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The Dallas Post Tribune

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SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

August 23 - 29, 2018

Lupe Valdez Gun was not Lost



DALLAS (AP) — Dallas County authorities say a new inventory search has turned up former sheriff Lupe Valdez's gun that was reported missing after she stepped down to run for Texas governor.

The Dallas County sheriff's department Tuesday apologized to Valdez for "any distress and hardship" after the Democratic nominee for governor faced questions surrounding the whereabouts of her on-duty weapon.

The 9mm Berretta was found in the department's property room. Spokesman Raul Reyna says Valdez "did what she was supposed to do" in returning the gun.

Valdez was sheriff for 13 years. She resigned in December to mount a longshot challenge against Republican Gov. Greg Abbott.

Abbott's campaign had attacked Valdez over reports of the missing firearm, tweeting that Valdez wants to run Texas "but can't even keep track of her gun."

Queen of Soul Aretha Franklin Dies at 76

By Stacy M. Brown (NNPA Newswire Contributor)



Aretha Franklin, arguably the greatest voice in music history, has died.

The Queen of Soul was 76.

"She will be so missed as a mother, sister, friend, cousin," said longtime friend Roger Friedman, who also covered the Queen of Soul for decades and originally broke the story about her cancer fight on showbiz411.com.

"Her legacy is larger than life," Friedman said. "It's not just that 'Rolling Stone' called her the No. 1 singer of all time, or that she's the Queen of Soul. Long live the Queen."

Franklin passed away at her home on Thursday, August 16.

"The NNPA profoundly mourns the passing of our beloved 'Sister Leader' and Queen of Soul Aretha Franklin," said NNPA President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr. "Her creative genius was matched by her steadfast courage as a freedom-fighting singer and leader for civil rights. Black America and all people of goodwill throughout the world will miss her, but her legacy will never be forgotten."

Dr. Chavis continued: "Long live the spirit and legacy of Queen Aretha Franklin."

Dorothy Leavell, the chairman of the NNPA and publisher of the Crusader newspapers in Chicago and Gary, Ind., said that she was saddened by the loss of the music icon.

"I send a message of sadness and respect for our beloved Queen whose musical genius [shined brightly] and resounded around the world," Leavell said.

The fourth of five children, Aretha Louise Franklin was born on March 25, 1942, in Memphis, Tennessee, to Baptist preacher Reverend Clarence La Vaughan "C.L." Franklin and Barbara Siggers Franklin, a gospel singer, according to her biography.

Franklin's musical gifts became apparent at an early age. Largely self-taught, she was regarded as a child prodigy. A gifted pianist with a powerful voice, Franklin got her start singing in front of her father's congregation.

By the age of 14, she had recorded some of her earliest tracks at his church, which were released by a small label as the album "Songs of Faith" in 1956. She also performed with C.L.'s traveling revival show and, while on tour, befriended gospel greats such as Mahalia Jackson, Sam Cooke and Clara Ward.

Hitting her stride in 1967 and 1968, Franklin churned out a string of hit singles that would become enduring classics, showcasing Franklin's powerful voice and gospel roots in a pop framework.

In 1967, the album "I Never Loved a Man (The Way I Love You)" was released, and the first song on the album, "Respect"—an empowered cover of an Otis Redding track—reached No. 1 on both the R&B and pop charts and won Aretha her first two Grammy Awards.

She also had Top 10 hits with "Baby I Love You," "Think," "Chain of Fools," "I Say a Little Prayer," "(Sweet Sweet Baby) Since You've Been Gone" and "(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman."

Franklin's chart dominance soon earned her the title Queen of Soul, while at the same time she also became a symbol of Black empowerment during the Civil Rights Movement of the time.

In 1968, Franklin was enlisted to perform at the funeral of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during which she paid tribute to her father's fallen friend with a heartfelt rendition of "Precious Lord."

Continues on Page 2

COHEN IMPLICATES TRUMP IN HUSH MONEY PAYOFF SCHEME BEFORE ELECTION

WASHINGTON (AP) — Moments after Donald Trump's former personal attorney implicated the president of the United States in a felony, Sen. John Cornyn declared "People who do bad things, who break the law need to be held accountable."

Cornyn, the No. 2 Republican in the Senate, quickly made clear his statement wasn't aimed at Trump.

For Republicans, Tuesday's courtroom drama revived an uncomfortable and all-too-familiar predicament. On a seemingly weekly basis, party leaders and lawmakers have found themselves trying to explain away a slew of Trump-generated controversies, hoping that occasionally stern statements can carry them through until the latest round of chaos blows over. It's a strategy the party has leaned on through Trump's refusal to unequivocally blame Russia for meddling in the 2016 election, through his statements equally blaming white supremacists and counter protesters for violent clashes in Charlottesville, Virginia, and through his numerous insults aimed at women and minorities.

But Trump attorney and fixer Michael Cohen's extraordinary plea deal — it came less than an hour after former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort was found guilty of eight financial crimes — ups the pressure on the GOP in a midterm election year.

Cohen's plea marks the first time a Trump associate has been found guilty of a crime directly related to the 2016 election. And it's a crime Cohen says Trump was not only aware of, but personally involved in carrying out.

"This is a huge threshold we just crossed today," said Zac Petkanas, a Democratic operative who specializes in Trump opposition research.

Yet the initial response from Republicans offered little indication that the party planned to treat Cohen's revelations any different than the numerous other controversies that have dogged Trump during his 17 months in office. Most GOP lawmakers simply said nothing about Cohen's guilty plea. One of the few statements from Republican leaders came from an unnamed spokesperson for House Speaker Paul Ryan, who said the speaker was aware of Cohen's plea to "these serious charges" and needed "more information than is currently available at this point."



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**PRESS ROOM: NAACP CALLS FOR
INVESTIGATION INTO AIR MARSHALLS
TARGETING OF BLACK PASSENGERS**

IN THIS ISSUE...

EDITORIAL - PAGE 2



In the city that claims him,
Ben Carson falls from grace

SPORTS - PAGE 5



MLB OFFICIALS INCREASE DIVERSITY EFFORTS

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK



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EDITORIAL PAGE

Queen of Soul Aretha Franklin Dies at 76

Continued from Page 1

Later that year, she was also selected to sing the national anthem to begin the Democratic National Convention in Chicago.

In 1987, Franklin became the first female artist to be inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and was also awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Detroit.

Prior to her passing this week, Stevie Wonder and the Rev. Jesse Jackson were among those who paid a visit to her at her home in Detroit.

"I prayed with her," Jackson said.

In a statement, former President Barack Obama lauded Franklin as "The Queen."

"America has no royalty but we do have a chance to earn something more enduring," Obama said. "For more than six decades since, every time she sang, we were all graced with a glimpse of the divine. Through her compositions and unmatched musicianship, Aretha helped define the American experience."

Obama's statement continued: "In her voice, we could

feel our history, all of it and in every shade—our power and our pain, our darkness and our light, our quest for redemption and our hard-won respect. She helped us feel more connected to each other, more hopeful, more human."

And, Obama added, sometimes she helped us just forget about everything else and dance.

"Aretha may have passed on to a better place, but the gift of her music remains to inspire us all," Obama said. "May the Queen of Soul rest in eternal peace. Michelle

and I send our prayers and warmest sympathies to her family and all those moved by her song."

A public viewing will be held Aug. 28-29 at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. each day.

The funeral, at 10 a.m. Aug. 31, will be limited to family members, friends and selected guests and is expected to draw dignitaries, musicians and other high-profile figures from around the world.

All Services will be in her hometown, Detroit, MI.



Rev. Johnny C. Smith
Editorial Columnist

"A SURVEY OF THE BOOK OF ROMANS"

ROMANS 5:12-21

THE NEED OF GOD'S PROVIDED RIGHTEOUSNESS IN VIEW OF ADAM'S INITIAL SIN

Paul, the grand Apostle of the book of Romans, has proven that both Jews and Gentiles were guilty before God because "all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). Thus, mankind who was under the sentence of sin, needed God's provided righteousness offered through the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ. To gain God's provided righteousness, mankind needed to be justified by faith; and when mankind places his faith in the finished work of Christ, he is said to be justified (declared righteous) (Romans 5:1).

In this superb section of Paul's letter to the Romans (5:12-21), Paul will discuss the magnitude of Adam's initial act of disobedience in

the Garden of Eden and the impact his sin had upon the entire human race. The impact of Adam's initial sin in the Garden of Eden made all of us sinners (v. 12). The sin of Adam was imputed to us all because Adam acted as the Federal Head of the human race. When Adam sinned, we are said to have sinned in Adam; thus, God saw us all in Adam. Thus, the one sin of Adam, brought death upon all of his offspring! We are all made sinners by Adam's sin. We need to understand that we are sinners by imputation. Adam's one act of disobedience constituted us all sinners. Because of Adam's sin, the entire human race is under the sentence of death.

In verse 13, from Adam to

Moses, sin was in the world, but at that time sin was not a transgression. Although there was no specific law, mankind was still judged because he was a sinner. Although mankind from Adam to Moses had not received the Ten Commandments, death still reigned because mankind was a sinner (v. 14).

By a contrastive nature, the transgression of Adam brought physical death to the entire human race with exception of Enoch and Elijah; on the other hand, through the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, grace abounded to many, even being available to all who might believe (v. 15). Whereas one transgression plunged the race into sin; however, the one act of obe-

dience and the death of Christ upon a rugged cross makes it possible for lost humanity to be saved (v. 16).

In verse 17, although death reigns like a tyrant over all, God's free gift of grace will reign in life. In verses 18-20, Paul is contrasting the principle of the imputation of sin and its result received through Adam with the imputation of righteousness and its result received through Christ. The federal headship of both Adam and Christ is clearly contrasted! Although sin has reigned through death, God has provided righteousness through Jesus Christ (v. 21).

May God Bless!

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A Message from

The Dallas Post Tribune Editor

We welcome letters to the editor. Submissions must be signed, addressed and must include a daytime and an evening phone number. Please limit submissions to 350 words. We reserve the right to edit and correct all submissions although; every effort will be made to retain the intended meaning of the submission. Send your submissions via email to production@dallasposttrib.net or by mail to P.O. Box 570769, Dallas, Texas 75357-0769.

In the city that claims him, Ben Carson falls from grace



BALTIMORE (AP) — The portrait used to hang in the hallway, welcoming children and parents to the Archbishop Borders School in Baltimore: a smiling Dr. Ben Carson in surgical scrubs, rubbing together the careful, steady hands that helped him become the nation's most famous black doctor.

"The person who has the most to do with your success is you," it reads.

That was before Carson's presidential bid, before he withdrew from the race and endorsed Donald Trump, and before he was tapped to run the Department of Housing and Urban Development. It was before the president failed to condemn white supremacists who marched in Charlottesville, Virginia. And before Carson pushed policies critics say walk back civil rights protections for those living in subsidized housing.

"I took it down," said Principal Alicia Freeman of the portrait she's since moved from the school's second floor hallway to a less visible spot inside a reading room bearing Carson's name. The doctor's inspirational message now feels hostile, she said "He was starting to become offensive."

Carson's story of climbing out of poverty to become a world-renowned surgeon was once ubiquitous in Baltimore, where Carson made his name. In some schools his memoir was required reading, an illustration of the power of perseverance. For a working-class, majority African-American city wracked by racial division and neglect — where a baby born in a wealthy white neighborhood is expected to live two decades longer than one in a poor black area — Ben Carson was hope.

But his role in the Trump administration has added a complicated epilogue, leaving many who admired him feeling betrayed, unable to separate him from the politics of a president widely rejected by African-Americans here. In the last presidential election, nearly 85 percent of city voters cast ballots for Hillary Clinton.

"The Trump virus is weakening Ben Carson's image," said Bishop Frank Reid, a former pastor at Baltimore's Bethel AME Church who met Carson at Yale, where both received their bachelor's degrees. Carson is still respected, Reid said. "But he is no longer the hero he once was."

Carson declined to be interviewed for this story. Instead, he sent a written statement.

"I understand what it means to be poor because I grew up poor," the statement said. "I was fortunate to have my mother who was my compass - always steering me on course, helping me to see beyond our circumstances. That's what I hope to do for the millions of low-income families HUD serves."

Congresswoman Johnson Announces Opposition to Trump's Roll Back of the Clean Power Plan

Dallas, TX — Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson today released the following statement announcing her opposition to the Trump Administration's proposal to reverse the Obama Administration's Clean Power Plan, which is projected to only reduce pollutant emissions by a negligible amount by 2030 whereas the Obama Administration plan would have cut emissions by 19 percent:

"Once again President Trump has decided to ignore science and put the health of the American people and our environment at risk. It is appalling that President Trump's EPA was just touting the fact that harmful air pollutants have dropped by 73 percent since the Clean Air Act was enacted at the very same time they were working to roll back the clock on that very achievement.

"Instead of promoting innovation and the creation of new jobs in the renewable energy industry, this Administration insists we continue to creep further back into the dark ages. This action falls in line with a long and growing list of the Trump Administration's attack on the environment and public health. We should continue working to do what it takes to improve our air quality, not sacrificing our Nation's health to benefit the pockets of coal industry executives. I hope that we do not lose our momentum in the fight for better air quality and mitigation of climate change due to the President's obsession with the coal industry."

Church Directory

Baptist

Greater New Zion Baptist Church
2210 Pine Street, Dallas, TX 75215
P. 214-421-4119 Email: gnz2210@sbcglobal.net



Rev. Joe S. Patterson, Pastor

Services
Bible Study
Tuesdays @ 11:00 a.m.
Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m.

Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Carver Heights Baptist Church

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



Pastor, Daryl R. Carter

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

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Rev. J.L. Eades, Jr., Pastor

Schedule of Services

Sunday School - 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Brotherhood (1st & 3rd Wed.) - 8:00 p.m.
Senior Mission (1st & 3rd Wed.) - 8:00 p.m.
Adult & Youth Bible Study (Fri.) - 7:00 p.m.

True Lee Missionary Baptist Church

3907-11 Bertrand Street
Dallas, Texas 75210
P. 214-421-9435
F. 214-421-0324



Pastor Donald R. Parish, Sr.

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

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5th Sunday, Combined Worship: 10:00 am
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Wednesdays: 7pm
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Dr. Ronald Jones, Senior Pastor

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214.421.5296
Fax 214.421.1531
Website:

New Hope Bapt-Dallas.org
Email:

1newhope4all@sbcglobal.net

Sunday School 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:45 AM
Wednesday Midday Bible Study 12:00 Noon
Wednesday Mid Week Bible Study 6:00 PM

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- 8AM
Church School- 9AM
Morning Worship- 10AM

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www.mountmoriahdallas.org
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Morning Worship 11:00 A.M.
Awake Club 8:30 P.M.
Evening Bible
Exposition 5:30 P.M.
The Lord's Supper 1st Sunday 5:30 P.M.

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Awake Club 7:00 P.M.
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Evening Worship 5:30 PM

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Greenville Avenue Church of Christ

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Richardson, Texas 75081
P. 972-644-2335 F. 972-644-9347



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Associate Ministers:

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Ben Myers
Patrick Worthey

Elders:

Harlee Glover
Fred Green
Raymond Hart
David Phillips, Jr.
Johnnie Rodgers, Sr.

Schedule of Services

SUNDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

Prayer Service - 6:30 p.m.
Bible Class - 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Bible Class - 11:00 a.m.

Dallas West Church of Christ

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.

Wednesday Bible Class

9:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Sunday Radio Broadcast

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Bible Class

8:45 a.m.

Children Worship

10:00 a.m.

Worship Service

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Vote 2018 Town Hall

DENTON, TX – (August 15, 2018) The St. James A.M.E. Church partners with the Martin Luther King Jr. Advisory Board to present the Vote 2018 Town Hall. It will be held Thursday, September 20, 2018, from 7-9 p.m., at the Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Center, located at 1300 Wilson in Denton. This forum wants to ensure that eligible voters are informed about the changes in the Texas voting laws, and that they are able to cast their votes in the November 6 Election.

The forum plans to answer questions about the voter ID laws, documents required for voting, election protection, voter suppression and redistricting. Individuals can register to vote and make address and name changes in our onsite Voter Registration Drive.

The guest speakers are Texas State Senator Royce West of Dallas and National Voting Rights Coordinator Justin Kwasa of the Washington, DC-based Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. Mr. Kwasa will speak about the obstacles to voting rights in Texas while Senator Royce offers a message to prepare citizens for the midterm elections.

Emily Meisner of Denton Vote Group will explain the voting requirements. Participants can ask questions to an expert panel, which includes: Johnnie Berkley, Texas Department of Public Safety; Bob Lydia, Texas NAACP; Willie Hudspeth, Denton County Branch NAACP; Lillian Adams, LULAC; Christina Adkins, Texas Secretary of State; Sharon Watkins Jones, ACLU of Texas; Courtney Cross, League of Women Voters of Denton; and Paula Paschal, Denton County Elections.

Who should attend? All unregistered voters; those who need photo IDs; 18-24 year-olds; college students; ex-offenders; senior citizens; uninformed voters; and anyone interested in the new voting laws.

According to a University of Houston (April 10, 2017) study, there is "widespread confusion about the state's identification rules" ahead of the elections. And such misunderstandings may keep some eligible voters from showing up to the polls. Prior to the 2016 elections, "the requirements were replaced after a federal appeals court ruled that Texas' strict 2011 ID law discriminated against minority voters." Since then, there have been some other rulings related to the law. In June, the Supreme Court decision ruled that states could purge voters for failure to vote in two consecutive federal elections, which will greatly disenfranchise minorities, veterans, and low-income and disabled people. Therefore, many Texans still do not have a good understanding of the rules and other changes that might affect their ability to cast a ballot in the upcoming elections. In view of the recent purge law, every voter should check with their local election offices to ensure they are registered to vote.

"Our democracy thrives when people are prepared and have the right information to exercise fully their civic duty," said Pastor Mason Rice, Jr. of St. James A.M.E. Church. "We are committed to moral and social issues including voting rights, and these can be best accomplished through education. We need to vote and to stay informed about leaders who will make laws and policy that affect our faith, our families and our freedom." He added, "This voters' education forum is free to the public, and everyone is invited to attend."

The sponsors of this town hall include: NAACP, League of Women Voters of Denton, Denton Vote Group, and University of North Texas Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. Zeta Beta Chapter.

St. James A.M.E. Church is celebrating its 143rd year of serving the Denton community. In 1985, it was designated as an historical landmark.

The Dallas Post Tribune Prayer List

**If you have love ones who are no longer in need of prayer,
please call 214.946.7678 to notify us of the necessary removal.**

Dr. T.R. Lee, Jr.'s Family
Mr. Fred Allen II
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Allen
Rev. Curtis Anderson
Mrs. Sheila Bailey
Mrs. Mary Batts
Mr. Marshall Batts
The Baylock Family
Mr. Jimmy Bell
Ms. Evelyn Blackshear
Mr. Marcus Bolden
Mrs. Gwen Brewer
Mr. Otis Brooks
Ms. Christine Brown
Mr. Robert Brown
Mrs. Emma Calahan
Ms. Adrienne D. Carr
Mrs. Alavastine Carr
Mr. & Mrs. James Carr & Kids
F. Cox

**Mr. Terry & Mrs. RueNette
Chambers & Families**
Camp Wisdom Church Family
Mrs. Anita Clay
Mr. Elester Coleman
Mr. L.C. Coleman
Theodora Conyers Family
B. Barden
Mr. & Mrs. Eli Davis
Mrs. Betty Davis
Ms. Sonya Day
Mrs. Betty Deming
Mrs. Ann Edwards
Bro. Micheal Erby
Mr. Nathan Faniel
Ms. Joan Fowler
The Gray & Davis Family
Mr. Robert Greene
Mr. Able Gomez
Mrs. Dorothy Love-Griffin

Mrs. Kattie Hall
Mrs. Ruth Harris
Mr. Sam Henry
Mr. & Mrs. Lupe Hernandez
Mrs. Alma Hunstberry
Donna Hunt Family
Mrs. Joan Fowler & Family
Mrs. E.D. Jackson
Mr. Fred Jackson
Mrs. Ruth Jackson
Ms. Jean Johnson
Mrs. Opal Jones' Family
Kennedy Family
Mr. Alexis Lacy
Mrs. Dorothy Lee
Mrs. Joyce Lester
Mrs. Patricia Matthews
Mrs. Fannie McClure
Mr. James McClure
Mrs. Algeria Merrell

Mrs. Larry Mitchell
Mr. Jimmy Moore
Ms. Destiny K. Morgan
Mr. Cornell Neally
Ms. Dana Norris
Our Military Service Personnel
President Barack Obama
Sis. Jewel Perrio
Mr. Jimmie Lee Pritchett
Mrs. A. Polk
Ms. Carrena Polk
Mrs. Homer Reagan
Dr. Maxine Reese
Mrs. Ruth Robinson
Dr. C.C. Russeau
Mrs. Odetta Russeau
Mr. Jose (Joe) Sandoval
Mrs. Joyce Stanifer & Lee Family
Mrs. Standford
Mr. Artist Thornton

Mrs. Ruby Arterbrey Thompson
Bro. Willie Tucker
Mr. Arthur Turner
Rev. S.T. Tuston, Jr.
Mr. Michael Vick
Mrs. Peggy Walker- Brown
Mr. Waylon Wallace
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Mrs. Claudia Washington
Mrs. S.W. Washington
Mrs. Mytris Jones-Watkins
Mr. & Mrs. Weatherman
Mrs. Ann Williams
Mrs. Barbara Sweet Williams
Mr. Richard Williams
Mr. Shelder Williams
Mrs. Vita Williams
Dr. George Willis
Mr. Frank Wood
Lawrence & Marder Church

SPORTS PAGE

7 Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, August 23	Friday, August 24	Saturday, August 25	Sunday, August 26	Monday, August 27	Tuesday, August 28	Wednesday, August 29
H - 100° L - 78°	H - 101° L - 77°	H - 99° L - 78°	H - 98° L - 77°	H - 98° L - 78°	H - 97° L - 77°	H - 97° L - 77°

MLB OFFICIALS INCREASE DIVERSITY EFFORTS



By Tyvan Burns, Diamond Durant, Denver Lark (#TeamOptimistic, NNPA DTU Journalism Fellowship)

Dating back to 1947, when Jackie Robinson became the first African American Major League Baseball (MLB) player for the Brooklyn Dodgers, increasing diversity and inclusion continue to be two of the league's most important objectives.

As the league's Deputy Commissioner for Baseball Administration, Dan Halem has taken on those missions.

Growing up in central New Jersey, Halem played, watched, and loved baseball.

Now Halem oversees legal affairs, labor relations, baseball operations, human resources, the Department of Investigations, and diversity efforts for the league. Halem said that he wants to bring baseball to areas and kids that otherwise

would not be exposed to it. "We are encouraged by our draft results and we have had more African Americans players drafted in the last five years than we've had in [previous] years," Halem said. "The way to have more diversity amongst our players is to create as many opportunities for kids to play baseball, as possible."

Halem continued: "African American [children] will play baseball, if you bring it to them and organize it, just like any kids. The league needs to organize things to make it easier for them; if we take away the barriers...they'll play."

The league's efforts to increase diversity on the field and in the front office come at a time when 42.5 percent of all players in the MLB are minorities, according to The Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport (TIDES). However, less than eight percent of MLB players are Black, African American or

African Canadian. In 1991, nearly 20 percent of all players were African American.

In 2016, the league launched the Fostering Inclusion through Education and Leadership Development (FIELD) program to increase minority participation in professional baseball. The Undefeated reported that, "FIELD offers its participants access to a vast network of sports professionals, from the commissioner's office to individual minor league clubs."

Last year, the league created a fellowship program designed to advance diversity in the front office, The Shadow League reported.

Halem acknowledged that, over time, baseball has evolved tremendously.

"Baseball has become more sophisticated and has really begun to understand that it's an entertainment product that competes with other products for people's attention," Halem said. "[Baseball] has to adapt to stay relevant and competitive in this market place. The league has been much more focused on promoting our players, as individuals, and using social media more."

Halem also said that he wants to create scholarships and training opportunities for aspiring journalists interested in writing about baseball, in an effort to increase awareness about the sport and grow the league's fan base.

Rep. Jim Clyburn Says the Black Press Is Essential to 2018 Midterms

By Stacy M. Brown (NNPA Newswire Contributor)

While there's at least a perceived growing number of Democrats who say they want to replace California Rep. Nancy Pelosi as the Democratic leader in the House of Representatives, South Carolina Rep. Jim Clyburn has emerged as a favorite among his peers to become the first African American to hold that position.

In an exclusive interview with the NNPA Newswire, the 25-year congressman said that, while he's ready for the challenge, Democrats currently have much bigger fish to fry.

"The first order of business is to win the [midterm] elections on November 6," Clyburn said. "That's what I've been concentrating on."

Clyburn and Congressional Black Caucus Chair Cedric Richmond each told the NNPA Newswire that they've identified 37 districts across the country they believe can be won by Democrats this year, which would wrest control of the House from Republicans.

"We feel, with the right kind of effort, we can win," Clyburn said.

Clyburn listed three keys to success this November.

The first key, Clyburn said, is to prioritize the Black vote; Democrats can't afford to take the African American vote for granted.

Second, the Democrats shouldn't rely on an anti-President Donald Trump wave to get out the vote. Finally, Clyburn said that candidates must advertise in the Black Press, if they want to win in November.

"We are also talking about districts where Barack Obama won twice and where Hillary Clinton also won, but these voters don't turn out for the so-called 'off-year elections,'" Clyburn said. "We can't let these voters feel like we're taking them for granted."

Clyburn, 78, said he was recently taken aback by one candidate, who said that he could win the Black vote by running on an anti-Trump platform.

"Wait one second," Clyburn said that he told the individual. "We can't just go around being 'Republican-light.' We have to be out there putting forth an alter-

native message, for our base, and we have to reach out to Black voters and let them know we're not taking them or any of our base for granted."

To that end, Clyburn said advertising campaigns must largely include the Black Press.

"It's very, very important...Chairman Richmond and I have had candidates in and we've been telling them that one of the best ways to demonstrate that you're not taking the Black vote for granted is to advertise in the Black Press," Clyburn said.

The National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) is the oldest and largest trade group representing the Black Press, comprised of more than 200 Black-owned newspapers operating in the United States.

"I've been in [the Black Press]. My daughter and I ran a newspaper down South, so I know that candidates tend to take Black media for granted," Clyburn said. "They tend to judge Black media the same way they do other media and you just can't do that, because the business model is totally different."

Each Sunday after attending Morris Brown A.M.E. Church in Charleston, S.C., Clyburn said he and other churchgoers habitually pick up the local Black-owned newspaper.

"People tend to pay attention to the headlines, the stories and the ads in the Black Press so it's vitally important that candidates know this," Clyburn said.

A former history teacher, Clyburn said Trump's obsession with dismantling Obama's legacy is reminiscent of tactics employed by Andrew Johnson to demean his predecessor, Abraham Lincoln.

Johnson, who was impeached by House, had a vision of America as a White man's government, according to historians.

"If you remember, it's the same kind of reaction Johnson had to Lincoln and I remember sitting alone once in the Oval Office with Obama and I told him that this would be the kind of reaction he could expect," Clyburn said.

"[Obama] was never going to get the kind of respect for his presidency that was shown to presidents before

him," Clyburn said. "The narrative that exists in this country is that there are certain things that Black folks are not supposed to do and one of those things is becoming the president of the United States and [President Trump] and his administration, feel they have to do whatever they can to wipe out any semblance that Barack Obama was ever president of the United States."

Clyburn continued: "[Trump] has a deep-seated hatred for people of color and it manifests itself every day."

Though he doesn't support or agree politically with former Trump aide Omarosa Manigault Newman, Clyburn said he was deeply troubled when Trump referred to her as a "low life" and a "dog."

"I'm the father of three daughters and I'm deeply insulted by the president of the United States referring to an African American woman the way he referred to her," he said. "Politics aside, I'm insulted that the president of the United States would denigrate the office in this way."

Clyburn continued: "The president asked an important question when he was running, 'What do we have to lose?' Well, we have lost dignity and the respect of the presidency, because of his coarseness in the office. When you lose respect, you've lost about everything there is to lose."

While he still supports Pelosi, Clyburn said that if the Democrats take back the House, he's up for the job as speaker.

"I have always supported her, but I have always remembered a sermon I heard my father give a number of times," Clyburn said. "That sermon stayed with me and he said, 'keep your lamps trimmed and burning to be ready when the bridegroom comes.' My point is, I've never forgotten that sermon so I keep my lamp burning so I'm ready."

Stacy Brown is an NNPA Newswire Contributor and co-author of "Michael Jackson: The Man Behind the Mask: An Insider's Story of the King of Pop." Follow Stacy on Twitter @stacybrownmedia.

This article was originally published on BlackPressUSA.com.



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Allstate and Tom Joyner Celebrate Family, Fun and Fellowship - Labor Day Weekend at the 16th Annual Allstate Tom Joyner Family Reunion

Kissimmee, FL, August 21, 2018 – Tom Joyner, host of the nationally syndicated Tom Joyner Morning Show®, and Allstate Insurance Company are celebrating the importance of family fun for every generation at the 2018 Allstate Tom Joyner Family Reunion®. The prominent event, now in its 16th year, will be held at the Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center in Kissimmee, FL this Labor Day weekend August 30–September 3.

Attracting more than 25,000 people annually, the Allstate Tom Joyner Family Reunion®

welcomes families from all over the country for a weekend filled with concerts, celebrity interactions, enlightening seminars, one of the largest family themed expos for the African-American community, a theme park option, shopping, College Day featuring prominent colleges and universities - poised to accept applications - and endless themed activities. The event's free Fam-Fest Expo is open to the public the entire weekend and guests can also enjoy passes to Universal Orlando® theme park.

This year's event will feature concerts from legendary R&B, Soul, Funk band Maze featuring Frankie Beverly on Friday; R&B group Bell Biv DeVoe (BBD) and Comedian Rickey Smiley on Saturday; and an entire day of inspiration with Sunday's Gospel Explosion presenting Erica Campbell with more celebrities to be announced.

The weekend officially kicks off with a party hosted by Tom Joyner and LIVE performances on Thursday. Friday morning, The Tom Joyner Morning Show will broadcast its annual Sky Show® live with a performance that is open to the public from 6:00am – 10:00am ET.

"Every year, we create a fun, entertainment-filled atmosphere that truly celebrates families and what we love," said Joyner, whose radio show airs in markets all over the country. "I am so proud to continue this tradition and know it will be our best year yet." Initiated in 2003, Joyner's annual "Party with a Purpose®" for families has featured a stellar lineup of today's hottest entertainers. Tom Joyner radio affiliate Star 94.5/Orlando will invite the Central Florida audience to participate throughout the weekend.

Allstate is giving Tom Joyner Morning Show listeners a chance to win a trip to the 2018 Allstate Tom Joyner Family Reunion. From July 11th to August 10th, visit BlackAmericaWeb.com to share your Stories of Strength to enter for a chance to win.

For more information about the 2018 Allstate Tom Joyner Family Reunion® and to see a full schedule of events, visit BlackAmericaWeb.com.

About the Tom Joyner Morning Show

The nation's leading syndicated urban morning show has distinguished itself over the years by continuously giving back to its audience with quality programming, highly popular promotions, special events and philanthropy.



Beto with Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson

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