

“Nothing in the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity.” ~ Dr. Martin Luther King



The Dallas Post Tribune

2726 S. Beckley Ave • Dallas, Texas 75224
P.O. Box 570769 Dallas, Texas 75357 - 0769

ISSN # 0746-7303



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VOLUME 74 NUMBER 17

SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

January 6 - 12, 2022



RECALLING JAN. 6 A NATIONAL DAY OF INFAMY HALF REMEMBERED

AP Photo/Andrew Harnik, File

Article Page 2

Voting Rights Battle Ahead in Early 2022

By Lauren Victoria Burke, NNPA Newswire Contributor

Advocates to protect the vote have been pushing Biden and Congress to move ahead affirmatively for months. On December 21, officials in Lincoln County Georgia, a county that is nearly one-third Black, proposed closing 6 polling sites for 2022. The decision comes after Republicans took over the local election board.

In 2021, 440 bills to restrict voting access were introduced in 49 states. Nineteen states passed 34 new laws making it more difficult to vote. There have been no cases cited demonstrating evidence of any widespread voter fraud. But the main focus of Trump Republicans is on unproven claims of fraud as they question the legitimacy of

the 2020 elections a year away from congressional midterms.

With the clear indication that Senators Joe Manchin (D-WV) and Kyrsten Sinema (D-Ariz.) are against changing the filibuster rules in the U.S. Senate, a big battle over the passage of the John Lewis

Continue **Voting** Page 5



The battle over voting rights is very likely to come to a head before March 2022.

IN MEMORIAM: Dr. Helen Chavis Othow Dies at 89



Funeral services for Dr. Othow are scheduled for 1 p.m. EST., Saturday, January 8 at the Chavis Family Cemetery in Oxford, North Carolina.

Written by Stacy M. Brown

Dr. Helen Chavis Othow, the beloved author, college professor and sister of National Newspaper Publishers Association President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., died at the age of 89 on January 1, 2022 in Oxford, North Carolina.

A lover of reading, writing, and history, Dr. Othow received her Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin in Madison and majored in Black studies and African, African American, and Caribbean literature.

She also studied Elizabethan and Medieval literature, and her disserta-

tion, “The New Decorum: Moral Perspectives of Black Literature,” was published in the Library of Congress.

Dr. Othow presented “Sundiata: An Epic of Old Mali by D.T. Niane,” that illustrated her appreciation and knowledge of African culture.

She expressed a desire to impart knowledge to all citizens of the world.

“My sister was also a freedom fighter,” Dr. Chavis remarked.

“The Chavis family has been fighting for freedom, justice, and equality for 250 years in America and in

Continue **Othow** Page 2

Interpreting the dream: Young orators will compete in finals of annual MLK Oratory Competition

BY HUB THE

Eight young orators will soon face off in Dallas ISD’s 30th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Oratory Competition. The fourth and fifth graders will speak on the topic: “How would Dr. King assess our progress in achieving his vision for America.”

The event, sponsored by the law firm Foley & Lardner LLP, will be streamed on the district’s website and on Facebook Live at 11 a.m., Friday, Jan. 14. It will be the highlight of a monthlong process in which dozens of students at 17 district schools participated by writing, memorizing and reciting their original essays on the assigned

topic.

The competition, a signature event for Dallas ISD, is a celebration of cultural diversity and an opportunity to spotlight talented students as they learn about the teachings of Dr. King.

Past years’ winners and participants have delivered their speeches to local and national audiences, making MLK Day appearances at city celebrations and appearing on local and national television programs, including CBS’ *The Early Show*, Fox 26 News, *Oprah*, *Good Morning America*, *The Today Show*

Continue **MLK** Page 6



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The Dallas Post Tribune is published weekly by the Tribune Publishing
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EDITORIAL PAGE

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

By Dr. Joyce Willard Teal



Boys can learn from almost anyone, but there are some things which fathers teach best to sons. There is a generational call to fathers to help boys become men. As we enter this Christmas Season, I want to share a list of the things which sons learn best from their fathers. If their biological fathers are not available, then the boys' mothers should seek other Godly men to instruct them.

There's a lot our sons need to learn from their dads, and it won't happen by osmosis. And they'll be gone from Dads' direct influence much sooner than expected. Too many dads might not have some of the skills and experiences to adequately provide all that is needed. When this is the situation, it's a good opportunity for Dads and their sons to learn together! Or perhaps the

Dads can learn something a little ahead of when they need to teach it to sons.

As I grow older and prayerfully observe what is taking place in our world, my conviction grows stronger that fathers need to sharpen their fathering skills. Our boys are staying boys far too long. Too many dads aren't giving them the kind of modeling that produces both toughness and tenderness. In my opinion, parents have abdicated far too much training to school teachers and youth pastors and sports coaches. And while these people are welcome to help with this process, it is the dads who bear the primary responsibility. When this doesn't happen, one unexpected consequence: sons think less of their fathers because their fathers aren't the ones guiding them.

Dads: you can avoid a lot of resentment. Even when your son doesn't like it, it's hard for him to resent you for doing things that are in his best interest. And while he will probably not articulate this for many years, if at all, he will still feel it.

I've grouped these guiding principles into three categories: *Mindsets, Relationships with Others, and Specific Skills and Experiences*. Some things might take only a few minutes for a boy to master. For others, mastery requires practice over several years. Some may be "caught" from Dads' modeling rather than specifically "taught." All are important. Each boy will need a custom-tailored approach to learn what he needs to learn. And I

believe that's why God put you in place, Dad!

DAD: Teach your son to:

- Honor God, his Creator
- Tell the truth, and keep promises as commitments
- Be self-controlled
- Keep soul-stifling fears in check
- Learn to accept that delayed gratification is sweeter
- Distinguish between needs and wants
- Always do his best
- That steady progress over a long time yields man-sized results
- Dream big dreams
- Realize he can either lead or abdicate leadership, but he can't outsource it

The guiding principles listed above involve lessons that can be categorized as mindsets. In the coming weeks, the column will continue to focus on guiding principles, and the specific focus will be *Relationships with Others*, and later on *Specific Skills and Experiences*.

If you are a dad, please seriously consider helping to guide your sons' mindset. **TEACH and MODEL!**

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Recalling Jan. 6: A national day of infamy, half remembered

By JAKE COYLE

NEW YORK (AP) — Beneath a pale winter light and the glare of television cameras, it seemed hard not to see the Jan. 6 U.S. Capitol riot for what it was. The violent storming of the Capitol by Donald Trump supporters bent on upending the election of Joe Biden was as clear as day: democracy under siege, live-streamed in real time.

Yet a year later, when it comes to a where-were-you moment in U.S. history, there is far from national consensus.

A Quinnipiac poll found

that 93% of Democrats considered it an attack on the government, but only 29% of Republicans agreed. In a recent CBS-YouGov poll, 85% of Democrats called the riot an "insurrection" while only 21% of GOP voters did. Republicans (56%) were more likely to explain the rioters as "defending freedom." A poll by The Associated Press and NORC Center for Public Affairs Research found that about 4 in 10 Republicans recall the attack — in which five people died — as violent, while 9 in 10 Democrats do.

Such a disparity in memory may be inevitable in our hyper-polarized politics, but it's striking given the stark clarity of Jan. 6 at the time and in its immediate aftermath. House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., said then that "the president bears responsibility" for the attacks. Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., then the majority leader, said: "They tried to disrupt our democracy. They failed."

But since that day, separate versions — one factual,

Continue Jan. 6 Page 4

Continued Othow Page 1



Dr. Helen Chavis Othow and brother, Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis

Africa." Born April 21, 1932, in Oxford, North Carolina, Dr. Othow was the daughter of Benjamin Franklin Chavis, Sr; a Prince Hall mason and superintendent of African American child-care institutions, and Elisabeth R. Chavis, a writer and public

school teacher for 65 years. A municipal park in Raleigh, North Carolina, bears the name of her ancestor educator, John Chavis (1763-1838).

The beloved scholar, Dr. Othow, also received a bachelor's degree from St. Augustine's College, and

she earned her master's at North Carolina Central University.

She eventually became head of the English Department at St. Augustine's College.

She was also widely acclaimed and respected as a conscientious scholar dedicated to enhancing excellence in the literary and other arts. Dr Othow also taught at the following Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs): Howard University, Johnson C. Smith University, North Carolina Central University, Hampton University, and Jackson State University.

Dr. Othow pushed for the understanding of African American history, including educating her students and others about John Chavis, who fought in the

Revolutionary War and became an educator who taught some of North Carolina's most influential leaders.

Dr. Othow is survived by her daughter, Ajulonyodier Elisabeth Othow, her brother, Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., and her sisters, Dr. La Rhoda Francine Chavis, MD and Carol Faye Paton, and a host of other relatives.

Funeral services for Dr. Othow are scheduled for 1 p.m. EST., Saturday, January 8 at the Chavis Family Cemetery in Oxford, North Carolina.

Condolences can be sent to Wright Funeral Home, Inc. at:

wfhoxf@embarqmail.com, or by visiting the funeral home's website at www.wrightfuneralhomeoxford.com.

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Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

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"THE BOLD WITNESSING OF PETER AND JOHN"

ACTS 4:23-31

By Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith



As we continue our study in Acts 4, Peter and John remained steadfast in boldly proclaiming the message of Christ's resurrection. Although threatened by the Sanhedrin Council to desist in preaching through Jesus the resurrection from the dead (Acts 4:2, 18), Peter and John affirmed "Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you

more than unto God, Judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." These men stood strong for the cause of Christ, even in the face of being threatened!

Witnessing for Christ has both its risks and gains. However, the gains are worth the pains. As a result of their powerful witness,

the church grew (Acts 4:4). Witnessing for Christ can indeed be risky; however, God will bless the faithful witness of His children!

After Peter and John boldly asserted their unwillingness to comply with the orders of the high priest, the Jewish leaders continued their threat (v. 21), and released them. Peter and John rehearsed their

matter to other believers, who engaged in a prayer of thanksgiving, acknowledging the sovereign power of God (vv. 23-24). In their petition, they did not ask God for deliverance from trouble, but that God's servants would be bold in proclaiming the word (v. 29).

In analyzing the church's prayer, it began with worship (v. 24);

further, it was offered in accordance to God's word (v. 25). Quoting from Psalm 2, even the enemies of God, could not thwart God's eternal plan! Even though the enemies of Christ tried to thwart God's plan, God's will was tremendously accomplished (vv. 25-28)! In the church's petition, she only petitioned that God's servants would speak fearlessly God's word. The church also requested that God's word would be confirmed by His miraculous signs and wonders through the name of Jesus.

God certainly

answered the petition of His saints by shaking the assembly of their gathering, with the result of them being filled with the Holy Spirit as they spoke the word with boldness (v. 31).

As believers today, we can also ask God for His boldness as we proclaim to the world that Jesus is the only hope for eternal life, for Acts 4:12 says, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."

May God Bless!



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US advisers endorse Pfizer COVID boosters for younger teens

By LAURAN NEERGAARD and MIKE STOBBE

Influential government advisers are strongly urging that teens as young as 12 get COVID-19 boosters as soon as they're eligible, a key move as the U.S. battles the omicron surge and schools struggle with how to restart classes amid the spike.

Continue Teens Page 5

NEWS YOU OUGHT TO KNOW

State climatologist: Texas had hottest December since 1889

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Last month was the hottest December in Texas since at least 1889, state Climatologist John Nielsen-Gammon said.

Gammon found that temperatures from Dallas through Abilene to Del Rio averaged 5 to 9 degrees above normal, according to a Texas A&M University news release issued Monday. Nielsen-Gammon is the school's regents professor of atmospheric sciences.

"It's like the entire state moved south for the winter," Nielsen-Gammon said. "Amarillo got Dallas's normal temperatures, Dallas got Corpus Christi's normal temperatures, and Austin got Brownsville's normal temperatures.

The official state record for the warmest December is held by December 1933, at 53.3 degrees. The 20th-century average for December is 46.9 degrees, he said.

Texas seasonal temperatures have been 2 degrees warmer on average than in the 20th century because of climate change, the climatologist said.

Lawyer: Texas dad didn't

know son accused in deaths had gun

GARLAND, Texas (AP) — An attorney for a man accused of driving his son to a Dallas-area gas station store where the 14-year-old is accused of fatally shooting three teens and wounding a fourth says the father didn't know his son had a gun.

Attorney Heath Harris told The Dallas Morning News he believes evidence will show that 33-year-old Richard Acosta, who is charged with capital murder, is innocent.

"Our position is he didn't do anything to solicit or encourage his son to do this," Harris said.

Acosta's son, Abel Elias Acosta, has been on the run since the Dec. 26 shooting in Garland. Police have charged the teen with capital murder and warned that he is armed and dangerous.

Richard Acosta, who surrendered to police a day after the shooting, remained in Dallas County jail Tuesday on \$3 million bond.

Surveillance video shows a shirtless boy or man with a handgun approaching the store in a crouching position. He swings the door open and shoots from the doorway.

Police said the shooter fired more than 20 rounds

from a .40-caliber pistol before fleeing in the Dodge Ram pickup driven by Acosta, who they said also brought the shooter to the gas station.

Harris said he thinks evidence will show that Acosta initially went into the store alone to pick up medicine for his wife and that after he got back into his pickup, his son said he needed something and went inside alone. Harris said the father heard gunfire but didn't know the source.

Harris said the son was hysterical when he ran back to the pickup and the father drove them home. The son then got into a car and fled, Harris said.

Governor Abbott, HHSC Announce Extension Of Emergency SNAP Benefits For January

AUSTIN — Governor Greg Abbott today announced the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) is providing more than \$307 million in emergency Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) food benefits for the month of January. The allotments are expected to help more than 1.5 million Texas households.

"This emergency SNAP support will ensure more than

1.5 million families can continue to put food on the table," said Governor Abbott. "Thanks to the USDA for their continued collaboration with HHSC to provide healthy meals to Texans across the state."

"As Texans ring in the new year, this additional support will help families start 2022 with food on the table for themselves and their children," said Texas HHS Access and Eligibility Services Deputy Executive Commissioner Wayne Salter.

HHSC received federal approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to extend the maximum, allowable amount of SNAP benefits to recipients based on family size, and all SNAP households will receive a minimum of \$95 in emergency allotments. This additional emergency allotment should appear in recipients' accounts by January 31.

SNAP is a federal program that provides food assistance to eligible low-income families and individuals in Texas. Texans in need can apply for benefits, including SNAP and Medicaid, at

YourTexasBenefits.com or use the *Your Texas Benefits mobile app* to manage their benefits.

Continued Jan. 6 Page 2

one fanciful — have taken hold. The Capitol riot — the violent culmination of a bid to delegitimize the 2020 election and block its certification — has morphed into a partisan "Rashomon," the classic Japanese film about a slaying told from varying and conflicting points of view. Indeed, the act of remembering can be a highly mercurial thing — particularly when deep-seated political views are involved.

"We keep using terms like post-factual, but it almost feels like there's this national psychosis or amnesia about what happened a year ago," says Charles Sykes, the former conservative Wisconsin radio host and founder of the website The Bulwark. "It's not just that we're two nations. It's as if we live on two different reality planets when it comes to the memory of Jan. 6.



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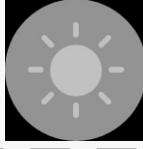





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Please visit our website: www.edbellconstruction.com/careers
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SPORTS/NEWS PAGE

Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, Jan. 6	Friday, Jan. 7	Saturday, Jan. 8	Sunday, Jan. 9	Monday, Jan. 10	Tuesday, Jan. 11	Wednesday, Jan. 12
 H - 41° L - 25°	 H - 50° L - 47°	 H - 65° L - 54°	 H - 57° L - 36°	 H - 52° L - 37°	 H - 54° L - 40°	 H - 56° L - 46°

Curry, Warriors set for matchup against the Mavericks

By The Associated Press

Golden State Warriors (28-7, first in the Western Conference) vs. Dallas Mavericks (18-18, fifth in the Western Conference)

Dallas; Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. EST

BOTTOM LINE: Stephen Curry leads Golden State into a matchup with Dallas. He currently ranks second in the NBA averaging 26.9 points per game.

The Mavericks are 16-10 in Western Conference games. Dallas ranks second in the Western Conference in team defense, giving up just 104.4 points while holding opponents to 45.8% shooting.

The Warriors are 16-4 against Western Conference opponents. Golden State has a 3-2 record in games decided by 3 points or fewer.

TOP PERFORMERS: Jalen Brunson is averaging 15.7 points and 5.4 assists for the Mavericks. Kristaps Porzingis is averaging 24.2 points over the last 10 games for Dallas.

Curry is averaging 26.9 points, 5.1 rebounds, 5.8 assists and 1.5 steals for the Warriors. Andrew Wiggins is averaging 21.3 points over the last 10 games for Golden State.

LAST 10 GAMES: Mavericks: 5-5, averaging 107.0 points, 42.2 rebounds, 26.5 assists, 7.2 steals and 3.7 blocks per game while shooting 46.0% from the field. Their opponents have averaged 102.5 points per game.

Warriors: 8-2, averaging 108.4 points, 43.7 rebounds, 28.6 assists, 8.4 steals and 6.0 blocks per game while shooting 48.1% from the field. Their

opponents have averaged 104.4 points.

INJURIES: Mavericks: Boban Marjanovic: out (health and safety protocols), Kristaps Porzingis: out (health and safety protocols), Willie Cauley-Stein: out (personal), Trey Burke: out (health and safety protocols), JaQuori McLaughlin: out (health and safety protocols), Reggie Bullock: out (health and safety protocols), Isaiah Thomas: out (health and safety protocols).

Warriors: Klay Thompson: out (right achilles), Andre Iguodala: out (knee), Moses Moody: out (health and safety protocols), Damion Lee: out (health and safety protocols), James Wiseman: out (knee), Andrew Wiggins: out (health and safety protocols).

Governor pardons Plessy, of 'separate but equal' ruling

By JANET McCONNAUGHEY

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Louisiana's governor on Wednesday posthumously pardoned Homer Plessy, the Black man whose arrest for refusing to leave a whites-only railroad car in 1892 to protest racial segregation sparked the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that cemented "separate but equal" into law for half a century.

The state Board of Pardons in November recommended the pardon for Plessy, who boarded the rail car as a member of a small civil rights group hoping to overturn a state law segregating trains. Instead, the protest led to the 1896 ruling known as Plessy v. Ferguson, solidifying whites-only spaces in public accommodations such as transportation, hotels and schools for decades.

At a ceremony held near the spot near where Plessy was arrested, Gov. John Bel Edwards said he was "beyond grateful" to help restore Plessy's "legacy of the rightness of his cause ... undefiled by the wrongness of his conviction."

Keith Plessy, whose great-great-grandfather was Plessy's cousin, called the event "truly a blessed day for our ancestors ... and for children not yet born."

Since the pardon board vote, "I've had the feeling that my feet are not touching the ground because my ancestors are carrying me," he said.

Justice Henry Billings Brown wrote in the 7-1 decision: "Legislation is powerless to eradicate racial instincts or to abolish racial distinctions based upon physical differences."

Justice John Harlan was

the only dissenting voice, writing that he believed the ruling "will, in time, prove to be quite as pernicious as the decision made by this tribunal in the Dred Scott Case" — an 1857 decision that said no Black person who had been enslaved or was descended from a slave could ever become a U.S. citizen.

The Plessy v. Ferguson ruling allowing racial segregation across American life stood as the law of the land until the Supreme Court unanimously overruled it in 1954, in Brown v. the Board of Education. Both cases argued that segregation laws violated the 14th Amendment's right to equal protection.

The Brown decision led to widespread public school desegregation and physical differences." Continue **Plessy** Page 6



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Continued **Voting** Page 1

Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2021 is ahead in early 2022.

The legislation will restore the Voting Rights Act of 1965 which was weakened in 2013 by the U.S. Supreme Court. Now that Democrats are in control of The White House, the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House, voting rights advocates are pushing hard for the passage of federal legislation that would protect voting.

After the 2020 election of President Biden, who defeated former President Donald Trump by over seven million votes, Trump's supporters have questioned the legitimacy of Biden's victory but have

provided no evidence. Several Republican States Secretaries around the U.S. certified Biden's election victory. The Capitol was attacked by Trump's supporters on January 6, 2020 on the day Biden's election was to be certified.

The issue of whether Senators Manchin or Sinema will support a voting rights exception to pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2021 isn't known. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) made it clear that the Senate would focus on voting rights in January. He made the affirmation days after Sen. Manchin announced he would vote against President Biden's signature legislation, Build Back

Better.

On December 23, President Biden made his views on the issue clear.

"If the only thing standing between getting voting rights legislation passed and not getting passed is the filibuster, I support making the exception of voting rights for the filibuster," President Biden said.

Advocates to protect the vote have been pushing Biden and Congress to move ahead affirmatively for months. On December 21, officials in Lincoln County Georgia, a county that is nearly one-third Black, proposed closing 6 polling sites for 2022. The decision comes after Republicans took over the local election board.

"SCOTUS decision gut-

ting Voting Rights Act written by John Roberts is leading to greatest rollback of voting access & fair representation since end of Reconstruction," wrote voting rights journalist Ari Berman.

"Republican-led legislatures across the South have redrawn election districts using fresh census data, and the new maps will leave many communities of color in the Black Belt — a region of over 600 counties with large Black populations stretching from East Texas to Virginia — with less political power," wrote Billy Corriher in "Facing South."

The battle over voting rights is very likely to come to a head before March 2022.

Continued **Teens** Page 4

All Americans 16 and older are encouraged to get a booster, which health authorities say offers the best chance at avoiding the highly contagious omicron variant. Earlier this week, the Food and Drug Administration authorized an extra Pfizer shot for kids ages 12 to 15 as well - but that wasn't the final hurdle.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention makes recommendations for vaccinations and on Wednesday, its advisers voted that a booster was safe for the younger teens and should be offered to them once enough time — five months — has passed since their last shot. And

while the CDC last month opened boosters as an option for 16- and 17-year-olds, the panel said that recommendation should be strengthened to say they "should" get the extra dose.

Vaccines still offer strong protection against serious illness from any type of COVID-19, including the highly contagious omicron variant, especially after a booster. But omicron can slip past a layer of the vaccines' protection to cause breakthrough infections.

Studies show a booster dose at least temporarily revs up virus-fighting antibodies to levels that offer the best chance at avoiding symptomatic infection, even from omicron.

**TODAY I TESTED
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TOMORROW I COULD
BE A PART OF THE CURE**



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TEST. JOIN. RISE ABOVE.

Continued MLK Page 1



Photo Credit/The Hub

- Arianna Garcia, 5th grade, L.L. Hotchkiss Elementary School
- Daniella Goffney-Mitchell, 4th grade, Thomas Tolbert Elementary School
- Kiyan Harrison, 4th grade, Jack Lowe Sr. Elementary School
- Diamond McKinney, 5th grade, Clara Oliver Elementary School
- Jaliaha Rodgers, 5th grade, J.P. Starks Math, Science, and Technology Vanguard
- Chance Taylor, 5th grade, Charles Rice Learning Center
- Tristan Whitfield, 5th grade, Paul L. Dunbar Learning Center
- Jackson Smith, 4th grade, MLK Arts Academy, will compete should one of the finalists be unable to participate.

and *The Ellen DeGeneres Show*.

In addition to the student speakers, the final competition will feature remarks from Superintendent Michael Hinojosa and representatives from Foley & Gardner LLP. Fox 4 News anchor Clarice Tinsley will host remotely, and a number

of community, civic and business leaders will be judging remotely.

Student winners of the competition will receive cash awards and gifts.

This year's contestants are:

- Zihair Douglas, 4th grade, T.L. Marsalis Elementary School

Continued Plessy Page 5

the eventual stripping away of Jim Crow laws that discriminated against Black Americans.

Plessy was a member of the Citizens Committee, a New Orleans group trying to overcome laws that rolled back post-Civil War advances in equality.

The 30-year-old shoemaker lacked the business, political and educational accomplishments of most of the other members, Keith Weldon Medley wrote in the book "We As Freemen: Plessy v. Ferguson." But his light skin — court papers described him as someone whose "one eighth African blood" was "not discern-

able" — positioned him for the train car protest.

"His one attribute was being white enough to gain access to the train and black enough to be arrested for doing so," Medley wrote.

Eight months after the ruling in his case, Plessy pleaded guilty and was fined \$25 at a time when 25 cents would buy a pound of round steak and 10 pounds of potatoes. He died in 1925 with the conviction on his record.

Keith Plessy said donations collected by the committee paid the fine and other legal costs. But Plessy returned to obscurity, and never returned to shoemaking.

He worked alternately as

a laborer, warehouse worker and clerk before becoming a collector for the Black-owned People's Life Insurance Company, Medley wrote. He died in 1925 with the conviction on his record.

Relatives of Plessy and John Howard Ferguson, the judge who oversaw his case in Orleans Parish Criminal District Court, became friends decades later and formed a nonprofit that advocates for civil rights education.

The purpose of the pardon "is not to erase what happened 125 years ago but to acknowledge the wrong that was done," said Phoebe Ferguson, the great-great-granddaughter of the judge.

**MLK Celebration Week
(January 11-17, 2022)**

40 Years Strong: A Look Toward the Future

In January 2022, the City of Dallas will host its 40th annual celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with a weeks' worth of events highlighting issues of equity, diversity, and opportunity. The week will include a Day of

Prayer, a Day of Service, a Wreath Laying Ceremony, Job Fair, Equity Symposium, Youth Summit, and Scholarship & Awards Gala. Celebration week will culminate with the annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Virtual Parade.



40 YEARS STRONG: A LOOK TOWARD THE FUTURE

Wreath Laying Ceremony
Tuesday, Jan. 11 | 10 a.m.

The City of Dallas and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center invites the community to watch its Wreath Laying Ceremony online, celebrating the life and legacy of Dr. King.

Virtual Job Fair

Wednesday, Jan. 12 | 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
A virtual job fair in partnership with Workforce Solutions of Greater Dallas featuring on-site hiring and a showcase of workforce skills and credentialing programs to support job seekers.

Equity Indicators Symposium
Friday, Jan. 14 | 8:30 a.m. to Noon

Join the City of Dallas and Office of Equity & Inclusion in a critical conversation on building an equitable and inclusive Dallas.

Virtual Candle Lighting Ceremony
Friday, Jan. 14 | 7 p.m.

Join the Alpha Sigma Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center in commemorating the life and legacy of Dr. King.

Virtual MLK Scholarship & Awards Gala
Saturday, Jan. 15
Networking Reception | 5:15 p.m.
Gala | 6:30 p.m.

Annual Gala featuring keynote speaker Dr. Eddie Glaude, scholarships, awards presentations, and performances.

Virtual Day of Prayer & Reflection
Sunday, Jan. 16 | 10 a.m.

The City of Dallas and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center reflects and honors the work of Reverend Martin Luther King Jr., his fight for a more just society, social activism, and ability to galvanize support from various Faith Leaders.

Youth Field Day
Sunday, Jan. 16 | 1 p.m.

The Youth Commission will host a Field Day exploring MLK's legacy, youth impact, and ways to be a leader and make a difference throughout Texas.

Virtual MLK Parade

Monday, Jan. 17 | 10 to 11:30 a.m.
This 2022 Virtual Parade will be pre-recorded and broadcast on the public access channel. It is a compilation of videos and pictures depicting MLK Day parades of the past. There will be interviews discussing the 2022 theme: "40 Years Strong: A Look Toward the Future."

MLK Fest

Monday, Jan. 17 | Noon to 3 p.m.
A community clean-up in partnership with South Side Quarter Development Co., Walls Project, Rick Henry Imaging, and Urban Specialist, of the MLK corridor on MLK Day, a national day of service.

For more information, visit bit.ly/2022MLK

