
GEORGE L ALLEN SR COURTS BLDG. MAIN LOBBY - Main Location	600 COMMERCE ST	DALLAS	75202
GRAUWYLER PARK REC CENTER RM A	7780 HARRY HINES BLVD	DALLAS	75235
HARMONY SCHOOL OF INNOVATION DALLAS	8080 W PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH HWY	DALLAS	75252
HARRY STONE RECREATION CENTER SMALL ACTIVITY ROOM	2403 MILLMAR DR	DALLAS	75228
HIGHLAND HILLS LIBRARY AUDITORIUM	6200 BONNIE VIEW RD	DALLAS	75241
HUTCHINS CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS	321 N. MAIN ST	HUTCHINS	75141
IRVING ARTS CENTER ART LAB, CLASSROOM 1	3333 N. MACARTHUR BLVD	IRVING	75062
IRVING CITY HALL MAIN LOBBY	825 W. IRVING BLVD	IRVING	75060
J. ERIK JONSSON CENTRAL LIBRARY	1515 YOUNG ST	DALLAS	75201
JAYCEE ZARAGOZA RECREATION CTR	3114 CLYMER ST	DALLAS	75212
JOSEY RANCH LIBRARY THE MEETING ROOM	1700 KELLER SPRINGS RD	CARROLLTON	75006
LAKESIDE ACTIVITY CENTER LARGE ROOM	101 HOLLEY PARK DR	MESQUITE	75149
LAKEWOOD BRANCH LIBRARY LANCASTER VETERANS MEMORIAL LIBRARY THE	6121 WORTH ST 1600 VETERANS MEMORIAL	DALLAS	75214
MEETING ROOM	PKWY	LANCASTER	75134
LOCHWOOD LIBRARY BLACK BOX ROOM MARSH LANE BAPTIST CHURCH FELLOWSHIP	11221 LOCHWOOD BLVD 10716 MARSH LN	DALLAS DALLAS	75218 75229
HALL			
MARTIN LUTHER KING CORE BLDG MAIN LOBBY	2922 MLK BLVD	DALLAS	75215
MARTIN WEISS REC CENTER SMALL ROOM	1111 MARTINDELL AVE	DALLAS	75211
MOUNTAIN CREEK LIBRARY AUDITORIUM MOUNTAIN VIEW COLLEGE - "'E" BUILDING MAIN	6102 MOUNTAIN CREEK PKWY	DALLAS	75249
LOBBY NORTH LAKE COLLEGE "F" BUILDING ROOM F105	4849 W ILLINOIS AVE 5001 N MACARTHUR BLVD	DALLAS IRVING	75211 75038
OAK CLIFF SUB-COURTHOUSE THE MAIN LOBBY	410 S. BECKLEY AVE	DALLAS	75203
OAK LAWN BRANCH LIBRARY AUDITORIUM	4100 CEDAR SPRINGS RD	DALLAS	75219
OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH THE PARLOR ROOM	7611 PARK LN	DALLAS	75225
OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH - GP	4729 S CARRIER PKWY	GRAND PRAIRIE	75052
FELLOWSHIP HALL PAUL L DUNBAR LANCASTER-KIEST LIBRARY CLASS BOOM A & R	2008 EAST KIEST BLVD	DALLAS	75216
CLASS ROOM A & B	5626 DOWAL IN	DALLAC	75000
PRESTON ROYAL LIBRARY REVERCHON RECREATION CENTER	5626 ROYAL LN	DALLAS DALLAS	75229
	3505 MAPLE AVE		75219
RICHARDSON CIVIC CENTER WEST ALCOVE RICHLAND COLLEGE-GARLAND CAMPUS MAIN	411 W. ARAPAHO RD 675 W. WALNUT ST	RICHARDSON GARLAND	75080 75040
RICHLAND COLLEGE - MAIN CAMPUS -	12800 ABRAMS RD	DALLAS	75243
GUADALUPE "G" BLDG.FOYER AREA ROWLETT CITY HALL ANNEX CONFERENCE	4004 MAIN ST	ROWLETT	75088
ROOM SACHSE COMMUNITY CENTER RESERVATION		SACHSE	75048
ROOM A	3815 SACHSE RD, BUILDING E		
SKYLINE BRANCH LIBRARY AUDITORIUM SOUTH GARLAND BRANCH LIBRARY THE	6006 EVERGLADE RD	DALLAS	75227
PROGRAM ROOM UNIVERSITY PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH -	4845 BROADWAY BLVD	GARLAND	75040
CALDWELL ROOM (#120) VALUEY DANCH LIBDARY SHITE 150	4024 CARUTH BLVD	DALLAS	75225
VALLEY DANKELLIDDADV \$1117E 150	- /1011 / 18/14 PP(18) 11D A H	1 12 3/18// \$	1/4/1/4/2

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or call Parris Long, Elections Manager (City of Dallas) at (214) 670-3742.

^{**}Those City of Dallas residents who are in Collin and Denton counties, please access the following website for Collin and Denton counties Early Voting locations, dates, and times:

Church Directory

Carver Heights Baptist Church

2510 E. Ledbetter, Dallas, Texas 75216 P. 214-371-2024



Sunday School - 8:30 a.m. Early Worship - 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m. Evening Worship - 7:00 p.m.



GREATER CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH Dr. David E. Wilson, Pastor/Teacher 8350 Forest Lane, Dallas, TX 75243 P. 214-349-7701

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"A Good Understanding Wins Favor" Prov. 13:15



friendship-west church & conference center

Dr. Frederick Douglass Haynes, III Senior Pastor

> **Worship Times** Sundays - 8:00 a.m. &

10:45 a.m. CST Bible Study

Wednesdays Word & Wonders 12:00 p.m. (G129) & 7:00 p.m. (Saturday) CST

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Pastor Donald R. Parish, Sr.

Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. Monday Morning Worship 7:00 p.m. Prayer & Bible Study Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Radio Station Every Sunday @ 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. KPYK 1570 AM

Saint Phillips Missionary Baptist Church

6000 Singing Hills Drive Dallas, Texas 75241 P. 214-374-6631



Rev. Dr. C.J.R Phillips Jr.

Email address stphillipsmbc@att.net

Schedule of Activities

Sunday **Early Morning Worship** 8:00 a.m. Church School 9:00 a.m.

Morning Worship

10:00 a.m.

Mount Moriah

3611 Latimer Street Dallas, Texas 75215 214-428-2990

Sunday

Moming Worship 11:00 a.m. **Evening Worship**

5:30 p.m.

Wednesday Prayer Bible Fellowship 7:00 p.m.

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10:00 am Word Out Wednesday Bible Study 12:00 Noon & 7:00 pm



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3510 N. Hampton Rd. Dallas Texas 75212 P. 214-631-5448 website: www.dwcoc.com



Sammie Berry Minister

Calendar of Events Sunday Bible School 8:45 a.m. Sunday Worship

10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. **Tuesday Song Practice** 7:00 p.m.

9:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. Sunday Radio Broadcast 7:30 a.m. on 970 AM

Wednesday Bible Class

"The Congregation Where Everybody is Somebody"

Greenville Avenue Church of Christ

8:00 a.m.

Bible Class 8:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

1013 S. Greenville Ave. Richardson, Texas 75081 P. 972-644-2335 F. 972-644-9347



Minister S.T. Gibbs, III

Associate Ministers: John Readshaw Ben Myers Patrick Worthey Elders: Raymond Hart

Otis Idlebird, Jr.

Schedule of Services

SUNDAY

Early Worship 8:00 a.m. **Bible Classes** 9:45 a.m. **Morning Worship** 10:45 a.m. **Bible Classes** 5:00 p.m. **Evening Worship** 6:00 p.m.

6:30 p.m. Devotional Service **Bible Classes** 7:00 p.m.

Bible Class 11:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m. Support Groups

that those who believe in

"A JOURNEY THROUGH THE GOSPEL OF JOHN"

St. JOHN 14:1-11

CHRIST'S HEARTFELT DISCOURSE WITH HIS DISCIPLES

By Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith

In this grand chapter we have Christ's heartfelt discourse with His disciples; it was a discourse held on the last night before He died. It is indeed noteworthy in saying that, instead of Christ being occupied with His own sufferings that He anticipated, He was consumed with comforting the hearts of His sad disciples. Truly, by comforting their hearts He exhibited the extent of His love - "He loved them unto the end" (St. John 13:1).

Indeed, His beloved disci-

ples were troubled because Christ had warned them that "He must go unto Jerusalem and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day" (St. Matthew 16:21). Such a disclosure caused the disciples much anxiety and sorrow! This touching and penetrating discourse with our Lord begins by saying "Let not your heart be troubled." The disciples were troubled or experiencing pain or sorrow because one

from their ranks would betray Jesus (St. John 13:21). They were troubled because Christ was troubled in spirit (St. John 13:21); they were troubled because Christ had warned them that He would be with them only for a "little while" (St. John 13:33); they were trouble because it had been predicted that Peter would deny the Lord three times (St. John 13:38).

Certainly, these disciples had been sufficiently warned in scripture that Christ must

suffer and be raised triumphantly; therefore, they must believe God and His word! In verse 2, Christ comforts the hearts of His disciples by instructing them of the prospect of heaven becoming the future abiding place for every child of God, having ample rooms. It is comforting to know in verse 3 that believers will enjoy unbroken fellowship with Him in heaven. The eternal abode for every child of God is heaven; and that thought along is comforting, indeed! Our blessed Lord is coming in person to receive us into His precious fellowship!

In verse 4, Christ guarantees the promise He made to Peter, indicating that Peter will be in heaven with Him during some future time (St. John 13:36). Although He

was securing a place for His own, and that He promised to come and receive His own, these sayings were not received because Thomas misunderstood Him! What a life-changing statement Christ made in verse 6. In pursuit of fallen mankind, God has provided the Way, Christ, whereby mankind can be reconciled to God through faith in Christ's finished work on Calvary. Not only is Christ the Way, but He is the Truth - full disclosure and revelation of God. Jesus Christ truly reveals God because He is God. Not only is Christ the Way and the Truth, but He is Life.

had spoken plainly that He

Christ is the only One who can rescue fallen mankind from eternal doom, for St. John 5:24 promises

Christ have passed from death unto life. According to verse 7, one cannot have a true knowledge of the Father without having knowledge of Christ. The Father is known as one knows the Son! Christ's statement in verse 7, prompted Philip to say - "Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us" (v 8). Christ reply in v. 9 to Philip is really a forceful rebuke! The Word, Who manifested Himself in Human flesh, was right in his midst; though, his desire for a corporeal revelation was not possible; furthermore, he could not bear the full splendor of God's glory. The absolute union between the Father and Son is brought out in verses 10 and

May God bless!



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LEGAL NOTICE

Daniel R. Canchola, M.D. Now Clinic: Attn. Kathy Nelson 9229 LBJ Freeway Dallas, TX 75243

> The State Medical Board of Ohio 30 E. Broad Street, 3rd Floor Columbus, OH 43215-6127

In the Matter of: Daniel R. Canchola, M.D. 20-CRF-0099

On February 11, 2021 the State Medical Board of Ohio mailed an order of Indefinite Suspension to Daniel R. Canchola, M.D.via certified mail, return receipt requested, to his last known address of record, Now Clinic: Attn. Kathy Nelson, 9229 LBJ Freeway, Dallas, TX 75243. The Order was not returned to the Board from the U.S. Post Office.

Dr. Canchola may be entitled to an appeal. Such an appeal must be commenced by the filing of a Notice of Appeal with the State Medical Board and the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas. The Notice of Appeal must set forth the Order appealed from and state that the State Medical Board's Order is not supported by reliable, probative, and substantive evidence and is not in accordance with law. The Notice of Appeal may, but is not required to, set forth the specific grounds of the appeal. Any such appeal must be filed within fifteen (15) days after the last date of publication in accordance with the requirements of Section 119.12, Ohio Revised Code. Please contact the undersigned to ascertain the last date of publication.

Any questions or correspondence should be addressed to:

Jackie Moore Case Control Office 30 E. Broad Street, 3rd Floor Columbus, OH 43215-6127 Jackie.moore@med.ohio.gov

VOTING

Dallas, Texas –

Dallas County Elections Administrator Michael Scarpello reminds eligible voters that Early voting for the Saturday, May 1, 2021 Joint Election begins Monday, April 19, 2021 and ends Tuesday, April 27, 2021.

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We understand that people may have concerns about the safety of the COVID-19 vaccine. However, these vaccines went through rigorous clinical trials and safety checks needed to be approved.

The more people who receive the vaccine, the quicker we can get back to a more normal life including visiting family and friends, attending worship services, going to sports events, entertainment and other activities. The vaccine will also help stop the spread of the virus in our community and end the pandemic.

Now, anyone 16 years and older can get a COVID-19 vaccine without an appointment from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Saturday at Parkland's drive-through locations, Ellis Davis Field House, 9191 S. Polk St., Dallas, 75232 and Dallas College Eastfield Campus, 3737 Motley Dr., Dallas 75150. Minors must be accompanied by an adult. Vaccines are at no cost to you.

For more information about how to get the COVID-19 vaccine, visit www.parklandhospital.com/covid19vaccines. You can also call the Parkland COVID vaccine help line at 214-590-7000 for information about COVID testing, vaccine sites and MyChart help. This help line is open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday - Friday.

Dallas Public Library Locations Opening May 4

Services limited to graband-go checkouts, browsing, computer use

DALLAS Beginning

Tuesday, May 4, Dallas Public Library is resuming in-person service at 27 branch locations and the Central Library. Customers will once again be able to browse the library's collection, check out books, and pick up their holds inside the library.

Building capacity is limited to 25 at branches and 155 at the Central Library. Public computer access is available for one 90-minute session per day per user and can be reserved up to 24 hours advance. in Researchers may use the Dallas History Archives and Genealogy collections by appointment, as well as the Creative Spaces at the Central Library. Seating is unavailable at the branch libraries, but the Central floors will have limited seating to allow for charging and using personal devices.

"We've made every effort to keep library users and library staff as safe as possible with our reopening," Director of Libraries Jo Giudice said. "I know Dallasites have been anxious to come back to the library, and we're excited to have them back – even if it is somewhat limited."

Masks worn over the nose and mouth will be required for all customers age 2 and older, and 6-feet social distancing will be encouraged.

Staff will be available for limited assistance, but self-checkout is encouraged. Reference service is still limited to online chat and phone, although staff will be able to help with quick answers and book requests.

Library To Go curbside service is still available by appointment.





7 Day Weather Forecast for DFV

Thursday, April 22

Friday, April 23

Saturday, April 24

Sunday, April 25

Monday, April 26

Tuesday, April 27

Wednesday, April 28

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L - 61°

L - 67



L - 56

MLB Pulls All-Star Game from Atlanta Because of **New Voter Suppression Law**

By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent @StacyBrownMedia

Elections and the actions of color. of lawmakers do have consequences.

And because of a new voter suppression bill signed into law by Gov. Brian Kemp, Major League Baseball has announced it would move its potentially lucrative 2021 All-Star game from Atlanta.

"Just as elections have consequences, so do the actions of those who are elected," Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms wrote on Twitter.

"Unfortunately, removal of the @MLB All-Star game from GA is likely the 1st of many dominoes to fall until the unnecessary barriers put in place to restrict access to the ballot box are removed," the mayor stated.

MLB Commissioner Rob Manfred decided on Friday, April 2, after Major League Baseball Players Association executive director Tony Clark and some prominent players managers and expressed doubts about attending the game.

Last month, Kemp signed Republican-led legislation that disenfranchises voters

As reported recently at BlackPressUSA.com, moving the game from Atlanta could cost the city and local counties as much as \$200 million in revenue.

The host Atlanta Braves were expected to operate their stadium at total capacity for the game.

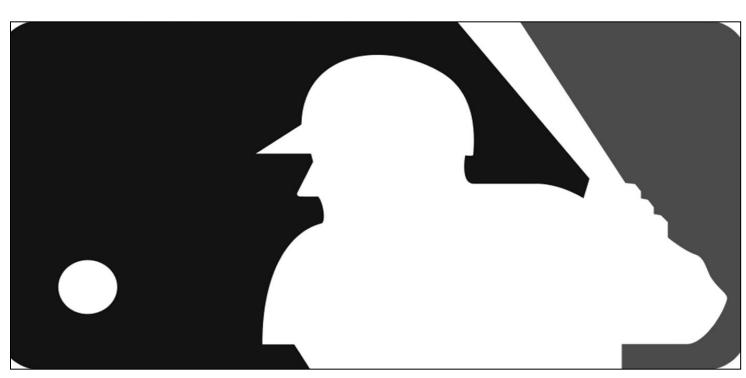
Events surrounding the mid-summer classic would have meant a windfall for the local economy.

"Over the last week, we have engaged in thoughtful the conversations with Clubs, former and current players, the Players Association, and The Players Alliance, among others, to listen to their views," Manfred said.

> "I have decided that the best way to demonstrate our values as a sport is by relocating this year's All-Star Game and MLB Draft."

U.S. Sen. Raphael Warnock (D-Georgia) expressed hope that MLB would reconsider moving the game because of the economic impact it could have, mainly because the pandemic has crippled most busi-

"Businesses and organiza-



"Major League Baseball fundamentally supports voting rights for all Americans and opposes restrictions to the ballot box," said MLB Commissioner Rob Manfred.

power in their voices and ability to push for change. I respect the decision of the players to speak out against this unjust law," Sen. Warnock stated.

of Georgia or the workers of Georgia who crafted this law. It is politicians seeking to retain power at expense of Georgians' voices.

tions have great And today's decision c o m m u n i t y. by MLB is the unfortunate consequence of politicians' these actions."

> Sen. Warnock continued:

"It is my hope that "It is not the people businesses, athletes, and entertainers can protest this law not by leaving Georgia but by coming here and fighting voter suppression head-on, and hand-in-hand with the

Additionally, the urgency to pass federal voter protection laws grows every day, and I will continue to be a leader in that fight."

As first noted by said. CNBC, Georgia's new law adds guidelines around mail-in ballots, voter registration and provides state officials more authority around how elec-

tions are operated.

"Major League Baseball fundamentally supports voting rights for Americans and opposes restrictions to the ballot box," Manfred

became the first professional league to join the nonpartisan Civic Alliance to help build a future in which

everyone participates in shaping the United States.

"We proudly used platform encourage baseball fans and communities throughout our country to perform their civic duty and actively participate in the voting process. Fair access to voting continues to have our game's unwavering

Continued US Page 1

in the public square," said the Rev. Dr. Eric Ledermann, pastor at University Presbyterian Church Tempe, in Arizona, after the event outside the Statehouse.

"When people say, 'Let's not get political in the church' — Jesus was political," very Ledermann said. "He was engaged in how his culture, his community was being shaped, and who was being left out of the decision-making process."

Georgia already has enacted legislation with various restrictive voting provisions. More than 350 voting bills are now under consideration in dozens of other states, according to the Brennan Center for Justice, a public policy think tank. Among the proposals: tightening requirements for voter IDs, reducing the number of ballot drop boxes and curtailing early voting.

African Methodist **Episcopal** Bishop Reginald Jackson, who oversees AME churches

in Georgia, has been urging corporate leaders to do more to fight voting restrictions. So far, he's dissatisfied with the response, and says he may call for boycotts of some companies.

In numerous states, voting rights activism is being led by multifaith coalitions that include Christian, Jewish and Muslim groups. Here is what some of the faith leaders are saying:

The Rev. Dr. Cassandra Gould, executive director of Missouri Faith Voices, for whom the issue is "very personal":

"I'm from Alabama, a town called little Demopolis. It's 47 miles west of Selma, where my mother fought for rights, went to jail on Bloody Sunday (in 1965). ... So those are the stories that I grew up with. I never imagined that I would still be fighting the same fight."

"There is a playbook to suppress votes, to shrink the electorate. And we believe fundamentally, as a tenet of faith, that it

should be expanded so that people are included, not excluded."

The Rev. Dr. Warren H. Stewart, Sr., senior pastor Institutional at First Church Baptist in Phoenix and chairman of Arizona's African Christian American Clergy Coalition:

"If you read the Bible, Genesis from Revelation, it talks about justice, talks about being on the side of the oppressed, the downtrodden, the orphan, the poor. And this whole voter-suppression issue is about fighting against those who would oppress people of color, the poor, people who are struggling to make it in life. So it is a faith issue as much as a justice issue. They're not disconnected."

"The reaction of the Republican Party, to the most people ever voting in the history of the United States, is that 'we're gonna lose in the future.' So it's very obvious that this is not about accountability or about ethics, it's about politics. And that's unjust, and so that's why we're out here."

The Rev. Frederick Haynes III, pastor of Friendship-West Baptist Church in Dallas:

"We have those in leadership — in Texas government — who have in their ideological DNA the same mindset of those slave masters who denied the humanity of Black people. The same mindset of those individuals who upheld Jim and Jane Crow segregation. ... Gov. (Greg) Abbott and his Republican cronies have decided to dress up Jim and Jane Crow in a tuxedo of what they call voter integrity, but it's still Jim and Jane Crow. ... You are simply trying to create a problem for voters you don't want to vote."

The Rev. Edwin Robinson, organizer of Dallas Black Clergy:

"No matter what side of the political aisle you find yourself, any attempt to hinder voting is an attempt to take away our greatest freedom and lib-

erty. ... We should be doing everything to protect our greatest freedoms — and make ways for our citizens to enthusiastically vote and do so free from fear and intimidation."

The Rev. Anne Ellsworth, priest at St. Augustine's Episcopal Parish in Tempe:

"I am a pastor in a white congregation. I am a priest in a church, the Episcopal Church, that is famous for our white, Christian, moderate stance. ... My interest is in awakening knowledge in other white, moderate, Christian women who have remained silent or who have felt powerless or think that it doesn't matter to them. My guiding light is a quote from Martin Luther King: 'There are not enough white people who value or who cherish democratic principles more than white privilege."

"White Christian women know what it is to have our voices silenced. And we cannot stand by while other people's voic-

es are also being silenced. We need to recognize our privilege and use it as leverage to fight voter suppression aimed at Black Americans."

support."

Rabbi Lydia Medwin of The Temple in Atlanta:

"The Jewish community has responded to the call of our African American brothers and sisters since the Civil Rights era began. When our partners and people that we care deeply about say to us, 'We're hurting, we're being treated unfairly,' we have no other response but to step

Rabbi David Segal, Texas organizer for the Religious Action Center for Judaism Reform:

"The backlash against Georgia passing legislation is actually helping us in Texas, because we're able to point to that and organize the anger around those laws to try and stop it here. ... People of faith stand for inclusion and stand for respect and stand for acceptance and a different kind of justice."

Five Years After His Death, **New Music Arrives from Prince**

By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent @StacyBrownMedia

Five years after his sudden death, the icon Prince's estate is releasing brand new music that is sure to excite his still loyal fanbase.

The new "Welcome 2 America" CD marks the first time Prince's estate is releasnever-before-heard music from the megastar's famous Paisley Park vault.

Fans got a preview on CBS's Minutes, and Prince's longtime guitarist, Brown Mark, sat for a special interview with the Black Press at 7:30 a.m. EST on Thursday, April 15.

The 12-track disc was

recorded in 2010 to accompany a tour of the same name but never released.

the new music on July 30.

"Welcome 2 America is a document of Prince's concerns, hopes, and visions for a shifting society, presciently foreshadowing an era of political division, disinformation, and a renewed fight for racial justice," Prince's estate noted in a statement.

Never a big fan of social media, Prince sings about how superficial social media could be, corporate monopolies in music and reality tele-

On the title track, Prince sings: "Welcome 2 America, The estate plans to debut the land of the free – home of the slave."

> Prince fans know that track is reminiscent of his 1985 song, "America," from his "Around the World in a Day" album.

In that song, the Purple

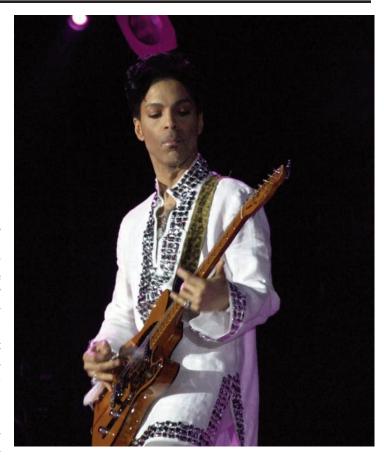
One sings: "Aristocrats on a mountain climb, making money, losing time/Communism is just a word, but if the government turn over, it'll be the only word that's heard/America, America/God shed his grace CD.

on thee/America, America Keep the children free."

Songs from the new CD include "Running Game (Son of a Slave Master)," "Born 2 Die" and "One Day We Will All B Free."

Prince also sings about "Distracted by the features of the iPhone/Got an application, 2 fix Ur situation."

During the "Welcome 2 America" tour, which lasted for three years beginning in 2010, Prince performed over 80 shows. The estate doesn't explain why he never released the accompanying



On the title track, Prince sings: "Welcome 2 America, the land of the free - home of the slave." Prince fans know that track is reminiscent of his 1985 song, "America," from his "Around the World in a Day" album. (Photo: Prince playing at Cochella, 2008. / Wikimedia Commons)





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Fired officer who halted excessive force arrest wins pension

By CAROLYN THOMPSON

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) -A Buffalo, New York, police officer who was fired for trying to stop another officer from using a chokehold on a handcuffed suspect has won a yearslong legal fight to overturn her dismissal and collect her pension.

A state Supreme Court judge cited the changing landscape around the use of force by police and a new "duty to intervene" statute that the fired officer, Cariol Horne, championed following the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

"Quoting the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., 'the time is always right to do right," Judge Dennis Ward wrote in his decision.

Horne on Wednesday called it a bittersweet victory, coming during the murder trial of former Minneapolis Officer Derek Chauvin, who is charged with causing Floyd's death while other officers did



Cariol Horne marches during a protest organized by We Pump 716 and the Liberation Collective, Friday, Sept. 4, 2020, in Buffalo. . (Sharon Cantillon/The Buffalo News via AP)

nothing to stop him.

She is pushing for the body's life." nationwide adoption of sive force and retroactively protect them from retaliation. The law was adopted in Buffalo in October.

lose their livelihood," Horne said. "But no amount of awareness of the problem of

money should be over some-

"I could be on top of the "Cariol's Law," which world, but I'm looking at would require police officers everybody else and they're to step in if they witness in a swamp. How can I feel another officer using exces- good about that?" she said a day after Tuesday's legal

In his decision, Ward said support for Horne has grown Officers "don't want to recently "in the wake of a renewed national and local

excessive force, and with police officers who intervene now being seen as heroes."

Horne was a 19-year veteran and a year away from collecting her pension when she faced departmental charges after pulling fellow Officer Gregory Kwiatkowski's arm from around the neck of domestic violence suspect Neal Mack in November 2006.

"I yelled, 'Greg, you're choking him,' and he didn't stop," Horne recounted during an interview in June. "I grabbed his arm from around his neck. ... That was the only physical contact that I had. And they fabricated a story and said that I did all of these other things that I didn't do."

She was fired in 2008 after an arbitration process determined she had put the lives of the officers at the scene in danger. The firing was previously upheld by the same court that eventually overturned it.



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Kristy Fercho on Increasing Black Homeownership

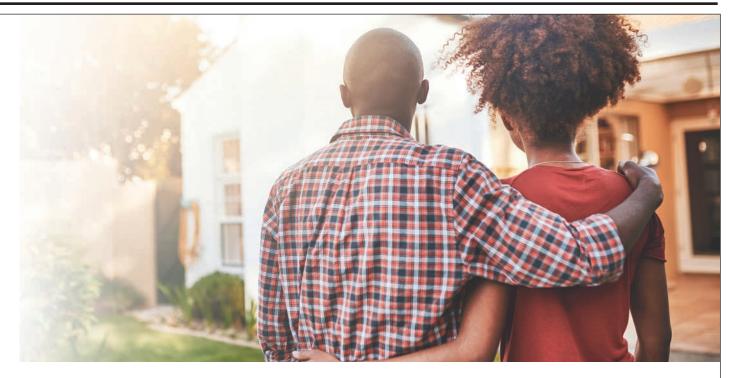
Over this past year, home has never been more important. Safe, affordable housing has long been one of the most common aspirations for all Americans, and the principal way most families build wealth in this country. Yet obtaining this goal remains more difficult for people of color.

The racial homeownership gap is as large today as it was during the days of segregation, with the white homeownership rate roughly 30 points higher than Black households. New Urban Institute analysis shows that the gap may continue to grow absent intentional action. This has lasting implications: when one generation misses the wealth-building opportunities of homeownership, successive generations feel the impact as well.

For me, this is personal. As a Black woman and the Head of Wells Fargo Home Lending, I am passionate about growing Black homeownership and providing access for those shut out of the American dream.

I'm proud to have a leadership role at Wells Fargo as we take action to increase Black homeownership. We're doing this by incorporating low-down payment financing options and closing cost credits available through offerings like our new Dream. Plan. Home.^{sм}. programs; diverse, in-market sales teams ready to provide access and support; collaboration with non-profits that understand local markets and more. These efforts are part of our \$60 billion commitment to growing Black homeownership. Wells Fargo is also investing \$50 million in Minority Depository Institutions to empower diverse communities.

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Housing stakeholders must work together to close this gap, bringing unity to this urgent moment, and I have seen firsthand the great work underway not just by lenders, but also advocates, policymakers, and others. In addition to leading Home Lending for Wells Fargo, I'm also the the chair-elect of the Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA) board of directors and the leader of an affordable homeownership working group within the of the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency's Project REACh, which promotes financial inclusion through greater access to credit and capital.

For the MBA, one of our goals is to drastically increase affordable homeownership in the next two years by working with member companies and policymakers to take action now. As the Biden administration takes shape, our mission is to drive consideration of policy actions focused on housing, such as first-time homebuyer credits and FHA reforms.

Project REACh convenes stakeholders from government, financial institutions, nonprofits and more to tackle the structural barriers that have contributed to the racial homeownership gap. Removing these barriers to financial inclusion will help millions of people, previously left out of the system, gain access to more opportunities for themselves and their families.

Even as we work together to address barriers to homeownership, there are steps potential homebuyers can take to ensure they are best positioned to reach their goals.

- Build your savings: trim unnecessary expenses and reduce any outstanding debts.
- Find a qualified lender: compare different lenders and their loan offerings to find the right fit.
- Do your homework: learn about your property value and equity, mortgage payments, first-time homebuyer programs and down payment assistance.
- Know your borrowing power: get pre-qualified or pre-approval to find homes that fit your budget.

We all have a role to play, and while none of us can break down these barriers alone, if we are united in our pursuit, we can make a huge impact together.

For Wells Fargo's homeownership resources, visit: myfirsthome.wf.com



Meet Kristy Fercho:

Kristy Fercho is Executive Vice President and Head of Wells Fargo Home Lending. Fercho oversees one of the nation's leading combined home lenders and servicers, funding one of every twelve loans and servicing one of every eight loans in the country. She leads a team of more than 25,000 mortgage professionals in sales, operations, servicing, capital markets, portfolio management, and related business, risk management, and supporting functions.

MENTAL HEALTH

SATURDAY, MAY IST **FROM 10 AM - 2 PM**

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM

MULTIPLE PRESENTATIONS OFFERED IN EACH SESSION

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Community Resources for Families

- Understanding and Supporting Students with ADHD
- Resiliencia: Una Habilidad de Vida para Enfrentar la Nueva Normalidad

- Everyday Mindfulness Suicide Prevention: A Public Health Problem-- You are the Tool We've Been Missing Bullying Prevention and Intervention
- La Conciencia Plena para Los Padres y Cuidadores
- 12:00 PM 1:00 PM
- Coping with COVID
- Supporting Transgender and Gender-Expansive Youth Mental Health & Wellness Matters: You are NOT "Crazy
- Criando con una Conexion
- 1:00 PM 2:00 PM
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES): How Trauma Impacts Children Recognizing and Responding to Anxiety 10 Ways to Bring Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Home



TO REGISTER, VISIT WWW.MENTALHEALTHMATTERSDALLAS.COM

DALLAS

"The Son of Mr. Suleman," the final novel by the late Eric Jerome Dickey, is the profound story of Professor Pi Suleman, a Black man living in Memphis who, in 2019, must constantly navigate a world governed by Trump-supporting white supremacists. His colleagues where he is an adjunct professor are constantly making racist comments, and his career hangs in the balance due to threats from a high-powered professor who both assaults him and blackmails him.

This book is a powerhouse. It is impossible not to become fully absorbed in every scene, the vibrant, dynamic characters drawing you in again and again. It is by no means a light read. The story is dense, and in many ways quite disturbing, but it is this way in its unapologetic effort to confront the dark realities and harsh truths that we continue to face today.

Wells Fargo Expands Commitment to Black-owned Banks

By Stacy M. Brown, NNPA Newswire Senior National Correspondent @StacyBrownMedia

Wells Fargo & Company announced equity invest-African ments in five American Minority Depository Institutions, or MDIs, as part of a 2020 pledge to invest up to \$50 million in Black-owned banks.

The banking giant said it is also offering access to a dedicated relationship team that can work with each MDI on financial, technological, and product development strategies to help each institution strengthen and grow.

"Wells Fargo is really committed to helping foster a more inclusive world, quite frankly, and we want to make sure that we are reaching into the economically disadvantaged communities as well as serving all of our customers and constituents across the footprint of the enterprise," Georgette "Gigi" Dixon, head of External Relations for Wells Fargo, told NNPA

"This past year has been a terrible year for all of us, and it makes it extra-special that we can provide this investment at this time," Dixon, the 27-year banking veteran, stated.

"I've never seen this type of approach to ensuring the legacy like MDIs and, more specifically, Black-owned banks to be preserved and promoted nationally the way Wells Fargo is taking with this position," she continued.

Dixon added that Wells Fargo began working on the initiative one year before the pandemic and before the

police killing of George

Floyd in Minneapolis.

"We started meeting with each one of the MDIs, and we partnered with the National Banking Association," Dixon revealed.

'We had these meetings with the banks and said, 'let's walk through your strategic plan and the things you need to stabilize and or grow the institution so that vou are better able to serve your constituents.' When all these banks are thriving and, in a position, to grow, that helps everybody."

With that, Wells Fargo decided to provide what Dixon called an injection of equity that gave the MDIs opportunities to maintain their positions as majority owners.

Wells Fargo then created a relationship management team that focused on understanding what the MDIs needed.

Throughout the process, Wells Fargo remained engaged bу providing resources from various factions of the banking organiza-

"We reached across all our lines of business and said, we have these great MDIs who are sustaining, stabilizing, growing, and expanding, and we want to make ourselves available through subject matter expertise," Dixon recalled. "I'm so excited about this."

Wells Fargo's latest announcement includes investments in Carver State Bank in Savannah, Georgia; Citizens Trust Bank in Atlanta; First Independence

Bank in Detroit; Liberty Bank in New Orleans; and Unity National Bank in Houston.

The investments follow Wells Fargo's Feb. 8 announcement regarding its investments in six African American MDIs and take its total investment to 11 MDIs overall.

Additionally, Wells Fargo plans to make its nationwide ATM network available for customers of the 11 MDIs to use without incurring fees.

The company announced that its financial commitments are in the form of critical equity capital, which is foundational to the MDIs' ability to expand lending and deposit-taking capacity in their communities.

"The thing that impressed us the most is that these are solid institutions," Dixon voiced. "They all unequivocally,

across-the-board, have a huge mission to provide financial help to their community and customers. These communities are disproportionately not in the banking system and are not necessarily taking full advantage of the wide range of financial products and services available.

"These MDIs are trusted, and that's important for all to realize that, when you have trust and credibility, you are going to be able to reach communities that others cannot. Their mission is focused, and it's all about the financial health in the community and about expanding access to financial products and servic-

BY MOLLY SPRAYREGEN