

“PLEASE REMEMBER; THAT YOUR VOTE COUNTS.”



# The Dallas Post Tribune

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SERVING THE BLACK COMMUNITY WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR SINCE 1947

June 30 - July 6, 2022

## NNPA and Transformative Justice Coalition Announce National GOTV Campaign Targeting 10 Million More Black Voters

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



Individuals riding in new and COVID-safe tour buses would hit swing states ahead of the November elections to register and mobilize GOTV for 10 million new Black voters. (Pictured from left to right: Jackie L. Hampton, NNPA National Secretary and Publisher of the Mississippi Link; Attorney Daryl Jones, Board Chair of the Transformative Justice Coalition; Attorney Barbara Arnwine, the founder, and president of the Transformative Justice Coalition; Fran Farrer, NNPA Second Vice Chair and Publisher of the County News; Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., NNPA President and CEO; Karen Carter Richards, NNPA Board Chair and President of the Houston Forward Times; Cheryl Smith, NNPA National Treasurer and Publisher of the Texas Metro News; Janis Ware, NNPA Vice Chair and Publisher of the Atlanta Voice.

Ahead of the all-important 2022 midterm elections, reports show that more than 55 million Americans remain unregistered to vote – and about 10 million are African Americans who are eligible to vote but who are unregistered.

Whether the reason is apathy, suppression, or something else, the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) and the Transformative Justice Coalition seek to get to the bottom of why, with so much at stake, voter registration and GOTV mobilization remain lacking notably among Black Americans across the nation.

During the national convention marking the 195th-anniversary celebration of the Black Press of America in New Orleans, leaders of both organizations

announced a get-out-to-vote campaign aimed at registering and mobilizing GOTV for 10 million more African Americans to vote in time for the 2022 midterms.

“The NNPA has talked about the vote, and there is no better time for us to show our power,” NNPA Chair Karen Carter Richards stated during the announcement at the national convention in the Big Easy.

“Let us take the lead and not be on the tail-end so we can show the present-day power of the Black Press,” continued Richards, who publishes the Houston Forward Times.

“This is a great opportunity for us; we’ve got to make this happen.” Attorney Barbara Arnwine, the founder, and president of the

Continue GOTV Page 5

### Aide: Trump dismissed Jan. 6 threats, wanted to join crowd

By MARY CLARE JALONICK, FARNOUSH AMIRI, ERIC TUCKER and MICHAEL BALSAMO



Cassidy Hutchinson, former aide to Trump White House chief of staff Mark Meadows, arrives to testify as the House select committee investigating the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol continues to reveal its findings of a year-long investigation, at the Capitol in Washington, Tuesday, June 28, 2022. (AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former President Donald Trump fought security officials for control of the presidential SUV as he struggled to get to the Capitol during the Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection, a key former White House aide told House investigators Tuesday, even

after he had been told that some of his supporters were armed.

Trump had said that the protesters were “not here to hurt me,” recalled Cassidy Hutchinson, testifying before the House panel

Continue Aide Page 2

### Justice Clarence Thomas and the Conservative Supreme Court Have Fanned the Flames of Racism in America

Former President Donald Trump’s Make America Great Again cry proved an easy between-the-lines moniker, but even that stood as a dog whistle – until now.

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

The Supreme Court not only abolished abortion rights in America with its June 24, 2022, decision but also ended any semblance of racial tolerance in the United States.

Former President Donald Trump’s Make America Great Again cry proved an easy to read between-the-lines moniker, but even that was seen as nothing more than the typical dog whistle – until now.

After the high court’s ruling, the MAGA crowd has become more emboldened.

“President Trump, on behalf of all the Maga patriots in America, I want to thank you for the historic victory for white life in the Supreme Court [June 24],” Illinois Republican Mary Miller told a cheering crowd during a rally as she stood next to the former president.

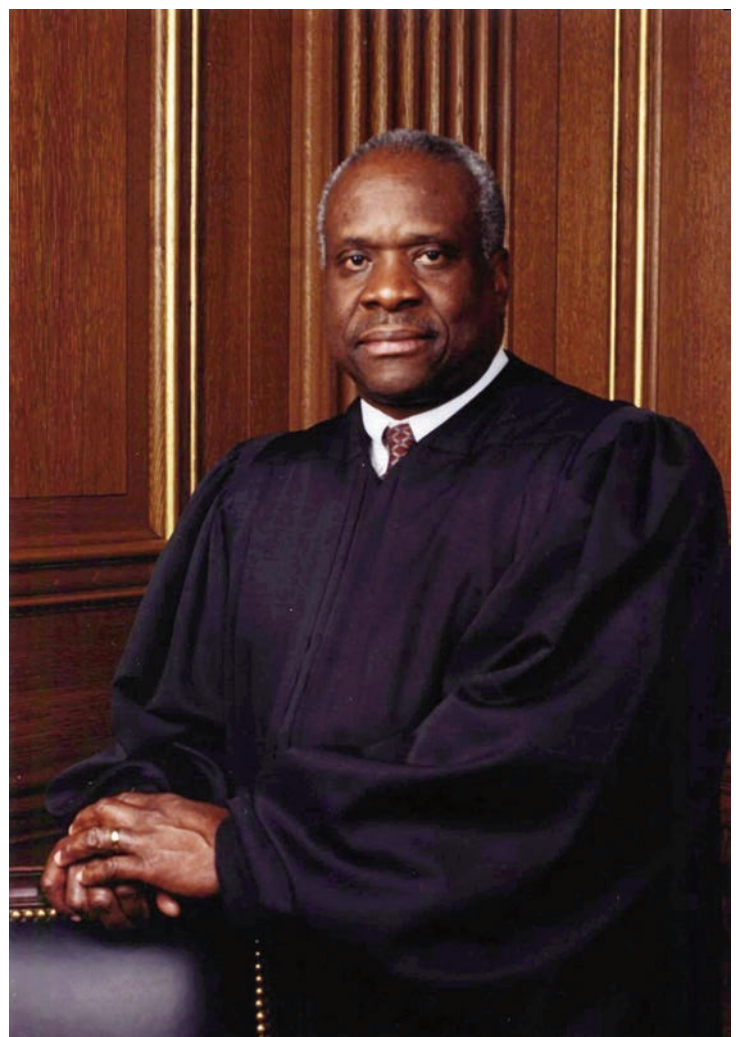
Running for reelection in

the 15th congressional district, Miller received an invite from Trump to speak. Her camp attempted to deflect from her racist comment, stating that she misspoke and intended to say, “right to life.”

Responding to a tweet by the nation’s first African American president, Texas GOP Sen. John Cornyn compared the decision to reverse Roe v. Wade to segregation.

“Now do Plessy v. Ferguson and Brown v. Board of Education,” Cornyn tweeted at Obama following the 44th president writing that the court not only reversed nearly 50 years of precedent, “it relegated the most intensely personal decision someone can make to the whims of politicians and ideologues – attacking the essential freedoms of

Continue Racism Page 4



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**FDIC** **LENDER**

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## **Aide: Trump dismissed Jan. 6 threats, wanted to join crowd**

investigating the insurrection. Told by security officials that it wasn't safe to go to the Capitol after he addressed his supporters, Trump lunged toward the steering wheel of the armored vehicle, she said.

The 25 year-old former aide said she was told of the altercation in the SUV — dubbed “The Beast” — immediately afterward by White House security officials, and that Bobby Engel, the head of the detail, was in the room and didn't dispute the account. Engel had grabbed Trump's arm to prevent him from gaining control of the armored vehicle, she was told, and Trump then used his free hand to lunge at Engel.

Hutchinson, then a special assistant to White House chief of staff Mark Meadows, described chaos inside and outside the White House that day as hundreds of Trump's supporters marched toward the Capitol, shouting the president's false claims of widespread fraud in the 2020 election. Aides inside the executive mansion — several of whom had been warned of violence beforehand — became increasingly alarmed as rioters at the Capitol overran police, broke through windows and doors and interrupted the certification of Joe Biden's victory.

Trump was less concerned, even as he heard there were cries in the crowd to “hang Mike Pence!” Hutchinson recalled that Meadows told aides that

Trump “thinks Mike deserves it.” The president tweeted during the attack that Pence didn't have the courage to object to Biden's win as he presided over the joint session of Congress.

As for the rioters, Meadows said, Trump “doesn't think they're doing anything wrong.”

Hutchinson told the panel the former president had been informed early in the day that some of the protesters in the crowd outside the White House had weapons, but he told officials to remove metal detectors to “let my people in” and march to the Capitol.

Hutchinson's explosive testimony — featured in a surprise hearing announced just 24 hours earlier — came at the latest of the sessions the House committee investigating the Capitol insurrection is conducting to inform the public about what happened as Trump's supporters broke into the Capitol and sent lawmakers running from the House and Senate.

“As an American I was disgusted,” Hutchinson told the committee, reacting to Trump's tweet about Pence. “It was unpatriotic, it was un-American, and you were watching the Capitol building get defaced over a lie.”

“I still struggle to work through the emotions of that,” she said.

Members of the panel praised Hutchinson's bravery for testifying and said that some witnesses had been intimidated not to cooperate.

“I want all Americans to know that what Ms. Hutchinson has done today is not easy,” said Wyoming Rep. Liz Cheney, a Republican who led questioning at the hearing.

Trump denied much of what Hutchinson said on his social media platform, Truth Social, including that he tried to grab the steering wheel of the presidential SUV or that he said Mike Pence deserved to be hung. “I hardly know who this person, Cassidy Hutchinson, is,” Trump wrote, calling her a “total phony” and “bad news.”

Hutchinson depicted a president flailing in anger and prone to violent outbursts as the window to overturn his election loss closed. Some aides sought to rein in his impulses. Some did not.

At one point, Hutchinson said, White House Counsel Pat Cipollone barreled down the hallway and confronted Meadows about the fact that rioters had breached the Capitol. Meadows, staring at his phone, told the White House lawyer that Trump didn't want to do anything. An exasperated Cipollone said that blood would be on Meadows' hands if nothing was done, she said.

Earlier, Cipollone had worried out loud that “we're going to get charged with every crime imaginable” if Trump went to the Capitol as the mob of his supporters was breaking in. But there were conversations about

Continue **Aide** Page 4

# R. Kelly sentenced to 30 years in sex trafficking case

By TOM HAYS and BOBBY CAINA CALVAN



In this courtroom sketch, R. Kelly and his attorney Jennifer Bonjean, left, appear during his sentencing hearing in federal court, Wednesday, June 29, 2022, in New York. The former R&B superstar was convicted of racketeering and other crimes.

(AP Photo/Elizabeth Williams)

NEW YORK (AP) — Disgraced R&B superstar R. Kelly was sentenced Wednesday to 30 years in prison for using his fame to sexually abuse young fans, including some who were just children, in a systematic scheme that went on for decades.

Through tears and anger, several of Kelly's accusers told a court, and the singer himself, that he had preyed on them and misled his fans.

“You made me do things that broke my spirit. I literally wished I would die because of how low you made me feel,” said one unnamed survivor, directly addressing a Kelly who kept his hands folded and his eyes downcast.

“Do you remember that?” she asked.

Kelly, 55, didn't speak at his sentencing and showed no visible reaction on hearing his penalty, which also includes a \$100,000 fine. The Grammy-winning, multi-platinum-selling songwriter was convicted last year of racketeering and sex trafficking at a trial that gave voice to accusers who had previously wondered if their stories were being ignored because they were Black women.

Victims “have sought to be heard and acknowledged,” another one of his accusers said at his sentencing. “We are no longer the preyed-on individuals we once were.”

A third woman, sobbing and sniffing as she spoke, said Kelly's conviction renewed her confidence in the legal system.

“I once lost hope,” she said, addressing the court and prosecutors, “but you restored my faith.”

The woman said Kelly victimized her after she went to a concert when she was 17.

“I was afraid, naive and didn't know to handle the situation,” she said, so she didn't speak up at the time.

“Silence,” she said, “is a very lonely place.”

The sentence caps a slow-motion fall for Kelly, who was adored by legions of fans and sold millions of albums even after allega-

tions about his abuse of young girls began circulating publicly in the 1990s. He beat child pornography charges in Chicago in 2008, when a jury acquitted him.

Widespread outrage over Kelly's sexual misconduct didn't emerge until the #MeToo reckoning, reaching a crescendo after the release of the documentary “Surviving R. Kelly.”

“Although sex was certainly a weapon that you used, this is not a case about sex. It's a case about violence, cruelty and control,” U.S. District Judge Ann Donnelly told Kelly on Wednesday.

Kelly's lawyers had argued he should get no more than 10 years in prison because he had a traumatic childhood “involving severe, prolonged childhood sexual abuse, poverty, and violence.”

As an adult with “literacy deficiencies,” the star was “repeatedly defrauded and financially abused, often by the people he paid to protect him,” his lawyers said.

“Mr. Kelly has had horrific labels slapped on him. But he's not obligated to own them,” defense lawyer Jennifer Bonjean told the judge before the sentence was announced.

Kelly is known for work including the 1996 hit “I Believe I Can Fly” and the cult classic “Trapped in the Closet,” a multi-part tale of sexual betrayal and intrigue.

The Brooklyn federal court jury convicted him after hearing that he used his entourage of managers and aides to meet girls and keep them obedient, an operation that prosecutors said amounted to a criminal enterprise.

Kelly, born Robert Sylvester Kelly, used his “fame, money and popularity” to systematically “prey upon children and young women for his own sexual gratification,” prosecutors wrote in a court filing earlier this month.

Several accusers testified that Kelly subjected them to perverse and sadistic whims when they were underage.

The accusers alleged they were ordered to sign nondisclosure forms and were subjected to threats and punishments such as violent spankings if they broke what one referred to as “Rob's rules.”

Some said they believed the videotapes he shot of them having sex would be used against them if they exposed what was happening.

According to testimony, Kelly gave several accusers herpes without disclosing he had an STD, coerced a teenage boy to join him for sex with a naked girl who emerged from underneath a boxing ring in his garage, and shot a shaming video that showed one victim smearing feces on her face as punishment for breaking his rules.

Kelly denied any wrongdoing. He didn't testify at his trial, but his then-lawyers portrayed his accusers as girlfriends and groupies who weren't forced to do anything against their will and stayed with him because they enjoyed the perks of his lifestyle.

Evidence also was presented about a fraudulent marriage scheme hatched to protect Kelly after he feared he had impregnated R&B phenom Aaliyah in 1994 when she was just 15. Witnesses said they were married in matching jogging suits using a license falsely listing her age as 18; he was 27 at the time.

Aaliyah worked with Kelly, who wrote and produced her 1994 debut album, “Age Ain't Nothing But A Number.” She died in a plane crash in 2001 at age 22.

An earlier defense memo suggested prosecutors' arguments for a higher sentence overreached by falsely claiming Kelly participated in the paying of a bribe to a government official in order to facilitate the illegal marriage.

Kelly has been jailed without bail since in 2019. He still faces child pornography and obstruction-of-justice charges in Chicago, where a trial is scheduled to begin Aug. 15.



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## “THE MISSIONARY JOURNEY OF PAUL AND BARNABAS”

Acts 14:1-28

By Rev. Johnny Calvin Smith



From Acts 13:4 – 14:28, Dr. Luke is tracing the first Missionary Journey of Paul and Barnabas. As the missionaries, Paul and Barnabas, continued to preach the gospel, some believed, in addition, there was also increasing opposition to the gospel message. Encountering opposition, Paul and Barnabas continued to preach the gospel. God honored

their faith by granting signs and wonders. These miracles authenticated that Paul was an apostle of God. When the missionaries discovered a plot to stone them, they left for Lystra and Derbe and there preached the Word (vv. 1-7). At Lystra, Paul was enabled to perform a great miracle by healing a notable cripple (vv. 8-10). This miracle was

accepted by the heathen citizens as proof that Paul and Barnabas were their gods come to earth; and they named Barnabas “Jupiter” and Paul they named “Mercury.” The local priest of Jupiter and the crowd were ready to offer them sacrifices when Paul and Barnabas publicly stopped them; and Paul seized the opportunity to preach the word to the crowd.

However, Paul’s message to the crowd was rejected and the people stoned Paul and left him for dead (vv. 11-19). According to verse 20, Paul made a miraculous recovery, and the very next day he travelled with Barnabas to Derbe! Whether or not Paul was dead is not stated; probably he was unconscious and at death’s door (II Corinthians 12:2-4). At

any rate the recovery was so rapid as to be miraculous. The reference to Paul’s stoning (II Corinthians 11:25) undoubtedly had this incident in view (II Timothy 3:11). In view 21-28, Paul and Barnabas turned back and retraced their steps through Lystra, Iconium and Antioch. They returned through Pisidian and Pamphylia and preached again in

Perga. Then they went to Attalia, and sailed from that port back to Antioch (Syria). These courageous missionaries returned to the very cities where their lives had been in danger! Paul and Barnabas were not thinking of themselves, but of those precious new Christians who needed to be established in the word! Paul and Barnabas reported to the believers at Antioch the tremendous work of the Lord on their first missionary journey because the Antioch church had sent them out.

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### Continued Racism Page 1

## Justice Clarence Thomas and the Conservative Supreme Court Have Fanned the Flames of Racism in America

millions of Americans.”

Cornyn thundered what many in the GOP and the high court's conservative majority have always whispered: a desire to overturn *Brown v. Board of Education* and resurrect the 1800s doctrine of “separate but equal” to re-establish racial segregation laws that inherently imply that Black people are inferior.

“In future cases, we should reconsider all of this Court's substantive due process precedents, including *Griswold*, *Lawrence*, and *Obergefell*,” Justice Clarence Thomas wrote a day before abolishing *Roe*. Thomas and fellow conservatives had struck down a New York law that restricted gun ownership. “Because any substantive due process decision is demonstrably erroneous ... we have a duty to correct the error established in those precedents,” said Thomas.

The justice has gained the

turncoat nickname, Uncle Thomas, from African Americans and others.

In the 1965 *Griswold v. Connecticut* case, the court voted 7-2 to strike down a law restricting married couples' access to birth control.

The majority stated that such statutes are impermissible because they violate the right to privacy for citizens.

The cases of *Lawrence* and *Obergefell* respectively made same-sex activity and marriages legal.

Jim Obergefell, the plaintiff in that landmark case, called Thomas out in a nationally televised interview.

He noted that Thomas specifically named same-sex and contraceptive rights, in his opinion, omitting interracial marriage.

If the court overturned that law, Thomas' marriage to Ginni, who is white, would face peril.

“He omitted *Loving v. Virginia* because it affects

him personally,” Obergefell stated.

Striking a severe nerve, Thomas went a step further when voting to strike down New York's gun law, even after more than 277 mass shootings have occurred in 2022.

The Black justice invoked the disgusting *Dred Scott* decision, where then-chief justice Roger Taney cautioned that African Americans would have the right to carry firearms in public if the court recognized them as U.S. citizens.

“Even Chief Justice Taney recognized that public carry was a component of the right to keep and bear arms – a right free Blacks were often denied in antebellum America,” Thomas dared to assert.

Justice Stephen Breyer noted the “serious dangers and consequences of gun violence” against the Second Amendment.

Thomas wasn't done, however.

He compared abortion statistics to soldiers killed during the Civil War.

“I join the opinion of the court because it correctly holds that there is no constitutional right to abortion,” Thomas wrote.

“Abortion is not deeply rooted in this nation's history and tradition. It's not implicit in the concept of ordered liberty,” he said.

Attorney Daniel Goldman, the former lead counsel for the House Impeachment Committee who is running for Congress in New York's 10th district, blasted Thomas.

“When you read Clarence Thomas's concurrence, where he calls into question many other rights based on the fundamental right to privacy, remember that he testified unequivocally in his confirmation hearings that there is a right to privacy in the Constitution,” Goldman tweeted.

### Continued Aide Page 2

him “going into the House chamber at one point,” Hutchinson said.

Hutchinson quoted Trump as directing his staff, in profane terms, to take away the metal-detecting magnetometers that he thought would slow down supporters who were gathering for his speech that morning on the Ellipse, in back of the White House. In a clip of an earlier closed-door interview with the committee, she recalled the president saying words to the effect of: “I don't f-in' care that they have weapons.”

Before the crowd left for the Capitol, Hutchinson said she received an angry call from House Republican leader Kevin McCarthy, who had just heard the president say he was coming. “Don't come up here,” McCarthy told her, before hanging up.

In the days before the attack, Hutchinson said she was “scared, and nervous for what could happen” after conversations with Trump lawyer Rudy Giuliani, Meadows and others.

Meadows told Hutchinson that “things might get real, real bad,” she said. Giuliani told her it was going to be “a great day” and “we're going to the Capitol.”

Hutchinson separately described a December 2020 conversation with John Ratcliffe, then the Trump administration's director of national intelligence and a former Republican official. She said that Ratcliffe “didn't want much to do” with the post-election period and was worried that the events could be harmful to Trump's legacy and to democracy.

As a White House insider, Hutchinson told stories of a raging president who was unable to acknowledge his

defeat. At the beginning of December, she said, she heard noise inside the White House around the time an Associated Press article was published in which Attorney General William Barr said the Justice Department had not found evidence of voter fraud that could have affected the election outcome.

She said she entered a room and noticed ketchup dripping down a wall and broken porcelain. The president, it turned out, had thrown his lunch at the wall in disgust over the article and she was urged to steer clear of him.

He denied that, too, on Tuesday.

Hutchinson had already provided a trove of information to congressional investigators and had sat for four interviews with the panel behind closed doors, detailing meetings in the runup to the insurrection where challenges to the election were

debated and discussed, including with several Republican lawmakers.

The panel has held five hearings so far, mostly laying out Trump's post-election pressure on various government institutions in the weeks leading up to the Jan. 6 joint session of Congress.

The committee has used the hearings to detail that pressure from Trump and his allies on Pence, on the states that were certifying Biden's win, and on the Justice Department. The panel has used live interviews, video testimony of its private witness interviews and footage of the attack to detail what it has learned.

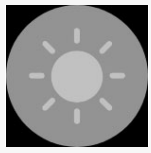
Lawmakers said last week that two July hearings would focus on domestic extremists who breached the Capitol that day and on what Trump was doing as the violence unfolded.



# SPORTS/NEWS PAGE

## Day Weather Forecast for DFW

Thursday, June 30



H - 94°  
L - 76°

Friday, July 1



H - 90°  
L - 76°

Saturday, July 2



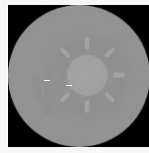
H - 93°  
L - 78°

Sunday, July 3



H - 94°  
L - 79°

Monday, July 4



H - 97°  
L - 80°

Tuesday, July 5



H - 99°  
L - 81°

Wednesday, July 6



H - 100°  
L - 82°

## WNBA star Brittney Griner ordered to trial Friday in Russia

By JIM HEINTZ



WNBA star and two-time Olympic gold medalist Brittney Griner is escorted to a courtroom for a hearing, in Khimki just outside Moscow, Russia, Monday, June 27, 2022. (AP Photo/Alexander Zemlianichenko)

MOSCOW (AP) — Shackled and looking wary, WNBA star Brittney Griner was ordered Monday to stand trial by a court near Moscow on cannabis possession charges, about 4 1/2 months after her arrest at an airport while returning to play for a Russian team.

The Phoenix Mercury center and two-time U.S. Olympic gold medalist also was ordered to remain in custody for the duration of her criminal trial, which was to begin Friday. Griner could face 10 years in prison if convicted on charges of large-scale transportation of drugs. Fewer than 1% of defendants in Russian criminal cases are acquitted, and unlike in the U.S., acquittals can be overturned.

At Monday's closed-door preliminary hearing at the court in the Moscow suburb of Khimki, Griner's detention was extended for another six months, to Dec. 20. Photos obtained by The Associated Press showed

the 31-year-old in handcuffs and looking straight ahead, unlike a previous court appearance where she kept her head down and covered with a hood. She declined to answer questions from reporters in English as she was led through the courthouse, according to video shown in Russian media.

Her detention and trial come at an extraordinarily low point in Moscow-Washington relations. Griner was arrested at Sheremetyevo International Airport less than a week before Russia sent troops into Ukraine, which aggravated already-high tensions with sweeping sanctions by the United States and Russia's denunciation of U.S. weapon supplies to Ukraine.

Amid the tensions, Griner's supporters had taken a low profile in hopes of a quiet resolution, until May, when the State Department reclassified her as wrongfully detained and

shifted oversight of her case to its special presidential envoy for hostage affairs — effectively the U.S. government's chief negotiator.

Griner's wife, Cherelle, urged President Joe Biden in May to secure her release, calling her "a political pawn."

"It was good to see her in some of those images, but it's tough. Every time's a reminder that their teammate, their friend, is wrongfully imprisoned in another country," Phoenix Mercury coach Vanessa Nygaard said later Monday. "It's tough on our team. It is good to see her. See how she's doing? I don't know if she's doing OK."

"At least we get to see an image of her. Hopefully with this trial happening quickly that some things will change and that President Biden will take the steps to ensure she comes home."

Griner's supporters have encouraged a prisoner swap

like the one in April that brought home Marine veteran Trevor Reed in exchange for a Russian pilot convicted of drug trafficking conspiracy.

Russian news media have repeatedly raised speculation that she could be swapped for Russian arms trader Viktor Bout, nicknamed "The Merchant of Death," who is serving a 25-year sentence on conviction of conspiracy to kill U.S. citizens and providing aid to a terrorist organization.

Russia has agitated for Bout's release for years. But the discrepancy between Griner's case — she allegedly was found in possession of vape cartridges containing cannabis oil — and Bout's global dealings in deadly weapons could make such a swap unpalatable to the U.S.

Others have suggested that she could be traded in tandem with Paul Whelan, a former Marine and security director serving a 16-year sentence on an espionage conviction that the United States has repeatedly described as a set-up.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, asked Sunday on CNN whether a joint swap of Griner and Whelan for Bout was being considered, sidestepped the question.

"As a general proposition ... I have got no higher priority than making sure that Americans who are being illegally detained in one way or another around the world come home," he said. But "I can't comment in any detail on what we're doing, except to say this is an absolute priority."

Continued GOTV Page 1

Transformative Justice Coalition, and her board chair and fellow lawyer Daryl Jones, told a captivated panel that their organization had recorded 72 voter suppression tactics to prevent a large population from casting ballots.

Among them are strict voter laws in many Republican-led states, deceptive practices like robocalls; early voting cuts; and voter intimidation.

"Black voters did our share in 2020," Arnwine remarked.

"Ninety-three percent of all eligible Black voters registered in Georgia. Yet, in the 2021 Georgia Senate run-off, 93 percent of all registered Black voters turned out. That's why people don't understand where the real power is."

Along with NNPA President and CEO Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., Richards, NNPA Executive Board members Janis Ware, Fran Farrer, Cheryl Smith, and Jackie Hampton, Arnwine and Jones announced that the groups would utilize a multivehicle "votecade" to get out the vote.

They said individuals riding in new and COVID-safe tour buses would hit swing states ahead of the November elections to register and mobilize GOTV for 10 million new Black voters.

Chavis said artists from Roc Nation, the company run by hip-hop magnate and business mogul Jay-Z, would accompany the voter-cade in some cities.

Music superstar Stephanie Mills also pledged to "get on the bus

with the Black Press and the Transformative Justice Coalition."

Chavis said he's convinced other celebrities will also join the national GOTV campaign.

"The first form of voter suppression is self-suppression," Dr. Chavis asserted.

"This last primary election showed that some of us were keeping ourselves from voting. There are 55 million unregistered Americans eligible to vote, and 10 million are African Americans," Chavis continued.

"What if those 10 million were registered? We wouldn't have worried about Donald Trump or the craziness of what the U.S. Supreme Court is doing now. Elections have consequences. The overturned Roe v. Wade, the overturned gun laws — are consequences

of elections."

With more than 235 African American-owned newspapers and media companies serving as members, the NNPA represents the Black Press of America.

The Transformative Justice Coalition's mission includes the systematic change that achieves racial justice, gender, economic and social justice, and human rights through public education and engagement initiatives that attend equally to hearts and minds as well as the social systems and structure in which they exist.

Further, the coalition dedicates itself to informed civic engagement and equal voting rights for everyone.

They use a voting rights map of shame to inform the public of threats to

Continue GOTV Page 6

## Serena Williams loses at Wimbledon in 1st match in a year

By HOWARD FENDRICH



Serena Williams of the US reacts as she plays France's Harmony Tan in a first round women's singles match on day two of the Wimbledon tennis championships in London, Tuesday, June 28, 2022. (John Walton/PA via AP)

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — Serena Williams began — and ended — her comeback at Wimbledon after 364 days out of singles competition looking very much like someone who hadn't competed in just that long. She missed shots, shook her head, rolled her eyes.

In between, there were moments where Williams played very much like someone whose strokes and will have carried her to 23 Grand Slam titles. She hit blistering serves and strokes, celebrated with arms aloft.

Returning to the site of her last singles match, which she had to stop after less than a set because of an injury on June 29, 2021, and seven of her major championships, the 40-year-old Williams came within two points of victory. But she could not finish the job against an opponent making her Wimbledon debut and bowed out with a 7-5, 1-6, 7-6 (10-7) loss to 115th-ranked Harmony Tan of France.

"It's definitely better than last year," Williams said. "That's a start."

Asked whether this might have been her last match, Williams replied: "That's a question I can't answer. I don't know. ... Who knows? Who knows where I'll pop up?"

With her older sister, Venus, jumping out of a guest box seat at Centre Court to celebrate the best points, Serena Williams was oh-so-close to pulling out a topsy-turvy match that lasted 3 hours, 11 minutes and was contested with the retractable roof shut for the last two sets.

"For my first Wimbledon, it's: Wow. Just wow," said the 24-year-old Tan, who recalled watching

Williams on TV as a youngster.

"When I saw the draw, I was really scared," Tan said with a laugh, "because it's Serena Williams. She's a legend. I was like, 'Oh, my God, how can I play?'"

This is one indication of how things were at the get-go: Of Tan's first 11 points, only one came via a winner she produced. Others came via errors by Williams, either forced or unforced.

While Williams — who wore two pieces of black tape on her right cheek; the reason was not immediately clear — recovered from dropping the opening two games to lead 4-2, she reversed course again and allowed Tan to quickly climb back into that set with her mix of spins and slices.

When Tan pulled even at 4-all by striking a down-the-line backhand winner, she celebrated with a yell; that shot was so good that even Williams felt compelled to applaud.

Tan came into the day with a 2-6 career record at all Grand Slam tournaments. Clearly enjoying herself — and the setting, the moment, the way it all was going — she broke to lead 6-5 with the help of a cross-court forehand winner, looked at her guest box, raised a fist and waved her arms to ask for more noise from a crowd that was loudly backing Williams.

Soon enough, a forehand passing winner gave Tan that set. At that point, it seemed reasonable to ask: Could Tan pull off by far the biggest victory of her career? Might Williams exit a major in the first round for only the third time in 80 appearances (the previous were a loss at the 2012 French Open and that mid-match retirement at Wimbledon last year)?





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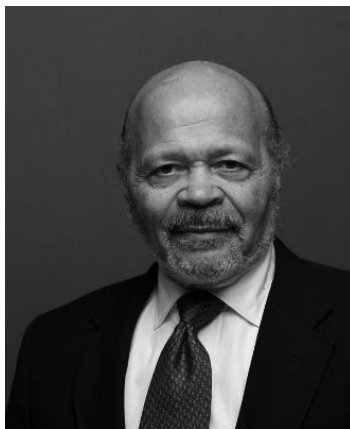
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# EDITORIAL PAGE

## QUEEN TIYE'S KITCHEN

*"The kitchen don't lie" was a saying I heard often during my childhood.*

By Oscar H. Blayton



Oscar H. Blayton

In the 1950s in my part of Virginia, Saturday evenings saw a lot of African American sisters finish washing the dinner dishes and place a hot comb on top of the stove and begin to "do hair," getting ready for Sunday service.

This weekly ritual gave rise to the term "the kitchen" when referring to those hairs at the nape of the neck that were too short to straighten with a hot comb. This label also was used in the practice of gauging the natural texture of a Black woman's hair by looking at her "kitchen." The tendency of African Americans to straighten their hair was not only a trace contaminant from the overall racist culture of America, but also a symptom of intra-racism within the Black community. Whether it was an act of assimilation or submission, straightening Black folks' hair in 1950s America was undeniably an attempt to make it look more like white folks' hair.

Centuries of indoctrination had ingrained into the minds of white and Black Americans that any aspect of Africanness was negative. Skin color, hair texture and phenotypes of noses and lips of the sons and daughters of Africa were coded into the American psyche as evidence of inferiority. But this dogma is based upon lies formulated with a mixture of European xenophobia, ignorance and a need to place a veneer of civilization over the barbaric practice of chat-

tel slavery. It was not until the 1960s that Black folks began to fully embrace who we are as an African people. This awareness began to manifest itself in the Black-sounding names of the newborn, the arrival of the dashiki as a fashion statement and the Afro hairstyle in all its kinky glory.

It was with difficulty, however, that Americans of all races were able to see through the veil of prejudice created over the span of generations. Some Black folks never were able to completely free themselves from the socialized burden of self-denigration. My own mother, who was extremely proud of the assertiveness of the Black Panthers, viewed their appearance as a shortcoming and wished "they would do something about their hair."

Through hundreds of years of social engineering, white supremacy has convinced western civilization that there is merit to whiteness. As people today continue to struggle with white supremacy, there needs to be a realization that the mindset that underpins it is the belief that physical appearance is indicative of a person's ability and value as a human. One clear example of this type of social engineering is the way Ancient Egyptians are presented, both by many Europeans and by some Egyptians themselves.

Two decades ago, I visited the Museum of Egyptian Antiquities in Cairo with a study group led by the late Dr. Asa G. Hilliard III, a professor of educational psychology. Prior to our museum tour, Professor Hilliard, who was also a respected authority on Eurocentric perspectives on the study of Ancient Egypt, suggested that we view the mummy of Queen Tiye while there.

Queen Tiye lived more than 3,000 years ago and was the mother of the

famous pharaoh Akhenaten and the grandmother of the even more famous pharaoh Tutankhamun. But the point that Dr. Hilliard wanted to make was that Queen Tiye was undeniably African. "Look at her kitchen," he instructed us. "The kitchen doesn't lie."

As one writer has put it, "Hair that takes root and grows in our kitchens is the nappiest, curliest, kinkiest and the most resistant to change.

"... The kitchen was permanent, irredeemable, invincible kink. Unassimilably African. No matter what you did, no matter how hard you tried, nothing could de-kink a person's kitchen."

Following Professor Hilliard's advice, we all made our way to Queen Tiye's mummy as we roamed the museum. And to the surprise of none, at the nape of her neck were tight, "invincible" kinks of hair.

Unfortunately, this truth about the Africanness of Queen Tiye does not fit the narrative of world history that white supremacy wants to advance. The preferred narrative of white supremacists was evidenced by the way many artifacts were displayed in the museum. Representations of individuals with the lightest skin were placed in the high-traffic areas, even if they were merely servants or scribes. On the other hand, representations of Black pharaohs, regardless of how important and powerful they were, were located far from the most popular and most visited areas of the museum.

Members of our group questioned the guides about the arrangement that centered servants with light skin while Black pharaohs were almost hidden away. Their answer was telling. The guides informed us that most visitors to the museum were Europeans and they were interested in seeing

people who looked like them. It was feared that prominently displaying dark people of power in Ancient Egypt would discourage Europeans from visiting. And fewer European visitors meant less revenue for the museum, they said.

In April 2021, Egypt moved 22 mummies, including that of Queen Tiye, from the Museum of Egyptian Antiquities to the new National Museum of Egyptian Civilization. These mummies were paraded in specially built vehicles through the streets of Cairo in a grand procession with great fanfare enroute to their new home. One of the most odd and interesting aspects of this parade was the attention given to and written about Queen Tiye's hair. But instead of describing the Africanness of her hair that I had witnessed, more than one writer described it quite differently. Egypt Today magazine even described it as "her luscious curly locks."

White supremacy is a toxic virus that has been spread globally and maintained by a network of untruths about the rest of humanity. There are as many instances of the propagation of these untruths as there are moments in history. The appropriation of the achievements of other cultures and the erasure of their attainments has led to the intentional obscuring of historical facts in order to rewrite history to support the notion of white supremacy.

White supremacists do not want the world to know that Black people ruled in royal palaces and made great contributions to the advancements of civilization. But we must always push back hard against these attempts to denigrate people of the African Diaspora because "The Kitchen Don't Lie."

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### COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**MLK Back to School Festival**  
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**9 a.m. to 11 a.m.**  
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Continued GOTV Page 5

America's democracy, how to protect their voting rights, and steps to take to ensure the ability to cast a ballot and make sure it's counted.

The organization also seeks the restoration of voting rights for ex-felons.

"[Anti-voting rights organizations and individuals] have trained 10,000 people to go to only Black polling sites," Arnwine declared.

"They're not sending them to white polling sites, and if you watched the [Jan.

6] hearings, this is a concentrated effort to disempower Black voters," she stated.

According to Davis, more than 18 million people are eligible to vote but don't know it.

"They are the felony disenfranchised," Davis insisted.

"They are confused. It's intentionally done in various states. For example, in some states, you never lose your right to vote, and in some states, you can run for office if you're incarcerated," he explained.

The voteracle would help educate voters and

explain what's legal, among other things. "We're calling on all 235 NNPA members," Dr. Chavis encouraged.

"That call and response from our brothers and sisters are vital. It's movement time, it is time Get-Out-The-Vote" he declared further.

"With the Transformative Justice Coalition, the NNPA will help move our people forward to get out this vote. In 2022, we will make the critical difference in the midterm elections in terms of increasing Black voter participation throughout the country."

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# Celebrating Stellar Service and Superb Sacrifice



Photos/Credit: Reflections HD Photography

Shelton T. W. Gibbs III, one of the most sought after ministers among the Churches of Christ, retired from full-time pulpit ministry after 40 years of service to the Greenville Avenue Church of Christ in Richardson, TX. The congregation's leaders, along with the congregation, celebrated him in a grand style.

The event kicked off with a Brothers Brunch, where GACC leaders, members of his homiletics class, along with visiting ministers, showered their blessings and gratitude upon Shelton Gibbs III for his undying dedication to both the brotherhood and the cause of Christ.

The weekend's festivities, Celebrating Stellar Service and Superb Sacrifice, included a three prong approach, Remember, Build and Inspire. Remember ... Honoring the Life and Works of a Faithful Servant. On Friday, June 25th from 5 pm until the congregation saluted their resident retired minister and his beautiful wife, Jeanette Gibbs, for their 40 years of service to the Greenville Avenue Church of Christ. The event featured over 900 individuals.

Sunday morning was devoted to

Build ... The Power of Us. It kicked off with a 9 AM Bible powerful class taught by Dr. Lovell C. Hayes, Minister of the East Jackson Church of Christ in Jackson, TN, followed by morning service and a powerful sermon from John Tillman, Minister of the Garden Oaks Church of Christ in Houston, TX. Over 1,800 people were in attendance. The 2 pm program featured Inspire ... A Faithful Man of God, A United Leadership and a Devoted Congregation. Attendees were blessed by a powerful admonition rendered by John S. Dansby Sr., Retired Resident Minister of the Russell Road Church of Christ in Shreveport, LA. The program showcased the original members of the congregation, in addition to honoring lifetime achievements and service awards. The lifetime achievement awards were given to Raymond and Mary Christopher, Shelton III and Jeanette Gibbs, Raymond and Linda Hart, Benjamin and Carolyn Myers, David and Lois Phillips, Johnnie and Joanne Rodgers and Rosa Travis-Mathews for the undying dedication for over 40 years to the Greenville Avenue Church of Christ.



Continue Celebration Page 8



# Celebrating Stellar Service and Superb Sacrifice



Shelton III and Jeanette Gibbs



Shelton Gibbs III

## The Shaping of My Faith



Jeanette Godwin

*It is true that you never touch someone light enough that you do not leave a trace. The indelible mark that Shelton Tony Wesley Gibbs Jr. impressed upon his son, Shelton Tony Wesley Gibbs III, lives on today. It is not only a distinct part of who he is, but it laid the foundation for his incredible faith journey.*

*A journey that was predestined by the Heavenly Father and in-part shaped by his impression, awe and high esteem for his earthly father. A journey that has allowed him to take the road less travelled and glorify God in the midst of every step.*

*Walk with Gibbs III through the shaping of his faith as he shares the major milestones that shaped him into the God-fearing, phenomenal man of God he is today.*

Jarilyn Fox



Shelton Tony Wesley Gibbs Jr.

Photos Credit: Reflections HD Photography

### ADMIRATION FOR MY FATHER

Shelton Tony Wesley Gibbs Jr. was a great father who loved his family. As children, there was no doubt that my mother, Thelma, and father loved us. His discipline was not harsh or judgmental. It was intentional but compassionate, accompanied by explaining why he chastised us. Grace, mercy, and forgiveness were frequently spoken of and exemplified toward us, the children, and others. My parents were very generous to other people, always dressed well, and drove nice cars but lived modestly. Yet, despite their imperfections, God always shined through.

### MY FATHER, AS A PREACHER

His preaching made me want to shout! It made me think about my relationship with God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit. My reading scriptures for him while he preached convicted me. I was left with two thoughts. First, my daddy is the best preacher, and second, the Bible is right! Trust in God, and the scriptures fortified my faith development early. As a faithful preacher's wife, my mother gave her life and love to my dad, supporting and protecting him and us as he ministered to the people.

There was no question that we would attend Sunday school, worship (AM & PM), and Tuesday night Bible

class while growing up. There was also no question that we would attend Southwestern Christian College after finishing High School.

### SOUTHWESTERN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

The Southwestern experience brought me into contact with many other classmates who had fathers as preachers and classmates reared in the church as I had been. Christian administrators, Christian teachers, and a Christian environment comprised the soil for my faith to flourish and blossom. It was there that I was introduced to a young lady from Jackson, TN, Jeanette Godwin, the LOVE OF MY LIFE. She had a family and a church experience that complemented mine. Southwestern is where I entered into my profession as a preacher. Because of the name recognition of my father, I was looked upon with great expectation by others.

While I was uncomfortable with their assumptions, my faith rooted in God and the scriptures propelled me forward. I had a conviction that put fire in my soul to share the truth that was so obvious in the word of God.

I was recommended to preach in Clarksville, TX, during my Sophomore year by Jimmy Rose, a fellow SwCC student preacher who preached there and was graduating. This invitation legitimized my preaching

career. In addition, Dr. Eugene Lawton, Academic Dean of the College, chose me to represent the student preachers of the school by speaking at the annual lectureship. This opportunity, too, was during my Sophomore year. This occasion launched my career as a preacher in the brotherhood. Following this experience, I began to do youth Gospel Meetings across the brotherhood.

### ABILENE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

After graduating from Southwestern, I enrolled at Abilene Christian College, following the love of my life, who had gone to ACC a year ahead of me. ACC was my first exposure to the white brotherhood of the Churches of Christ. The contrast and comparison between Black and White opened my eyes to understanding in many ways. I enjoyed my experience in the classes, chapel, and church. I received a bachelor's degree in Religious Education, giving me insight into church organization and religious education of the family. My love for the Lord's Church grew here, and the desire to see the local church grow and develop according to God's will also grew.

Jeanette and I married during our enrollment at ACC, and I entered into authentic manhood. I fondly say to many that my Christian education was certified because it was in "black and white." However, my experience at ACC broadened my knowledge, vision, and faith.

### THANKFUL

These experiences, I believe, have shaped me and molded me into the man of faith that I am today. At 71, as I look back, I realize that God providentially guides us. I am so thankful to God for blessing me. His Grace, Mercy, and Forgiveness are why I am who and where I am today. Now you know the story of the formation of my faith; I know you have a chronicle of providence as well. May God bless us all to finish well and hear Him say, "Well done my good and faithful servant."

*Shelton Gibbs III*

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*-Shelton Gibbs III*