

"I gave a little blood on that bridge in Selma, Alabama for the right to vote. I am not going to stand by and let the Supreme Court take the right to vote away from us."

~ John Lewis ~



# The Dallas Post Tribune

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SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

December 8 - 14, 2022

## GEORGIA SENATE RUNOFF

# Democratic Sen. Warnock wins Georgia runoff against Walker

By BILL BARROW and JEFF AMY



Democratic Sen. Raphael Warnock speaks during an election day canvass launch on Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022, in Norcross, Ga. (AP Photo/Brynn Anderson)

ATLANTA (AP) — Democratic Sen. Raphael Warnock defeated Republican challenger Herschel Walker in a Georgia runoff election Tuesday, ensuring Democrats an outright majority in the Senate for the rest of President Joe Biden's current term and capping an underwhelming midterm cycle for the GOP in the last major vote of the year.

With Warnock's second runoff victory in as many years, Democrats will have a 51-49 Senate majority, gaining a seat from the current 50-50 split with John Fetterman's victory in Pennsylvania. There will be divided government, however, with Republicans having narrowly flipped House control.

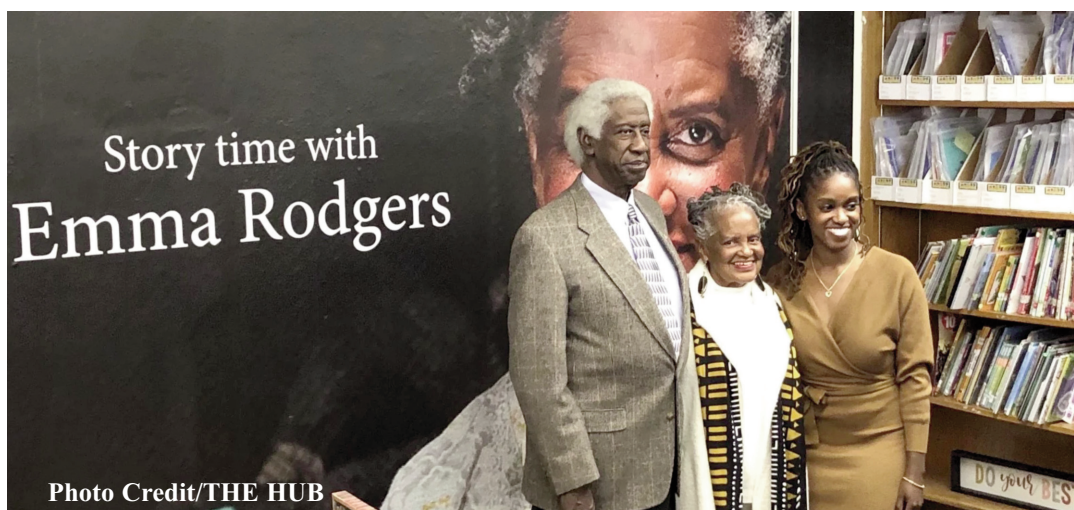
"After a hard-fought campaign — or, should I say,

campaigns — it is my honor to utter the four most powerful words ever spoken in a democracy: The people have spoken," Warnock, 53, told jubilant supporters who packed a downtown Atlanta hotel ballroom.

"I often say that a vote is a kind of prayer for the world we desire for ourselves and for our children," declared Warnock, a Baptist pastor and his state's first Black senator. "Georgia, you have been praying with your lips and your legs, your hands and your feet, your heads and your hearts. You have put in the hard work, and here we are standing together."

In last month's election, Warnock led Walker by 37,000 votes out of almost 4 million cast, but fell short of the 50% threshold needed to

Continue **Warnock** Page 2



Story time with Emma Rodgers

Photo Credit/THE HUB

## School renamed for Otto M. Fridia library dedicated to Emma Rodgers

- Article Page 6 -



Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, of Ky., speaks during a news conference with members of the Senate Republican leadership, Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022, on Capitol Hill in Washington. (AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

## Trump's Constitution remarks put McConnell, GOP on defense

By LISA MASCARO

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell delivered another rebuke of former President Donald Trump on Tuesday, saying that anyone who thinks the Constitution can be suspended would have a "very hard time" becoming president in the United States.

The comment marked the second time in as many weeks that McConnell and

Continue **GOP** page 4



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# EDITORIAL PAGE

## OP-ED: Proposed Journalism Competition Preservation Act Negative Impact on Small Minority-Owned Newspapers

*“JCPA Is A Blank Check for Large Corporate Media, but Leaves Small Minority-Owned News Out in the Cold”*

By **Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr.**  
President and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA)



*While a number of conglomerates are scoped into the bill, true independent or small newspapers are explicitly excluded from the legislation because the bill says that an eligible publisher must earn more than \$100,000 per year. (Photo Credit/NNPA File)*

hedge funds and private equity firms like Alden Global Capital or by media behemoths like Gannett, Lee Enterprises and McClatchy. For these media companies, a local newspaper is an asset for profit – not a valuable source of local information. Big media chains acquire newspapers, lay off journalists and staff, drive down wages and shutter publications forever – as they spend millions on executive salaries and stock buybacks.

Now, these same media companies and hedge funds are a step closer to receiving huge payouts – without any accountability or transparency to direct funds to local journalism and journalists. The JCPA would require tech platforms to carry and pay any eligible news publisher for “access” to content. While this may, again, seem well intentioned at first look, upon deeper inspection the law defines “access” so broadly it will require payment for simply crawling a website or sharing a link. Similarly, while a number of conglomerates are scoped into the bill, true independent or small newspapers are explicitly excluded from the legislation because the bill says that an eligible publisher must earn more than \$100,000 per year.

Many African American and other BIPOC news outlets are independently

owned. Furthermore, these news outlets have developed and grown their audiences because mainstream media publications excluded the perspectives of minority voices. The Black Press built our own news outlets to support our own voices. As a result, this legislation would only further reinforce harmful racial exclusion trends, rather than actually help smaller local publications like those in the NNPA.

Similarly, recent amendments to the bill requiring non-discrimination would require platforms to carry and pay for hate speech and objectionable content that could be harmful to BIPOC communities. If passed, the JCPA would boost misinformation and extremist content. News publications from either side of the aisle that support extremist views will not only receive money, but tech platforms will be required to carry them on their services. This will make it even harder for platforms to moderate harmful and false content. We know that communities like ours will suffer most.

Congress and the Senate should reject the current draft of the JCPA and go back to the drawing board on real solutions for America’s local news problems – solutions that benefit all Americans, instead of just giving handouts to the biggest media corporations in the nation.

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The 2023 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay Contest is open to high school seniors attending a City of Dallas high school. These scholarships are to help defray the cost of tuition, books, room and board, etc. Winners will be required to submit a short video of their scholarship acceptance and will be formally recognized at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship & Awards Gala on January 14, 2023.

Submission Deadline: November 30, 2022

Access the scholarship application at: [bit.ly/MLKScholarship23](http://bit.ly/MLKScholarship23)

Prior scholarship winners are ineligible to apply.

In September, lawmakers in Washington rushed through major legislation that would reward massive, legacy media corporations at the expense of smaller community-focused and minority-owned newspapers. While the Journalism Competition Preservation Act (JCPA) is meant to protect publications like those in the National Newspaper Publishers Association, it would ultimately threaten our ability to inform our communities, line the pockets of massive media conglomerates and hedge funds, and lead to the proliferation of harmful misinformation. Good intentions sometimes have negative and counterproductive consequences.

The goal to foster quality, local journalism and journalist jobs is well-intentioned. Local news outlets provide Americans with important information about the political, economic and cultural issues that matter to them. The news industry has reached an inflection point, and much work is still needed to secure a bright and sustainable future for minority-owned publications.

Newspaper employment has fallen by 70% in the past 15 years, and 20% of America’s counties are at risk of becoming news deserts. The top 25 media chains now own a third of all U.S. newspapers. Thousands of newspapers have been acquired by

Continued **Warnock** Page 1

avoid a runoff. The senator appeared to be headed for a wider final margin in Tuesday’s runoff, with Walker, a football legend at the University of Georgia and in the NFL, unable to overcome a bevy of damaging allegations, including claims that he paid for two former girlfriends’ abortions despite supporting a national ban on the procedure.

“The numbers look like they’re not going to add up,” Walker, an ally and friend of former President Donald Trump, told supporters late Tuesday at the College Football Hall of Fame in downtown Atlanta. “There’s no excuses in life, and I’m not going to make any excuses now because we put up one heck of a fight.”

Democrats’ Georgia victory solidifies the state’s place as a Deep South battleground two years after Warnock and fellow Georgia

Democrat Jon Ossoff won 2021 runoff that gave the party Senate control just months after Biden became the first Democratic presidential candidate in 30 years to win Georgia. Voters returned Warnock to the Senate in the same cycle they reelected Republican Gov. Brian Kemp by a comfortable margin and chose an all-GOP slate of statewide constitutional officers.

Walker’s defeat bookends the GOP’s struggles this year to win with flawed candidates cast from Trump’s mold, a blow to the former president as he builds his third White House bid ahead of 2024.

Democrats’ new outright majority in the Senate means the party will no longer have to negotiate a power-sharing deal with Republicans and won’t have to rely on Vice President Kamala Harris to break as many tie votes.

National Democrats celebrated Tuesday, with Biden

tweeting a photo of his congratulatory phone call to the senator. “Georgia voters stood up for our democracy, rejected Ultra MAGAism, and ... sent a good man back to the Senate,” Biden tweeted, referencing Trump’s “Make America Great Again” slogan.

About 1.9 million runoff votes were cast in Georgia by mail and during early voting. A robust Election Day turnout added about 1.4 million more, slightly more than the Election Day totals in November and in 2020.

Total turnout still trailed the 2021 runoff turnout of about 4.5 million. Voting rights groups pointed to changes made by state lawmakers after the 2020 election that shortened the period for runoffs, from nine weeks to four, as a reason for the decline in early and mail voting.

Warnock emphasized his willingness to work across the aisle and his personal

values, buoyed by his status as senior pastor of Atlanta’s Ebenezer Baptist Church, where civil rights icon Martin Luther King Jr. once preached.

Walker benefited during the campaign from nearly unmatched name recognition from his football career, yet was dogged by questions about his fitness for office.

A multimillionaire businessman, Walker faced questions about his past, including his exaggerations of his business achievements, academic credentials and philanthropic activities.

In his personal life, Walker faced new attention on his ex-wife’s previous accounts of domestic violence, including details that he once held a gun to her head and threatened to kill her. He has never denied those specifics and wrote of his violent tendencies in a 2008 memoir that attributed the behavior to mental illness.

# Church Directory

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2510 E. Ledbetter, Dallas, Texas 75216  
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**Pastor Daryl R. Carter**

Sunday School - 8:30 a.m.  
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Bible Classes 5:00 p.m.  
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.

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Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

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Support Groups 6:30 p.m.

## I CORINTHIANS STUDY

### I CORINTHIANS 7:1-40

*THE SUBJECT OF MARRIAGE*

By Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith

The instruction Paul gave with reference to our bodies being the Temple of the Holy Spirit (I Corinthians 6:19-20) would have great relevance to the subject of marriage in Chapter 7. Paul is addressing some questions presented to him by the Corinthians on this important subject. Other questions posed to the Apostle Paul included such topics as personal liberty (I Corinthians 8:1-11:1), church order (I Corinthians 11:2-14:40), and doctrine (I Corinthians 15).

In verses 1-4, due to the immoral society of Corinth, Paul elevates marriage greatly to its heights, but he does not depreciate the good state of celibacy. One should not attempt to maintain a celibate lifestyle apart from the enablement of God (v. 7) because it will only lead to immorality. Moreover, Paul emphasized the importance of both the husband and wife satisfying the needs of one another.

To understand verse 5, there were some in Corinth who were trying to practice celibacy within marriage. However, such a practice sometimes led to immorality on the part of the other mate. In addition, Paul stated that sexual relations can be abstained from only when three conditions are met: "it is mutual consent, for a short time only, and for the purpose of devoting oneself to prayer." Paul was cautious in stating that the previous instruction of verse 5 was not a commandment but would aid the couple to avert the temptations of the flesh (v. 6).

Each believer can attest to the fact that the wiles of Satan are powerful; never-the-less, we gain victory over Satan's stratagems only as we yield to the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:16). According to verse 7, many scholars advance that Paul was unmarried. Paul preferred the unmarried state and he advanced that not everyone

is called to be married. Each person must seek his own calling, to marriage or singleness, and view it as a gift from God. Paul insists that the unmarried state is honorable; however, those presently unmarried are free to marry and should do so if their sexual desires are strong (vv. 8-9).

Paul's commandment to Christians married to one another was not to divorce! When problems occurred in a Christian marriage, the resolution was to be sought in reconciliation (Ephesians 4:32), not in divorce (vv. 10-11). Paul continued conveying instructions on the subject of marriage; moreover, now he discusses when believers are married to unbelievers (vv. 12-15). Paul affirmed that the same principles should operate in a believer-unbeliever marriage as in a marriage of believers: as a rule, no divorce. A Christian husband must not divorce an unbelieving wife, nor should a Christian wife divorce an unbelieving husband. Again, the Christian is not to initiate a divorce, even if the spouse is an unbeliever.

The presence of the believer is an important factor in setting aside any children for faith in the Lord. The Christian spouse served as a channel of God's grace in such a union. The Christian spouse's godly influence can affect the family; in this case, the unbelieving spouse was sanctified, and the children were holy. In the case where the unbeliever abandons the marriage, then the believer in the marriage is to consider himself or herself unbound (vv. 15-16). The believer is now unbound and free to remarry because the unbeliever has deserted the marriage! The passage is not intended to cover every possible marital situation. But there is a strong stress on faithfulness, and on grace. When one person's faithfulness is rejected and a spouse abandoned, release is given for remarriage.

In verses 17-24, Paul advocates that every believer should abide in his or her calling. Every believer is free in abiding in his or her calling. An important verse to consider is found in verse 24: "Brethren, let every man wherein he is called, therein abide with God." From verses 25-35, Paul is careful to note that he is not passing on a divine command when he observes that there are advantages to being unmarried. The married person must think of how to please his or her spouse. The single person can focus on pleasing the Lord. To Paul the single state seems better. Again, Paul makes it clear that God will guide each individual into his or her own calling.

Finally, in verses 36-40, Paul says those who are widowed and unmarried are free to marry another believer. But Paul cannot resist expressing again his feelings that there are great advantages in not being married.

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## NEWS

### City of Dallas and developers break ground on new innovative mixed-income development to meet affordable housing needs in Old East Dallas

Dallas – City leaders, along with Saigebrook Development and O-SDA Industries, two women-owned and HUB-certified real estate firms committed to meeting affordable housing needs in Texas, are breaking ground on a new \$25 million mixed-income housing community that will bring 87 units of high-quality affordable and market-rate housing to a rapidly growing Old East Dallas neighborhood.

“Dallas is booming, and that means we need to bring more quality housing to our city. We are working closely with some great partners to make this happen,” Dallas Mayor Eric Johnson said. “This partnership can help us bring new life to a great neighborhood and will provide new affordable options to our families. I am excited to break ground on this project — and thrilled to see this community continue to thrive.”

“The City is extremely proud of the partnership with Saigebrook Development and O-SDA Industries for Kiva East in Old East Dallas. I am supportive of the project and the affordability aspect of it, as it will allow for many mixed income families to live in East Dallas,” District 2 Council Member Jesse Moreno said. “The proximity and connectivity to the Santa Fe Trail and Old East Dallas Work Yard Park will allow for revitalization of the area, where families live, play, and enjoy our parks. The Kiva East project provides much-needed mixed-income housing with class A amenities along with access to early childhood education and other amenities for the residents of District 2. This partnership is an example of how working together can ensure safe parks for families and increase the participation of both sides to create a safer community.”

Continue City Page 5

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Continued GOP Page 1

other Republicans have been compelled to denounce Trump’s words and actions since the former president announced he is running again for the presidency in 2024.

It’s a dynamic that vexed the GOP throughout Trump’s first campaign and presidency, but one that has taken on a less forgiving tone now that Trump is facing the prospect of a competitive primary and top Republican strategists and funders increasingly say the party

would be best served by moving on.

“Let me just say that anyone seeking the presidency who thinks the Constitution can somehow be suspended or not followed, it seems to me, would have a very hard time being sworn in as President of the United States,” McConnell said at the Capitol.

McConnell was responding to Trump’s stunningly anti-Democratic statement Saturday following revelations of what he cast as Twitter’s unfair treatment of him during the 2020 presi-

dential election that he lost to Joe Biden. Trump, who has repeatedly called for the election to be overturned, wrote on his social media app, “A Massive Fraud of this type and magnitude allows for the termination of all rules, regulations, and articles, even those found in the Constitution.”

McConnell’s words Tuesday were nearly identical to those he used last week, when he also opened his weekly press conference preemptively responding to questions about the former president’s behavior after

Trump’s dinner with a white nationalist Holocaust denier and a rapper who has made a series of antisemitic statements.

The senator said then that there was “no room in the Republican Party for antisemitism or white supremacy,” adding, “Anyone meeting with people advocating that point of view, in my judgment, are highly unlikely to ever be elected president of the United States.”

Reaction from other Republicans has also been

Continue GOP Page 5

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# SPORTS/NEWS PAGE

## Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, Dec. 8	Friday, Dec 9	Saturday, Dec. 10	Sunday, Dec. 11	Monday, Dec. 12	Tuesday, Dec. 13	Wednesday, Dec. 14
H - 72° L - 60°	H - 66° L - 61°	H - 66° L - 56°	H - 68° L - 59°	H - 70° L - 60°	H - 60° L - 40°	H - 49° L - 37°

### WRs Lamb, Gallup shining for Cowboys ahead of Beckham visit

By SCHUYLER DIXON



Dallas Cowboys' Michael Gallup (13) makes a touchdown catch against Indianapolis Colts' Isaiah Rodgers (34) during the second half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Dec. 4, 2022, in Arlington, Texas. (AP Photo/Michael Ainsworth)

FRISCO, Texas (AP) — Dallas receivers CeeDee Lamb and Michael Gallup are shining with the Cowboys set to fete Odell Beckham Jr. on a free-agent visit.

In the past month, Lamb has the only 100-yard games of the season for a Dallas wideout, along with three touchdowns. Gallup just had his first two-TD game since tearing an ACL last January.

All the talk now, though, is about Beckham, who started his career with the NFC East rival Giants against the Cowboys, who will spend Monday and Tuesday trying to convince the 30-year-old to sign.

If Beckham is thinking about adding a second Super Bowl ring after tearing the ACL in his left knee while winning the title with the Los Angeles Rams in February, Dallas (9-3)

didn't hurt its case with a 33-point fourth quarter in a 54-19 rout of Indianapolis on Sunday night.

"I mean, we're winning, look at us," Lamb said. "Put yourself in this offense and kind of envision it. We're distributing the ball very well, and I'm sure as hell he would love it. I'm sure."

Beckham spent most of Monday at the team's swanky headquarters and practice facility in Frisco,

30 miles north of Dallas. Coach Mike McCarthy said the day included a medical review of the three-time Pro Bowler.

Star defensive players Micah Parsons and Trevon Diggs accompanied Beckham to Monday night's NBA game between the Dallas Mavericks and Phoenix Suns. They sat courtside next to the Phoenix bench in Cowboys owner Jerry Jones' seats.

Beckham politely declined to discuss his visit with reporters when he arrived at the Mavericks' arena in downtown Dallas. Former star Cowboys receiver Dez Bryant also greeted Beckham at the game.

On Tuesday, Beckham is set to meet with the team's leadership council, a players-only group headed by quarterback Dak Prescott.

Beckham met last week with the Giants, where he spent his first five seasons and had one of the best catches in NFL history against the Cowboys in 2015. He spent part of this past weekend with the Buffalo Bills, strong Super Bowl contenders led by quarterback Josh Allen.

### Former slave born in Dallas who became Texas' 1st Black dentist honored for being trailblazer

By Alex Boyer/FOX 4 TV



Photo Credit/FOX 4 TV

DALLAS - A former slave from Texas is being honored for being a trailblazer.

Dr. Marcellus Clayton Cooper was enslaved on a farm in Dallas in 1862, before later becoming the state's first Black dentist. He also co-founded Dallas' first Black bank.

At a dedication ceremony at Communities Foundation of Texas in Dallas, descendants of a former Texas slave took part in a tribute to his lasting legacy.

Dr. Cooper was born enslaved on the Caruth Farm in Dallas in 1862.

On Wednesday, a historical marker was unveiled outside what is now known

as the Caruth homeplace, where Cooper spent the early part of his childhood.

"To be honest, I never knew exactly where the plantation was," said Lewis Rhone, who is Cooper's oldest living grandson.

Rhone said Cooper's home, located off Villars Street, is still standing. All the neighbors knew of him.

"There were people who said they could set their clocks by him walking. They knew exactly what time he would walk by the house," Rhone said.

Cooper's life after emancipation was remarkable.

He saved up money for college by working as an elevator operator at Sanger Brothers.

He later became the first licensed Black dentist in the state of Texas.

Last March, Texas A&M School of Dentistry dedicated their Dr. M.C. Cooper Dental Clinic to provide urgent and comprehensive dental care for low income, uninsured individuals in the South Dallas community.

His grandson finds that

Continue **Slave** Page 6

Continued City Page 4

With support from the City of Dallas, Kiva East secured critical financing to execute the development, including \$2.48 million in HOME Investment Partnerships Funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The HOME funds were awarded through the City of Dallas' Department of Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization's standing

Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) process to support the development of mixed-income housing throughout the city and to ensure affordability for a period of 20 years.

The project also received a loan from LISC's Dallas Housing Opportunity Fund, which invests in and alongside local developers to create and preserve affordable housing options for households earning at or below 120% of the area median income. Other partners

include Hudson Housing Capital, Citibank, Legacy Bank, and the Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation. Kiva East will offer 71 of its units at rents affordable to households making between 30% and 60% of area median income and the remaining 16 units at market rate through a partnership with the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, and the use of Housing Tax Credit financing.

The property has direct

access to the Santa Fe Trail, a wide walk-able and bike-able concrete path that connects Deep Ellum to White Rock Lake. Additionally, Kiva East will serve as the home to Bezos Academy, a tuition-free, Montessori-inspired pre-school. The school will have two classrooms and follow a full-day, year-round schedule, providing 40 children with early childhood education. Bezos Academy signed a 10-year lease agreement with Kiva East and the

Bezos Foundation will fund the interior build out of the school space.

"We are proud of the unique community that we are creating with Kiva East," said Owner and President of Saigebrook Development Lisa Stephens. "The development exemplifies the ideal high-quality mixed-income housing community. We leveraged cutting edge partnerships to go beyond just meeting affordable housing needs and create an enriched

living experience for our residents" said Stephens.

Kiva East will be National Green Building Standard (NGBS) certified. Units will feature high-efficiency appliances and lighting, solid surface counters, tiled kitchen backsplashes and vinyl plank flooring. Community amenities will include a fully furnished two-story clubhouse with a community room, business center, leasing center, fitness center, splash pad and bicycle parking.

Continued GOP Page 4

critical, even as many GOP officials remain unwilling to directly confront Trump, who remains popular with the party's base.

Speaking Tuesday in South Carolina, Mike Pence, Trump's former vice president, said that "anyone who serves in public office, anyone who aspires to serve in public office or serve again in public office should make it clear that they will support and defend the Constitution of the United States."

Pence, who is widely expected to challenge Trump for the 2024 nomination, added that while he believes Americans are eager for a return to the policies of the Trump White House, "I real-

ly do believe that they want to move on to leadership that shows respect for our greatest traditions and respect for Americans, whatever their viewpoint."

On Monday, Sen. Mike Rounds, R-S.D., said in a tweeted statement: "Anyone who desires to lead our country must commit to protecting the Constitution. They should not threaten to terminate it."

"I don't think there was an escape clause to not defend the Constitution," added Sen. Roy Blunt, R-Mo.

McConnell, as the Republican leader trying to steer his party in a post-Trump era, faces an endless task of reacting to the former president's outbursts. The two men have not spoken

since McConnell agreed to the Electoral College tally for Biden at the end of 2020, and Trump has repeatedly lashed out at McConnell at rallies and in social media posts, calling for his ouster.

Still, McConnell deflected questions Tuesday over whether he could support Trump if he becomes the Republican Party's 2024 presidential nominee.

Instead, the Senate GOP leader reiterated the difficulty of taking the oath, which requires the president-elect to defend the Constitution.

"It would be pretty hard to be sworn into the presidency if you're not willing to uphold the Constitution," McConnell said.

Trump's Saturday embrace of authoritarianism

is the latest controversy in a young campaign that has thus far included no public events and no travel to early-voting states. Instead, It has been dominated by the backlash to his dinner with the artist previously known as Kanye West and Nick Fuentes, a known white nationalist and Holocaust denier. Trump has said he was unaware of who Fuentes was when they met.

Trump received another setback Tuesday when his namesake company was convicted of tax fraud for helping executives dodge taxes on lavish perks such as Manhattan apartments and luxury cars, in a significant repudiation of financial practices at the former president's business.

While Trump himself was not on trial, a jury found two corporate entities at the Trump Organization guilty on all 17 counts, including conspiracy charges and falsifying business records.

Republicans have been unable to firmly reject Trump as their potential nominee even as many of them try to distance themselves from his recent activities.

House GOP leader Kevin McCarthy, who is in line to become the House speaker when Republicans take control in the new year, has yet to respond to Trump, but told reporters at the Capitol he fully supports the Constitution.

Republican Rep. Liz Cheney, a staunch Trump

critic, tweeted directly at McCarthy to denounce Trump's statement.

"This week Trump said we should terminate all rules, regulations etc 'even those in the Constitution' to overturn the election. Are you so utterly without principle that you won't condemn this either?" she asked.

White House spokesperson Andrew Bates also took issue with some members' silence. "Asking Members of Congress to reaffirm their oath of office and uphold the Constitution should not be a heavy lift," he said in a statement.

"Congressional Republicans need to do that immediately, instead of repeatedly refusing to answer the most basic question."

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## School renamed for Otto M. Fridia library dedicated to Emma Rodgers

By THE HUB/Photo Creit



Fridia, and to dedicate the school's library to literacy advocate Emma Rodgers. Both Mr. Fridia – who passed away in 2000 – and Ms. Rodgers were pillars of the community, devoted their lives to education, and the event was an opportunity to honor their legacy and commitment to the school and community.

Dallas ISD Executive Director Lisa Curry celebrated Mr. Fridia's career, from his beginning as a teacher at Booker T. Washington after serving in the military during World War II, to becoming the first African American acting as general superintendent for Dallas ISD, in 1987.

Mr. Fridia's sister and niece took the podium to emphasize the importance that he placed on education. "He used to remind us to take pride in always striving for excellence," they remembered.

Deputy Chief Leslie

Williams made an unscripted appearance and shared that he is best friends with Mr. Fridia's son. Saying that Mr. Fridia inspired respect from everyone who met him, Williams recalled the advice he gave him as he began his own path as a school principal.

"He said, 'don't take the keys until you've seen the audit because once you take over, you'll be responsible for everything,'" Williams remembered jokingly.

Afterward, it was Mrs. Rodgers's turn to be celebrated. Both Principal Christofor Stephens and District 6 Trustee Joyce Foreman celebrated her involvement in the community as an activist and volunteer for student tutoring and at the library that now bears her name.

"I am honored to be linked to the Fridia family now through this school," Rodgers said.

Students, staff, and community members gathered Saturday for a combined cel-

bration: to rename the former Thornton Elementary for Dallas educator Otto M.

Continued **Slave Page 5** fitting.

"His clientele, there was no barriers," Rhone said. Communities Foundation of Texas manages the W. W.

Caruth Jr. Fund. The organization's chief diversity, equity, and inclusion officer said it continues to accelerate the work Caruth Jr. began by funding big ideas, like Cooper's his-

torical marker, that have the potential for transformative impact.

"We're striving for a community where everyone has equitable opportunities," Reo Pruiett said.

Equity was important to Cooper, who also co-founded Dallas' first Black bank. It closed during the depression.

"They didn't have the FDIC at the time, so he had to sell some of his assets,"



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Rhone explained.

Generations later, the Cooper family still has its roots firmly planted in Dallas.

"We're a very proud family," Rhone added.

Within its first year, the Dr. M.C. Cooper Dental Clinic had more than 1,800 patient visits, and that number doubled in 2022.

His legacy certainly lives on.