

“Those Lazy~Hazy~Crazy Days of Summer”!

- Nat King Cole -



# The Dallas Post Tribune

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SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

June 2 - 8, 2022

## Irving High School Graduation Marks Historic ‘First’

*This week, Madelyn "Maddie" Moore became Irving High School's first Black female valedictorian.*

Irving High School graduation was a big day for all its graduating seniors, but it was also a big day for the school. Madelyn "Maddie" Moore spoke as valedictorian, the first Black female student at Irving High School to hold the honor.

"I knew immediately she was exceptional," Moore's college prep teacher Liliana Middlebrooks said. "She jokes about being a 'try-hard,' and it's like, you're right; when smart people try hard the world is their oys-

ter."  
"Right now we are at a crossroads. The world as we know it is no longer," Moore said during her valedictorian speech. "We have the opportunity to rebuild it, to make it better. Now is the time. We must disobey and ask questions. Question your purpose and place in the world. Question if you are doing what is important to you, or what is expected of you. And most importantly, question

Continue **First Page 4**



Photo Credit/NBC TV

By Noelle Walker/NBC

## Decades after Texas took part of its historic farm, a family fights again to save its land from a highway expansion



Rosalind Alexander-Kasparik brings flowers to her parents' grave at the family cemetery on their land, which has been passed down across several generations. The family is now fighting a highway-widening plan that could call for forcibly buying some of the land. Photo Credit: **Lauren Witte/The Texas Tribune**

*Daniel Alexander was enslaved when he founded a farm before the Civil War. 175 years later, his family is fighting to keep it intact as Texas plans to expand U.S. Highway 183.*

Article Page 4

## Chicago Mayor Brings Message to Dallas

By **Cheryl Smith, Publisher**  
Texas Metro News / iMessenger Media

During a stop in Dallas Wednesday, before moving on to Houston and Austin, Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot discussed several issues as she prepares for a reelection bid and what is expected to be an expensive race in 2023.

Citing figures in the \$10 million range, the first term mayor said the race was going to be costly, and while the media and some segments want to see controversy, she is going to focus on talking about the great things happening in Chicago.

Hosted by Dallas businessman Willis Johnson of JBJ Management, Lightfoot, who is an attorney serving her first term as the 56th mayor of the third largest city (by rank and population) in the country, touted a record that she said

proves she deserves another term.

An audience of former mayors, city managers, business leaders and other elected officials listened intently as statistics regarding crime, housing, economic development and education were shared.

Poised, confident and matter-of-factly, she addressed her city's "image" issues and critics who are not addressing her record and handling of everything from hiring a new police superintendent - in Dallas' former police chief David O. Brown — or managing during the pandemic.

Voters will have their say on Feb. 28, 2023 and if there is no clear victor with a majority of votes cast, there will be a runoff election on April 4, 2023.



JBJ Management  
CEO Willis Johnson  
and Chicago  
Mayor Lori Lightfoot

Photo Credit/NNPA

## Prepare for sticker shock if you are traveling this summer

By **DAVID KOENIG**

DALLAS (AP) — Airlines and tourist destinations are expecting monster crowds this summer as travel restrictions ease and pandemic fatigue overcomes lingering fear of contracting COVID-19 during travel.

Many forecasters believe the number of travelers will match or even exceed levels in the good-old, pre-pandemic days. However, airlines have thousands fewer employees than they did in 2019, and that has at times

contributed to widespread flight cancellations.

People who are only now booking travel for the summer are experiencing the sticker shock.

Domestic airline fares for summer are averaging more

than \$400 a round trip, 24% higher than this time in 2019, before the pandemic, and a whopping 45% higher than a year ago, according to travel-data firm Hopper.

Continue **Shock Page 4**



Travelers queue up at the south security checkpoint in the main terminal of Denver International Airport, Thursday, May 26, 2022, in Denver. Experts are expecting a flush of travelers at airports and on the nation's byways during the long Memorial Day weekend, which marks the start of the summer travel season, in spite of high fuel costs.

(AP Photo/David Zalubowski)



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## NEWS YOU OUGHT TO KNOW

## A dad's anguish outside Texas school while shooting unfolded

By JAKE BLEIBERG and ELLIOT SPAGAT



In this image from video, Javier Cazares reacts as he talks about his daughter, Jackie Cazares, Thursday, May 26, 2022, in Uvalde, Texas. (AP Photo/Robert Bumsted)

UVALDE, Texas (AP) — Javier Cazares raced to his daughter's school when he heard there was a shooting, leaving his truck running with the door open as he ran into the school yard. In his rush, he didn't bring his gun.

He spent the next 35 to 45 agonizing minutes scanning the children fleeing Robb Elementary School for his 9-year-old "firecracker," Jacklyn. All the while, he yearned to run in himself — and grew increasingly agitated, along with other parents, that the police weren't doing more to stop the teenage gunman who holed up in a classroom, killing kids.

"A lot of us were arguing with the police, 'You all need to go in there. You all need to do your jobs,'" said Cazares, an Army veteran. "We were ready to go to work and rush in."

Nineteen children and two teachers were ultimately shot dead in the roughly 80 minutes the gunman spent inside the school in Uvalde, Texas, a small, predominantly Latino community that sits among vegetable fields halfway between San Antonio and the U.S.-Mexico border.

This account of the deadliest school shooting since Sandy Hook is based on law enforcement's timeline, records and numerous interviews with Uvalde residents in the hours and days after the massacre.

Salvador Ramos was up early on May 24, sending ominous messages. The man authorities have identified as the gunman turned 18 the week before and promptly bought two AR-15-style rifles along with hundreds of rounds of ammunition.

In the pre-dawn hours in his grandparents' shaded neighborhood just a half-mile from the site he would turn into a killing ground, Ramos wrote "I'm about to" to a woman over Instagram and sent someone a private Facebook message saying he was going to shoot his grandmother.

Within hours, he'd done it.

Sometime after 11 a.m., a neighbor who was in his yard heard a shot and looked up to see Ramos run out the front door of his grandparents' home to a pickup truck parked along the narrow street. The 18-year-old seemed panicked and struggled to get the Ford out of park, Gilbert Gallegos, 82, said.

Ramos finally drove off,

kicking a spray of gravel in the air. Moments later, his grandmother emerged from the single-story home covered in blood.

"This is what he did," Gallegos recalled her yelling. "He shot me."

Gallegos' wife called 911 while he took the wounded woman into their backyard. As they hid and waited for the police, more gunshots rang out.

By 11:28 a.m., Ramos had sped to Robb Elementary and crashed the pickup in a drainage ditch, authorities said. At that moment, video shows a teacher entering the school through a door that the teacher had emerged from and propped open a minute earlier.

That door was usually closed, and locked, per security protocol. But it stayed ajar.

Witnesses said Ramos jumped from the passenger side of the truck with a rifle and a backpack full of ammunition. After shooting at two men who emerged from a nearby funeral home, Ramos hopped a chain-link fence and headed toward the school — still shooting — as panicked people nearby called the police.

Authorities initially said Ramos exchanged fire with a school police officer before entering the building, but they later said the officer was not actually on campus and "sped" back upon hearing of the shooter.

But the officer initially headed for the wrong man, confronting someone who turned out to be a teacher — after passing within feet of Ramos, who was crouched behind a vehicle parked outside the school.

From his hiding place, Ramos went for the propped-open door, slipped through it and into adjoining fourth-grade classrooms at 11:33 a.m., authorities said. He rapidly fired off more than 100 rounds.

In one of those rooms, Miah Cerrillo, 11, covered herself with a friend's blood to look dead, she told CNN. After the shooter moved into the adjacent room, she could hear screams, more gunfire and music being blared by the gunman.

Two minutes after Ramos entered the school, three police officers followed him through the same door and were quickly joined by four more. Authorities said Ramos exchanged fire from the classroom with the officers in the hallway and two

of them suffered "grazing wounds."

The first police on the scene were outgunned by Ramos' powerful, high-end rifle, according to a man who watched from a nearby home.

"After he started firing at the cops, the cops stopped shooting," said Juan Carranza, 24. "You could tell the firepower that he had was more powerful than the cops' weapons."

After shots started ringing out, a cafeteria worker who had just finished serving chicken tacos to 75 third-graders said a woman shouted into the lunchroom: "Code black. This is not a drill!"

The employees didn't know what "code black" meant but closed blinds, locked the doors and escorted students behind a stage, said the worker, who spoke on condition of anonymity to avoid publicity. Some staff then took refuge in the kitchen.

In the nearly half-hour after the first officers followed Ramos inside, as many as 19 piled into the hallway, authorities said.

In the meantime, students and teachers elsewhere in the building were trying to get out, some climbing out of windows with the help of police.

Cazares isn't sure exactly when he arrived on the scene, but when he did, he saw about five officers helping people escape. He kept a close watch to see if Jacklyn, who he later said loved gymnastics, singing and dancing, was among them.

About 15 to 20 minutes after he got to the school, he said he spotted officers arriving with heavy shields for the first time.

In the chaos, he felt that time was both "going so fast and it was going so slow."

But he added: "From what I saw, things could have been a lot different."

Other parents felt the same. One onlooker recalled a woman yelling at officers, "Go in there! Go in there!"

At 12:03, a student called 911 and whispered that she was inside the classroom with the gunman.

Minutes later, the Uvalde school district posted on Facebook that all campuses were going into lockdown but that "the students and staff are safe in the buildings. The buildings are secure."

The student called 911 again, minutes after her first call, to say there were multiple dead, and then called back soon after that, saying eight or nine students were still alive.

Thirty-four minutes passed from the time of that last call to the moment a U.S. Border Patrol tactical team used a school employee's key to unlock the classroom door and kill the gunman.

An open door had let him in. A locked door kept him in, and law enforcement out.

Police didn't breach the

classroom faster because the commander inside the building — the school district's police chief, Pete Arredondo — believed the situation had morphed from an active shooting to a hostage situation, said Steven McCraw, the head of the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Officers from other agencies urged the school police chief to let them move in because children were in danger, according to two law enforcement officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because they had not been authorized to discuss the investigation publicly. McCraw said gunfire was "sporadic" for much of the time that officers waited in the hallway and that investigators do not know if children died during that time.

"It was the wrong decision," McCraw said.

Arredondo could not be

reached for comment. No one answered the door at his home Friday, and he did not reply to a phone message left at the district's police headquarters.

The loss of so many young lives and the admission of errors by police have cast doubt, even for some Second Amendment-supporters in the Texas community, on a refrain the state's Republican leaders have used after this and other mass shootings: "What stops armed bad guys is armed good guys."

Cazares, a gun owner and supporter of the Second Amendment, said he shies away from politics — but added that he thinks there should be stricter gun laws, including better background checks. He called selling the type of gun the assailant used to an 18-year-old "kind of ridiculous."

Cazares left school

before officers killed Ramos at 12:50 p.m. He rushed to the hospital because his niece said she'd seen Jacklyn in an ambulance.

The entire family soon gathered there, pressing hospital staff for information for nearly three hours. Finally, a pastor, police officer and a doctor met with them.

"My wife asked the question, 'Is she alive or is she passed?'" Cazares said. "They were like, 'No, she's gone.'"

When he was finally able to see his daughter's body, Cazares vowed that her death would not be in vain.

Later, he fought back tears as he pondered his daughter's last moments.

"She could be feisty," he said. "It kind of comforts our hearts that she would be one of the ones that was brave and tried to help as much as she could."

## California school kids sickened after eating cannabis candy

BAYSIDE, Calif. (AP) — Three third-grade students at a Northern California elementary school were hospitalized after inadvertently eating cannabis gummies, authorities said.

A student shared the gummies with four other kids during their snack recess on Thursday at Jacoby Creek Elementary in the Humboldt County community of Bayside, police and school officials said. The student who brought the edibles to school didn't

know they contained marijuana, they said.

Three children were taken to receive medical attention after they began to display signs of intoxication, Jacoby Creek superintendent and principal Melanie Nannizzi told parents in an email.

All three kids were released from the hospital and are doing well, Nannizzi told the Times-Standard newspaper in Eureka.

The classroom was initially evacuated over con-

cerns the kids might have been reacting to carbon monoxide exposure, Nannizzi told parents.

"This was a frightening incident for our entire school community," Nannizzi wrote in the email.

The Arcata Police Department is investigating, Officer Heidi Groszmann said.

Groszmann warned parents to keep cannabis products, especially those that look like candy, in a safe spot away from children.

## Africans see inequity in monkeypox response elsewhere

By MARIA CHENG and CHINEDU ASADU



(CDC via AP, File)

OSUN, Nigeria (AP) — As health authorities in Europe and elsewhere roll out vaccines and drugs to stamp out the biggest monkeypox outbreak beyond Africa, some doctors acknowledge an ugly reality: The resources to slow the disease's spread have long been available, just not to the Africans who have dealt with it for decades.

Countries including Britain, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Switzerland, the United States, Israel and Australia have reported more than 500 monkeypox cases, many apparently tied to sexual activity at two recent raves in Europe. No deaths have been reported.

Authorities in numerous European countries and the U.S. are offering to immunize people and considering the use of antivirals. On Thursday, the World Health Organization will

convene a special meeting to discuss monkeypox research priorities and related issues.

Meanwhile, the African continent has reported about three times as many cases this year.

There have been more than 1,400 monkeypox cases and 63 deaths in four countries where the disease is endemic — Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo and Nigeria — according to the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. So far, sequencing has not yet shown any direct link to the outbreak outside Africa, health officials say.

Monkeypox is in the same family of viruses as smallpox, and smallpox vaccines are estimated to be about 85% effective against monkeypox, according to WHO.

Since identifying cases earlier this month, Britain has vaccinated more than

1,000 people at risk of contracting the virus and bought 20,000 more doses. European Union officials are in talks to buy more smallpox vaccine from Bavarian Nordic, the maker of the only such vaccine licensed in Europe.

U.S. government officials have released about 700 doses of vaccine to states where cases were reported.

Such measures aren't routinely employed in Africa.

Dr. Adesola Yinka-Ogunleye, who leads Nigeria's monkeypox working group, said there are currently no vaccines or antivirals being used against monkeypox in her country. People suspected of having monkeypox are isolated and treated conservatively, while their contacts are monitored, she said.

Generally, Africa has only had "small stockpiles" of smallpox vaccine to offer health workers when monkeypox outbreaks happen, said Ahmed Ogbell, acting director of the Africa CDC.

Limited vaccine supply and competing health priorities have meant that immunization against monkeypox hasn't been widely pursued in Africa.

# Church Directory

**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.



**The Mount Mariah**  
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 www.mountmariahdallas.org

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**Pastor Donald R. Parish, Sr.**

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**Sunday Morning Worship**  
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**Sammie Berry**  
 Minister

**Calendar of Events**

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**Sunday Worship**  
 10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.


**Tuesday Song Practice**  
 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday Bible Class**  
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**Sunday Radio Broadcast**  
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 Ben Myers  
 Patrick Worthey

**Elders:**  
 Frederick Green  
 Raymond Hart  
 Otis Idlebird, Jr.  
 Jason Moseley  
 David Phillips, Jr.

**Schedule of Services**

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

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

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

## "THE GREAT MOVEMENT OF THE GOSPEL TO ANTIOCH"

Acts 11:19-30

By Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith



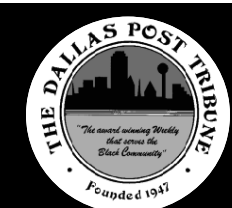
After Peter defends his ministry in connection with the conversion of Gentiles in the home of Cornelius (Acts 11:1-18), the gospel has now penetrated to Antioch, where there was a great movement of the gospel. In verse 19, we discover that Stephen's martyrdom results in the spreading of the gospel to Gentile lands - Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch. The reference to Antioch in Syria helps us to understand that the church in Antioch will become the base of operations for Paul's missionary journeys (v. 20). As a result of the preaching of some unnamed believers, a great number of Gentiles in Antioch believed and turned to the Lord (v. 21). Upon hearing about the great moving of the Spirit of God in Antioch, the mother church in Jerusalem sent Barnabas, the son of encouragement (Acts 4:36), to Antioch (v. 22). Barnabas, a great selection from the Jerusalem church, could only attest to and marvel at the great work that God was doing in Antioch! True to his wonderful nickname, son of encouragement, Barnabas encouraged the believers (v. 23). There were three significant things said about Barnabas: "he was a good man, he was full of the Holy spirit, and he was full of faith" (v.24). These are characteristics that every believer should possess! As a result of Barnabas' tremendous ministry of exhorting (preaching and teaching) the church grew, and Barnabas knew that he needed an assistant. Knowing that he needed help, Barnabas sent for Saul, who was living in Tarsus (v. 25; Acts 9:30). Barnabas and Saul will minister a full year in Antioch, teaching a great number of people. The church grew mightily at a great rate (v.26; Acts 2:41, 47; 4:4; 5:14; 6:1; 9:31; 11:21, 24). It is interesting to note that the disciples of Christ were first called Christians at Antioch (v. 26; Acts 26:28; I Peter 4:16). The term Christians was not a term used to ridicule the believers, but a term that emphasized that the believers were followers of Christ! The final section of Acts chapter 11, records an incident resulting in a general famine that affected the Jerusalem church. Saul, who once brought havoc to the church in Jerusalem, is now seen bringing relief to the Jerusalem church affected by the famine (vv. 27-30).

May God Bless!

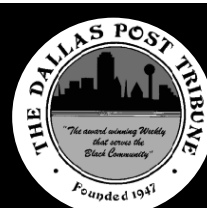


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2309	<b>\$100 Million Cash Payout</b> Overall Odds are 1 in 3.82	\$10	7/13/22	1/9/23
2336	<b>Power 10X</b> Overall Odds are 1 in 3.95	\$10	7/13/22	1/9/23

Texaslottery.com is the official source for all pertinent game information. Game closing procedures may be initiated for documented business reasons. These games may have prizes unclaimed, including top prizes. In addition, game closing procedures will be initiated when all top prizes have been claimed. During closing, games may be sold even after all top prizes have been claimed. Must be 18 or older to purchase a ticket. For help with a gambling problem, ncpgambling.org. © 2022 Texas Lottery Commission. PLAY RESPONSIBLY.



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## Decades after Texas took part of its historic farm a family fights again to save its land from a highway expansion

By Timia Cobb/Texas Tribune

With a cowboy hat atop her head and fresh flowers in hand, Rosalind Alexander-Kasparik walked from her family farm on a Tuesday afternoon this spring to the adjacent private cemetery where generations of her relatives are buried.

After visiting the graves of her parents and sister, Alexander-Kasparik headed back to the farm that's been in her family for 175 years. But first, she stopped at the cemetery's entrance gate, picking up trash blown in from U.S. Highway 183, a four-lane freeway that runs so close to the property that the wind from the vehicles whirring knocked off her hat.

Alexander-Kasparik was 9 when the Texas Department of Transportation used eminent domain in 1968 to forcibly buy 5 acres of the family land just outside Austin city limits to put in the highway. U.S. 183 cut off what had been the entrance to the farm and left

a portion of the property isolated on the other side of the freeway that now runs within feet of the farm and cemetery.

Decades later, history is threatening to repeat itself. TxDOT plans to add more lanes to the highway that already abuts the Alexander Farm and Cemetery. But this time around, Alexander-Kasparik is determined to see a different outcome. Her fight isn't only about keeping the private property intact. It's about preserving one of America's remaining Black-owned farms — and the legacy of her ancestors who founded the farm while enslaved and defied the odds to keep it in the family across several generations.

"They are not taking any more of our historic, hard-fought-for, blood-riden land," she said.

The widening project is still in the planning stages, making it unknown how much, if any, of the Alexander Farm will be needed to support the added concrete. The agency is non-

committal on what it may want, despite Alexander-Kasparik asking for specifics for years.

If the road intrudes on the land or cemetery any farther, it could overtake the entrance to the cemetery and demolish two of the farm's three houses, by Alexander-Kasparik's estimation.

She remembers watching her grandfather fight to keep their land intact in the '60s. Milton Everett Alexander enlisted the help of lawyers, but ultimately, TxDOT got its way and built the road that connects State Highways 71 and 45.

"The taking of it was something that my grandfather saw as his defeat," Alexander-Kasparik said.

Alexander-Kasparik refuses to see another inch of her family property, where she still lives and her brothers raise cattle for beef, removed. The land, nestled between Austin's airport and the McKinney Falls State Park, has been blighted by the highway's noise and air pollution for

decades, a daily reminder of the battle her grandfather lost.

She's hoping that the historic nature of the property will divert TxDOT from forcibly buying any more of the land. Black-owned farms are increasingly rare in America. Her ancestor Daniel Alexander's founding of the farm in 1847 was almost unheard of because his enslavers agreed to give him ownership even though he remained enslaved. The fact that it has been passed down through the family across so many generations since 1847 makes it a rarity — and a product of carefully maintained history that's still present and operating today.

"It's sort of mind-boggling to think about," said Amber Sims, co-founder of the Imagining Freedom Institute. "Because during enslavement, Black people weren't protected constitutionally. That didn't happen until after the Civil War."

Continue **Land** Page 5

Continued **Shock** Page 1

"The time to have gotten cheap summer flights was probably three or four months ago," says Scott Keyes, who runs the Scott's Cheap Flights site.

Internationally, fares are also up from 2019, but only 10%. Prices to Europe are about 5% cheaper than before the pandemic — \$868 for the average round

trip, according to Hopper. Keyes said Europe is the best travel bargain out there.

Steve Nelson of Mansfield, Texas, was standing in line this week at a security checkpoint in Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, ready to board a flight to Nice, France, with plans to attend a Formula One race in Monaco.

Continued **First** Page 1

the structures and systems of society."

Moore said it was important for others to see her as the school's first Black female valedictorian.

"To see somebody that looks like you, who has done things that you don't believe to be possible, kind

of just opens your eyes to a new reality that you can pursue," Moore said.

Moore's teachers were not surprised to see her finish at the top of her class among 638 other graduates.

"It was evident that she loved to learn," AP English teacher Luis Gonzalez said. "While she was concerned with grades, she was con-

cerned with knowing the 'why' and 'how' of things, and making connections to the real world."

Moore is leaving Irving High School bound for the Ivy League. She has a full-ride scholarship to Brown University.

"That was always my end goal, was college," Moore said.

Moore's mother was proud, but not surprised.

"Like, I did a good job. Like she did a great job," Moore's mother Michelle Henderson said, explaining how she felt. "I did a good job just maintaining that, giving her the space to be that person."

Moore wants to study neuroscience at Brown.

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## SPORTS/NEWS PAGE

## Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, June 2

H - 81°  
L - 67°

Friday, June 3

H - 85°  
L - 69°

Saturday, June 4

H - 89°  
L - 75°

Sunday, June 5

H - 95°  
L - 75°

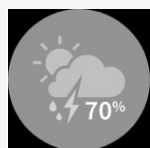
Monday, June 6

H - 95°  
L - 75°

Tuesday, June 7

H - 96°  
L - 75°

Wednesday, June 8

H - 94°  
L - 76°

# Charlie Sifford Broke Golf's Color Lines; His Son Fondly Recalls the Challenges and Triumphs During Centennial Celebration

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



Photo Credit/NNPA

Charlie Sifford didn't hesitate to explain why his late father, Dr. Charlie Sifford Jr., remains his hero.

Sitting inside an office at PGA TOUR headquarters in Ponte Verde, Florida, and preparing to remember what would have been his father's 100th birthday on June 2, Sifford recounted how much his dad loved golf.

He also remembered his father's challenges trying to break into the sport during segregation and the Jim Crow era.

"In pursuing the game he loved so much, he endured enormous challenges as an African American golfer," Sifford Jr. recalled.

Born in Charlotte, North Carolina, in 1922, Dr. Sifford, the first Black golfer on the PGA TOUR, began caddying at a nearby country club to earn money.

"Back then, in the 1920s and 1930s, there were very few places where young kids could go to make some money," Sifford Jr. related.

"He caddied until he was 17, but by the time he was 13, he was considered the top caddie at the course, and many good players asked for him."

According to Sifford Jr., a byproduct of his father's outstanding ability to caddie earned him more money than other kids.

"He developed a love for the game. He learned by watching," Sifford Jr. remarked.

Because African Americans weren't allowed to play at country clubs, Sifford Jr. said his father would sneak in a few holes when he wasn't caddying.

"He said he had a short backswing because he had to play in a hurry and get as

many holes in as possible," Sifford remarked.

"He had one nine-to-five job his whole life, when he worked at Nabisco in Philadelphia when he was 17. He worked there for three years but decided that he wanted to be outside playing golf, and he was determined to succeed."

In addition to marking what would have been Dr. Sifford's 100th birthday, The PGA TOUR also will host The Sifford Centennial 2022.

The Sifford Centennial project features several highlight events throughout the year and special merchandise available to the public, including the Just Let Me Play Centennial Collection and Sifford Centennial Cigars.

Further, the Presidents Cup organizers announced the creation of the Charlie Sifford Centennial Cup, a one-day team match-play event featuring top golf teams from historically Black colleges and universities.

The Centennial Cup takes place on August 29 at Quail Hollow in Charlotte, this year's Presidents Cup site.

All will participate in the top four HBCU Division I program, the top HBCU Division II program, and the host school Johnson C. Smith University of Charlotte.

The six schools will send their top four players, broken into two separate teams of 12, with the college teammates staying together in pods.

The Golfstat ranking will determine the programs at the end of this 2022 season.

Sifford Jr. declared that all tributes and events would have meant a lot to his father.

"What he had to go through early in his career, being rejected for certain tournaments, and being treated unfairly because of the color of his skin and now to be recognized from coast-to-coast, by white people, Black people, Asians, and everyone else would make him feel like the job he did turned out positive," Sifford Jr. asserted.

"He'd be very proud of this."

A Philadelphia native, Sifford Jr. said his father began playing golf professionally in 1948, two years after his friend, Jackie Robinson, broke Major League Baseball's color line.

"One year after Jackie Robinson, my father told Jackie that he would do the same in golf," Sifford Jr. noted.

"Before he went on tour, he talked to Jackie, who asked him was he a quitter and if he was, he shouldn't worry about trying to go on tour because they're going to make you wish you weren't out there," Sifford Jr. continued.

"It would be harder for him because he'd be out there by himself. Jackie had a team and an owner who supported him. My father would be out there alone.

"But my father had stubbornness, grit, and he was determined that he was

going to play golf and nothing or no one was going to stop him."

The first time Dr. Sifford attempted to join the PGA TOUR, racism prevailed.

He played with an all-Black group led by boxing champion Joe Louis.

However, when the group reached the first hole, they found excrement there, attempting to discourage them from playing.

Sifford Jr. learned about some of his father's struggles by reading Dr. Sifford's book, "Just Let Me Play: The Story of Charlie Sifford, the First Black PGA Golfer."

"Some things surprised me in the book. He didn't bring a lot of [the incidents] home," Sifford Jr. recalled.

"I asked him about it when the book came out, and he said all of that really happened. In North Carolina, the first time he went back to the south to play, he stayed with friends that lived close to the golf course because no hotel would let him stay.

"The first day, he was leading the tournament, and then he received a call at his friend's house, and someone made death threats. So they told him if he showed up, something would happen.

"Being stubborn, he said, 'you gonna do what you gonna do, and I will do what I have to do, and I will be there for my tee time.'"

Although he didn't fare well on the second day, Dr. Sifford finished in the top five and earned a berth into the next tournament.

"It showed me that he had a determination," Sifford Jr.

said. "People threatened his life, but it showed the kind of person he was. He helped me to understand many things, including not judging a person by their origins but how they treat you and if they respect your wishes and treat you fairly."

In addition to breaking golf's color line, Dr. Sifford won six Negro National Open titles, earned honors as one of the top 100 people in the First Century of Golf, and earned more than \$1.2 million on the PGA TOUR and the Senior Tour.

In 2004, Dr. Sifford became the first Black golfer inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame. In 2006, the University of St. Andrews awarded Dr. Sifford an honorary degree, and in 2014, President Barack Obama bestowed the Presidential Medal of Freedom on Dr. Sifford.

"It was really exciting because my dad never thought he'd see a Black President, and frankly, I never thought I'd see one," Sifford Jr. said.

"It was ironic, the first Black PGA member and the first Black President. The two hit it off. President Obama and Vice President Biden were golfers, and during the ceremony, Obama asked my father for golf tips. My father told Biden that he could probably help him but turned to Obama and said, 'I don't know what I can do for you because you hit from the wrong side.'"

*Obama is left-handed.*  
"It was a fun-filled time," Sifford Jr. stated.

Continued **Land** Page 4

Despite the farm's historical significance, Alexander-Kasparik knows she could be fighting an uphill battle. After all, American transportation departments have a decadeslong history of utilizing highway construction to forcibly buy Black-owned land, dismantle communities of color and diminish already minimal opportunities to build generational wealth.

"What the government and white officials did was declare these communities not valuable," Sims said. "They declared them slums. They called the creation of the freeways progress by comparison of what was there and they took the land, oftentimes at less than the value that it was worth."

The beginning of a legacy

Daniel Alexander was born into slavery in 1810. He was one of many Black people the McKinney family, whose namesake state park is now nearby the Alexander Farm, enslaved to keep their ranching and horse breeding operations going.

As Daniel Alexander grew up, he developed the skill of training and breeding race horses, which greatly benefited his enslavers. According to stories passed down through his descendants, Daniel Alexander became somewhat famous for his abilities. Alexander-Kasparik thinks there's a possibility that a painting of a Black man with a horse at McKinney Falls State Park's visitor center could be her great-great grandfather.

Encouraging him to stay and providing a place for his

family to be together, the McKinney family made a verbal agreement with Daniel Alexander in 1847 allowing him to own 73 acres of land, even though he remained enslaved. According to stories passed down through the family, when his enslaver was on his deathbed after the Civil War, Daniel Alexander officially bought the land from the McKinney family in 1879, despite already living on the farm while in servitude to the family for 32 years prior.

"There were definitely these dynamics in which enslaved people had to play nice and really have the goodwill of white people on their side to make things happen," Sims said.

The land granted opportunities that most enslaved Americans didn't have. For

one, it gave Daniel Alexander and his relatives a place to remain together at a time when enslavers separated enslaved people from their loved ones, sometimes out of plain cruelty. It also created a chance for Daniel Alexander to build a legacy for his family — something to pass down along generations.

"That's what they wanted the most," Alexander-Kasparik said.

And the cemetery that still sits on the north end of the property — where Daniel Alexander was buried in 1883 — was also seen as a way to provide dignity to generations. The oldest marked grave there belongs to him. But Alexander-Kasparik believes some of the unmarked graves are likely older — and were dug



Trees decorate an area of the cemetery where the the Alexander family believes there are more than 50 unmarked graves. Photo Credit: **Lauren Witte/The Texas Tribune**

before the Civil War began. "The best way to make sure that the family stayed together forever was to have a cemetery," Alexander-Kasparik said. "A family cemetery, not a burial ground for enslaved people, but a place where your family is interred and the

Continued **Land** in our June 9 Edition



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# EDITORIAL PAGE

## “JUNETEENTH... ICE CREAM”

*My Day*

By Dr. J. Ester Davis



Dr. J. Ester Davis

**Two . . . important things.** If you want to make ‘my day’, have with me a plentiful scoop of ice cream on a sugar cone. Secondly, the best **black owned ice cream business** is NOT at Walmart. Which is the subject in part of this week’s article. I will make this short so you can look up “**black owned ice cream businesses you should know**”. Personally, I had great-big-fun... with this research.

Now let’s start with Walmart. CNN Business announced the selling of

“Juneteenth Ice Cream” a month ago, but the thrill was short lived. Now, Walmart is apologizing for selling “Celebration Edition: Juneteenth Ice Cream” under their private Great Value Label. A Walmart spokesman with a carefully drafted response shared that the “feedback” . . . caused concern and we ‘sincerely apologize’. Backlash was not so polite, but was loud and clear from social media. The decision to pull the ice cream from their shelves was made by Walmart. And according to my corporate inside sources, never had the opportunity to be stocked in Texas.

So where are the best **black owned ice cream businesses**? **Creamalicious Ice Cream** is nationwide.

So, number one, ask for it. There are all the flavor favorites. . . Peach Cobbler, Pecan Pie Ice Cream, chocolate w/nuts ice cream.

**Sidebar:** The other day while participating in a forum in Frisco, a black

entrepreneurial college student was selling slices of pound cake exceptionally wrapped, properly labeled. . . in eight(8) different flavors. Banana Cream Pound Cake, Peach Cobbler Pound Cake were my chosen ones. Amazingly delicious!

**Back to ice cream** and the cities that are taking the “**National Juneteenth Holiday**” serious, not to mention to the next commercialized level are in New York, St. Louis, Baltimore, Houston, Washington DC, Oakland to name a few. Ice cream is everywhere. If your favorite place to spend your money is not selling black owned ice cream. . . again, please ask intelligently.

There is a much deeper message here that should be acted upon. Walmart made a “**big big mistake**” thinking their brand on ‘anything’ could be and would be acceptable to their clientele pro or con. In addition, the authorities that made this decision witnessed a loss for the company, a demotion I

hope, stain on their reputation and a ‘cloud-of-dust’ for many customers. Thank goodness for that someone who had the confidence to express their disappointment in the Walmart produced **Juneteenth Ice Cream**. Here is what the strategy should have been. With the obvious litany of black owned companies most anxious to stock on Walmart shelves, why not just pick a credible black owned business, allow them to run a beta test or sample space in those stores with the highest concentration of African Americans, add the Walmart advertising strength to the importance of black owned products and enjoy the re-orders.

**Ask for black owned ice cream for Juneteenth. If you are selling it, please let me know.**

**COMING UP:**  
**Juneteenth Parade.** City Men Cook (Father’s Day)  
 TINA: The Broadway Musical Review.

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 -Dallas Civil Rights Museum (Building A)  
 -Empowering the Masses (Building A)  
 -Family Care Connection (Building A)  
 -First Choice Social Services (Building A)  
 -Green Careers Dallas (Building A)  
 -Miles of Freedom (Building A)  
 -South Dallas Community Court (Building A)  
 -Foremost Family Health Center (Building B)  
 -WIC (Building B)  
 -Dallas Public Library-MLK Branch (Building C)  
 -MLK ChildCareGroup (Building D)  
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## COMMENTARY: Together We Can Make a Difference

My Truth

By Cheryl Smith, Publisher, Texas Metro News / iMessenger Media

Just as we must accept that with life there will be death, we must realize just as there is joy, there will be pain!

As I sat in a crowded room I listened intently to men and women who were really frustrated and fed up.

I didn’t even attempt to understand what they were saying because there was a serious language barrier, but that didn’t stop me from having the most unsettling feeling in the pit of my stomach.

Speaker after speaker addressed Dallas Police Chief Eddie Garcia and City council member Omar Narvaez, sharing their thoughts about how the Korean American community was concerned, fearful and upset and they wanted assurances that their businesses and homes would be protected.

At the Dallas Police Department / Korean American Safety Town Hall Meeting on Monday night, you didn’t have to speak the language to know the feelings that were dominating the room.

These citizens gathered in

the wake of three racially motivated shootings at Korean-owned and operated businesses and they wanted answers.

Admittedly, the meeting was a bit much for me that evening as I had been listening to Roland Martin Unfiltered on the Black Star Network earlier in the evening and the candid discussion and viewing of tapes of a racist gunman who opened fire in a Buffalo NY supermarket, killing 11 — 10 of whom were Black.

What was equally disturbing was video of the gunman turning his assault rifle on a white person before apologizing and moving on to another Black target.

This continued violence with mass shootings occurring from Sacramento to New York with some racially motivated and others just the act of mindless, lost souls, weighs heavily on so many.

Hasn’t it been enough that in this country alone we have lost over a million to COVID 19-related illnesses and still today, despite a relaxing of measures, the deaths continue to be report-

ed on a daily basis?

For many the past two years have been overwhelming and according to the Mayo Clinic, “during the COVID-19 pandemic, you may experience stress, anxiety, fear, sadness and loneliness. And mental health disorders, including anxiety and depression, can worsen.”

They also offer self-care strategies like taking care of your body; getting enough sleep, avoiding tobacco, alcohol and drugs; limiting screen time; and relaxing; to cope.

All the issues we’re dealing with today make coping harder and more stressful.

It seems like my entire life there has been a war of some kind, even if it is only in my head. We constantly have something or someone attacking our very existence.

The town hall meeting didn’t produce anything new.

Theirs was a story I have heard so many times before. The faces and the ethnicities change but the pain and grief is still the same.

Which brings me to my truth: For some reason, I honestly don’t believe we were put on this earth to live



Cheryl Smith

and die in isolation. Our time on this earth was meant to spend with others; to experience the joys of the world, and the pains — but not alone.

So, as we experience life, it is imperative that we don’t do it in a vacuum, that we become engaged and involved; that we live each day to its fullest. We can begin by caring about others because if we don’t, when we look up during our triumphs and challenges we might find ourselves alone.

If you’ve been all about yourself, change now. From this day forward, get up and get out and get involved and be there for others, so that no one is alone!

BOOK RELEASE

# Machines of the Gods



**William Lyons**  
Author

William Lyons' latest novel, "Machines of the Gods", is a journey through the mind of a technical expert who creates a fast-paced science fiction thriller. In this epic tale, thirty-five-year-old

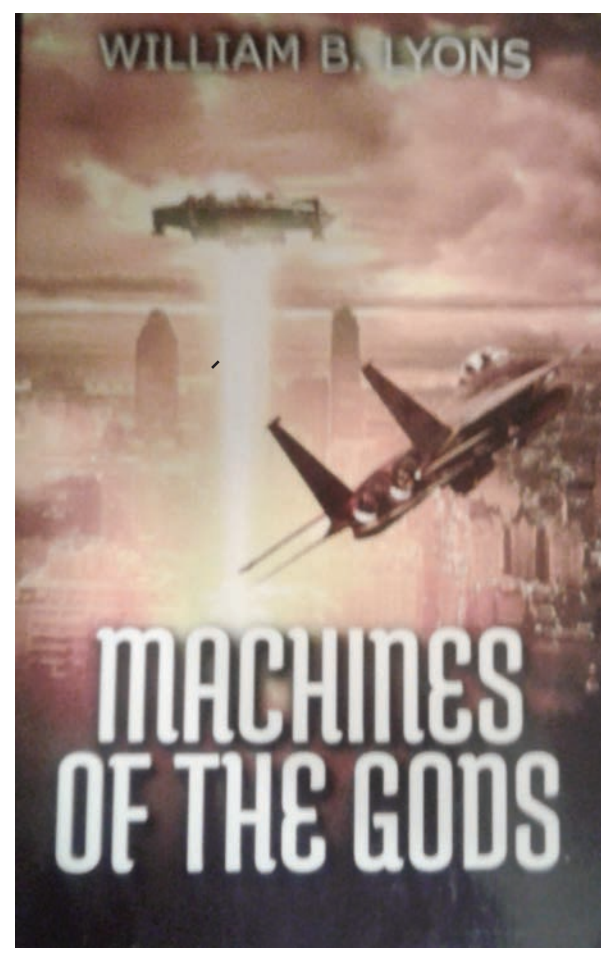
FBI Agent Steve "Ace" Miller has been sent to a top-secret military base in Dallas, Texas to find and capture an illusive cyber terrorist who is currently in possession of an ancient orb (crystal-shaped sphere) that contains the blueprints of dozens of super-advanced and deadly alien weapons.

As the story unfolds, Steve Miller's reputation for solving difficult cases and capturing extremely illusive adversaries aides him as he becomes involved with a powerful clandestine organization that is devoted to keeping massive secrets --- even from Steve himself. Furthermore, after discovering that a close family member is gravely ill --- and that this secret organization is refusing to provide the only cure --- he feels forced to confront his present employers

while also challenging his own convictions and beliefs about how society is supposed to work. To make matters worse, this fugitive neo-terrorist has started manufacturing and using some of these alien weapons in order to wage a personal war against all his enemies --- both real and imaginary. Finally, due to unforeseen circumstances, Steve is forced to work with and depend on a woman who has both psychological and professional issues of her own.

I recommend this book to young adult and adult audiences where the readers enjoy technical thrillers that move very fast, while also keeping these readers on the edge of their seats until the end of the very last page.

William Lyons is an excellent writer who draws his readers into the story from the very first page and never let's go.



Machines of the Gods is an exciting novel that is like a cross between Star Wars and Jurassic Park with a little bit of Shaft thrown in the mix. I highly recommend this book

and can't wait for the sequel. I am presently reading some of his other books, which are all available on Amazon.

*Roxanne Hayes*

## Pinkett Smith talks hair-loss 'shame,' outcome of Oscar slap

By LYNN ELBER

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Jada Pinkett Smith turned her husband's Oscar-night blowup into a teachable moment about alopecia areata, the hair-loss disorder affecting her and millions of others that, in some cases, can impact a person's sense of identity.

"Considering what I've been through with my own health and what happened at the Oscars, thousands have reached out to me with their stories," Pinkett Smith said on Wednesday's episode of "Red Table Talk."

The actor said she chose to use "this moment to give our alopecia family an opportunity to talk about what it's like to have this condition" and what it is. Her guests included the mother of a 12-year-old girl, Rio Allred, who was bullied over her hair loss and died by suicide, and a physician who explained the different types of the disorder.

Before tackling the subject, Pinkett Smith addressed events at the March 27 Academy Awards. She and husband Will Smith, a best-actor nominee, were in the audience as presenter Chris Rock cracked a joke at Pinkett Smith's expense.

"Jada, I love you. 'G.I. Jane 2,' can't wait to see it," Rock said. Pinkett Smith, who has spoken publicly about her alopecia, had a closely shaved head similar to that of Demi Moore in the 1997 movie.

Smith strode from his front-row seat to the stage and slapped Rock, shocking the comedian and the audience. Smith, who returned to his seat and later accepted the Oscar for "King Richard," subsequently



Jada Pinkett Smith appears on an episode of her online series "Red Table Talk, June 1, 2022." (Jordan Fisher/Red Table Talk via AP)

apologized to Rock but was banned from the ceremony for 10 years by the film academy.

"Now, about Oscar night, my deepest hope is that these two intelligent, capable men have an opportunity to heal, talk this out, and reconcile," Pinkett Smith said on "Red Table Talk" in an indirect reference to Smith and Rock. "The state of the world today, we need them both, and we all actually need one another more than ever.

"Until then, Will and I are continuing to do what we have done for the last 28 years, and that's keep figuring out this thing called life together," said Pinkett Smith, who previously had addressed the incident in a brief Instagram post that read "'This is a season for healing and I'm here for it.'"

The actor ("Girls Trip," "Matrix" films), who hosts the Facebook Watch talk show with her daughter, Willow, and Adrienne Banfield Norris, her mother, said that millions of people are living with

alopecia and what she called the "shame" that surrounds it. The condition, particularly for Black women, can affect a person's perception of themselves and force them to frequently confront others' perceptions about beauty, hair and race and culture.

Rio's mother, Nicole Ball, recounted the impact of the Oscar incident, which took place less than two weeks after her daughter's death.

"What is the universe doing right now? This is crazy," Ball recalled thinking. "People are going to be Googling, 'What is alopecia...What is this that we've never heard of?'" It's not a joke."According to the National Alopecia Areata Foundation, the disorder affects as many as 6.8 million people in the United States of any age, sex and ethnic group, and the symptoms can vary.

"I think the part that makes it most difficult for me is that it comes and goes. You're going through a spell of something, and you got to shave your head," Pinkett Smith said.

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