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VOLUME 72 NUMBER 30

SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

April 9 - 15, 2020

Winfrey chooses "Hidden Valley Road" for book club

By HILLEL ITALIE

NEW YORK (AP) — Oprah Winfrey's new book club pick is Robert Kolker's "Hidden Valley Road," an in-depth account of a 1950s family in which six of 12 children were diagnosed with schizophrenia. Winfrey says she will continue picking books during the coronavirus outbreak, and will seek new ways to engage readers.

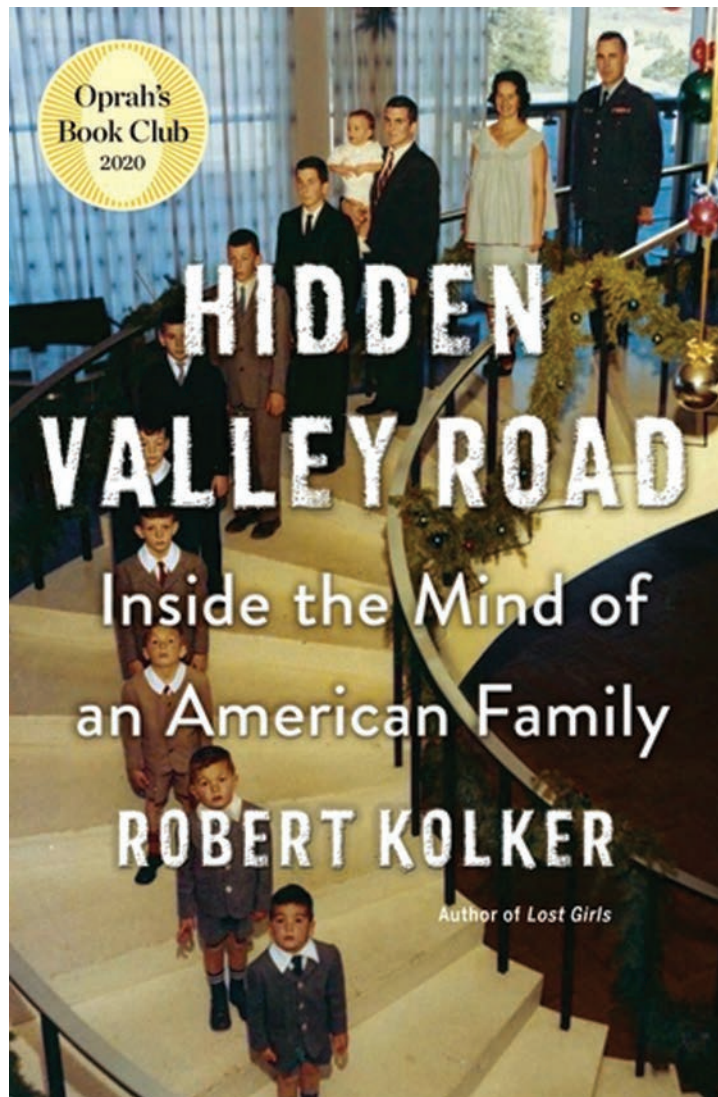
In announcing her choice Tuesday, Winfrey called "Hidden Valley Road" a "riveting true story of an American family that reads like a medical detective journey. It reveals the shame, denial, shock, confusion and misunderstanding of mental illness at a time when no one was really sure what schizophrenia was or how to treat it."

"Hidden Valley Road," tells the story of the Galvins, an attractive, high-achieving Colorado family that was devastated by the illness. Kolker

learned about them four years ago through a mutual friend and received extensive cooperation, speaking with nine of the siblings and their mother, and also drawing upon family letters, diaries and medical records.

In a review that ran last weekend in The New York Times, Sam Dolnick praised Kolker as a gifted storyteller and "a restrained and unshowy writer who is able to effectively set a mood." Kolker has written for New York magazine and Bloomberg and is the author of "Lost Girls," which has been adapted into a Netflix film starring Amy Ryan.

Kolker's new book, released this week, is Winfrey's fourth selection since starting a partnership with Apple last fall. She usually tapes a live appearance with the author that runs on Apple TV Plus. Because of the coronavirus, she will interview Kolker and Galvin family members



This cover image released by Doubleday shows Robert Kolker's "Hidden Valley Road." The book, an in-depth and highly praised account of a 1950s family in which six children were diagnosed with schizophrenia, was selected by Oprah Winfrey for her book club. Winfrey says that she will continue picking book

remotely for a program expected to air in May.

Winfrey spoke to The Associated Press recently from her home in Santa Barbara, California, where she has been sheltering in place since early March. She said she had chosen "Hidden Valley Road" before the virus became widespread, but says it's even timelier now, because of its story of a baffling and horrifying illness. She was also personally drawn to the narrative, explaining that a young student from the school she runs in South Africa has three siblings diagnosed with schizophrenia.

"I've watched the ways that mental illness can rampage a family, and how they deal with the stigma of it and overcoming the shame of it," Winfrey said.

Winfrey has helped generate millions of sales over the years, but her announcement comes at a time of deep declines in book sales and wide-

spread industry layoffs, from bookstores to the publisher Macmillan, where Winfrey has an imprint. She began her club in 1996, and has never had a year of such unexpected and troubling challenges.

Her previous selection, Jeanine Cummins' "American Dirt," had received widespread early praise and seemed set to be a critical and commercial hit. But a month before its January release date, some Mexican-American writers faulted the novel about a Mexican mother and son fleeing north as uninformed and exploitative. What Winfrey had thought would be a show about immigration ended up being a forum about the lack of Latino representation in publishing, and in Winfrey's club. (Winfrey reiterated that she plans to choose books by Latinos in coming months).

See Page 2

Chicago's new top cop guided by Dallas tenure, son's death



FILE - In this June 15, 2015, file photo, Dallas Police Chief David Brown briefs the media about a shooting at Dallas Police headquarters in Dallas. Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot on Thursday, April 2, 2020, named Brown to lead the police force in the nation's third largest city. (AP Photo/Tony Gutierrez, File)

By MICHAEL TARM

CHICAGO (AP) — As daunting as the challenges that await him as the new chief of a Chicago Police Department under pressure to implement sweeping court-ordered reforms may seem, they pale compared to what David Brown Sr. had to overcome 10 years ago following an afternoon phone call on Father's Day.

His son was dead, an officer told the then-Dallas police chief. Police shot 27-year-old David Brown Jr. after he'd shot dead a stranger on a suburban sidewalk and then also killed a responding officer during an apparent mental breakdown.

"My entire body pulsated

with pain, as if I'd been jolted with an electric shock," Brown recounted in a 2017 book. "I grieved just as deeply for the loved ones of those my son had taken."

Brown, whose former partner and brother were also killed years earlier, said he returned to work with more empathy for victims and suspects alike, and a greater devotion to his job.

"My sense of duty not only got me out of bed," he wrote. "It also began my healing."

The 59-year-old will need that heightened level of commitment to succeed in Chicago, the nation's third largest city, where he'll oversee a force of some 13,000 officers.

Dallas had around 3,000.

Brown's No. 1 priority is to ensure Chicago's department complies with the court-monitored overhaul plan, which includes requirements unpopular with many officers that they file paperwork each time they point a gun at someone, even if they don't fire.

It's not going to be easy.

"This is a hard job, one of the hardest jobs in the country," Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot told reporters Thursday in announcing Brown's selection as police superintendent.

Brown is expected to officially assume his superintendent post in April.

See Page 2

Wisconsin voters wait for hours, others stay home amid virus

By SCOTT BAUER and STEVE PEOPLES

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Despite federal health recommendations, thou-

sands of Wisconsin voters waited hours in long lines outside overcrowded

polling stations on Tuesday so they could participate in a presiden-

tial primary election that tested the limits of electoral politics in the midst

of a pandemic.



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NNPA Senior Correspondent Stacy Brown and Wife Shenay Test Positive for COVID-19



See Page 3

Winfrey chooses "Hidden Valley Road" for book club

Continued from Page 1

Not long after the Cummins show aired, in early March, the coronavirus spread around the country and Winfrey briefly wondered whether she should delay further choices. She decided instead that books, and conversations about books, were needed more than ever. In addition to her programs on Apple,

Winfrey hopes to organize what she is calling literary pajama parties on Instagram.

"You have virtual dance parties," says Winfrey, who took part in an all-star online gathering hosted by DJ D-Nice. "So I was thinking of doing the same thing for books, trying to see how many people you get for a pajama party where you talk about a book."

Son: Jazz great Ellis Marsalis Jr. dead, 85; COVID involved



CORRECTS MAYOR'S LAST NAME TO CANTRELL INSTEAD OF CAMPBELL - FILE - This April 28, 2019, file photo, shows Ellis Marsalis during the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival in New Orleans. New Orleans Mayor LaToya Cantrell announced Wednesday, April 1, 2020, that Marsalis has died. He was 85. (AP Photo/Sophia Germer, File)

By JANET McCONNAUGHEY and REBECCA SANTANA

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Ellis Marsalis Jr., the jazz pianist, teacher and patriarch of a New Orleans musical clan, died late Wednesday from pneumonia brought on by the new virus, leaving six sons and a deep legacy. He was 85.

"My dad was a giant of a musician and teacher, but an even greater father. He poured everything he had into making us the best of what we could be,"

Branford said.

Four of the jazz patriarch's six sons are musicians: Wynton, a Pulitzer- and Grammy-winning trumpeter, is America's most prominent jazz spokesman as artistic director of jazz at New York's Lincoln Center. Branford, a saxophonist, has won three Grammys, led The Tonight Show band and toured with Sting. Delfeayo, a trombonist, is a prominent recording producer and performer. And Jason, a percussionist, has made a name for himself with his

own band and as an accompanist. Ellis III, who decided music wasn't his gig, is a photographer-poet in Baltimore. Their brother Mboya has an autism. Marsalis' wife, Dolores, died in 2017.

"Pneumonia was the actual thing that caused his demise. But it was pneumonia brought on by COVID-19," Ellis Marsalis III said in an Associated Press phone interview.

Wisconsin voters wait for hours, others stay home amid virus



A worker hands out disinfectant wipes and pens as voters line up outside Riverside High School for Wisconsin's primary election Tuesday April 7, 2020, in Milwaukee. The new coronavirus causes mild or moderate symptoms for most people, but for some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness or death. (AP Photo/Morry Gash)

Continued from Page 1

Thousands more stayed home, unwilling to risk their health even as Republican officials pushed forward with the election amid a stay-at-

home order. But many of the potential voters who remained in their homes complained that the absentee ballots they had requested never showed up.



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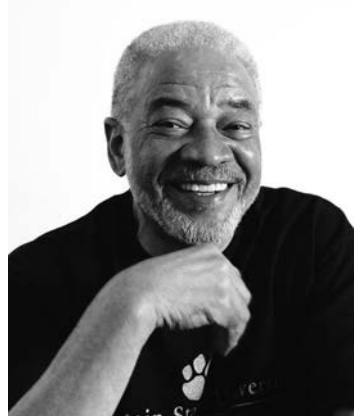
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EDITORIAL PAGE

‘Lean On Me,’ ‘Lovely Day’ singer Bill Withers dies at 81



(AP Photo/Reed Saxon)

By Mark Kennedy

Bill Withers, who wrote and sang a string of soulful songs in the 1970s that have stood the test of time, including “Lean on Me,” “Lovely Day” and “Ain’t No Sunshine,” has died from heart complications, his family said in a statement to The

Associated Press. He was 81.

The three-time Grammy Award winner, who withdrew from making music in the mid-1980s, died on Monday in Los Angeles, the statement said. His death comes as the public has drawn inspiration from his music during the coronavirus pandemic,

with health care workers, choirs, artists and more posting their own renditions on “Lean on Me” to help get through the difficult times.

“Lean on Me,” a paean to friendship, was performed at the inaugurations of both Barack Obama and Bill Clinton.

NNPA Senior Correspondent Stacy Brown and Wife Shenay Test Positive for COVID-19

“We’re not at the point yet where we need to be on ventilators, but if our symptoms don’t improve, then we’ll have to be admitted and isolated.” The Browns have fluid in their lungs and Stacy has an underlying condition.

By Nsenga Burton,
NNPA Newswire Culture and Entertainment Editor

The National Newspaper Publishers Association has been hit again by the coronavirus. NNPA Senior Correspondent Stacy M. Brown and his wife Shenay have been diagnosed with COVID-19.

Brown recently chronicled the story of Jeffrey L. Boney, the multi-award-winning writer for the *Houston Forward Times* and the National Newspaper Publishers Association, who is in the intensive care unit at United Memorial Medical Center in Houston after being diagnosed on Friday, March 27, with COVID-19.

Brown and his wife, who both began experiencing symptoms at the beginning of the week, were diagnosed Friday, April 3, 2020 at a hospital in their home state of New Jersey.

Brown says he was shocked that he has it because he and his wife have been adhering to the social distance guidelines and only left home to go to the pharmacy to pick up prescriptions and the grocery store.

An admitted germaphobe, Brown says the last time he remembers being in close proximity to others was during a meeting for the Black press held by the U.S. Senate on March 11. “A lot of Senators were there. The room was pretty small, and we were in close proximity to each other,” says Brown. “Most were doing elbow bumps, but I remember being shocked that Senator Cory Booker actually shook my hand

with all of the talk about Coronavirus,” he adds. Brown has notified Senator Booker’s office of his diagnosis.

Stacy and Shenay live at home with their three children: Talia, 21, Paris, 13 and Stacy Olivia, 8. They have two other adult children who live out of town. “The kids have been great, leaving food at the door. They don’t have any symptoms and of course I don’t want them to get it. I don’t want them to have to face what my wife and I are facing.”

Stacy and his wife, who were already social distancing within the home, are now officially living in separate parts of the house. Stacy is in the basement while his wife lives on the top floor. His children leave food, medication and vitamins at their doors.

Stacy, who has been following the rapid spread of the virus, had attributed his early symptoms of COVID-19 to allergies. He and the family spent a wonderful day outside in their backyard grilling about a week ago. The Browns live on half an acre, so they have lots of space and aren’t right next door to anyone. They began experiencing symptoms shortly thereafter.

“My wife had a slight temperature, and in my case, I still have not had a temperature. I’ve had a sore throat all week and at night it gets worse,” says Brown.

After having trouble with his chest, back, breathing and a headache, Brown and his wife headed to the Emergency Room at their local hospital where they received chest x-rays and throat swabs.

“The doctor said we definitely have the virus,” his voice dropping. “The ER doctor is a specialist in infectious diseases and says the more cases she sees, the more she believes it’s in the air,” he added.

Brown and his wife were diagnosed based on

their symptoms and sent home with prescriptions for Tylenol and inhalers. “We’re not at the point yet where we need to be on ventilators, but if our symptoms don’t improve, then we’ll have to be admitted and isolated.” The Browns have fluid in their lungs and Stacy has an underlying condition.

Brown understands the severity of the situation having three children at home. They have held conference calls with all of their children regarding end-of-life care and decisions that would have to be made, which is sobering.

Brown has tried to make a case for testing the girls to see if they have it, but the hospital won’t hear of it. “I have tried to talk them into testing the girls, so we’ll have some idea of their status, but the doctor says the hospital won’t allow it,” he says. “The fact they’re asymptomatic and young means they don’t get the test. Even though they say children handle the virus better, we’re learning that isn’t necessarily true in some cases,” he adds.

Stacy sounds like himself although a little winded. While he is clearly worried, he is also optimistic and encourages people to stay home and have end-of-life conversations.

“Black people don’t always have these difficult discussions with their families, but it is important to do so now because there is so little known about this virus,” he says. “My symptoms started with a rash on my ankles which I attributed to washing my clothes with bleach. The doctor said people have been reporting rashes as something they experience before the other more known symptoms such as difficulty breathing, which I had never heard before.”

Brown realizes he’s not a doctor and there are a lot of unknowns about COVID-19, but he says to listen to trusted scientists

and doctors. “Talk to people who are going to speak with authority who know what they’re talking about and get the right information like James E.K. Hildreth, M.D., president and chief executive officer of Meharry Medical College, who is one of the top experts on infectious diseases in the world,” he adds.

In addition to trusting experts in the field, Brown suggests that folks continue practicing social distancing, wear masks and limit leaving the house as much as possible. Brown was checking the mail periodically before but says now that he has no plans to continue doing so.

He wants people to do everything they can to avoid COVID-19. “Listen to the experts and listen to your inner voice,” he cautions. “When I first learned of the seriousness of COVID-19, I discontinued a medication for an underlying condition that suppresses your immune system. Had I not done that, I might very well have ended up in ICU on a ventilator,” Brown said. “I’m not advocating skipping your medication but talk to your doctor and if you can make it without meds that suppress your immune system for a little while, then you should think about it.”

Brown is thinking about a lot of factors as he and his wife face the biggest fight of their lives.

“I was already afraid of it, so I wasn’t taking any unnecessary chances. Now I’m more afraid because I still got it. My wife has it too,” he laments.

When asked what he wants the readers to know, Brown pauses momentarily. “Don’t be a hero. The only heroes are the health-care professionals,” he offers. “The bottom line is COVID-19 is real. It is not a game or a conspiracy. It is here and spreading rapidly and we must take as many precautions as possible to stay safe.”

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

COVID-19 TESTING AVAILABLE IN DALLAS

Criteria for COVID-19 Testing

Anyone who is exhibiting the below symptoms of the disease can be tested at one of the drive-thru site:

- Shortness of breath
- Cough
- Must show a temperature of 99.6 or higher

Note: Dallas will accept people to be tested from other counties if they meet the criteria.

Location of Drive-Thru Testing Sites

Parking Lot E at the American Airlines Center, which is located at 2500 Victory Avenue in Dallas.

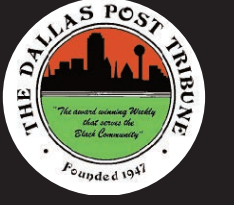
The Ellis Davis Field House, which is at 9191 South Polk Street in Dallas.

Both drive-thru testing sites will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

Please note, due to limited supply, there are only 250 tests per day, per site.



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As the world and our Nation face the challenge of responding to the unprecedented and devastating impacts of the coronavirus (COVID-19), Congress' most recent response, the historic, bipartisan coronavirus legislation, was an important step towards addressing this crisis. It is imperative that emergency workers, American citizens, and our businesses—both large and small—have resources to help fight this pandemic and help stop the economic damage it's causing. However, this bill addresses the crisis in another significant way that has not received much attention, it includes support for research activities that will be critical to finding effective treatments for COVID-19.

Over the past century, innovation has proven to be an essential element of our efforts to successfully respond to medical crises. That is why as Chairwoman of House Science, Space, and Technology Committee, it was a priority of mine to ensure that this legislation included supplemental funding for our Federal research agencies. These resources will help the U.S. science and technolo-

gy enterprise find innovative solutions to stop the spread of this virus and find a vaccine, provide assistance to those already infected or on the front lines, and hopefully prevent pandemics like this in the future.

The Department of Energy is probably not the first name you think of when you consider agencies that may help us identify life-saving treatment to diseases. However, the Department's expertise and unique research facilities, such as high-end computing capabilities and biological research facilities, have already been actively engaged in expanding our understanding of COVID-19 and finding ways to stop it.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) supports foundational research across all fields of science and engineering. Many of today's medical diagnostic and therapeutic innovations would not have been possible without the basic research discoveries resulting from past NSF funding. Today's public health crisis is no exception. NSF is well positioned to support fast-tracked research grants to improve understanding of the COVID-19 virus,

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Why Funding for Research Matters

by Chairwoman Eddie Bernice Johnson



model the spread of the virus, and provide the basis for effective responses at the national, State and local levels.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the world's leading expert in measurement science, is poised to help ensure the validity and reliability of tests for the virus. In addition, through its support for innovation in advanced manufacturing, and especially through its support for the National Institute of Innovation in Manufacturing Biopharmaceuticals, NIST will use the funding in the stimulus to work with drug makers and university partners to accelerate efforts to manufacture new therapeutics and vaccines at scale once viable candidates emerge from clinical trials.

Additionally, this bill will keep Americans safe and informed by maintaining the National Weather Service's operations without interruption, providing funding to the Environmental Protection Agency's Science and Technology Account to research methods to reduce the risk from the environmental transmission of coronavirus by

means of contaminated surfaces or materials, and most importantly, providing \$100

Million for the purchase of personal protective equipment through the fire grants program.

I was also particularly proud to hear that three grants have been awarded by Health and Human Services to three institutions in the 30th Congressional district of our state: UT Southwestern Medical Center, Mission East Dallas and Metroplex Project, and Martin Luther King Jr Family Clinic. I look forward to seeing the good work that will come from them.

This supplemental funding for our research agencies included in the CARES Act is integral to combatting this virus and will help American citizens get through this public health crisis and hopefully help prevent crises like this in the future. I want to thank my colleagues who supported including funding for our research agencies and who came together to pass this bill. We have more to do, but this was an important step forward in defeating COVID-19.

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SPORTS PAGE

7 Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, April 9 H -76° L -55° 	Friday, April 10 H -71° L -55° 	Saturday, April 11 H -62° L -60° 	Sunday, April 12 H -75° L -42° 	Monday, April 13 H -55° L -42° 	Tuesday, April 14 H -57° L -42° 	Wednesday, April 15 H -60° L -44°
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AP source: Cowboys sign DE Aldon Smith, suspended since 2015



Schuyler Dixon
Associated Press

The Dallas Cowboys are taking a chance on another suspended defensive end, signing Aldon Smith to a contract while his playing status in the NFL is uncertain.

A person with direct knowledge of the deal said

Smith signed Wednesday with Dallas. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the deal hadn't been announced. Smith posted a picture of himself signing a document on Instagram and wrote, "Life is good. I'm thankful. I'm blessed. I'm a

Cowboy."

Smith hasn't played in the NFL since 2015, when he was suspended for violating the league's substance-abuse policy while with the Oakland Raiders.

The 30-year-old Smith had several legal issues as a player with San Francisco and Oakland. He was first suspended with the 49ers in 2014 before receiving a one-year ban in November 2015 with the Raiders.

Smith applied for reinstatement to the NFL in 2016, but that decision was initially deferred until the offseason and he never was granted reinstatement.

Smith was drafted seventh overall out of Missouri in 2011. He had 19 1/2 sacks in his second NFL season and was an All-Pro while helping San Francisco reach the Super Bowl. He has 47 1/2 sacks in 59 career games.

Acclaimed Houston Forward Times Columnist Tests Positive for Coronavirus, Admitted to ICU



Written by Stacy M. Brown

More than 825,000 people around the globe have been infected with the novel coronavirus, including at least 175,600 in America.

Now the coronavirus has hit a member of our family.

Jeffrey L. Boney, a multi-award-winning writer for the Houston Forward Times and the National Newspaper Publishers Association, is in the intensive care unit at United Memorial Medical Center in Houston after being diagnosed on Friday, March 27, with COVID-19.

"After experiencing several unconventional health symptoms during the early part of March, I decided to move forward with getting tested for the coronavirus - COVID-19," Boney wrote in a text to NNPA Newswire on Tuesday, March 31.


"The results came back Friday, and I'm currently in ICU, working with some of the top infectious disease doctors who are working diligently to ensure that I get completely healed and back home," stated Boney, who also serves as a councilman in Missouri City District B.

Boney, the founder and CEO of the nonprofit Texas Business Alliance,

said Texas Rep. Sheila Jackson-Lee was "extremely instrumental in connecting me to United Memorial Medical Center and Dr. Joseph Varon."

"When Rep. Jackson-Lee found out that I wasn't feeling well and that I had self-quarantined, she called me and asked why I hadn't told her that I had been dealing with some symptoms," Boney recalled.

"I told her that my primary care doctor had told me to self-quarantine. She told me to go to the hospital and that she would ensure that I got tested on the spot without delay. The chief medical officer,



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An Equal Opportunity Employer

April 1, 2020

Ed Bell Construction is a Dallas based heavy highway contractor doing business in the North Texas market since 1963. With clients such as TxDOT, Dallas County Public Works, and the Cities of Dallas, Fort Worth, Richardson and Mansfield (plus many others), we have a strong backlog of work in the highway market locally.

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News You Ought to Know

Judge: R Kelly must remain locked up amid coronavirus crisis

NEW YORK (AP) — A federal judge in New York on Tuesday denied R&B singer R. Kelly's request for release from jail in Chicago because he was concerned he could contract the coronavirus while behind bars.

"The defendant is currently in custody because of the risks that he will flee or attempt to obstruct, threaten or intimidate prospective witnesses," U.S. District Judge Ann Donnelly of Brooklyn

wrote in her denial. "The defendant has not explained how those risks have changed."

The 53-year-old Kelly has been in custody in the Metropolitan Correctional Center in downtown Chicago since he was indicted on federal child pornography, obstruction of justice and racketeering charges.

BREAKING: Texas Democratic Party Files Federal Lawsuit Against Governor Abbott and Secretary of State Ruth Hughes to Demand Vote-by-Mail Election

Austin, TX — the Texas Democratic Party filed a lawsuit in United States District Court against Governor Abbott, Secretary of State Ruth Hughes, the Travis County Clerk, and the Bexar County Elections Administrator in our ongoing effort to demand mail-in voting during the coronavirus pandemic.

The Texas Democratic Party contends that state law allows any voter to cast a mail-in ballot given the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Dr. Varon, was there to meet me and administer the test personally."

Boney admitted being unnerved by his status as a COVID-19 patient.

Initially, Boney said he thought he might have had a case of food poisoning because he didn't have the traditional COVID-19 symptoms.

"This has been an extremely unnerving journey of the unknown for both me and the medical team that is treating me because none of my symptoms were respiratory in nature, but were digestive," Boney remunerated.

"I didn't have a fever, I didn't have shortness of breath, and I wasn't coughing heavily," he said.

What Boney did experience was a loss of appetite, heavy diarrhea, and pain in his stomach.

"Naturally, one would

chalk that up to something like food poisoning or a stomach virus," Boney said. "I began coughing up blood, which disturbed the doctor who tested me for the coronavirus, and he told me to come in ASAP. It was later found that I had pneumonia on the lungs due to COVID-19. I had contracted the coronavirus."

The NNPA has honored Boney with Merit Awards for "Best News Story" and "Best Column Writing," "Best Feature Story," and the MillerCoors Messenger Awards for "Best Commentary" for his weekly column.

"I want to be extremely clear, I am in great spirits, and I plan to overcome this temporary challenge," Boney said.

"But, please know that this is a very serious epidemic, and anyone is susceptible. It is time for all

of us not only to know that this pandemic is real and affecting lives, but it is also time for us to take seriously all of the things that we are being asked to do by our local leaders and medical professionals."

"This is serious, and it is taking lives as well. I still have a myriad of issues to overcome relative to pneumonia in my lungs and significant blood clotting in my lung. I have to overcome reducing my increased heart rate because my heart is battling hard to protect my other organs against the attack on my body from the virus.

"We can't play with this. I am still battling over here and will see this through."

Updated on Sunday Night, April 5 - Jeffery has been released from the hospital in good condition.